

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

Tel. No. (415) 703-1691



December 6, 2004

Advice Letter 2559-E

Ms Rose de la Torre
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Room 1088
Mail Code B10C
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Submission of Notice of Construction for the Construction of the Notre Dame
Substation in the City of Chico

Dear Ms de la Torre:

Advice Letter 2559-E is effective October 27, 2004. A copy of the advice letter is sent
herewith for your records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Clamor".

Director
Energy Division



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company**

Brian K. Cherry
Director
Regulatory Relations

77 Beale Street, Room 1087
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mailing Address
Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
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September 17, 2004

**Advice 2559-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 construction of the Notre Dame Substation in the
City of Chico**

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.

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

In accordance with the proposed Enloe Property General Plan Amendment, the Company proposes to construct a new three-bank substation adjacent to the existing Table Mountain-Sycamore Creek 115 kV power line at the northeast corner of the intersection of Springfield Drive and Bedford Drive in the City of Chico. PG&E will initially install only one 45 MVA bank at the substation, with the other banks to be installed as needed at a later date. As part of the project two wood poles, one near the substation and one on the north side of Humboldt Road, will be replaced with 10 foot taller tubular steel poles within the existing right of way alignment. The need for this new substation is triggered by the growth in electric demand in the General Plan and surrounding areas. Construction is scheduled to begin approximately October 2004 with project completion planned for approximately May 2005, 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 h, which exempts:

- Power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (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.
- Power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road widening setback easement, or public utility easement; or in a utility corridor designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies for which a final Negative Declaration or EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

The City of Chico certified an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Enloe Property General Plan Amendment, which included the proposed facilities. (State Clearing House No. 92093017). No significant unavoidable environmental impacts were identified for the Company's proposed substation.

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:

- Compacting the equipment spacing within the substation to reduce the EMF field at the fence line by increasing the distance between equipment and fence line.
- Constructing the 12 kV bus structure (where power line wires meet substation wires) with low-side metal clad switchgear, reducing low-side bus phase spacing from three feet to one foot and thereby reducing the EMF contribution.

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 7, 2004**, 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 27, 2004**, 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 Rose de la Torre at (415) 973-4716. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at:

<http://www.pge.com/tariffs>


Director -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NAME: CONSTRUCTION OF THE NOTRE DAME SUBSTATION IN THE CITY OF CHICO
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 2559-E

Proposed Project: In accordance with the proposed Enloe Property General Plan Amendment, Pacific Gas and Electric Company proposes to construct a new three-bank substation adjacent to the existing Table Mountain-Sycamore Creek 115 kV power line at the northeast corner of the intersection of Springfield Drive and Bedford Drive in the City of Chico. PG&E will initially install only one 45 MVA bank at the substation, with the other banks to be installed as needed at a later date. As part of the project two wood poles, one near the substation and one on the north side of Humboldt Road, will be replaced with 10 foot taller tubular steel poles within the existing right of way alignment. The need for this new substation is triggered by the growth in electric demand in the General Plan and surrounding areas. Construction is scheduled to begin approximately October 2004 with project completion planned for approximately May 2005, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF): Pacific Gas and Electric Company will employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to EMF in accordance with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision 93-11-013 and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's "EMF Design Guidelines of New Electrical Facilities: Transmission, Substation, and Distribution." The following measure is proposed for the project:

- Compacting the equipment spacing within the substation to reduce the EMF field at the fence line by increasing the distance between equipment and fence line.
- Constructing the 12 kV bus structure (where power line wires meet substation wires) with low-side metal clad switchgear, reducing low-side bus phase spacing from three feet to one foot and thereby reducing the EMF contribution.

Exemption from CPUC Authority: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1. exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. Pacific Gas and Electric Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemptions:

- Power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (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.
- Power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road widening setback easement, or public utility easement; or in a utility corridor designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies for which a final Negative Declaration or EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

The City of Chico certified an Environmental Impact Report for Enloe Property General Plan Amendment, which included the proposed facilities. (State Clearing House No. 92093017). No significant unavoidable environmental impacts were identified for the Company's proposed substation.

Public Review Process: Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that Pacific Gas and Electric Company has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in Section III.B.2 of General Order 131-D exist;

- a. There is reasonable possibility that the activity may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies; or
- b. The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time, is significant; or
- c. There is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Protests should include the following:

1. Your name, mailing address and daytime telephone number.
2. Reference to the CPUC Advice Letter Number and Project Name.
3. A clear description of the reason for the protest.
4. Whether you believe that evidentiary hearings are necessary to resolve factual disputes.

