

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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## **Introduction**

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) filed an application (A.09-11-016) on November 23, 2009 with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) pursuant to CPUC General Order (GO) 131-D, requesting to replace structures and conductors (reconductoring) on two segments of an existing 115 kV overhead electric power line system in Monterey and San Benito Counties, the Hollister Tower and Hollister Pole Segments. The application includes the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) prepared pursuant to Rule 2.4 of the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

The Proposed Project includes replacement of approximately 36 existing towers with new lattice steel towers (LSTs) and installation of one new LST; replacement of single-circuit wood poles with double-circuit tubular steel poles (TSPs) and light-duty steel (LDS) poles; relocation of an existing 115 kV line segment out of the San Benito River floodplain; installation of steel supported aluminum conductor on both the tower and pole segments; and upgrade of the Hollister Substation. The construction period is expected to begin in March 2011, and take approximately 15 months to complete all phases of the Proposed Project.

In accordance with GO 131-D, approval of this project must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Under CEQA, the CPUC must prepare an Initial Study for discretionary projects such as the Proposed Project to determine whether the project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. If an Initial Study prepared for a project indicates that such an impact could occur, the CPUC would be required to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). If an Initial Study does not reveal substantial evidence of such an effect, or if the potential effect can be reduced to a level of insignificance through project revisions, a Negative Declaration can be adopted (Public Resources Code, Division 13, Section 21080(c)(1)).

A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) may be adopted when “the Initial Study has identified potentially significant effects on the environment, but (1) revisions in the project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by, the applicant before the proposed negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment would occur, and (2) there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the public agency that the project, as revised, may have a significant effect on the environment” (Public Resources Code, Division 13, Section 21064.5).

Based on the analysis in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), it has been determined that all project-related environmental impacts could be reduced to a less than significant level with the incorporation of feasible mitigation measures. Therefore, adoption of an IS/MND will satisfy the requirements of CEQA.

## Project Description

The Proposed Project consists of the following components:

- Replacement of approximately 36 of 38 existing towers with new lattice steel towers (LSTs) and installation of one new LST in the seven-mile section of the existing double-circuit Moss Landing-Salinas-Soledad 115 kV power line, beginning at the Lagunitas Switches and extending north to a point near the Anzar Junction.
- Replacement of single-circuit wood poles with double-circuit tubular steel poles (TSPs) and light-duty steel (LDS) poles along an existing nine-mile section of the Hollister No. 1 115 kV power line. This segment would begin near the northern end of the tower segment and extend east to the Hollister Substation.
- Relocation of an approximately 1.3-mile segment of the 115 kV Hollister No. 1 line out of the San Benito River floodplain (the existing river alignment) to a new river crossing approximately 3,000 feet to the north, with structures located on dry banks of the river. This would require installation of 21 new steel poles, including four 92-foot tall TSPs, and topping of existing poles within the 1.3 mile segment so that existing distribution remains to serve local users.
- Installation of a 477 kcmil (circular wire gauge size = 1,000 circular mils) steel-supported aluminum conductor (SSAC) on both the tower and pole segments.
- Upgrade of the Hollister Substation, including relocation of two existing poles, updating relay settings, and changing the 115 kV bus conductors.

## Alternatives

The purpose of an alternatives analysis pursuant to CEQA is to identify options that would feasibly attain the project's objectives while reducing the significant environmental impacts resulting from the Proposed Project. CEQA does not require the inclusion of an alternatives analysis in MNDs because the MND concludes that, with incorporation of mitigation measures, there would be no significant adverse impacts resulting from the Proposed Project. Therefore, no alternatives analysis needs to be provided in the IS/MND. However, as required by GO 131-D, Section IX.B.1(c), a brief discussion of the reasons for selecting the power line route and a comparison with other routes is included in the application.

