

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 9, 2010

VIA EMAIL

Rod Parame
Project Manager, PG&E
Hollister 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project

SUBJECT: Data Request No. 2 for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Hollister 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project (A. 09-11-016)

Dear Ms. Parame:

As the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proceeds with our review of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Application and Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Hollister 115 kV Power Line Reconductoring Project, we have identified additional information required to complete our analysis of the Proposed Project. Please provide the information requested on the pages attached to this letter.

We would appreciate your prompt response to this data request by February 22, 2010, which will help us maintain our schedule for analysis and processing of this application. Please submit your response in hardcopy and electronic format to me and also directly to our environmental consultant, ESA, at the mail and e-mail addresses noted below. If you have any questions please direct them to me as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Monisha Gangopadhyay
CPUC CEQA Project Manager for the Hollister Project
Energy Division Permitting Branch
Phone: (415) 703-5595
mgb@cpuc.ca.gov

Environmental Science Associates
Attn: Jennifer Johnson
225 Bush Street, Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104
jjohnson@esassoc.com

cc: Jo Lynn Lambert, PG&E Legal Counsel
Jack Mulligan, CPUC Legal Division
Matthew Fagundes, ESA

Data Request #2

Project Description

1. Text found on page 3-3 of the PEA states that upgrades to the Hollister Substation would include relocation of two existing poles on the substation property. Please indicate the type of poles to be relocated (e.g., wood, LDS, or TSP). If the poles would be replaced with new poles, please indicate the type of the new poles.
2. Text found on page 3-5 of the PEA states that existing roads would be used that would not require any “substantial upgrades prior to project construction.” Please verify that no upgrades would be made to these existing roads, or describe what upgrades would be required for these roads that are not considered by PG&E to be substantial.
3. The PEA notes that modifications at Hollister Substation would be performed completely on PG&E property, but does not provide a description of such activities (see PEA page 3-19). Please describe construction methods used to relocate the two existing poles, update relay settings, and change the 115 kV bus conductors.
4. Please provide a table that describes the permits that would be required from federal, State, and local agencies. An example table has been provided below to indicate the level of detail required.

SUMMARY OF PERMITS REQUIREMENTS

Permit/Approval/Consultation	Agency	Jurisdiction/Purpose
Federal Agencies		
Section 7 Consultation, Endangered Species Act	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Construction, operation, and maintenance on land that may affect a federally listed species or its habitat; incidental take authorization (if required)
Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Construction across Navigable Waters
Section 106 Review, National Historic Preservation Act	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Construction, operation, and maintenance on land that may affect cultural or historic resources
State Agencies		
Permit to Construct	California Public Utilities Commission	Overall project approval and California Environmental Quality Act review
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction Storm water Permit	RWQCB	Storm water discharges associated with construction activities disturbing more than one acre of land
Encroachment Permit	California Department of Transportation	Construction, operation, and maintenance within, under, or over state highway ROW
Endangered Species Consultation	California Department of Fish and Game	Construction, operation, and maintenance that may affect a state-listed species or its habitat; incidental take authorization (if required)
Local Agencies		

Permit/Approval/Consultation	Agency	Jurisdiction/Purpose
Encroachment Permit (ministerial)	San Benito County Monterey County	Construction, operation, and maintenance within, under, or over county road ROW

Aesthetics

5. Please indicate whether or not non-specular conductors are proposed to be installed under the Proposed Project.
6. Item 20 of Data Request 1 requested that Figure 4.1-2 be updated to show the historical path of State Route 156 including the local route through Hollister. In response, PG&E indicated that a revised figure was included in the GIS data provided. However, no such figure was found included in the GIS data. Please provide an updated version of Figure 4.1-2 in PDF and GIS.

Biological Resources

7. Please provide a map that illustrates the oak trees that are at least six inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) that would require removal or trimming under the Proposed Project.

Hazards

8. PG&E's response to Data Request 1, Item 26, included the FAA letter of determination with study findings and requirements. However, PG&E's proposed lighting system for Poles 22/00 and 22/01 is also needed. Please provide details about PG&E's proposed lighting system for poles 22/00 and 22/01.

Cumulative

9. Please identify other planned and proposed PG&E projects within the San Benito-Monterey service area.