



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E ATLANTIC-DEL MAR REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: February 3, 2006
Subject: Weekly Report #41: January 22, 2006 – January 28, 2006
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Heather Stiles and Anne Sweet Coronado

The CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM) toured the Atlantic-Del Mar Project location on January 26th. The PG&E Environmental Inspector (EI), Shannon Ceresola, was on-site to ensure compliance with the adopted Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and other permit requirements. Shannon is moving on to work on a different project and her replacement Jeremy Sofonia was on-site with Shannon undergoing a project briefing. The PG&E EI is conducting environmental trainings for all new crewmembers. The PG&E EI also serves as a project biologist conducting California tiger salamander (CTS) aestivation surveys, on-going bird surveys, as well as installation of resource flagging and managing the installation and maintenance of sediment controls.

OVERHEAD:

Summary of Activity:

All overhead construction including pole, foundation, and line stringing work is being done by PG&E. The only remaining pole areas where work needs to be completed are Transition Poles #9 and #10. Although the crew has completed the first wire pull from the Atlantic Substation to Tower 18, the next wire pull cannot ensue until Transition Pole #10 is completed at the Kinder Morgan Tank Farm. The foundation for Transition Structure #10 was augered during the subject week. The foundation cage was installed and set in concrete. However, it was discovered that modifications to the foundation will need to be made to accommodate the hardware design. The foundation for Transition Structure #9 was also augered during the subject week. Next week the foundation cage will be installed and set in concrete.

All of the towers have been placed on the foundations with the exception of Poles #1, #2 and #3. These towers will be erected when the adjacent lines at the Del Mar Substation are de-energized.

The PG&E EI inspected existing erosion controls, including those near vernal pool areas. Per the PG&E EI, all inspected erosion controls remain in functional condition.

The overhead line crew did not work on the Atlantic to Del Mar project during the subject week.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

The CPUC EM observed the current overhead construction activities to be in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements. Erosion controls are inspected weekly and remain in place around sensitive resource areas adjacent to the construction areas. Additional silt fence was installed in order to reinforce existing silt fence next to the rutted access road on the west bank of Antelope Creek.

UNDERGROUND:

Summary of Activity:

The underground work has been contracted to Wilson Construction. Wilson has subcontracted the ground construction work to Zayas Construction. The horizontal bore work has been subcontracted to Cherrington. Interstate Safety has been subcontracted by Wilson to complete conduit installation.

Zayas Construction worked on the excavation of the trench line from Vault #3 (see Figure 1) into Rocklin Road. The crew hand dug around all existing utilities throughout the street and placed steel plates over the trench at the end of each workday. Storm water continues to fill the trench. Crews have been discharging storm water through a filter bag to overland areas devoid of resources. The completed trench from Vault #3 to approximately Station 44+00 was backfilled.

Spoils piles adjacent to Drainage #30 remain large. Erosion controls have been installed around the piles. The spoil pile which showed elevated metals located approximately 15 feet west of Seasonal Drainage #30 was removed during the subject week. The material was hauled to an approved refuse site.

Wilson Construction and Zayas Construction met with the CPUC EM and the PG&E EI s on Thursday, January 26, to discuss the upcoming excavation and tie-in work on the west side of Seasonal Drainage #30 to complete the conduit installation approximately three feet from the bank line. Potential damage to the frail and degrading bank is a concern (see Figure 2). In addition, compliance with the CDFG 1603 Permit which covers the trenching and conduit installation through Drainage #30 within the seasonal window of April 15th and October 15th was discussed. The CPUC EM, Anne Sweet Coronado pointed out that the CPUC cannot prohibit the proposed tie-in work, but that after her correspondence with CDFG representatives both Wilson and Zayas should be informed that if they begin work prior to April 15th they are taking a risk. If a resulting bank failure were to occur, the CDFG could assess fines for resource damages and the existing permit might be impacted.

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) operations, which commenced on November 18th, were completed in early December. The HDD contractor completed clean up at the entrance and exit sites of the bore pits and demobilized on December 14th. The area will be reclaimed and reseeded at the end of the project upon completion of the wire pull and energization of the line. During the subject week, the underground crews did not work on the tie-ins located at the bore entrance and exit pits. The current plan is to expose approximately one joint of the pipe at the receiving pit and cut it off, at approximately Station 8+00, prior to completing the tie-in. Following this procedure at the bore entrance pit will require encroachment onto Wetland #2. This encroachment has been reviewed and approved under mitigation agreements and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits. A mandrel proofing will be completed prior to concluding the tie-in processes. Per the PG&E EI, dewatering will need to be implemented during these work sessions; water will be contained into two Baker tanks on site. Any stored water will be manifested and removed from the project site by an approved disposal company.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Water samples have been collected from areas of standing water throughout the project area. Per the PG&E EI, the results will be evaluated and until further dewatering options can be provided to PG&E, all project water will be contained into Baker tanks rather than being discharged to the vegetative ground surfaces.

