

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3298



Pacific Gas & Electric Company
ELC (Corp ID 39)
Status of Advice Letter 6508E
As of March 18, 2022

Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of Central Towers Program: Tesla-Schulte 115kV Project in the County of Alameda and San Joaquin

Division Assigned: Energy

Date Filed: 02-18-2022

Date to Calendar: 02-23-2022

Authorizing Documents: None

Disposition:	Accepted
Effective Date:	03-17-2022

Resolution Required: No

Resolution Number: None

Commission Meeting Date: None

CPUC Contact Information:

edtariffunit@cpuc.ca.gov

AL Certificate Contact Information:

Kimberly Loo

415-973-4587

PGETariffs@pge.com

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3298



To: Energy Company Filing Advice Letter

From: Energy Division PAL Coordinator

Subject: Your Advice Letter Filing

The Energy Division of the California Public Utilities Commission has processed your recent Advice Letter (AL) filing and is returning an AL status certificate for your records.

The AL status certificate indicates:

- Advice Letter Number
- Name of Filer
- CPUC Corporate ID number of Filer
- Subject of Filing
- Date Filed
- Disposition of Filing (Accepted, Rejected, Withdrawn, etc.)
- Effective Date of Filing
- Other Miscellaneous Information (e.g., Resolution, if applicable, etc.)

The Energy Division has made no changes to your copy of the Advice Letter Filing; please review your Advice Letter Filing with the information contained in the AL status certificate, and update your Advice Letter and tariff records accordingly.

All inquiries to the California Public Utilities Commission on the status of your Advice Letter Filing will be answered by Energy Division staff based on the information contained in the Energy Division's PAL database from which the AL status certificate is generated. If you have any questions on this matter please contact the:

Energy Division's Tariff Unit by e-mail to
edtariffunit@cpuc.ca.gov



Sidney Bob Dietz II
Director
Regulatory Relations

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale St., Mail Code B13U
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415-973-3582

February 18, 2022

Advice 6508-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 Central Towers Program: Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Project in the County of Alameda and San Joaquin

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 improve electric service reliability in Alameda and San Joaquin Counties, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) will replace towers and sections of the existing conductors along a portion of the Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Power Line west of the City of Tracy in unincorporated Alameda and San Joaquin Counties. The existing lattice steel towers will be replaced one-for-one with approximately 31 lattice steel towers, 2 tubular steel H-poles, and 1 single tubular steel pole approximately 3 feet shorter to 50 feet taller than existing structures. Height increases are required to meet required to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order (GO) 95 minimum ground to conductor clearance requirements. The project will also replace approximately 1.41 miles of conductor along several sections of power line.

The project is along an approximately 5-mile section of the power line from the Schulte Substation (14700 W Schulte Rd) to the western boundary of the project, approximately 5 miles southwest. The project alignment exits the Schulte substation from the southeast side and runs to the southwest through unincorporated San Joaquin County and Alameda County, spanning over and avoiding two aqueducts, Highway 580, and several ephemeral drainages before reaching the project boundary. Helicopters will be

used to facilitate construction across the project in the undeveloped areas. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in Q2 2022, or as soon as practicable after project approval. Construction is tentatively scheduled to be completed in Q1 2023, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 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" prepared in compliance with that decision. The following measures are proposed for this project:

- Raise the height of 2 structures in residential land use areas by 10 feet.

This submittal will not cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other rate schedule or rule.

Exemption Under GO 131-D

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(s):

- b. "the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures."

This project consists of the replacement of outdated 115 kV structures and some conductor with new 115 kV structures and conductor; approximately 34 existing lattice steel towers will be replaced with approximately 31 lattice steel towers, 2 tubular steel H-poles, and 1 single tubular steel pole, and new conductor will replace existing conductor for approximately 1.41 miles of the project. The work is within the same utility corridor, following the same route as the existing lines, and the existing structures will be removed and replaced in approximately the same area.

None of the exceptions to the exemptions in Section III B.2, as specified in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2, exist to disqualify this project from the NOC process.

The exceptions, and why they do not apply, include the following:

- a. There is a reasonable possibility that the activity may impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Discussion: The project area is within designated critical habitat for California red-legged frog, however the project has been designed to avoid the protected aquatic habitat and with the implemented avoidance measures for work in the upland habitat,

there are no reasonable possibilities of impacts to this species. Additionally, no other jurisdictional waters or wetlands, or designated, mapped and officially-adopted resources of hazardous or critical concern are known to occur in the project area.

- b. The cumulative impact of successive project of the same type in the same place, over time, is significant.

