



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Ken Lewis, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: November 20, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #61: November 10, 2003 – November 16, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

A large storm occurred over the weekend prior to the subject week. Weather was clear early in the week, followed by scattered showers and rainfall toward the end of the week. Special attention was paid to erosion controls through out the project. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) conducted an environmental training regarding California tiger salamander (CTS) habitat during the week for Contra Costa Electric construction personnel prior to the line transfer at the Transition Station. No other trainings were given during the week.

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. 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, this concludes reporting requirements for the Phase 1 component of the Project. However, the CPUC EM will continue to spot check the Phase One segment to ensure that installed erosion controls for the project remain in place and functioning.

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 began during the subject week. 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. During the subject week, the landscape contractor continued installing irrigation line within the trench around the parameter of the substation. The landscape contractor has also planted trees around the Station. Portions of the trench have filled up with rainwater. On November 13, the CPUC EM viewed very turbid water leaving the site trough a storm drain. Some sandbags were in place, but were not effectively filtering the water (see Figure 1). The Essex EI was called and notified of the problem.

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. No owls were spotted in and around the original nest or 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 as well as haul off hazardous materials storage drums to a designated facility.

Crews have completed 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. Crews have completed installing and upgrading the culverts, as previously requested by CDFG and HT Harvey and Associates (wetland mitigation site planners). The HT Harvey Project Manager also requested that PG&E leave the construction fencing in place around designated borrows and drainages. Crews have installed additional erosion controls including jute netting and hay bales within the drainage areas. The contractor disked the disturbed right-of-way and removed the steel plates that covered the drainages along the temporary access road. Crews have hydro-seeded all of the disturbed areas. After the seed application, crews then applied much, then tackifier (see Figures 2 & 3).

At the Transition Station, crews have installed a chain link fence with barbed wire around the station pad.

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 Thursday, November 13th, the contractor grounded and transferred the three remaining Contra Costa-Newark circuit lines to the station H-Frame structure (see Figures 4 & 5). The Essex EI had escorted the boom trucks to the grounding location to avoid burrows, which could serve as CTS habitat.

Environmental Compliance:

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 11/20/03)

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 – Muddy water runoff from the Cayetano Substation, Phase Two.



Figure 2 – Hydro seeding along the access road to the Transition Station, Phase Two.



Figure 3 – Hydro seeding and mulch cover along the access road to the Transition Station, Phase Two.



Figure 4 –Transition Station H-frame structure, Phase Two.



Figure 5 – Grounded Contra Costa-Newark Circuit line transfer to the Transition Station, Phase Two.