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# PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E WINDSOR SUBSTATION PROJECT

**To**: Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC **From**: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date**: May 17, 2017

Subject: Monitoring Report #15 – May 8, 2017 to May 14, 2017

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the PG&E Windsor Substation Project which includes the construction of the Windsor Substation, as well as 12 kV distribution line underbuild and reconductoring work (see Exhibit A).

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for construction and Minor Project Change (MPC) activities are provided in Tables 1 and 2, respectively (below).

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler was on site May 10 and 12.

#### Windsor Substation Site

NTP #1 was issued on June 15, 2016 for the Windsor Substation component of the Project, located at 10789 Old Redwood Highway in the Town of Windsor. NTP #1 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction. PG&E was allowed to start vegetation clearing and tree trimming prior to receiving their grading permit from the Town of Windsor. PG&E received the grading and building permits from the Town of Windsor on November 14, 2016. During the 2016/2017 rainy season, heavy rains and saturated conditions precluded construction activities at the Windsor Substation site for the majority of the season.

## **Summary of Activity:**

Construction activities during the subject week included continuing to build the substation pad with the delivery of base rock, spreading and compaction of base rock, and Kleinfelder performing compaction testing. A water truck was used for dust control and to facilitate compaction.

Construction of the switchgear foundation continued including digging footings, modifying forms, pouring cement slurry, setting panels, preparing conduits, tying rebar, and backfilling. Construction of the transformer pad began and included setting batter boards and excavating.

In the southwest corner of the work area, vegetation was grubbed and excavated and grubbed spoils were hauled off site. Additional equipment was delivered to the site. Gravel was spread at the south entrance gate adjacent to the rumble strips, to assist in preventing track-out.

At the time of the CPUC EM's site visits on May 10 and 12, base rock was being delivered, spread, and compacted, and crews were working on the switchgear foundation forms and rebar work (see Figures 1 through 4).

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. PG&E's Environmental Inspector (EI), conducted inspections and nesting bird monitoring May 8 12. BMPs, stormwater ponds, and wetland areas were checked while inspecting the site. Ongoing surveys for special-status species and nesting birds were also performed. No special-status species were observed.
  - The four active bird nests around the perimeter of the site were monitored each day that con-

struction activities occurred, and no disturbance to the nesting birds was observed. Most construction activity occurred more than 60 feet from the nests, although rebar cages were stockpiled within 10 feet of the Eurasian collared dove nest. Along the northern fence line, both the northern mockingbird and bushtit nests had nestlings, and adults were observed taking food to the nests. The California scrub jay pair is making their third nest attempt, this time in a patch of poison oak along the western fence line approximately 90 feet from the switchgear construction. The scrub jays commenced the incubation stage on May 12, and throughout the week an adult was observed sitting on the Eurasian collared dove nest along the southern fence line.

- Since construction activities are underway, PG&E is implementing the following requirements for nesting birds under MM B-4: "Non-special status species found building nests within the standard buffer zone after specific project activities begin, shall be assumed tolerant of that specific project activity and such nests will be protected by the maximum buffer practicable (as determined by the qualified biologist). However, these nests shall be monitored on a daily basis by a qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined that the young have fledged, are no longer dependent upon parental care, or construction ends within the buffer zone (whichever occurs first). If the qualified biologist determines that the nesting bird(s) are not tolerant of project activity, the standard buffer shall be implemented."
- 2. No SWPPP inspections were performed during the week since there was no precipitation.
- 3. On May 8, 2017, a hydraulic fuel spill occurred on a skip loader operating in the switchgear excavation. The spill was contained and contaminated base rock removed.
- 4. On May 10 and 12, 2017, the CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean, and that SWPPP measures were in place. Silt fencing was installed around the wetland areas on the west and south sides of the substation site, and was in good working condition. Environmentally Sensitive Area fencing was also installed around oak trees for protection. Soil piles were covered with plastic and surrounded by fiber rolls, and drainage inlets were protected with fiber rolls and sandbags. Watering of the site for dust control was observed. Traffic control signs were setup along Old Redwood Highway near the substation entrance and exit. The site was in compliance with mitigation measures, Applicant Proposed Measures, and other permit requirements.

## 12 kV Distribution Line Underbuild and Reconductoring Work

NTP #2 for the 12 kV distribution line underbuild and reconductoring work was approved by CPUC on March 30, 2017. No work under NTP #2 occurred during the subject period.

### **Notices to Proceed**

Table 1 summarizes the Notices to Proceed (NTP) for the Windsor Substation Project.

Table 1
Notice to Proceeds (NTPs)

(Updated 5/17/17)

	Date	Date		
NTP#	Requested	Issued	Phase	Description
NTP #1	5/17/16	6/15/16	Windsor	Windsor Substation component of the
			Substation	Project.
NTP #2	2/17/17	3/30/17	Reconductoring	Rebuild a segment of the Fulton No. 1
			& 12 kV Line	power line to hold a new double-circuit 12
			Underbuild	kilovolt (kV) distribution line underbuild,
				and reconductoring an existing distribution
				line along Old Redwood Highway.

## **Minor Project Changes**

Table 2 summarizes the Minor Project Changes submitted for the Windsor Substation Project.

Table 2
Minor Project Changes (MPCs)

(Updated 5/17/17)

	Date	Date		
MPC#	Requested	Issued	Phase	Description
MPC#1	5/17/16	6/15/16	Windsor	Design change to Spill Prevention Control
			Substation	and Countermeasure (SPCC) retention pond
				and stormwater flow. MPC #1 was
				incorporated into NTP #1.
MPC#2	5/17/16	6/15/16	Windsor	Use of water truck or driwater pods instead
			Substation	of irrigation system for landscaping. MPC #2
				was incorporated into NTP #1.
MPC#3	5/17/16	6/15/16	Windsor	Replacement of culverts in existing
			Substation	roadways entering substation site and Herb
				Lane. MPC #3 incorporated into NTP #1.
MPC#4	8/11/16	8/19/16	Windsor	Revision of the Conceptual Landscape Plan
			Substation	based on final design and engineering.
MPC #5	2/17/17	3/30/17	Reconductoring	Use of crane staged on SMART tracks to
			& 12 kV Line	replace certain poles along the Fulton No. 1
			Underbuild	Power Line submitted with NTP Request #2.
MPC#6	2/17/17	3/30/17	Reconductoring	Final design and engineering revision to the
			& 12 kV Line	tubular steel pole (TSP) west of the
			Underbuild	substation submitted with NTP Request #2.
MPC#7	2/1717	3/30/17	Reconductoring	Changes to tree trimming and removal due
			& 12 kV Line	to construction method changes (crane use
			Underbuild	on SMART tracks) submitted with NTP
				Request #2.
MPC#8	2/17/17	3/30/17	Reconductoring	Additional pull and tension site located on
			& 12 kV Line	Railroad Avenue between Poles a32 and
			Underbuild	a33 submitted with NTP Request #2.

**EXHIBIT A – CONSTRUCTION STATUS** 



## **PROJECT PHOTOS**



Figure 1 – Substation site and pad – view northwest, May 10, 2017.



Figure 2 – Switchgear foundation work at the substation site – view south, May 10, 2017.



Figure 3 – Spreading and compacting additional base rock for pad at substation site – view west, May 12, 2017.



Figure 4 – Switchgear foundation work at substation site – view east, May 12, 2017.