

RECLAMATION


Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Land Use Authorization and License Amendment for PG&E's Proposed Gas Pipeline Installation and Bayview Station Expansion near the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway

FONSI-13-041

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Date: 03/17/2014

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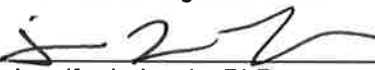
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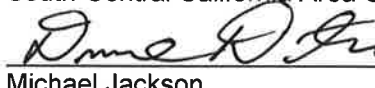
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Introduction

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the South-Central California Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), has determined that an environmental impact statement is not required for the issuance of a 50-year land use authorization to Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) or the amendment of PG&E's existing perpetual license (No. 2202-03-0187). This Finding of No Significant Impact is supported by Reclamation's Environmental Assessment (EA)-13-041, *Land Use Authorization and License Amendment for PG&E's Proposed Gas Pipeline Installation and Bayview Station Expansion near the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway*, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

Reclamation provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft FONSI and Draft EA between February 21, 2014 and March 14, 2014. No comments were received.

Background

Liberty and Igmarr Packing are two of three large food processors served from PG&E's L-331 natural gas pipeline. In order to meet on-going commercial load growth projected for Liberty and Igmarr Packing, PG&E needs to install a new 12-inch reinforcement pipeline. In addition, PG&E needs to expand the Bayview Station for the improved control, operation, and reliability of the proposed pipeline.

Proposed Action

Reclamation proposes to issue a 50-year land use authorization to PG&E for the installation, operation, and maintenance of a new 12-inch gas pipeline located within Reclamation's rights-of-way (ROW). Reclamation also proposes to amend PG&E's existing perpetual license (No. 2202-03-0187) for the expansion of the existing Bayview Station. Construction for both activities is expected to begin in March 2014 and last approximately six months. Specific details for each action are included in Section 2.2 of EA-13-041.

Environmental Commitments

PG&E must implement environmental protection measures listed in Table 2-1 and 3-2 in EA-13-041. Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified will be fully implemented. Copies of all reports will be submitted to Reclamation.

Reclamation's finding that implementation of the Proposed Action will result in no significant impact to the quality of the human environment is supported by the following findings:

Findings

Water Resources

PG&E will install the pipeline beneath the Outside Canal and north of the San Luis Wasteway. As installation will not affect the integrity or water quality in either structure, no impacts to water resources will occur as a result of the Proposed Action.

Land Use

Building expansion and pipeline installation will be consistent with existing land use allowed within Reclamation ROW. All excavations will be buried and recompact to pre-project grade.

Biological Resources

Under the Proposed Action, PG&E will install a gas pipeline adjacent to the San Luis Wasteway and expand the Bayview Station. Pipeline installation will cause temporary ground disturbance but will be returned to preexisting conditions. In addition, the expansion of Bayview Station is considered minor construction (~0.13 acre) as defined under the San Joaquin Valley Operations and Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) developed by PG&E to comply with the federal and state Endangered Species Acts. The HCP is intended to enable PG&E to continue to conduct routine operation and maintenance (O&M) and minor construction activities, while avoiding, minimizing, and compensating for possible adverse effects to special-status species. Expansion of Bayview Station and installation of the pipeline (to meet the additional load growth) are covered activities under this HCP.

The implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, as listed in Table 2-1 and 3-2 of EA-13-041, will avoid potential effects to San Joaquin kit fox, burrowing owl, and Swainson's hawk. This includes coverage of effects to foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl and numerous other bird species, possible nesting habitat for burrowing owl, and possible foraging and dispersal habitat for San Joaquin kit fox, among others.

Any potential effects to federally listed species due to routine O&M or minor construction activities within the San Joaquin Valley will be addressed by PG&E through its involvement in the HCP, under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act. There are no effects beyond those already addressed by the HCP and no additional effects from the federal action of providing access to our ROW, hence, no consultation is required under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.). Birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C §703 et seq.) will not be taken.

Cultural Resources

The Proposed Action is the type of activity that has the potential to affect historic properties. A records search, background research, a cultural resources survey, and Tribal consultation did not identify historic properties within the area of potential effect. As such, Reclamation determined that no historic properties will be affected by the Proposed Action and entered into consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on September 4, 2013, seeking their concurrence on a finding of "no historic properties affected §800.4(d)(1)." SHPO concurred with Reclamations' findings and determination on October 28, 2013. See Appendix D of EA-13-041 for Reclamation's determination and SHPO concurrence.

Indian Sacred Sites

The Proposed Action will not limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

Indian Trust Assets

The Proposed Action will not impact Indian Trust Assets as there are none in the Proposed Action area. See Appendix C of EA-13-041 for Reclamation's determination.

Socioeconomic Resources

The Proposed Action will provide additional capacity for PG&E to serve Liberty and Igmarr Packing in order to meet on-going commercial load growth for the companies. Consequently, the Proposed Action will have a beneficial effect to socioeconomics due to growth in the companies and the potential increase in employment opportunities for the area.

Environmental Justice

The Proposed Action will not cause dislocation, changes in employment, or increase flood, drought, or disease nor will it disproportionately impact economically disadvantaged or minority populations.

Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials will be used during the construction phase of the project. The generation of hazardous waste should be minimal. Potential hazardous wastes may include incidental spills from fuels and hydraulic fluids; however, PG&E will implement best management practices and spill prevention procedures to minimize any potential adverse impacts (see Appendix E of EA-13-041).

Air Quality

Operation and maintenance of the proposed pipeline and the expanded area of the Bayview Station will include travel to and from the site by PG&E personnel. These trips are part of baseline conditions for the existing pipeline and Bayview Station and will not create additional air quality impacts. However, construction activities for the Proposed Action will cause temporary impacts to air quality due to dust and exhaust emissions. Environmental protection measures have been incorporated into the Proposed Action in order to minimize emissions from construction activities (Table 2-1 of EA-13-041). In addition, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District approved the Indirect Source Review prepared by PG&E for the construction and operation of the project. PG&E will comply with measures requested by the Air District in order to ensure air quality impacts are minimized. This is anticipated to reduce air impacts below *de minimis* levels.

Global Climate and Energy Use

Under the Proposed Action, construction emissions will be temporary and will occur only during a short period of time which will not impact global climate change trends.

Cumulative Impacts

As there will be no direct or indirect adverse impacts to water resources, land use, cultural resources or historic properties, Indian Trust Assets, Indian Sacred Sites, socioeconomic resources, minority or disadvantaged populations, or global climate change, no cumulative impacts will occur.

Biological resources will continue to be affected under either alternative by other types of ongoing activities that are unrelated to the Proposed Action. Potential impacts to biological resources from the implementation of the Proposed Action will occur only during construction activities. As these will be short-term, and PG&E will employ minimization measures to reduce the potential to impact special-status species as described in the HCP, the Proposed Action, when added to other existing and proposed actions, will not contribute to adverse cumulative impacts to wildlife resources.

PG&E will implement best management practices and spill prevention (see Appendix E of 13-041) procedures to minimize any potential cumulative adverse impacts from use of hazardous materials.

PG&E will comply with all measures required by the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District in order to prevent cumulative impacts to air quality.

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Final Environmental Assessment

Land Use Authorization and License Amendment for PG&E's Proposed Gas Pipeline Installation and Bayview Station Expansion near the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway

EA-13-041



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid Pacific Region
South-Central California Area Office
Fresno, California

March 2014

Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation's natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and our commitments to island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

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- Appendix C Reclamation's Indian Trust Asset Determination
- Appendix D Reclamation's Cultural Resources Determination and State Historic Preservation Officer Concurrence
- Appendix E PG&E Spill Prevention and Best Management Practices

Section 1 Introduction

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) between February 21, 2014 and March 14, 2014. No comments were received. Changes between this Final EA and the Draft EA, which are not minor editorial changes, are indicated by vertical lines in the left margin of this document.

1.1 Background

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) has requested permission to access Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation¹) property in order to install a new 12-inch gas pipeline adjacent to an existing 6-inch pipeline (L-331A). PG&E has also requested amendment to its perpetual license (number 2202-03-0187) for expansion of the existing Bayview Station.

The action area is located near the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway in Merced County, CA, and includes Section 6 of T10S, R9E and Sections 31 & 32 of T9S, R9E, MDBM (Figure 1-1).



Figure 1-1 Proposed Action Area

¹ BOR is used by PG&E for the Bureau of Reclamation in Appendix A.

1.2 Need for the Proposed Action

Liberty and Igmarr Packing are two of three large food processors served from PG&E's L-331 pipeline. In order to meet on-going commercial load growth projected for Liberty and Igmarr Packing, PG&E needs to install a new 12-inch reinforcement pipeline. In addition, PG&E needs to expand the Bayview Station for the improved control, operation, and reliability of the proposed pipeline.

