



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: November 6, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #59: October 27, 2003 – November 2, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear early in the subject week, with the exception of scattered showers on October 31. 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. As reported by Essex, as-built packages were delivered to the City of Pleasanton and the Zone 7 - Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District during the week of September 29th. On November 5, PG&E notified CPUC/Aspen that they were in receipt of the final Phase One signoffs from the City of Pleasanton, Ruby Hills Homeowners Association, and Zone 7. These signoffs conclude all construction related indemnifications between PG&E's Contractor, Infrasource/Mueller Pipeliners, PG&E, and the above entities. As a result, PG&E requests that this concludes reporting requirements for the Phase 1 component of the Project.

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 distributed pre-energization notices to all property owners along the alignment on October 31. Reseeding along the project alignment will occur after the first rainfalls. PG&E has coordinated with landowners, CDFG, and surrounding mitigation area planners HT Harvey & Associates for appropriate seed mixes at the various locations.

At the Cayetano Substation site, the contractor continued component structure installation and testing. Work is completed on the fence around the perimeter of the station and a gate has been installed. The contractor locks the station area after work hours. During the subject week, the landscape contractor began trenching around the parameter of the substation to install a sprinkler system. The Essex EI reported that at the end of each day, the contractor installed ramps into all trench and open depressions to prevent wildlife entrapment. A water truck continually waters the area for dust suppression. During the subject week, three separate complaint calls were received from residents surrounding the substation. The light banks installed within the substation have emitted very bright light well into evening hours. PG&E responded to the residents that the lighting will be used up to 8:30 pm until the line energization date of December 1. PG&E stated that they will try and focus the light banks inward to the work in an effort to reduce the brightness.

Crews have finished pulling cable between all vault locations and the cable termination structures at the Cayetano Substation and Transition Station. The contractor finished cable splicing at vaults CC-2 and DC-21 during the subject week. This completes all splicing operations at the vault locations. The Essex EI reported that the contractor covered all vault manholes to prevent wildlife entrapment.

Over the last few months, the juvenile burrowing owls, which had occupied the nest located approximately 295-feet from the PSD yard site, have dispersed. During the subject week, the Essex EI continued to monitor the nest and surrounding area for owls. Three owls were spotted, two in and around the original nest and one approximately 450 feet south-east of the PSD yard. The Essex EI reminded the contractor to stay out of all sensitive resource areas and to use caution when moving equipment and materials.

At the PSD Contractor yard, crews continue to remove equipment and cable reels.

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 coordinated with CDFG representative Janis Gan and 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. It was requested that culverts be upgraded and new culverts be installed across the access road at three additional locations. Crews completed installing and upgrading the culverts during the subject week. Crews also continued road grading and laying down a gravel base for the road. Crews had made an effort to complete the road restoration effort prior to the onset of rain; however, construction had not been completed by Friday, October 31, when showers occurred.

During the subject week, the CPUC EM observed that at two locations construction fencing and resource signs had been removed from around burrows, which were excluded as potential California tiger salamander (CTS) habitat. The CPUC EM called the Essex EI and was informed that Janis Gan, CDFG, had been informed of buffer removals.

At the Transition Station, crews continued grading and gravel installation. On the late afternoon of Thursday, October 30, the CPUC EM noted that the sediment fencing installed along the south of the station area was in very bad repair (see Figure 1). A storm was forecasted and did occur the following morning. The CPUC EM notified the Essex EI of the problem, he in turn called the contractor who proceeded to the site to fix the fencing.

On Friday, October 17, the CPUC EM signed the proposed Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) request for access outside the Transition Station pad for grounding and line stringing purposes during the connection from the Contra Costa-Newark line to the Transition Station poles. As documented, no clearing or grading will be required as part of the work, which is approved from October 17 to November 15. Biological and cultural resource surveys were conducted and no sensitive resources were identified; however, numerous burrows, which serve as potential CTS estivation habitat exist within the TEWS area. The Essex EI flagged the boundaries of the extra workspace and pin flags were placed at burrows. On Friday, October 24th, the contractor transferred the Contra Costa-Newark circuit to the monopole. Three lines remain to be restrung to the H-Frame structure; these activities are planned for November 13.

Environmental Compliance:

On October 30, the CPUC EM noted that the sediment fencing installed along the south of the station area was in very bad repair. A storm was forecasted and did occur the following morning. The CPUC EM notified the Essex EI and the fencing was subsequently repaired.

During the subject week, the CPUC EM observed that at two locations construction fencing and resource signs had been removed from around burrows, which were excluded as potential CTS habitat. The CPUC EM called the Essex EI and was informed that Janis Gan, CDFG, had been informed of buffer removals.

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):

No new NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests: None.

Agency Personnel Contacts: None.

VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE

(Updated 11/06/03)

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 – Sediment fence in need of repair along the west side of the Transition Station., Phase Two.