

# Aspen Environmental Group

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

**To:** Jensen Uchida, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: February 24, 2005

**Subject:** Weekly Report #29: February 13, 2004 – February 19, 2005

**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Christopher Meyer

#### FANITA JUNCTION TO LOS COCHES SEGMENT

### **Summary of Activity:**

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on February 16 and 17 to review construction progress and Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) issues. Transmission line, drilling and SWPPP work was observed during the site visit. Work observed during the site visit in the areas covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1, #3 and #4 was limited due to the wet condition of the right-of-way and included the following:

- 1. A Wilson crew worked to install guard structures and lower lines in the Eucalyptus Hills area near Pole Site 1400.
- 2. The Wilson Construction subcontractor, Tri-State Drilling, drilled test holes adjacent to Pole Site 1300 for the new 230 kV steel pole (see Figure 1). The drill operator did not hit any rock in the test holes at the site.
- 3. Wilson Construction worked on pouring concrete for the new 230 kV pole foundations during the subject week in the Santee Lakes area. Work was originally delayed due to the slippery condition of the access road and the first truck was sent back after the load remained in the truck for too long.
- 4. A testing crew worked at Pole Site 1160 to test the micro-piles (see Figure 2). The crew used a hydraulic jack to test the strength with which the piles were set in the rock.

## **Environmental Compliance:**

Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed around the pad locations and crews have repaired the pads and the access roads that were not passable after the early season storms. The access roads on this segment were not impacted by erosion to the same extent as the roads on the Los Coches to Miguel Substation segment; however, many were not passable after the recent storms without damaging the road surface. Access to Fanita Junction was shifted to through the landfill after the original access through Santee Lakes became impassable following the recent storms.

A Wilson crew installed silt fencing on the slope under the new pad for a 230 kV steel pole adjacent to Pole Site 1330 (see Figure 3).

An Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site for spot-checking environmental compliance issues on the project.

## LOS COCHES TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION SEGMENT

### **Summary of Activity:**

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on February 16 and 17 to review construction progress and SWPPP issues. Spoil hauling activities were observed in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #2 during the subject week. Access problems on Wind River Road have been resolved and SDG&E mobilized the drilling machine to Pole Site 481. The following were the main construction activities or issues during the subject week:

- 1. Anderson Drilling worked at Pole Site 171 during the site visit (see Figure 4). Drilling progress was slow in the hard material and the current drilling machine may be replaced with a heavier machine.
- 2. A road crew worked near Pole Site 161 to remove a rock that slid onto the road after the recent rains. The crew used a rock hammer to break the boulder down for removal from the access road.
- 3. The drilling machine for Pole Site 481 was delivered to Wind River Road during the subject week (see Figure 5). The crew discovered that more room was needed to assemble the machine before it was walked to the pad site. The machine was reloaded and moved to a local extra workspace for assembly and loaded onto a larger trailer for transportation back to Wind River Road.

## **Environmental Compliance:**

Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed around the pad locations and crews have repaired the pads and the access roads that were not passable after the early season storms. However, many of the access roads are again not passable after the recent storms without damaging the road surface.

An Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site for spot-checking environmental compliance issues on the project.

# 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. NTP #3 to address the 230 kV construction work on Miramar Naval Air Station was issued by CPUC November 16. NTP #4 for upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations, and installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations was issued by CPUC on December 20.

#### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

No new Variance Requests were submitted during the subject week.

# TABLE 1 VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS

(Updated 02/24/05)

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.	Completed	10/06/04
6	10/20/04	Work on Sunday, October 31 at Tower Site 925 to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule.	Completed	10/26/04
7	01/13/05	Reconfiguration of approved stringing/snubbing sites at Pole Sites 10 and 961.	Completed	01/17/05
8	02/03/05	Work after 7pm, February 8 at Pole 1210 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	02/04/05

**UPCOMING ITEMS:** None

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None** 

# TABLE 2 **TEWS TRACKING**

(Updated 02/24/05)

Number	Segment	Date Received	Description	Status	Approval Date <sup>1</sup>
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	14000 Block of Willow Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
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 #2
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 #2
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 #2
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 #2
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 #2
6	Los Coches to Miguel	08/26/04	North side of Singing Vista Way, San Diego County	Approved from 08/27 to 10/27	See Variance Request #2
7	Los Coches to Miguel	02/11/04	Southwest of Pence Road, San Diego County	Approved from 02/16 to 04/16	02/16/05

For TEWS requests, Approval Date reflects EM approval date. TEWS approvals valid for 60 days only. \*TEWS submitted as a contingency while Variance Request #1 was under review.

# **Photographs**



**Figure 1** – An operator tested for rock prior to the drilling adjacent to Pole Site 1300.



Figure 2 – A testing crew worked to check the strength of the micro-piles at Pole Site 1160.



**Figure 3** – A Wilson crew installed silt fencing adjacent to Pole Site 1330 after a new pad was graded for the 230 kV foundation.



**Figure 4** – A smaller drill was having problems with the hard material at Pole Site 171.



**Figure 5** – The Matco Drill was delivered to Wind River Road for the start of drilling at Pole Site 481.