February 13, 2009

Advice Letter 3396-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 Replacement of Approximately 34 Wood Power Poles in the Merced #1 70 kV Power Line – County of Madera

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3396-E is effective February 6, 2009.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Fitch, Director
Energy Division
January 7, 2009

Advice 3396-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 Replacement of Approximately 34 Wood Power Poles in the Merced #1 70kV Power Line - County of Madera

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 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 accommodate the replacement of 12 Kilovolt (12kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced #1 70 Kilovolt (70kV) power line in the County of Madera, the Company will be replacing approximately 34 wood power poles (replacement of existing facilities) in the existing Merced #1 70kV power line. The replacement of the 12kV distribution wires is needed to continue to provide for the increasing electrical demand and to improve reliability in the northerly portions of Madera County. The line is located in a rural agricultural area along the easterly side of Road 4 (existing franchise) in Madera County, starting at a point where the power line crosses (from the westerly side to the easterly side of) Road 4 approximately 1 mile southerly of State Highway 152 and extending southerly along the easterly side of Road 4 approximately 2 miles to the Avenue 20 alignment. In order to maintain legal ground clearances, the poles will be increased approximately 5 feet in height (most existing poles are approximately 55 feet tall), and the two most northerly 55-foot tall wood poles (one on the westerly side and the other on the easterly side of Road 4) will be raised approximately 15 feet in height to accommodate the framing required for the power line to cross Road 4. Work is scheduled to begin in February 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by May 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible.
CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, 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 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 **January 27, 2009**, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:

CPUC Energy Division  
Tariff Files, Room 4005  
DMS Branch  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200  
E-Mail: jnj@cpuc.ca.gov and 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
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 **February 6, 2009**, 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/.

Vice President - Regulatory Relations

Attachments

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

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**EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELC = Electric</th>
<th>GAS = Gas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLC = Pipeline</td>
<td>HEAT = Heat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER = Water</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Advice Letter (AL) #:** 3396-E  
**Tier**: N/A  
**Subject of AL**: Replacement of Approximately 34 Wood Poles in the Merced #1 70kV Power Line (County of Madera)  
**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: ________________

**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**: February 6, 2009  
**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

**Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets**: N/A

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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

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**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:  Merced #1 70kV – Distribution Reconstructor Project, County of Madera
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER:  3396-E

Proposed Project: In order to accommodate the replacement of 12 Kilovolt (12kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced #1 70 Kilovolt (70kV) power line in the County of Madera, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) will be replacing approximately 34 wood power poles (replacement of existing facilities) in the existing Merced #1 70kV power line. The replacement of the 12kV distribution wires is needed to continue to provide for the increasing electrical demand and to improve reliability in the northerly portions of Madera County. The line is located in a rural agricultural area along the easterly side of Road 4 (existing franchise) in Madera County, starting at a point where the power line crosses (from the westerly side to the easterly side of) Road 4 approximately 1 mile southerly of State Highway 152 and extending southerly along the easterly side of Road 4 approximately 2 miles to the Avenue 20 alignment. In order to maintain legal ground clearances, the poles will be increased approximately 5 feet in height (most existing poles are approximately 55 feet tall), and the two most northerly 55-foot tall wood poles (one on the westerly side and the other on the easterly side of Road 4) will be raised approximately 15 feet in height to accommodate the framing required for the power line to cross Road 4. Work is scheduled to begin in February 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by May 2009, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement:  CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III. B.1, 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 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.

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

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 January 27, 2009, 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.

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

Merced #1 70kV – Distribution Reconductor Project, County of Madera

Advice 3396-E

Energy Commission

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 Madera

Madera County Planning Department
Attn: Jerald C. James, Planning Director
2037 W. Cleveland Ave M.S. G
Madera, CA 93637

Newspaper

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

Aglet
Agnews Developmental Center
Alcantar & Kahl
Ancillary Services Coalition
Anderson & Poole
Arizona Public Service Company
BART
BP Energy Company
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.
Bartle Wells Associates
Blue Ridge Gas
Braun & Associates
C & H Sugar Co.
CA Bldg Industry Association
CAISO
CLECA Law Office
CSC Energy Services
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn
California Energy Commission
California League of Food Processors
California Public Utilities Commission
Calpine
Cameron McKenna
Cardinal Cogen
Casner, Steve
Cerox
Chamberlain, Eric
Chevron Company
Chris, King
City of Glendale
City of Palo Alto
City of San Jose
Clean Energy Fuels
Coast Economic Consulting
Commerce Energy
Commercial Energy
Constellation
Constellation New Energy
Consumer Federation of California
Crossborder Energy
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
Day Carter Murphy
Defense Energy Support Center
Department of Water Resources

Department of the Army
Dept of General Services
Division of Business Advisory Services
Douglas & Liddell
Douglas & Liddell
Downey & Brand
Duke Energy
Duncan, Virgil E.
Dutcher, John
Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP
Energy Management Services, LLC
FPL Energy Project Management, Inc.
Foster Farms
Foster, Wheeler, Martinez
Franciscan Mobilehome
G. A. Krause & Assoc.
GLJ Publications
Goodin, MacBridge, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie
Green Power Institute
Hanna & Morton
Heeg, Peggy A.
Hitachi
Hogan Manufacturing, Inc.
Imperial Irrigation District
Inercite
International Power Technology
Intestate Gas Services, Inc.
J. R. Wood, Inc.
JTM, Inc.
Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power
Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP
MBMC, Inc.
MRW & Associates
Manatt Phelps Phillips
Matthew V. Brady & Associates
McKenzie & Associates
Meek, Daniel W.
Merced Irrigation District
Mirant
Modesto Irrigation District
Morgan Stanley
Morrison & Foerster

New United Motor Mfg., Inc.
Norris & Wong Associates
North Coast Solar Resources

Northern California Power Association
Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
OnGrid Solar
PPL EnergyPlus, LLC
Pinnacle CNG Company
Praxair
R. W. Beck & Associates
RCS, Inc.
RMC Lonestar
Recon Research
SCD Energy Solutions
SCE
SESCO
SMUD
SPURR
Santa Fe Jets
Seattle City Light
Sempa Utilities
Sequoia Union HS Dist
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Silicon Valley Power
Smurfit Stone Container Corp
Southern California Edison Company
St. Paul Assoc.
Sunshine Design
Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
TFS Energy
Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Tecogen, Inc.
Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Tioga Energy
TransCanada
Turlock Irrigation District
U S Borax, Inc.
United Cogen
Utility Cost Management
Utility Resource Network
Utility Specialists
Vandenberg Air Force
Verizon
Wellhead Electric Company
Western Manufactured Housing
Communities Association (WMA)
White & Case
eMeter Corporation