October 10, 2011

Advice Letter 3842-E

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 G.O. 131-D, for the Construction of Carrizo-Midway 230 KV Reconductoring Project (Kern County and San Luis Obispo County); Caliente Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County); and Solar Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County)

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 3842-E is effective September 14, 2011 per Resolution E-4434.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Fitch, Director
Energy Division
May 5, 2011

Advice 3842-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 Carrizo-Midway 230 KV Reconductoring Project (Kern County and San Luis Obispo County); Caliente Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County); and Solar Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County)

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 and 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

In order to accommodate up to 800 MW of new renewable energy from the SunPower California Valley Ranch Project and the First Solar Topaz Solar Farm Project, both in San Luis Obispo County, PG&E must replace existing wires with new wires (reconductor) on an approximately 35-mile section of the double-circuit Morro Bay-Midway 230 kV Transmission Line between Solar Switching Station in the community of California Valley in San Luis Obispo County, approximately 10 miles west of the Kern County border, and Midway Substation, in the town of Buttonwillow in Kern County. The line begins approximately one mile west of Tracy Lane in California Valley and trends eastbound approximately one to four miles north of Highway 58 through the Temblor Mountains. The line continues eastbound through the San Joaquin Valley in Kern County approximately 0.25 mile south of Lokern Road and Highway 58, terminating at Midway Substation approximately 0.25 mile west of Wasco Road in Buttonwillow. To support the new
conductor and conform to ground clearance requirements, approximately 85 of
the 171 existing lattice structures (approximately every other tower) will be
modified by raising the height by approximately 20 feet from an average height of
118 feet to a new average height of approximately 127 feet tall. No lattice
structures will be replaced or added. A new optical ground wire (OPGW) and
static ground wire, supported by peak extensions, will be installed along the top
of the existing transmission line from Solar Switching Station to Marisol Road.
The OPGW line will then transfer to an existing distribution wood pole line and
trend north of Marisol Road and east on Highway 58 to an existing underground
conduit box at Midway Substation. The static wire will terminate at a tower
location 0.3 mile east of Marisol Road. Four new wood poles will accommodate
an OPGW clearance under existing foreign lines located 0.25 mile south of
Lokern Road and 0.5 mile west of Highway 33 in Kern County. Work is
scheduled to begin in July 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be
completed by December 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

PG&E will also construct the Caliente Switching Station as part of SunPower’s
California Valley Ranch Project (San Luis Obispo County Conditional Use Permit:
DRC2008-00097). The 4.7-acre switching station is located approximately 2
miles west of the San Luis Obispo-Kern County border and 2 miles north of
Highway 58 in the Temblor Mountains. A new 0.7-mile, 24-foot wide access road
will connect the switching station to an existing access road off of Highway 58.
Two existing lattice structures will be replaced and moved in line on the existing
Morro Bay-Midway 230 kV Transmission Line, and two new towers will be
installed on both sides of the switching station to accommodate interconnection
with the existing transmission line. Two new circuits, approximately 700 feet long
on the west and 950 feet long on the east, will be installed between the Caliente
Switching Station and the Morro Bay-Midway 230kV Transmission Line.
SunPower’s 230kV generation interconnection line will connect to the PG&E
transmission system at the Caliente Switching Station. Before the permanent
interconnection is established, a temporary line will be constructed from
SunPower’s generation interconnection line to the existing Morro Bay-Midway
230 kV Transmission Line. Three wood or light-duty steel poles and one circuit
will be temporarily installed from SunPower’s interconnection line 400 feet north
to the existing Morro Bay-Midway 230 kV Transmission Line. The temporary
facilities will be removed when the permanent interconnection is established.
Work is scheduled to begin in August 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible,
and will be completed by September 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

To connect new electric load from First Solar’s Topaz Solar Farm Project (San
Luis Obispo County Conditional Use Permit: DRC2008-00009), PG&E will
construct the Solar Switching Station, which was also analyzed in the
environmental review for SunPower’s California Valley Ranch Project. The 6.3-
acre switching station is located approximately 10 miles west of the San Luis
Obispo-Kern County border and one mile north of Highway 58 in the community
of California Valley. First Solar will construct an access road to connect the Solar
Switching Station Site to Highway 58. Two existing lattice structures will be replaced and moved in line on the existing Morro Bay-Midway 230 kV Transmission Line, and two new towers will be installed on both sides of the new switching station to accommodate interconnection with the existing transmission line. Two new circuits, approximately 105 feet long, will be installed to connect PG&E’s Solar Switching Station to First Solar’s Topaz Substation. Work is scheduled to begin in September 2011, or as soon thereafter as possible, and will be completed by October 2012, or as soon thereafter as possible.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsections A and B.1, exempt 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):

III.A: “The placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on or replacement of supporting structures already built.”

III.B.1.f: “Power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation.”

The County of San Luis Obispo certified an Environmental Impact Report for the SunPower California Valley Ranch Project on April 19, 2011, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities. (State Clearinghouse #2009021009) http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/environmental/EnvironmentalNotices/sunpower.htm

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 25, 2011, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:
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 4, 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/.

Brian 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**

<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>

**Advice Letter (AL) #:** **3842-E**  
**Tier:** **N/A**

Subject of AL: **Carrizo-Midway 230 kV Reconductoring Project (Kern and San Luis Obispo Counties), Caliente Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County), Solar Switching Station Project (San Luis Obispo County)**

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 4, 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
Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Sections III.A (reconductoring) and III.B.1 (switching stations) 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(s):

- III.A: “The placing of new or additional conductors, insulators, or their accessories on or replacement of supporting structures already built.”
• III.B.1.f: “Power lines or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation.”

The County of San Luis Obispo certified an Environmental Impact Report for the SunPower California Valley Ranch Project on April 19, 2011, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities. (State Clearinghouse #2009021009) (http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/environmental/EnvironmentalNotices/sunpower.htm)

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 25, 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

Carrizo to Midway 230 kV Reconductoring Project
San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties

Advice 3842-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 Kern

Lorelei H. Oviatt
AICP, Director
Public Services Building
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

County of San Luis Obispo

Jason Giffen, Planning Director
SLO County Planning & Building Department - Environmental Division
976 Osos St., Room 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Newspapers

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