

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 18, 2012

**Advice Letter 3926-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-Merced Falls 70 kV Power Line  
Relocation – Bellevue High School (City of Merced)**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3926-E is effective November 13, 2011.

Sincerely,

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

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



**Brian K. Cherry**  
Vice President  
Regulation and Rates

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10C  
P.O. Box 770000  
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415-973-6520

October 14, 2011

**Advice 3926-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-Merced Falls 70kV Power Line  
Relocation – Bellevue High School (City 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**

PG&E has been requested by the City of Merced and the Merced Union High School District to relocate approximately 3,300 feet of the existing Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Power Line within a franchise located in the City of Merced, Merced County. The power line, which is currently located on the west side of “G” Street just north of East Bellevue Road, will be relocated into a new franchise location (existing franchise) on the east side of “G” street, and will allow improvements to be made along the west side of “G” Street in connection with the construction of the new Bellevue High School. PG&E will remove approximately nine existing wood poles (approximately 60 feet in height), and install approximately five new wood poles and five new light duty steel poles that will weather to resemble wood. The new poles will be approximately 65 to 85 feet in height to provide EMF reduction and to maintain adequate clearances for distribution underbuild. In addition, PG&E proposes to install an overhead guy wire (crosses over “G” Street), a stub pole and anchor guy wire on the east side of “G” street at a location approximately 700 feet north of Farmland Avenue. Work will begin in December 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by April 2012, 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 exemption(s):

- g) Power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road-widening setback easement, or public utility easement.

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 eight poles by five 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 **November 3, 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: [ijnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ijnj@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

Brian K. Cherry  
Vice President, Regulation and Rates  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C  
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 **November 13, 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) #: **3926-E**

Tier: **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Power Line Relocation – Bellevue High School (City 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: **November 13, 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: Brian K. Cherry**  
**Vice President, Regulation and Rates**  
**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 Power Line Relocation – Bellevue High School (City of Merced)**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3926-E**

**Proposed Project:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has been requested by the City of Merced and the Merced Union High School District to relocate approximately 3,300 feet of the existing Merced-Merced Falls 70kV Power Line within a franchise located in the City of Merced, Merced County. The power line, which is currently located on the west side of "G" Street just north of East Bellevue Road, will be relocated into a new franchise location (existing franchise) on the east side of "G" street, and will allow improvements to be made along the west side of "G" Street in connection with the construction of the new Bellevue High School. PG&E will remove approximately nine existing wood poles (approximately 60 feet in height), and install approximately five new wood poles and five new light duty steel poles that will weather to resemble wood. The new poles will be approximately 65 to 85 feet in height to provide EMF reduction and to maintain adequate clearances for distribution underbuild. In addition, PG&E proposes to install an overhead guy wire (crosses over "G" Street), a stub pole and anchor guy wire on the east side of "G" street at a location approximately 700 feet north of Farmland Avenue. Work will begin in December 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by 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 eight poles by five 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:

- g) Power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road-widening setback easement, or public utility easement.

**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 November 3, 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-Merced Falls 70kV Power Line Relocation – Bellevue High School (City of Merced)**

Advice 3926-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

#### **City of Merced**

Merced Civic Center  
Attn: Planning Director  
678 West 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

#### **County of Merced**

Merced Planning & Community Development  
Department  
Attn: Paul A. Fillebrown  
Interim Director  
2222 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340

#### **Newspaper**

Merced Sun-Star

## PG&E Gas and Electric Advice Filing List

AT&T	Dept of General Services	Northern California Power Association
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Douglass & Liddell	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
Ameresco	Downey & Brand	OnGrid Solar
Anderson & Poole	Duke Energy	Praxair
Arizona Public Service Company	Economic Sciences Corporation	R. W. Beck & Associates
BART	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	RCS, Inc.
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Foster Farms	Recurrent Energy
Bartle Wells Associates	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Bloomberg	GLJ Publications	SCE
Bloomberg New Energy Finance	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SMUD
Boston Properties	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SPURR
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.	Green Power Institute	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
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
City of San Jose	Modesto Irrigation District	Turlock Irrigation District
Clean Energy Fuels	Morgan Stanley	United Cogen
Coast Economic Consulting	Morrison & Foerster	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	NLine Energy, Inc.	Utility Specialists
Consumer Federation of California	NRG West	Verizon
Crossborder Energy	NaturEner	Wellhead Electric Company
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	Navigant Consulting	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Day Carter Murphy	Norris & Wong Associates	eMeter Corporation
Defense Energy Support Center	North America Power Partners	
Department of Water Resources	North Coast SolarResources	