

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

To All Interested Parties

Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) General Order 131-D, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has filed an application with the CPUC for a Permit to Construct, for the conversion of power lines and associated substation modifications known as the San Mateo-Martin #4 Conversion Project (A.02-11-051).

PG&E proposes to convert the existing San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV line to 115 kV. The purpose of this conversion project is to reduce potential electrical service interruptions in the event of overloading of the existing electrical transmission system serving San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. This conversion project involves replacing the existing wires ("conductors") and insulators on the San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV power line with new wires ("reconductoring"), and modifying facilities at four substations to accommodate the 115 kV circuit. The San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV circuit is on the same towers as the San Mateo-Martin 115 kV #3 circuit, which was reconducted in February 2000. PG&E is proposing modifications to three towers, and three additional towers may also require steel reinforcement.

Based on the information provided in the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study, it has been determined that the proposed project, as mitigated, would not have any significant effects on the environment.

Documents Available for Review

The environmental documents and notices published by the CPUC related to this project, as well as those prepared by PG&E, may be reviewed at the following locations:

California Public Utilities Commission
Central Files
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 703-2045

San Francisco Public Library
Government Information Center
5th Floor
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 557-4400

San Francisco Planning Department
1660 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 558-6377

Brisbane Public Library
250 Visitacion Avenue
Brisbane, CA 94005
(415) 467-2060

Brisbane Building/Planning Department
50 Park Lane
Brisbane, CA 94005
(415) 467-4180

San Mateo Public Library
55 W. Third Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 522-7800

San Bruno Public Library
701 Angus Avenue West
San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 616-7078

San Bruno Community Development
Department
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 616-7074

Millbrae Public Library
801 Magnolia Avenue
Millbrae, CA 94030
(650) 697-7607

Millbrae Community Development
Department
621 Magnolia Avenue
Millbrae, CA 94030
(650) 259-2341

Burlingame Public Library
480 Primrose Road
Burlingame, CA 94030
(650) 558-7400

Burlingame Planning Department
501 Primrose Road
Burlingame, CA 94030
(650) 558-7250

Daly City Public Library
40 Wembley Drive
Daly City, CA 94015
(650) 991-8023

Daly City Department of Economic and
Community Development
City Hall
333 90th Street
Daly City, CA 94015
(650) 991-8033

South San Francisco Public Library
840 West Orange Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650) 829-3860

South San Francisco Economic and
Community Development Department
Planning Division
375 Maple Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650) 877-8535

City of San Mateo
Planning Division
330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 377-3362

For electronic access to the Mitigated Negative Declaration and other project information or copies of reports, check CPUC's web site at:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/industry/environment/current+projects

Public Review Period

Written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received via e-mail or by U.S. postal mail no later than August 19, 2003; please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number. Written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration should be sent to:

Nicolas Procos, CPUC
c/o EIP Associates
353 Sacramento Street, Suite 1000
San Francisco, CA 94111
E-mail: sf@eipassociates.com

Informational Meeting

The CPUC will hold a public informational meeting on the San Mateo-Martin #4 Conversion Project to discuss the proposed project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The informational meeting will be held on:

**August 7, 2003
6:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel
Presidio Room
250 Gateway Boulevard
South San Francisco, CA 94080**

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. Mitigated Negative Declaration	A-1
Introduction	A-1
Project Description	A-2
Alternatives	A-2
Purpose and Need for the Project	A-2
Environmental Determination	A-3
B. Initial Study	B-1
Environmental Checklist Form	B-1
1. Project Title	B-1
2. Lead Agency Name and Address	B-1
3. Contact Person and Phone Number	B-1
4. Project Location and Regional Context.....	B-1
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address.....	B-2
6. General Plan Designation	B-2
7. Zoning.....	B-8
8. Description of Project	B-8
9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting	B-56
10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required	B-56
Environmental Factors Potentially Affected.....	B-59
Environmental Determination	B-59
Evaluation of Environmental Impacts	B-62
1. Aesthetics	B.1-1
2. Agriculture Resources	B.2-1
3. Air Quality	B.3-1
4. Biological Resources.....	B.4-1
5. Cultural Resources	B.5-1
6. Geology and Soils	B.6-1
7. Hazards and Hazardous Materials	B.7-1
8. Hydrology and Water Quality	B.8-1
9. Land Use and Planning	B.9-1
10. Mineral Resources	B.10-1
11. Noise	B.11-1
12. Population and Housing	B.12-1
13. Public Services.....	B.13-1
14. Recreation	B.14-1
15. Transportation/Traffic	B.15-1
16. Utilities and Service Systems.....	B.16-1
17. Mandatory Findings of Significance	B.17-1
C. Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring Plan	C-1