Protests for this project must be filed by October 7, 2004, at the following address:

Director, Energy Division
 California Public Utilities Commission
 505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor
 San Francisco, California 94102

With a copy mailed to:

David Kraska, Law Department
 Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 P.O. Box 7442
 San Francisco, California 94120

Pacific Gas and Electric Company must respond within five business days of receipt and serve copies of its response on each protestant and the Energy Division. Within 30 days after Pacific Gas and Electric Company has submitted its response, the Executive Director of the CPUC will send you a copy of an Executive Resolution granting or denying the request and stating the reasons for the decision.

Assistance in Filing a Protest: For assistance in filing a protest, contact the CPUC Public Advisor in San Francisco at (415) 703-2074, or 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free); TTY# (415) 703-5258 (toll-free); or public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov

Additional Project Information: To obtain further information on the proposed project, please call Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Project Information Line at (415) 973-5530.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

Notice Distribution List

Construction of Notre Dame Substation in the City of Chico

Advice 2559-E

Energy Commission

Mr. Steve Larson, Executive Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Bob Therleksen, Deputy Director
Energy Facilities Siting & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814

City Of Chico

Mr. Antonio Baptiste
Community Development Director
411 Main Street
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927

Newspaper

Chico Enterprise Record

**PGE Gas Advice Filing
List**

General Order 96-A, Section III(G)

ABAG Power Pool
Accent Energy
Agllet Consumer Alliance
Agnews Developmental Center
Ahmed, Ali
Alcantar & Elsesser
Applied Power Technologies
Arter & Hadden LLP
Avista Corp
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.
BART
Blue Ridge Gas
BP Energy Company
Braun & Associates
C & H Sugar Co.
CA Bldg Industry Association
CA Cotton Ginners & Growers Assoc.
CA League of Food Processors
CA Water Service Group
California Energy Commission
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Gas Acquisition Svcs
California ISO
Calpine
Calpine Corp
Calpine Gilroy Cogen
Cambridge Energy Research Assoc
Cameron McKenna
Cardinal Cogen
Chevron USA Production Co.
Childress, David A.
City of Glendale
City of Palo Alto
City of Redding
CLECA Law Office
Constellation New Energy
CPUC
Creative Technology
Cross Border Inc
Crossborder Inc
CSC Energy Services
Davis, Wright Tremaine LLP
Davis, Wright, Tremaine, LLP
Defense Fuel Support Center
Department of the Army
Department of Water & Power City
DGS Natural Gas Services
DMM Customer Services
Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer
Duke Energy
Duke Energy North America
Duncan, Virgil E.
Dutcher, John
Dynegy Inc.
Ellison Schneider
Energy Law Group LLP
Enron Energy Services
Exelon Energy Ohio, Inc
Exeter Associates
Foster Farms
Foster, Wheeler, Martinez
Franciscan Mobilehome
Future Resources Associates, Inc
G. A. Krause & Assoc
GLJ Energy Publications
Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz &
Grueneich Resource Advocates
Hanna & Morton
Heeg, Peggy A.
Hogan Manufacturing, Inc
House, Lon
Integrated Utility Consulting Group
International Power Technology
Interstate Gas Services, Inc.
J. R. Wood, Inc
JTM, Inc
Kaiser Cement Corp
Korea Elec Power Corp
Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps
Marcus, David
Masonite Corporation
Matthew V. Brady & Associates
Maynor, Donald H.
McKenzie & Assoc
McKenzie & Associates
Meek, Daniel W.
Mirant California, LLC
Modesto Irrigation Dist
Morrison & Foerster
Morse Richard Weisenmiller & Assoc.
Navigant Consulting
New United Motor Mfg, Inc
Norris & Wong Associates
Northern California Power Agency
Office of Energy Assessments
Palo Alto Muni Utilities
PG&E National Energy Group
Pinnacle CNG Company
PITCO
Plurimi, Inc.
PPL EnergyPlus, LLC
Price, Roy
Product Development Dept
Provost Pritchard
R. M. Hairston & Company
R. W. Beck & Associates
Recon Research
Regional Cogeneration Service
RMC Lonestar
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
SCD Energy Solutions
Seattle City Light
Sempra
Sempra Energy
Sequoia Union HS Dist
SESCO
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Silicon Valley Power
Simpson Paper Company
Smurfit Stone Container Corp
Southern California Edison
SPURR
St. Paul Assoc
Stanford University
Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Tansev and Associates
Tecogen, Inc
TFS Energy
TJ Cross Engineers
Transwestern Pipeline Co
U S Borax, Inc
United Cogen Inc.
URM Groups
Utility Cost Management LLC
Utility Resource Network
Wellhead Electric Company
Western Hub Properties, LLC
White & Case
WMA