1.3 Scope

The scope of this environmental assessment (EA) is limited to the environmental impacts associated with the installation, operation, and maintenance of the proposed 12-inch pipeline and the expansion of the Bayview Station. Construction would take approximately six months to complete for both facilities; however, land use authorization for operation and maintenance of the pipeline would be for 50 years. Amendment of PG&E's existing perpetual license for the Bayview Station would be in perpetuity.

This EA has also been prepared to examine the possible effects of the No Action Alternative.

Section 2 Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

This EA considers two possible actions: the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative reflects future conditions without the Proposed Action and serves as a basis of comparison for determining potential effects to the human environment.

2.1 No Action Alternative

Reclamation would not issue a land use authorization to PG&E for the installation of a new 12-inch pipeline nor amend the existing perpetual license for the expansion of the Bayview Station. PG&E would not be able to meet the additional load growth needed for Liberty and Igmarr Packing as the existing pipeline that needs to be tied into is located within Reclamation Rights-of-Way (ROW).

2.2 Proposed Action

- | Reclamation would issue a 50-year land use authorization to PG&E for the installation, operation, and maintenance of a new 12-inch gas pipeline located within Reclamation's ROW. Reclamation would also amend PG&E's existing perpetual license (No. 2202-03-0187) for the expansion of the existing Bayview Station. Construction for both activities is expected to begin
- | in March 2014 and last approximately six months. Specific details for each action are included below.

2.2.1 Pipeline Installation

PG&E would install a new 12-inch reinforcement gas pipeline parallel to the north side of its L-331A 6-inch pipeline and the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway. The entire route length is approximately 23,100 feet with approximately 1,450 feet on Reclamation lands. See Appendix A for project designs.

Installation of the pipeline would include: (1) access road improvements; (2) grubbing of all vegetation; (3) trenching to a depth of approximately 7 feet with a bottom width of 24 inches; (4) open trenching at Highway 33 to an approximate depth of 8 feet and a bottom width of 5 feet; (5) Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) across I-5 requiring a 12-foot wide by 12-foot long entry bore pit on the west side, and a 10-foot wide by 10-foot long receiving pit on the east side (Reclamation ROW); (6) HDD across the Outside Canal requiring a 10-foot wide by 10-foot long bore on the west side, and a 12-foot wide by 12-foot long bore on the east side (both on Reclamation ROW); (7) stringing, welding, and hydrostatic testing of pipe; and (8) restoration of disturbed areas. The new pipeline would tie-in to an existing 12-inch line located in Reclamation ROW. If HDD fails, a 24-inch guided auger bore with casing would be used.

- | All work and staging would be done within the 30-foot pipeline easement area as well as temporary easement areas located within and outside of Reclamation ROW, as shown on the

designs included in Appendix A. Disturbed areas would be backfilled with native soil and PG&E select backfill.

Access Road Improvements would entail clearing and grubbing the ROW to access the pipeline as needed. PG&E would utilize existing roads where possible and restore the roads to existing or better condition when the work is complete.

Restoration of disturbed areas would include restoration of public streets, sidewalks, curbs, etc. above the pipe bedding in accordance with the latest Merced County standards. In areas where row crops are disturbed, the top 12-inches of the trench would be segregated from the remaining trench spoils and stored on site. Once construction is complete, the topsoil would be restored. PG&E would take care to prevent the mixing of topsoil and subsoil.

2.2.2 Bayview Station Expansion

PG&E would expand the existing Bayview Station approximately 100-feet by 60-feet for the installation of two 6-inch main line valves and three 4-inch blow down valves along with a blow down stack. Approximately half of the expanded area would be trenched for installation of the valves and related equipment. No grading would be needed; however, fencing and gravel similar to what has been used for the existing station would be installed. Trenching would be up to a depth of approximately 7 feet with a bottom width of generally of 24 inches but up to 60-inches at tie-in locations. Disturbed areas would be backfilled with native soil and PG&E grade backfill. See Appendix B for project designs.

2.2.3 Construction Equipment

Construction equipment would include: 1-2 Sidebooms (D-6 or 561), 1 Horizontal Directional Drilling unit, 1 Guided Auger boring unit, 1 Water truck, 1-2 Ditch-witches, 1-2 Backhoes, 1 Excavator, 1 Air compressor, 1 Baker Truck, 1 Vacuum Truck, 1 Five-yard or ten-yard dump truck, multiple baker tanks, and 3-5 crew trucks.

2.2.4 Environmental Commitments

PG&E must implement the following environmental protection measures to reduce potential environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action (Table 2-1). Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented. Copies of all reports would be submitted to Reclamation.

Table 2-1 Environmental Protection Measures and Commitments

Resource	Protection Measure
Air Quality	PG&E would implement a dust control plan during construction to reduce fugitive dust pursuant to its agreement with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.
Air Quality and Global Climate	PG&E would implement any required measures by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District pursuant to its indirect source review of the project.
Biological Resources	PG&E would implement required measures pursuant to its San Joaquin Valley Operation and Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan (see Table 3-2).
Cultural Resources	In the event of an inadvertent cultural resource discovery, Reclamation must follow the Post Review Discovery portion of the regulations at 36 CFR §800.13. Although very unlikely, if human remains are identified on Reclamation lands during implementation of this action, the project shall be halted immediately and the Reclamation Mid-Pacific Regional Archaeologist contacted immediately to discuss how to proceed under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, if applicable.

Section 3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

This section identifies the potentially affected environment and the environmental consequences involved with the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative, in addition to environmental trends and conditions that currently exist.

3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis

Reclamation analyzed the affected environment and determined that the Proposed Action did not have the potential to cause direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse effects to the following resources:

- **Water Resources:** PG&E would install the pipeline beneath the Outside Canal and north of the San Luis Wasteway. As installation would not affect the integrity or water quality in either structure, no impacts to water resources would occur as a result of the Proposed Action.
- **Land Use:** Building expansion and pipeline installation would be consistent with existing land use allowed within Reclamation ROW. All excavations would be buried and recompacted to pre-project grade.
- **Indian Sacred Sites:** The Proposed Action would not limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.
- **Indian Trust Assets:** The Proposed Action would not impact Indian Trust Assets as there are none in the Proposed Action area. See Appendix C for Reclamation's determination.
- **Socioeconomics:** The Proposed Action would provide additional capacity for PG&E to serve Liberty and Igmarr Packing in order to meet on-going commercial load growth for the companies. Consequently, the Proposed Action would have a beneficial effect to socioeconomics due to growth in the companies and the potential increase in employment opportunities for the area.
- **Environmental Justice:** The Proposed Action would not cause dislocation, changes in employment, or increase flood, drought, or disease nor would it disproportionately impact economically disadvantaged or minority populations.
- **Global Climate:** Under the Proposed Action, construction emissions would be temporary and would occur only during a short period of time which would not impact global climate change trends.

3.2 Biological Resources

3.2.1 Affected Environment

Reclamation requested a list of endangered, threatened, and sensitive species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on September 3, 2013 via the Sacramento Field Office's website: http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/ES_Species/Lists/es_species_lists-form.cfm (Document No. 130903031830). The list is for the following U.S. Geological Survey 7½-minute topographic quadrangles which underlie the Action Area: Charleston School, Ortigalita Peak NW, Los Banos Valley, San Luis Ranch, Ingomar, Volta, Los Banos, Howard Ranch, and San Luis Dam. Reclamation further queried the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for records of special-status species within 10 miles of the construction area associated with the Proposed Action (CNDDDB 2013). This information, in addition to other information within Reclamation's files, was reviewed to determine the potential for a species to occur within the Proposed Action Area (Table 3-1).

Table 3-1 Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat that may occur within the Vicinity of the Action Area

Species	Status ¹	Effects ²	Occurrence in the Study Area ³
AMPHIBIANS			
California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>)	T, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
California tiger salamander, central population (<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>)	T, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
BIRDS			
Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cucularia</i>)	MBTA	NT	Present. Presumed extant in area and habitat present. Incorporation of Avoidance and Minimization measures avoids potential impacts to species.
Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>)	MBTA	NT	Present. Presumed extant in area during nesting season (<i>March 1 through September 15</i>) and habitat present. Incorporation of Avoidance and Minimization measures avoids potential impacts to species.
FISH			
Central Valley steelhead (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>)	T (NMFS)	NE	Absent. No natural waterways within the species' range would be affected by the Proposed Action.
Delta smelt (<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>)	T	NE	Absent. No natural waterways within the species' range would be affected by the Proposed Action.
INVERTEBRATES			
Conservancy fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>)	E, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or vernal pools in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
Longhorn fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta longiantenna</i>)	E, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or vernal pools in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>)	T	NE	Absent. No individuals recorded from the area and no elderberry shrubs would be impacted from the Proposed Action.

