

**PG&E's Data Response #2**  
**Hollister 115 kV Reconductoring Project**  
(A.09-11-016)

## **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.

*PG&E is proposing to replace the three existing wood poles with two LDS (light-duty steel) and one TSP (tubular steel pole) at this location. A description of the installation of these types of poles is provided in the PEA beginning on page 3-16. An aerial photo is also attached that shows the existing 115kV lines and how they drop down directly from overhead poles to Hollister Substation's 115kV buss structures. Per the attached aerial photo, PG&E will install one new 84-foot tall TSP on the western side of the fenceline on the Hollister Substation site. PG&E will also install two 85-foot tall LDS poles on the Hollister Substation site. If there are additional questions, we would be happy to provide more detailed information at our meeting on March 3, 2010.*

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.

*Figures 3-3 through 3-19 provide information on the location of the roads that require improvement or construction of new roads. Revised table 3-1 included in Data Response # 1 supports these figures. There are 7.94 miles of existing roads that will not require substantial upgrades. Minor improvements may include tasks such as tree trimming, grooming/smoothing of dirt roads, pothole filling, etc.*

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.

*The removal of existing poles and installation of new LDS poles is discussed beginning on page 3-15 of the PEA. Relay settings is solely labor – a simple setting or re-setting of dials or digital dials inside the substation control building and /or at the other end of the line at the Transmission Control Switching Center. No ground disturbing, work is required except for installation of the replacement poles. Changing the 115 kV bus conductors is performed by the line crew, and is detailed beginning on page 3-18 of the PEA.*

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 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Permit/Approval/Consultation</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Jurisdiction/Purpose</b>
<b>Federal Agencies</b>		
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
<b>State Agencies</b>		
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)
<b>Local Agencies</b>		
Encroachment Permit (ministerial)	San Benito County Monterey County	Construction, operation, and maintenance within, under, or over county road ROW

*A preliminary table of permits that may be required for this project is attached..*

**Aesthetics**

5. Please indicate whether or not non-specular conductors are proposed to be installed under the Proposed Project.

*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.

*ICF has prepared a figure and will forward it to ESA under separate cover.*

## 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.

*In the normal course of business of maintaining their lines, PG&E has developed a vegetation management plan for the Hollister Pole and Hollister Tower segments. A map providing exact locations of the trees to be removed will be developed as part of the engineering process and should be completed in 30 days.*

## 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.

*The FAA letter of determination required the structures to be marked and/or lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 K Change 2, Obstruction Marking and Lighting, red lights - Chapters 4,5(Red), &12. PG&E purchased two Model FAA Type L-810 LED Obstruction Lights. A picture and description of the lights is attached.*

## Cumulative

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

*In addition to the projects identified on page 4.17-3 of the PEA, PG&E's current plans forecast the following future projects, which are not planned to be operational until 2013-2014. The first is not in the immediate project area (rather, it is approximately 12 miles away at the closest point).*

- *Santa Cruz 115 kV Reinforcement Project – Conversion of the Green Valley – Rob Roy 115 kV line section into a double-circuit line.*
- *Watsonville Voltage Conversion Project – Conversion of the 60k V system from Green Valley Substation, through Watsonville and Aromas, into a 115 kV system.*

*PG&E also has two small distribution projects that will be completed shortly in the project area.*