

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

TO: All Interested Parties

Pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order 131-D, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) filed an application with CPUC for a Permit to Construct the Santa Cruz 115-kV Reinforcement Project (Application No. A. 12-02-012).

Project Background: PG&E proposes to construct and operate the Santa Cruz 115-kV Reinforcement Project, which involves three components:

- **Northern Alignment:** Converting an existing 7.1 miles of existing single-circuit, 115-kV power line into a double-circuit, 115-kV power line by:
 - Replacing existing wood transmission poles with an average height of 60 feet tall with new tubular steel poles (TSP) with an average height of 90 feet tall
- **Cox-Freedom Segment:** Constructing a new, approximately 1.7-mile-long, single-circuit, 115-kV power line along an existing distribution alignment by:
 - Installing 4 new TSPs averaging 98 feet tall
 - Replacing existing distribution wood poles averaging 39 feet tall with new wood transmission poles averaging 89 feet tall
- **Rob Roy Substation:**
 - Modifying the Rob Roy Substation and existing power lines into the substation to accommodate the new circuit and install 1 new TSP and replace existing wood structures with 3 new TSPs within the substation area, with an average height of 84 feet tall

The project is located in unincorporated southern Santa Cruz County, California, between the cities of Watsonville and Aptos. Construction is targeted to start in July 2015 and finish in late 2016.

Information Available: The CPUC Energy Division prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) describing the project and its potential environmental effects. Based on this document, it was determined that the proposed project, as modified, will not have any significant effects on the environment. CPUC's environmental document may be reviewed at the following locations:

CPUC Energy Division
505 Van Ness, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94102

Santa Cruz Public Library, Aptos Branch
7695 Soquel Drive
Aptos, California 95003

Watsonville Public Library, Freedom Branch
2021 Freedom Boulevard
Freedom, California 95019

For electronic access to the MND and other project information/reports, please go to CPUC's website:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/panoramaenv/SantaCruz_115kVReinforcement/SantaCruz_115%20Reinforcement%20Project.html

A public information meeting will be held at **6:00 PM on Wednesday, November 6, 2013**, at

Corralitos Grange Hall
165 Little Corral Way
Watsonville, California 95076

Public Review: This IS/MND will undergo an extended 45-day public review period from October 18, 2013, through December 2, 2013. Comments must be received in writing by **5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2013**, at the following address:

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