

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 7, 2012

**Advice Letters 4029-E and 4029-E-A**

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: Request for Section 320 Scenic Highway Deviation – Relocation of Poles Along Highway 12 at Madrone Road in Sonoma County and Supplemental Filing**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letters 4029-E and 4029-E-A are effective June 21, 2012.

Sincerely,

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

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



May 2, 2012

**Advice 4029-E-A**

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject:** Supplement to PG&E's Advice 4029-E - Request for Section 320  
Scenic Highway Deviation - Relocation of Poles Along Highway 12 at  
Madrone Road in Sonoma County

**Purpose**

This supplemental filing revises advice 4029-E in part to update the engineering description of the proposed project to reflect current working conditions in the relocation area and to provide an explanation as to why the relocation of Pacific Gas and Electric's ("PG&E") overhead powerlines to accommodate the Highway 12 widening project at Madrone Road is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") review.

All other sections of PG&E's Advice Letter 4029-E, including all attachments, are current and unaffected by the engineering description, and CEQA revisions.

**Background**

In Advice Letter 4029-E, PG&E filed a request for an order from the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC" or "Commission") granting it a deviation from Public Utilities Code Section 320 to allow the overhead relocation of 4 wood poles and an existing wood stub pole and guy in an existing 12-kilovolt ("kV") distribution pole line located along the west side of California Highway Route 12 at the Madrone Road intersection in the County of Sonoma. Public Utilities Code Section 320 and Decision 80864 require that new construction of powerlines within 1000 feet of a scenic highway be undergrounded, unless the CPUC grants a deviation request.

Shortly after PG&E filed Advice 4029-E with the Commission, PG&E learned from the California Department of Transportation ("Caltrans") that Caltrans was unable to acquire an easement for an area of land that was necessary for the engineering of the wood stub pole and guy on the east side of Highway 12. Also, to minimize

impacts to a mature oak tree in the relocation area, PG&E will relocate and replace poles P2 and P10 with 65 foot poles instead of 55 foot poles.

To accommodate the most current working conditions of Caltrans' Highway 12 widening project at Madrone Road, PG&E has revised the engineering description that it provided in Advice Letter 4029-E, page 2, paragraph 1 below using strikethrough and underline.

“Overhead relocation of the subject facilities would require the replacement of one (1) existing 45-foot ~~and wood pole~~, three (3) existing 55-foot wood poles ~~and one (1) existing 30-foot stub pole and guy~~ with new wood poles of similar size. Pole P2 and Pole P10 would be replaced by 65 foot poles to minimize impact on a mature oak tree. The new poles would be installed using avian-safe design standards, and would be relocated in an easement from the adjacent property owner to be acquired by Caltrans. The existing stub pole and guy would be replaced with a 60-foot tall dead end pole interset in the existing distribution pole line that runs westerly from Highway 12. Existing secondary wires will be replaced by a single service wire and the transformer will be installed on pole P2 or the new stub pole. New anchors would be installed at both ends of the project to support the changed angle of the line. The approximate length of the relocated spans would be 1,300 feet. Two existing overhead transformers would be replaced and the primary switch and recloser would be transferred to one of the new poles. The existing primary wire would be transferred to the new pole line and lengthened accordingly. The secondary wire service at pole P10 would be undergrounded. Distribution poles and overhead lines would be relocated to clear the proposed improvements. The existing poles along Hwy 12 do not currently have telephone and cable television lines on them.”

While making revisions to the engineering description, PG&E discovered that it inadvertently did not include an explanation as to why the PG&E's pole relocation activities are exempt from CEQA. To provide explanation as to why PG&E believes the relocation of its overhead poles is exempt from CEQA review see immediately below in strikethrough and underline revisions to Advice Letter 4029-E, page 3, paragraph 5.