## Environmental Determination

The IS/MND was prepared to identify the potential environmental effects resulting from implementation of the Proposed Project, and to evaluate the level of significance of these effects. The IS/MND relies on information from PG&E's Application for a Permit to Construct (PTC),

the Proponents Environmental Assessment (PEA), project site reconnaissance, and PG&E's responses to data requests by the CEQA Team. PG&E identified a number of applicant proposed measures (APMs) to avoid or reduce potential impacts associated with the Proposed Project. All APMs are considered part of the Proposed Project for the purpose of this IS/MND. The Project Description, upon adoption of the Final MND, becomes part of the Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Program; therefore, implementation of these measures would be monitored by the CPUC. Based on the IS/MND analysis, additional mitigation measures are identified for adoption to ensure that impacts of the Proposed Project would be less than significant. The additional mitigation measures either supplement, or supersede the APMs. PG&E has agreed to implement all of the additional recommended mitigation measures as part of the Proposed Project.

**Table ES-1** provides a complete, condensed presentation of the environmental impacts that require mitigation measures for the Proposed Project. A full description of the Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Plan is included in Section 5 of this IS/MND.

**TABLE ES-1**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Light and Glare</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.1-1:</b> Reduce construction night lighting impacts. PG&amp;E shall design and install all lighting at construction and storage yards and staging areas such that light bulbs and reflectors are not visible from public viewing areas; lighting does not cause reflected glare; and illumination of the project facilities, vicinity, and nighttime sky is minimized. PG&amp;E shall submit a <i>Construction Lighting Mitigation Plan</i> to the CPUC for review and approval at least 90 days prior to the start of construction or the ordering of any exterior lighting fixtures or components, whichever comes first. PG&amp;E shall not install or operate any exterior lighting fixtures or lighting components for the Proposed Project until the <i>Construction Lighting Mitigation Plan</i> is approved by the CPUC. The Plan shall include but is not limited to the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting shall be designed so exterior lighting is hooded, with lights directed downward or toward the area to be illuminated and so that backscatter to the nighttime sky is minimized. The design of the lighting shall be such that the luminescence or light sources are shielded to prevent light trespass outside the project boundary.</li> <li>• All lighting shall be of minimum necessary brightness consistent with worker safety.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Special-Status Species: California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-1:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following measures for construction areas and maintenance areas located in suitable habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project will avoid direct impacts to sensitive wetlands areas and minimize disturbances to wetland and riparian corridors, wherever possible. Ground disturbance and construction footprints shall be minimized to the greatest degree feasible.</li> <li>• Work activities within or adjacent to suitable habitat will be completed between April 15 and October 31, when possible.</li> <li>• If construction activities must occur during the wet season, the perimeter of pull sites, staging areas, landing zones, shoo-fly lines, and other active construction areas shall be fenced by October 15 with amphibian exclusion fencing.</li> <li>• A qualified biological resource monitor will conduct worker awareness training for construction personnel, addressing the species' basic biology and identifying characteristics, legal status, job-specific protection measures, and penalties for non compliance.</li> <li>• A preconstruction survey will be conducted each day by an onsite monitor immediately preceding construction activity that occurs within or adjacent to suitable habitat.</li> <li>• Suitable habitat that is temporarily impacted by project-related activities will be restored to pre-project conditions.</li> <li>• Temporary impacts to upland habitat will be compensated at a 0.5:1 ratio (i.e., restoration of temporarily disturbed areas, plus permanent conservation of an additional area at a 0.5:1 ratio) and permanent impacts to upland and aquatic habitat will be compensated at a 3:1 ratio or at ratios as prescribed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Game. Compensation will be secured at an approved, off-site mitigation bank, with documentation provided to the resource agencies (i.e., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department of Fish and Game) at least 4 weeks before construction begins.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Special-Status Species: Western pond turtle</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-2:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following measures for construction areas located in suitable habitat within 0.3 mile of aquatic features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include western pond turtle in the Environmental Training and Monitoring Program.</li> <li>• Before daily activities begin near areas of suitable habitat, the onsite monitor shall perform pond turtle surveys within suitable aquatic and upland habitat. Any pond turtles located within the construction area would be relocated to the nearest safe location.</li> <li>• To minimize the likelihood of encountering turtles in upland areas near stream crossings, construction footprints shall be restricted to the smallest area possible.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Special-Status Species: American badger</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-3:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following measures for construction areas located in grasslands that provide potential habitat for American badger:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include American badger in the Environmental Training and Monitoring Program.</li> <li>• Preconstruction surveys shall be conducted within 200 feet of work areas to identify potential maternal badger dens or other refugia in and surrounding work areas. A qualified biologist shall conduct the survey 14 to 30 days before construction begins. If no evidence of badger presence is detected, no further mitigation is required.</li> <li>• Suitable, as determined by the Environmental Monitor, vacated burrows that are located within the work area and that will not be destroyed by construction activities will be temporarily covered using plywood sheets or other similar material to prevent badgers from occupying the burrows within the work areas.</li> <li>• If active, non-maternal dens are located, badgers will be passively relocated via installation of one-way doors.</li> <li>• If active maternal dens are located, the den will be avoided during construction by establishment of a 100-foot buffer. Smaller buffers, if required for construction, would be established in coordination with CDFG.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Special-Status Species: San Joaquin kit fox</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-4:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following San Joaquin kit fox protection measures for construction areas located in grasslands and agricultural lands that provide potential habitat for San Joaquin kit fox.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preconstruction surveys shall be conducted within 200 feet of work areas to identify potential San Joaquin kit fox dens or other refugia in and surrounding work areas. A qualified biologist shall conduct the survey 14 to 30 days before construction begins. All potential dens shall be monitored for evidence of kit fox use by placing an inert tracking medium at den entrances and monitoring for at least three consecutive nights. If no activity is detected at these sites, they may be closed following guidance established in the 1999 USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox.