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 Electrical Facilities with Voltages between 50 kilovolt (kV) and 200 kV: Cressey-Gallo 115 kV Power Line Project (Application No. A.11-11-020).

<u>Project Background</u> PG&E is proposing to construct the Cressey-Gallo 115 kV Power Line Project to improve transmission system reliability for customers in north-central Merced County, California. The project consists of constructing a new 14.4-mile 115 kV power line between Cressey and Gallo Substations to form a power line loop with two other area substations (Livingston and Atwater) to avoid customer service interruptions from single-line outages in this area. As proposed by PG&E, the project includes:

- Constructing a new, approximately 14.4-mile, single-circuit 115 kV power line interconnecting Cressey Substation and Gallo Substation.
- Upgrading the bus configurations at Cressey Substation and replacing the existing radial power line transition into the substation within the existing substation property.
- Expanding Gallo Substation to add switchgear and upgrade the bus configurations.

Depending on CPUC approval, construction is targeted to start in April 2013 and estimated to be complete in January 2014.

<u>Information Available</u>: The CPUC Energy Division has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) describing the project and its potential environmental effects. Based on this document, it has been determined that the proposed project will not have any significant effects on the environment with incorporation of the mitigation identified in the IS/MND. The CPUC's environmental document may be reviewed at the following locations:

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

Livingston Branch Library 1212 Main Street Livingston, CA 95334

Electronic access to the MND and other project information/reports is available on the CPUC's website at:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/aspen/cresseygallo/cresseygallo.htm

<u>Time for Review</u>: This IS/MND will undergo a public review period from February 27, 2013 through March 29, 2013. Comments must be received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on March 29, 2013 at the following address:

Billie Blanchard
California Public Utilities Commission
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

You may fax your comments to (209) 812-1952 or e-mail them to: cresseygallo@aspeneg.com.