

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 1, 2018

Advice Letter 5318-E

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B13U
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

SUBJECT: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Padre Flat Switching Station and Solar Interconnection Project in Merced County

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

Advice Letter 5318-E is effective as of July 25, 2018.

Sincerely,

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

Edward Randolph
Director, Energy Division

June 25, 2018

Advice 5318-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 Padre Flat Switching Station and Solar Interconnection Project in Merced 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.

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 interconnect Clenera LLC's planned Wright Solar Park LLC Project to the electric transmission system, Clenera LLC is proposing to construct a new approximately 4-acre 230 kilovolt (kV) switching station in Merced County and transfer its ownership to PG&E. The proposed solar facility is located in western Merced County approximately 4.5 miles southeast of Santa Nella, southwest of the intersection of Interstate 5 and State Route (SR) 33/152, on the south side of Billy Wright Road. The Wright Solar Park LLC project (larger project CEQA) requires the construction of a switching station (Padre Flat Switching Station) that will be located within approximately 200 feet from the Los Banos-Panoche 230-kV No.1 transmission line. To interconnect the new switching station, located within the solar project boundaries and on the east side of PG&E's existing transmission line, PG&E will relocate and loop approximately 1,000-feet of Los Banos-Panoche No.1 230-kV transmission line into and out of the switching station (minor relocation). To relocate the transmission line, four tubular steel poles will be installed to intersect with the existing transmission line and adjacent switching station. In addition, one tubular steel pole connecting the switching station to the Wright Solar Park LLC substation will be installed and will

be transferred to PG&E. The new poles will be approximately 80 to 95-feet tall, which is approximately 35-feet shorter than the existing lattice steel towers in the vicinity. System protection for the new Padre Flat Switching Station will be facilitated through the installation of optical ground wire (OPGW) from the switching station to the existing PG&E Los Banos Substation. This work will include installation of approximately 4.7 miles of OPGW on the peaks of existing lattice steel towers that comprise the Los Banos-Panoche No.2 and Los Banos-Dos Amigos 230-kV transmission lines. Installation of the OPGW will not require any modifications to the existing structures. A helicopter may be used to install the OPGW line. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in September 2018, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place. Construction is scheduled to be completed in May 2019, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III.A (minor transmission line relocation) and III.B.f (switching station) exempt 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 minor relocation of existing power line facilities"

III.B.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 Merced adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the Wright Solar Park LLC Project Solar Conditional Use Permit Application CUP12-017 in December 2014 and Environmental Impact Report Addendum dated May 25, 2018, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities. (State Clearinghouse # 2013101071).

This filing will not 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 16, 2018, which is 21 days¹ after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to the following address:

¹ The 20-day protest period concludes on a weekend. PG&E is hereby moving this date to the following business day.

CPUC Energy Division
ED Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue
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

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations
c/o Megan Lawson
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B13U
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-3582
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.

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 5318-E.

Effective Date

The Company requests that this Tier 2 advice filing become effective on July 25, 2018, 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/

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations

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

Attachments

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER SUBMITTAL 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: Kingsley Cheng

Phone #: (415) 973-5265

E-mail: k2c0@pge.com and PGETariffs@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric

GAS = Gas

PLC = Pipeline

HEAT = Heat

WATER = Water

(Date Submitted/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: **5318-E**

Tier: 2

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Padre Flat Switching Station and Solar Interconnection Project in Merced County**

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Compliance, Power Lines

AL submittal type: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annual ☒ One-Time ☐ Other _____

If AL submitted 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 25, 2018**

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 21 days¹ after the date of this submittal, 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

c/o Megan Lawson

77 Beale Street, Mail Code B13U

P.O. Box 770000

San Francisco, CA 94177

E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

¹ The 20-day protest period concludes on a weekend. PG&E is hereby moving this date to the following business day.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

Para más detalles llame 1-800-660-6789

PROJECT NAME: Padre Flat Switching Station and Solar Interconnection Project (Merced County)**ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 5318-E**

