



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE – VIEJO SYSTEM PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: October 26, 2004
Subject: Weekly Report #12: October 17, 2004 – October 23, 2004
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on October 19 and reviewed the substation and 220 kV construction activities, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and rain impacts with SCE.

SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

The specialized crew working on the insulation and roofing of the 220 kV main mechanical/electrical equipment room (MEER #1) was the only construction crew working on the substation site during the site visit (see Figure 1). An operator worked with a backhoe to place base rock on the access road and parking area outside the construction trailer (see Figure 2). The remainder of the construction site was fairly saturated from the recent rains and work was suspended.

No concrete pours were scheduled during the projected rains. Several foundations will need cleaning or re-excavation before concrete can be poured.

Environmental Compliance:

For all operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permitting requirements.

The site vegetation has been removed from the substation site and a LSA Environmental Inspector (EI) will not be on-site full-time. The LSA EI is periodically checking the excavations and foundation holes for sensitive and common animals. A paleontologist was on-site to monitor the minimal activities. No fossils were noted during the subject week.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed on the substation site appeared to be functioning properly. No off-site impacts were noted during the site visit.

220 kV TRANSMISSION LINE SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

No work occurred on the 220 kV transmission line corridor during the site visit due to the recent and predicted rains. The transmission line crews were waiting for the SCE Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan specialist to review the BMPs and allow work to continue. The restart of construction was not anticipated to be before Friday or Monday due to the storm front expected in the middle of the week.

Several foundations were completed prior to the work stoppage (see Figure 3).

Environmental Compliance:

The BMPs installed on the 220 kV right-of-way appeared to be effective (see Figure 4). No significant erosion or sedimentation was noted during the site visit. Straw waddles have been installed on the tower pad sites and the access roads. The spoil pile for the drilling operation was partially covered with jute netting and surrounded with straw waddles to minimize sediment transport (see Figure 5). Steel plates have been installed over the drainage ditch on the access road from the substation site to allow vehicle passage without impacts to the water (see Figure 6).

The LSA Environmental Inspector (EI) is currently on-site full-time on the transmission line right-of-way. The biological monitoring can be reduced in accordance with the NCCP once SCE has properly installed the exclusion fencing and the construction crews are no longer working in the sensitive habitat. A paleontologist was on-site to monitor if construction occurred. No fossils were noted during the subject week.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

NTP #1 was approved for substation construction by the CPUC on July 15, 2004, and NTP #2 was approved for the 220 kV upgrade on September 29, 2004. SCE is expected to start submittal of pre-construction compliance materials for 66 kV subtransmission line portion of the project.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No variance requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

UPCOMING ITEMS: SCE is working to submit the pre-construction compliance documents for the 66 kV towers.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None

Photographs



Figure 1 – A specialized crew installed insulation and worked on the roofing for MEER #1 during the week despite the rain.



Figure 2 – An operator worked with a backhoe to place base rock on the access road and parking area for the construction trailers on the substation site.



Figure 3 – Several complete foundations on the transmission line right-of-way.



Figure 4 – SCE has installed straw waddles at the pad locations and along access roads on the 220 kV corridor to control erosion and sedimentation.



Figure 5 – The spoil pile for the pole foundation at the base of the hill adjacent to the south end of the substation site has been partially covered to minimize sedimentation.



Figure 6 – Steel plates were installed on the access road for the 220 kV line to prevent vehicle traffic in the flowing water.