

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 17, 2008

Advice Letter 3226-E

Brian K. Cherry  
Vice President, Regulatory Relations  
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 General  
Order 131-D, for the Construction of Table Mountain –  
Palermo 230 kV Reconductoring Project, County of  
Butte

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3226-E is effective April 6, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean H. Gallagher".

Sean H. Gallagher, 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

March 7, 2008

**Advice 3226-E  
(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39E)**

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D,  
for the Construction of Table Mountain – Palermo 230kV  
Reconductoring Project, County of Butte**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (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 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

**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 continue to maintain service reliability and meet increasing electric load demands in Sutter and Yuba Counties and to allow development of renewable resources in the area (hydroelectric generation produced around the Feather River, Lake Oroville, and North Yuba River), Pacific Gas and Electric Company is proposing to replace the wires (placing of new conductors and accessories) on the existing Table Mountain-Palermo 230kV tower line in a rural area between Table Mountain Substation (northwest of the City of Oroville) and Palermo Substation (southeast of the City of Oroville) in Butte County, a distance of approximately 14 miles. The project begins at Table Mountain Substation and extends east approximately eight miles, crossing Hwy 70 mid-way before reaching Lake Oroville Dam. The line is immediately adjacent to and parallels three other high-voltage transmission lines along this open space section. At Oroville Dam, the transmission line turns and extends approximately six miles due south through rural eastern Oroville, crossing the Feather River at its north end and Oroville Dam Boulevard, Olive Highway, Mount Ida Road, Foothill Boulevard, and Lower Wyandotte Road before turning due west into the Palermo Substation. In order to maintain minimum ground clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, approximately 23 towers must be raised by approximately seventeen feet. Construction

is scheduled to begin in April, 2008, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation beginning in June, 2008, or as soon as possible after project completion.

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

- "placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on or replacement of supporting structures already built."

Additionally, G.O. 131-D requires utilities to employ "no cost" and specified "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) in 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 measure is proposed for this project:

- Optimize phase configuration by "cross-phasing" individual circuits to cancel magnetic fields.

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 letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, all of which must be received no later than **March 27, 2008**, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. 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: [jjj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jjj@cpuc.ca.gov) and [mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)

Copies of protests 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:

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**

The Company requests that this advice filing become effective on **April 6, 2008**, which is 30 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**

In accordance with G.O. 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, 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. Address changes to

the General Order 96-B service list should be directed to Rose de la Torre at (415) 973-4716. Send all electronic approvals to PGETariffs@pge.com. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs>.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Cherry / mt".

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 M)**

Utility type:

ELC

GAS

PLC

HEAT

WATER

Contact Person: Linda Tom-Martinez

Phone #: (415) 973-4612

E-mail: lmt1@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) #: **3226-E**

**Tier: N/A**

Subject of AL: Table Mountain-Palermo 230kV Reconductoring (County of Butte)

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<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for:

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement:  Yes  No

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: **April 6, 2008**

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<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: 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:

**CPUC, Energy Division**

**Tariff Files, Room 4005**

**DMS Branch**

**505 Van Ness Ave.,**

**San Francisco, CA 94102**

**jnj@cpuc.ca.gov and mas@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: TABLE MOUNTAIN – PALERMO 230kV RECONDUCTORING, COUNTY OF BUTTE**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3226-E**

**Proposed Project:** To continue to maintain service reliability and meet increasing electric load demands in Sutter and Yuba Counties, and to allow development of renewable resources in the area (hydroelectric generation produced around the Feather River, Lake Oroville, and North Yuba River), Pacific Gas and Electric Company is proposing to replace the wires (replacement of new conductors and accessories) on the existing Table Mountain-Palermo 230kV tower line in a rural area between Table Mountain Substation (northwest of the City of Oroville) and Palermo Substation (southeast of the City of Oroville) in Butte County, a distance of approximately 14 miles. The project begins at Table Mountain Substation and extends east approximately eight miles, crossing Hwy 70 mid-way before reaching Lake Oroville Dam. The line is immediately adjacent to and parallels three other high-voltage transmission lines along this open space section. At Oroville Dam, the transmission line turns and extends approximately six miles due south through rural eastern Oroville, crossing the Feather River at its north end and Oroville Dam Boulevard, Olive Highway, Mount Ida Road, Foothill Boulevard, and Lower Wyandotte Road before turning due west into the Palermo Substation. In order to maintain minimum ground clearance as required by the Commission's General Order 95, approximately 23 towers must be raised by approximately seventeen feet. Construction is scheduled to begin in April, 2008, and the new facilities are planned to be in operation beginning in June, 2008, or as soon as possible after project completion.

