



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E – TRI-VALLEY 2002 CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT**

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** March 7, 2003  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #24: February 24, 2003 – March 2, 2003  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Anne Sweet

### **Summary of Activity:**

Weather was overcast with showers during the subject week. Erosion control was inspected project wide and repairs were made where needed. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) conducted several environmental trainings of contractor and subcontractor personnel, as well as site visitors and inspectors during the subject week.

At the Arroyo del Valle bore, all boring operations and transmission line installation under the crossing are complete, thus meeting the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Streambed Alteration Agreement permit extension for the Arroyo bore which expired on March 1, 2003. During the subject week, crews back filled and compacted both the northern and southern bore pits (see Figures 1 and 2). Dewatering of the southern bore pit continued with one well point to allow proper compaction. The well point was removed on Wednesday, February 27. At the end of the subject week, the contractor removed the sound wall installed around the northern pit. The temporary erosion controls were removed and permanent erosion controls such as jute netting and loose straw were installed. The three 20,000-gallon Baker tanks, which contain the contaminated groundwater resulting from the spill, which occurred February 8, remain on-site. Test results show that the hydrocarbon content levels are too high to allow either overland or storm drain release. PG&E is looking into how to dispose of the large volume of water.

Crews continued trenching within “Old” Vineyard Avenue west of Vista Diablo Court and near Vaults 17A and 17B approaching Bernal Avenue. Crews continue trenching eastward from vaults 15A and 15B. Crews are finishing up work and tie-ins to Vaults 15A, 15B, 16A, 16B, 17A and 17B. Riprap was installed in a channel leading to a storm drain to dissipate sediment at Station 254+00. Traffic Control Plans (TCPs) were implemented.

On February 27, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mueller Contractor Yard. Cable and equipment were being stored at that location. It was observed that many vehicles were parked around the edges of the staging area. This area is approved for use per Variance #5 contingent on landowner approval submission to the CPUC. The Essex EI was contacted about the issue. He said he did not know if they had gotten landowner approval yet, but was going to check into it. To date, landowner approval has not been submitted to the CPUC.

During the subject week, the CPUC EM toured New Vineyard Road. Work progressed on Vaults 12A and 12B, as well as tie-ins. Conduit proofing and line stringing crews were onsite (see Figure 3).

The directional drill, which was set up at the bridged unnamed tributary along New Vineyard Road, remains inactive. On February 13, Buck Jones the PG&E planner called the CPUC EM with information that directional drilling operations at the unnamed tributary have been suspended until a Streambed Alteration Agreement has been granted by the CDFG for work associated with the crossing.

The CPUC EM observed that boring operations were completed on the second bore at the Ruby Hills entrance location. Shoring has been removed and tie-in operations to the mainline have begun.

At the Isabel Avenue bore location, operations were completed. Crews have finished pulling back the HDPE pipe and have strung transmission line through the conduit. Concrete has been poured around the installation (see Figure 4). Crews removed the drill rig and shoring and backfilled the pits. Crews have started trenching for tie-in work on the east side of the road.

The Highway 84 bore will start when the Caltrans permits for the bore are approved. For the area between Highway 84 and the Transition Station, crews have finished installation of and one tie-in to Vaults 1A and 1B near the Transition Station. The other tie-in will occur when the Station has been completed.

The CPUC EM toured the Transition Station area. Thirty-foot holes have been augured and rebar pole supports were set in concrete. On Wednesday, February 26, it was observed that a concrete truck had washed out on the ground adjacent to the right-of-way. The Essex EI was notified, who was already aware of the issue and had documented it as a minor problem. He then spoke to the crews about proper washout procedures. The concrete washout was cleaned up and disposed of properly.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On February 26, a concrete truck had washed out on the ground adjacent to the right-of-way. The issue was documented as a minor problem. Crews were informed about proper washout procedures. The concrete washout was cleaned up and disposed of properly. No resources were impacted.

On February 27, vehicles were parked outside of the approved staging area without property owner approval notification to the CPUC as required by Variance #5.

For all other operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

NTP #3 was approved by the CPUC and distributed on December 12. This NTP completes the Phase One portion of the Tri-Valley Project. On February 13, the CPUC EM met with Essex to review the Phase Two mitigation requirements necessary for NTP #4 preparation.

**Variance Requests:**

Variance Request #5 submitted for an approximate 2.6-acre expansion of the approved Mueller Contractor Yard was approved by the CPUC on February 25, 2003. Landowner approval is still pending.

**Agency Personnel Contacts:** None.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 03-07-03)**

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	10/3/02	Temporary storage of bore pit spoils on the north side of the Arroyo del Valle bore crossing Stations 304+00 to 306+00.	Completed	10/17/02
2	12/19/02	40 feet of extra work space was requested on the south, east and west sides of the north bore pit associated with the Arroyo Del Valle jack and bore to install a sound barrier around boring operations, so that 24-hour construction could occur.	Completed	1/6/03
3	01/29/03	Approximate 200' by 300' extra workspace area east of the Isabel Ave jack & bore.	Completed	2/18/03
4	01/29/03	Approximate 120' by 320' extra workspace area north of the Hwy 84 jack & bore, and an 80' by 200' area south of the Hwy 84 bore.	Completed	2/18/03
5	02/12/03	Approximate 2.6-acre expansion of the approved Mueller Contractor Yard, City of Pleasanton.	Completed	2/25/03



Figure 1  
Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit, partially backfilled.



Figure 2  
South Side of Arroyo del Valle Bore, the pit has been backfilled and compacted.





Figure 3  
Pulling Cable.



Figure 4  
East side of Isabel Avenue bore, tie-in work.