

APPENDIX E

SPILL PREVENTION, CONTAINMENT, AND COUNTER MEASURES PLAN

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AQCD	Air Quality Control District
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CPCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
EA	Environmental Assessment
EI	Environmental Inspector
EPEC	El Paso Energy Corporation
EPGN	El Paso Global Networks
FOG	Fiber Optic Ground
HDPE	High Density Polyethylene
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
OP-AMP	Optical-Amplification
PEA	Proponent's Environmental Assessment
PLS	Pure Live Seed
ROW	Right-of-Way
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Containment & Countermeasures
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

El Paso Global Networks Company (EPGN), a subsidiary of El Paso Energy Corporation (El Paso), has been developing a nationwide network of fiber optic telecommunication facilities and as identified the need for an extension of its system into the western region of the United States. El Paso owns and operates a nationwide natural gas transmission system comprising a significant number of miles of pipeline, extending from the west coast to the east coast, and from the Gulf coast to New England. EPGN is proposing the installation of fiber optic telecommunication facilities adjacent to some of these pipelines and within the rights-of-way (ROW) they occupy, which are operated and maintained by El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of El Paso Energy Corporation (referred to in this document as El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline Company). The overall objective is to facilitate the installation and operations of these telecommunication facilities along these rights-of-way, while at the same time ensure the reliability, safety, and integrity of the existing pipeline facilities.

EPGN is currently developing an approximately 972-mile long fiber optic installation project traversing the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas for the transmission of voice and data services. The new telecommunications system (hereafter referred to as the system) will connect the cities of El Paso, Texas, to Phoenix, Arizona, and Phoenix, Arizona, to Los Angeles, California.

Approximately 346 miles of the system will be located within the State of California and subject to the jurisdiction of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The CPUC must grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) in order for EPGN to provide services to the public as a facilities-based, non-dominant interexchange carrier.

The CPUC's decision to grant or deny a CPCN triggers compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and requires an environmental analysis of the potential impacts associated with the proposed project. EPGN has elected to prepare a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) to be included in the CPCN application submitted to the CPUC. The PEA evaluates potential impacts associated with the cable conduit system (referred to as on right-of-way [on-ROW]) and ancillary facilities (referred to as off-ROW) for the project segments within the State of California. This Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC) has been prepared as part of the PEA. The purpose is to provide an example of a SPCC likely to be prepared for the project. The project will help meet increased demands for telecommunication needs by installing a fiber optic conduit system, capable of holding up to eight fiber optic cables, from El Paso to Los Angeles and will be available to provide service to communities that currently do not have access to fiber optics and related services.

2.1 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The spill prevention and control methods listed in this section are based on approved spill control plans that EPGN has used successfully in the past. The Plan is comprehensive in that it addresses actions used to prevent spills in addition to specifying actions that will be taken should any spills occur, including emergency notification procedures. The project's on-site Environmental Inspectors (EIs) are responsible for ensuring that Contractors implement and maintain spill control measures.

2.1.1 Training

The Contractor will instruct personnel on the operation and maintenance of equipment to prevent the accidental discharge or spill of fuel, oil, and lubricants. Personnel will also be made aware of the pollution control laws, rules, and regulations applicable to their work.

Spill prevention briefings with the construction crew will be scheduled and conducted by the EI to insure adequate understanding of spill prevention measures. These briefings will highlight:

- precautionary measures to prevent spills;
- sources of spills, such as equipment failure or malfunction;
- standard operating procedures in case of a spill;
- equipment, materials, and supplies available for clean-up of a spill; and
- a list of known spill events.

2.1.2 Equipment Inspection/Maintenance

The Contractor will inspect and maintain equipment that must be fueled and/or lubricated according to a strict schedule. The Contractor will submit to EPGN for approval written documentation of the methods used and work performed.

All containers, valves, pipelines, and hoses will be examined regularly to assess their general condition. The examination will identify any signs of deterioration that could cause a spill and signs of leaks, such as accumulated fluids. All leaks will be promptly corrected and/or repaired.

2.1.3 Refueling

Refueling Operations

The Contractor will insure that equipment is refueled and lubricated within the ROW and at least 100 feet away from all waterbodies and wetlands with the following exceptions:

- areas such as rugged terrain or steep slopes where movement of equipment to refueling stations would cause excessive disturbance to the ROW;
- sites where moving equipment to refueling stations from pre-fabricated equipment pads is impracticable or where there is a barrier from the waterbody/wetland (i.e., road or railroad);
- locations where the waterbody or wetland is located adjacent to a road crossing (from which the equipment can be serviced).

In these areas, auxiliary fuel tanks will be used to reduce the frequency of refueling operations and in no case will refueling take place within 150 feet of any known potable water wells.