Species	Status ¹	Effects ²	Occurrence in the Study Area ³
Vernal pool fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>)	T, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or vernal pools in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp (<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>)	E, X	NE	Absent. No individuals or vernal pools in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
MAMMALS			
Fresno kangaroo rat (<i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i>)	E	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect.
giant kangaroo rat (<i>Dipodomys ingens</i>)	E	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect.
San Joaquin kit fox (<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i>)	E	NE	Present. Presumed extant in vicinity of Proposed Action area. Could use the area in transit to potential foraging habitat in area, as well as any small mammal burrows located onsite may provide prey opportunities for this species. Incorporation of Avoidance and Minimization measures avoid potential impacts to species.
PLANTS			
Hoover's spurge (<i>Chamaesyce hooveri</i>)	X	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect. Proposed Action area not within designated critical habitat.
REPTILES			
blunt-nosed leopard lizard (<i>Gambelia sila</i>)	E	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect.
Giant garter snake (<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>)	T	NE	Absent. No individuals or habitat in area of effect.
<p>1 Status= Listing of Federally special status species E: Listed as Endangered NMFS: Species under the Jurisdiction of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service T: Listed as Threatened X: Critical Habitat designated for this species</p> <p>2 Effects = Effect determination NE: No Effect from the Proposed Action to federally listed species NT: No Take would occur from the Proposed Action to migratory birds</p> <p>3 Definition Of Occurrence Indicators Absent: Species not recorded in study area and/or habitat requirements not met Unlikely: Species and habitat recorded in Project area but only during avian nesting season Present: Species recorded in area and habitat present</p>			

Critical Habitat and Special-status Species within the Action Area

The construction area is surrounded by urban development and agricultural lands. The proposed pipeline alignment is adjacent to the San Luis Wasteway, and crosses two major transportation routes, Interstate-5 and Highway 33. Located less than a mile south of the proposed pipeline on Bayview Road and immediately after the Forebay Golf Course, is the Bayview Station (Figure 1-1). Few special-status species can use these lands except for the burrowing owl, Swainson's hawk, and San Joaquin kit fox. There is no proposed or designated critical habitat within the Action Area.

Burrowing owl This small, ground-dwelling owl is a yearlong-resident of the San Joaquin Valley and protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). CNDDDB records indicate this

species occurs near the San Luis Wasteway, with the closest reported observation less than a mile from the construction site (CNDDDB 2013).

The burrowing owl exhibits high site fidelity and lives in ground squirrel and other mammal burrows that it appropriates and enlarges for its purposes. This owl is typically found in short-grass grasslands, open scrub habitats, and a variety of open human-altered environments, such as golf courses, airport runways, canal right-of ways, and agricultural fields (CDFG 1995).

Swainson’s hawk Swainson’s hawks are a federal species of concern and protected under MBTA. Swainson’s hawks arrive to their breeding grounds in the Central Valley in early March. They often nest peripherally to the valley and use lone trees or groves of trees in agricultural fields (CDFG 1994).

San Joaquin kit fox The San Joaquin kit fox is federally listed as an endangered species. This species is known within the vicinity of the project area (CNDDDB 2013), and is highly mobile. Kit foxes currently inhabit western and southern San Joaquin valley in grassland and scrubland communities. Their diet varies based on prey availability, and includes small to mid-sized mammals, ground-nesting birds, and insects. Kit foxes excavate their own dens, or will use other animals, and human-made structures (culverts, abandoned pipelines, and banks in sumps or roadbeds). Primary reasons for the species decline include loss and degradation of habitat (USFWS 1998).

San Joaquin Valley Operations and Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan

The San Joaquin Valley Operations and Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) was developed by PG&E to comply with the federal and state Endangered Species Acts (Jones & Stokes 2006). The HCP is intended to enable PG&E to continue to conduct routine operation and maintenance (O&M) and minor construction activities, while avoiding, minimizing, and compensating for possible adverse effects to special-status species. Expansion of Bayview Station and installation of the pipeline (to meet the additional load growth) are covered activities under this HCP. To reduce potential impacts to burrowing owl, Swainson’s hawk, and San Joaquin kit fox, the HCP provides avoidance and minimization measures for these types of activities (Table 3-2).

Table 3-2 Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Code	Avoidance and Minimization Measure
AMM 1	Employees and contractors performing O&M activities will receive ongoing environmental education. Training will include review of environmental laws and guidelines that must be followed by all personnel to reduce or avoid effects on covered species during O&M activities.
AMM 2	Vehicles and equipment will be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas to the extent practicable.
AMM 3	The development of new access and ROW roads by PG&E will be minimized, and clearing vegetation and blading for temporary vehicle access will be avoided to the extent practicable.
AMM 4	Vehicles will not exceed a speed limit of 15 mph in the ROWs or on unpaved roads within sensitive land-cover types.
AMM 5	Trash dumping, firearms, open fires (such as barbecues) not required by the O&M activity, hunting, and pets (except for safety in remote locations) will be prohibited in O&M work activity sites.
AMM 6	No vehicles will be refueled within 100 feet of a wetland, stream, or other waterway unless a bermed and lined refueling area is constructed.

Code	Avoidance and Minimization Measure
AMM 18	If burrowing owls are present at the site, a qualified biologist will work with O&M staff to determine whether an exclusion zone of 160 feet during the non-nesting season and 250 feet during the nesting season can be established. If it cannot, an experienced burrowing owl biologist will develop a site-specific plan (i.e., a plan that considers the type and extent of the proposed activity, the duration and timing of the activity, the sensitivity and habituation of the owls, and the dissimilarity of the proposed activity with background activities) to minimize the potential to affect the reproductive success of the owls.
AMM 19	If a Swainson's hawk nest or white-tailed kite nest is known to be within 0.25 mile of a planned worksite, a qualified biologist will evaluate the effects of the planned O&M activity. If the biologist determines that the activity would disrupt nesting, a buffer and limited operation period during the nesting season (March 15–June 30) will be implemented. Evaluations will be performed in consultation with the local California Department of Fish and Wildlife representative.
AMM 21	If San Joaquin kit fox dens are present, their disturbance and destruction will be avoided where possible. However, if dens are located within the proposed work area and cannot be avoided during construction, qualified biologists will determine if the dens are occupied. If unoccupied, the qualified biologist will remove these dens by hand excavating them in accordance with USFWS procedures (USFWS 1999, and was updated in 2011). Exclusion zones will be implemented following USFWS procedures (USFWS 1999) or the latest USFWS procedures. The radius of these zones will follow current standards or will be as follows: Potential Den—50 feet; Known Den—100 feet; Natal or Popping Den—to be determined on a case-by-case basis in coordination with USFWS and Department of Fish and Wildlife. Pipes will be capped and exit ramps will also be installed in these areas to avoid direct mortality.
AMM 22	All vegetation management activities will implement the nest protection program to avoid and minimize effects on Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, golden eagle, bald eagle, and other nesting birds. Additionally, trained pre-inspectors will use current data from Department of Fish and Wildlife and CNDDB and professional judgment to determine whether active Swainson's hawk, golden eagle, or bald eagle nests are located near proposed work. If pre-inspectors identify an active nest near a proposed work area, they will prescribe measures to avoid nest abandonment and other adverse effects to these species, including working the line another time of year, maintaining a 500-foot setback, or if the line is in need of emergency pruning, contacting HCP Administrator.
Source: Jones & Stokes 2006	

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no impact to biological resources since there would be no ground disturbing activities and conditions would remain the same as existing conditions.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, PG&E would install a gas pipeline adjacent to the San Luis Wasteway and expand the Bayview Station. Pipeline installation would cause temporary ground disturbance but would be returned to preexisting conditions. The expansion of Bayview Station would be considered minor construction (~0.13 acre) as defined under the HCP (Jones and Stokes 2006). As described above, expansion of Bayview Station and installation of the pipeline (to meet the additional load growth) are covered activities under the HCP.

The implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, as listed in Table 2-1 and 3-2, would avoid potential effects to San Joaquin kit fox, burrowing owl, and Swainson's hawk. This includes coverage of effects to foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl and numerous other bird species, possible nesting habitat for burrowing owl, and possible foraging and dispersal habitat for San Joaquin kit fox, among others.

