



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E JEFFERSON-MARTIN 230KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT

To: Billie Blanchard, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: March 16, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #8: March 6, 2005 – March 12, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler

Aspen EM Jody Fessler was on site March 7, 9, 10, and 11 along Segment 1, 2, and 5. The Aspen Lead EM, Christopher Meyer was on site March 7 and attended the segment meetings on March 8.

SEGMENT 1:

Summary of Activity:

Construction activities continued during the subject week with excavation of manholes, placement of vaults, excavation of trenches, and installation of conduit. The weather was sunny and warm throughout the week. PG&E Environmental Inspectors (EI) were on-site to ensure compliance with the adopted EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. At least three PG&E EIs were on-site during daytime activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites and six to eight biological monitors were located on the west side of Cañada Road to watch for frogs and snakes and to make sure these species did not enter the work site. The following activities occurred on Segment 1 during the subject week:

1. On March 7, crews started excavating the trench from approximately Station #32+75 north to Station #54+25 along Cañada Road (see Figure 2). The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility), except for the soil excavated from Station #44+00 to #51+00 that was impacted and sent to Forward Landfill in Martinez (Class 2 facility). Conduit was installed in the trench as the excavation progressed, and cement slurry was poured around the conduit as it was installed. Crews worked through the night shift installing conduit in the trench. A biological monitor also stayed at the site at night to observe construction, watch for animals, and in case a crew member needed to move their vehicle. On Friday, crews conducted and completed asphalt paving of the trench. All materials and traffic controls were removed from the construction area at the end of the day Friday.
2. On March 7, crews started working at the stub-out area on the north side of Manhole #3. Throughout the week, crews worked on excavating, installing conduit, pouring cement slurry and paving over the area.
3. On March 7, crews started excavating Manhole #10 (Station #156+25) on Cañada Road. Shoring was set into place in the vault pit on Monday (see Figure 1). The manhole vault was installed on Tuesday and backfilling of cement slurry began later that day and into Wednesday. Asphalt paving of the manhole area was conducted early Thursday morning around 1:00 AM.
4. Construction in the Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) on Skyline at the Highway 92 West exit off Highway 280 began Sunday night, March 6. Work hours at that location are from 9:00 PM to 6:00 AM. Trenching activities occurred throughout the week from Station #342+00 to #337+00. On Wednesday March 9, part of the trench caved in before it could be shored. The Caltrans representative came out to the site to look at it. The cave-in was excavated and repaired and construction continued. The trench was covered with recessed plates each morning before 6:00 AM.

5. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Cañada Road and Skyline. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end and in the middle of the construction area along Cañada Road. Bright lights were set up on either end of the project at night.
6. Dave Johnston of CDFG came out to the site on Wednesday, March 9, to look at a bird nest at Station #68+00 and discuss construction activities in that area for next week. A work schedule was agreed upon for the area to avoid disturbing the nesting activity. No saw cutting of the asphalt is to occur at night, in the morning, or in the evening, near the bird nest next week. It was agreed that saw cutting of asphalt in the trenching area on Cañada Road would be done after noon in this particular area. He also looked at the biological exclusion fencing (BEF) that was installed on the west side of Skyline along the construction area in the Caltrans right-of-way. The BEF had not been installed exactly how it was installed on Cañada Road. In this location it has been stapled to the guard rail. Dave wanted the fabric to also be stapled into the ground along the bottom of the fence in the event of precipitation.
7. On March 10, two San Francisco garter snakes were seen by two biological monitors on the west side of Cañada Road. Sheila Byrnes, PG&E's Biologist, came out to the site. During the CPUC/Aspen/PG&E conference call on Friday, March 11, the CPUC EM inquired if whether or not the resource agencies were notified of the sighting. PG&E responded that they were planning on getting the notification done by that afternoon; notification did not occur until Monday, March 14.
8. On the morning of March 11, the CPUC EM joined a bird surveyor in the area just northeast of the Edgewood intersection at Cañada Road. The temperature was already warm and there were not very many active birds in the surveyor's area.
9. On March 11, four sharp-tailed snakes were found dead on or adjacent to Cañada Road in the area where crews had just moved into earlier in the day for saw cutting of the asphalt between Station #57+80 and #64+00. Two of the snakes appeared to have been dead for at least a day, and the other two appeared to have been dead for many days because of their dried, smashed condition.
10. On Friday, March 11, crews conducted paving and cleanup activities along Cañada Road in preparation for the weekend (see Figure 3).

Environmental Compliance Activities:

On several occasions, the CPUC EM observed that proper traffic controls were not being observed by workers. On Friday, the Construction Segment Manager gave his sub-contractor a final warning about proper traffic control procedures and stated that he would shut the project down if they did not come into compliance with the proper traffic procedures.

On the night of March 9, a porta-potty was recognized as leaking waste from the urinal in the Caltrans trenching area on Skyline. PG&E's EI brought it to the attention of construction management right away. The issue of regular maintenance of porta-potties was also discussed with construction management by PG&E's EIs.

The CPUC EM observed that all other Segment 1 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

SEGMENT 2, UNDERGROUND & OVERHEAD

Summary of Activity

A Notice to Proceed has not been issued for the overhead component of Segment 2.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the underground section a couple of times during the week. No work was observed along Segment 2.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

PG&E continues to work with CDFG regarding woodrat removal activities that previously occurred without CDFG concurrence. PG&E is in the process of consulting with USFWS and CDFG regarding the entire overhead segment.

