

September 27, 2000

**ADVICE 2036-E**

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Notice of Proposed Construction of Facilities Pursuant to General Order 131-D, Power Line Reinforcement in the County of Alameda**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the Company) hereby submits notice pursuant to General Order (GO) 131-D, Section XI, Subsection B.4 of the construction of facilities that are exempt from a Permit to Construct.

**Purpose**

This advice letter provides a copy of the Notice of Proposed Construction (Attachment I) and the Notice Distribution List, which comply with the noticing requirements found in GO 131-D, Section XI, Subsections B and C.

**Background**

The Company proposes to install new wires or replace existing wires on existing towers, and to build approximately 200 feet of new tower line in an existing easement, to create a new, double-circuit 230 kilovolt line between Tesla Substation and Newark Substation in Alameda County. Beginning at Tesla Substation, located at the intersection of Patterson Pass Road and Midway Road in eastern Alameda County, westerly to Greenville Road, one circuit position on existing towers will be used for the 230 kilovolt power line. From Greenville Road westerly to Sunol Junction, both circuits will be installed on the existing vacant towers and they will be tied together as one circuit. From Sunol Junction to Newark Substation, the new circuit will use one side of the existing Newark-Metcalf No. 1 230 kilovolt circuit. This circuit will be reconducted. The two parallel circuits leading south from Sunol Junction to the Metcalf Substation will be tied together. Substation facilities at Tesla Substation in eastern Alameda County and Newark Substation in the City of Newark will be modified within the Company owned property to accommodate the project, and several towers may be raised approximately 10-15 feet as required by GO 95 to support the new lines. The

proposed work is intended by the California Independent System Operator ("ISO") to address a Bay Area-wide lack of power by providing a high-capacity line capable of delivering power directly to the Newark Substation. Construction is expected to begin as soon as possible in the fall of 2000, for completion by May 2001, or shortly thereafter.

This project qualifies as exempt from Permit to Construct filing requirements pursuant to GO 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.c, B.1.e and B.1.g, which exempt "the intersetting of additional support structures between existing support structures," "the placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on supporting structures already built," and "power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road-widening setback easement, or public utility easement . . . ."

- 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). Pacific Gas and Electric Company will utilize cross-phase design where possible in order to maximize magnetic field cancellation, thereby reducing public exposure to EMF.

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

### **Effective Date**

The Company requests that this advice filing be effective **November 1, 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.

### **Protests**

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by filing a protest with the CPUC and the Company by October 17, 2000, at the following address:

Director, Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

In addition, protests and all other correspondence regarding this advice letter should also be sent by letter and transmitted via facsimile to the attention of:

David T. Kraska  
Attorney, Law Department  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 7442  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Facsimile (415) 973-0516

Les Guliasi  
Manager, Regulatory Relations  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C  
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. Address change requests should be directed to Nelia Avendano at (415) 973-3529.

Vice President -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments

cc: Rob Feraru, Public Advisor, CPUC