

Aspen Environmental Group

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Summary of Activity:

This week was the first week of construction along the Tri-Valley Project. Construction during the week started up slowly with crews primarily potholing for utilities.

Monday, September 16:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Transition Station at the Tesla-Newark corridor, where no work was yet underway. Continuing along the line from the Transition Station, a crew was observed applying water for dust suppression along the road adjacent to grapevines that will be taken out due to construction activities. The CPUC EM met with Megan Bracker, Essex Project Manager, and Branden Liddell, Essex Environmental Inspector (EI), and they stated that the grapes are almost ready for harvest. In coordination with the vineyard owners, PG&E will possibly wait for the harvest before taking out the vines.

A potholing crew was observed along Vineyard Road near the Bernal Road intersection. Resource flagging has been placed at the Arroyo Del Valle crossing. At the Muller Contractor Yard, a soil containment structure has been built along the west side of the yard.

Wednesday, September 18:

No work was yet underway at the Transition Station at the Tesla-Newark corridor. A potholing crew was continuing with utility locating along Vineyard Road near the Bernal Road intersection. The two buildings at the intersection had been demolished. Essex EIs stated that the buildings had been demolished on Tuesday, September 17. A crew was still on site cleaning up residual debris and grading the area.

Resource flagging has been placed at the Arroyo Del Valle crossing. The planned bore pit was moved outside of an adjacent oak tree drip line. A heritage tree might need to be impacted by boring operations; PG&E is in consultation with the City of Pleasanton regarding this issue.

Friday, September 20:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit at the intersection of Vineyard Road and Bernal Road, where the two buildings had been demolished. Upon arriving on site at 9:30 a.m., a crew was loading a dump truck with huge tree limbs and stumps of two heritage trees that had been purposefully taken down. The CPUC EM contacted Megan Bracker, Essex Project Manager, regarding the removal of trees. She said that the City of Pleasanton gave permission to remove the trees and that she had just forwarded the documentation. She also informed the CPUC EM that three more trees will be taken out. The CPUC EM reminded the Essex Project Manager that all applicable documentation, including City approvals, needs to be provided to CPUC prior to the commencement of activities and that such documentation needs to be maintained onsite.

Branden Liddell, Essex EI, arrived to give an environmental training to the crew members at the tree removal site; however, these crew members were seen by the CPUC EM working throughout the week prior to proper training.

Along New Vineyard Road, potholing activities are nearing completion. In addition, a temporary bridge has been installed over a drainage. This area will require special environmental and safety handling when construction begins.

Still no work underway at the Transition Station at the Tesla-Newark corridor. Continuing along the line from the Transition Station, a crew was observed potholing along the road adjacent to the grapevines, that had been harvested during the week.

The CPUC EM conducted a site tour with Branden Liddell, Essex EI, of all approved work areas as well as locations listed on the upcoming NTP #2 request.

Environmental Compliance:

Removal of two heritage trees occurred prior to the provision of applicable City of Pleasanton documentation to CPUC. Some crews working on-site were not environmentally trained prior to commencement of work. Otherwise, construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

On September 12, NTP #1 was issued by CPUC. On September 18, PG&E submitted their request for locations to be considered under NTP #2. A meeting was held on September 19 to discuss the pre-construction compliance status for the proposed work.

Variance Requests:

No Variance Requests were submitted or reviewed during the subject week.

Agency Contacts:

Friday, September 20: Phil Grubstick, Assistant Director of Public Works/City Engineer, City of Pleasanton