February 3, 2014

Advice Letter 4295-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 FRV Orion Project Interconnection Facilities (Kern County)

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Randell Parker, on behalf of Kern County Advocates for Agriculture, filed a protest of Advice Letter (AL) 4295-E on October 23, 2013. Energy Division has reviewed the protest and determined that the protest is invalid as it failed to comply with the requirements set forth in General Rule 7.4.2 of General Order (GO) 96-B.¹

For the proposed construction project described in AL 4295-E, PG&E cited the following GO 131-D Section III.B.1 exemption to the CPUC’s Permit to Construct application requirements:

(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.

Energy Division has reviewed AL 4295-E, as well as the Kern County FRV Orion Solar Project EIR, and determined that the project falls within and qualifies for this exemption. Additional exemptions cited by PG&E need not be reviewed. Furthermore, none of the GO 131-D Section III.B.2 exceptions to the exemptions apply for this project.

Advice Letter 4295-E is approved, effective February 3, 2014.

Sincerely,

Edward Randolph
Director, Energy Division

Cc: Merideth Sterkel, CPUC Energy Division
Mary Jo Borak, CPUC Energy Division
Jason Coontz, CPUC Energy Division
Polly Shaw, SunEdison, Inc.
Randell Parker, Kern County Advocates for Agriculture

¹Randell Parker also protested AL 4268-E, a Notice of Construction proposed to accommodate the interconnection of SunEdison’s Adobe Solar Project. The interconnection work proposed in AL 4268-E was very similar to the interconnection work proposed in AL 4295-E and Mr. Parker used a parallel argument for both protests. His protest to AL 4268-E was thereafter dismissed as invalid in Resolution E-4619. That Resolution, though not expressly required pursuant to GO 96-B, was written and adopted by the Commission as a courtesy and for the edification of Mr. Parker. Similarly, a Resolution is not required in order to dispose of AL 4295-E.
October 7, 2013

Advice 4295-E
(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, the Construction of FRV Orion Project Interconnection Facilities (Kern County)

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 interconnection of the proposed customer-owned FRV Orion Solar Project in Kern County, the developer has requested Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to connect the existing Weedpatch-San Bernard 70 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line to the solar project’s substation (larger project CEQA) located on the intersection of Herring Road and South Edison Road in Kern County. PG&E will replace two existing 68-foot-tall wood poles with three new tubular-steel poles within PG&E’s existing power line easement (existing easement, interseting additional structures). One additional tubular steel pole will be added to support a line between the existing line and the substation, and another pole will be shortened to accommodate the project. In order to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 minimum clearance requirements and current design standards, the four new poles will be approximately 60 to 80 feet tall to allow for existing distribution wires to be located on the same poles below the power line. Construction is scheduled to currently begin in January 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, with completion in March 2014 or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC’s requirements to file an application requesting authority to construct. The Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemptions(s):

c) the minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the interseting of additional support structures between existing support structures.
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.

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 of EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

County of Kern adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the FRV Orion Solar Generation Facility, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2012031079 [Weblink: http://pcd.kerndsa.com/planning/environmental-documents/286-frv-orion-solar-project]).

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, any of which must be received no later than October 28, 2013, which is 21 days \(^1\) after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to:

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

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@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

\(^1\) The 20-day protest period concludes on a weekend, therefore, PG&E is moving this date to the following business day.
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**

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on **November 6, 2013**, which is 30 calendar days after the date of filing. (In accordance with G.O. 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice if 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
Company name/CPUC Utility No. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 E)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Utility type:</th>
<th>Contact Person: Igor Grinberg</th>
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<tr>
<td>☑ ELC ☐ GAS</td>
<td>Phone #: 415-973-8580</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ PLC ☐ HEAT ☐ WATER</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:ixg8@pge.com">ixg8@pge.com</a> and <a href="mailto:PGETariffs@pge.com">PGETariffs@pge.com</a></td>
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EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE
- ELC = Electric
- GAS = Gas
- PLC = Pipeline
- HEAT = Heat
- WATER = Water

Advice Letter (AL) #: 4295-E Tier: N/A
Subject of AL: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, the Construction of FRV Orion Project Interconnection Facilities (Kern 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: 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: November 6, 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 21 days¹ after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

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

¹ The 20-day protest period concludes on a weekend, therefore, PG&E is moving this date to the following business day.
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NAME:  FRV Orion Solar Project Interconnection to the Weedpatch-San Bernard 70 kV Power Line (Kern County)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER:  4295-E

Proposed Project: In order to accommodate the interconnection of the proposed customer-owned FRV Orion Solar Project in Kern County, the developer has requested PG&E to connect the existing Weepatch-San Bernard 70 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line to the solar project’s substation (larger project CEQA) located on the intersection of Herring Road and South Edison Road in Kern County. PG&E will replace two existing 68-foot-tall wood poles with three new tubular-steel poles within PG&E’s existing power line easement (existing easement, interseting additional structures). One additional tubular steel pole will be added to support a line between the existing line and the substation, and another pole will be shortened to accommodate the project. In order to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 minimum clearance requirements and current design standards, the four new poles will be approximately 60 to 80 feet tall to allow for existing distribution wires to be located on the same poles below the power line. Construction is scheduled to currently begin in January 2014, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place, with completion in March 2014, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC’s requirements to file an application requesting authority to construct. Pacific Gas and Electric Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemption(s):

- c) the minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the interseting of additional support structures between existing support structures.
- 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.
- 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 of EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

County of Kern adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the FRV Orion Solar Generation Facility, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2012031079 [Weblink: http://pcd.kerndsa.com/planning/environmental-documents/286-frv-orion-solar-project]).

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 October 28, 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.

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

FRV Orion Solar Project Interconnection to the Weedpatch-San Bernard 70 kV Power Line, Kern County

Advice 4295-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 Game

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

County of Kern

Ms. Lorelei H. Oviatt, Director
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Newspaper

The Bakersfield Californian
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