

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 12, 2013

**Advice Letter 4236-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: Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the  
Construction of Westlands Solar Farm Project in Fresno County**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letter 4236-E is effective as of July 7, 2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward F. Randolph".

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



**Brian K. Cherry**  
Vice President  
Regulatory Relations

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10B  
P.O. Box 770000  
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415-973-7226

June 7, 2013

**Advice 4236-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 Westlands Solar Farm Project in  
Fresno Counties**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E" or "the Company") hereby submits notice pursuant to General Order (G.O.) 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, 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**

PG&E is proposing a new 70 kV switching station to accept electricity generated from the Westlands Solar Farms Photovoltaic (PV) Generating Plant, a new solar energy project to be located approximately one-half mile to the south of W. Jayne Avenue between Interstate Route 5 and S. Lassen Avenue (larger project CEQA). The new switching, Jayne Switching Station, will be located on approximately five acres south of West Jayne Avenue one-half mile north of the Westlands solar facility and approximately 0.7 miles east of PG&E's existing Gates Substation. PG&E's existing single-circuit Gates-Coalinga 70 kV No. 1 Power Line, located along the south side of West Jayne Avenue (existing easement) will loop in and out of the new Jayne Switching Station. To accomplish this interconnection, PG&E will install approximately 4 new tubular steel poles, approximately the same height as the existing poles, two within the existing easement and two outside of the new switching station. Approximately 2 existing wood poles on the existing line will be removed. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in July 2013, or as soon thereafter as possible and is scheduled for completion by January 2014, 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:

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 Fresno adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration on November 3, 2011 (Notice of Determination was filed on November 8, 2011), which concluded there would be no significant unavoidable environmental impacts as a result of the PG&E interconnection facilities.

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 June 27, 2013, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:

CPUC Energy Division  
ED Tariff Unit  
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200  
E-mail: [EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:EDTariffUnit@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 shall also be sent to PG&E either via E-mail or U.S. mail (and by facsimile, if possible) at the addresses 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, Regulation and Rates  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10B  
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-6520  
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 **July 7, 2013**, 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/>.



Vice President – Regulatory Relations

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

Attachments

# 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 E)**

Utility type:

ELC       GAS  
 PLC       HEAT       WATER

Contact Person: Igor Grinberg

Phone #: 415-973-8580

E-mail: ixg8@pge.com and PGETariffs@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) #: **4236-E**

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of Westlands Solar Farm Project in Fresno Counties**

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: N/A

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

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: N/A

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: **July 7, 2013**

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

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:

Director, Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102

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: Westlands Solar Farms Switching Station Interconnection Project (Fresno County)**  
**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 4236-E**

**Proposed Project:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is proposing a new 70 kV switching station to accept electricity generated from the Westlands Solar Farms Photovoltaic (PV) Generating Plant, a new solar energy project to be located approximately one-half mile to the south of W. Jayne Avenue between Interstate Route 5 and S. Lassen Avenue (larger project CEQA). The new switching, Jayne Switching Station, will be located on approximately five acres south of West Jayne Avenue one-half mile north of the Westlands solar facility and approximately 0.7 miles east of PG&E's existing Gates Substation. PG&E's existing single-circuit Gates-Coalinga 70 kV No. 1 Power Line, located along the south side of West Jayne Avenue (existing easement) will loop in and out of the new Jayne Switching Station. To accomplish this interconnection, PG&E will install approximately 4 new tubular steel poles, approximately the same height as the existing poles, two within the existing easement and two outside of the new switching station. Approximately 2 existing wood poles on the existing line will be removed. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in July 2013, or as soon thereafter as possible and is scheduled for completion by January 2014, or as soon thereafter as possible.

**Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement:** California Public Utilities Commission (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 exemption(s):

- 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 Fresno adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration on November 3, 2011 (Notice of Determination was filed on November 8, 2011), which concluded there would be no significant unavoidable environmental impacts as a result of the PG&E interconnection facilities.

**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 June 27, 2013 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](mailto: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**

Westlands Solar Farms Interconnection and Switching  
Station Project – (Fresno County)

### **Advice 4236-E**

#### **Energy Commission**

Mr. Robert Oglesby, Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Drew Bohan, Chief Deputy Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39  
Sacramento, California 95814

#### **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Sarah Bahm  
Environmental Scientist  
California Department of Fish and Game, Central Region  
1234 E. Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93710

#### **County of Fresno**

Alan Weaver, Director  
Public Works and Planning  
2220 Tulare Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
Fresno, CA 93721

#### **Newspaper**

Fresno Bee

## PG&E Gas and Electric Advice Filing List

1st Light Energy	Downey & Brand	OnGrid Solar
AT&T	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Praxair
Anderson & Poole	GenOn Energy Inc.	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
BART	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SCE
Bartle Wells Associates	Green Power Institute	SDG&E and SoCalGas
Bear Valley Electric Service	Hanna & Morton	SPURR
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.	In House Energy	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
CENERGY POWER	International Power Technology	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	Kelly Group	SoCalGas
California Public Utilities Commission	Linde	Southern California Edison Company
Calpine	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Spark Energy
Casner, Steve	MAC Lighting Consulting	Sun Light & Power
Center for Biological Diversity	MRW & Associates	Sunshine Design
City of Palo Alto	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tecogen, Inc.
City of San Jose	Marin Energy Authority	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Clean Power	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	TransCanada
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Power Solutions
Crossborder Energy	Morgan Stanley	Utility Specialists
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Verizon
Day Carter Murphy	NRG Solar	Water and Energy Consulting
Defense Energy Support Center	Nexant, Inc.	Wellhead Electric Company
Dept of General Services	North America Power Partners	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Douglass & Liddell	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.	