

estimates using data from NERC's compliance registry as well as a 2009 survey that was conducted by NERC to

asses the number of entities reporting Critical Cyber Assets.

Data collection	Number of respondents <sup>5</sup>	Average number of responses per respondent	Average number of burden hours per response <sup>6</sup>	Total annual hours
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1) x (2) x (3)
FERC-725B:				
Estimate of U.S. Entities that have identified Critical Cyber Assets .....	345	1	320	110,400
Estimate of U.S. Entities that have not identified Critical Cyber Assets ..	1,156	1	8	9,248
New U.S. Entities that have to come into compliance with the CIP Standards <sup>7</sup> .....	*6	1	1,176	7,056
Totals .....	1,501			126,704

\* not included in the 1,501 total because it is assumed that on average, six entities per year will no longer have to comply with the CIP standards.

The total estimated annual cost burden to respondents is:

- Entities that have identified Critical Assets = 110,400 hours@\$96 = \$10,598,400.
- Entities that have not identified Critical Assets = 9,248 hours@\$96 = \$887,808.
- Storage Costs for Entities that have identified Critical Assets<sup>8</sup> = 315 Entities@\$15.25 = \$4,804.

The hourly rate of \$96 is the average cost of legal services (\$230 per hour), technical employees (\$40 per hour) and administrative support (\$18 per hour), based on hourly rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the 2009

<sup>5</sup> The NERC Compliance Registry as of 9/28/2010 indicated that 2079 entities were registered for NERC's compliance program. Of these, 2057 were identified as being U.S. entities. Staff concluded that of the 2057 U.S. entities, only 1501 were registered for at least one CIP related function. According to an April 7, 2009 memo to industry, NERC's VP and Chief Security officer noted that only 31% of entities responded to an earlier survey and reported that they had at least one Critical Asset, and only 23% reported having a Critical Cyber Asset. Staff applied the 23% reporting to the 1501 figure to obtain an estimate. The 6 new entities listed here are assumed to match a similar set of 6 entities that would drop out in an existing year. Thus, the net estimate of respondents remains at 1501 per year.

<sup>6</sup> This figure relates to NERC's audit schedule which requires NERC to engage in a compliance Audit once every 3 to 5 years. For simplicity, staff has divided the total number of hours by 3 to reflect the amount of time annually spent preparing documents. Staff assumed that each CIP audit or spot check would require four individuals 6 weeks to prepare and demonstrate compliance with CIP standards for entities that have identified Critical Cyber Assets. Staff estimated that entities that do not have Critical Cyber Assets would still be required to demonstrate compliance with CIP-002, which would require one individual approximately three days to execute.

<sup>7</sup> This category of respondents (with the corresponding burden) was not included in the 60-day public notice due to an oversight by Commission staff.

<sup>8</sup> This cost category was not included in the 60-day public notice due to an oversight by Commission staff.

Billing Rates and Practices Survey Report.<sup>9</sup> The \$15.25 rate for storage costs for each entity is an estimate based on the average costs to service and store 1 GB of data to demonstrate compliance with the CIP standards.<sup>10</sup>

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the

<sup>9</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics figures were obtained from [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2\\_22.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm), and 2009 Billing Rates figure were obtained from [http://www.marylandlawyerblog.com/2009/07/average\\_hourly\\_rate\\_for\\_lawyer.html](http://www.marylandlawyerblog.com/2009/07/average_hourly_rate_for_lawyer.html). Legal services were based on the national average billing rate (contracting out) from the above report and BLS hourly earnings (in-house personnel). It is assumed that 25% of respondents have in-house legal personnel.

<sup>10</sup> Based on the aggregate cost of an IBM advanced data protection server.

burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses.

Dated: March 31, 2011.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2479-011]

#### Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, and Preliminary Terms and Conditions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

- Type of Application:* Subsequent License—Transmission Line Only.
- Project No.:* P-2479-011.
- Date filed:* February 22, 2011.
- Applicant:* Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

e. *Name of Project:* French Meadows Transmission Line Project.

f. *Location:* The French Meadows Transmission Line Project is located in Placer County, California, within the boundaries of the Eldorado and Tahoe National Forests.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Forrest Sullivan, Senior Project Manager, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 5555 Florin Perkins Road, Sacramento, CA, 95826. *Tel:* (916) 386-5580.

i. *FERC Contact:* Mary Greene, (202) 502-8865 or [mary.greene@ferc.gov](mailto:mary.greene@ferc.gov).

j. Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary prescriptions: 60 days from the issuance date of this notice; reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

Motions to intervene, protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted for filing and is now ready for environmental analysis.

l. The Project is connected with The Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2079, owned and operated by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA). The project consists of a 3-phase, 60-kilovolt (kV), wood-pole transmission line extending 13.27 miles from PCWA's French Meadows powerhouse switchyard to PCWA's Middle Fork powerhouse (feature of Project 2079). The project includes a 3-phase, 60-kV

transmission line extending approximately 900 feet from PCWA's Oxbow powerhouse (feature of project No. 2079) to the interconnection at PG&E's Weimar #1 60-kV transmission line. The transmission line right-of-way is 40 feet in width for its entire length. The project also includes a 230-kV tap at PCWA's Ralston powerhouse. The tap is wholly contained within the switchyard at Ralston powerhouse.

The French Meadows 60-kV transmission line is entirely within the boundaries of the Eldorado National Forest, and the Oxbow 60-kV tap is entirely within the boundaries of the Tahoe National Forest. The combined length of the two 60-kV transmission lines on National Forest System lands is 6.58 miles: 6.42 miles in the Eldorado National Forest and 0.16 mile in the Tahoe National Forest. Approximately 6.69 miles of the French Meadows 60-kV transmission line are located on private lands within the boundary of the Eldorado National Forest. The Oxbow tap is located entirely on National Forest System lands.

PG&E is not proposing to modify the existing project and does not plan any changes to the operation or maintenance of the transmission line.

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "PROTEST", "MOTION TO INTERVENE", "COMMENTS,"

"REPLY COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS," or "PRELIMINARY TERMS AND CONDITIONS;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

*o. Procedural Schedule:*

The application will be processed according to the following revised Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

Milestone	Target date
Filing of recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions.	May 31, 2011.
Commission issues EA	September 28, 2011.
Comments on EA or EIS.	November 14, 2011.
Modified terms and conditions.	January 13, 2012.

p. Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of this notice.

Dated: April 1, 2011.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

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