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May 11, 2011

Mr. Eric Chiang
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94610

Subject: Central Valley Natural Gas Storage Project – Request for Issuance of a Notice to Proceed (NTP #9a) to Conduct Geotechnical Bores at 16 Sites along the Natural Gas Pipeline Route

Dear Eric:

Central Valley Gas Storage, LLC (CVGS) is requesting the CPUC's issuance of a notice to proceed (NTP #9a) to conduct geotechnical bores at 16 sites along the natural gas pipeline route. These sites are shown in the attached map set. All but fifteen of the geotechnical bores occur within the work area that was previously authorized as part of NTP #10a for pipeline right-of-way berming. The sixteenth bore site occurs at the meter station site and has been completed. As you are aware, the geotechnical bore sampling efforts were initiated but have been put on-hold per your May 10, 2011 request. The work associated with the geotechnical bores will be reinitiated once we receive approval from you.

The purpose of the bores is to gather data to support of the design the horizontal directional drills (HDDs) that will be used to install the natural gas pipeline at specified locations. All geotechnical bores that have been completed to-date have been surveyed by the monitoring biologist and are being monitored per the requirements of the MMCRP and permits. The geotechnical bore sites are being accessed using existing agricultural roads and the approved pipeline right-of-way. No new access roads are required for this activity.

CVGS has provided all the applicable permits, plans, and supporting documentation as part of the Mitigation Monitoring Compliance and Reporting Plan submittals and NTP #10a to the CPUC and additional items to support this NTP request. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Kiefer".

Jim Kiefer
Director Project Development
Central Valley Gas Storage

CC:

David Hochart/Scott Eckardt, Dudek

Homer Savage, Fluor

Sue Bushnell Bergfalk, ICF International