



# **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 26, 2002  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #10: November 18, 2002 – November 24, 2002  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Anne Sweet

### **Summary of Activity:**

Sometime during the night of November 20th, vandals disabled almost every piece of heavy equipment on the Tri-Valley Project. Substances yet to be determined were poured into the gas tanks of backhoes and excavators. Crime scene investigators were called to the site, and preliminary estimates are that 1.5 million dollars of damage to equipment occurred. Production was greatly impacted from November 21st through the end of the week.

Weather during the subject week was clear and dry. As described in Weekly Report #8, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) had approved the overland discharge of rainwater from the trench line and bore pits; however, all encountered groundwater must be discharged to a local sanitary water district until appropriate groundwater discharge permits are in place.

Operations at the Arroyo del Valle bore are shutdown until the RWQCB approves a dewatering plan. As stated above, the RWQCB will allow groundwater discharge to a local sanitary water district until appropriate groundwater discharge permits are in place. At the south bore pit site, pilot wells have been drilled and dewatering piping and pumps have been installed and hooked up to a baker tank (see Figure 1). On Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup>, groundwater samples were collected; results will be submitted with the dewatering plan to the RWQCB. The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Streambed Alteration Agreement for the bore expired November 15<sup>th</sup>. When drilling commences, PG&E plans to request a day-to-day extension of the permit until the bore is completed.

During the subject week, crews continued trenching and conduit installation between the Arroyo del Valle bore and the Vineyard Substation between Stations 305+00 and 309+00 (see Figure 2).

During the subject week, trench and conduit installation occurred along New Vineyard Road from Stations 56+50 to 60+25. Trenching and conduit installation has also started along New Vineyard Road at the eastern intersection with “Old” Vineyard Avenue moving westward from Stations 3+00 to 4+50. Trenching and conduit installation continued along ‘Old’ Vineyard Avenue west of Highway 84 from Stations 115+00 to 124+00. Topsoil spoils are being placed along the trench line and subsoil spoils are being placed in a truck and hauled off site.

During the subject week, the CPUC EM toured the area along the Zone 7 Access Road. Trenching, conduit installation, and back filling have been completed except for small sections of the trench line which have been left for vault tie-ins and or other work to be completed.

At the Transition Station site, crews have moved a large pile of soil from the west side of the property, where the land drops off towards the creek, to a higher portion of the property to the east. Erosion

controls around the Transition Station site were inspected and it was noted that the lower portion of the property could possibly use some more straw bales along the silt fence before the next big storm event.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the fill site next to Highway 680, where crews are depositing spoils. The area was very muddy because of recent rains.

**Environmental Compliance:**

All construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

A recommendation for NTP #3 was forwarded to CPUC on November 26. This NTP will complete the Phase One portion of the Tri-Valley Project.

**Variance Requests:**

No Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

**Agency Personnel Contacts:**

No agency contacts were made during the subject week.



Figure 1  
Pilot wells and de-watering piping installations at the Arroyo del Valle south bore pit.



Figure 2

Trenching and conduit installation in the area between the Vineyard Substation and the Arroyo del Valle bore. The backhoe barrel in the foreground was one of the pieces of equipment impacted by the vandalism incident, which occurred on November 20<sup>th</sup>.