

4.4 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

This section incorporates by reference information from the Other Physical Attributes Baseline Study of Fort Ord, California, which is available at the public repository established at the Seaside Branch Library (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District 1992e).

4.4.1 Wastewater

Wastewater is collected on Fort Ord by a system of mains and pump stations owned and operated by the Army and is treated by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency's (MRWPCA's) regional treatment plant and the East Garrison sewage treatment plant. Much of the Main Garrison and East Garrison collection system facilities were installed in the 1940s and 1950s when the installation was being expanded. Some renovations were conducted in the 1960s and again in the 1970s, but many of the facilities remain in their originally constructed condition, especially pump stations. The Fritzsche Army Airfield collection system is separate from the Main Garrison and East Garrison systems and mainly collects wastewater generated from aircraft maintenance. Maintenance of all wastewater collection facilities has been hampered by a lack of telemetry equipment to monitor pump station operation and pipe condition and by insufficient maintenance staff.

Fort Ord is within the service boundary of MRWPCA and transports nearly all of its wastewater to the MRWPCA's regional treatment plant, which is located north of Marina. This plant has a design capacity of 29.6 million gallons per day (mgd), is permitted to treat 27 mgd, and receives average flows of 20 mgd. Fort Ord has purchased 3.3 mgd of capacity at this plant, of which it consumes an average of approximately 2.4 mgd. The East Garrison sewage treatment plant treats up to 0.03 mgd; treating more than these low flows may not allow the plant to comply with Central Coastal Regional Water Quality Control Board standards. Past treatment plants on the installation have included the Ord Village (only a pump station remains), Main Garrison (in a state of disrepair), and Fritzsche Army Airfield wastewater treatment (no longer in existence).

4.4.2 Solid Waste

Solid waste generated on Fort Ord is collected by Monterey Disposal Company and is deposited in the Monterey Regional Waste Management District's (MRWMD's) Marina Landfill. In June 1992, the Army's contract with Monterey Disposal Company was scheduled to expire and the Army requested bidders. After receiving no adequate bids, the Army extended its agreement with Monterey Disposal Company for 6 months. (Monterey Regional Waste Management District pers. comm.) The Army will contract with a solid waste hauling company for future solid waste collection service. A transfer station is operated on the installation by the Directorate of Engineering and Housing with a permitted capacity to store approximately 100 cubic yards of material.

The Marina landfill has a capacity of approximately 32 million tons and accepts 1,000 tons of refuse per day. Approximately 94 tons per day of this amount originates at Fort Ord. Incorporating anticipated growth and waste reduction measures, the landfill life is estimated at 100 years (Monterey Regional Waste Management District pers. comm.). Recyclable materials are also collected and stored at the landfill.

Some unauthorized dumping of solid wastes occurs at Fort Ord. Unauthorized disposal of waste concrete and asphalt occurs on the installation, and tree trimmings from Toro Park, a subdivision located adjacent to the eastern boundary of Fort Ord, have been dumped onto adjacent Fort Ord property. There have been no known incidences of any hazardous waste dumping.

4.4.3 Telephone Service

Fort Ord maintains its own telephone system, which is networked into the Pacific Bell telephone system. The Army's switching center on North-South Road (Building 4250) is served by underground copper cables delivered from the Pacific Bell Seaside station. Installation infrastructure consists of approximately 405 miles of overhead, buried, and ducted cables. The lines and poles servicing the wooden barracks, weapon ranges, and training areas are substandard (Beach-Philpot Associates 1984).