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

- Optimize phase configuration by "cross-phasing" individual circuits to cancel magnetic fields.

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

- "placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on or replacement of supporting structures already built."

**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 March 27, 2008, at the following address:***

CPUC Energy Division  
 Attn: Tariff Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 California Public Utilities Commission  
 505 Van Ness Avenue  
 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.

**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**

### **TABLE MOUNTAIN – PALERMO 230kV RECONDUCTORING, COUNTY OF BUTTE** Advice 3226-E

#### **Energy Commission**

Ms. Melissa Jones, Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Terry O'Brien, Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

#### **County of Butte**

Charles Thistlethwaite  
Manager, Planning Division  
7 County Center Drive  
Oroville, CA 95965  
(530) 538-7601

#### **Newspaper**

Oroville Mercury Register  
P.O. Box 651  
2081 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Oroville, CA 95965  
(530) 533-3131

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

ABAG Power Pool	Douglass & Liddell	PG&E National Energy Group
Accent Energy	Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer	Pinnacle CNG Company
Aglet Consumer Alliance	Duke Energy	PITCO
Agnews Developmental Center	Duke Energy North America	Plurimi, Inc.
Ahmed, Ali	Duncan, Virgil E.	PPL EnergyPlus, LLC
Alcantar & Kahl	Dutcher, John	Praxair, Inc.
Ancillary Services Coalition	Dynergy Inc.	Price, Roy
Anderson Donovan & Poole P.C.	Ellison Schneider	Product Development Dept
Applied Power Technologies	Energy Law Group LLP	R. M. Hairston & Company
APS Energy Services Co Inc	Energy Management Services, LLC	R. W. Beck & Associates
Arter & Hadden LLP	Exelon Energy Ohio, Inc	Recon Research
Avista Corp	Exeter Associates	Regional Cogeneration Service
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Foster Farms	RMC Lonestar
BART	Foster, Wheeler, Martinez	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Bartle Wells Associates	Franciscan Mobilehome	SCD Energy Solutions
Blue Ridge Gas	Future Resources Associates, Inc	Seattle City Light
Bohannon Development Co	G. A. Krause & Assoc	Sempra
BP Energy Company	Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation	Sempra Energy
Braun & Associates	GLJ Energy Publications	Sequoia Union HS Dist
C & H Sugar Co.	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz &	SESCO
CA Bldg Industry Association	Hanna & Morton	Sierra Pacific Power Company
CA Cotton Ginners & Growers Assoc.	Heeg, Peggy A.	Silicon Valley Power
CA League of Food Processors	Hitachi Global Storage Technologies	Smurfit Stone Container Corp
CA Water Service Group	Hogan Manufacturing, Inc	Southern California Edison
California Energy Commission	House, Lon	SPURR
California Farm Bureau Federation	Imperial Irrigation District	St. Paul Assoc
California Gas Acquisition Svcs	Integrated Utility Consulting Group	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
California ISO	International Power Technology	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Calpine	Interstate Gas Services, Inc.	Tecogen, Inc
Calpine Corp	IUCG/Sunshine Design LLC	TFS Energy
Calpine Gilroy Cogen	J. R. Wood, Inc	Transcanada
Cambridge Energy Research Assoc	JTM, Inc	Turlock Irrigation District
Cameron McKenna	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps	U S Borax, Inc
Cardinal Cogen	Manatt, Phelps & Phillips	United Cogen Inc.
Cellnet Data Systems	Marcus, David	URM Groups
Chevron Texaco	Matthew V. Brady & Associates	Utility Resource Network
Chevron USA Production Co.	Maynor, Donald H.	Wellhead Electric Company
City of Glendale	MBMC, Inc.	White & Case
City of Healdsburg	McKenzie & Assoc	WMA
City of Palo Alto	McKenzie & Associates	
City of Redding	Meek, Daniel W.	
CLECA Law Office	Mirant California, LLC	
Commerce Energy	Modesto Irrigation Dist	
Constellation New Energy	Morrison & Foerster	
CPUC	Morse Richard Weisenmiller & Assoc.	
Cross Border Inc	Navigant Consulting	
Crossborder Inc	New United Motor Mfg, Inc	
CSC Energy Services	Norris & Wong Associates	
Davis, Wright, Tremaine LLP	North Coast Solar Resources	
Defense Fuel Support Center	Northern California Power Agency	
Department of the Army	Office of Energy Assessments	
Department of Water & Power City	OnGrid Solar	
DGS Natural Gas Services	Palo Alto Muni Utilities	