

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 21, 2011

**Advice Letter 3765-E**

Brian K. Cherry  
Vice President, Regulation and Rates  
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  
Caribou No. 2 60 kV Reconductoring Project, County of Plumas**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3765-E is effective December 24, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward F. Randolph".

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



**Jane K. Yura**  
Vice President  
Regulation and Rates

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10B  
P.O. Box 770000  
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415-973-6520

November 24, 2010

**Advice 3765-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 Caribou No. 2 60 kV Reconductoring Project, County of Plumas**

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 provide reliable transmission service and to reduce the risk of outages in its service area, PG&E proposes to replace the existing aged and deteriorated conductor with a new conductor (replacement of existing facilities) along an approximate seven-mile segment of its existing Caribou No. 2 60kV Power Line (existing easement) in Plumas County. The project is located immediately northeast of the community of Belden along Caribou Road (north of State Highway 70) in the North Fork Feather River Canyon. This segment of power line is located almost exclusively within the Plumas National Forest and has recreation areas (campgrounds) sparsely located along the alignment. The existing conductor will be replaced with a conductor meeting current standards; to support the new conductor, existing wood poles will be replaced with light-duty, self-weathering steel poles that resemble wood poles in appearance but are not susceptible to fire or woodpecker damage (replacement of existing facilities). Approximately 181 wood poles will be replaced with light-duty steel poles that will be no more than

approximately ten feet taller than existing to provide required line clearance over roadways, other power lines, and ground/vegetation along the pole line.

Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2011, or as soon as possible thereafter, with work expected to be completed by December 2011, or as soon as possible after project initiation.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.b and g, 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(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.

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:

Because there are no EMF mitigation measures available on this project that would meet the CPUC's benchmark of 4% or less of the total project cost, no "no cost" or "low cost" measures will be employed.

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 **December 14, 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 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

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

Facsimile: (415) 973-6520  
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 **December 24, 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**

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 service list and all

electronic approvals should be sent to e-mail [PGETariffs@pge.com](mailto:PGETariffs@pge.com). Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Yura /emt". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Vice President - Regulation and Rates

cc: Parties Listed in G.O. 131-D, Paragraphs B.1 and B.2

Attachments

# 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) #: **3765-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Caribou No. 2 60 kV Reconductoring Project (County of Plumas)**

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<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

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: **December 24, 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 proposed<sup>1</sup>: 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: Jane K. Yura**

**Vice President, Regulation and Rates**

**77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10B**

**P.O. Box 770000**

**San Francisco, CA 94177**

**E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com**

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

**PROJECT NAME:** Caribou No. 2 60 kV Reconductoring Project, County of Plumas  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER:** 3765-E

**Proposed Project:** In order to provide reliable transmission service and to reduce the risk of outages in its service area, PG&E proposes to replace the existing aged and deteriorated conductor with a new conductor (replacement of existing facilities) along an approximate seven-mile segment of its existing Caribou No. 2 60kV Power Line (existing easement) in Plumas County. The project is located immediately northeast of the community of Belden along Caribou Road (north of State Highway 70) in the North Fork Feather River Canyon. This segment of power line is located almost exclusively within the Plumas National Forest and has recreation areas (campgrounds) sparsely located along the alignment. The existing conductor will be replaced with a conductor meeting current standards; to support the new conductor, existing wood poles will be replaced with light-duty, self-weathering steel poles that resemble wood poles in appearance but are not susceptible to fire or woodpecker damage (replacement of existing facilities). Approximately 181 wood poles will be replaced with light-duty steel poles that will be no more than approximately ten feet taller than existing to provide required line clearance over roadways, other power lines, and ground/vegetation along the pole line. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2011, or as soon as possible thereafter, with work expected to be completed by December 2011, or as soon as possible after project initiation.

**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:

- Because there are no EMF mitigation measures available on this project that would meet the CPUC's benchmark of 4% or less of the total project cost, no "no cost" or "low cost" measures will be employed.

**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 December 14, 2010, at the following address:**

CPUC Energy Division  
 Attn: Tariff Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**

### **Caribou No. 2 60 kV Reconductoring Project County of Plumas Advice 3765-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 Plumas**

Mr. Randy Wilson  
Planning Director  
555 Main Street  
Quincy, CA 95971  
(530) 283-7011

#### **Newspaper**

Feather River Bulletin  
P.O. Box B  
Quincy, CA 95971  
(530) 283-0800

**PG&E Gas and Electric  
Advice Filing List**

Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Dept of General Services	North Coast SolarResources
Ameresco	Division of Business Advisory Services	Northern California Power Association
Anderson & Poole	Douglass & Liddell	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
Arizona Public Service Company	Downey & Brand	OnGrid Solar
BART	Duke Energy	Praxair
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Dutcher, John	R. W. Beck & Associates
Bartle Wells Associates	Economic Sciences Corporation	RCS, Inc.
Bloomberg	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Recurrent Energy
Bloomberg New Energy Finance	Foster Farms	SCD Energy Solutions
Boston Properties	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	SCE
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.	GLJ Publications	SMUD
Brookfield Renewable Power	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SPURR
CA Bldg Industry Association	Green Power Institute	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
CLECA Law Office	Hanna & Morton	Santa Fe Jets
CSC Energy Services	Hitachi	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	In House Energy	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	International Power Technology	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California League of Food Processors	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Silicon Valley Power
California Public Utilities Commission	Lawrence Berkeley National Lab	Silo Energy LLC
Calpine	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Southern California Edison Company
Cardinal Cogen	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	Spark Energy, L.P.
Casner, Steve	MAC Lighting Consulting	Sunshine Design
Chris, King	MBMC, Inc.	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
City of Palo Alto	MRW & Associates	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
City of Palo Alto Utilities	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tecogen, Inc.
Clean Energy Fuels	McKenzie & Associates	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Coast Economic Consulting	Merced Irrigation District	TransCanada
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Turlock Irrigation District
Consumer Federation of California	Morgan Stanley	United Cogen
Crossborder Energy	Morrison & Foerster	Utility Cost Management
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Utility Specialists
Day Carter Murphy	NRG West	Verizon
Defense Energy Support Center	Navigant Consulting	Wellhead Electric Company
Department of Water Resources	Norris & Wong Associates	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
	North America Power Partners	eMeter Corporation