Any potential effects to federally listed species due to routine O&M or minor construction activities within the San Joaquin Valley would be addressed by PG&E through its involvement in the HCP, under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act. There are no effects beyond those already addressed and no effect from the federal action of providing access to our ROW, hence, no consultation is required under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.). Birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C §703 et seq.) would not be taken.

Cumulative Impacts

Biological resources would continue to be affected under either alternative by other types of ongoing activities that are unrelated to the Proposed Action. Potential impacts to biological resources from the implementation of the Proposed Action would occur only during construction activities. As these would be short-term, and PG&E would employ minimization measures to reduce the potential to impact special-status species as described in the HCP, the Proposed Action, when added to other existing and proposed actions, would not contribute to adverse cumulative impacts to wildlife resources.

3.3 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources is a broad term that includes prehistoric, historic, architectural, and traditional cultural properties. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 is the primary Federal legislation that outlines the Federal Government's responsibility to cultural resources. Section 106 of the NHPA requires the Federal Government to take into consideration the effects of an undertaking on cultural resources listed on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places; such resources are referred to as historic properties.

The Section 106 process is outlined in the Federal regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800. These regulations describe the process that the Federal agency (Reclamation) takes to identify cultural resources and the level of effect that the proposed undertaking would have on historic properties. In summary, Reclamation must first determine if the action is the type of action that has the potential to affect historic properties. If the action is the type of action to affect historic properties, Reclamation must identify the area of potential effects (APE), determine if historic properties are present within that APE, determine the effect that the undertaking would have on historic properties, and consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), to seek concurrence on Reclamation's findings. In addition, Reclamation is required through the Section 106 process to consult with Indian Tribes concerning the identification of sites of religious or cultural significance, and consult with individuals or groups who are entitled to be consulting parties or have requested to be consulting parties.

3.3.1 Affected Environment

PG&E contracted with North State Resources, Incorporated to conduct inventory and evaluation of cultural resources within the APE of the Proposed Action. North State Resources, Incorporated completed a records search and pedestrian survey of the APE, the results of which were documented in a technical report. No cultural resources were identified within the APE.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

There would be no impacts to cultural resources or historic properties under this alternative because the project would not be constructed, and there would be no change in operations. Conditions related to cultural resources would remain the same as existing conditions.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is the type of activity that has the potential to affect historic properties. A records search, background research, a cultural resources survey, and Tribal consultation did not identify historic properties within the APE. As such, Reclamation determined that no historic properties would be affected by the Proposed Action and entered into consultation with SHPO on September 4, 2013, seeking their concurrence on a finding of “no historic properties affected §800.4(d)(1).” SHPO concurred with Reclamation’s findings and determination on October 28, 2013. See Appendix D for Reclamation’s determination and SHPO concurrence.

Cumulative Impacts

As there would be no effects to cultural resources or historic properties under either alternative there would be no cumulative impacts.

3.4 Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste

3.4.1 Affected Environment

Hazardous materials as defined by Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and/or hazardous wastes as defined by Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), stored or generated during this project may include sodium hydroxide, asbestos (friable), and mercury (elemental).

3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

No impacts would occur under this alternative as conditions would remain the same.

Proposed Action

Hazardous materials would be used during the construction phase of the project. The generation of hazardous waste should be minimal. Potential hazardous wastes may include incidental spills from fuels and hydraulic fluids; however, PG&E would implement best management practices and spill prevention procedures to minimize any potential adverse impacts (see Appendix E).

Cumulative Impacts

Under the Proposed Action, PG&E would implement best management practices and spill prevention (Appendix E) procedures to minimize any potential cumulative adverse impacts.

3.5 Air Quality

Section 176 (C) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506 (C)) requires any entity of the federal government that engages in, supports, or in any way provides financial support for, licenses or

permits, or approves any activity to demonstrate that the action conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) required under Section 110 (a) of the Federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 [a]) before the action is otherwise approved. In this context, conformity means that such federal actions must be consistent with SIP's purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and achieving expeditious attainment of those standards. Each federal agency must determine that any action that is proposed by the agency and that is subject to the regulations implementing the conformity requirements would, in fact conform to the applicable SIP before the action is taken.

On November 30, 1993, the EPA promulgated final general conformity regulations at 40 CFR 93 Subpart B for all federal activities except those covered under transportation conformity. The general conformity regulations apply to a proposed federal action in a non-attainment or maintenance area if the total of direct and indirect emissions of the relevant criteria pollutants and precursor pollutant caused by the Proposed Action equal or exceed certain *de minimis* amounts thus requiring the federal agency to make a determination of general conformity.

3.5.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Action area lies within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin under the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. The pollutants of greatest concern in the San Joaquin Valley are carbon monoxide, ozone, ozone precursors such as reactive organic gases, inhalable particulate matter between 2.5 and 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}). The San Joaquin Valley Air Basin has reached Federal and State attainment status for carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide. Although Federal attainment status has been reached for PM₁₀ the State standard has not been met and both are in non-attainment for ozone and PM_{2.5} (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District 2013). There are no established standards for nitrogen oxides; however, they do contribute to nitrogen dioxide standards and ozone precursors (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District 2013).

3.5.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

There would be no impact to air quality as conditions would remain the same as existing conditions.

Proposed Action

Operation and maintenance of the proposed pipeline and the expanded area of the Bayview Station would include travel to and from the site by PG&E personnel. These trips are part of baseline conditions for the existing pipeline and Bayview Station and would not create additional air quality impacts. However, construction activities for the Proposed Action would cause temporary impacts to air quality due to dust and exhaust emissions. Environmental protection measures have been incorporated into the Proposed Action in order to minimize emissions from construction activities (Table 2-1). In addition, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District approved the Indirect Source Review prepared by PG&E for the construction and operation of the project. PG&E would comply with measures requested by the Air District in order to ensure air quality impacts are minimized. This is anticipated to reduce air impacts below *de minimis* levels.

Cumulative Impacts

PG&E would comply with all measures required by the Air District in order to prevent cumulative impacts to air quality.

Section 4 Consultation and Coordination

4.1 Public Review Period

Reclamation provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft FONSI and Draft EA between February 21, 2014 and March 14, 2014. No comments were received.

4.2 National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470 et seq.)

The NHPA of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), requires that federal agencies give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on the effects of an undertaking on historic properties, properties that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The 36 CFR Part 800 regulations implement Section 106 of the NHPA.

Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects of federal undertakings on historic properties, properties determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Compliance with Section 106 follows a series of steps that are designed to identify interested parties, determine the APE, conduct cultural resource inventories, determine if historic properties are present within the APE, and assess effects on any identified historic properties.

Reclamation determined that no historic properties would be affected by the Proposed Action and entered into consultation with SHPO on September 4, 2013, seeking their concurrence on a finding of “no historic properties affected §800.4(d)(1).” SHPO concurred with Reclamations’ findings and determination on October 28, 2013. See Appendix D for Reclamation’s determination and SHPO concurrence.

Section 5 Preparers and Reviewers

Rain L. Emerson, M.S., Natural Resources Specialist, SCCAO

Jennifer L. Lewis, Ph.D., Wildlife Biologist, SCCAO

Amy Barnes, Archaeologist, MP-153

Patricia Rivera, Native American Affairs Specialist, MP-400

Laura Couron, Realty Specialist, SCCAO – reviewer

Michael Inthavong, Acting Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist, SCCAO – reviewer

Section 6 Acronyms and Abbreviations

APE	Area of Potential Effect
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
EA	Environmental Assessment
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
ITA	Indian Trust Asset
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
O&M	Operation and maintenance
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
PM ₁₀	Inhalable particulate matter between 2.5 and 10 microns in diameter
Reclamation	United States Bureau of Reclamation
ROW	Rights-of-way
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Section 7 References

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2011. Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance. Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, January 2011.

