



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

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

**To:** Michael Rosauer, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** September 29, 2004  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #8: September 19, 2004 – September 25, 2004  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Christopher Meyer

Weather was clear throughout the subject week and the Santa Ana winds had only minor impacts on the project.

### **FANITA JUNCTION TO LOS COCHES SEGMENT**

#### **Summary of Activity:**

The transmission line contractor continued boring and pouring concrete in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 during the subject week. The CPUC EM conducted site visits on September 22 and 23. Foundation boring and concrete pouring activities occurred while the CPUC EM was on-site.

Work with the large boulders and bedrock at Tower Site 1300 is currently on hold as additional options are considered for excavation of the foundation. Boulders and bedrock continue to pose challenges to the foundation crews throughout the segment.

The transmission line contractor, PAR, placed anchor bolts and poured the foundations during the subject week. A crew prepared the anchor bolts and form for a concrete pour at Tower Site 1340 (see Figure 1). The concrete washout at the base of the hill will be reused instead of trying to washout the concrete trucks on the steep slope. An Essex EI was on-site with the PAR crew.

The grading crew returned to Tower Site 1150 to correct the pad configuration (see Figure 2). A boring crew worked on the excavation for Tower Site 635B at the same location. The reconfiguration of the site was complete and the PAR crew will move to the site to complete the foundation.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

Temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed around the pad locations and spoil piles have been covered with plastic sheeting to control fugitive dust.

An Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site for the work at Tower Sites 1340. No significant environmental compliance issues were noted on the segment. The EI found a barrel cactus adjacent to the pad and has protected the cactus with lathe until it can be transplanted (see Figure 3).

### **LOS COCHES TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION SEGMENT**

#### **Summary of Activity:**

The grading and clearing activities continued in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #2 during the subject week.

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on September 22 and 23. The work occurred at Tower Sites 440 and 797, and between Tower Sites 5 and 20 during the site visit. Both grading contractors, Union and DCX, have crews operating on the segment at this time.

The clearing crew worked on Tower Site 10, near Miguel Substation to prepare for grading activities (see Figure 4). The crew worked with hand tools to cut the brush with the help of a backhoe to remove the brush for chipping. The grading crews completed work at Tower Site 797. An operator in an excavator worked with the water truck driver to process the soil before removal for use as fill at another site (see Figure 5).

The grading crew working at Tower Site 440 worked with several pieces of equipment to prepare the pad and the access road. The operator in the excavator moved large boulders from the pad site prior to grading (see Figure 6). An operator in a backhoe equipped with a hydraulic hammer broke the boulders into smaller pieces for removal from the site.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

The crews are aware that the access roads and work areas need to be watered if fugitive dust is observed leaving the right-of-way. Water trucks were on-site to control fugitive dust during the various construction activities. An Essex EI was on-site for both the clearing and grading work. The CPUC EM walked the right-of-way and did not observe any environmental compliance issues.

Several anchor bolts were placed on the edges of storage areas on native vegetation. The Essex EI documented the issues and had the materials moved off of the vegetation. SDG&E will work with the delivery companies to address the issue.

The fencing/screening issue at the staging area on Hillsdale Road is still pending. 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 and has received letters from the property owners requesting that no temporary fence be installed.

### **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. SDG&E has not requested any additional NTPs at this time.

### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

On September 27, SDG&E submitted a variance request for the use of 6 temporary extra work areas for the remainder of construction on the segment. Five of the areas in the request may have already been approved in Variance Request #1. The variance request is currently under review.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS**  
(Updated 09/29/04)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	07/07/04	Use of five 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
3	09/01/04	Grading and clearing in quino checkerspot butterfly habitat after October 15.	Completed	09/14/04
4	09/06/04	Allow work on Saturdays near recreational facilities.	Completed	09/14/04
5	09/27/04	Use of six storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Under review	Pending

**UPCOMING ITEMS:** SDG&E will hold weekly meetings on Tuesday mornings to review issues and upcoming events.

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:** None

**TABLE 2**  
**TEWS TRACKING**  
(Updated 09/29/04)

Number	Segment	Date Received	Description	Status	Approval Date <sup>1</sup>
1	Los Coches to Miguel	07/24/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/26 to 9/26	See Variance Request #1
2	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	1600 Block Sweeney Court, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #1
3	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	2300 Willow Glen Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #1
4	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	South of terminus of Camino Monte Sombra, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #1
5	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	Southeast of 2600 block Pence Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #1
6	Los Coches to Miguel	08/26/04	North side of Singing Vista Way, San Diego County	Approved from 08/27 to 10/27	08/27/04

<sup>1</sup>For TEWS requests, Approval Date reflects EM approval date. TEWS approvals valid for 60 days only.

## Photographs



**Figure 1** – The PAR crew at Tower Site 1340 prepared the forms and started the concrete pour.



**Figure 2** – The grading crew returned to Tower Site 1150 to reconfigure the site.





**Figure 3** – The Essex EI placed lathe to protect a barrel cactus at the base of Tower Site 1340.



**Figure 4** – The clearing crew worked with a backhoe to clear Tower 10 for grading.





**Figure 5** – The excavator operator and water truck driver worked to increase soil moisture prior to hauling to another site for fill.



**Figure 6** – The excavator operator at Tower Site 440 moved boulders off the pad for grading.