

# Aspen Environmental Group

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

**To:** Jensen Uchida, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** June 29, 2005

**Subject:** Weekly Report #48: July 17 – July 23, 2005.

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

**NOTE:** No work occurred on the project during the period of June 26 through July 16, and as a result, no monitoring or reporting was conducted.

## FANITA JUNCTION TO MIGUEL 138/69 KV ACTIVITIES, NTP #1 AND #2

## **Summary of Activity:**

The 138 kV work on the segment has been completed and the PAR crews have demobilized from the project. Clean-up and final restoration, including Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) issues, will continue in the areas covered by Notices to Proceed (NTP) #1 and #2.

## **Environmental Compliance:**

1. Several sites that were restored earlier in the project have revegetated. SDG&E has determined that revegetation of remaining sites will have to wait until the next growing season for the plants to get established prior to summer.

#### MISSION TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION 230 KV ACTIVITIES, NTPS #3 AND #4

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

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on July 19<sup>th</sup> to review the construction and SWPPP issues related to installation of the permanent 230 kV system. Construction activities were limited to dropping line on the 230 kV portion of the project during the site visit.

## PERMANENT 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #3 was issued to address 230 kV work on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar prior to the NTP for all 230 kV work to address the expiration of a permit with the Navy. NTP #4 addressed the permanent upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations. Construction of the permanent 230 kV system was delayed due to ISO restrictions on line outages and restarted on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Wilson Construction returned to the project and started dropping existing conductor and dismantling towers that will be replaced by steel poles. The crews started on both sides of Interstate 8 and worked to the southwest. A crew was preparing to work with a helicopter to drop line in the avocado orchard south of Interstate 8 during the site visit (see Figure 1). SDG&E requested the use of the Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) at the Padre Dam Water District property south of the orchard for use as a helicopter fly yard (see Figure 2). This TEWS location was utilized earlier in the year during project construction (see Table 2, TEWS #8). SDG&E will submit a variance request if the yard is required beyond September 18<sup>th</sup>. The helicopter was used during the line drop to keep the heavy conductor from damaging the avocado trees. The helicopter was equipped with a hook to hold the line during the operation (see Figure 3).

#### TEMPORARY 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #4 also addressed the installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations. The temporary 230 kV system has been completed and the temporary line was energized on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Environmental Compliance:**

The Essex EI was on-site with the crews and worked ahead with the foreman to identify sensitive areas. A water truck was used to keep dust down on the access roads and helicopter fly yard during the site visit, as well as for safety in case of fire. Raptors in the area were observed flying during the helicopter operation (see Figure 4).

## **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<sup>th</sup>. 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<sup>th</sup>.

#### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

No Variance Requests were submitted during the subject week.

## TABLE 1 VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS (Updated 07/27/05)

		,		CPUC
Variance	Date			Approval
Request #	Submitted	Description	Status	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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> .	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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> at Pole 1210 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	02/04/05
9	02/16/05	Perform construction activities on Sunday, February 20 <sup>th</sup> at Pole Site 493.	Completed	02/17/05
10	03/10/05	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat after March 1 <sup>st</sup> on the project during the 2004/2005 nesting season.	Completed	3/22/05
11	03/14/05	Work after 7pm at Pole 411 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	03/16/05
12	03/14/05	Work on Sunday, March 20 <sup>th</sup> to string cable at eight towers to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule. Modification added for line work north of Los Coches Substation.	Completed	03/17/05
13	03/28/05	Work on Cesar Chavez holiday, Thursday March 31 <sup>st</sup> .	Not Required	N/A
14	03/29/05	Work on Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, April 10 <sup>th</sup> to string cable to comply with Caltrans/ Highway Patrol lane closure requirements.	Completed	3/30/05
15	04/15/05	Programmatic variance to work on outside the approved construction schedule with prior approval from the CPUC EM.	Completed	4/19/05
16	5/05/05	Work on Sunday, May 8 <sup>th</sup> to catch up on transmission line work	Completed	5/05/05
17	5/09/05	Parking of a crane truck in the vegetation approximately 500 feet southwest of Pole Site 10.	Completed	5/10/05
18	05/11/05	Work on Sunday, May 15 <sup>th</sup> to catch up on transmission line work	Completed	5/12/05
19	05/20/05 MOD- 5/27/05	Waiver from the 30 day noticing period prior to energizing the temporary 230 kV line as required by Mitigation Measure PS-2a.	Request Rescinded 6/8/05	N/A
20	05/26/05	Work on Sunday, May 29 <sup>th</sup> to stay on schedule for energizing the line.	Completed	5/31/05

**UPCOMING ITEMS:** None

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None** 

## TEMPORARY EXTRA WORK SPACE REQUESTS:

Table 2 presents the Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) Requests processed to date.

## TABLE 2 TEWS TRACKING

(Updated 07/27/05)

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	02/11/05	Southwest of Pence Road, San Diego County	Approved from 02/16 to 04/16	02/16/05
8	Los Coches to Miguel	03/11/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/16 to 05/16; Approved from 07/18 to 09/18	07/18/05
9	Mission to Fanita	03/18/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/21 to 05/21	03/21/05
10	Los Coches to Miguel	03/29/05	PAR staging and show-up yard on Jamacha Road.	Approved from 03/29 to 05/29	03/29/05
11	Los Coches to Miguel	04/29/05	Placement of two cranes to create a guard structure south of Hwy. 94.	Approved from 04/29 to 06/29	04/29/05

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

<sup>\*</sup>TEWS submitted as a contingency while Variance Request #1 was under review.

## **Photographs**



**Figure 1** – The Wilson crew worked south of Interstate 8, preparing to lower the conductor with assistance of the helicopter.



**Figure 2** – The TEWS for the helicopter fly yard is away from residences and dust was controlled by watering the pad.



**Figure 3** – Wilson used a helicopter to hold the conductor off the avocado trees.



**Figure 4** – A red-tail hawk was observed flying around the orchard during the helicopter operation.