July 10, 2012

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 General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Merced #1 70 kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project in the County of Merced

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3838-E is effective June 2, 2011.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Randolph, Director
Energy Division
May 3, 2011

Advice 3838-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 Merced #1 70 kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project in the County of Merced

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

To accommodate the replacement (reconductoring) of 12 kilovolt (kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced #1 70 kV Power Line in Merced County, PG&E proposes to replace approximately 17 wood poles (replacement of existing facilities) with approximately 17 new wood poles in the rural agricultural area located south of the City of Merced. Reconductoring of the 12 kV distribution wires is needed to serve increasing electrical demand in the surrounding areas. The poles will be replaced along a 1.8-mile power line segment that begins approximately 1,230 feet south of the intersection of East Mission Avenue and State Highway 59, and extending south on the east side of State Highway 59 (existing franchise). In order to meet California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") General Order 95 minimum ground-to-conductor clearance requirements and current design standards, 15 of the 17 new wood poles will be approximately 5 to 15 feet taller and two poles will remain the same height. Work is scheduled to begin in September 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by January 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1.b and g, 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):

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 **May 23, 2011**, 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 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
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 **June 2, 2011**, 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**

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/](http://www.pge.com/tariffs/).

Signed

Brian K. Cherry

Vice President - Regulation and Rates

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

Attachments
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

Advice Letter (AL) #: **3838-E**  
Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: **Merced #1 70 kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project (County of Merced)**

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: **June 2, 2011**  
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

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, Regulation and Rates  
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 70 kV Power Line Pole Replacement Project (Merced County)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 3838-E

Proposed Project: To accommodate the replacement (reconductoring) of 12 kilovolt (kV) distribution wires attached to poles below the Merced #1 70 kV Power Line in Merced County, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) proposes to replace approximately 17 wood poles (replacement of existing facilities) with approximately 17 new wood poles in the rural agricultural area located south of the City of Merced. Reconductoring of the 12 kV distribution wires is needed to serve increasing electrical demand in the surrounding areas. The poles will be replaced along a 1.8-mile power line segment that begins approximately 1,230 feet south of the intersection of East Mission Avenue and State Highway 59, and extending south on the east side of State Highway 59 (existing franchise). In order to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 minimum ground-to-conductor clearance requirements and current design standards, 15 of the 17 new wood poles will be approximately 5 to 15 feet taller and two poles will remain the same height. Work is scheduled to begin in September 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by January 2012, 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. PG&E believes this project qualifies for the following exemption(s):

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
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 May 23, 2011, 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 70 kV Pole Replacement Project
Merced County

Advice 3838-E

Energy Commission

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

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

County of Merced

Paul A. Fillebrown
Interim Director
Merced County Planning & Community Development
2222 “M” St.
Merced, CA 95340

Newspaper

Merced Sun Star
AT&T
Alcantar & Kahl LLP
Ameresco
Anderson & Poole
Arizona Public Service Company
BART
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.
Bartle Wells Associates
Bloomberg
Bloomberg New Energy Finance
Boston Properties
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.
Brookfield Renewable Power
CA Bldg Industry Association
CLECA Law Office
CSC Energy Services
California Cotton Giners & Growers Assn
California Energy Commission
California League of Food Processors
California Public Utilities Commission
Calpine
Cardinal Cogen
Casner, Steve
Chris, King
City of Palo Alto
City of Palo Alto Utilities
Clean Energy Fuels
Coast Economic Consulting
Commercial Energy
Consumer Federation of California
Crossborder Energy
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
Day Carter Murphy
Defense Energy Support Center
Department of Water Resources
Dept of General Services
Douglass & Liddell
Downey & Brand
Duke Energy
Dutcher, John
Economic Sciences Corporation
Elliison Schneider & Harris LLP
Foster Farms
G. A. Krause & Assoc.
GLJ Publications
GenOn Energy, Inc.
Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie
Green Power Institute
Hanna & Morton
Hitachi
In House Energy
International Power Technology
Intestate Gas Services, Inc.
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power
Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP
MAC Lighting Consulting
MBMC, Inc.
MRW & Associates
Manatt Phelps Phillips
McKenzie & Associates
Merced Irrigation District
Modesto Irrigation District
Morgan Stanley
Morrison & Foerster
NLIne Energy, Inc.
NRG West
Navigant Consulting
Norris & Wong Associates
North America Power Partners
North Coast SolarResources
Northern California Power Association
Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
OnGrid Solar
Praxair
R. W. Beck & Associates
RCS, Inc.
Recurrent Energy
SCD Energy Solutions
SCE
SMUD
SPURR
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Santa Fe Jets
Seattle City Light
Sempra Utilities
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Silicon Valley Power
Silo Energy LLC
Southern California Edison Company
Spark Energy, L.P.
Sun Light & Power
Sunshine Design
Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Tecogen, Inc.
Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
TransCanada
Turlock Irrigation District
United Cogen
Utility Cost Management
Utility Specialists
Verizon
Wellhead Electric Company
Western Manufactured Housing
Communities Association (WMA)
eMeter Corporation