Proposed Project: To interconnect Clenera LLC's planned Wright Solar Park LLC Project to the electric transmission system, Clenera LLC is proposing to construct a new approximately 4-acre 230 kilovolt (kV) switching station in Merced County and transfer its ownership to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The proposed solar facility is located in western Merced County approximately 4.5 miles southeast of Santa Nella, southwest of the intersection of Interstate 5 and State Route (SR) 33/152, on the south side of Billy Wright Road. The Wright Solar Park LLC project (larger project CEQA) requires the construction of a switching station (Padre Flat Switching Station) that will be located within approximately 200 feet from the Los Banos-Panoche 230-kV No.1 transmission line. To interconnect the new switching station, located within the solar project boundaries and on the east side of PG&E's existing transmission line, PG&E will relocate and loop approximately 1,000-feet of Los Banos-Panoche No.1 230-kV transmission line into and out of the switching station (minor relocation). To relocate the transmission line, four tubular steel poles will be installed to intersect with the existing transmission line and adjacent switching station. In addition, one tubular steel pole connecting the switching station to the Wright Solar Park LLC substation will be installed and will be transferred to PG&E. The new poles will be approximately 80 to 95-feet tall, which is approximately 35-feet shorter than the existing lattice steel towers in the vicinity. System protection for the new Padre Flat Switching Station will be facilitated through the installation of optical ground wire (OPGW) from the switching station to the existing PG&E Los Banos Substation. This work will include installation of approximately 4.7 miles of OPGW on the peaks of existing lattice steel towers that comprise the Los Banos-Panoche No.2 and Los Banos-Dos Amigos 230-kV transmission lines. Installation of the OPGW will not require any modifications to the existing structures. A helicopter may be used to install the OPGW line. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in September 2018, or as soon as project plans and approvals are in place. Construction is scheduled to be completed in May 2019, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III.A (minor transmission line relocation) and III.B.f (switching station) exempt 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 minor relocation of existing power line facilities"

III.B.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 Merced adopted an Environmental Impact Report for the Wright Solar Park LLC Project Solar Conditional Use Permit Application CUP12-017 in December 2014 and Environmental Impact Report Addendum dated May 25, 2018, finding no significant unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from PG&E's proposed facilities.

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 16, 2018 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 5318-E.

Notice Distribution List

Padre Flat Switching Station and Solar Interconnection Project
(Merced County)

Advice 5318-E

Energy Commission

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

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

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Laura Peterson-Diaz
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Region
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
Laura.Peterson-Diaz@wildlife.ca.gov

Merced County

Mark Hendrickson, Director
Community and Economic Development
2222 M. St., Second Floor
Merced, CA 95340
mhendrickson@co.merced.ca.us

Newspaper

Merced Star-Sun

PG&E Gas and Electric Advice Filing List

AT&T	Downey & Brand	Pioneer Community Energy
Albion Power Company	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Praxair
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Energy Management Service	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
Anderson & Poole	Evaluation + Strategy for Social Innovation	SCD Energy Solutions
Atlas ReFuel	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SCE
BART	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SDG&E and SoCalGas
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Green Charge Networks	SPURR
Braun Blaising Smith Wynne P.C.	Green Power Institute	San Francisco Water Power and Sewer
CalCom Solar	Hanna & Morton	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	ICF	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	International Power Technology	Southern California Edison Company
California Public Utilities Commission	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Southern California Gas Company
California State Association of Counties	Kelly Group	Spark Energy
Calpine	Ken Bohn Consulting	Sun Light & Power
Casner, Steve	Keyes & Fox LLP	Sunshine Design
Cenergy Power	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Tecogen, Inc.
Center for Biological Diversity	Linde	TerraVerde Renewable Partners
City of Palo Alto	Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
City of San Jose	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	TransCanada
Clean Power Research	MRW & Associates	Troutman Sanders LLP
Coast Economic Consulting	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	Marin Energy Authority	Utility Power Solutions
County of Tehama - Department of Public Works	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Specialists
Crossborder Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Verizon
Crown Road Energy, LLC	Morgan Stanley	Water and Energy Consulting
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Wellhead Electric Company
Day Carter Murphy	NRG Solar	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Dept of General Services	Office of Ratepayer Advocates	Yep Energy
Don Pickett & Associates, Inc.	OnGrid Solar	
Douglass & Liddell	Pacific Gas and Electric Company	