

NOTICE OF FINAL INITIAL STUDY/ 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).

Project Background: 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 2014.

Information Available: The CPUC Energy Division has prepared a Final 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
455 Golden Gate, 7th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

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>

Hard copies of the MND can be requested by fax at (209) 812-1952 or e-mail at cresseygallo@aspeneg.com.

CPUC Actions After Final IS/MND Publication: There is no comment period following issuance of the Final IS/MND. The CPUC will determine the adequacy of the Final IS/MND, and, if adequate, will adopt the document as being compliant with CEQA. If adequate, the CPUC will issue a Proposed Decision on the Application, which will be announced and published concurrent with a scheduled Commission meeting. After the Commission makes the decision on the Application, a Notice of Determination will be mailed to the State Clearinghouse within 5 days of the Decision. The 30-day statute of limitations for court challenges begins after the Notice of Determination is filed.

To request additional information or to ask a question, please contact: (209) 812-1952 (voicemail or fax); Billie Blanchard; California Public Utilities Commission; c/o Aspen Environmental Group; 235 Montgomery Street; Suite 935, San Francisco, CA 94104-3002 (U.S. Mail or Courier); or cresseygallo@aspeneg.com (email).