



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Billie Blanchard, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: April 12, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #12: April 3, 2005 – April 9, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM): Jody Fessler and Jenny Slaughter

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site April 4 through April 8 along Segments 1, 2, and 5.

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 partly sunny and partly cloudy Monday through Wednesday with rain moving into the area on Thursday and Friday. 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 five PG&E EIs were on-site during daytime activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites and six to ten 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 April 4, crews started excavating trench between Manhole #10 and Manhole #11 on Cañada Road (Figure 1). The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). Crews shored the trench as they excavated. Conduit was installed in the trench as the excavation progressed, and cement slurry was poured around the conduit as it was installed. A small crew was on-site during the night, but little work was done. A biological monitor also stayed at the site at night to observe construction, watch for animals, and check under vehicles and equipment in case a crew member needed to move their vehicle. On Thursday and Friday, crews conducted asphalt paving of the trench and cleanup activities. All materials and traffic controls were removed from the construction area at the end of the day Friday.
2. On Monday, April 4, excavation of Manhole #13 and Manhole #15 on Cañada Road began. The soil from the manhole activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). Excavation was completed on Monday and shoring was installed in the pit. The manhole vaults arrived on Tuesday and were set in the pit by a large crane (Figure 2). Cement slurry was poured around and over the vault. Paving was done on Friday and traffic controls were removed from the site in the afternoon.
3. On Monday, April 4, excavation of the stub-out on the south side at Manhole #3 on Cañada Road began. Stub-out work was also done at Manhole #11 on Cañada Road. Excavation was completed on Tuesday, conduit was installed throughout the week, and the site paved on Friday.
4. Additional paving work was done at Manhole #8 in the later part of the week due to subsided asphalt.
5. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Cañada Road at the various sites. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end and in the middle of the construction area along Cañada Road. A pilot vehicle is being used where there are long stretches of trench to slow traffic down as well as look out for San Francisco garter snakes. A biologist rides along in the pilot vehicle to look for snakes and frogs that may have gotten in the road. Bright lights were set up on either end of the project sites at night.

6. No construction took place in the Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) this week.
7. Crews continue to use their staging yards at 40 Edwards Court in Burlingame and the southern Caltrans site along the Caltrans right-of-way on Highway 92. The CPUC observed that the sites were neat and clean.
8. New biological exclusion fencing (BEF) was installed on the east side of Cañada Road around Manhole #13 as directed by Dave Johnston's, CDFG. New BEF was also installed on the west side of Skyline at the north end of the segment around Manhole #27 area where they are working this week.
9. On April 6, a San Francisco garter snake was hit and killed by a car south of Manhole #13. It was determined that the snake was outside of the construction and traffic control zones. Both CDFG and USFWS were informed of the take and have declined to take action because it was outside of the construction and traffic control zones.
10. On April 4, 5, and 6 there were two sightings each day of San Francisco garter snakes, and on April 5, there were four sightings of potential San Francisco garter snakes.
11. On April 4, a traffic control flagger found a Western pond turtle trying to cross the road from the east side to the west side just south of Manhole #13 in the construction zone. He notified a biologist, and a permitted biologist came and moved the turtle to the west side of the road. Western pond turtles were seen in various locations on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
12. On Friday, April 4, crews conducted cleanup activities along Cañada Road in preparation for the weekend.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

Bird surveys continued throughout the week along the segment from the Jefferson Substation north along Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard to Hayne Road.

PG&E, Black & Veatch, Opus Environmental, CDFG, and USFWS continued to work together on the implementation of the Biological Exclusion Fencing to protect the San Francisco garter snake.

PG&E's EIs issued five non-compliances during the subject week. On April 4, traffic was allowed to pass the trenching construction zone without a pilot vehicle. The problem was immediately remedied. On April 6, a biologist observed another biologist who was doing bird surveys handle a Pacific gopher snake. Although the snake is not a special status species, only biologists are allowed to handle wildlife, and only if the wildlife or construction personnel are in harms way. On April 8, tree and brush trimming was conducted by PG&E's tree contractor without an EI present. On April 8, biological exclusion fencing was being installed without a Biological Monitor present. Biological Monitors are required to be present during all fence installation and removal. On April 8, the construction contractor ran out of asphalt and was not able to finish paving by the 7 p.m. San Mateo County deadline. Asphalt paving was completed at 10 p.m.

The CPUC EM reminded PG&E's EIs on Thursday to have crews pick up trash along the trenching area and in the roadside drainage by the end of the week.