“An environmental review of the roadway improvement project has been performed and the determination was that the project does not damage a scenic resource within a designated scenic highway (Attachment 5). Caltrans has determined that the project is Categorically Exempt from CEQA and qualifies for a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion from NEPA (Attachment 5). Due to the amount of time that had passed since the NEPA/CEQA environmental analysis for the project was approved a NEPA/CEQA re-validation review was undertaken and approved

(Attachment 6). Additionally, PG&E has found that the relocation of its poles for this project qualifies for a 15302c CEQA exemption."

All other sections of PG&E's Advice Letter 4029-E, including all attachments, are current and unaffected by the engineering description, and CEQA revisions to page 2, paragraph 1 and page 3, paragraph 5, respectively.

### **Protests**

As permitted by General Order 96-B, Section 7.5.1, Additional Information; Supplements, PG&E requests that this supplemental advice letter not reopen the protest period established in Advice Letter 4029-E, **which is currently scheduled to end on May 7**. Protests should be mailed to:

CPUC Energy Division  
Tariff Files, Room 4005  
DMS Branch  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200  
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Copies 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:

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, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-6520  
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

**Effective Date**

PG&E requests that Advice 4029-E and this supplemental Advice 4029-E-A, become effective concurrently by a vote of the full Commission.

**Notice**

In accordance with General Order 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. Address changes to the General Order 96-B service list and all electronic approvals should be directed to e-mail PGETariffs@pge.com. For changes to any other service list, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or at Process\_Office@cpuc.ca.gov. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.



Vice President – Regulation and Rates

cc: Merideth Sterkel – CPUC Energy Division  
David Lee – CPUC Energy Division  
Eric Schen – Caltrans District 4 Project Manager  
Thomas O’Kane, Jr. – County of Sonoma Department of Transportation  
and Public Works Deputy Director

# 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 E)**

Utility type:

ELC       GAS  
 PLC       HEAT       WATER

Contact Person: Kimberly Chang

Phone #: 415-972-5472

E-mail: kwcc@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) #: **4029-E-A**

**Tier: 3**

Subject of AL: **Supplement to PG&E's Advice 4029-E - Request for Section 320 Scenic Highway Deviation - Relocation of Poles Along Highway 12 at Madrone Road in Sonoma 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 #: D.80864

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? No. If so, identify the prior AL: N/A

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL: N/A

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? No.

If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for: N/A

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: N/A

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: Upon Commission Approval      No. of tariff sheets: N/A  
(Concurrent with Advice Letter 4029-E)

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:

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**

**E-mail: EDTariffUnit@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**

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

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
BART	Economic Sciences Corporation	R. W. Beck & Associates
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	RCS, Inc.
Bartle Wells Associates	Foster Farms	Recurrent Energy
Bloomberg	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Bloomberg New Energy Finance	GLJ Publications	SCE
Boston Properties	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SMUD
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SPURR
Brookfield Renewable Power	Green Power Institute	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
CA Bldg Industry Association	Hanna & Morton	Seattle City Light
CLECA Law Office	Hitachi	Sempra Utilities
CSC Energy Services	In House Energy	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	International Power Technology	Silicon Valley Power
California Energy Commission	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Silo Energy LLC
California League of Food Processors	Lawrence Berkeley National Lab	Southern California Edison Company
California Public Utilities Commission	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Spark Energy, L.P.
Calpine	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	Sun Light & Power
Cardinal Cogen	MAC Lighting Consulting	Sunrun Inc.
Casner, Steve	MBMC, Inc.	Sunshine Design
Center for Biological Diversity	MRW & Associates	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Chris, King	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
City of Palo Alto	McKenzie & Associates	Tecogen, Inc.
City of Palo Alto Utilities	Merced Irrigation District	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
City of San Jose	Modesto Irrigation District	TransCanada
City of Santa Rosa	Morgan Stanley	Turlock Irrigation District
Clean Energy Fuels	Morrison & Foerster	United Cogen
Coast Economic Consulting	Morrison & Foerster LLP	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	