

2.16 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—				
Would the proposed project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SETTING

Since the proposed project route generally travels through a highly urbanized area in city streets, the likelihood of encountering other buried utility and service systems is high; however the potential that project construction activities would accidentally contact underground utilities during construction is low. State law requires consultation with Underground Service Alert (see Regulatory Setting) and on-site verification and probing to avoid disturbing unidentified utility systems.

The proposed project is located entirely within the jurisdiction of the City and County of San Francisco. Utilities which may be encountered by the proposed project include underground utilities such as buried water, storm drain, sanitary sewer, telephone, cable, network fiber optic, natural gas, electrical traffic loops, and electrical distribution lines. Overhead utilities include telephone, cable, and electrical distribution and transmission lines. Each of the potentially affected services and their providers are shown in **Table 2.16-1**.

**TABLE 2.16-1
LOCAL UTILITY AND SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Utility or Service	Provider
Water and Sewer Service	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)
Sewer and Storm Drain Maintenance	City of San Francisco Department of Public Works
Water Line Maintenance	SF Department of Water
Wastewater Collection and Treatment at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant	SF Bureau of Water Pollution Control SF Bureau of Street and Sewer Repair
Garbage Services	San Francisco Department of Public Works Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. (Sunset Scavenger and Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling)
Landfills	Norcal Waste Systems, Inc.
Telephone	SBC
Cable	AT&T Comcast
Natural Gas and Electric Service	PG&E
Other Communications	MCI Level 3 Communications Sprint Teleport Communications

REGULATORY CONTEXT

Utility operators are required to protect underground structures as detailed in Title 1, Division 5, Chapter 3.1, Article 2, 4216 of California Government Code. This law requires that an excavator must contact a regional notification center at least two days prior to excavation of any subsurface installations. For the proposed project, the Underground Service Alert must be contacted. Underground Service Alert, in turn, would notify the utility providers that may have buried lines within 1,000 feet of the excavation. Representatives of the utilities are required to mark the specific location of their facilities within the work area prior to the start of excavation. The excavator is required to probe and expose the underground facilities by hand prior to using power equipment.

IMPACTS DISCUSSION OF UTILITY AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

METHODOLOGY AND SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

The methodology to determine impacts to utilities consisted of reviewing maps, land use plans, and technical data summarizing utilities in the project area. To determine the level of significance of the impacts anticipated from the proposed project, the proposed project's effects were

evaluated as provided under the CEQA Guidelines. This significance criteria, as set forth in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, are summarized in the checklist provided at the beginning of this section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

It is not expected that the proposed project would result in a significant impact to existing utility and service systems; however, short-term construction impacts are expected. All existing electrical service would remain operational throughout project construction and no interruptions are anticipated. Because project construction at switchyards would occur in locations where PG&E has previously installed equipment, the locations of existing utilities on the sites are known. Therefore, the potential for accidental utility system disruption is very low and would be a less than significant impact. The proposed project meets PG&E's objective to provide necessary upgrades to the electrical transmission system serving the City in order to improve reliability and increase capacity.

CHECKLIST IMPACT CONCLUSIONS

- a) The proposed project would not result in wastewater treatment requirements that would exceed those set by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay Region). The project would not result in any expansion of urban development in the area that would lead to additional wastewater generation or the potential to exceed treatment requirements. The proposed project is not expected to result in new sources of point or non-point water pollution during construction and therefore existing standards would not be exceeded. The contractor would provide portable toilets on-site during construction, which would then be removed from the site on a regular basis for servicing off-site. This would be the only wastewater source associated with the proposed project. The amount of wastewater generated by workers during project construction would be minimal and temporary in nature and would not adversely affect the treatment plant that would receive the wastewater. Therefore, because wastewater generated during project construction would result in a negligible and temporary increase, the proposed project would not exceed the wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable RWQCB. Therefore, this would be a less than significant impact.
- b) The proposed project would not result in direct or indirect urban development or require new water or wastewater treatment facilities. During construction, portable restrooms would be used and maintained by PG&E and its construction crew. Upon completion of construction, the proposed project would not generate a significant demand for water or wastewater treatment, as the proposed 115 kV cable line would be an un-manned, automated facility. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to exceed the existing water supplies or wastewater treatment capacity available to the proposed project and therefore, would not require the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. Therefore, no project impact would occur.

- c) Implementation of the proposed project would not require new or expanded storm water drainage facilities; therefore no potential for significant environmental effects exists. A system of storm drainage facilities currently directs stormwater along the urban streets within the project area. Because the proposed project would not change the amount of stormwater that currently drains from the site and because it would be located in a developed area with adequate existing drainage facilities, no new or expanded stormwater drainage facilities would be required. Upon completion of the project construction, site grading would be restored to existing topography within the city Streets and would not change existing stormwater drainage patterns within the rights-of-way. No impact would occur.
- d) In addition to water for street cleaning, small amounts of water would be used during underground construction activities. Compared to the total daily volume of water delivered to San Francisco, the water required for this proposed project would be a minor amount. The water demand for construction of the proposed project would have less than significant impact on the regional water supply.
- e) The proposed project would result in minimal wastewater generation. As discussed in b), above, existing wastewater facilities are adequate to accommodate the minor demand that would be generated by the proposed project. Therefore, the wastewater treatment providers that serve the area would have adequate capacity, in addition to their existing commitments, to serve the proposed project's projected demand. Portable restrooms would be used and maintained during project construction. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- f) The proposed project would generate some waste material. Asphalt, concrete, trenching spoils, and other excavated material would be reused by PG&E's construction crews on-site to the greatest extent feasible. Approximately 10,000 cubic yards of material would be generated by the proposed project (Essex Environmental, 2003). Material that cannot be reused as thermal backfill would be hauled to local asphalt manufacturers and/or recyclers or transported to appropriate disposal facilities. During project construction, any solid waste generated on-site would be collected and transported by a private contractor. As such, collection and transport of project-related solid waste would have no impact on public utility providers. The quantity of construction-related materials transported to the landfills would be minor relative to the daily volumes handled at those facilities and would not substantially affect their remaining capacities. Project operation would not generate solid waste and therefore would not affect existing landfill capacities. Therefore, solid waste-related impacts would be less than significant.
- g) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which emphasizes resource conservation through reduction, recycling, and reuse of solid waste requires that localities conduct a Solid Waste Generation Study (SWGS) and develop a Source Reduction Recycling Element (SRRE). The proposed project would operate in accordance with these applicable Solid Waste Management Policy Plans by including recycling activities as part of the proposed project. PG&E has committed to following all solid waste disposal

regulations as part of the proposed project. As identified in f), above, landfills serving the site would have sufficient capacity to accommodate project construction solid waste disposal needs, and the disposal of project refuse would not require the need for new or expanded landfill facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste disposal limits and landfill capacities. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

REFERENCES – Utilities And Service Systems

Essex Environmental, 2003. *PG&E Potrero to Hunters Point 115 kV Cable Project Proponent's Environmental Assessment*. December 2003.