



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Billie Blanchard, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: April 26, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #14: April 17, 2005 – April 23, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM): Jody Fessler and Jenny Slaughter

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site April 18 through April 22 along Segments 1, 2, and 5.

CPUC EM Jenny Slaughter was on site April 18 through April 21 along Segments 1, 2, and 5.

SEGMENT 1:

Summary of Activity:

Construction activities continued during the subject week with the excavation of trenches, installation of conduit, and repair of sunken trenching areas. The weather was mild with partly sunny and partly cloudy days. PG&E Environmental Inspectors (EI) were on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the 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 (and east side in some areas) 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 18, crews started excavating trench between Manhole #12 and Manhole #13 on Cañada Road (Figure 1). A pilot vehicle was used in this area with a biological monitor riding along to look for snakes in the road. 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. Approximately 2,000 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week. Biological monitors were placed on the west side of the biological exclusion fencing (BEF) along Cañada Road. A few biological monitors were also placed on the east side of the road in high probability areas for the San Francisco garter snake. There were at least three EIs in the construction zone at all times. A small crew was on-site during the night, but little work was done in that area. An EI 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. Crews conducted asphalt paving of the trench on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Clean-up activities were done on Thursday and Friday. All materials and traffic controls were removed from the construction area at the end of the day Friday.
2. On Monday, April 18, a small area was excavated around Manhole #5 where the trench had sunk on Cañada Road began. The gravel was extracted, thermal backfill poured and the area paved over on Wednesday.
3. On Monday, April 18, the gravel fill within the sunken trench just north of Manhole #6 on Cañada Road was extracted and replaced with thermal backfill. Excavation of the gravel and the pouring of cement slurry were completed on Monday, and paving was completed on Tuesday. BEF was installed at that location and biological monitors were on the west side of the BEF on Cañada Road. A pilot vehicle was being used at that location with a biologist riding along looking for snakes in the road. An EI was present in the construction zone during construction activities.

4. On Monday, April 18, excavation of the stub-outs at Manhole #8 on Cañada Road began. Gravel fill was extracted and shoring was put into place on Monday. Crews installed conduit on Tuesday, thermal backfill was poured on Wednesday, and the area paved over on Thursday. BEF was installed at that location and biological monitors were on the west side of the BEF on Cañada Road. A pilot vehicle was being used at that location with a biologist riding along looking for snakes in the road. An EI was present in the construction zone during construction activities.
5. Night work resumed in the Caltrans area on Skyline this week starting in the early morning of April 18 (Figure 2). Skyline/Highway 35 was closed to public traffic from the Crystal Springs Dam to the Highway 35/Highway 92 Interchange from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. Crews continued to excavate south from where they left off with trenching activities. On Monday night, crews encountered five unmarked structures. Four of the unmarked structures were determined to be culverts. The fifth structure was rectangular and made of concrete and was unidentified until around Wednesday. The structure was finally determined to be a large stormwater holding tank that stretched all the way to Highway 280. Redesign of the trench and conduit installation will have to be completed by engineering before crews can proceed in this area.
6. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Cañada Road at the various construction sites. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end and in the middle of the construction areas along Cañada Road. A pilot vehicle is being used where there are stretches of traffic controls longer than 300 feet 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. Traffic lights are set up at either end of traffic controls at night. Bright lights are set up at either end of traffic controls and in the construction zone at night.
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.
8. New BEF was installed on the west side of Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard as directed by Dave Johnston of CDFG.
9. On April 20, there were three San Francisco garter snake (SFGS) sightings along Segment 1. An EI found a SFGS in the trench where cement slurry had been poured and was setting before it was paved. The snake was coaxed out of the trench to the east side of the road and into the vegetation. Biological monitors were then placed on the east side of the road in that area. Another SFGS was seen by a biological monitor on the east side of Cañada Road, and what appeared to be the same snake, was seen again later that day.
10. On Friday, April 22, crews conducted clean-up 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. A great horned owl is nesting near Manhole #4 and was spot-checked by biologists throughout each day construction took place in that area. The owl did not seem to be disturbed by construction activities. Other nests along the segment were also monitored regularly for disturbance.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E's EIs during the subject week.

On Wednesday, April 20, the CPUC EM noticed that the dumpster in the Southern Caltrans Staging Yard was overflowing with cardboard boxes and informed PG&E's EI. The EI asked construction management to take care of the issue. On Thursday, April 21, the CPUC EM noticed that the dumpster had been covered with a plastic tarp. On Wednesday, April 20, the CPUC EM noted some soil in the road near the Filoli entrance that came from someone making a U-turn. The CPUC EM informed PG&E's EI who asked construction management to have it cleaned up. It was undetermined if the soil came from construction activities.

