

May 19, 2000

**ADVICE 2000-E**

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California (CPUC)

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the Company) hereby submits, in accordance with Section XI.B of General Order (GO) 131-D, notice of the construction of a power line in the City of Chico and the County of Butte. The Notice described in GO 131-D Section XI., Paragraph C, is submitted as Attachment I.

The Company proposes to construct approximately 15.9 miles of a new 115 kilovolt power line between the Company's Table Mountain Substation in the County of Butte and the Company's Table Mountain-Sycamore Creek 115 kilovolt power line in the City of Chico. As part of the same project, the Company will install 7 tubular steel poles at Butte Substation to rearrange the 115 kilovolt power lines that feed substation. The project is needed to provide adequate power line capacity and voltage support to the area. This will provide for the continued safe and reliable electric service to the existing and planned customers of northern Butte County. Beginning at Table Mountain Substation, approximately 13.2 miles of conductor will be installed in the vacant position of double circuit 115 kilovolt Table Mountain-Butte #2 power line. The Table Mountain-Butte 115 kilovolt line heads north from the substation approximately one mile east of and parallel to State Highway 99 and runs parallel to the Round Mountain-Table Mountain 500 kilovolt power line for approximately four miles. The Table Mountain-Butte 115 kilovolt power line turns in a northwesterly direction and continues to parallel Highway 99 and runs adjacent to the Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) Cottonwood-Elverta 230 kilovolt power line for 9.2 miles. The new line continues on the Table Mountain-Butte steel tower line to where the line ends on the north side of Honey Run Road in the County Butte. The Company proposes to construct 2.6 miles of new 115 kilovolt power line on wood poles in an existing utility easement between Honey Run Road in Butte County and the existing Butte-Sycamore 115 kilovolt power line on Humboldt Road in the City of Chico. The power line runs north and adjacent to the WAPA Cottonwood-Elverta 230 kilovolt power line for approximately 1.5 miles where it turns westerly and parallels the north side of Stilson Canyon Road in the City of Chico. The new line crosses Bruce Road and continues west on the north side of Humboldt Road and connects with the Butte-Sycamore power line in the City of Chico. Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2000, and the new facilities should be in operation by November 2000.

Pursuant to Section III, Paragraph B, Subsections 1(b), (e) and (g) of GO 131-D, the relocation of this power line is exempt from a Permit to Construct. Subsection 1(b), (e), and (g) state that a Permit to Construct is not required for "the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures," "the placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on supporting structures already built," and "power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road widening setback easement, or a 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," respectively.

Additionally, GO 131-D requires utilities to employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs). The Company will utilize cross phase design in order to maximize magnetic field cancellation and utilize the triangular configuration of insulators, which reduces EMF strength at ground level as compared to other configurations.

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other rate schedule or rule.

The Company requests that this advice filing become effective on **June 28, 2000**, which is 40 days after the date of filing. (In accordance with GO 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice is first published.)

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by filing a protest with the CPUC and the Company by **June 8, 2000**, at the following address:

Director, Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

Copies shall also be mailed to David T. Kraska, Pacific Gas and Electric Company Law Department; P.O. Box 7442, San Francisco, CA 94105, Facsimile (415) 973-0516 and Les Guliasi, Manager, Regulatory Relations, 77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C, P.O. Box 770000, San Francisco, CA 94177, Facsimile: (415) 973-7226.

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 General Order 131-D exist.

In accordance with Section III, Paragraph G, of GO 96-A, the Company is electronically and postal mailing copies of this advice letter to the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, including the parties listed in GO 131-D, Section XI, Paragraphs B.1. and B.2. Address change requests should be directed to Nelia Avendano at (415) 973-3529.

Vice President -- Regulatory Relations

Attachments