



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM SDG&E – MIGUEL-MISSION 230 kV #2 PROJECT

To: Michael Rosauer, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: August 25, 2004
Subject: Weekly Report #3: August 15, 2004 – August 21, 2004
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. The clearing and grading activities proceeded in the areas covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 and NTP #2. Both clearing and grading activities occurred while the CPUC EM was on-site.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on August 18 and reviewed a proposed laydown area with SDG&E. The area off Steele Canyon Road is located adjacent to a residential school for children and SDG&E is following up on a request by school staff to not install screening and allow the children to view the construction activity. The staff request is pending Superintendent approval. The sensitive plant resources in the area have been marked with yellow exclusion tape (see Figure 1).

The CPUC EM visited a second staging area on Hillsdale Road to review visual screening requirements in relation to adjacent property owner requests and existing vegetation. The existing vegetation on the north side of the SDG&E easement creates a natural screen and the property owner on the south side has requested that no temporary fence be installed. SDG&E is working with the adjacent property owners on construction of a more decorative permanent fence (see Figure 2).

The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site with the clearing crew. The crew worked with hand tools and chainsaws to clear the brush at the pad location (see Figure 3). A small chipper was used to break up the very dry vegetation. Although the access road was not watered, vehicles drove slowly to avoid stirring up fugitive dust.

A second Essex EI and a paleontological monitor were on-site with the grading crew as they worked on the first pad location (see Figure 4).

Environmental Compliance:

The clearing crew was informed that the access road would need to be watered if fugitive dust was observed leaving the right-of-way.

A water truck was on-site at the grading location to address fugitive dust. Temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) were installed around the pad location.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

NTPs #1 and #2 have been issued by CPUC for access road upgrade/construction and 138/69 kV tower installation along the Fanita Junction to Los Coches and Los Coches to Miguel segments, respectively. SDG&E has not requested any additional NTPs at this time.

Variance Requests:

No variance requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 08/25/04)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	07/07/04	Use of four storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Completed	07/23/04
2	08/10/04	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat before September 1 on the Miguel to Fanita Junction section during the 2003/2004 nesting season.	Completed	08/13/04

Upcoming Items: SDG&E will hold weekly meetings on Tuesday mornings to review issues and upcoming events.

Agency Personnel Contacts: None

Photographs



Figure 1 – Sensitive plant habitat at the Steele Canyon storage site marked by yellow caution flagging.



Figure 2 – Property owner adjacent to SDG&E easement who has requested decorative fence instead of temporary cyclone fence with screening material.



Figure 3 – Crew using hand tools to clear brush. In background, dry brush being reduced with a small chipper.



Figure 4 – Crew working on grading first pad. Water truck on-site for dust control.