Discussion: PG&E is not aware of any other projects of the same type in the same place, or over time, that would result in significant cumulative impacts. Moreover, the proposed project would minimize the frequency of repairs and reduce the need for similar work within the transmission corridor in the future.

- c. There is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Discussion: There is no reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. In *Berkeley Hillside Preservation v. City of Berkeley* (2015) 60 Cal.4th 1086 (Berkeley Hillside), the California Supreme Court found that, to apply this exception, the lead agency must find both (a) an unusual circumstance that makes this project different from others in the class, and (b) a reasonable possibility of a significant impact due to that unusual circumstance. (Id. at 1104-1105.) Thus, the first question is whether there is an unusual circumstance that would make this project different from others in the class.

PG&E is continually undertaking reconductoring and tower replacement projects throughout its territory, most of which require replacement, removal and/or addition of structures as well as replacement of the conductors. Numerous reconductoring and replacement projects have established laydown yards, used helicopters for construction, required vegetation removal or surface recontouring, used overland access, and adjusted structure locations to avoid resources or other impacts. There is nothing about this project that is different from others in its class. In litigation over the meaning of "unusual circumstances," most courts have declined to find that circumstances were unusual; examples where unusual circumstances were identified were striking in their difference from the norm, including, e.g., a project in a leaking landfill (*Azusa Land Reclamation Company v. Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster* (1997) 52 Cal.App. 4th 1665, 1207), involving a particular historic wall (*Committee to Save the Hollywoodland Specific Plan v. City of Los Angeles* (2008) 161 Cal.App 4th 1168, 1187), and stock car racing at a fairgrounds near residences (*Lewis v. Seventeenth Dist. Agricultural Ass'n* (1985) 165 Cal App. 3d 823). Each of these cases presented circumstances that were atypical for the type of project proposed and created potentially significant effects due to the unusual circumstances. There is no similar anomaly present in this project.

In addition, there is no evidence of a reasonable possibility of a significant impact. This project consists of replacing existing towers with similar facilities and reconductoring in largely remote grasslands and rolling terrain. The project has biological coverage for specific species through the habitat conservation plans (HCP). The San Joaquin Valley

HCP provides both federal and state coverage for its section of the project and the Bay Area HCP will provide both federal and state coverage for its section of the project. The project has been designed along with the implementation of measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential impacts to biological resources, and no other potential impacts have been identified.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this submittal may do so by letter sent electronically via E-mail, no later than March 10, 2022, which is 20 days after the date of this submittal. Protests must be submitted to:

CPUC Energy Division
ED Tariff Unit
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

The protest shall also be electronically sent to PG&E via E-mail at the address shown below on the same date it is electronically delivered to the Commission:

Sidney Bob Dietz II
Director, Regulatory Relations
c/o Megan Lawson
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 submit an official protest may still submit a comment on the request to the Energy Division at the address noted above, referencing Advice Letter 6508-E.

Effective Date

The Company requests that this Tier 2 advice letter become effective on March 20, 2022 which is 30 days after the date of submittal. (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



ADVICE LETTER 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 WATER
 PLC HEAT

Contact Person: Kimberly Loo

Phone #: (415)973-4587

E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

E-mail Disposition Notice to: KELM@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric GAS = Gas WATER = Water
 PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat

(Date Submitted / Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 6508-E

Tier Designation: 2

Subject of AL: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of Central Towers Program: Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Project in the County of Alameda and San Joaquin

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Compliance, G.O. 131-D

AL Type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other:

If AL submitted 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:

Confidential treatment requested? Yes No

If yes, specification of confidential information:

Confidential information will be made available to appropriate parties who execute a nondisclosure agreement. Name and contact information to request nondisclosure agreement/ access to confidential information:

Resolution required? Yes No

Requested effective date: 3/20/22

No. of tariff sheets: 0

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 proposed¹: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

¹Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

Protests and correspondence regarding this AL are to be sent via email and are due no later than 20 days after the date of this submittal, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission
Energy Division Tariff Unit Email:
EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Contact Name: Sidnev Bob Dietz II. c/o Megan Lawson
Title: Director, Regulatory Relations
Utility/Entity Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email: PGETariffs@pge.com

Contact Name:
Title:
Utility/Entity Name:

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email:

CPUC
Energy Division Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Clear Form

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

Para más detalles llame 1-800-660-6789

PROJECT NAME: Central Towers Program: Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Project - (Alameda and San Joaquin Counties, T.0004172.01)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 6508-E

Proposed Project:

To improve electric service reliability in Alameda and San Joaquin Counties, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) will replace towers and sections of the existing conductors along a portion of the Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Power Line west of the City of Tracy in unincorporated Alameda and San Joaquin Counties. The existing lattice steel towers will be replaced one-for-one with approximately 31 lattice steel towers, 2 tubular steel H-poles, and 1 single tubular steel pole approximately 3 feet shorter to 50 feet taller than existing structures. Height increases are required to meet required to meet California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order (GO) 95 minimum ground to conductor clearance requirements. The project will also replace approximately 1.41 miles of conductor along several sections of power line.

