



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM

PG&E NORTHEAST SAN JOSE TRANSMISSION REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: February 12, 2003

Subject: Weekly Report #37: February 3, 2003 – February 9, 2003

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler

Summary of Activity:

Monday, February 3:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of pole foundation area #1 (a) and (b) in the early afternoon. Half of the steel poles have been erected at that location. At pole area #2, the steel poles have been partially erected. Also, at pole area #3, the steel poles have been partially erected. At pole area #4, the steel poles are being stored on the ground and have not been erected. The steel poles at pole area #5 (a) and (b) have not been erected yet.

At the west end of Cushing Parkway, crews were working on pole foundations #9 (a) and (b). Another crew was working on paving at the end of Cushing Parkway. The CPUC EM observed that poles #8, #7, and #6 (a) and (b) are all partially erected.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the field west of the Los Esteros Substation, where crews were working on pole foundation NTO2. At the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's (WPCP) property, crews had just finished pouring pole foundation #22 (see Figure 1).

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the cloverleaf at the junction of Highway 237 and Zanker Road with the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI), just southwest of the field west of the Los Esteros Substation. A burrowing owl was observed sitting in front of a burrow on the bank of the Highway on-ramp.

The CPUC EM met with Jack Barclay of Albion Environmental and the Essex EI in the field west of the Los Esteros Substation. Jack Barclay was there to remove the one-way doors put in several burrows in that field on January 31. Originally they had only planned to put in four one-way doors on January 31, but when they arrived at the site they noted many more burrows in the area and therefore installed more than four one-way doors. None of the one-way doors had been kicked out by ground squirrels, and so Mr. Barclay was inclined to leave them in for the time being. The CPUC EM requested that he pass on any new information regarding the burrows and one-way doors to Scott Wilson at CDFG.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM observed crews unloading steel poles at pole foundation #16.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the underground segment, where crews were splicing cable at man-hole vault #3 and man-hole vault #4. Another crew was pulling cable on the right line between man-hole vault #7 and man-hole vault #8. The CPUC EM spoke with a crew member at man-hole vault #8 who informed her that there was water in the man-hole vault when they first opened it up. The CPUC EM asked the Essex EI to follow up with the crew and make sure they were using proper dewatering techniques. At the Mervyn's staging yard, more cable had arrived and crews were working on equipment at that location. At the south end of Fremont Boulevard, crews were still working on tie-in construction from the underground segment to the overhead segment. The steel poles for 10(L) and 10(R) are partially erected.

Thursday, February 6:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of pole towers #1(a) and (b) in the morning. These two towers are fully erected now. At pole area #2, crews were observed working on attaching rollers to the arms of the poles (see Figure 2). No crews were observed working at pole #3, but the pole is partially erected. No crews were observed working at pole #4 and the poles are still on the ground at that site. At pole area #5(a) and (b) on the Catella Property, there was no evidence of any recent work.

Next, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of pole foundations along McCarthy Boulevard, where the soil pile that was being stored near pole foundations #15(a) and (b) has been removed. The CPUC EM observed that poles were being stored on the ground near pole foundation #16.

At the Los Esteros Substation fewer crew members were observed working on the site by the CPUC EM. Connection of insulators and aluminum piping is still underway. The CPUC EM observed that the site was very neat and clean and has dried out almost completely.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the field west of the Los Esteros Substation, where crews were working on NTO2 pole foundation just to the west of the substation. The CPUC EM looked for burrowing owls in the field and on the north side of the freeway off-ramp, but did not observe any at the time of the visit.

At the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property, crews were working on pole foundation #24(a) and (b) (see Figure 3). Crews were staying well within their work area and the site was being kept neat and clean.

Later, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of pole #9(a) and (b) area at the west end of Cushing Parkway. Crews were doing some paving work in the area. Poles #8, #7, #6(a) and (b) are still only partially erected.

Along the underground segment, crews were splicing cable in man-hole vaults #3, #4, and #5 on Fremont Boulevard. Another crew was pulling cable between man-hole vaults #6 and #7. The CPUC EM observed that sites were neat and clean and that equipment, material, and vehicles were being kept within the work area. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mervyn's staging yard. Empty cable reels are being stored there until they are picked up and taken to a scrap metal recycling plant. Some new cables have been delivered and are being stored at that location. At the south end of Fremont Boulevard, poles #10(L) and (R) are still only partially erected. Crews are still working on the underground to overhead tie-in. The CPUC EM observed that site was neat and clean.

Environmental Compliance:

On February 3, the CPUC EM observed that the project was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

On February 6, the CPUC EM observed that the project was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

No NTPS were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests:

On February 4, Variance Request #9 was submitted to install ground wire peaks and string optical ground wire (OPGW) from the 230kV towers being built as part of the NESJ Project to the Newark Substation utilizing the existing Metcalf to Newark/Tesla to Newark No. 2 transmission line easement. A recommendation for Variance Request #9 was forwarded to CPUC on February 7.

**TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 02-12-03)**

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	6/11/02	Disposal of excavated material, corner of Fremont Boulevard and Cushing Parkway, Fremont.	Completed	6/11/02
2	6/13/02	Material/equipment yard, 42400 Boyce Road, Fremont.	Completed	See Underground NTP
3				
4	6/26/02	Reduce biological buffer from 250 to 15-feet at existing structure, Los Esteros Substation.	Completed; 25-foot buffer approved.	7/5/02
5	7/9/02	Extra work space area for Line F bore, west of Fremont Blvd.	Completed	7/12/02
6	9/6/02	Change the location of the permanent access road to the Los Esteros Substation.	Completed	9/23/02
7	10/23/02	Use of a portion of the Mervyn's property for equipment and material storage for underground construction.	Completed	11/12/02
8	10/23/02	Use of a laydown yard at 800 Spreckles Ave., City of Alviso, for equipment and material storage for overhead construction.	Completed	10/31/02
9	02/04/03	Install ground wire peaks and string optical ground wire (OPGW) from the 230kV towers being built as part of the NESJ Project to the Newark Substation utilizing the existing Metcalf to Newark/Tesla to Newark No. 2 transmission line easement.	2/7 – Recommendation to CPUC	



Figure 1
Tri-state Drilling – Pole Foundation #22 (WPCP)
February 3, 2003



Figure 2
Pole #2
February 6, 2003



Figure 3
Tri-state Drilling - Pole Foundations #24(a) & (b) construction (WPCP)
February 6, 2003