Pacific Bell also provides substantial support to portions of the installation through a lease signed in 1976, which allows for the reciprocal use of telephone infrastructure. Service is provided under a modified version and extension of this lease (Pacific Bell pers. comm.). Pacific Bell is awaiting disposal before renegotiating this contract. Pacific Bell provides direct telephone service to the following areas from two switching centers: the Seaside switching center serves Hayes Park, Stilwell Park, Fitch Park, Thorson Village, Brostrom Mobile Home Park, Marshall Park, two child development centers, and the Fort Ord Credit Union. The Marina switching center serves Patton Park, Abrams Park, Frederick Park, Schoonover Park, and a mini-mart post exchange. Pacific Bell leases poles and conduit to serve portions of the residential areas and the Army switching center. No Pacific Bell facilities are in the East Garrison area or at Fritzsche Army Airfield. (Fort Ord Community Task Force 1992.)

4.4.4 Gas and Electric Service

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) provides gas and electric service to Fort Ord under a general services agreement that expires December 1995. In addition, two modifications to the general services agreement cover gas service to the Army's commercial-type uses (noncore uses) at Fort Ord. These two modifications extend until August 1993 and cover the Presidio of Monterey (POM) annex and Fort Ord. The facilities serving Fort Ord are divided into three categories: transmission, regulation/substation, and distribution. (Pacific Gas and Electric Company pers. comm.)

4.4.4.1 Transmission Lines

Transmission of gas occurs through two PG&E lines that traverse the installation and serve Fort Ord and city areas within the Monterey Bay area. The current rate of consumption of gas on the installation is 146 thousand cubic feet per hour (146 MCFH).

Two electric transmission line systems traverse Fort Ord. A two-line 60-kilovolt (kV) system, known as the Salinas/Del Monte 60-kV 1 and 2, serves Fort Ord and city and county areas within the greater Monterey Bay area. A two-line 115-kV system, known as the Moss Landing/Del Monte 115 kV 1 and 2, serves the city and county areas within the greater Monterey Bay area but does not serve Fort Ord. Service to a majority of the base is from the 60-kV line that is stepped down to a 12-kV line. An easement for a future "Neponset" tower line exists adjacent to the easement for the 60-kV line. Actual annual electricity consumption on the installation in 1991 was approximately 105,000 megawatts (MW) (1,000 kW = 1 MW). The electric and gas transmission lines in the study area are identified in Figure 4.4-1. The gas and electric transmission systems in the Main Garrison area are shown in Figures 4.4-2 and 4.4-3, respectively.

4.4.4.2 Regulation/Substations

Gas to the installation is regulated at metering stations located at Engineer Road, 2nd Avenue and 8th Street, Gigling Road at SR 1, Coe Avenue at SR 1, and at the gas transmission regulator located at 1st and 8th Streets. The distribution lines are Army owned (except for the lines to Bayview Park, North Bayview Park, Thorson Village, and the schools), and condition of the lines varies depending on the age and composition of gas mains. Some of the lines do not meet California Public Utility Commission standards.

Figure 4.4-1
 PG&E Gas and Electricity Transmission Lines
 and Storm Drain Outfalls through Fort Ord

