

1 **5.14 Public Services**  
2

3 This section describes the environmental and regulatory setting and discusses impacts associated with the  
4 construction and operation of the Sanger Substation Expansion Project (proposed project) proposed by  
5 Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E, or the applicant) with respect to public services.  
6

7 As part of the proposed project, the applicant would mount two dishes, each measuring about 4 feet in  
8 diameter, on an existing tower at the Fence Meadow Repeater Station in the Sierra National Forest. The  
9 construction and operation of this installation would not require any new or altered government facilities  
10 or services because of the minimal level and short duration of activity required for construction and  
11 because operation and maintenance of the site would be comparable to existing activities. Therefore, the  
12 antenna system is not discussed further in this section.  
13

14 **5.14.1 Environmental Setting**  
15

16 **Fire Protection**

17 The Fresno County Fire Protection District (FCFPD) covers 2,655 square miles of the Central San  
18 Joaquin Valley and provides firefighting and emergency response services to a population of more than  
19 220,000 citizens in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of Fresno County. Operating in  
20 conjunction with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the FCFPD provides  
21 emergency services from 13 district-staffed fire stations and five district-paid call fire stations. Fire  
22 protection and emergency response services for the proposed project area are provided by Battalion 18 of  
23 the FCFPD, which is based in the City of Sanger (FCFPD 2015).  
24

25 **Police Protection**

26 The Fresno County Sheriff's Department (FCSD) provides law enforcement services to all unincorporated  
27 areas of Fresno County. Patrol Area 3 of the FCSD's Southwest Field Services Bureau encompasses a  
28 559-square-mile area and provides law enforcement services for about 150,000 residents in southern  
29 Fresno County, including in the proposed project area (Fresno County Sheriff's Office 2016).  
30

31 **Schools**

32 The proposed project site is located within District 4 of the Sanger Unified School District, which  
33 includes 21 elementary, middle, and high schools (Sanger Unified School District 2015). The nearest  
34 school facility, Ronald W. Reagan Elementary, is located 1.6 miles from the proposed project area.  
35

36 **Parks and Recreation Facilities**

37 The nearest recreational facility to the proposed project area is Rotary Ball Park, approximately 2 miles  
38 southeast of the substation site, in the City of Sanger. Greenwood Park is located about 2.1 miles  
39 southeast of the substation site in the City of Sanger.  
40

41 **Hospitals**

42 The nearest emergency care facilities to the proposed project area include the Clovis Community Medical  
43 Center, 9.5 miles northwest from the proposed project site, and the Community Regional Medical Center  
44 (also the region's trauma center), 10 miles west of the proposed project site.  
45

1 **5.14.2 Regulatory Setting**

2  
3 There are no relevant federal, state, or local regulations related to public services.

4  
5 **5.14.3 Environmental Impacts and Assessment**

6  
7 **Applicant Proposed Measures**

8 The applicant has not incorporated applicant proposed measures into the proposed project to specifically  
9 minimize or avoid impacts on public services. A list of all project APMs is included in Table 4-5.

10  
11 **Impacts on Public Services**

12 Table 5.14-1 includes the significance criteria from Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality  
13 Act Guidelines' public services section to evaluate the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

14 Table 5.14-1 Public Services Checklist

| Would the project:   | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact                           |
|--|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: |                                |   |                              |                                     |
| a. Fire protection?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Police protection?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Schools?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Parks?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Other public facilities?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

15  
16 ***Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or***  
17 ***physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities,***  
18 ***the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain***  
19 ***acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:***

20 ***a. Fire protection?***

21  
22 **Construction**

23 *NO IMPACT*

24  
25 Construction activities inherently increase fire risk; therefore, construction activities may incrementally  
26 increase demand on fire protection services. However, existing local firefighting and emergency response  
27 services are adequate and available to respond to a fire or medical emergency should an on-site incident  
28 occur. Risk of fire would not be greater than any other construction site, and construction would be

1 temporary. Therefore, no new or altered fire protection facilities would be needed as a result of  
2 construction of the proposed project. There would be no impact.