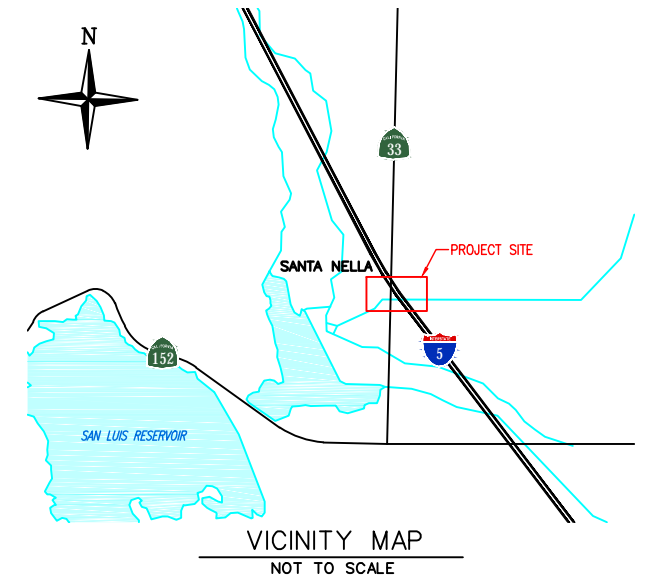
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-041)

*LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE FOR PG&E'S PROPOSED GAS
PIPELINE INSTALLATION AND BAYVIEW STATION EXPANSION NEAR THE SAN
LUIS (VOLTA) WASTEWAY*

Appendix A
Proposed Pipeline Designs

March 2014

PG&E L-331 REINFORCEMENT PROJECT PROPOSED 12" REINFORCEMENT U.S.B.R. IMPACT FIGURE SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA



THIS DRAWING IS FOR VISUAL REFERENCE ONLY. SCALE IS APPROXIMATE. LOCATION OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED FEATURES IS APPROXIMATE. ANY AND ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE. ORIGINAL DRAWING SIZE 11"x17". IMAGE SOURCE: GOOGLE EARTH

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PG&E L-331 REINFORCEMENT
PROPOSED 12" REINFORCEMENT
U.S.B.R. IMPACT FIGURE
SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

DATE LAST WORKED ON
02/03/2014

SCALE
1" = 2000'

DRAWING NUMBER
GTS-12139-17

SHEET
1 OF 7





MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 3



© 2013 GOOGLE

- EXISTING GAS LINE
- PROPOSED GAS LINE
- PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- PROPOSED DRILL RIG WORKSPACE
- PROPOSED GAS EASEMENT
- ACCESS ROAD



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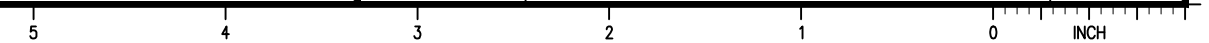
SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

DATE LAST WORKED ON
 02/03/2014

SCALE
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DRAWING NUMBER
 GTS-12139-17

SHEET
 2 OF 7



MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 4

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 2



- EXISTING GAS LINE
- PROPOSED GAS LINE
- PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- PROPOSED DRILL RIG WORKSPACE
- PROPOSED GAS EASEMENT
- ACCESS ROAD



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SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

SCALE
1" = 100'

DRAWING NUMBER
GTS-12139-17

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3 OF 7

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MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 3

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 5



- EXISTING GAS LINE
- PROPOSED GAS LINE
- PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- PROPOSED DRILL RIG WORKSPACE
- PROPOSED GAS EASEMENT
- ACCESS ROAD



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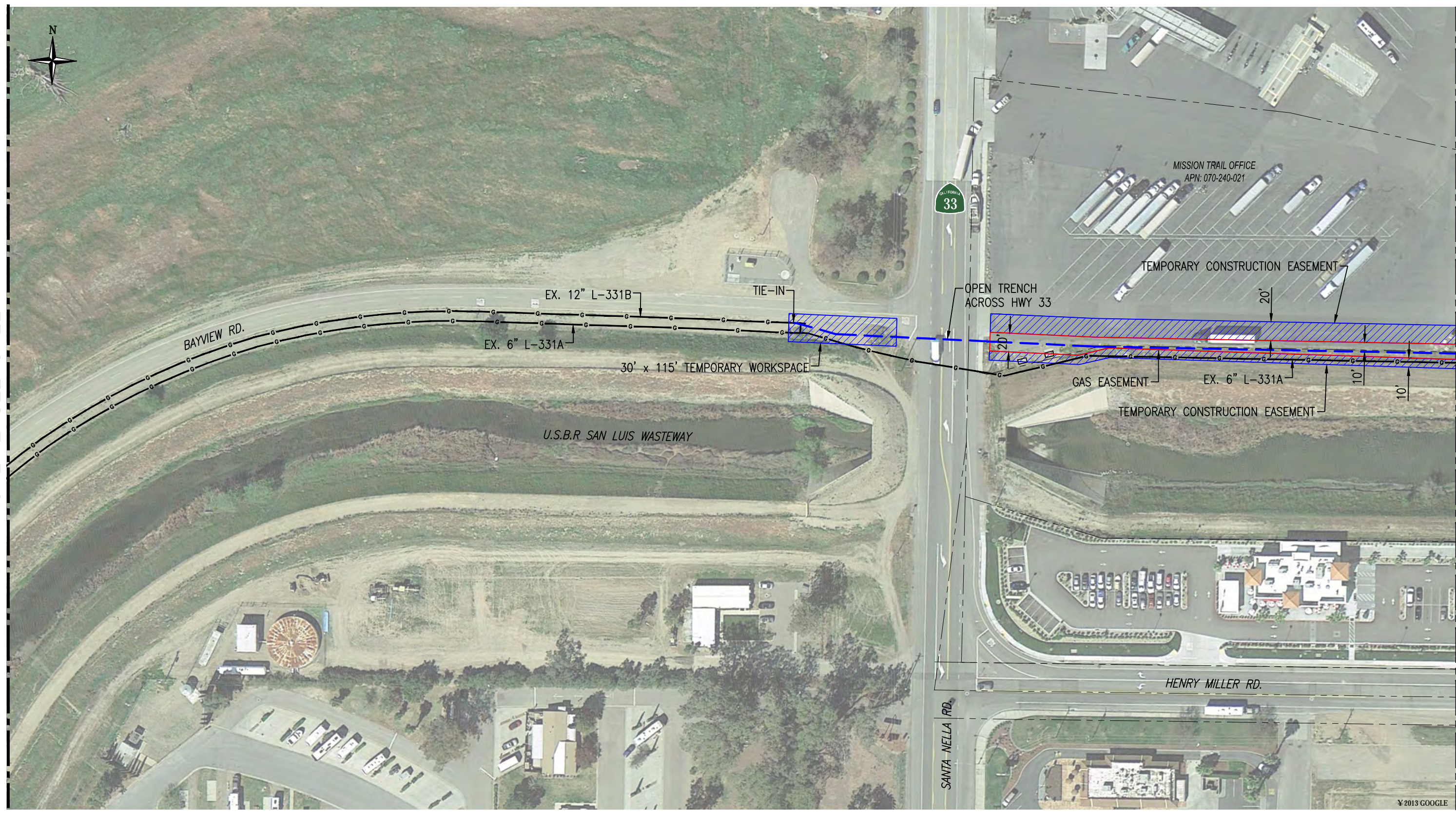
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 4 OF 7



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-  PROPOSED GAS LINE
-  PROPERTY LINE
-  PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
-  PROPOSED DRILL RIG WORKSPACE
-  PROPOSED GAS EASEMENT
-  ACCESS ROAD



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SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

SCALE
1" = 100'

