

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 21, 2011

**Advice Letter 3805-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  
Construction of Merced-Livingston 115 kV Power Line Pole  
Replacement Project in the County of Merced**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3805-E is effective March 20, 2011.

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

February 18, 2011

**Advice 3805-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 Merced-Livingston 115kV Power  
Line Pole Replacement Project in the 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**

In order to accommodate the replacement (reconductoring) of 12 Kilovolt (12kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced-Livingston 115kV power line in the County of Merced, PG&E proposes to replace approximately 16 wood power line poles (replacement of existing facilities) with approximately 16 new wood poles in the rural agricultural area located approximately 5.5 miles south of the City of Atwater and 8.8 miles west of the City of Merced in Merced County. Reconductoring of the 12kV distribution wires is needed to continue to provide for the increasing electrical demand of the Atwater Water Waste Treatment Plant Expansion Project. The poles will be replaced on the power line segment that begins approximately 2,700 feet north of the intersection of Lisbon Road and South Bert Crane Road and extends northerly on the westerly side of South Bert Crane Road (existing franchise) for approximately 1.2 miles. There will be no change in the capacity of the line. Due to insufficient wire sag clearance, all new wood poles will be approximately 15 feet taller, with the exception of one pole that will increase by approximately 5 feet (all existing poles are 55 feet in height with the exception of one that is 65 feet). Work is scheduled to begin in April, 2011, 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.b and B.1.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.

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 10, 2011**, 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: [jjn@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jjn@cpuc.ca.gov) and [mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto: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 **March 20, 2011**, 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. 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 - 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) #: **3805-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Merced-Livingston 115kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project (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 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: **March 20, 2011**

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: Merced-Livingston 115kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project, County of Merced**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3805-E**

**Proposed Project:** In order to accommodate the replacement (reconductoring) of 12 Kilovolt (12kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced-Livingston 115kV power line in the County of Merced, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) proposes to replace approximately 16 wood power line poles (replacement of existing facilities) with approximately 16 new wood poles in the rural agricultural area located approximately 5.5 miles south of the City of Atwater and 8.8 miles west of the City of Merced in Merced County. Reconductoring of the 12kV distribution wires is needed to continue to provide for the increasing electrical demand of the Atwater Water Waste Treatment Plant Expansion Project. The poles will be replaced on the power line segment that begins approximately 2,700 feet north of the intersection of Lisbon Road and South Bert Crane Road and extends northerly on the westerly side of South Bert Crane Road (existing franchise) for approximately 1.2 miles. There will be no change in the capacity of the line. Due to insufficient wire sag clearance, all new wood poles will be approximately 15 feet taller, with the exception of one pole that will increase by approximately 5 feet (all existing poles are 55 feet in height with the exception of one that is 65 feet). Work is scheduled to begin in April 2011, 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. PG&E 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 March 10, 2011, 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](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**

### **Merced-Livingston 115kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project County of Merced**

Advice 3805-E

#### **Energy Commission**

Melissa Jones, Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

Terry O'Brien, Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

#### **County of Merced**

Paul A. Fillebrown  
Interim Director  
Merced County Planning & Community Development  
2222 M St.  
Merced, CA 95340

#### **Newspaper**

Merced Sun Star

## PG&E Gas and Electric Advice Filing List

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