The PG&E EI has repeatedly requested that crews continuously maintain erosion control measures throughout the project. During previous weeks, the PG&E EI issued non-compliances to Wilson Construction due to the continued improper/minimal performance and maintenance of BMPs throughout the project. In response, Wilson Construction has hired a third party company to provide on-call erosion control maintenance and installation of additional BMPs throughout the remainder of the construction process. However the contractor did not work during the subject week.

Far Western has been conducting the project cultural monitoring. The underground work encounters several culturally sensitive areas. A cultural monitor must be present for work in all culturally sensitive areas as specified in Mitigation Measure C-1 and the Cultural Resources Treatment Plan. Per the PG&E EI, an environmental inspector was on site during all excavation completed from the crosswalk located on the south side of Rocklin Road beginning at the Amtrak parking lot and through the completed trench line into the westbound traffic lane of Rocklin Road. There were no unanticipated discoveries made during the work.

As presented in Table 1, one NCR and two Project Memoranda have been issued for the project to date.

**TABLE 1
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**

(Updated 02-03-06)

Project Memo or NCR	Date Issued	Description	Follow-Up Activities
NCR (Level 2)	6-23-05	PG&E contractors removed 22 large trees without notifying the project EI and without conducting avian nest surveys prior to removal, which is a violation of Mitigation Measure B-3 and APM 7-6. Additionally, the trees were removed outside of the allowable window of November 1 through February 15 as established in Mitigation Measure B-3 and overland travel was used instead of existing access roads.	PG&E has conducted post removal surveys at the tree removal sites and surrounding area, and supplied the CPUC with results on July 17, 2005. PG&E also notified CDFG.
Project Memo	1-6-06	PG&E contractors mechanically pumped the water from the casing of the underground conduit into Wetland #1 through a filter bag without adequate testing. Wetland #1 is under the Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction.	Dewatering from the pipe is being conducted into Baker tanks. Test results and subsequent action are pending. The ACOE has been notified.
Project Memo	1-6-06	Large spoil piles are being stored in close proximity to Seasonal Drainage #30 without adequate erosion control measures, which is a violation of APM 7-2. The erosion control along the drainage was in disrepair, which led to silt from the spoil piles being emptied into the CDFG drainage. Siltation entering the drainage is a violation of Condition #2 of the CDFG Streambed Alteration Agreement.	Crews reinforced the erosion control along Seasonal Drainage #30. The CDFG has been notified. A decision to move the spoil piles is being considered by PG&E.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 2 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Atlantic–Del Mar Project to date. No additional NTPs are anticipated.

**TABLE 2
NOTICES TO PROCEED**

(Updated 02-03-06)

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
1	11-03-03	Mobilization within the Atlantic and Del Mar Substations, and overhead installation from the Del Mar Substation to the railroad right-of-way (northern 0.25 miles), City of Rocklin.
2	3-08-05	Construction of the remaining overhead portion (approximately 4 miles) and the underground portion (approximately 1.3 miles) of the Atlantic–Del Mar Reinforcement Project, within the Cities of Roseville and Rocklin in Placer County.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No new variance requests were submitted during the subject week. Table 3 presents the Variance Requests reviewed to date.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
 (Updated 02-03-06)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	4-19-05	Modify the implementation of Applicant Proposed Measure 7.2 at Wetlands #2 and #30 to allow the use of non-rubber tired vehicles and to allow discretionary re-fueling on the project right-of-way.	Approved	5-2-05
2	5-19-05	Allow overland travel from an existing access road to the Pole 3/19 site.	Approved	5-25-05
3	6-28-05	Allow specific tree removals outside of the allowable window of November 1 to February 15 as outlined in Mitigation Measure B-3.	Approved	7-7-05
4	6-28-05	Allow movement of track and rubber tired equipment through approximately 15 feet by 100 feet of Cultural Resource site Y2.	Approved	7-7-05
5	9-2-05	Remove either a berm or oak tree to open up space needed for boring operations south of Sunset Ave. Use of an existing disturbed staging area. String and pull conduit through a delineated wetland area.	Approved	9-8-05

UPCOMING ITEMS:

None.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

None.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Vault 3 location adjacent to Rocklin Road, January 26, 2006.



Figure 2 – Meeting held near Drainage #30, January 26, 2006. Note current erosion of bank and spoil piles.