

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 15, 2009

**Advice Letter 3498-E**

Brian K. Cherry  
Vice President, Regulatory Relations  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C  
P.O. Box 770000  
San Francisco, CA 94177

**Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to G.O. 131-D,  
for the Construction of the Pease-Marysville 60 kV Second  
Circuit Power Line Project, in the Cities of Yuba City and  
Marysville, Counties of Sutter and Yuba**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3498-E is effective December 10, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julie A. Fitch".

Julie A. Fitch, Director  
Energy Division



**Brian K. Cherry**  
Vice President  
Regulatory Relations

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10C  
P.O. Box 770000  
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415-973-7226

July 24, 2009

**Advice 3498-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 Pease-Marysville 60kV Second Circuit  
Power Line Project, in the Cities of Yuba City and Marysville,  
Counties of Sutter and Yuba**

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.

**Background**

As previously noticed in Advice Letters 2731-E and 3084-E, Pacific Gas and Electric Company proposes to install a second 60kV circuit to its existing single-circuit Pease-Marysville-Harter 60kV Power Line between its Pease Substation in Yuba City and Marysville Substation in the City of Marysville. The project will increase the service reliability of PG&E's system by boosting capacity to meet increased and projected electric load demands in the Marysville/Yuba City area of Sutter and Yuba Counties. The project, which covers a distance of approximately 8.3 miles, will rebuild the existing wood pole power line in order to add the second 60kV circuit. The subject section of power line begins at the Pease Substation (located immediately northwest of Yuba City) along Pease Road and runs east along Pease and Laurellen Roads and across agricultural lands until it reaches State Highway 20 in northeastern Marysville; at this point the power line turns southwest (paralleling the highway for most of the way) until it reaches Marysville Substation in east Marysville. The State Lands Commission has issued a lease for the portion of the project that crosses the Feather River, and has undertaken a full environmental review of this project. The project will include relocating approximately 2 miles of the power line from the south side of Pease Road to the north

side of Pease Road. Approximately 155 existing wood poles will be replaced with approximately 125 wood poles and approximately 35 tubular steel poles (TSPs); replacement wood poles will be up to 10 feet taller than existing poles and TSP structures will range from approximately 60 to 105 feet in height. The taller structure heights are necessary to keep required distances to secondary circuits and to maintain GO 95 clearance requirements between the lines and ground and vegetation. In addition, two existing wood poles will be moved from the top of a levee to the base of the levee, requiring approximately 45- to 50-foot taller poles to provide required clearances, and approximately 8 existing poles will be topped and left to support secondary circuits. No protest was filed on the previous notices; the project is being re-noticed to update the project description.

Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2009, or as soon as possible thereafter given potential funding constraints, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation in January 2011, or as soon as possible after project completion.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.f and g, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. The Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemption(s),

(f) "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 California State Lands Commission approved a Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Pease-Marysville 60kV Transmission Line Project on June 1, 2009, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities. (State Clearinghouse #2009042018.)

(g) "power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road widening setback 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."

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) in accordance with CPUC Decision 06-01-042 and the "EMF Guidelines for Electrical Facilities." The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Optimize phase configuration in both circuits of the Pease-Marysville 60 kV power line by "cross-phasing" each circuit to cancel magnetic fields.

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 **August 13, 2009**, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:

CPUC Energy Division  
Tariff Files, Room 4005  
DMS Branch  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200  
E-Mail: [jjn@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jjn@cpuc.ca.gov) and [mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)

Copies of protests also should be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004, at the address shown above.

The protest also should be sent via U.S. mail (and by facsimile and electronically, if possible) to PG&E at the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission:

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

Facsimile: (415) 973-0516

Brian K. Cherry  
Vice President, Regulatory Relations  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C  
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-7226  
E-Mail: [PGETariffs@pge.com](mailto:PGETariffs@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 Section III.B.2 of G.O. 131-D exist.

### **Effective Date**

The Company requests that this advice filing become effective on **August 23, 2009**, which is 30 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-B, Section IV, a copy of this advice letter is being sent electronically and via U.S. Mail to 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 I. Address changes to the General Order 96-B service list should be directed to San Heng at 415-973-2640. Send all electronic approvals to [PGETariffs@pge.com](mailto:PGETariffs@pge.com). Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Cherry / mt".

Vice President - Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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

# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 M)**

Utility type:

- ELC       GAS  
 PLC       HEAT       WATER

Contact Person: Linda Tom-Martinez

Phone #: (415) 973-4612

E-mail: lmt1@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric      GAS = Gas  
 PLC = Pipeline      HEAT = Heat      WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: **3498-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Pease-Marysville 60kV Second Circuit Power Line Project (Counties Of Sutter And Yuba)**

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Power Lines

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other \_\_\_\_\_

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL: No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for:

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement:  Yes  No

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: **August 13, 2009**

No. of tariff sheets: N/A

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected: N/A

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

Protests, dispositions, and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

**CPUC, Energy Division**  
**Tariff Files, Room 4005**  
**DMS Branch**  
**505 Van Ness Ave.,**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**jnj@cpuc.ca.gov and mas@cpuc.ca.gov**

**Pacific Gas and Electric Company**  
**Attn: Brian K. Cherry**  
**Vice President, Regulatory Relations**  
**77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C**  
**P.O. Box 770000**  
**San Francisco, CA 94177**  
**E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com**

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

**PROJECT NAME: PEASE-MARYSVILLE 60KV SECOND CIRCUIT POWER LINE PROJECT, COUNTIES OF SUTTER AND YUBA**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3498-E**

