



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: December 17, 2002
Subject: Weekly Report #13: December 9, 2002 – December 15, 2002
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather during the subject week was overcast with rain off and on. On Friday December 13 a huge storm hit the area. Branden Liddel the Essex EI installed a rain meter at the site and over the weekend measured approximately six inches of rain. Special attention was paid to erosion control installation and inspection.

Vault construction began this week. Boring operations occurred on the beginning of the subject week but terminated due to the storm event.

Operations at the Arroyo del Valle bore have started up again. The RWQCB has reviewed the groundwater test results and the de-watering plan submitted by the Zahn Group and on December 3 approved dewatering operations to begin December 7, 2002. The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Streambed Alteration Agreement for the bore expired on November 15. On December 5, Janis Gan of the CDFG sent an extension to the agreement via e-mail. The extension is for a period of five weeks starting November 25, 2002. The extension letter noted, "All other conditions of permit 2001-1058 still apply." On Monday December 9, Janis Gan of the CDFG contacted the CPUC EM to discuss the Arroyo Del Valle bore permit extension and wet weather conditions. Janis said that crews may work in the rain and must have appropriate erosion control devices on-site. On Monday December 9, the CPUC EM observed crews working in the Arroyo bore north bore pit and lifting a drill head into the pit with a crane. In compliance with the Streambed Alteration Agreement hay bales have been placed along the crossing side of the bore pit. 30-inch pipe was unladen in the area for the boring operations. Pilot wells and PVC piping has been installed and hooked up to a Baker tank, which has been brought to the site. After the water is tested per RWQCB requirements the water from the Baker tank is discharged to a nearby storm drain. At the Arroyo south bore pit site, the pilot wells and dewatering piping and pumps have been hooked up to a second baker tank which has been brought to the site. The original tank on site contains water with elevated gasoline readings. It was agreed that the water within the original tank not be discharged to the storm drain; rather it will be taken to a local sanitary water district. Per Essex EI Branden Lidell, on Wednesday December 11, a spill occurred at the south bore pit site. An excavator digging in the bore pit started leaking hydraulic fluid into the pit, which contained standing ground water. The operator stopped and notified the EI immediately. The leak was contained and all of the contaminated soil and water was completely removed. The contaminated material was taken to a hazardous storage container located at the Mueller Yard. On Thursday December 12, the Essex EI and contractor personnel noticed an oily sheen on the water surface in the Baker Tank of the south bore pit. Dewatering from the tank was immediately stopped. Weiss Environmental Consultants collected water samples and sent them to be analyzed.

During the subject week the CPUC EM noted potholing occurring along "Old" Vineyard Avenue within the paved areas covered by NTP #3. Per the Essex EI, activities occurred between the hours of 8:30 am and 3:30 pm, which is compliant with the Traffic Control Plan.

Along New Vineyard Road the contractor has completed conduit installation and backfilling. Work along New Vineyard Road is almost complete, only the vault construction and tie-ins remain outstanding. In preparation for the wet weather conditions, crews compacted and graded the road where work has been completed. Some gravel has also been laid down as cover. Excepting a few locations the grading operations have restored the Road to pre-existing conditions left by the City of Pleasanton. During the subject week silt fencing and hay bales have been placed along road to catch runoff. Additional Hay bales were placed along the drainage within New Vineyard Road to filter runoff from the roadway. During the rain events the erosion control devices were filtering runoff to a large extent. However it is inevitable that the devices will not contain everything due to the unpaved road conditions (See Figures 1 and 2).

The CPUC EM toured the Mueller Contractor yard. A large area has been cleared and gravel has been added to the area. The crews have unloaded transmission line wire spools. The large spoils pile on-site has been completely removed.

During the subject week, Golden State Boring Company continued boring operations from Stations 152+00 to 156+00 at the Ruby Hills entrance location. The contractor has excavated the bore pit on the west side of the roadway. Shoring has been placed within the pit. A large spoils pile sits south of the excavation, the pile was covered with visquene and silt fencing and straw bales were placed around the low slope area to prevent runoff during the rain event. 30 inch steel pipe has been laid out at the site.

Between Stations 00+00 and 02+00 crews began trenching across “Old” Vineyard Avenue. This trench connects the line between “Old” Vineyard Avenue and the New Vineyard Road. The trench began on the north side of the road and traffic was reduced to one lane. The traffic control plan was being followed and things were moving smoothly through the area. Steel plates were placed over the trench at the end of the day. The City of Pleasanton determined that it was unsafe to close a lane of traffic during rain conditions, therefore no trenching was allowed to occur at those times. Steel plates were placed over the trench.

The CPUC EM toured the area along the Zone 7 access Road between the transition station and highway 84. Trenching and conduit installation occurred between Stations 15+50 and 15+75 to tie into previously installed conduit. Crews excavated pits for Vault 2A and 2B between Stations 18+00 and 19+00. The vault components were lowered into the pits by crane. Concrete was then installed around the vault boxes. Crews started tying in to the vaults at this location. On Thursday December 12 the EI identified a hazardous materials spill on the right-of-way. The contractor was notified of the spill and the contaminated soil was excavated, however the soil was not removed from the site until the next day. The EI documented the delay as a minor problem. Between Stations 36+00 and 38+00 the contractor began installing Vaults 3A and 3B. Spoils were excavated and hauled off-site to a spoil storage area. On Thursday December 12 a dump truck driver ran over three grape vines outside of the approved work area near Station 38+00. The EI documented the incident as a non-compliance due to several recent incidents of off right-of-way travel. To resolve the non-compliance issue a meeting will be set up next week with PG&E, Essex, Mueller, and Reliable Trucking.

At the Transition Station Site, visquene has been placed over the station pad and weighted with sand bags. Extra hay bales have been placed around the site and a stockpile of bales have been placed on the pad and covered with visquene (see Figure 3).

Environmental Compliance:

On Thursday December 12, the EI identified a hazardous materials spill on the right-of-way. The contractor was notified of the spill and the contaminated soil was excavated; however the soil was no removed from the site until the next day. The EI documented the delay as a minor problem.

On Thursday December 12, a dump truck driver ran over three grape vines outside of the approved work area near station 38+00. The EI documented the incident as a non-compliance due to several recent incidents of off- right-of-way travel. To resolve the non-compliance issue a meeting regarding right-of-way limits will be set up next week with PG&E, Essex, Mueller, and Reliable Trucking.

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

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

NTP #3 was approved by the CPUC and distributed on December 12. This NTP completes 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:

December 9: Janis Gan, CDFG.

**TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 10-17-02)**

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



Figure 1

Additional erosion control installation near a drainage area along New Vineyard Road.



Figure 2

Closer view of additional erosion control installation near a drainage area along New Vineyard Road.



Figure 3

Transition Station site. The pad is covered with visquene, and additional hay bales have been placed around the site prior to the storm event.