



# California Public Utilities Commission



August 26, 2022

Erin Rice  
Sr. Land Planner  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
2730 Gateway Oaks, Rm 220, #235B  
Sacramento, CA 95833

***Re: Minor Project Refinement No. 3 for the Humboldt Reconductoring Project – (A.19-02-004)***

Dear Mr. Rice:

On November 23, 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) adopted the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Humboldt Bay-Humboldt #1 60 kV Reconductoring Project (Project) and approved the Project (Application 19-02-004). The decision granted Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) a Permit to Construct and approved the Project conditionally with the implementation of Applicant Proposed Measures and Mitigation Measures adopted in the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP). Notice to Proceed (NTP)-2 (2022 Construction Scope) was issued by the CPUC on June 3, 2022. NTP-2 consists of construction activities from pole 6 (near Golden West Drive) to pole 115 (at Humboldt Substation) through calendar year 2022.

On August 25, 2022, PG&E provided the CPUC with “notification” of a proposed changed work area at Pole 28. For clarity, the CPUC refers to this notification as Minor Project Refinement Request No. 3 (MPRR3). As part of the approved Project, the original pole replacement work area for Pole 28 was 3,400 square feet. The MPRR3 indicates that a pull area would be added to the Pole 28 work area, partially overlapping with the approved pole replacement work area. The newly proposed pull area would be in an upland area and would be 3,500 square feet (as indicated by the blue polygon in the attached figure provided with MPRR3), but due to the overlapping work areas, only an additional approximately 2,000 square feet of work area would be added to the approved Project. The total revised work/pull area at Pole 28 would be 5,400 square feet.

A PG&E biologist surveyed the area on August 25, 2022, and the biologist did not observe any biological resources of concern. The adopted IS/MND disclosed that the typical pole work area would average at least 0.2 acre (see Table 2-2), which is equal to approximately 8,700 square feet. Therefore, at 5,400 square feet, the revised work/pull area at Pole 28 would continue to be well under the average pole work area described in the approved IS/MND. The project change identified in MPRR3 consists of a minor project change that will not trigger other permit requirements, will not increase the severity of an impact, or create a new impact, and will clearly and strictly comply with the intent of the approved mitigation measure. The minor project refinement would not result in any changes to the impact conclusions in the Final IS/MND with implementation of relevant applicant proposed measures and mitigation measures listed in the MMCRP and will not trigger a permit requirement or require

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approval by another jurisdictional agency. The CPUC has determined that no further documentation is needed for compliance with CEQA.

PG&E is authorized to proceed with the minor project refinement identified in its August 25 notification to CPUC upon condition that all proposed actions and construction are carried out in accordance with the methods and conditions described in NTP-2.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John E. Forsythe".

John E. Forsythe, AICP  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: Matt Fagundes, ESA  
Even Holmboe, ESA