



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM

PG&E – TRI-VALLEY 2002 CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: July 2, 2003

Subject: Weekly Report #41: June 23, 2003 – June 29, 2003

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. The Essex Environmental Inspector conducted several environmental trainings throughout the week for new substation construction personnel. The Tri-Valley Phase 2 Trenching Operations Supervisor Training originally scheduled for June 26 has been postponed to July 8.

Phase One:

The major build activities of the Phase One section of the Tri-Valley Project are now complete. All conduit and vaults are completely installed. The transmission line cable, which had proved faulty has been removed and the new replacement cable has been restrung during. During the subject week crews conducted transmission line splicing and proofing. Due to the transmission line problems, the Phase One line energization deadline was delayed from May 22 to July 3, 2003. Pre-energization notices were re-sent to nearby residences in early June. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) has reduced monitoring from full-time to twice-weekly spot checks, but remains on-call. Mueller has reduced crews and continues with restoration activities.

During the subject week, crews continued to water the installed jute netting and seeded the sloped area near the northern intersection of New Vineyard Road and “Old” Vineyard Avenue as well as the graded area near the Vault 15 location. Crews have also continued various restoration efforts along “Old” Vineyard Avenue. Traffic Control Plans were implemented.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mueller Contractor Yard. All vehicles and equipment were being kept within the yard and the extra workspace area adjacent to the yard approved for use per Variance #5. The yard areas are being cleared of equipment and spoils.

At New Vineyard Road, Mueller has decided to subcontract the road restoration work to the company, which originally cut the road for the City of Pleasanton. On Tuesday, June 24, Jim Gotcher the City of Pleasanton Public works Inspector spoke with the CPUC EM regarding whether the City wants continued CPUC inspection of New Vineyard Road for restoration efforts. Mr. Gotcher stated that the City contractor will be working on groundwork for the remaining utilities and that City will consider the restoration efforts from this point forward to be City of Pleasanton jurisdiction, thus no additional CPUC monitoring will be expected. Jim stated that he has given Mueller the final punch list of outstanding restoration issues and expected completion by the end of the subject week.

For the area between Highway 84 and the Transition Station, the Essex EI has returned to the diesel spill area near the Vault 4 location. With a shovel he removed some of the top layer of dirt. The underlying soil still smells of diesel. The Essex EI contacted the bioremediation company Micro Blaze and found out that the original application at the site was improperly executed. Crews will re-apply the product and sample for cleanup.

Crews have finished the Transition Station work. During the original grading and compaction of the site, the disturbed area was compacted too much to allow adequate vegetation growth. The contractor ripped the ground surface to a depth of six inches. The area was seeded and a mulch cover was applied. Crews continue to water the area (see Figure 1).

Phase Two:

At the Cayetano Substation site, crews continue grading at the site. Soil is being hauled to the site to add elevation to the substation landing. A water truck has been on-site continually watering the area for dust suppression. Early in the week a drill rig was on-site to drill a well for project water needs (see Figure 2). Two hazardous materials spills occurred during the week, but no resources were impacted. Essex notified the CPUC EM of both spills. On June 26, less than a gallon of oil spilled from project equipment. The contaminated soils were excavated and stored in a drum. On June 27, approximately a gallon of diesel spilled onto the gravel parking area next to the trailer. The leak was stopped and the contractor removed the contaminated gravel and soils, which were placed in a storage drum.

At the PSD Yard approved for use under Variance Request #6, no additional work or crews were observed at the site.

Environmental Compliance:

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

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

Essex has made all remaining submittals for the remainder of the Phase Two construction (trenching and Transition Station work). After submittal review, Aspen will submit a recommendation for NTP #5 for CPUC consideration.

Variance Requests:

On July 1, Essex submitted Variance Request #7 which requests a variance of Mitigation Measure 7.3 trench cover requirements to protect the San Joaquin Kit Fox deferring to the protocol outlined in the USFWS Biological Opinion.

Agency Personnel Contacts:

June 24, Jim Gotcher, City of Pleasanton Public Works Inspector

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 07/02/03)

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
6	05/19/03	Approximate 2.5-acre laydown area adjacent to the north side of May School Road for equipment and materials storage and contractor staging for the Phase Two portion of the project.	Completed\	5/23/03
6-Modification	06/06/03	Allow clearing and grading at the 2.5-acre laydown area adjacent to the north side of May School Road.	Denied by CPUC 06/09/03	
7	07/01/03	Variance of Mitigation Measure 7.3 trench cover requirements to protect the San Joaquin Kit Fox deferring to the protocol outlined in the USFWS Biological Opinion.	Under Review	



Figure 1 – At the Transition Station, the contractor has ripped the ground surface to a depth of six inches. The area was seeded and a mulch cover was applied. Crews continue to water the area.
Phase One.



Figure 2 – Grading at the Cayetano Substation site. The structure to the left of the photo is a water well drill.
Phase Two.