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 (NTP) was issued for the Segment 2 underground portion, not including SFPUC lands, on March 8. However, no NTP has been issued for the overhead component of Segment 2.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the underground segment throughout the week. Construction started on April 7, Thursday, at Manhole #37 with the excavation of the vault pit (Figure 3). Crews did not get very far along before their excavator started leaking hydraulic fluid. A mechanic was sent out to the site to fix the leak and the area contaminated by hydraulic fluid was temporarily cleaned up. Some contaminated asphalt will have to be excavated and disposed of properly. The asphalt for the vault pit was excavated on Thursday and plated. Crews did not work on Friday.

Segment 2 construction contractors will be using the Northern Caltrans Yard at the corner of Skyline and Hayne Road. The area had chain-link fence and straw wattles installed on Friday.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

Bird surveys continued throughout the week from Hayne Road north along Skyline Boulevard to Trousdale Drive for the underground segment, and from Trousdale Drive north along San Andreas Lake west and parallel to Highway 280, and Skyline Boulevard to Glenview Drive for the overhead segment.

PG&E continues to work with CDFG regarding woodrat removal activities that previously occurred along the overhead portion of Segment 2 without CDFG concurrence. PG&E is also consulting with USFWS and CDFG regarding biological resources along the entire overhead segment.

SEGMENT 5:

Summary of Activity:

Construction activities continued during the subject week with work at manhole stub-outs, excavation of trench, and installation of conduit. There was a PG&E EI 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. On April 4, the excavation of stub-outs at Manhole #66, #67, #69, and #71 began on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. The soil from the manhole activity was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). The stub-out trenches were shored, conduit installed, cement slurry poured, and the area paved over on Friday.
2. Excavation of trench occurred between Manhole #67 and Manhole #68 for the installation of conduit (see Figure 4). The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). Approximately 1,300 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week, cement slurry poured, and final paving done on Friday.
3. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway from Manhole #66 to Manhole #71. Traffic control flaggers were in place at the active construction areas. 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.

4. Construction crews continue to use their staging yard at the corner of North Access Road and South Airport Boulevard for the storage of equipment, materials and two trailers they are using for office space. Another baker tank is on site, which now makes three baker tanks.
5. On Friday, April 4, crews conducted cleanup activities along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway in preparation for the weekend.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

Bird surveys continued throughout the week along the segment from approximately Orange Court east along Guadalupe Parkway and Bayshore Boulevard to the Martin Substation.

Biologists were also on site to observe two nests for disturbance along the active construction zones.

The CPUC EM observed that 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
NOTICES TO PROCEED
(Updated 4-12-05)**

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
#5	3-30-05	Segment 4

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

One Non-Compliance Report (NCR) and three Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued for the project to date (see Table 2).

**TABLE 2
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS
(Updated 4-12-05)**

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 Variance Requests were submitted during the subject week.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 4-12-05)

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 p.m., San Mateo BV office) and Tuesday (8:00 a.m., Hayward BV office); and a weekly meeting for Segment 2 on Tuesday (10:00 a.m., Hayward BV office); and a weekly meeting for Segment 5 on Monday (3:00 p.m., South SF Mueller/InfraSource Staging Yard) and Tuesdays (9:00 a.m., Hayward BV office).

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

Dave Johnston of CDFG visited Segment 1 on April 4 and made the following recommendations:

- Biological exclusion fencing shall be installed on the east side of the construction zones where there are waters or ponds on the east side of the road,
- Portable fence shall be installed in areas where trenched fence or weighted fence cannot be installed,
- Silt fence fabric (weighted with rebar) shall be stapled to the habitat side where there are guard rails (including the areas north of Highway 92 in the Caltrans area), and
- All special status species sightings shall be submitted to the California Natural Diversity Database.

PG&E's EIs notified USFWS and CDFG throughout the week of any San Francisco garter snake sightings as well as the Western pond turtle sightings.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Crews conducting trenching activities between Manholes #10 and #11 on Cañada Road, Segment 1, April 5, 2005.



Figure 2 – Crane setting vault at Manhole #13 on Cañada Road, Segment 1, April 5, 2005.



Figure 3 – Crews excavating asphalt for Manhole #37 on Trousdale, Segment 2, April 7, 2005.



Figure 4 – Crews excavating east of Manhole #67 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, April 4, 2005.



Figure 5 – Possible Bay checkerspot butterfly on the hillside of San Bruno Mountain near Manhole #66 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, April 6, 2005.