

May 17, 2000

ADVICE 1996-E

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California (CPUC)

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the Company) hereby submits, in accordance with Section XI.B of General Order (GO) 131-D, notice of the reconductoring of a power line in the County of Plumas. The Notice described in GO 131-D Section XI., Paragraph C, is submitted as Attachment I.

The Company plans to reductor approximately 0.7 miles of the existing Plumas-Sierra 60 kilovolt tap line located along Main Street in Quincy in the County of Plumas. The reductoring project is needed to maintain reliable electric transmission service and fulfill the Company's contractual obligations to serve the Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Association. New conductor will be installed along the existing poles and eleven wood poles will be replaced due to deterioration or age. Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2000, and the new facilities should be in operation by August 2000.

Pursuant to Section III, Paragraph B, Subsections 1(b) and (e) of GO 131-D, the reductoring of this power line is exempt from a Permit to Construct. Subsections 1(b) and (e) state that a Permit to Construct is not required for "the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures," and "the placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on supporting structures already built," respectively.

Additionally, GO 131-D requires utilities to employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs). The Company will utilize the triangular configuration of insulators, which reduces EMF strength at ground level as compared to other configurations.

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other rate schedule or rule.

The Company requests that this advice filing become effective on **June 26, 2000**, which is 40 days after the date of filing. (In accordance with GO 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice is first published.)

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by filing a protest with the CPUC and the Company by **June 6, 2000**, at the following address:

Director, Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor

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San Francisco, CA 94102
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

Copies shall also be mailed to David T. Kraska, Pacific Gas and Electric Company Law Department; P.O. Box 7442, San Francisco, CA 94105, Facsimile (415) 973-0516 and Les Guliasi, Manager, Regulatory Relations, 77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C, P.O. Box 770000, San Francisco, CA 94177, Facsimile: (415) 973-7226.

Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that the Company has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in Section III.B.2 of General Order 131-D exist.

In accordance with Section III, Paragraph G, of GO 96-A, the Company is electronically and postal mailing copies of this advice letter to the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, including the parties listed in GO 131-D, Section XI, Paragraphs B.1. and B.2. Address change requests should be directed to Nelia Avendano at (415) 973-3529.

Vice President -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments