

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 23, 2009

Advice Letter 3504-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 General Order
131-D, for the Construction of Borden-Madera 70 kV Pole
Line Project – Madera County**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3504-E is effective September 10, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "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

August 11, 2009

**Advice 3504-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 Borden-Madera 70kV Pole Line
Project – Madera County**

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.

Background

To continue to meet increasing electrical demand and improve reliability in the southerly portion of Madera County, the Company proposes to add a new 70 Kilovolt (70kV) circuit, approximately 6 miles long, between PG&E's Borden Substation on the south side of Avenue 12 approximately 2,000 feet east of Road 30-1/2, and PG&E's Madera Substation on the southeast corner of Avenue 12 and State Route 145 (Road 27) in Madera County. The area land-use is rural agricultural, with scattered residences. The new circuit will be co-located with an existing 70 kV single-circuit power line for approximately 2,000 feet, and with existing distribution circuits for most of the remainder of the route. The new line will leave Borden Substation property at Avenue 12, where an existing single-circuit 70kV power line on wood poles will be replaced with a new double-circuit power line on light-duty steel poles approximately 22 feet taller, extending westerly approximately 2,000 feet to a new tubular steel pole (TSP) within an existing utility easement (existing easement) on Road 30-1/2 south of Avenue 12. The new circuit will then leave the existing power line and continue southerly on wood poles, replacing and overbuilding an existing distribution wood pole line along the east side of Road 30-1/2 (existing franchise) for approximately one mile

to Avenue 11. The new circuit will continue westerly along the north side of Avenue 11 (existing franchise) for approximately 3,900 feet to Union Pacific Railroad and State Route 99, where three new TSPs (approximately 85 feet tall) will be installed to enable the line to cross the railroad and State Route 99. The new circuit will then be co-located with existing distribution lines along Avenue 11 (existing franchise) for approximately 2-3/4 miles to State Route 145, moving or overbuilding the distribution lines so that all electric lines are located along the north side of Avenue 11. At State Route 145, the new circuit will continue northerly on wood poles, replacing and overbuilding an existing distribution wood pole line along the east side of State Route 145 (existing franchise) for approximately one mile to Madera Substation. One additional TSP (approximately 85 feet tall) will be installed at each of the substations, and power lines will be rearranged at Borden Substation to accommodate the new line. The distribution circuit along the north side of Avenue 11 will also be reconducted (existing wires replaced). Work is scheduled to begin in October 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by December 2010, or as soon thereafter as possible.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1., 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:

- g) 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.

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:

- PG&E proposes to raise the height of fifteen poles by 10 feet near rural residential land uses.

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 31, 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: jjj@cpuc.ca.gov and mas@cpuc.ca.gov

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

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 **September 10, 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. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "San Heng", followed by the initials "SH" written in a simple, blocky font.

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: San Heng

Phone #: 415-973-2640

E-mail: S1HQ@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) #: 3504-E

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: Borden-Madera 70kV Pole Line Project – Madera County

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:

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for: No

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

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: September 10, 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: 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: Borden-Madera 70kV Pole Line Project – Madera County
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3504-E

Proposed Project: To continue to meet increasing electrical demand and improve reliability in the southerly portion of Madera County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) proposes to add a new 70 Kilovolt (70kV) circuit, approximately 6 miles long, between PG&E's Borden Substation on the south side of Avenue 12 approximately 2,000 feet east of Road 30-1/2, and PG&E's Madera Substation on the southeast corner of Avenue 12 and State Route 145 (Road 27) in Madera County. The area land-use is rural agricultural, with scattered residences. The new circuit will be co-located with an existing 70 kV single-circuit power line for approximately 2,000 feet, and with existing distribution circuits for most of the remainder of the route. The new line will leave Borden Substation property at Avenue 12, where an existing single-circuit 70kV power line on wood poles will be replaced with a new double-circuit power line on light-duty steel poles approximately 22 feet taller, extending westerly approximately 2,000 feet to a new tubular steel pole (TSP) within an existing utility easement (existing easement) on Road 30-1/2 south of Avenue 12. The new circuit will then leave the existing power line and continue southerly on wood poles, replacing and overbuilding an existing distribution wood pole line along the east side of Road 30-1/2 (existing franchise) for approximately one mile to Avenue 11. The new circuit will continue westerly along the north side of Avenue 11 (existing franchise) for approximately 3,900 feet to Union Pacific Railroad and State Route 99, where three new TSPs (approximately 85 feet tall) will be installed to enable the line to cross the railroad and State Route 99. The new circuit will then be co-located with existing distribution lines along Avenue 11 (existing franchise) for approximately 2-3/4 miles to State Route 145, moving or overbuilding the distribution lines so that all electric lines are located along the north side of Avenue 11. At State Route 145, the new circuit will continue northerly on wood poles, replacing and overbuilding an existing distribution wood pole line along the east side of State Route 145 (existing franchise) for approximately one mile to Madera Substation. One additional TSP (approximately 85 feet tall) will be installed at each of the substations, and power lines will be rearranged at Borden Substation to accommodate the new line. The distribution circuit along the north side of Avenue 11 will also be reconducted (existing wires replaced). Work is scheduled to begin in October 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by December 2010, 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 06-01-042 and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's "EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities." The following measures are proposed for this project:

- PG&E proposes to raise the height of fifteen poles by 10 feet near rural residential land uses.

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:

- g) 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.

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 31, 2009 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) 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

Borden-Madera 70kV Pole Line Project – Madera County Advice 3504-E

Energy Commission

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 Madera

Madera County Planning Department
Attn: Jerald C. James, Planning Director
2037 W. Cleveland Ave M.S. G
Madera, CA 93637

Newspaper

Madera Tribune

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

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