The project is along an approximately 5-mile section of the power line from the Schulte Substation (14700 W Schulte Rd) to the western boundary of the project, approximately 5 miles southwest. The project alignment exits the Schulte substation from the southeast side and runs to the southwest through unincorporated San Joaquin County and Alameda County, spanning over and avoiding two aqueducts, Highway 580, and several ephemeral drainages before reaching the project boundary. Helicopters will be used to facilitate construction across the project in the undeveloped areas. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in Q2 2022, or as soon as practicable after project approval. Construction is tentatively scheduled to be completed in Q1 2023, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF): PG&E will employ “no cost” and specified “low cost” measures to reduce public exposure to EMF in 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:

- Raise the height of two structures in the residential land use area by 10 feet.

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(s):

- b. “the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.”

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.

*****Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PG&E is currently unable to receive protests or comments to this advice letter via U.S. mail or fax. Please submit protests or comments to this advice letter to EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov and PGETariffs@pge.com*****

Protests for this project must be filed by March 10, 2022 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 6508-E.

Notice Distribution List

Central Towers Program: Tesla-Schulte 115 kV Project - (Alameda and San Joaquin Counties)

Advice 6508-E

Energy Commission

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

Linda Spiegel, Chief Deputy Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814
Courtney.Smith@energy.ca.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mr. Patrick Moeszinger
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, North Central Region
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Patrick.Moeszinger@wildlife.ca.gov

Mr. Serge Glushkoff
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bay Delta Region
7329 Silverado Trail
Yountville, CA 94559
Serge.Glushkoff@wildlife.ca.gov

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

Ms. Elizabeth M. Lee, P.E.
401 Water Quality Certification/Municipal Storm Water Unit Supervisor
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Elizabeth.Lee@waterboards.ca.gov

San Joaquin County

Mr. Kris Balaji
Director of Public Works
1810 E. Hazelton Avenue
P.O. Box 1810
Stockton, CA 95201
PWInfoSupport@sjgov.org

Alameda County

Mr. Albert Lopez
Planning Director
224 W. Winton Avenue, Rm 111
Hayward, CA 94544
Albert.Lopez@acgov.org

Newspapers

Tracy Press
Tri-Valley Herald

PG&E Gas and Electric Advice Submittal List

AT&T Albion Power Company	East Bay Community Energy Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP Energy Management Service	Pioneer Community Energy
Alta Power Group, LLC Anderson & Poole	Engineers and Scientists of California	Public Advocates Office
Atlas ReFuel BART	GenOn Energy, Inc. Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	Redwood Coast Energy Authority Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc. SCD Energy Solutions San Diego Gas & Electric Company
Barkovich & Yap, Inc. Braun Blasing Smith Wynne, P.C. California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn California Energy Commission	Green Power Institute Hanna & Morton ICF International Power Technology	SPURR San Francisco Water Power and Sewer Sempra Utilities
California Hub for Energy Efficiency Financing	Intertie	Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. Southern California Edison Company Southern California Gas Company Spark Energy Sun Light & Power Sunshine Design Tecogen, Inc. TerraVerde Renewable Partners Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority California Public Utilities Commission Calpine	Intestate Gas Services, Inc. Kelly Group Ken Bohn Consulting Keyes & Fox LLP Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	TransCanada Utility Cost Management Utility Power Solutions Water and Energy Consulting Wellhead Electric Company Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA) Yep Energy
Cameron-Daniel, P.C. Casner, Steve Center for Biological Diversity	Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force MRW & Associates Manatt Phelps Phillips Marin Energy Authority McClintock IP McKenzie & Associates	
Chevron Pipeline and Power City of Palo Alto	Modesto Irrigation District NLine Energy, Inc. NRG Solar	
City of San Jose Clean Power Research Coast Economic Consulting Commercial Energy Crossborder Energy Crown Road Energy, LLC Davis Wright Tremaine LLP Day Carter Murphy	OnGrid Solar Pacific Gas and Electric Company Peninsula Clean Energy	
Dept of General Services Don Pickett & Associates, Inc. Douglass & Liddell		