</li> <li>• If kit fox occupancy is determined at a given site, den closure activities shall immediately be halted and the USFWS contacted. Depending on the den type, reasonable and prudent measures to avoid effects to kit fox could include seasonal limitations on project construction at the site (i.e., restricting the construction period to avoid spring-summer pupping season), and/or establishing a construction exclusion zone around the identified site, or resurveying the den a week later to determine species presence or absence.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<p><b>Special-Status Species:</b>  <b>San Joaquin kit fox</b>          (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimize the possibility of inadvertent kit fox mortality, project-related vehicles shall observe a maximum 20 miles per hour speed limit on private roads in kit fox habitat. Nighttime vehicle traffic shall be kept to a minimum on non-maintained roads. Off-road traffic outside the designated project area shall be prohibited in areas of kit fox habitat.</li> <li>• To prevent accidental entrapment of kit fox or other animals during construction, all excavated holes or trenches greater than two feet deep shall be covered at the end of each work day by suitable materials, or escape routes constructed of earthen materials or wooden planks shall be provided. Before filling, such holes shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. All pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of 4 inches or greater must be capped at both ends while not in use, and otherwise inspected for kit fox presence prior to relocation or use.</li> <li>• All food-related trash items (such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps) shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed daily from the project area.</li> <li>• To prevent harassment and mortality of kit foxes or destruction of their dens, no pets shall be allowed in the project area.</li> <li>• Suitable habitat that is temporarily impacted by project-related activities will be restored to pre-project conditions.</li> <li>• Temporary impacts will be compensated at a minimum of 0.5:1 ratio (i.e., restoration of temporarily disturbed areas, plus permanent conservation of an additional area at a 0.5:1 ratio) and permanent impacts will be compensated at a minimum 3:1 ratio or at ratios as prescribed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Game. Compensation will be implemented by participating in the San Joaquin Kit Fox Conservation Fund, which is administered via trust by the Center for Natural Lands Management.</li> </ul>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p><b>Special-Status Species:</b>  <b>Raptors and Nesting Birds</b></p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-5:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following measures for the protection of nesting birds and raptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project design, construction, and maintenance will conform with PG&amp;E's corporate Avian Protection Plan and Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) Guidelines.</li> <li>• A project-specific Avian Protection Plan would be developed and would include routine ground surveys by a qualified avian biologist, ground surveys staggered over time in concert with project implementation, additional ground surveys by a qualified environmental monitor, species-specific buffers, and a minimum 1,000-foot helicopter buffer for active eagle nests.</li> <li>• During the permitting process, the USFWS may identify the need for protocol surveys for least Bell's vireo.</li> <li>• If active nests are not identified during the preconstruction survey, no further action is required for breeding birds.</li> <li>• If active nests are identified during the preconstruction survey, the following measures, which shall be included in the project-specific Avian Protection Plan, will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts.</li> </ul>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Special-Status Species: Raptors and Nesting Birds (cont.)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– For golden eagle, construction contractors shall observe CDFG avoidance guidelines, which stipulate a minimum 500-foot buffer zone around active golden eagle nests. Buffer zones of 50 feet for passerine birds and 250 feet for raptors other than golden eagles will be established or closer as needed with resources agency permission. Buffer zones shall remain until young have fledged.</li> <li>– Monitoring of the nest by a qualified biologist may be required if the project-related activity has potential to adversely impact the nest.</li> <li>– CDFG may, on a case-by-case basis, allow construction activities to continue even if raptors and passerine birds nest within the buffers of the work activities during the nesting season.</li> <li>– For activities conducted with agency approval within a raptor-nesting buffer zone, a qualified biologist shall monitor construction activities and the nest(s) to monitor reactions to activities. If activities are deemed to have a negative effect on nesting raptors, the biologist shall immediately inform the construction manager that work should be halted, and CDFG will be consulted. While the USFWS issues limited take permits for golden eagle, this species and certain other raptors are fully-protected under California law.</li> <li>– Following construction, PG&amp;E will comply with the PG&amp;E company-wide Avian Protection Plan.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Riparian and Upland Habitat</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-6:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following measures for the protection and restoration of riparian and upland habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PG&amp;E shall complete a Habitat Management Plan to be approved by the resource agencies at least 4 weeks prior to construction in potential restoration areas.</li> <li>• The Habitat Management Plan will include, at a minimum, quantifiable success criteria, contingency provisions, and follow-up monitoring responsibilities and schedules.</li> <li>• Affected riparian and upland habitat shall be restored to pre-project conditions.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Native Trees</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.4-7:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement the following additional measures for the protection and restoration of impacted native trees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The record of protected trees removed during construction and the associated plans for native tree replacement will be included in the Habitat Management Plan required under Mitigation Measure 3.4-6, above.</li> <li>• For replacement trees, the Habitat Management Plan shall include, at a minimum, quantifiable success criteria, contingency provisions, and follow-up monitoring responsibilities and schedules.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Paleontological Resources</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.5-1:</b> Stop work if previously unknown paleontological resources are discovered. Prior to the start of any subsurface excavations (excluding pole and tower holes) that would extend into Pleistocene to Oligocene sedimentary rock units, all construction forepersons and field supervisors shall receive training by a qualified professional paleontologist, as defined by the SVP (1995), who is experienced in teaching non-specialists, to ensure they can recognize fossil materials and will follow proper notification procedures in the event any are uncovered during construction. Procedures to be conveyed to workers include halting construction within 50 feet of any potential fossil find and notifying a qualified paleontologist, who will evaluate its significance.</p>	Less than Significant