3  
4 **Operation and Maintenance**

5 *NO IMPACT*

6  
7 Operation of the expanded Sanger Substation and reconfigured power lines would be the same as current  
8 activities. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not cause an increase in the need for fire  
9 protection services in the proposed project area, and no new or altered fire protection facilities would be  
10 required. There would be no impact.

11  
12 **b. Police protection?**

13  
14 **Construction**

15 *NO IMPACT*

16  
17 Limited law enforcement services may be required to respond to any incidences of vandalism or robbery  
18 of materials stored on site during construction. However, existing police protection services are adequate  
19 to protect against vandalism, maintain the security of project facilities, and address potential safety  
20 emergencies that could occur within the project area during construction. Risk of these activities would be  
21 no greater than any other construction site, and construction would be temporary. Therefore, no new or  
22 altered police protection facilities would be needed as a result of construction of the proposed project.  
23 There would be no impact.

24  
25 **Operation and Maintenance**

26 *NO IMPACT*

27  
28 Operation of the expanded Sanger Substation and reconfigured power lines would be the same as current  
29 activities. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not cause an increase in the need for police  
30 protection services in the proposed project area, and no new or altered police protection facilities would  
31 be required. There would be no impact.

32  
33 **c. Schools?**

34  
35 **Construction**

36 *NO IMPACT*

37  
38 Construction crews are expected to be composed of a maximum of 30 people on site at any given time.  
39 Workers would be mostly from the local area or could commute from nearby areas. If workers from  
40 outside the area temporarily relocated, it is unlikely there would be an increase in use of local schools  
41 given that the relocation would be temporary, and workers would be dispersed throughout the broader  
42 area. Therefore, new or altered schools would not be needed. There would be no impact.

43  
44 **Operation and Maintenance**

45 *NO IMPACT*

46  
47 The Sanger Substation would be unstaffed; operation would be controlled from PG&E's Grid Control  
48 Center in Vacaville. The site would be visited by maintenance personnel on an intermittent basis only,

1 similar to current activities. Therefore, the proposed project would not increase the local population of  
2 school pupils, and there would be no need for new or altered schools. There would be no impact.

3  
4 *d. Parks?*

5  
6 **Construction**

7 *NO IMPACT*

8  
9 Construction crews are expected to be composed of a maximum of 30 people on site at any given time.  
10 Workers would be mostly from the local area or could commute from nearby areas. If workers from  
11 outside the area temporarily relocated, the increase in use of local parks by up to 30 people for the 24- to  
12 30-month construction period would be negligible and would not necessitate construction of new parks or  
13 modification of existing parks. There would be no impact.

14  
15 **Operation and Maintenance**

16 *NO IMPACT*

17  
18 The substation would be unstaffed; operation would be controlled from PG&E's Grid Control Center in  
19 Vacaville. The site would be visited by maintenance personnel on an intermittent basis only, similar to  
20 existing activities. Because the substation would be unstaffed, operation of the proposed project would  
21 have no effect on the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreation facilities and  
22 would not necessitate new or modified facilities. Operation of the proposed project would, therefore,  
23 result in no impact under this criterion.

24  
25 *e. Other public facilities?*

26  
27 **Construction**

28 *NO IMPACT*

29  
30 Construction may temporarily increase demand for hospital services in case a worker is injured, as is the  
31 case with any construction activities. Existing facilities would be adequate to serve any workers. No new  
32 hospital facilities would be needed. There would be no impact.

33  
34 **Operation and Maintenance**

35 *NO IMPACT*

36  
37 The substation would be unstaffed; operation would be controlled from PG&E's Grid Control Center in  
38 Vacaville. The site would be visited by maintenance personnel on an intermittent basis only, similar to  
39 existing activities. Because the substation would be unstaffed, operation of the proposed project would  
40 have no effect on the use of hospitals. No new facilities would be needed. There would be no impact.