



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E ATLANTIC-DEL MAR REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: January 26, 2006
Subject: Weekly Report #40: January 15, 2006 – January 21, 2006
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Heather Stiles

The CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM) toured the Atlantic-Del Mar Project location on January 20. 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. 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 has yet to occur 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 installed at the Kinder Morgan Tank Farm. The foundation for transition structure #10 is scheduled to be excavated and poured next week.

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 week of January 16-22, 2005. The tower crew completed the excavation and concrete pour for Transition Pole #9.

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 during the previous week 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.

Crews did not work on January 16 in observation of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday or on January 18, due to precipitation.

Zayas Construction completed the excavation of the trench line from Vault #3 at approximately Station 41+00 to 42+50. Interstate Safety completed the installation of conduit and FTC within these footages. Next week, Vault #3 to approximately Station 44+00 will be backfilled. The crew removed native material from the intersection of Pine Street and Railroad Avenue. Subsequently, the crew laid a geotechnical fabric and backfilled the area with an aggregate base material, which is required per the City of Rocklin's road reconstruction details. This material compacts and hardens with moisture and will be less of an erosion control issue during heavy precipitation until the reclamation and paving process can be completed during final cleanup.

A second crew started to excavate through the intersection of Rocklin Road, starting from the westbound traffic lane. The crew hand dug around all existing utilities throughout the street and places steel plates over the trench at the end of each workdays.

Spoils piles adjacent to Drainage #30 continue to grow (see Figure 1). Erosion controls have been installed around the piles; however, per the project mitigation measures, long term spoils storage is prohibited. The CPUC EM reminded the PG&E EM of this condition during the subject week. The removal of the spoil materials that tested high in iron mineral deposits from the right-of-way located approximately 15-feet west of Seasonal Drainage #30 was discussed. Per the PG&E EI, a trucking company has been enlisted to remove the material early next week. The material will be manifested out and disposed of properly at an approved refuse site.

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) operations, which commenced on November 18, 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 14. 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. Early next week the conduit will be dug out and cut back approximately one joint at the receiving pit prior to completing the tie-in at approximately Station 8+00. Also, 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 and 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 next week 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 the previous week, the PG&E EI issued a non-compliance to Wilson Construction due to the continued improper/minimal performance and maintenance of BMPs throughout the project. In response, Wilson Construction has elicited a third party company to provide on-call erosion control maintenance and installation of additional BMPs throughout the remainder of the construction process.

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, during the previous week, excavation work occurred in previously identified culturally sensitive areas; however, the specific areas are highly disturbed utility corridors and areas composed of granite rock. After consul-

tation with Far Western, it was asserted that cultural monitoring should not be necessary there. The CPUC EM received an email outlining the proposed lessening of monitoring on Saturday, January 21. 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 01-26-06)

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 01-26-06)

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 01-26-06)

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:

The CPUC EMs have requested a tailgate meeting prior to completing the excavation work on the west side of Seasonal Drainage #30. CPUC EM Anne Sweet has requested the meeting to provide a forum for Wilson Construction to detail their method of construction to complete the conduit installation at the west side of the drainage without causing additional damage to the frail bank and to remain in compliance with the 1603 Permit. An invitation has been extended to Marcus Hanson, Bert Austin, Steve Laule, Dan Steele, Mike Gunby, Lydia Sizelove, Richard Ringor and Shannon Ceresola to attend at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 26.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

None.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Spoil piles near Drainage #30, January 20, 2006.