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Paleontological Resources (cont.)</b>	<p>Training on paleontological resources will also be provided to all other construction workers, but may involve using a videotape of the initial training and/or written materials rather than in-person training by a paleontologist. If a fossil is determined to be significant and avoidance is not feasible, the paleontologist will develop and implement an excavation and salvage plan in accordance with SVP standards (SVP, 1995; SVP, 1996).</p>	Less than Significant
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-1:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall implement construction best management practices, including but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow manufacturer's recommendations on use, storage, and disposal of chemical products used in construction;</li> <li>• Avoid overtopping construction equipment fuel gas tanks;</li> <li>• Use tarps and adsorbent pads under vehicles when refueling to contain and capture any spilled fuel;</li> <li>• During routine maintenance of construction equipment, properly contain and remove grease and oils;</li> <li>• Properly dispose of discarded containers of fuels and other chemicals; and</li> <li>• If wood poles removed from the Hollister Pole Segment are not recycled or reused, they shall be disposed of at a landfill facility that is authorized to accept treated wood pole waste in accordance with HSC 25143.1.4(b),</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-2:</b> PG&amp;E shall prepare a Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response Plan (Plan) and implement it during construction to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws and guidelines regarding the handling of hazardous materials. The Plan shall prescribe hazardous material handling procedures to reduce the potential for a spill during construction, or exposure of the workers or public to hazardous materials. The Plan shall also include a discussion of appropriate response actions in the event that hazardous materials are released or encountered during excavation activities. The Plan shall be submitted to the CPUC for review and approval prior to the commencement of construction activities.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-3:</b> PG&amp;E shall prepare and implement a Health and Safety Plan to ensure the health and safety of construction workers and the public during construction. The plan shall include information on the appropriate personal protective equipment to be used during construction.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-4:</b> PG&amp;E shall ensure that a Workers Environmental Awareness Program is established and implemented to communicate environmental concerns and appropriate work practices to all construction field personnel. The training program shall emphasize site-specific physical conditions to improve hazard prevention, and shall include a review of the Health and Safety Plan and the Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response Plan. The CPUC mitigation monitor shall attend the first training session. PG&amp;E shall submit documentation to the CPUC prior to the commencement of construction activities that each worker on the project has undergone this training program.</p>	

