Aspen
Environmental Group

PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE – VIEJO SYSTEM PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: April 26, 2005

Subject: Weekly Report #38, April 17 – April 23, 2005.

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on April 19 and reviewed the substation, 220 kV, and 66 kV construction activities, and Best Management Practices (BMPs). Construction activities were only occurring in the substation during the site visit.

SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

1. Work continued on the main trench running east-west, dividing the 220 kV and 66 kV sections of the substation site. The first section has been poured and the forms removed. The forms are in place for the western section and a small crew worked to prepare for pouring concrete (see Figure 1).

2. NRG continued making connections within the 66 kV section of the substation site. The crew worked on many of the short connections between various pieces of equipment and insulators (see Figure 2).

3. Reycon continued working on architectural details for the block wall around the substation during the site visit. The gateposts and block columns for the gate at the public right-of-way have been placed, but no additional work was observed during the site visit. The braces for the barbed-wire have been placed on the inside of the wall and the crew will be grounding the wire at intervals along the wall. Foam blocks have been placed in spaces in the wall to be replaced with glass block details.

4. A crew with American worked to clean construction debris from the substation site. The crew also worked to clean out the v-ditches around the substation site (see Figure 3).

5. A small crew worked to trench in and connect grounding wires at the A-bank transformers while another crew worked on the south side of the transformer setting the new off-set pole that will provide for the proper separation between the conductor and the oil tank on the transformer (see Figure 4).

6. The 220 kV circuits from the risers to the 220 kV section of the substation site have been removed as a safety measure when the 220 kV portion of the substation site is energized. The 220 kV section of the substation site will be marked off with caution tape when energized and the disconnection of the circuit will allow crews to work safely in the 66 kV and 12 kV sections of the substation site. With the completion of the majority of the civil work, the remaining crews at the substation site have experience working in energized stations. SCE previously provided the CPUC EM was provided with an orientation on visiting an energized station.

Environmental Compliance:

The CPUC EM informed SCE that several small fuel spills were observed on the substation site. The crew with American was dispatched immediately to address the spills and the issue was resolved during the site visit.

For all operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permitting requirements. SCE has placed additional rock on the substation site, reducing the turbidity and sediment travel in rain events.

The site vegetation has been removed from the substation site and a LSA Environmental Inspector (EI) has not been on-site full-time. The LSA EI is periodically checking the excavations and foundation holes for sensitive and common animals. Several fossils have been discovered and collected for examination by the paleontologist during the course of the project. The majority of the excavation has been completed on the substation site and no fossil discoveries were reported during the subject week.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed on the substation site have been installed and maintained. No off-site impacts were noted during the site visit and the maintenance of the BMPs appeared to be effective as SCE prepared for any future rains.

220 KV TRANSMISSION LINE SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

One restoration crew from American worked on the 220 kV transmission line segment, but was not working in the area during the site visit. The crew re-contoured the work pad for the man-lift during construction of the 220 kV line and cleaned silt out of the drainage ditches along the access road (see Figure 5). The crew has been informed of the California gnatcatcher nests in the area and work was confined to the disturbed area.

Environmental Compliance:

The BMP issues at the steel pole pad on the 220 kV transmission right-of-way have been addressed and no other storm water related issues were noted during the site visit.

Several sensitive bird species were noted in the habitat adjacent to the 220 kV right-of-way. Only restoration work was occurring in the southern area near the nesting birds. The SCE biologist will work with the crews to avoid any impact to the habitat or disturbance of the nesting birds.

66 KV TRANSMISSION LINE SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

The NTP for the 66 kV work within the City of Lake Forest was issued on February 1, 2005. Although no construction was occurring during the site visit, the conductor temporarily bypassing the substation has been completed and will be removed after conduit is strung from each pole into the 66 kV section of the substation and the 66 kV section is ready for energization (see Figure 6).

Environmental Compliance:

No work was observed on the 66 kV right-of-way above the substation site during the site visit.

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. NTP #3 for 66 kV within the City of Lake Forest was issued by CPUC on February 1, 2005. NTP #4 for the remaining 66 kV H-structures (Mission Viejo and City of Lake Forest) was issued by CPUC on April 19, 2005.

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

UPCOMING ITEMS: None.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None.

Photographs

Figure 1 – The second section of the large trench was formed for concrete.

Figure 2 – NRG continued working on the small connections between the various equipment within the 66 kV section of the substation.

Figure 3 The American crew worked on cleaning out the v-ditches surrounding the substation site.

Figure 4 – The new off-set pole was set on the south side of the A-bank transformer.

Figure 5 – The American crew cleaned silt out of the concrete lined ditch on the 220 kV right-of-way.

Figure 6 – Crews worked on conductor for the 66 kV line east of the substation prior to the site visit.