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 EMs conducted site visits of the underground segment throughout the week. Crews continued to work at Manhole #36 and Manhole #37 and started working at Manhole #35. A PG&E EI was on-site to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 2 during the subject week:

1. On Monday, April 18, construction continued at Manhole #37 in the Caltrans area on Trousdale Drive. Manhole rings were placed and the area cleaned up. Concrete slurry was poured around and over the vault on Wednesday. Final paving was completed Friday morning. Plates were set over the vault pit at the end of each work day.
2. On Monday, April 18, crews placed shoring and rock at Manhole #36 on Skyline Boulevard. The manhole vault was installed on Tuesday. Concrete slurry was poured around and over the vault on Wednesday. No work was done at this location on Thursday or Friday. Plates were set over the vault pit at the end of each work day.
3. On Wednesday, April 20, crews saw-cut and started excavating Manhole #35 on Skyline Boulevard. On Thursday, crews finished excavating Manhole #35 and shored the pit (Figure 3). Friday, the manhole vault was set in the pit. Plates were set over the vault pit at the end of each work day.
4. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and flaggers) were set up on Trousdale Drive and Skyline Boulevard at the three manhole locations during active construction.
5. Crews continue to use the Northern Caltrans Staging Yard at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road. The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.
6. Clean-up activities were conducted at the end of each day at the active construction sites.
7. On Wednesday, April 20, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of Segment 2 Overhead and observed some crews from Asplundh tree service trimming and removing trees under an existing PG&E line near the Caltrans yard in Millbrae. The PG&E EI was informed of the activity. It is still undetermined if the work is in preparation for the new Segment 2 overhead line that will be going through that area.

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.

On Thursday, April 21, the CPUC observed that the areas around the manholes were dirty and that the asphalt placed around the manhole pit plates was not compacted. Also, straw wattles along the east side of Skyline were not anchored firmly to the ground. The CPUC EM informed PG&E's EI of this and the issues were brought up with construction management. The CPUC EM observed that all other Segment 2 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E's EIs during the subject week.

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. PG&E has scheduled a site visit with the resource agencies for May 18.

SEGMENT 4:

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM attended the pre-construction kickoff meeting for Segment 4 on Friday at 9:00 a.m. at the Hayward Black & Veatch office. Jing Liang of Black & Veatch is the Construction Manager for Segment 4 and Underground Construction is the sub-contractor for construction. They are planning to start construction on Segment 4 the first week of May.

SEGMENT 5:

Summary of Activity:

Construction activities continued during the subject week with the excavation of a manhole pit, installation of a manhole vault, 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 Monday, April 18, crews started excavating Manhole #72 along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway and shored it by the end of the day. The soil from the manhole activity was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). On Tuesday, the manhole vault was installed with a large crane. Cement slurry was poured over and around the vault on Wednesday and Thursday. Final paving was completed on Saturday.
2. On Monday, April 18, excavation of trench began on either side of Manhole #72 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway (Figure 4). Throughout the week, the trenches were shored, conduit installed, cement slurry poured, and the area paved over on Friday and Saturday. Approximately 2,000 linear feet of conduit was installed during the week.
3. On Tuesday, April 19, crews started cleaning conduit using forced air to blow between Manhole #66 and Manhole #70.

4. On Thursday, April 21, crews were observed conducting grouting work inside the manholes on the west side of San Bruno Mountain.
5. On Thursday, April 21, potholing activities were observed on the east side of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway.
6. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway from Manhole #66 to Manhole #73. 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.
7. 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. Three Baker tanks are on site at that location.
8. On Friday, April 22, crews conducted clean-up 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.

Biological monitors spot-checked nests for disturbance along the active construction zones.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E's EIs during the subject week.

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 4-26-05)

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 4-26-05)

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 subcontractors.

VARIANCE REQUESTS: No Variance Requests were submitted during the subject week.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 4-26-05)

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 Friday (10 a.m., San Bruno BV office) and 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:

The CPUC EM left a voice message for Dave Johnston of CDFG on Wednesday, April 20, to confirm that he had been notified about the SFGS found in the trench on Segment 1 along Cañada Road.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Crews conducting trenching activities between Manholes #12 and #13 on Cañada Road, Segment 1, April 20, 2005.



Figure 2 – Crews conducting night trenching activities north of Manhole #20 in the Caltrans area on Skyline Boulevard, Segment 1, April 18, 2005.



Figure 3 – Crews installing shoring at Manhole #35 on Skyline Boulevard, Segment 2, April 21, 2005.



Figure 4 – Trenching activities east of Manhole #72 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, April 21, 2005