



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E NORTHEAST SAN JOSE TRANSMISSION REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: May 22, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #51: May 12, 2003 – May 18, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler

Summary of Activity:

Monday, May 12:

The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) informed the CPUC EM that he spoke with several construction management representatives about future work to take place at poles #1 L and R. No construction will be taking place at the splicing box where a nest is located.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1 L and R, where crews were cutting the “hot wires” from the Newark Substation (there was a temporary outage for the work) and then attaching flying bells to the new lines beginning at poles #1 L and R (see Figure 1). Crews were working from two boom trucks. The CPUC EM then conducted a site visit of poles #2, #3, #4 and #5 and did not observe any construction at those locations. The CPUC EM observed that all sites were neat and clean.

Along Cushing Parkway at poles #9 L and R, the area around the poles had been cleaned-up of plastic shavings and wire debris since the site visit last Friday, May 9. Four PG&E vehicles were parked at that location. PG&E crews were splicing fiber optics cable for the northern overhead segment. No crews were working at poles #8, #7, and #6 L and R at the time of the site visit.

Along the underground segment, splicing crews were working at man-hole vault #2 (left line) along Cushing Parkway. Splicing crews were also working at man-hole vaults #3 and #5 along Fremont Boulevard and man-hole vaults #6, #7 and #8 behind the business parks. A crew was also observed terminating boxes at man-hole vault #4 along Fremont Boulevard. Crews were also splicing at man-hole vault #9 in the Mervyn’s staging area. Traffic signs and cones were placed around the work areas. At the Mervyn’s staging area, most of the empty cable reels have been removed from the site. Very few pieces of equipment and vehicles remain at the site. The site was observed to be neat and clean.

At the south end of Fremont Boulevard, crews were observed working at poles #10 L and R with the use of a couple of boom trucks. Crews were staying within their work area and the sites were observed to be neat and clean.

No crews were observed working at the King & Lyon’s property or along McCarthy Boulevard at the time of the site visit in the early afternoon.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Trimble – Montague Segment and stopped at pole area #10 to inspect the straw wattle placed around the fence to Coyote Creek. The pole foundation #10 has not been done yet. The CPUC EM also stopped at pole foundation #13 and talked with Bob Bonderud, PG&E Principal Land Planner, and some PG&E surveyors. Effective today, a court order was issued for possession to do pole foundations #8 and #12 on private property. Pole foundation #13 has already been completed, and is partially on private property, which will require an amended complaint to the court. The pole foundation sites were observed to be neat and clean.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation. Electrical crews were working at various locations at the substation site. Additional crews were laying and compacting base rock. The new fence is up on the west side of the property inside the old fence line. The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.

In the field west of the Los Esteros Substation site, no crews were observed working at the time of the site visit.

At the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant, no crews were observed working at the time of the site visit. The CPUC EM observed that the work sites were neat and clean.

Thursday, May 15:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1 L and R around noon. Flying bells had been attached from the “hot wires” coming out of the Newark Substation to the new lines beginning at poles #1 L and R. No crews were observed working at the time of the site visit. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #2, #3, #4 and #5 and did not observe any construction at those locations. The CPUC EM observed that all sites were neat and clean.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit at the west end of Cushing Parkway at poles #9 L and R. No crews were working at that location or at poles #8, #7, and #6 L and R at the time of the site visit.

Along the underground segment, splicing crews were working at man-hole vault #2 along Cushing Parkway. Splicing crews were also working at man-hole vaults #3 and #5 along Fremont Boulevard and man-hole vaults #6, #7 and #8 behind the business parks. Crews were also splicing at man-hole vault #9 in the Mervyn’s staging area. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mervyn’s staging area. The site was observed to be neat and clean.

At the south end of Fremont Boulevard, crews were observed working at poles #10 L and R with the use of a couple of boom trucks and a crane. Crews were staying within their work area and the sites were observed to be neat and clean.

At the King & Lyon’s property and along McCarthy Boulevard, no crews were observed working at the time of the site visit in the early afternoon.

In the field west of the Los Esteros Substation site, a burrowing owl was observed perched on a cone near its nest about 350 feet away from the southwest corner PG&E pole. The City of San Jose surveyed the area for burrowing owls and placed the traffic cone near the nest that was found in order to demarcate it. A crew was working on the poles in the southeast corner of the field. They were erecting temporary wood poles for the Agnews bypass.

At the Los Esteros Substation, Crews was working at various locations at the site, painting and wiring transformers and working on insulators. Additional crews were laying and compacting base rock. A new drainage ditch was observed on the south side of the site (see Figure 2). The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.

At the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant, crews were observed working at pole #23 clipping wire. Crews already finished pole #25 today. Another crew was attaching spacers to the wire between poles #18 and #21. All of the broken cable that had been on the access roads was removed earlier in the week. The CPUC EM observed that the work sites were neat and clean.

Around 9:15 PM, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Trimble – Montague Segment. Crews had traffic signs and cones around their work site at pole area #10. Crews were setting up their equipment and getting ready to drill the pole foundation pit. The straw wattle was in place around the fence to Coyote Creek. Crews started to drill the foundation pit at around 10 PM. About three feet down, the drill hit a 3-inch water line going to the business at that location (see Figure 3). The water line shut-off was found right away and was turned off. The Inspector was called and came out and looked at the situation. He had crews move the pole foundation pit slightly to the east and had them try again. Around 10:45 PM, crews tried drilling again and hit another 3-inch water line. The Inspector called the City of Santa Clara's Utilities Department and spoke with a dispatcher who called a city representative. All foundation drilling work was halted for the night. They will resume pole foundation work next Monday night at pole area #8 or #10.

Environmental Compliance:

On May 12, the CPUC EM observed that broken cable was still being stored on the access roads at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property. The CPUC EM observed that all other sites were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

On May 15, the CPUC EM observed that the broken cable on the access roads at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property had been removed. The CPUC EM observed that all sites were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

CPUC issued the NTP for the Trimble to Montague 115kV upgrade on April 8.

Variance Requests:

No new Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 05-22-03)

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.	Completed	02/18/03
10	04/17/03	Delay implementation of landscaping at the Los Esteros Substation.	Completed	04/29/03



Figure 1
Crews Connecting Lines from Newark to NESJ
May 12, 2003



Figure 2
New Drainage Ditch on East Side of Los Esteros Substation Site
May 15, 2003



Figure 3
Trimble – Montague Segment
Crews Dewatering Pole Foundation Pit #10 Where Water Line Broke
May 15, 2003