

April 17, 2001

**ADVICE 2103-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, Cottonwood #2 60 Kilovolt (kV) Tap Line to Red Bluff Generation Facility

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) hereby submits notice pursuant to General Order (G.O.) 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 G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Subsections B and C.

**Background**

PG&E has been requested by NEO California Power LLC (NEO) to construct a 60 kilovolt (kV) single circuit tap line for .6 miles from Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Rawson Substation to NEO's Red Bluff Generation Facility in the County of Tehama. Seven wood poles will be installed from the Cottonwood #2 60 kV powerline at Rawson Substation north to Diamond Avenue, then east to the Red Bluff Generation Facility. The total length of line affected by the construction is approximately 2,300 feet. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2001, or as soon thereafter as possible, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation by June 2001.

This project qualifies as exempt from Permit to Construct filing requirements pursuant to GO 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.f, which exempts, "power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation."

The County of Tehama has issued a Negative Declaration, dated January 22, 2001 and Use Permit number 00-22, to NEO for the Red Bluff Regeneration Facility, which includes the proposed tap line construction. No significant unavoidable environmental impacts were identified for PG&E's proposed tap line construction.

Additionally, G.O. 131-D requires utilities to employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs). PG&E will install poles taller than otherwise required in order to reduce EMF strength at ground level.

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**

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on **May 8, 2001**, (the day after the protest period ends), if no protests are received, or as soon as the utility response period ends if protests are received but are found by the Executive Director of the CPUC to be unmeritorious, in accordance with CPUC Resolution E-3731. That resolution also provides that Pacific Gas and Electric Company may begin construction as soon as possible after the end of the protest period if no protests are received, or the end of the utility response period if protests are received but are found by the Executive Director of the CPUC to be unmeritorious.

### **Protests**

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by filing a protest with the CPUC and PG&E by **May 7, 2001** at the following address:

Director, Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, California 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, Department  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 7442  
San Francisco, California 94120  
Facsimile (415) 973-0516

Les Guliasi  
Director, Regulatory Relations  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C  
San Francisco, California 94177  
Facsimile (415) 973-7226

Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that PG&E has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in G.O. 131-D, Section III.B.2 exist.

**Notice**

In accordance with G.O. 96-A, Section III, Paragraph G, PG&E is electronically and postal mailing copies of this advice letter to the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, including the type of parties specified in G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Paragraph B, Subsections 1 and 2. These parties are identified in the "Notice Distribution List" included in Attachment I. Address change requests should be directed to Nelia Avendano at (415) 973-3529.

PG&E reserves all legal rights to challenge the decisions or statutes under which it has been required to make this advice filing, and nothing in this advice filing constitutes a waiver of such rights. Also, PG&E reserves any additional legal rights to challenge the requirement to make this advice filing by reason of its status as a debtor under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, and nothing in this advice filing constitutes a waiver of such rights.

Vice President -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments

cc: Parties Listed in G.O. 131-D, Paragraphs B.1 and B.2

bcc: David Kraska  
Jo Lynn Lambert  
Bob Masuoka  
Oscar Sample