July 21, 2015

Advice Letter 4653-E

Eric Jacobson
Director, 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 G.O. 131-D, for the Construction of the Giffen Substation Expansion and Solar Interconnection Project in the County of Fresno

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

Advice Letter 4653-E is effective July 23, 2015.

Sincerely,

Edward Randolph
Director, Energy Division
June 23, 2015

Advisory 4653-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 Giffen Substation Expansion and Solar Interconnection Project in the County of Fresno

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 advisory 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 interconnect Giffen Solar Park Project to the electric transmission system, the developer has requested PG&E to expand the existing Giffen Substation and relocate and loop approximately 1,000 feet of the existing Giffen Tap 70 kV Power Line into and out of the substation (larger project CEQA). Giffen Substation is located immediately northwest of the intersection of Mountain View Avenue and South Stanislaus Avenue in rural Fresno County. The proposed approximately 7-acre expansion will extend the existing substation westward and northward. To support the power line loop, PG&E will interset approximately 1 new tubular steel pole in the existing power line alignment and install approximately 2 new tubular steel poles west of the existing line, adjacent to the north side of expanded substation. In addition, the solar facility developer will own and operate one additional tubular steel pole with a switch to be installed north of the expanded substation. The new poles will be approximately 65 to 90 feet tall to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 minimum ground-to-conductor clearance requirements and current PG&E design standards. PG&E will also remove approximately 750 feet of the existing power
line and five existing approximately 49- to 56-foot-tall wood poles. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in September 2015, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place. Construction is scheduled to be completed in December 2016, 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 requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. The Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemption,

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 for the Amendment to IS Application No. 6585 (Giffen Solar Park, LLC) on April 23, 2015, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2014031075).

Additionally, G.O. 131-D requires utilities to employ “no cost” and specified “low cost” measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) in accordance with CPUC Decision 06-01-042 and the “EMF Guidelines for Electrical Facilities.” The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Locate high-current devices, transformers, capacitors, and reactors away from the substation property lines
- Locate underground duct banks 12 feet from the adjacent property or as close to 12 feet as practical
- Locate new substation expansion close to existing power lines to the extent practical
- Increase the substation property boundary to the extent practical

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 July 14, 2015, which is 21 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.

Public Comment

Individuals or groups who do not file an official protest may still submit a comment on the request to the Energy Division at the address noted above, referencing Advice Letter 4653-E.
**Effective Date**

The Company requests that this Tier 2 advice filing become effective on July 23, 2015, 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/.

/S/

Eric Jacobson
Director, 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)

Utility type:   Contact Person: Kingsley Cheng
 ELC        Phone #: (415) 973-5265
 GAS        E-mail: k2c0@pge.com and PGETariffs@pge.com
 PLC         HEAT     WATER

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE
ELC = Electric           GAS = Gas
PLC = Pipeline           HEAT = Heat           WATER = Water

Advice Letter (AL) #: 4653-E            Tier: 2
Subject of AL: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Giffen Substation Expansion and Solar Interconnection Project in the County of Fresno

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 #: N/A
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: No
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: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

Resolution Required?    Yes   No
Requested effective date: July 23, 2015
 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 21 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission
Director, Energy Division
505 Van Ness Ave., 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Attn: Erik Jacobson, Director, 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
Para más detalles llame 1-800-660-6789

PROJECT NAME: Giffen Substation Expansion and Solar Interconnection Project
(Fresno County, P. No. 08221)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 4653-E

Proposed Project: To interconnect Giffen Solar Park Project to the electric transmission system, the developer has requested Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to expand the existing Giffen Substation and relocate and loop approximately 1,000 feet of the existing Giffen Tap 70 kV Power Line into and out of the substation (larger project CEQA). Giffen Substation is located immediately northwest of the intersection of Mountain View Avenue and South Stanislaus Avenue in rural Fresno County. The proposed approximately 7-acre expansion will extend the existing substation westward and northward. To support the power line loop, PG&E will interset approximately 1 new tubular steel pole in the existing power line alignment and install approximately 2 new tubular steel poles west of the existing line, adjacent to the north side of expanded substation. In addition, the solar facility developer will own and operate one additional tubular steel pole with a switch to be installed north of the expanded substation. The new poles will be approximately 65 to 90 feet tall to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 95 minimum ground-to-conductor clearance requirements and current PG&E design standards. PG&E will also remove approximately 750 feet of the existing power line and five existing approximately 49- to 56-foot-tall wood poles. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in September 2015, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place. Construction is scheduled to be completed in December 2016, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF): Pacific Gas and Electric will employ “no cost” and specified “low cost” measures to reduce public exposure to EMF accordance with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision 06-01-042 and the “EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities” prepared in compliance with that decision. The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Locate high-current devices, transformers, capacitors, and reactors away from the substation property lines
- Locate underground duct banks 12 feet from the adjacent property or as close to 12 feet as practical
- Locate new substation expansion close to existing power lines to the extent practical
- Increase the substation property boundary to the extent practical

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, exempts a utility from the CPUC’s requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct if a project meets specific conditions. This project qualifies for the following exemption:

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 for the Amendment to IS Application No. 6585 (Giffen Solar Park, LLC) on April 23, 2015, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E’s proposed facilities (State Clearinghouse #2014031075).

Additional Project Information: To obtain further information on the proposed project, please call PG&E’s Project Information Line at (415) 973-5530.

Public Review Process: Individuals or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that PG&E 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 July 14, 2015 at the following address:**

Director, Energy Division  
ED Tariff Unit  
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

PG&E must respond within five business days of receipt and serve its response on each protestant and the Energy Division. Within 30 days after PG&E has submitted its response, the CPUC Executive Director will send you a copy of an Executive Resolution granting or denying PG&E’s request and stating the reasons for the decision.

**Assistance in Filing a Protest:** If you need assistance in filing a protest, contact the CPUC Public Advisor:  
email: public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov or call: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free), or (415) 703-2074, or TTY (415) 703-5258.

**Public Comment:** Even if you do not want to file an official protest, you may still comment on the request. To do so, send your comments to the Energy Division at the address noted above. Please reference Advice Letter 4653-E.
Notice Distribution List

Giffen Substation Expansion and Solar Interconnection Project (Fresno County)

Advice 4653-E

Energy Commission

Mr. Robert Oglesby, Executive Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814
E-Mail: Rob.Oglesby@energy.ca.gov

Mr. Drew Bohan, Deputy Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814
E-Mail: Drew.Bohan@energy.ca.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Ms. Sarah Bahm
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Region
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
E-Mail: Sarah.Bahm@wildlife.ca.gov

County of Fresno

Alan Weaver, Director
Public Works and Planning
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721
E-Mail: aweaver@co.fresno.ca.us

Newspaper

The Fresno Bee
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