

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 1, 2009

Advice Letter 3519-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 Palermo-Pease 115 kV Tower Raise
Project in the Counties of Butte, Yuba, and Sutter**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3519-E is effective October 9, 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

September 9, 2009

**Advice 3519-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 Palermo-Pease 115kV Tower Raise Project in the Counties of Butte, Yuba, and Sutter

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 maintain minimum ground-to-conductor clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, PG&E proposes to raise approximately 33 steel lattice towers along an approximate 25-mile segment of its existing Palermo-Pease 115kV Power Line (existing easement). No towers will be replaced. The project is located between Lower Honcutt Road in southern Butte County and PG&E's Pease Substation located northwest of Yuba City; the subject alignment follows a north-south corridor (roughly 1.25-miles east of State Highway 70) until it reaches the outskirts of northern Marysville, where the power line turns and heads west into Pease Substation. The north-south segment of the subject power line is located adjacent a second 115kV power line; along the east-west segment it is the only tower line present. The project alignment traverses almost exclusively agricultural lands and open space areas, with the east-west segment passing north of the expanding suburban areas of northern Yuba City. The approximate 10-foot cage-top tower extensions will be done exclusively by helicopter, with ground based activities being limited to select material staging and helicopter landing sites along the alignment. Existing wires will not be replaced. Construction is scheduled to begin in October 2009, or as soon as possible thereafter, with work expected to be completed by December 31 2010,

or as soon as possible after project initiation given seasonal restrictions and the availability of funding and work resources.

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

- 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.

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 PG&E by **September 29, 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: jjnj@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

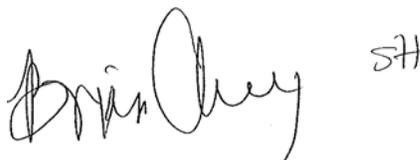
Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that PG&E has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in Section III.B.2 of G.O. 131-D exist.

Effective Date

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on **October 9, 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/>.



Vice President - Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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

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) #: 3519-E

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: Palermo-Pease 115kV Tower Raise Project – Counties of Butte, Yuba, and Sutter

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: October 9, 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: Palermo-Pease 115kV Tower Raise Project, Counties of Butte, Yuba, and Sutter
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3519-E

Proposed Project: In order to maintain minimum ground-to-conductor clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) proposes to raise approximately 33 steel lattice towers along an approximate 25-mile segment of its existing Palermo-Pease 115kV Power Line (existing easement). No towers will be replaced. The project is located between Lower Honcutt Road in southern Butte County and PG&E's Pease Substation located northwest of Yuba City; the subject alignment follows a north-south corridor (roughly 1.25-miles east of State Highway 70) until it reaches the outskirts of northern Marysville, where the power line turns and heads west into Pease Substation. The north-south segment of the subject power line is located adjacent a second 115kV power line; along the east-west segment it is the only tower line present. The project alignment traverses almost exclusively agricultural lands and open space areas, with the east-west segment passing north of the expanding suburban areas of northern Yuba City. The approximate 10-foot cage-top tower extensions will be done exclusively by helicopter, with ground based activities being limited to select material staging and helicopter landing sites along the alignment. Existing wires will not be replaced. Construction is scheduled to begin in October 2009, or as soon as possible thereafter, with work expected to be completed by December 31 2010, or as soon as possible after project initiation given seasonal restrictions and the availability of funding and work resources.

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 September 29, 2009 at the following address:

CPUC Energy Division
 Attn: Tariff Unit, 4th 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

**Palermo-Pease 115kV Tower Raise Project,
Counties of Butte, Yuba, and Sutter
Advice 3519-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 Butte

Charles Thistlethwaite
Planning Division Manager
7 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 538-7601

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 8th Street, Suite 123
Marysville, CA 95901
(530) 749-5470

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**

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