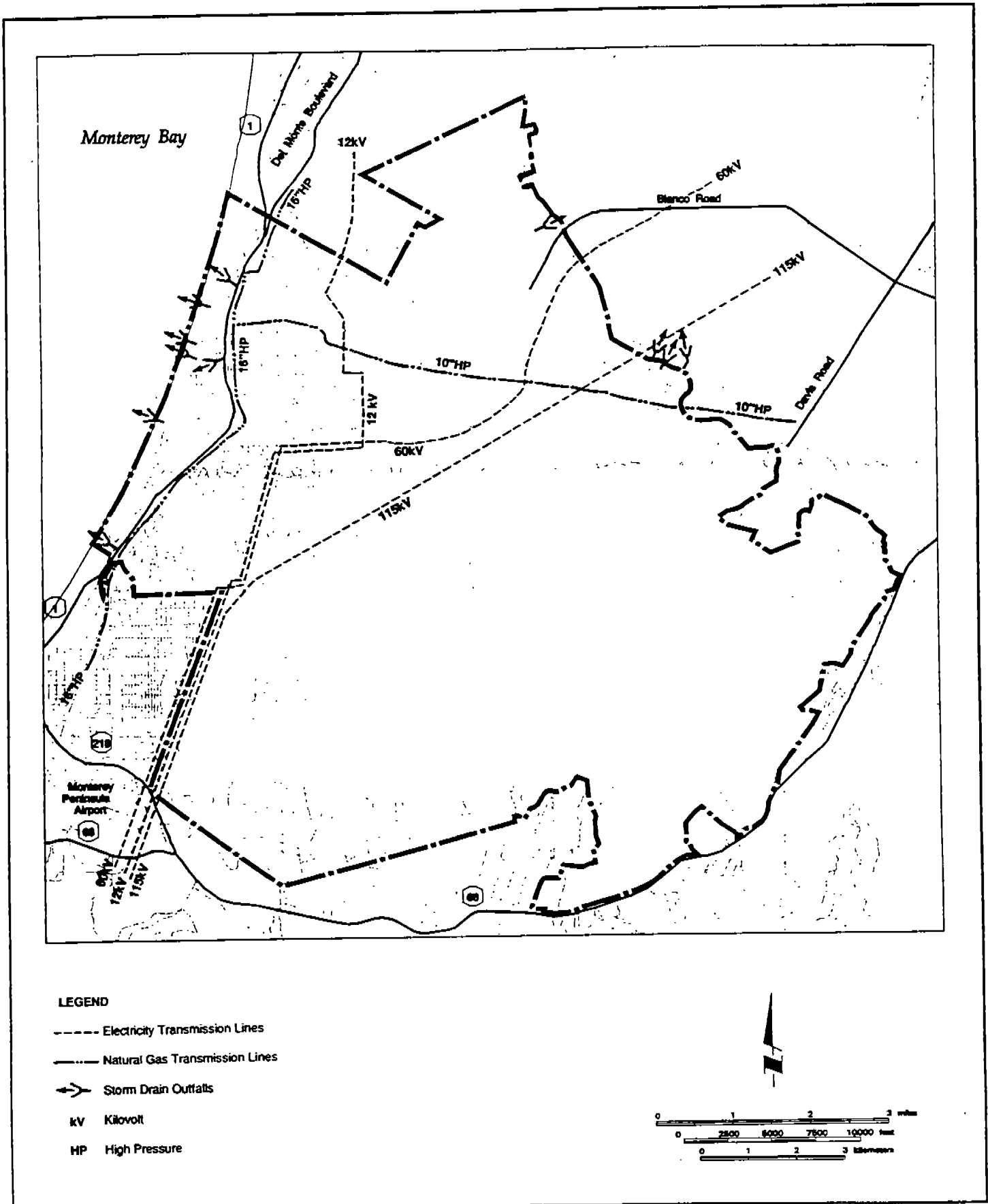


Figure 4.4-2

Primary Gas Transmission Lines and Metering Stations / PG&E Service Areas at Fort Ord

