

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 30, 2009

Advice Letter 3511-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 Proposed Construction of Facilities Pursuant
to G.O. 131-D, Trinity-Maple Creek 60 kV Pole Replacement
Project, Counties of Trinity and Humboldt**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3511-E is effective September 18, 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

415.973.4977
Fax: 415.973.7226

August 19, 2009

**Advice 3511-E
(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39E)**

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Submits Notice of Proposed Construction of Facilities Pursuant to General Order 131-D, Trinity-Maple Creek 60kV Pole Replacement Project, Counties of Trinity and Humboldt

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

In order to provide reliable transmission service and to reduce the risk of outages in its service area, PG&E must replace approximately 74 out of 674 wood poles on approximately 60 miles of the existing Trinity-Maple Creek 60kV Power Line within Humboldt and Trinity Counties (replacement of existing facilities). The replacements begin outside of the Trinity Substation in Weaverville at the southeast corner of Mountain View Street and Masonic Lane, and continue east for approximately 2 miles. The power line then parallels State Highway 299 for approximately 20 miles and traverses southwest through forested and undeveloped county land for approximately 40 miles, ending at the Maple Creek Substation approximately 19 miles south of State Highway 299 (existing easement) in rural Humboldt County. A majority of the new poles will be the same height as the existing poles, with approximately 11 up to 20 feet taller and approximately 22 up to 10 feet taller to maintain sufficient distance between the ground and lower distribution lines as required by the California Public Utility Commission's General Order 95. Most of the power line runs adjacent to a second high-voltage power line and is not readily visible to the public as the line transects very rugged, forested habitat. Construction is proposed to begin October 2009 or as soon as

possible thereafter, and project completion is scheduled for December 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter.

This project qualifies as exempt from Permit to Construct filing requirements, pursuant to G.O. 131-D, Section III, B.1, which states that a Permit to Construct is not required for;

- The replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.
- 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.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, any of which must be received no later than **September 8, 2009**, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to:

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 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 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
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
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 18, 2009**, which is 30 calendar 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 that reads "Brian Cherry / ent".

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) #: **3511-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: Trinity-Maple Creek 60kV Pole Replacement Project (Counties of Trinity and Humboldt)

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 AL¹: _____

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: **September 18, 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 proposed¹: 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: TRINITY-MAPLE CREEK 60KV POLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (COUNTIES OF TRINITY AND HUMBOLDT)

ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3511-E

Proposed Project: In order to provide reliable transmission service and to reduce the risk of outages in its service area, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) must replace approximately 74 out of 674 wood poles on approximately 60 miles of the existing Trinity-Maple Creek 60kV Power Line within Humboldt and Trinity Counties (replacement of existing facilities). The replacements begin outside of the Trinity Substation in Weaverville at the southeast corner of Mountain View Street and Masonic Lane, and continue east for approximately 2 miles. The power line then parallels State Highway 299 for approximately 20 miles and traverses southwest through forested and undeveloped county land for approximately 40 miles, ending at the Maple Creek Substation approximately 19 miles south of State Highway 299 (existing easement) in rural Humboldt County. A majority of the new poles will be the same height as the existing poles, with approximately 11 up to 20 feet taller and approximately 22 up to 10 feet taller to maintain sufficient distance between the ground and lower distribution lines as required by the California Public Utility Commission's General Order 95. Most of the power line runs adjacent to a second high-voltage power line and is not readily visible to the public as the line transects very rugged, forested habitat. Construction is proposed to begin October 2009 or as soon as possible thereafter, and project completion is scheduled for December 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter.

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):

- (b) The replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.
- (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 September 8, 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

TRINITY-MAPLE CREEK 60KV POLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT COUNTIES OF TRINITY AND HUMBOLDT

Advice 3511-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

Trinity County

Richard Tippet
Planning Director
PO Box 2819
Weaverville, CA 96093
(530) 623-1351

Humboldt County

Kirk Girard, Planning Director
Community Development Services
Planning Division
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 445-7541

Newspaper

The Trinity Journal
P. O. Box 340
Weaverville, CA 96093
(530) 623-2055

Times-Standard
P. O. Box 3580
Eureka, CA 95502
(707) 441-0570

**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 Tremain LLP	New United Motor Mfg., Inc.	