

September 16, 2003

**Advice 2421-E
(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U39 E)**

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D for the Modification of Electric Transmission Lines in the County of Contra Costa

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the Company) 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.¹

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

The Company has been requested by the Hoffman Company to relocate 17 poles of the existing Middle River 60 kilovolt (kV) tap line in Contra Costa County to make way for The Lakes at Discovery Bay, a new subdivision by the Hoffman Company. The new wood poles will be relocated approximately ½ mile north of the current alignment on the east side of Bixler Road. Construction is scheduled to begin approximately October 2003, with project completion planned for approximately December 2003, or as soon thereafter as possible.

This project qualifies as exempt from Permit to Construct filing requirements pursuant to G.O. 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.b and f, which exempts:

¹ The Company 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, the Company 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.

- The replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures; and
- 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 Contra Costa has issued a Notice of Determination, dated July 9, 1996 and an Environmental Impact Report was prepared and submitted to the State Clearinghouse (number 93083031). No significant unavoidable environmental impacts were identified for the Company's proposed power line relocation.

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). The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Install taller poles 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.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by filing a protest with the CPUC and the Company by **October 6, 2003**, 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

Brian K. Cherry
Director, Regulatory Relations
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C
San Francisco, CA 94177
Facsimile (415) 973-7226
E-mail: RxDd@pge.com

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 G.O. 131-D, Section III, B.2 exist.

Effective Date

The Company requests that this advice filing become effective on **October 26, 2003**, which is 40 days after the date of filing. (In accordance with G.O. 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice is first published.)

Notice

In accordance with G.O. 96-A, Section III, Paragraph G, 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 G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Paragraphs B.1. and B.2. These parties are identified in the "Notice Distribution List" included in Attachment 1. Address change requests should be directed to Sandra Ciach at (415) 973-7572. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at:

http://www.pge.com/customer_services/business/tariffs/

Vice President -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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