

	California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i>
	Central Valley Gas Storage Project Compliance Status Report 07 August 3, 2011

SUMMARY

The California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the final initial study/mitigated negative declaration (FIS/MND) for the Central Valley Gas Storage (CVGS) project. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FIS/MND to mitigate or avoid significant impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC’s third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. This compliance status report covers construction activities for the period of July 9, 2011 to August 3, 2011.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas of active construction, which included the 10-acre compressor station site, 5-acre remote well pad site, and three observation well locations. Site observations were completed on July 15, 22, and 29 and August 2 and 3, 2011. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits were observed to verify implementation of the measures stipulated in the project’s MMCRP. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms, and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

Drilling Operations at the Remote Well Pad Site associated with Injection/Withdrawal Wells, Work on temporary compressor at the Remote Well Pad, and Foundation work at Compressor Station

Construction activities at the remote well pad site undertaken during the period covered by this report included the completion of drilling of the third and fourth injection wells and the start of the fifth well,

soundwall construction and pipefitting at the temporary compressor and the electrical control room, and the installation of the permanent fence surrounding the site (see Photos 1, 2, & 3 – Attachment A).

Ongoing work at the compressor station site included construction of building foundations and the excavation of geo-piers (see Photos 4 & 5 – Attachment A). Drilling work on the observation wells and saltwater disposal well is complete.

Since major grading operations are now complete, dust emissions at both sites have been minimal and the contractor has kept one water truck on site to spray the roads. Crews have placed best management practices (BMPs) around the perimeter of the work area, consisting of a silt fence to minimize the potential for sediment to be transported beyond the work limits. Silt fences were observed to be in good working order throughout the site. Exclusion fencing has also been placed within areas adjacent to the approved work limits at the direction of the CVGS biologist to ensure that direct impacts to sensitive habitat do not occur during construction (see Photo 6 – Attachment A).

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measures tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in Section 6 of the FIS/MND (Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) Application A.09-08-008, SCH No. 2010042067). The status of each mitigation measure, including measures applicable to the design and pre-construction phases, is included in the project's mitigation measure tracking database, which is available upon request.

Compliance

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in Notice to Proceed (NTP) No. 1, No. 2, No. 4, No. 5A, No. 6A, No. 6B, No. 6C, No. 6D, No. 9A, No. 9B, No. 10A, No. 10B, No. 11, No. 12, and No. 13A (Attachment B). Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

CVGS has completed pad site preparation and grading at the compressor station and remote well pad sites. Drilling work for observation well conversions at Southam #3, and #4 and Sara Louise #1 is complete. Drilling work on the saltwater disposal well is complete. Southam #2 observation well will be completed later in the summer. Injection/withdrawal well drilling has begun at the remote well pad site and is expected to continue through August 2011. To date, four of the injection wells have been completed. Initial site preparation for installation of civil foundations, piping systems, and associated equipment at the remote well pad site has begun, but has not yet been completed. Foundation work for the building at the Compressor Station is underway. De-watering operations are underway along portions of the pipeline alignment.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Compressor Station – CVGS began construction on April 11, 2011, and anticipates completion of construction by April 2012.

Remote Well Pad Site (includes saltwater tank) – CVGS began construction on April 11, 2011, and anticipates completion of construction by December 2011.

Observation Well Conversions – CVGS began construction on May 31, 2011 and anticipates completing construction by October 2011.

Saltwater Disposal Well – CVGS began construction on June 15, 2011 and anticipates completing construction by December 2011.

Metering Station – CVGS anticipates starting construction in August 2011 and completing construction by October 2011.

Natural Gas Connecting Pipeline (Segment A) – CVGS anticipates starting construction on August 8 and completing construction by January 2012. Preparation of the Natural Gas Connecting Pipeline (Segment A) right-of-way is expected to begin on August 5, 2011 and to be completed by August 2011.

Natural Gas Connecting Pipeline (Segment B) – CVGS anticipates starting construction on August 8, 2011 and completing construction by November 2011.

Line 172 Connection Pipeline – CVGS began construction on May 16, 2011 and anticipates completing construction by December 2011.

ATTACHMENT A

Photos



Photo 1: Drilling operations at the remote well pad site.



Photo 2: Soundwall work at temporary compressor placed at the remote well pad site.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: Permanent fence installation at the remote well pad site.



Photo 4: Building foundation work at the compressor station site.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Building foundation work at the compressor station site.



Photo 6: Exclusion fencing and silt fencing at the western edge of the remote well pad site to ensure protection of sensitive habitats.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Segment/Component	Conditions Included (Y/N)
1	March 21, 2011	Compressor Station, Remote Well Pad, and Observation Wells	Y
10A	April 18, 2011	Berm Installation for Preparation of Natural Gas Pipeline Right-of-Way	Y
9A	May 11, 2011	Test Boring at Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Locations along 24-inch Pipeline Alignment	Y
2	May 13, 2011	Southam #3, #4, and Sara Louise #1; inspection and work-over activities	Y
6A	May 16, 2011	L-172 meter and interconnection	Y
5A	May 17, 2011	Drill up to 10 injection/withdrawal wells at remote well pad site	Y
6B	May 31, 2011	Remote well pad civil foundations, piping systems, temporary compressor, and equipment installation	Y
6D	May 31, 2011	Pacific Gas & Electric electrical pole relocation on Southam Road and new electrical pole installation on McAusland Road	Y
12	June 15, 2011	Complete test well and install saltwater disposal pipeline to remote well pad site	Y
6C	July 7, 2011	Compressor station civil foundations, piping systems, temporary compressor, and equipment installation	Y
10B	July 27, 2011	Preparation of 24-inch pipeline right-of-way	Y
4	August 3, 2011	Construction of 16-inch dual gathering lines and 24-inch pipe segment between compressor station and remote well pad site	Y
9B	August 3, 2011	Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) for 24-inch pipeline	Y
11	August 3, 2011	Construction of 24-inch pipeline between remote well pad and L-401 meter station	Y
13A	August 3, 2011	Construct L-401 meter station and pipeline connection to L-401	Y

ATTACHMENT C Variance Requests

Variance Request #	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
1	April 6, 2011	Realignment of the 24-inch gas pipeline, including the Southam Pipeline, Weller Pipeline, and Perez Pipeline will be performed. The intent of realignment is to minimize impacts to irrigation systems and agricultural lands.	Approved	April 25, 2011
2	July 1, 2011	Additional temporary work space for pipe staging adjacent an HDD site. Area within a fallow rice field.	Approved	July 20, 2011
3	July 12, 2011	Install 4 new poles to connect power to the compressor station via PG&E Line along Southam Road.	Approved	July 20, 2011
4	July 8, 2011	Utilize HDD to cross the NRCS wetland to avoid surface impacts.	Pending	Pending
5	July 12, 2011	Offsite area in the City of Colusa to be utilized by Pipeline contractor for office trailers, materials staging, and storage of equipment.	Approved	July 20, 2011
6	July 28, 2011	Construct four new power poles and relocate one existing power pole within the pipeline construction right-of-way.	Pending	Pending