

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 9, 2010

Advice Letter 3567-E

Jane K. Yura
Vice President, Regulation and Rates
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10B
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

**Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to G.O. 131-D, for
the Construction of Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230 kV
Reconductoring Project, County of Solano, Cities of Vacaville
and Fairfield**

Dear Ms. Yura:

Advice Letter 3567-E is effective April 2, 2010.

Sincerely,

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

Julie A. Fitch, Director
Energy Division



December 4, 2009

**Advice 3567-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 Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230kV
Reconductoring Project, County Of Solano, Cities of Vacaville and
Fairfield**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E" or "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

In order to comply with the CPUC's order to have at least 20% of PG&E's power supply derived from renewable resources, PG&E is proposing to replace the wires (reconductor) on the existing Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230kV tower line between Vaca Dixon Substation, 1 mile east of Leisure Town Road and north of I-80 near Vacaville, to Peabody Substation, at Peabody and Cement Hill Roads south of Vacaville, and Birds Landing Switching Station, 8 miles west of Rio Vista in Solano County, a total distance of approximately 30 miles. The transmission line runs southerly from Vaca Dixon Substation for about 6 miles to Peabody Junction in the City of Vacaville, crossing Highway I-80, Hawkins Road, Elmira Road, and Fry Road. The line then loops southwesterly approximately 4 miles to Peabody Substation, in the City of Fairfield, and back to Peabody Junction. The line continues from Peabody Junction southeasterly for roughly 8.5 miles, crossing Creed Road and Lambie Road. The line continues southeasterly approximately 6.2 miles to the Birds Landing Switching Station, crossing State Highway 12 and Birds Landing Road. The project consists of replacing the existing wires with new wires (conductors) on the existing towers (placing of new

conductors on supporting structures already built), modifying cross-arms, and raising approximately 41 towers; 38 towers will be raised approximately 15 feet in order to maintain ground clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, and 3 of these towers will be raised an additional 5 feet for EMF mitigation. Existing towers range from 97 feet to 144 feet in height. Most of the line is parallel to an existing 500kV transmission line. The project has been scheduled and designed to avoid significant impacts to biological or cultural resources. The USFWS has issued a programmatic Biological Opinion to address remaining minor impacts to vernal pool crustacean habitat and a Biological Opinion to address minor temporary impacts to California tiger salamander upland habitat. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2010, or as soon as possible thereafter, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation in December 2011, or as soon as possible after project completion.

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

- "The placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on supporting structures already built."

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 California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision 06-01-042 and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's "EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities." The following measure is proposed for this project:

- 3 towers will be raised 5 feet taller than otherwise required by GO 95 to reduce EMF levels at the edge of the right of way.

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 letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, any of which must be received no later than **December 24, 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: jnj@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
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 **January 3, 2010**, 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

and all electronic approvals should be sent to e-mail 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) #: **3567-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230kV Reconductoring Project (County of Solano)

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: **January 3, 2010**

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: VACA DIXON-PEABODY-BIRDS LANDING 230KV RECONDUCTORING PROJECT, COUNTY OF SOLANO,
Cities of Vacaville and Fairfield**

ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3567-E

Proposed Project: In order to comply with the CPUC's order to have at least 20% of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) power supply derived from renewable resources, PG&E is proposing to replace the wires (reconductor) on the existing Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230kV tower line between Vaca Dixon Substation, 1 mile east of Leisure Town Road and north of I-80 near Vacaville, to Peabody Substation, at Peabody and Cement Hill Roads south of Vacaville, and Birds Landing Switching Station, 8 miles west of Rio Vista in Solano County, a total distance of approximately 30 miles. The transmission line runs southerly from Vaca Dixon Substation for about 6 miles to Peabody Junction in the City of Vacaville, crossing Highway I-80, Hawkins Road, Elmira Road, and Fry Road. The line then loops southwesterly approximately 4 miles to Peabody Substation, in the City of Fairfield, and back to Peabody Junction. The line continues from Peabody Junction southeasterly for roughly 8.5 miles, crossing Creed Road and Lambie Road. The line continues southeasterly approximately 6.2 miles to the Birds Landing Switching Station, crossing State Highway 12 and Birds Landing Road. The project consists of replacing the existing wires with new wires (conductors) on the existing towers (placing of new conductors on supporting structures already built), modifying cross-arms, and raising approximately 41 towers; 38 towers will be raised approximately 15 feet in order to maintain ground clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, and 3 of these towers will be raised an additional 5 feet for EMF mitigation. Existing towers range from 97 feet to 144 feet in height. Most of the line is parallel to an existing 500kV transmission line. The project has been scheduled and designed to avoid significant impacts to biological or cultural resources. The USFWS has issued a programmatic Biological Opinion to address remaining minor impacts to vernal pool crustacean habitat and a Biological Opinion to address minor temporary impacts to California tiger salamander upland habitat. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2010, or as soon as possible thereafter, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation in December 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:

- 3 towers will be raised 5 feet taller than otherwise required by GO 95 to reduce EMF levels at the edge of the right of way.

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III.B, 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:

- "the placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on or replacement of supporting structures already built."

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 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 *December 24, 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); 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 Distribution List

Vaca Dixon-Peabody-Birds Landing 230kV Reconductoring Project, County of Solano and Cities of Vacaville and Fairfield

Advice 3567-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 Solano

Michael Yankovich, Director
Planning Services
675 Texas Street, Suite 5500
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 784-6765

City of Fairfield

Eve Somjen, Director
Community Development
1000 Webster Street
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 428-7461

City of Vacaville

Scott Sexton, Director
Community Development
City Hall
650 Merchant Street
Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 449-5140

Newspaper

The Reporter
P.O. Box 1509,
Vacaville, CA 95696

**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
	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California League of Food Processors	Green Power Institute	Silicon Valley Power
California Public Utilities Commission	Hanna & Morton	Silo Energy LLC
Calpine	Hitachi	Southern California Edison Company
Cameron McKenna	International Power Technology	Sunshine Design
Cardinal Cogen	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Casner, Steve	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Chamberlain, Eric	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	Tecogen, Inc.
Chevron Company	MBMC, Inc.	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Chris, King	MRW & Associates	Tioga Energy
City of Glendale	Manatt Phelps Phillips	TransCanada
City of Palo Alto	Matthew V. Brady & Associates	Turlock Irrigation District
Clean Energy Fuels	McKenzie & Associates	U S Borax, Inc.
Coast Economic Consulting	Merced Irrigation District	United Cogen
Commerce Energy	Mirant	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Specialists
Consumer Federation of California	Morgan Stanley	Verizon
Crossborder Energy	Morrison & Foerster	Wellhead Electric Company
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	New United Motor Mfg., Inc.	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
		eMeter Corporation
Day Carter Murphy	Norris & Wong Associates	