

# Contents

<b>1. Mitigated Negative Declaration .....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
1.1 Introduction to Mitigated Negative Declaration .....	1-1
1.2 Project Description.....	1-2
1.3 Alternatives.....	1-2
1.4 Environmental Determination .....	1-2
<b>2. Environmental Determination.....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected .....	2-1
2.2 Environmental Determination .....	2-1
<b>3. Introduction to the Initial Study .....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1 Environmental Analysis.....	3-1
<b>4. Project Description.....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1 Project Title .....	4-2
4.2 Project Sponsor's Name and Address.....	4-2
4.3 Lead Agency Name and Address.....	4-2
4.4 Lead Agency Contact Person and Phone Number .....	4-2
4.5 Project Location .....	4-3
4.6 Project Objectives .....	4-3
4.7 Purpose and Need.....	4-3
4.8 Setting and Surrounding Land Uses .....	4-4
4.8.1 Zoning .....	4-4
4.9 Project Components .....	4-5
4.9.1 Windsor Substation .....	4-5
4.9.2 Site Access .....	4-6
4.9.3 Perimeter and Landscaping .....	4-6
4.9.4 Lighting .....	4-6
4.9.5 Drainage.....	4-6
4.9.6 Power Lines.....	4-7
4.9.7 Distribution Lines.....	4-7
4.9.8 Right-of-Way Acquisition .....	4-9
4.10 Substation Construction .....	4-9
4.10.1 Construction .....	4-9
4.10.2 Cleanup .....	4-11
4.10.3 Construction Workforce and Schedule.....	4-12
4.11 Power Line Interconnection Construction.....	4-13
4.11.1 Pole Installation and Replacement.....	4-13
4.11.2 Stringing 60 kV Conductor .....	4-14
4.12 Reconductoring of Distribution Line and Power Line Underbuild .....	4-14
4.12.1 Pole Replacement.....	4-14
4.12.2 Reconductoring.....	4-15
4.12.3 Underground Installation .....	4-16
4.13 Operations and Maintenance .....	4-19
4.13.1 Substation Operations, Maintenance, and Inspection .....	4-19

4.14 Applicant Proposed Measures .....	4-19
4.15 EMF Summary .....	4-23
4.15.1 Electric and Magnetic Fields .....	4-23
4.15.2 EMF and the Windsor Substation Project.....	4-24
4.16 Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required .....	4-24
4.17 Substation Site Alternatives Considered.....	4-25
Site Alternative 1 .....	4-26
Site Alternative 2 .....	4-26
Site Alternative 3 .....	4-26
Site Alternative 4 .....	4-27
Site Alternative 5 .....	4-27
Site Alternative 6 .....	4-27
Site Alternative 7 .....	4-28
Site Alternative 8 .....	4-28
Site Alternative 9 .....	4-28
Site Alternative 10 .....	4-29
<b>5. Environmental Analysis.....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
5.1 Aesthetics.....	5-1
5.1.1 Visual Inventory of Existing Conditions .....	5-1
5.1.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-4
5.2 Agricultural and Forestry Resources .....	5-13
5.2.1 Setting.....	5-13
5.2.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-14
5.3 Air Quality .....	5-17
5.3.1 Setting.....	5-17
5.3.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-22
5.4 Biological Resources.....	5-29
5.4.1 Setting.....	5-29
5.4.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-47
5.5 Cultural Resources .....	5-59
5.5.1 Setting.....	5-59
5.5.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-63
5.6 Geology and Soils.....	5-65
5.6.1 Setting.....	5-65
5.6.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-70
5.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions .....	5-73
5.7.1 Setting.....	5-73
5.7.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-75
5.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials .....	5-79
5.8.1 Setting.....	5-79
5.8.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-87
5.9 Hydrology and Water Quality .....	5-93
5.9.1 Setting.....	5-93
5.9.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....	5-97

5.10 Land Use and Planning.....	5-103
5.10.1 Setting.....	5-103
5.10.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-104
5.11 Mineral Resources.....	5-107
5.11.1 Setting.....	5-107
5.11.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-107
5.12 Noise.....	5-109
5.12.1 Setting.....	5-109
5.12.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-111
5.13 Population and Housing.....	5-117
5.13.1 Setting.....	5-117
5.13.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-117
5.14 Public Services.....	5-119
5.14.1 Setting.....	5-119
5.14.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-119
5.15 Recreation.....	5-121
5.15.1 Setting.....	5-121
5.15.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-121
5.16 Transportation/Traffic.....	5-123
5.16.1 Setting.....	5-123
5.16.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-127
5.17 Utilities and Service Systems.....	5-133
5.17.1 Setting.....	5-133
5.17.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....	5-134
5.18 Mandatory Findings of Significance.....	5-137
5.19 Corona and Induced Current Effects.....	5-143
5.19.1 Setting.....	5-143
5.19.2 Environmental Impacts and Assessment.....	5-143
<b>6. Mitigation Monitoring Plan.....</b>	<b>6-1</b>
6.1 Minor Project Changes or Variances.....	6-1
6.2 Dispute Resolution.....	6-2
<b>7. Responses to Comments.....</b>	<b>7-1</b>
Comment Set A1 – Town of Windsor.....	7-3
Responses to Comment Set A1.....	7-6
Comment Set E1 – David Randolph.....	7-9
Responses to Comment Set E1.....	7-10
Comment Set F1 – Pacific Gas & Electric Company.....	7-11
Responses to Comment Set F1.....	7-19

