

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 18, 2013

**Advice Letter 4317-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 GO 131-D, for the Construction of Lamont Substation Expansion for the FRV Regulus Solar Project Interconnection, Kern County**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 4317-E is effective December 15, 2013.

Sincerely,

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

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division

November 15, 2013

**Advice 4317-E**

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D,  
for the Construction of Lamont Substation Expansion for the FRV  
Regulus Solar Project Interconnection, Kern County**

**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**

To accommodate the interconnection of SunEdison's planned FRV Regulus Solar Generation Facility (larger project CEQA), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has been requested to expand the existing Lamont Substation, located at the northwest corner of E. Panama Lane and Malaga Road in Kern County, by approximately 5 acres to the west to accommodate a new 115 kV switching station. PG&E will install switching station equipment, two small buildings, and an approximately 120-foot-tall microwave tower. To interconnect the switching station, PG&E will relocate and add a new circuit to a portion of the Grimmway-Malaga Tap 115 kV Power Line that currently extends along the west side of Malaga Road. The work will begin at Malaga Road and E. Panama Lane, and extend west along E. Panama Lane approximately 650 feet, turning into Lamont Substation from the south (minor relocation). PG&E will replace one existing 75-foot-tall tubular-steel pole and one existing 75-foot-tall wood pole with up to 8 approximately 70- to 115-foot-tall tubular steel poles to support the new lines. PG&E will also loop approximately 1000 feet of the existing Wheeler Ridge-Lamont 115kV Power Line and the existing Kern-Lamont 115kV Power Line into and out of the new switching station from the north (existing easement, minor relocation). To accommodate construction, PG&E will temporarily move one span (approximately 950 feet) of both lines to the north of the existing alignment (temporary minor relocation) using one or more temporary wood poles to keep the lines in service but away from the construction area. For the work on these two lines, PG&E will replace one 95-foot tall wood pole, one 80-foot tall wood pole and one 65-foot tall wood pole with up to

approximately 6 new tubular-steel poles, approximately 65- to 80-feet tall. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in February 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, and is planned to be completed by December 2014 or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirements to file an application requesting authority to construct. The Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemptions(s):

- 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 support structures;
- f) power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation;
- 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 of EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

County of Kern adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the FRV Regulus Solar Generation Facility, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2011111027 [Weblink: <http://pcd.kerndsa.com/planning/environmental-documents/253-frv-valley-solar-project>]).

### **Protests**

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, any of which must be received no later than December 5, 2013, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to:

CPUC Energy Division  
ED Tariff Unit  
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200  
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@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, Regulatory Relations  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C  
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-7226  
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**

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on regular notice, December 15, 2013, which is 30 calendar days after the date of filing. (In accordance with G.O. 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice if 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/>.

*Brian Cherry /IG*

Vice President, Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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

# 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: Igor Grinberg

Phone #: 415-973-8580

E-mail: ixg8@pge.com and PGETariffs@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) #: **4317-E**

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of Lamont Substation Expansion for the FRV Regulus Solar Project Interconnection, 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 AL: N/A

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? 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: **December 15, 2013**

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: 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:

Director, Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Attn: Brian K. Cherry, Vice President, Regulatory Relations  
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:** Lamont Substation Expansion for the FRV Regulus Solar Project Interconnection, Kern County  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER:** 4317-E

**Proposed Project:** To accommodate the interconnection of SunEdison's planned FRV Regulus Solar Generation Facility (larger project CEQA), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has been requested to expand the existing Lamont Substation, located at the northwest corner of E. Panama Lane and Malaga Road in Kern County, by approximately 5 acres to the west to accommodate a new 115 kV switching station. PG&E will install switching station equipment, two small buildings, and an approximately 120-foot-tall microwave tower. To interconnect the switching station, PG&E will relocate and add a new circuit to a portion of the Grimmway-Malaga Tap 115 kV Power Line that currently extends along the west side of Malaga Road. The work will begin at Malaga Road and E. Panama Lane, and extend west along E. Panama Lane approximately 650 feet, turning into Lamont Substation from the south (minor relocation). PG&E will replace one existing 75-foot-tall tubular-steel pole and one existing 75-foot-tall wood pole with up to 8 approximately 70- to 115-foot-tall tubular steel poles to support the new lines. PG&E will also loop approximately 1000 feet of the existing Wheeler Ridge-Lamont 115kV Power Line and the existing Kern-Lamont 115kV Power Line into and out of the new switching station from the north (existing easement, minor relocation). To accommodate construction, PG&E will temporarily move one span (approximately 950 feet) of both lines to the north of the existing alignment (temporary minor relocation) using one or more temporary wood poles to keep the lines in service but away from the construction area. For the work on these two lines, PG&E will replace one 95-foot tall wood pole, one 80-foot tall wood pole and one 65-foot tall wood pole with up to approximately 6 new tubular-steel poles, approximately 65- to 80-feet tall. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in February 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, and is planned to be completed by December 2014 or as soon as possible after construction begins.

**Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF):** Pacific Gas and Electric will employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to EMF 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:

- Keep high-current devices, transformers, capacitors, and reactors away from the substation property lines.
- Locate new substation expansion close to existing power lines to the extent practical.
- Increase the substation property boundary to the extent practical.
- Compacting equipment within the substation.

**Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement:** CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirements to file an application requesting authority to construct. Pacific Gas and Electric Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemption(s):

- 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 support structures;
- f) power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation;
- 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 of EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

County of Kern adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the FRV Regulus Solar Generation Facility, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2011111027 [Weblink: <http://pcd.kerndsa.com/planning/environmental-documents/253-frv-valley-solar-project>]).

**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 5, 2013 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**

Lamont Substation Expansion for the FRV Regulus Solar Project Interconnection

### **Advice 4317-E**

#### **Energy Commission**

Mr. Robert Oglesby, Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Drew Bohan, Chief Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

#### **California Department of Fish and Game**

Ms. Sarah Bahm  
Environmental Scientist  
CA Department of Fish and Game, Central Region  
1234 E. Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710

#### **County of Kern**

Ms. Lorelei H. Oviatt, Director  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

#### **Newspaper**

The Bakersfield Californian

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

1st Light Energy	Douglass & Liddell	OnGrid Solar
AT&T	Downey & Brand	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Praxair
Anderson & Poole	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
BART	GenOn Energy Inc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SCE
Bartle Wells Associates	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SDG&E and SoCalGas
Braun Blasing McLaughlin, P.C.	Green Power Institute	SPURR
CENERGY POWER	Hanna & Morton	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	In House Energy	Seattle City Light
California Energy Commission	International Power Technology	Sempra Utilities
California Public Utilities Commission	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Slice-Energy
California State Association of Counties	K&L Gates LLP	SoCalGas
Calpine	Kelly Group	Southern California Edison Company
Casner, Steve	Linde	Spark Energy
Center for Biological Diversity	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Sun Light & Power
City of Palo Alto	MRW & Associates	Sunshine Design
City of San Jose	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tecogen, Inc.
Clean Power	Marin Energy Authority	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	TransCanada
Commercial Energy	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Cost Management
County of Tehama - Department of Public Works	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Power Solutions
Crossborder Energy	Morgan Stanley	Utility Specialists
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Verizon
Day Carter Murphy	NRG Solar	Water and Energy Consulting
Defense Energy Support Center	Nexant, Inc.	Wellhead Electric Company
Dept of General Services	North America Power Partners	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Division of Ratepayer Advocates	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.	