

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 20, 2014

**Advice Letter 4349-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 Cortina #3 60 kV Power Line Pole Replacement  
Project in the City of Colusa and Colusa County**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 4349-E is effective February 14, 2014.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward F. Randolph".

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



**Brian K. Cherry**  
Vice President  
Regulatory Relations

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

Fax: 415-973-7226

January 22, 2014

**Advice 4349-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 Cortina #3 60 KV Power Line Pole Replacement Project in the City of Colusa and Colusa County)**

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 provide reliable electric transmission service and reduce the risk of outages in Colusa County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is proposing to replace approximately 68 of the approximately 146 existing 42- to 62-foot-tall wooden poles on an approximately 4½-mile segment of the existing Cortina #3 60 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line (existing easement). The new wooden poles will be approximately the same height or approximately 10 feet taller to provide the required ground-to-conductor clearance established in the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 (equivalent structures). PG&E will also perform minor modifications to existing poles on the line, such as reframing the arms, installing vibration dampers, and placing bird strike deterrents. The segment generally encircles the southern half of Colusa. It begins near the bend on Wilson Avenue, and parallels the road heading south for approximately 1 mile before continuing southerly across rice fields for approximately ½ mile. The segment then runs easterly across the agricultural lands on the southern edge of developed areas of the city for approximately 2¼ miles. Approximately ½ mile east of Highway 20, the segment turns northerly for

approximately 1½ miles to terminate at Colusa Substation, located at the corner of Main and 1st streets. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in February 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, with completion in December 2014, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1, exempts a utility from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct if a project meets specific conditions. This project qualifies for the following exemptions:

- 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 February 11, 2014, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:

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](mailto: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, February 21, 2014, 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 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 – 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) #: **4349-E**

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Cortina #3 60 KV Power Line Pole Replacement Project in the City of Colusa (Colusa 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: **February 21, 2014**

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: CORTINA #3 60 KV POWER LINE POLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT – (City of Colusa, Colusa County, P. No. 04885)**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 4349-E**

**Proposed Project:** In order to provide reliable electric transmission service and reduce the risk of outages in Colusa County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is proposing to replace approximately 68 of the approximately 146 existing 42- to 62-foot-tall wooden poles on an approximately 4½-mile segment of the existing Cortina #3 60 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line (existing easement). The new wooden poles will be approximately the same height or approximately 10 feet taller to provide the required ground-to-conductor clearance established in the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 (equivalent structures). PG&E will also perform minor modifications to existing poles on the line, such as reframing the arms, installing vibration dampers, and placing bird strike deterrents. The segment generally encircles the southern half of Colusa. It begins near the bend on Wilson Avenue, and parallels the road heading south for approximately 1 mile before continuing southerly across rice fields for approximately ½ mile. The segment then runs easterly across the agricultural lands on the southern edge of developed areas of the city for approximately 2¼ miles. Approximately ½ mile east of Highway 20, the segment turns northerly for approximately 1½ miles to terminate at Colusa Substation, located at the corner of Main and 1st streets. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in February 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, with completion in December 2014, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

**Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement:** CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1, exempts a utility from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct if a project meets specific conditions. This project qualifies for the following exemptions:

- 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.

**Additional Project Information:** To obtain further information on the proposed project, please call PG&E's Project Information Line at (415) 973-5530.

**Public Review Process:** Individuals or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that PG&E 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 February 11, 2014 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

PG&E must respond within five business days of receipt of a protest and serve copies of its response on each protestant and the Energy Division. Within 30 days after PG&E has submitted its response, the CPUC Executive Director 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:** If you need assistance in filing a protest, contact the CPUC Public Advisor:  
 email: [public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov)  
 call: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free), or (415) 703-2074, or TTY (415) 703-5258

**Public Comment:** Even if you do not want to file an official protest to the request, you may still comment on it. To do so, you should send your comments to the Energy Division at the address noted above. Please reference Advice Letter 4349-E.

## **Notice Distribution List**

Cortina #3 60 kV Power Line Reliability Project – (City of Colusa, Colusa County)

### **Advice 4349-E**

#### **Energy Commission**

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

Mr. Roger Johnson, Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

#### **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Ms. J.B. Garcia  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
PG&E Coordinator, North Central Region  
1701 Nimbus Road  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

#### **California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region**

Ms. Elizabeth M. Lee, P.E.  
401 Water Quality Certification/Municipal Storm Water Unit Supervisor  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

#### **County of Colusa**

Mr. Stephen Hackney  
Director of Planning and Building  
220 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Colusa, CA 95932

#### **City of Colusa**

Mr. Brian Stice  
Director of Planning  
425 Webster St.  
Colusa, CA 95932

#### **Newspaper**

Colusa County Sun Herald

**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.	SoCalGas
California State Association of Counties	K&L Gates LLP	Southern California Edison Company
Calpine	Kelly Group	Spark Energy
Casner, Steve	Linde	Sun Light & Power
Center for Biological Diversity	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Sunshine Design
City of Palo Alto	MRW & Associates	Tecogen, Inc.
City of San Jose	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Clean Power	Marin Energy Authority	TransCanada
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Power Solutions
County of Tehama - Department of Public Works	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Specialists
Crossborder Energy	Morgan Stanley	Verizon
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Water and Energy Consulting
Day Carter Murphy	NRG Solar	Wellhead Electric Company
Defense Energy Support Center	Nexant, Inc.	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Dept of General Services	North America Power Partners	
Division of Ratepayer Advocates	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.	