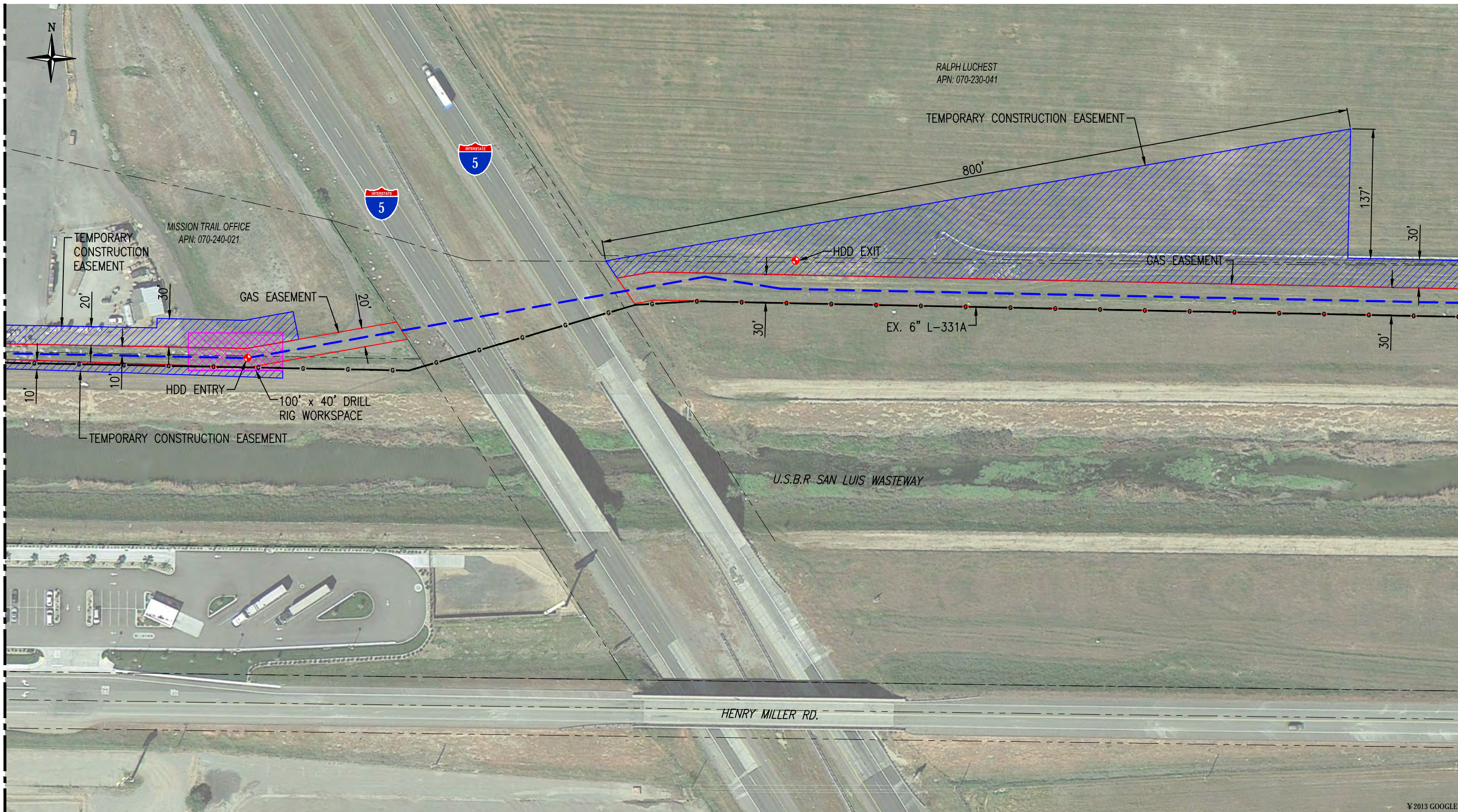
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- EXISTING GAS LINE
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- PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
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- ACCESS ROAD



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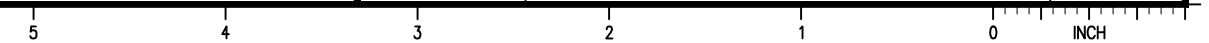
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U.S.B.R. IMPACT FIGURE

SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

SCALE
1" = 100'

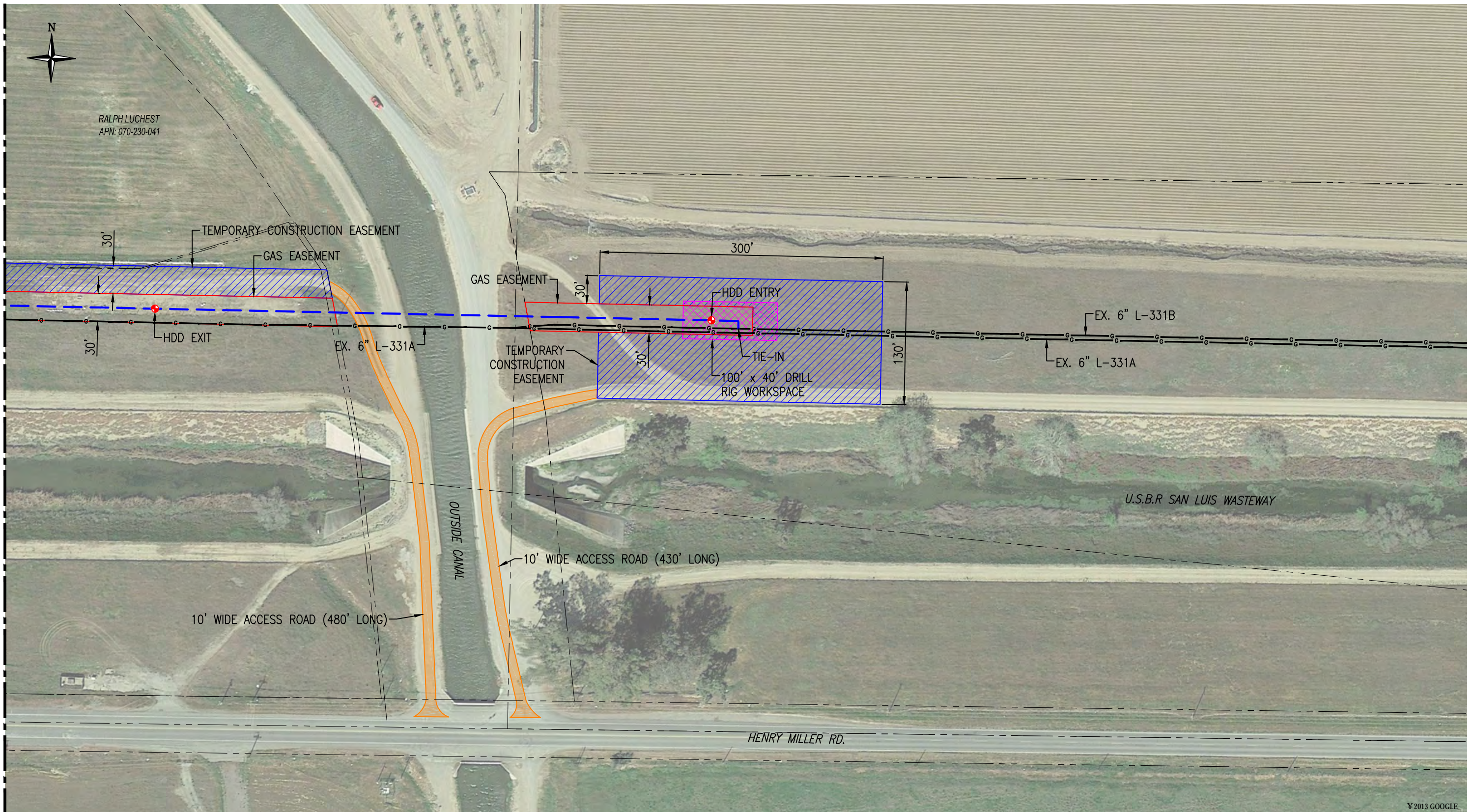
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SHEET
6 OF 7



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MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 6



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- EXISTING GAS LINE
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- PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED TEMP. CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
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- ACCESS ROAD



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 U.S.B.R. IMPACT FIGURE

SANTA NELLA, CALIFORNIA

SCALE
 1" = 100'

DRAWING NUMBER
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SHEET
 7 OF 7



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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-041)

*LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE FOR PG&E'S PROPOSED GAS
PIPELINE INSTALLATION AND BAYVIEW STATION EXPANSION NEAR THE SAN
LUIS (VOLTA) WASTEWAY*

Appendix B
Proposed Bayview Expansion Designs

March 2014

SW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4, SECTION 6
T.10S., R.09E., MDB&M



APN: 078-130-032

EXISTING GAS LINE
PROPERTY LINE

EXISTING POLE LINE

DIRT ROAD

EXISTING GAS MARKER
EXISTING POLE & ANCHOR

PROPOSED GAS VALVE AREA

EXISTING GAS MARKER

GATE

LICENSE - PARCEL 1
METER LOT EASEMENT
LD # 2202-03-0187

LICENSE - PARCEL 3
CL 20' WIDE GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT
LD # 2202-03-0187

LICENSE - PARCEL 2
CL OF 20' WIDE BLOWDOWN
LOT EASEMENT
LD # 2202-03-0187

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SAN LUIS WASTEWAY,
PER DECREE ON DECLARATION OF TAKING,
REC. MAY 24, 1949 IN BK. 957 O.R. AT PG. 119,
MERCED COUNTY RECORDS.
APN: 078-130-002**

SAN LUIS WASTEWAY



AUTHORIZATION
30911591

BY
DR M1G4
CH AAS2
O.K. AAS2
DATE 07/17/13

**LINE 331C - REINFORCEMENT
B.O.R. LICENSE**

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
San Francisco California



JCN 03-12-049
AREA 5
COUNTY MERCED
SCALE NTS

SHEET NO.	OF
DRAWING NUMBER	CHANGE
JL-600	0

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-041)

*LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE FOR PG&E'S PROPOSED GAS
PIPELINE INSTALLATION AND BAYVIEW STATION EXPANSION NEAR THE SAN
LUIS (VOLTA) WASTEWAY*

Appendix C
Reclamation's Indian Trust Assets Determination

March 2014



Healer, Rain <rhealer@usbr.gov>

EA-13-041 For Review

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>

Fri, Aug 2, 2013 at 1:54 PM

To: "Healer, Rain" <rhealer@usbr.gov>

Rain,

I reviewed the proposed action to issue a new land use authorization to PG&E for the installation, operation, and maintenance of a new 12-inch gas pipeline located within Reclamation right-of-way. Reclamation will also amend PG&E's license (number 2202-03-0187) for the expansion of the existing Bayview Station. Construction for both activities is expected to begin January 2014 and last approximately three months.

