

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 30, 2010

Advice Letter 3621-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 Replacement of 7 Power Poles Located in the
Merced-Merced Falls 70 kV Pole in the City of Merced,
County of Merced**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3621-E is effective March 21, 2010.

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

February 19, 2010

**Advice 3621-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 Replacement of 7 Power Poles Located in the Merced-Merced
Falls 70kV Pole in the City of Merced, County of Merced**

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

To accommodate a City of Merced (City) Grade Separation project located along G Street at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Tracks in Merced County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has been requested by the City to relocate poles within an approximately 1,300-foot long segment of the Merced – Merced Falls 70 kilovolt (70kV) power line (relocation of existing facilities) along the southeasterly side of G Street (existing franchise) in the City of Merced, Merced County. To accomplish the relocation while meeting legal clearance requirements over the City's new improvements, approximately 7 existing wood poles will be replaced with approximately 7 new light-duty steel poles (replacement of existing facilities). The existing power line segment extends along the southeasterly side of G Street from approximately the alleyway between 22nd Street and 23rd Street northeasterly to approximately 200 feet southwesterly of 26th Street. The existing wood poles are approximately 65 feet tall and the new poles will be approximately ten to fifteen feet taller. To accommodate the City's construction of the new Grade Separation project, PG&E will also need to temporarily relocate the existing power line southeasterly of G Street on private property and will install the new light-duty steel poles back into the existing alignment along the southeasterly side of G Street when the City's work is complete. Work is scheduled to

begin in April 2010, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed. by May 2011, 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 exemptions:

- b) The replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.
- c) The minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the intersetting of additional support structures between existing support 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.

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 **March 11, 2010**, 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: 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 **March 21, 2010**, 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 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/>.



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) #: **3621-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Pole Replacement Project – G Street Merced (County of Merced)**

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: **March 21, 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: Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Pole Replacement – G Street Merced
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3621-E

Proposed Project: To accommodate a City of Merced (City) Grade Separation project located along G Street at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Tracks in Merced County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has been requested by the City to relocate poles within an approximately 1,300-foot long segment of the Merced – Merced Falls 70 kilovolt (70kV) power line (relocation of existing facilities) along the southeasterly side of G Street (existing franchise) in the City of Merced, Merced County. To accomplish the relocation while meeting legal clearance requirements over the City's new improvements, approximately 7 existing wood poles will be replaced with approximately 7 new light-duty steel poles (replacement of existing facilities). The existing power line segment extends along the southeasterly side of G Street from approximately the alleyway between 22nd Street and 23rd Street northeasterly to approximately 200 feet southwesterly of 26th Street. The existing wood poles are approximately 65 feet tall and the new poles will be approximately ten to fifteen feet taller. To accommodate the City's construction of the new Grade Separation project, PG&E will also need to temporarily relocate the existing power line southeasterly of G Street on private property and will install the new light-duty steel poles back into the existing alignment along the southeasterly side of G Street when the City's work is complete. Work is scheduled to begin in April 2010, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by May 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible.

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 exemptions:

- b) The replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.
- c) The minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the intersetting of additional support structures between existing support 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 March 11, 2010 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

Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Pole Replacement – G Street Merced

Advice 3621-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

City of Merced

David Gonzalves
Director of Development Services
City of Merced - City Planning Division
Merced Civic Center
678 West 18th Street
Merced, California 95340

Newspaper

Merced Sun-Star

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

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	Douglass & Liddell	RCS, Inc.
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Downey & Brand	Recon Research
Bartle Wells Associates	Duke Energy	SCD Energy Solutions
Boston Properties	Dutcher, John	SCE
C & H Sugar Co.	Economic Sciences Corporation	SMUD
CA Bldg Industry Association	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	SPURR
CAISO	FPL Energy Project Management, Inc.	Santa Fe Jets
CLECA Law Office	Foster Farms	Seattle City Light
CSC Energy Services	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Sempra Utilities
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	GLJ Publications	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California Energy Commission	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	Silicon Valley Power
California League of Food Processors	Green Power Institute	Silo Energy LLC
California Public Utilities Commission	Hanna & Morton	Southern California Edison Company
Calpine	Hitachi	Sunshine Design
Cameron McKenna	International Power Technology	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Cardinal Cogen	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Casner, Steve	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Tecogen, Inc.
Chamberlain, Eric	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	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)
Day Carter Murphy	Norris & Wong Associates	eMeter Corporation
	North Coast SolarResources	