



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: October 23, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #57: October 13, 2003 – October 19, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) conducted several environmental trainings throughout the week for new construction personnel.

Phase One:

The major build activities of the Phase One section of the Tri-Valley Project are complete and the line was officially released to operations in early-July. Restoration work concerning a land sinkage problem resulting from project construction activities near the Ruby Hills entrance location along Vineyard Avenue has been done. Soil compaction tests have been conducted and final sign-offs will be obtained from landowners, as well as the City of Pleasanton, once all of the compaction reports are reviewed.

As reported by Essex, as-built packages were delivered to the City of Pleasanton and the Zone 7 Water Agency and Alameda Flood Control and Conservation District during the week of September 29th. The Zone 7 release has been obtained. The City of Pleasanton's release is pending the release from Ruby Hills. The release from Ruby Hills is pending some financial issues.

Phase Two:

The Essex EI reduced monitoring beginning October 1, from full- to part-time now that the duct bank installation for Phase Two is complete. December 1 is the planned line energization date for this segment. Essex has begun preparing pre-energization notices to be distributed to all property owners along the alignment.

At the Cayetano Substation site, the contractor continued component structure installation and testing. Work was completed on the fence around the perimeter of the station and a gate has been installed. The contractor now plans to lock the station area after work hours. Numerous trenches and holes have been excavated within the substation pad for tie-ins to the station components (see Figure 1). A water truck continually waters the area for dust suppression.

Crews have finished pulling cable between all vault locations and the cable termination structures at the Cayetano Substation and Transition Station. The contractor continued cable splicing at vaults CC-3, DC-22, CC-6, and DC-25 and began splicing at Vaults CC-2 and DC-21 during the subject week.

Last month, the juvenile burrowing owls, which had occupied the nest located approximately 295-feet from the PSD yard site, began to disperse. The Essex EI has continued inspections of the burrow area. During the subject week, the CPUC EM and the Essex EI spotted two burrowing owls in and around the nest.

During the subject week, crews disked numerous locations along the alignment to pre-construction conditions along May School Road and Dagnino Road.

Crews continued road upgrade and restoration operations east from Dagnino Road along the access road that follows the alignment to the Transition Station, part of which lies within a wetland exclusion buffer and wetland mitigation site for the Dublin Ranch Development. Crews applied additional water to suppress fugitive dust along the disturbed project right-of-way. Because the road crosses three drainages, Essex has met at the location with CDFG representative Janis Gan for agency review of the road upgrade and requested an amendment to the 1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement for the additional roadwork. The roadwork plans were subsequently downsized and the amendment was approved October 6. Ms. Gan requested that PG&E also coordinate with the Dublin Ranch Development planners, HT Harvey & Associates to identify and mitigate hydrology impacts by the road upgrade to the wetland mitigation area project being constructed on both sides of the subject road. A meeting was held on October 8, between PG&E, Essex, PSD, Sturgeon Electric and HT Harvey & Associates. HT Harvey & Associates requested that culverts be installed across the access road at three additional locations. Culverts upgrades at the three existing drainage areas were planned. Crews have begun installing and upgrading the culverts during the subject week (see Figure 2).

At the Transition Station, crews continued grading and gravel installation, as well as cutting for a V-ditch around the parameter of the station. Station components including the mono-pole were installed during the subject week. The Essex EI reported that at the end of each workday all open holes are being covered by plywood or ramped to avoid entrapment of wildlife. On October 15, the CPUC EM met with the crew Foreman and walked the area for the proposed Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) request for access outside the Transition Station pad for grounding purposes during the connection from the Contra Costa-Newark line to the Transition Station poles. No clearing or grading will be required as part of the work and the area is within PG&E's existing easement. No environmental issues were noted during the tour. On Friday, October 17, the CPUC EM signed the proposed TEWS. The work will begin on October 24th and the contractor estimates that no more than 10 days will be needed to complete the connections. The TEWS was approved from October 17 to November 15, 2003. Biological and cultural resource surveys were conducted and no sensitive resources were identified; however, numerous burrows exist within the TEWS area. Given the sensitivity of the area (known burrowing owl and California tiger salamander populations), a condition was added to the TEWS that the Essex EI will flag existing burrows along the TEWS area for exclusion.

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):

No new NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests:

None.

Agency Personnel Contacts:

None.

VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 10/23/03)

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.	Completed	7/8/03
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.	Completed	7/22/03
8	7/25/03	Variance of Mitigation 7.4 for adjustments to burrowing owl protection mitigation measures per site-specific recommendations made by CDFG.	Completed	8/4/03
9	8/11/03	Variance to extend the PSD laydown yard, requesting an additional 82' by 270' area to the north of the yard, for parking and materials storage for the Phase Two portion of the project.	Completed	9/5/03



Figure 1 – Trenching at the Cayetano Substation, Phase Two.



Figure 2 – New culvert installed under the access road being upgraded east of Dagnino Road, Phase Two.