The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets.

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 978-5194

[Quoted text hidden]

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-041)

*LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE FOR PG&E'S PROPOSED GAS
PIPELINE INSTALLATION AND BAYVIEW STATION EXPANSION NEAR THE SAN
LUIS (VOLTA) WASTEWAY*

**Appendix D
Reclamation's Cultural Resources Determination & State
Historic Preservation Officer Concurrence**

March 2014



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY
REFER TO:
MP-153
ENV-3.00

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

October 28, 2013
MEMORANDUM

To: Rain Healer
Natural Resources Specialist – Central California Area Office

From: Amy J. Barnes /S/
Archaeologist – Division of Environmental Affairs

Subject: 13-SCAO-254: Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Pipeline (EA-13-041)

This proposed undertaking by Reclamation to issue a new perpetual land use authorization to PG&E for installing a new gas pipeline and amending PG&E's perpetual license to allow expansion of their existing Bayview Station adjacent to the San Luis (Volta) Wasteway east of Santa Nella, California was determined to be the type of action that has the potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR §800.3 of the Section 106 implementing regulations. As a result of this determination, Reclamation implemented the steps in the Section 106 process as outlined at §800.3 to §800.6.

PG&E proposes to install a new 12-inch gas pipeline on the north side of its existing 6-inch pipeline and the Volta Wasteway. The approximately 3,100 feet long pipeline will tie-in to an existing 12-inch line located on the west side of Highway 33 and to the existing 6-inch line located on the east side of the Outside Canal. Approximately 1,450 feet of the new pipeline is on Reclamation lands. The pipeline trench will be approximately 7 feet and 3 feet wide. The pipeline will be installed under Highway 33 and Interstate 5 using a guided auger bore, and under the Outside Canal using a horizontal directional drill. PG&E is also proposing a 100-foot by 60-foot expansion to the existing Bayview Station where they will install a 2-inch by 6-inch main line valves, 3-inch by 4-inch blow down valves, and a blow down stack. Approximately half of the expanded area will be trenched to a depth of 7 feet to install the valves. Disturbed areas will be restored with the excavated soil and commercial backfill, and fencing and gravel similar to the existing station will be installed. The area of potential effects (APE) includes two non-contiguous locations: an approximately 12,000-square foot (0.2-acre) area at the existing Bayview Station, and an approximately 11-acre area for constructing the new gas pipeline. The APE is located in sec. 31-32, T. 9 S., R. 9 E. and sec. 6, T. 10 S., R. 9 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, as depicted on the San Luis Dam 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map.

The historic property identification efforts included a cultural resources survey report prepared by North State Resources, Incorporated for the proposed project, which documented no cultural resources identified within the APE. Based on the information provided in the cultural resources report, Reclamation determined that no historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. Utilizing these identification efforts, Reclamation entered into consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on September 4, 2013, seeking their concurrence on a finding of "no historic properties affected §800.4(d)(1)." SHPO concurred with Reclamations' findings and determination on October 28, 2013 (consultation attached).

I have reviewed EA-13-041, dated August 21, 2013, and I concur that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places. Please keep in mind that there is the potential for inadvertent discoveries. If human remains or previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered during the implementation of this action, Reclamation has additional responsibilities pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and/or Section 106 responsibilities pursuant to §800.13. If these resources are identified, please stop work immediately in the area of the discovery and contact Reclamation Regional Archaeologist, Lauren Perry, on how to proceed.

This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including additional consultation with the SHPO, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

CC: Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153), Anastasia Leigh – Regional Environmental Officer (MP-150)

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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October 28, 2013

Reply in Reference To: BUR_2013_0906_001

Anastasia T. Leigh, Regional Environmental Officer
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95816

RE: Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Gas Pipeline Installation and Bayview Station Expansion
Near the San Luis Wasteway, Merced County, California (13-SCAO-254)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

Thank you for seeking my consultation regarding the above noted undertaking. PG&E is requesting a land use authorization from the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) that will amend their perpetual license agreement. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Reclamation is seeking my comments regarding the effects that the above named project will have on historic properties.

The project proposes to install a 12-inch gas pipeline parallel to existing L-331A 6-inch pipeline that ties into existing pipeline equipment. This will involve:

1. Access road improvements.
2. Clearing and grubbing vegetation.
3. Trenching: Width 2.5 feet; Depth 7 feet; Approximately 2,900 feet for entire route.
4. Auger bore beneath State Route 33 & I-5.
5. Horizontal drilling beneath Outside Canal
6. Stringing, welding, hydrostatic testing of pipeline
7. Restoration of disturbed areas.
8. Expansion of Bayview Station, 100 feet by 60 feet for installation of valves and related equipment.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) will consist of the 20 foot wide pipeline easement and 30 foot wide temporary easement. The vertical APE will be a maximum of 7 feet for trenching activities.

In addition to your letter received September 6, 2013, you have submitted the following document as evidence of your efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties in the project APE: *Cultural Resources Inventory Report; Line 331B MP 0.79-1.31 and Valve Lot Extension Reinforcement Project; Santa Nella, Merced County, California.* (Ludwig; August 2013).

Archival research encompassing the APE and a ½ mile radius was conducted that included the Central California Information Center, on April 17, 2013 and August 2, 2013. One previously recorded resource lay within the APE for the project: Outside Canal (P-24-000434); Determined Not Eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) through consensus in 1996. Native American consultation included contact with the Native American Heritage Commission

(June 27, 2013) and Native American tribes and individuals likely to have knowledge of sites of religious or cultural significance to them in the project area (July 2013). No such properties were identified through consultation efforts. Pedestrian surface survey of the APE and an adjacent 50 foot buffer was conducted on June 28 and August 8, 2013. No new cultural resources were identified.

Pursuant to 36 CFR §800.4(d)(1) Reclamation has determined there will be *No Historic Properties Affected* by the proposed project. Based on your identification efforts, I concur with this finding. Identification efforts are sufficient and I also have no objections to the delineation of the APE, as depicted in the supporting documentation.

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, Reclamation may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and considering historic properties as part of your project planning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Associate State Archaeologist, Kim Tanksley at (916) 445-7035 or by email at kim.tanksley@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

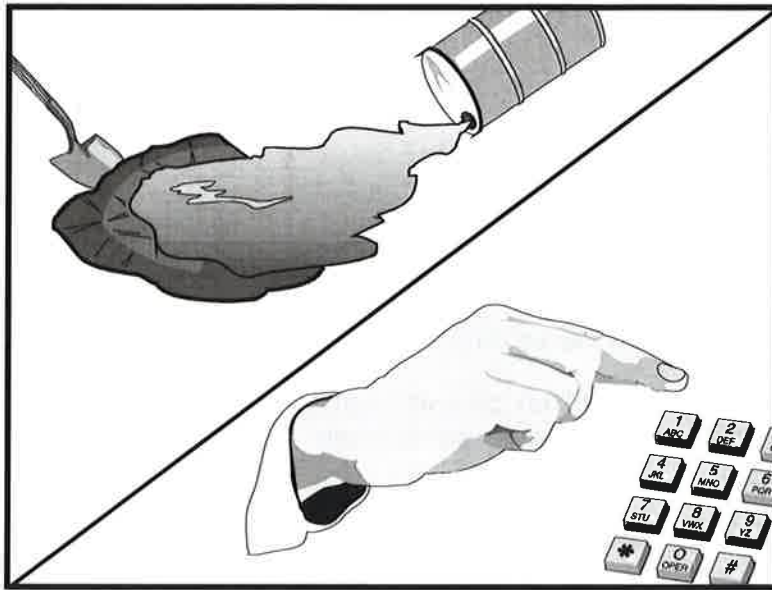
Carol Roland-Nawi, PhD
State Historic Preservation Officer

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-041)

*LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE FOR PG&E'S PROPOSED GAS
PIPELINE INSTALLATION AND BAYVIEW STATION EXPANSION NEAR THE SAN
LUIS (VOLTA) WASTEWAY*

Appendix E
Spill Prevention and Control Measures

March 2014



Objectives

EC	Erosion Control	
SE	Sediment Control	
TC	Tracking Control	
WE	Wind Erosion Control	
NS	Non-Stormwater Management Control	
WM	Waste Management and Materials Pollution Control	✓

Legend:

- ✓ Primary Objective
- ✓ Secondary Objective

Targeted Constituents

Sediment	✓
Nutrients	✓
Trash	✓
Metals	✓
Bacteria	
Oil and Grease	✓
Organics	✓

Potential Alternatives

None

Description and Purpose

Prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to drainage systems or watercourses from leaks and spills by reducing the chance for spills, stopping the source of spills, containing and cleaning up spills, properly disposing of spill materials, and training employees.