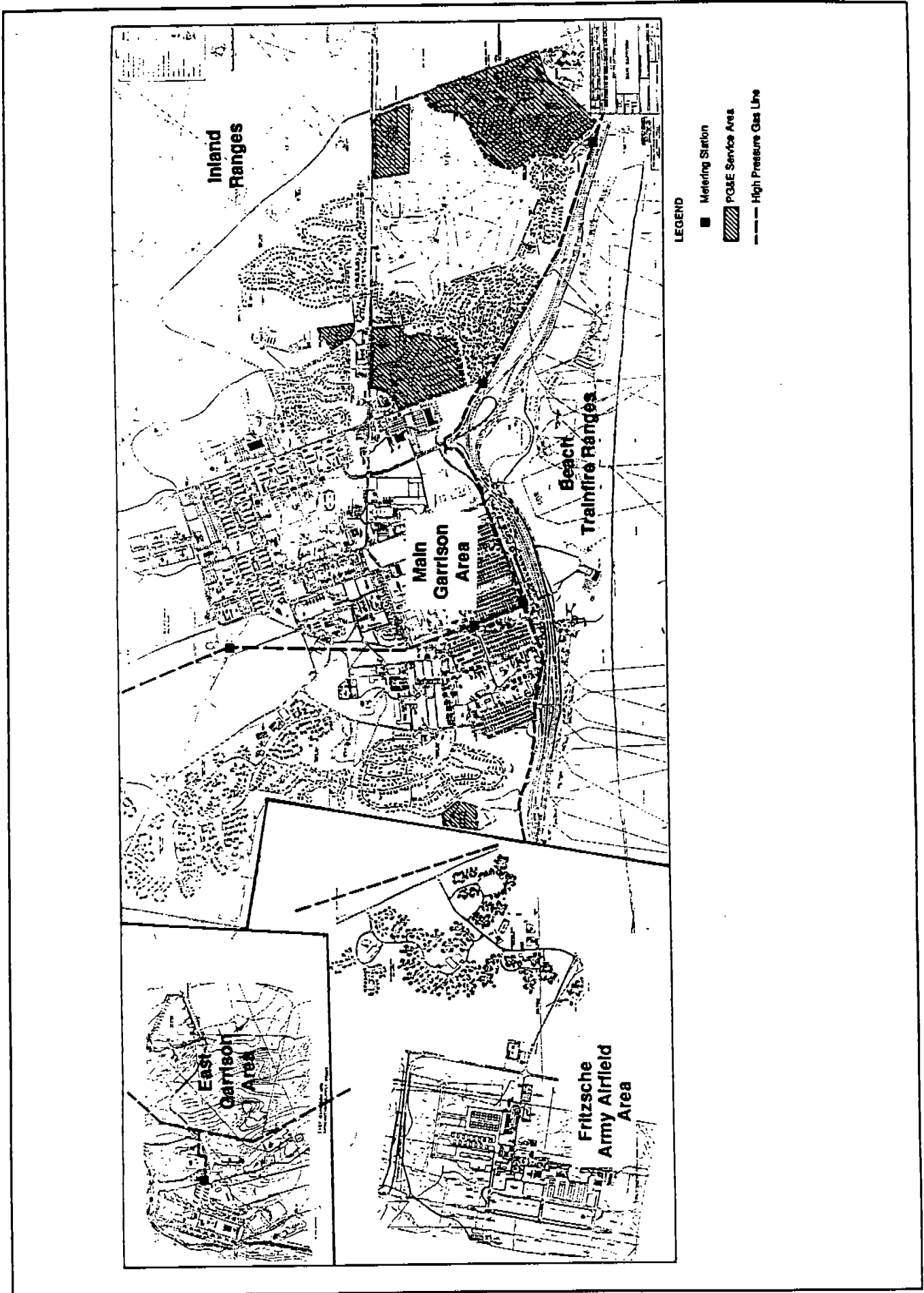
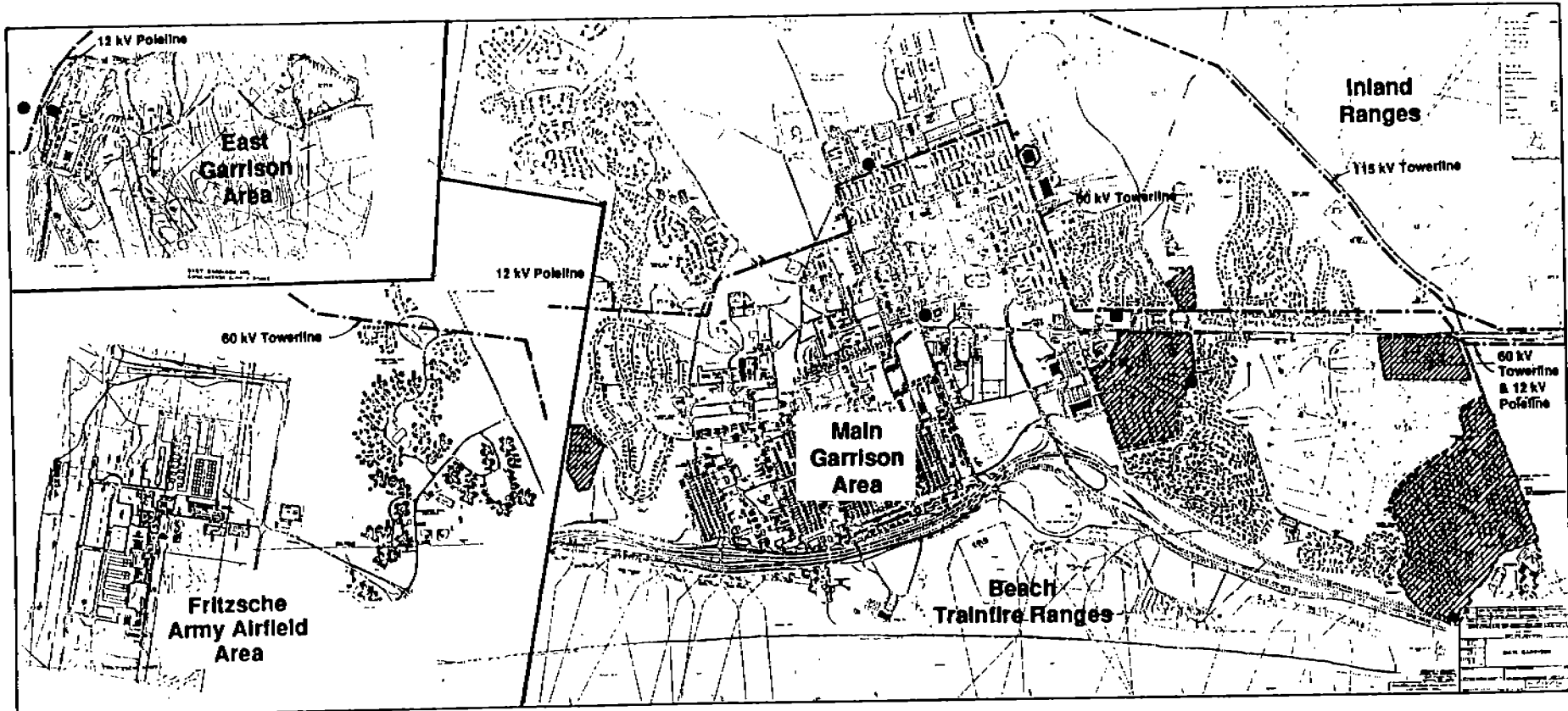