LIST OF TABLES

Table B-1	Project Area Land Use Designations and Existing Land Uses	B-2
Table B-2	Tower by Tower Construction Work	B-12
Table B-3	Major Equipment for Reconductoring/Power Line Construction	B-37
Table B-4	Major Equipment for Substation Construction	B-42
Table B-5	Applicant Proposed Measures (APM)	B-45
Table B-6	Typical Electric Field Values for Appliances, at 12 Inches.....	B-54
Table B-7	Magnetic Field from Household Appliances	B-54
Table B-8	EMF Regulated Limits (by State)	B-57
Table B-9	Potential Permit Requirements.....	B-59
Table B.1 1	Visual Relationships of Substations to Surrounding Area	B.1-11
Table B.3-1	National and State Ambient Air Quality Standards.....	B.3-2
Table B.3-2	Bay Area Air Quality Management District Attainment Status as of January 2002	B.3-4
Table B.3-3	San Mateo County Exceedances of the State Ambient Air Quality Standards, 1996 to 2001	B.3-5
Table B.3-4	Local Annual Air Quality Measurements, 1996 to 2001	B.3-5
Table B.3-5	Local Toxic Air Pollutant Measurements, 1996 to 2001	B.3-7
Table B.3-6	Construction Emissions Estimates for Proposed PG&E Conversion Project	B.3-9
Table B.3-7	2001 Bay Area Annual Average Emissions by Source Category	B.3-12
Table B.3-8	Operation Emissions Estimates for Proposed PG&E Conversion Project.....	B.3-13
Table B.4-1	Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Region of the San Mateo-Martin #4 60kV Conversion Project	B.4-6
Table B.4-2	Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Region of the San Mateo-Martin #4 60kV Conversion Project	B.4-12
Table B.4-3	Sensitive Plant/Natural Communities Known to Occur in the Region of the San Mateo-Martin #4 Conversion Project	B.4-16
Table B.4-4	Larval and Adult Plants Important to the San Bruno Elfin, Mission Blue, and Callippe Silverspot Butterflies in the San Bruno Mountain Area	B.4-22
Table B.6-1	Estimated Maximum Parameters for Major Known Faults Affecting the PG&E San Mateo-Martin #4 Project Area	B.6-4
Table B.11-1	Noise Measurement Results along the San Mateo-Martin #4 Power Line (A-Weighted Decibels (dBA))	B.11-3
Table B.11-2	Average Noise Levels and Abatement Potential of Construction Equipment Noise at 50 and 100 Ft. (dBA).....	B.11-8
Table B.11-3	Project Operational Noise Level and Distance to Nearest Sensitive Receptors...	B.11-11
Table B.11-4	Vibration Criteria Human Annoyance	B.11-15
Table B.11-5	Vibration Criteria Potential Building Damage	B.11-16
Table B.11-6	Human Response to Different Levels of Groundborne Noise and Vibration	B.11-16
Table B.12-1	2000 Project Area Total Housing Units and Vacancy Rates.....	B.12-2
Table B.15 1	Average Daily Traffic Volumes within the Project Area.....	B.15-3
Table B.15 2	SamTrans Bus Routes within the Project Area.....	B.15-7
Table C-1	San Mateo-Martin #4 Conversion Project Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring Plan	C-3

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure A-1	Historical and Forecast Summer Peak Demand.....	A-5
Figure B-1	Project Location Map.....	B-3

Figure B-2	Project Route Map	B-5
Figure B-3	Typical "Y" Type Guard Structure	B-10
Figure B-4	Typical "H" Type Guard Structure	B-11
Figure B-5	PG&E Power Line Construction	B-35
Figure B.1-1A	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 1 and 2)	B.1-2
Figure B.1-1B	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 3 and 4)	B.1-3
Figure B.1-1C	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 5 and 6)	B.1-4
Figure B.1-1D	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 7 and 8)	B.1-5
Figure B.1-1E	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 9 and 10)	B.1-6
Figure B.1-1F	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 11 and 12)	B.1-7
Figure B.1-1G	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 13 and 14)	B.1-8
Figure B.1-1H	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 15 and 16)	B.1-9
Figure B.1-1I	Visual Setting of Power Line Corridor and Substations (Photos 17 and 18)	B.1-10
Figure B.4-1	Sensitive Areas Overview Map	B.4-17
Figure B.11-1	Burlingame Substation Isophonic Noise dBA Distributions after Modifications (Full Load Operation with Cooling Fans On)	B.11-13
Figure B.11-2.	Millbrae Substation Isophonic Noise dBA Distributions After Modifications (Full Load Operation with Cooling Fans On)	B.11-14

LIST OF APPENDICES

- A. List of Preparers
- B. References
- C. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Best Management Practices Plan
- D. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Fire Suppression/Prevention Measures
- E. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Work Area Protection Guide and Traffic
Control Manual (excerpts)
- F. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Revegetation Plan
- G. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Agency Correspondence
- H. San Mateo-Martin #4 60 kV Conversion Project Construction Staging Plan Form