

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 21, 2011

Advice Letter 3808-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 the Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project in the County of Kern

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3808-E is effective March 26, 2011.

Sincerely,

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

Edward F. Randolph, Director
Energy Division

February 24, 2011

Advice 3808-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 Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project in the County of Kern

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 continue to maintain compliance with applicable grid reliability criteria and ensure continued safe and reliable electric service to the Kern County area, PG&E is proposing to reductor, or replace the wires on, approximately 16 miles of the existing Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Lines, both of which are located on one line of towers. These power line segments are in an existing easement that extends in a general easterly direction from Midway Substation (located near the intersection of State Route 58 and Wasco Way in Buttonwillow) to Renfro Substation (located approximately 1500 feet north of the intersection of State Route 58 and Renfro Road in Rosedale) (existing easement). Approximately 17 of the 92 towers (currently approximately 85 feet tall) will be raised approximately 10 feet in order to maintain required ground to conductor clearances and to reduce electric and magnetic fields strength at ground level. In addition, PG&E proposes to install approximately 4 new tubular steel poles (approximately 85 feet in height), with new switches, in the existing alignment of the power lines (intersetting of additional support structures). PG&E also proposes to replace three existing wood poles

(approximately 50 feet in height) from the Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115kV Power Line with one tubular steel pole and switch, and two light-duty steel poles (approximately 85 and 60 feet tall respectively) at a location approximately 1200 feet west of Enos Lane and approximately 700 feet north of Meacham Road (replacement of existing facilities, existing easement). The increase in height of the new tubular steel pole and two light-duty steel poles is required in order to maintain required conductor clearances. Also, in order to improve reliability and operational functionality, PG&E proposes to install a minor relocation of the Rio Bravo Tomato Tap 115 kV Power Line by installing approximately 500 feet of new power line supported by six new light-duty steel poles (all approximately 35 feet in height, at two locations consisting of 3-poles at each location) and one tubular steel pole with switch (approximately 85 feet in height) (minor relocation). This minor relocation will be located approximately 5000 feet southwesterly of the intersection of State Route 58 and State Route 5. Near this location, PG&E also proposes to replace one existing wood pole (approximately 60 feet in height) with one new tubular steel pole and switch (approximately 85 feet in height), and replace one existing wood pole with a new light-duty steel pole, similar in height. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in April 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and is scheduled for completion in April 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

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

- Increase the height of six towers adjacent to residential land use approximately 10 feet, more than otherwise required, to reduce EMF strength at ground level;

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 16, 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 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 **March 26, 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/>.

Handwritten signature of Jane Yura in cursive script.

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) #: **3808-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project (Kern County)**

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 26, 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 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: 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: Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project (Kern County)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3808-E

Proposed Project: In order to continue to maintain compliance with applicable grid reliability criteria and ensure continued safe and reliable electric service to the Kern County area, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is proposing to reconductor, or replace the wires on, approximately 16 miles of the existing Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Lines, both of which are located on one line of towers. These power line segments are in an existing easement that extends in a general easterly direction from Midway Substation (located near the intersection of State Route 58 and Wasco Way in Buttonwillow) to Renfro Substation (located approximately 1500 feet north of the intersection of State Route 58 and Renfro Road in Rosedale) (existing easement). Approximately 17 of the 92 towers (currently approximately 85 feet tall) will be raised approximately 10 feet in order to maintain required ground to conductor clearances and to reduce electric and magnetic fields strength at ground level. In addition, PG&E proposes to install approximately 4 new tubular steel poles (approximately 85 feet in height), with new switches, in the existing alignment of the power lines (intersetting of additional support structures). PG&E also proposes to replace three existing wood poles (approximately 50 feet in height) from the Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line with one tubular steel pole and switch, and two light-duty steel poles (approximately 85 and 60 feet tall respectively) at a location approximately 1200 feet west of Enos Lane and approximately 700 feet north of Meacham Road (replacement of existing facilities, existing easement). The increase in height of the new tubular steel pole and two light-duty steel poles is required in order to maintain required conductor clearances. Also, in order to improve reliability and operational functionality, PG&E proposes to install a minor relocation of the Rio Bravo Tomato Tap 115 kV Power Line by installing approximately 500 feet of new power line supported by six new light-duty steel poles (all approximately 35 feet in height, at two locations consisting of 3-poles at each location) and one tubular steel pole with switch (approximately 85 feet in height) (minor relocation). This minor relocation will be located approximately 5000 feet southwesterly of the intersection of State Route 58 and State Route 5. Near this location, PG&E also proposes to replace one existing wood pole (approximately 60 feet in height) with one new tubular steel pole and switch (approximately 85 feet in height), and replace one existing wood pole with a new light-duty steel pole, similar in height. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in April 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and is scheduled for completion in April 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

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:

- Increase the height of six towers adjacent to residential land use approximately 10 feet, more than otherwise required, to reduce EMF strength at ground level;

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.
- 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 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 16, 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.

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

Midway-Renfro and Midway-Rio Bravo-Renfro 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project (Kern County)

Advice 3808-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 Kern

Lorelei H. Oviatt, Director
Planning and Community Development
Public Services Building
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

City of Bakersfield

Jim Eggert, Planning Director
Development Services Planning Division
1600 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Newspaper

Bakersfield Californian

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	