Figure 4.4-3

Primary Electric Transmission Lines and Metering Stations / PG&E Service Areas at Fort Ord

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- LEGEND**
- Metering Station
 - 12/4 kV Stepdown
 - 60/12 kV Stepdown
 - ▨ PG&E Service Area

Regulation of electricity occurs through a 60-kV tap serving the installation; the tap is located east of Silas B. Hays Army Community Hospital. The substation equipment, belonging to PG&E, is on Army property but is secured by an easement. This substation reduces voltage from 60 kv to 12 kV and provides two 12-kV circuits; one serves the Fort Ord switching station and the other serves the City of Marina. Adjacent to the PG&E substation is a metal-clad switching station owned and operated by the Army. All seven Army-owned and -operated distribution feeders begin from this station.

4.4.4.3 Distribution

The Army's distribution and metering systems provide gas and electric service to the entire installation, except for Bayview Park (part of Hayes Park), North Bayview Park (part of Stilwell Park), Brostrom Mobile Home Park, Thorson Village, and the schools, which are served by PG&E-owned and -operated distribution facilities. Gas and electric service to Bayview Park and North Bayview Park is master metered, whereas Thorson Village and the schools are individually metered. Schoonover Park is also designed for individual metering. (Fort Ord Community Task Force 1992.)