## Tables

Table 4-1	Distribution Circuits from Proposed Substation.....	4-8
Table 4-2	Volumes of Material Imported and Exported from the Project Sites and Required Truck Trips (10 cubic yards/truck trip).....	4-10
Table 4-3	Construction – Typical Equipment Use.....	4-11
Table 4-4	Trench and Bore Details for the Proposed Project.....	4-18

Table 4-5	Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) .....	4-19
Table 4-6	Permits that May Be Required for the Windsor Substation Project.....	4-24
Table 5.1-1	Approximate Dimensions of Major Project Components.....	5-2
Table 5.1-2	Visual Impact Significance Criteria.....	5-5
Table 5.3-1	National and California Ambient Air Quality Standards .....	5-18
Table 5.3-2	Attainment Status for Bay Area Air Quality Management District.....	5-18
Table 5.3-3	Sonoma County Exceedances of California Ambient Air Quality Standards Between 1998 and 2010 .....	5-20
Table 5.3-4	Santa Rosa 5th Street Air-Monitoring Station Annual Air Quality Measurements Between 1998 and 2010 .....	5-20
Table 5.3-5	Windsor Substation Project – Estimated Construction Emissions (lb/day).....	5-24
Table 5.3-6	Windsor Substation Project – Emissions During Operations (lb/day) .....	5-25
Table 5.4-1	Terrestrial Habitat Types in Windsor Substation Study Area .....	5-31
Table 5.4-2	Wetlands and Water Features in Windsor Substation Project Area .....	5-32
Table 5.4-3	Classification of Wetlands and Water Features in the Windsor Substation Project Area.....	5-34
Table 5.4-4	Special-Status Plants with Potential to Occur in Project Survey Area .....	5-35
Table 5.4-5	Special-Status Animals with Potential to Occur in Project Survey Area .....	5-38
Table 5.6-1	Geologic Units in the Project Area.....	5-66
Table 5.6-2	Major Named Faults Considered Active in Northern California .....	5-67
Table 5.6-3	Properties of Soils at the Proposed Substation Site .....	5-69
Table 5.7-1	2008 California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory .....	5-74
Table 5.7-2	Construction-Phase GHG Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e) – Windsor Substation Project .....	5-76
Table 5.7-3	Operation-Related GHG Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr) – Windsor Substation Project .....	5-77
Table 5.8-1	Summary of Areas of Concern – Windsor Substation and Associated Distribution Line Improvement Areas.....	5-81
Table 5.9-1	Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) for Hydrology and Water Quality.....	5-99
Table 5.10-1	Local Zoning Development Standards .....	5-105
Table 5.12-1	Typical Noise Levels for Construction Equipment .....	5-113
Table 5.13-1	Year 2011 Existing Conditions – Population, Housing, and Employment: Town of Windsor and Sonoma County .....	5-117
Table 5.14-1	Service Providers.....	5-119
Table 5.16-1	Planned Projects in the Vicinity of the Proposed Windsor Substation.....	5-124
Table 5.16-2	Level of Service for Roadways in the Proposed Project Vicinity.....	5-126
Table 5.17-1	Utility Providers .....	5-133
Table 5.17-2	Landfill Capacities .....	5-134
Table 5.18-1	Planned and Current Projects in the Vicinity of the Proposed Project.....	5-138
Table 7-1	Comments Received on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration .....	7-1

**Figures** (Note: All figures are found in Appendix C)

Figure 4-1	Project Overview Map
Figure 4-2	Proposed Substation Site Aerial Map
Figure 4-3	Substation and Associated Reconductoring
Figure 4-4	Typical Three-Bank Substation Layout
Figure 4-5	Typical Three-Bank Substation Profile
Figure 5.1-1	Photographs of the Proposed Substation Site and Vicinity

- Figure 5.1-2 Photo Viewpoints
- Figure 5.1-3 Conceptual Landscape Plan
- Figure 5.1-4A Existing View of the Proposed Substation Site
- Figure 5.1-4B Visual Simulation of Proposed Substation without Landscaping
- Figure 5.1-4C Visual Simulation of Proposed Substation with Landscaping
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 1 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 2 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 3 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 4 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 5 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 6 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 7 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 8 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 9 of 10)
- Figure 5.4-1 Biological Resources Map Set (part 10 of 10)
- Figure 5.10-1 Project Area General Plan Map
- Figure 5.12-1 Existing Sensitive Receptors
- Figure 5.12-2 Transformer Bank Sound Model Plot

## **Appendix A. List of Preparers**

## **Appendix B. References**

## **Appendix C. Figures**

## **Appendix D. Notice of Intent**