Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)
Transmission Project Review (TPR) Process
CPUC Energy Division Staff Comments on PG&E TPR Process Data
June 17, 2024

The CPUC's Energy Division (CPUC or Staff) have identified areas for improvement on the format of the TPR Project Spreadsheet template. Staff are providing these insights in the spirit of transparency for Stakeholders in the TPR Process.

1. TO Project Spreadsheet submissions should always use the most recently provided CPUC template (dated March 14, 2024) to ensure field naming, data descriptions, formatting, and field options are accurate and consistent across TOs.

2. New and unapproved data fields (or even the renaming of existing data fields) should not be added to the TPR Project Spreadsheet template. Any changes require the proper notification and approval of the CPUC and should ideally be coordinated with the other utilities.

3. Removing data fields is not advised and it was previously communicated to PG&E to avoid doing this, even if there are unused secondary fields (i.e. "Data Field (2)"). Unauthorized changes to the format of the TPR Project Spreadsheet may impede Staff's and Stakeholders' processing of submitted data. Specifically removed were:
    - Data Field 07 – "Project Description - Action Taken (2)"
    - Data Field 11 – "NERC/WECC/CAISO Standard/Requirement/Contingency (2)"
    - Data Field 52 – "Reason for Change in In-Service Date (2)"

4. Similar to item #2 above, a request to refer back to attachments in PG&E's TPR Process May 2024 Transmittal Letter is not a valid input and should not occur in the TPR Project Spreadsheet. Specifically, Data Field 32 "Process(es) for Utility Approval" has inputs that read "Please refer to Attachment A of the corresponding TPR Transmittal Letter."

5. Where a data field elicits options from a drop-down list, input should be limited to those options provided.

6. Input for data fields should follow consistent formatting as described in the Data Field Descriptions tab and illustrated in the Data Template Example tab.

7. If, in a field eliciting a "Text String" value, a series of options or list of values is provided, it should be provided as a pipe-separated list. For example, instead of "maintenance, reliability, upgrade", "maintenance | reliability | upgrade" is preferred. Additionally, many of the "Text String" data fields have instructions to include a narrative response. For some of these data fields, PG&E has inputted a comma-separated list. If inputting a list is more appropriate, the CPUC advises using pipe-delimiters, as Staff would be able to use this as a basis for an options list in future template revisions. See Data Field 19 "Other Environmental Factors" as an example.

8. Staff have found a series of “trailing spaces” for some “drop-down” fields (a specific example being Data Field 11 - "NERC / WECC / CAISO Standard / Requirement / Contingency"). Utilities should ensure that these “drop-down” fields are not manually typed in with extra spaces or characters.

Energy Division Staff appreciate PG&E’s attention to these details going forward.