4.4.5 Cable Television

Cable television service to Fort Ord is provided and maintained primarily by Coastside Cable TV, doing business as WestStar Cable TV. Ninety-five miles of infrastructure serves Fort Ord; approximately 60% is overhead (on the electricity and telephone poles) and serves the Garrison and older housing areas, and the remaining 40% is underground and serves Abrams Park, Schoonover Park, Preston Park, and 5100/5200 Coe Avenue. Two-way cable television wiring exists within the Garrison, the hospital, and the barracks surrounding the hospital, which allows for use of the wide-area network data communication system.

Cable infrastructure exists throughout the installation but is primarily at two facilities. The first facility, the Fourth Avenue office, has a double-wide television trailer attached to a single-wide trailer, five storage sheds, a carport, an underground gas tank, an emergency generator, one large satellite dish on a 15- by 15- by 4-foot cement footing, and a hard cable line to the second facility. The Headend facility is located on a hill next to the main water tower off the Parker Flats Cutoff. This facility has a 30- by 15-foot building, a 70-foot receiving station with antennas, a standby generator, and six receiving dishes on 15- by 15- by 4-foot cement footings. (Coastside Cable TV pers. comm.)

A 15-year nonexclusive franchise use contract composed of two leases was initiated with the Army on October 1, 1989, which allows Coastside Cable TV to operate cable television and wide-area network services on Fort Ord and the Presidio of Monterey. One lease, serving Fort Ord, expires in November 1993. The other lease, serving the Presidio of Monterey, expires December 1995. This contract allows Coastside Cable TV to serve 6,500 customers. (Coastside Cable TV pers. comm.)

4.4.6 Storm Drainage System

The storm drain system designed for the urban areas at Fort Ord was built in the 1940s as a separate system from the sanitary sewer lines. The storm drain system consists of an extensive system of storm sewer branches that feed into major lines running either to Monterey Bay or inland to the Salinas River basin. Surface runoff is directed to catch basins or pipe inlets from housing and recreational areas, motor pools, maintenance yards, and industrial facilities. About 50% of the original storm drain system has been replaced as needed.

The primary storm drain lines for the Main Garrison discharge at three outfalls in the dune and beach areas and four lines discharge into Monterey Bay. The three major outfalls draining the East Garrison discharge into agricultural land south of the Salinas River. The Fritzsche Army Airfield is drained by a storm drain line that also discharges into agricultural land south of the Salinas River. The remainder of the

installation is drained by minor outfalls discharging into depressions or open fields. Figure 4.4-1 shows the major storm drain outfalls from Fort Ord.

The existing Fort Ord storm drainage system functions without any major problems. Army maintenance consists of periodic clearing of sediment and debris from culverts and drain site areas. The condition of some portions of the existing storm drain system is unknown.

4.4.7 Water Distribution System

Wells provide the sole source of water supply for Fort Ord. A total of 29 wells have been used at various times for water supply, but only five (two active potable, one inactive potable, one standby potable, and one nonpotable) have recently been in regular use. Only four are in use presently since one collapsed in August 1992. This well will soon be replaced, however.

In addition to wells, the water supply system for Fort Ord includes 13 reservoirs/tanks, with a combined capacity of 10.3 mg, and a distribution system, including six pump stations and distribution mains, covering an area about 5 miles long by 4 miles wide in the western part of the installation. Most of the Fort Ord water mains were installed before 1941 and have been inconsistently maintained. The water system is assumed to deliver approximately 90% of the water pumped at the wells to the customers (the remaining 10% is assumed lost because of leaks in the system).

The California-American Water Company, the Marina County Water Agency, and the City of Seaside Municipal Water System all provide water service to the areas adjacent to the installation.