SEGMENT 5:

Summary of Activity:

Construction activities continued during the subject week with the excavation of a manhole, placement of a vault, installation of stub-outs on either side of the previously set manhole vault, and trenching activities. One of the PG&E EIs was on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 5 during the subject week:

1. Trenching activities occurred from Station #1273+10 to #1280+70 and from Station #1290+05 to #1295+16. Conduit was installed throughout the week (see Figure 4), cement slurry poured, and final paving done on Saturday.
2. Excavation of Manhole #71 (Station #1322+32) vault pit began March 7 along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway on San Bruno Mountain (see Figure 5). Crews finished excavating the manhole to about 14 feet and shored the pit on Monday. The vault was installed on Tuesday and cement slurry was poured on Tuesday and Wednesday. Paving was completed on Saturday.
3. Crews worked on the stub-outs at Manhole #70 throughout the week. Conduit was installed on either side of the manhole, cement slurry poured, and the areas paved over on Saturday.
4. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Traffic control flaggers were in place at the construction areas. Large vehicles were parked on either side of the manhole vault to keep vehicles and people from entering the area. Traffic cones were left in place blocking off the southern lane. Bright lights were set up on either end of the project at night. A small night crew stayed on-site at night and did some light work.
5. On Friday, March 11, crews conducted cleanup activities along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway in preparation for the weekend.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

On March 9, PG&E's EI inform the CPUC EM that they had discovered some cuts in the vegetated hillside next to the trenching activity east of Manhole #68. No one knew where they came from, but PG&E's contractor decided right away that they would take responsibility for them. The CPUC EM observed that a few lupine plants had been uprooted. PG&E's Biologist, Sheila Byrnes, came out and looked at the vegetation disturbance. A botanist was also used to determine the kind of lupine sub-species that was disturbed.

On March 10, the CPUC EM inspected the dump trucks that were waiting to move into the active trenching area for oil leaks. No active leaks were noted, but there were some spots on the road from previous trucks dripping oil. Oil absorbent cloths had been put down on the road in several areas. PG&E's EI has been inspecting the dump trucks on a regular basis and has sent some away from the project to be repaired.

The CPUC EM observed that all other Segment 5 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 1 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Jefferson-Martin Project to date.

**TABLE 1
NOTICE TO PROCEED
(Updated 3-16-05)**

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
#1	1-10-05	Segment 1, underground only Segment 5, unincorporated San Mateo County only
#2	3-08-05	Segment 2, underground only, not including SFPUC lands
#3	3-11-05	Segment 5, incorporated
#4	3-11-05	Segment 3.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

One Non-Compliance Report (NCR) and three Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued for the project to date (see Table 2). A letter from the CPUC was issued on February 9 discussing the non-compliance issues and other unresolved issues. A multi-agency meeting was conducted with PG&E and their subcontractors on February 28 to discuss non-compliance issues. Final minutes were issued on March 15. In addition, draft Communication Protocols were issued on March 15 for meeting participant comments.

**TABLE 2
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS
(Updated 3-16-05)**

Project Memo or NCR	Date Issued	Description	Follow-up Activities
NCR (Level 3)	2-01-05	Segment 2 – Dismantling and removal of woodrat nests along the overhead route without consulting with CDFG.	PG&E consulting with CDFG on how to proceed.
PM	2-09-05	Segment 1 - Breach of trenching activities into vegetated drainage on east side of Cañada Road between MH #7 and MH #8.	PG&E consulting with CDFG and USFWS on how to proceed.
PM	2-16-05	Segment 5 – Dewatering of Manhole #67 vault pit without consulting with RWQCB on handling of water	PG&E consulting with RWQCB on how to proceed with storm water and groundwater.
PM	3-04-05	Segment 1 – Hummingbird nest found near Manhole #5 on Monday, Feb. 28, and not reported to CPUC or CDFG until Thursday, March 3.	PG&E discussing better communication between PG&E and sub-contractors.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No new Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 3-16-05)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	1-14-05	40 Edwards Court, Burlingame – Paved parking lot that is fenced to be used as a staging yard.	Approved	1-18-05
2	2-04-05	Staging yard, Airport Boulevard & North Access Road., South San Francisco.	Approved	2-09-05
3	2-22-05	Change compliance timing for Mitigation Measure U-1c, corrosion, from pre-construction to during construction.	Approved	3-04-05

UPCOMING ITEMS:

PG&E holds weekly meetings to review issues and upcoming events for Segment 1 on Friday (12:00 pm, San Mateo BV office) and Tuesday (8:00 am, Hayward BV office), and a weekly meeting for Segment 5 on Monday (3:00 pm, South SF Mueller/InfraSource Staging Yard) and Tuesdays (9:00 am, Hayward BV office).

A CPUC sponsored meeting with CDFG, USFWS, RWQCB, and PG&E and their subcontractors to discuss non-compliance issues was conducted on February 28. Final minutes for the meeting were issued on March 15.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

Dave Johnston of CDFG conducted a site visit of Segment 1 on March 9 to look at a bird nest near construction and the BEF in the Caltrans trenching area. Last week, CDFG had asked the CPUC EM to review PG&E's Avian Protection Plan. During the site visit, the CPUC EM relayed her comments to Dave Johnston regarding the Avian Protection Plan.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Trench at Cañada Road and Edgewood Drive intersection, Segment 1, March 9, 2005



Figure 2 – Installing shoring at Manhole #10 along Cañada Road, Segment 1, March 7, 2005



Figure 3 – Crews paving north of Edgewood Drive on Cañada Road, Segment 1, March 11, 2005



Figure 4 – Crews installing conduit east of Manhole #68 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, March 7, 2005



Figure 5 – Crews excavating Manhole #71 vault pit, Segment 5,
March 7, 2005