**Proposed Project:** As previously noticed in Advice Letters 2731-E and 3084-E, Pacific Gas and Electric Company proposes to install a second 60kV circuit to its existing single-circuit Pease-Marysville-Harter 60kV Power Line between its Pease Substation in Yuba City and Marysville Substation in the City of Marysville. The project will increase the service reliability of PG&E's system by boosting capacity to meet increased and projected electric load demands in the Marysville/Yuba City area of Sutter and Yuba Counties. The project, which covers a distance of approximately 8.3 miles, will rebuild the existing wood pole power line in order to add the second 60kV circuit. The subject section of power line begins at the Pease Substation (located immediately northwest of Yuba City) along Pease Road and runs east along Pease and Laurellen Roads and across agricultural lands until it reaches State Highway 20 in northeastern Marysville; at this point the power line turns southwest (paralleling the highway for most of the way) until it reaches Marysville Substation in east Marysville. The State Lands Commission has issued a lease for the portion of the project that crosses the Feather River, and has undertaken a full environmental review of this project. The project will include relocating approximately 2 miles of the power line from the south side of Pease Road to the north side of Pease Road. Approximately 155 existing wood poles will be replaced with approximately 125 wood poles and approximately 35 tubular steel poles (TSPs); replacement wood poles will be up to 10 feet taller than existing poles and TSP structures will range from approximately 60 to 105 feet in height. The taller structure heights are necessary to keep required distances to secondary circuits and to maintain GO 95 clearance requirements between the lines and ground and vegetation. In addition, two existing wood poles will be moved from the top of a levee to the base of the levee, requiring approximately 45- to 50-foot taller poles to provide required clearances, and approximately 8 existing poles will be topped and left to support secondary circuits. No protest was filed on the previous notices; the project is being re-noticed to update the project description. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2009, or as soon as possible thereafter given potential funding constraints, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation in January 2011, or as soon as possible after project completion.

**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 06-01-042 and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's "EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities." The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Optimize phase configuration in both circuits of the Pease-Marysville 60 kV power line by "cross-phasing" each circuit to cancel magnetic fields.

**Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement:** 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 exemption(s):

(f) "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 California State Lands Commission approved a Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Pease-Marysville 60kV Transmission Line Project on June 1, 2009, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities. (State Clearinghouse #2009042018.)

(g) "power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road widening setback 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."

**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 have an 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 August 13, 2009, at the following address:**

CPUC Energy Division  
 Attn: Tariff Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 California Public Utilities Commission  
 505 Van Ness Avenue  
 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) or TTY (415) 703-5258 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 Distribution List**

**PEASE-MARYSVILLE 60KV SECOND CIRCUIT POWER LINE PROJECT  
COUNTIES OF SUTTER AND YUBA  
Advice 3498-E**

**Energy Commission**

Ms. Melissa Jones, Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Terry O'Brien, Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

**County of Sutter**

Lisa Wilson  
Planning Division Chief  
1130 Civic Center Boulevard  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
(530) 822-7400

**County of Yuba**

Wendy Hartman  
Planning Division Director  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 123  
Marysville, CA 95901  
(530) 749-5470

**City of Yuba City**

Brian Trubgeon  
Principal Planner  
1201 Civic Center Boulevard  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
(530) 822-4700

**City of Marysville**

David Laymon, Director  
City Services Department  
526 C Street  
Marysville, CA 95901  
(530) 749-3902

**Newspaper**

Appeal-Democrat  
P.O. Box 431  
Marysville, CA 95901  
(800) 831-2345

**PG&E Gas and Electric  
Advice Filing List  
General Order 96-B, Section IV**

Aglet	Day Carter Murphy	North Coast SolarResources
Alcantar & Kahl	Defense Energy Support Center	Northern California Power Association
Ameresco	Department of Water Resources	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
Anderson & Poole	Department of the Army	OnGrid Solar
Arizona Public Service Company	Dept of General Services	Praxair
BART	Division of Business Advisory Services	R. W. Beck & Associates
BP Energy Company	Douglas & Liddell	RCS, Inc.
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Douglass & Liddell	Recon Research
Bartle Wells Associates	Downey & Brand	SCD Energy Solutions
C & H Sugar Co.	Duke Energy	SCE
CA Bldg Industry Association	Dutcher, John	SMUD
CAISO	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	SPURR
CLECA Law Office	FPL Energy Project Management, Inc.	Santa Fe Jets
CSC Energy Services	Foster Farms	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	GLJ Publications	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California League of Food Processors	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	Silicon Valley Power
California Public Utilities Commission	Green Power Institute	Southern California Edison Company
Calpine	Hanna & Morton	Sunshine Design
Cameron McKenna	Hitachi	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Cardinal Cogen	International Power Technology	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Casner, Steve	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Tecogen, Inc.
Chamberlain, Eric	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Chevron Company	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	Tioga Energy
Chris, King	MBMC, Inc.	TransCanada
City of Glendale	MRW & Associates	Turlock Irrigation District
City of Palo Alto	Manatt Phelps Phillips	U S Borax, Inc.
City of San Jose	Matthew V. Brady & Associates	United Cogen
Clean Energy Fuels	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Cost Management
Coast Economic Consulting	Merced Irrigation District	Utility Specialists
Commerce Energy	Mirant	Verizon
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Wellhead Electric Company
Consumer Federation of California	Morgan Stanley	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Crossborder Energy	Morrison & Foerster	eMeter Corporation
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	New United Motor Mfg., Inc.	
	Norris & Wong Associates	