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Hazardous Materials</b> (cont.)	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-5:</b> PG&amp;E shall ensure that oil-absorbent material, tarps, and storage drums shall be used to contain and control any minor releases. Emergency spill supplies and equipment shall be kept at the project staging area and adjacent to all areas of work, and shall be clearly marked. Detailed information for responding to accidental spills and for handling any resulting hazardous materials shall be provided in the project's Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response Plan (see Mitigation Measure 3.7-2), which shall be implemented during construction.</p>	Less than Significant
<b>Protected Air Space</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.7-6:</b> PG&amp;E shall incorporate the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conditions outlined in FAA Aeronautical Studies 2009-AWP-1446-OE (FAA, 2009a) and 2009-AWP-1447-OE (FAA, 2009b), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poles 22/00 and 22/01 shall be marked or lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 K Change 2, Obstruction Marking and Lighting, red lights.</li> <li>• Notices of Actual Construction or Alternative, shall be completed and returned to the FAA within five days after the construction reaches its greatest height.</li> <li>• Poles 22/00 and 22/01 shall not exceed 82 feet above ground level (i.e., 381 feet above mean sea level).</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Water Quality</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.8-1:</b> For all segments of new access roads that would be within 300 feet of an existing surface water channel and traverse a ground slope greater than two percent, the following protective measures shall be installed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permanent access roads shall be in-sloped with a rock-lined ditch on the inboard side;</li> <li>• Water bars, or a similar drainage feature, shall be installed at 150 foot intervals (so as to reduce the effective, connected length of the access road to 150 feet).</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Drainage</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.8-2:</b> The drainage study, as proposed by PG&amp;E in APM-HYDRO-3, shall provide sizing recommendations to ensure each culvert can pass a 10-year storm event without being submerged, and design recommendations to ensure that culvert installation would result in no net increase in erosion and sedimentation during peak flows. Sizing and design recommendations for each culvert shall consider the individual drainage characteristics of the stream (e.g., slope, watershed area, and substrate) and may include any combination of features necessary to achieve no net increase in erosion and sediment transport. Such features may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Downstream armoring with gravel or gabions, coupled with appropriate roughness features or characteristics, so as to dissipate and slow flows exiting the culvert and leaving the modified stream segment;</li> <li>• A wide culvert that retains the natural stream bed and roughness elements without notably increasing flow depth;</li> <li>• Design length and slope of culvert to maintain existing topography</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
<b>Construction Noise</b>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.11-1:</b> Construction activity shall be limited to between the hours of seven a.m. and seven p.m., Monday through Saturday, except with CPUC approval and where necessary to ensure worker safety or to conduct certain work during electrical line clearances or during procedures that cannot be interrupted.</p>	Less than Significant