The Contractor will assure that all refueling is done pursuant to the following conditions:

- Impact minimization measures and equipment will be sufficient to prevent discharged fluids from leaving the ROW or reaching wetlands or waterbodies, and be readily available for use. These will include some combination of the following:
 - a. dikes, berms or retaining walls sufficiently impervious to contain spilled oil;
 - b. sorbent and barrier materials in quantities determined by the Contractor to be sufficient to capture the largest reasonably foreseeable spill;
 - c. drums or containers suitable for holding and transporting contaminated materials;
 - d. curbing;
 - e. culverts, gutters, or other drainage systems;
 - f. weirs, booms, or other barriers;
 - g. spill diversion or retention ponds; and
 - h. sumps and collection systems.
- The Contractor will prepare for approval by EPGN a list of the type, quantity, and the storage location of containment and clean up equipment to be used during construction.
- All spills will be cleaned up immediately. Containment equipment will not be used for storing contaminated material.

2.1.4 Storage

Storage areas will not have drains, unless such drains lead to a containment area or vessel where the entire spill can be recovered.

Hazardous substances will be stored in staging areas located at least 150 feet from streams and other surface waters.

2.2 IMPACT MINIMIZATION MEASURES

Containment is the immediate priority in the case of a spill. A spill will be contained on EPGN's property or ROW, if possible. Clean up procedures will begin immediately after a spill is contained. In no case will containment equipment be used to store contaminated material.

In case of a spill, the Contractor will notify the EI, construction supervisors, and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) contacts immediately.

If a spill enters a body of water, the Contractor will immediately take samples upstream and downstream from point of entry and refrigerate samples. If advised, additional analysis will be completed and/or additional samples will be gathered.

If the EI determines that a spill is small enough such that the construction crew can safely handle it, the crew will use construction equipment to containerize all spilled material, contaminated soil, and sorbent material in a manner consistent with the spilled materials' characterization.

If the EI determines that a spill can not be adequately excavated and disposed of by the construction crew alone, the Contractor will contact waste containment specialists. The EI will ensure that all excavated wastes are transported to a disposal facility licensed to accept such wastes.

The Contractor will prepare a Construction Site Spill Report form to be given to the EI that includes:

- a. the date, time and location of the occurrence;
- b. a description of the material spilled;
- c. the quantity spilled;
- d. the circumstances that caused the spill;
- e. a list of waterbodies affected or potentially affected by the spill;
- f. a statement verifying whether a sheen is present;
- g. the size of the affected area;
- h. an estimate of the depth that the material has reached in water or on soil;
- i. a determination of whether the spill will migrate off of the ROW or a regeneration station site;
- j. a determination of whether the spill is under control;
- k. a statement verifying that clean-up has begun and a description of the methods being used to clean up the spill; and
- l. the names of the people observing the spill (with their affiliations).

The EI shall ensure that the Contractor's spill report is complete and shall submit it to the EPGN project manager and CPUC. The EI will assure that the Contractor notifies the appropriate agencies if it is determined that a spill exceeds reportable quantity thresholds.

The National Response Center (1-800-424-8802) will be notified immediately if spills occur above threshold levels (40CFR 110.10) into surface waters and/or wetlands.

2.3 SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT LIST

Section 1.1.3 of this SPCC states that the Contractor will prepare a list of the type, quantity, and location of storage or containment and clean up equipment to be used on the construction site. The list will include the procedures and impact minimization measures to be used in response to a spill. The Contractor's choice of impact minimization measures and equipment will be tailored to meet the characteristics of the affected terrain as well as the types and amounts of material that could potentially be spilled. The types of equipment that EPGN expects to use to control spills are described below.

2.3.1 Terrestrial Construction

General equipment that EPGN will use for spill containment and cleanup on terrestrial areas includes:

- sorbents (pillows, socks, and wipe sheets) for containment and pick up of spilled liquids;
- prepackaged, self-contained spill kits containing a variety of sorbents for small to large spills;
- structures such as gutters, culverts, and dikes for immediate spill containment;
- shovels, backhoes, etc, for excavating contaminated materials;
- sumps and collection systems; and
- drums, barrels, and temporary storage bags to clean up and transport contaminated materials.

Fuels and Lubricating Oil Storage

The Contractor will implement special measures to prevent spills in areas where trucks carrying fuel and where oil barrels are loaded. Containment equipment will be kept close to tanks and barrels to minimize spill response time, and will include absorbent pads or mats. The quantity and capabilities of the mats will be sufficient to capture the largest foreseeable spill, given ROW characteristics and crankcase and other fuel vessel capacities.

Routine Refueling and Maintenance

Absorbent pads and mats will be placed on the ground beneath equipment before refueling and maintenance. Equipment that will be stored on site for routine refueling and maintenance includes small sorbent kits (or their functional equivalent).

Equipment Failure

Kits with the capacity of absorbing up to five gallons of liquid can fit beneath the operator's seat on construction equipment for use in an equipment failure.

2.3.2 Waterbody And Wetland Crossings

The equipment listed below will be available in addition to that needed for terrestrial construction:

- oil containment booms and the related equipment needed for rapid deployment, and
- equipment to remove oils from water.