1. **What is the purpose of the Network Controlled Dimmable Streetlight Pilot Program?**

Streetlight and streetlight control technology have made significant technological advances in the past few years. Most existing streetlights served by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) are connected to PG&E's system without meters and are billed using flat rates based on a fixed use calculation for energy consumption for each lamp. Emerging new control technology allows lights to be "dimmed" during low traffic periods of the night, reducing the energy consumed. Unfortunately, without the benefit of an electric meter to verify the reduced energy use, a customer with a dimmable light cannot receive "credit" for the reduction in energy used. This pilot program is intended to explore the potential of the newly emerging control technology to save energy and investigate means for PG&E to ensure that the customer can benefit from the reduced energy use by capturing the energy saved through dimming and providing adjustments to the customer's lighting bill.

2. **Why not simply install meters for the streetlights?**

Existing streetlights are connected in many configurations to the PG&E system. In some cases, the connections are via overhead wires, and in other cases underground connections in boxes at the edge of a roadway are used.

In both instances, installation of an electric meter would be very expensive and impractical, with costs of the meter installation possibly exceeding the value of the energy saved by the dimming control.

3. **Who can participate in the "Limited Pilot Program"?**

Up to five Cities and Counties that own and maintain their street light systems and who are electric customers of PG&E, with unmetered street lights served under rate schedule LS-2A may participate in the pilot, if they meet the requirements of the program.
4. **What are the requirements a City or County must meet to be eligible to participate?**

The program is limited to a total of five participants, with the first two spots reserved for the Cities of San Jose and Oakland, who assisted in the development of the program. The three remaining slots are available to the first customers who secure a reservation for one of the openings in the program.

To determine whether a position in the program is still available, customers should contact PG&E via e-mail at the following address:

   streetlights@pge.com

PG&E will respond indicating whether or not positions in the program are still available.

If positions are available, PG&E will discuss the full requirements and timelines of the program.

It is important that customers involve PG&E early in their processes to ensure that the control systems will meet requirements of the program.

5. **What if a customer wants to review the full details and requirements of the program, but is not ready to request a spot as a participant in the program?**

 Customers wishing to review the content and requirements of the program may view the full content of the documents on-line at:


6. **Can my city install a small number of controls on lights and still participate in the pilot program?**

A minimum of 300 lights must have network control systems installed prior to December 31, 2012 in order to qualify for participation in the program.
7. Is there any cost to the customer to participate in the pilot program?

PG&E has committed to covering the first $150,000 in costs associated with setting up billing adjustments and managing changes necessary to accommodate participants in the program. If records or auditing show that costs will exceed this amount during the pilot program, participants will be notified and PG&E and all participants in the program will need to reach an agreement on cost-sharing for the program to continue. Customers may elect to opt out of the program if it is determined that cost sharing will be required for the program to continue.

8. My city is planning to install LED street lights, but we were not planning to install any form of network control. Is there a requirement to install a networked dimmable control to take advantage of the reduced energy use of the LED lights?

No. PG&E street light rates already include LED lighting as a lamp type, and no special controls are required to take advantage of the cost savings associated with reduced energy use. The pilot program is intended to allow customers to take advantage of the additional savings that may be associated with dimming the LED lights for a portion of each night.

9. Can my monthly energy bill increase as a result of participating in this program?

Because the existing LS-2 streetlight rate schedule assumes flat energy usage averaged throughout the year, while the lights actually operate based on hours of darkness (which vary daily through the year), it is possible that during winter months, even with several hours of dimming, the actual reported energy used by a light may be more than the "standard" LS-2 amount for that light.

Note, however, that during the course of a full year the energy use with a dimming control should be less (if dimming features are used) than the base annual assumption for the same light.