**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact  <b>Construction Noise (cont.)</b>	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.11-2:</b> PG&amp;E and/or its contractors shall shield compressors and other small stationary construction equipment with portable barriers when operating within 100 feet of residences.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.11-3:</b> In the event that nighttime (i.e., between seven p.m. and seven a.m.) construction activity is determined to be necessary within 500 feet of an occupied residential dwelling unit, a nighttime noise reduction plan shall be developed by PG&amp;E and submitted to the CPUC for review and approval. The noise reduction plan shall include a set of site-specific noise attenuation measures that apply state of the art noise reduction technology to ensure that nighttime construction noise and levels and associated nuisance are reduced to the most extent feasible. The attenuation measures may include, but not be limited to, the control strategies and methods for implementation that are listed below. If any of the following strategies are found by PG&amp;E to not be feasible, an explanation as to why the specific strategy is not feasible shall be included in the nighttime noise reduction plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan construction activities to minimize the amount of nighttime construction.</li> <li>• Offer temporary relocation of residents within 200 feet of nighttime construction areas.</li> </ul> <p>Temporary noise barriers, such as shields and/or blankets, shall be installed immediately adjacent to all nighttime stationary noise sources (e.g., drilling rigs, generators, pumps, etc.) that block the line of sight between nighttime activities and the closest residences.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3.15-1:</b> Traffic Management and Control Plan. PG&amp;E shall prepare a Traffic Management and Control Plan that shall include, at a minimum, the measures listed below. The Plan shall be submitted to the CPUC for approval and shall be distributed to all construction crew members prior to commencement of construction activities. The Plan shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include descriptions of work hours, haul routes, work area delineation, any traffic detour routes, bicyclists and pedestrian detour routes, traffic control, and flagging;</li> <li>• Identify all access and parking restriction and signage requirements;</li> <li>• Require workers to park personal vehicles at the approved staging areas and take only necessary project vehicles to the work sites;</li> <li>• Lay out plans for notifications of all lane and road closures and a process for communication with affected road users, including truckers, residents, and landowners prior to the start of construction. Advance public notification shall include posting of notices and appropriate signage of construction activities. The written notification shall include the construction schedule, the exact location and duration of activities within each street (i.e., which road/lanes and access point/driveways/parking areas would be blocked on which days and for how long), and a toll-free telephone number for receiving questions or complaints;</li> <li>• Include plans to coordinate all construction activities with emergency service providers in the area. Emergency service providers would be notified of the timing, location, and duration of construction activities. All roads would remain passable to emergency service vehicles at all times; and</li> <li>• Identify all roadway locations where special construction techniques (e.g., night construction) would be used to minimize impacts to traffic flow.</li> </ul>	Less than Significant
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**TABLE ES-1 (continued)**  
**SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE PG&E HOLLISTER 115KV POWER LINE RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed in this MND	Significance after Mitigation
<b>Construction Traffic</b> (cont.)	<b>Mitigation Measure 3.15-2:</b> Coordination with Union Pacific Railroad. PG&E shall coordinate all construction activities with Union Pacific Railroad to avoid delays in freight train service along the Hollister Branch Line. PG&E shall implement, at a minimum, the Union Pacific Railroad safety and engineering guidelines when installing power lines over the railroad right-of-way (ROW). The Workers Environmental Awareness Program required under Mitigation Measure 3.7-4 shall require construction crews and project personnel to be trained on Union Pacific Railroad safety guidelines prior to commencing work within or over the railroad ROW.	