This best management practice covers only spill prevention and control. However, WM-1, Materials Delivery and Storage, and WM-2, Material Use, also contain useful information, particularly on spill prevention. For information on wastes, see the waste management BMPs in this section.

Suitable Applications

This BMP is suitable for all construction projects. Spill control procedures are implemented anytime chemicals or hazardous substances are stored on the construction site, including the following materials:

- Soil stabilizers/binders
- Dust palliatives
- Herbicides
- Growth inhibitors
- Fertilizers
- Deicing/anti-icing chemicals



- Fuels
- Lubricants
- Other petroleum distillates

Limitations

- In some cases it may be necessary to use a private spill cleanup company.
- This BMP applies to spills caused by the contractor and subcontractors.
- Procedures and practices presented in this BMP are general. Contractor should identify appropriate practices for the specific materials used or stored onsite

Implementation

The following steps will help reduce the stormwater impacts of leaks and spills:

Education

- Be aware that different materials pollute in different amounts. Make sure that each employee knows what a “significant spill” is for each material they use, and what is the appropriate response for “significant” and “insignificant” spills.
- Educate employees and subcontractors on potential dangers to humans and the environment from spills and leaks.
- Hold regular meetings to discuss and reinforce appropriate disposal procedures (incorporate into regular safety meetings).
- Establish a continuing education program to indoctrinate new employees.
- Have contractor’s superintendent or representative oversee and enforce proper spill prevention and control measures.

General Measures

- To the extent that the work can be accomplished safely, spills of oil, petroleum products, substances listed under 40 CFR parts 110,117, and 302, and sanitary and septic wastes should be contained and cleaned up immediately.
- Store hazardous materials and wastes in covered containers and protect from vandalism.
- Place a stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily accessible.
- Train employees in spill prevention and cleanup.
- Designate responsible individuals to oversee and enforce control measures.
- Spills should be covered and protected from stormwater runoff during rainfall to the extent that it doesn’t compromise clean up activities.
- Do not bury or wash spills with water.

- Store and dispose of used clean up materials, contaminated materials, and recovered spill material that is no longer suitable for the intended purpose in conformance with the provisions in applicable BMPs.
- Do not allow water used for cleaning and decontamination to enter storm drains or watercourses. Collect and dispose of contaminated water in accordance with WM-10, Liquid Waste Management.
- Contain water overflow or minor water spillage and do not allow it to discharge into drainage facilities or watercourses.
- Place proper storage, cleanup, and spill reporting instructions for hazardous materials stored or used on the project site in an open, conspicuous, and accessible location.
- Keep waste storage areas clean, well organized, and equipped with ample cleanup supplies as appropriate for the materials being stored. Perimeter controls, containment structures, covers, and liners should be repaired or replaced as needed to maintain proper function.

Cleanup

- Clean up leaks and spills immediately.
- Use a rag for small spills on paved surfaces, a damp mop for general cleanup, and absorbent material for larger spills. If the spilled material is hazardous, then the used cleanup materials are also hazardous and must be sent to either a certified laundry (rags) or disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Never hose down or bury dry material spills. Clean up as much of the material as possible and dispose of properly. See the waste management BMPs in this section for specific information.

Minor Spills

- Minor spills typically involve small quantities of oil, gasoline, paint, etc. which can be controlled by the first responder at the discovery of the spill.
- Use absorbent materials on small spills rather than hosing down or burying the spill.
- Absorbent materials should be promptly removed and disposed of properly.
- Follow the practice below for a minor spill:
 - Contain the spread of the spill.
 - Recover spilled materials.
 - Clean the contaminated area and properly dispose of contaminated materials.

Semi-Significant Spills

- Semi-significant spills still can be controlled by the first responder along with the aid of other personnel such as laborers and the foreman, etc. This response may require the cessation of all other activities.

- Spills should be cleaned up immediately:
 - Contain spread of the spill.
 - Notify the project foreman immediately.
 - If the spill occurs on paved or impermeable surfaces, clean up using "dry" methods (absorbent materials, cat litter and/or rags). Contain the spill by encircling with absorbent materials and do not let the spill spread widely.
 - If the spill occurs in dirt areas, immediately contain the spill by constructing an earthen dike. Dig up and properly dispose of contaminated soil.
 - If the spill occurs during rain, cover spill with tarps or other material to prevent contaminating runoff.

Significant/Hazardous Spills

- For significant or hazardous spills that cannot be controlled by personnel in the immediate vicinity, the following steps should be taken:
 - Notify the local emergency response by dialing 911. In addition to 911, the contractor will notify the proper county officials. It is the contractor's responsibility to have all emergency phone numbers at the construction site.
 - Notify the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center, (916) 845-8911.
 - For spills of federal reportable quantities, in conformance with the requirements in 40 CFR parts 110,119, and 302, the contractor should notify the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.
 - Notification should first be made by telephone and followed up with a written report.
 - The services of a spills contractor or a Haz-Mat team should be obtained immediately. Construction personnel should not attempt to clean up until the appropriate and qualified staffs have arrived at the job site.
 - Other agencies which may need to be consulted include, but are not limited to, the Fire Department, the Public Works Department, the Coast Guard, the Highway Patrol, the City/County Police Department, Department of Toxic Substances, California Division of Oil and Gas, Cal/OSHA, etc.

Reporting

- Report significant spills to local agencies, such as the Fire Department; they can assist in cleanup.
- Federal regulations require that any significant oil spill into a water body or onto an adjoining shoreline be reported to the National Response Center (NRC) at 800-424-8802 (24 hours).

Use the following measures related to specific activities:

Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance

- If maintenance must occur onsite, use a designated area and a secondary containment, located away from drainage courses, to prevent the runoff of stormwater and the runoff of spills.
- Regularly inspect onsite vehicles and equipment for leaks and repair immediately
- Check incoming vehicles and equipment (including delivery trucks, and employee and subcontractor vehicles) for leaking oil and fluids. Do not allow leaking vehicles or equipment onsite.
- Always use secondary containment, such as a drain pan or drop cloth, to catch spills or leaks when removing or changing fluids.
- Place drip pans or absorbent materials under paving equipment when not in use.
- Use absorbent materials on small spills rather than hosing down or burying the spill. Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.
- Promptly transfer used fluids to the proper waste or recycling drums. Don't leave full drip pans or other open containers lying around
- Oil filters disposed of in trashcans or dumpsters can leak oil and pollute stormwater. Place the oil filter in a funnel over a waste oil-recycling drum to drain excess oil before disposal. Oil filters can also be recycled. Ask the oil supplier or recycler about recycling oil filters.
- Store cracked batteries in a non-leaking secondary container. Do this with all cracked batteries even if you think all the acid has drained out. If you drop a battery, treat it as if it is cracked. Put it into the containment area until you are sure it is not leaking.

Vehicle and Equipment Fueling

- If fueling must occur onsite, use designate areas, located away from drainage courses, to prevent the runoff of stormwater and the runoff of spills.
- Discourage "topping off" of fuel tanks.
- Always use secondary containment, such as a drain pan, when fueling to catch spills/ leaks.

Costs

Prevention of leaks and spills is inexpensive. Treatment and/ or disposal of contaminated soil or water can be quite expensive.

Inspection and Maintenance

- Inspect and verify that activity-based BMPs are in place prior to the commencement of associated activities. While activities associated with the BMP are under way, inspect weekly during the rainy season and of two-week intervals in the non-rainy season to verify continued BMP implementation.
- Inspect BMPs subject to non-stormwater discharge daily while non-stormwater discharges occur.

- Keep ample supplies of spill control and cleanup materials onsite, near storage, unloading, and maintenance areas.
- Update your spill prevention and control plan and stock cleanup materials as changes occur in the types of chemicals onsite.

References

Blueprint for a Clean Bay: Best Management Practices to Prevent Stormwater Pollution from Construction Related Activities; Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program, 1995.

Stormwater Quality Handbooks - Construction Site Best Management Practices (BMPs) Manual, State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), November 2000.

Stormwater Management for Construction Activities; Developing Pollution Prevention Plans and Best Management Practice, EPA 832-R-92005; USEPA, April 1992.