



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company™**



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND FTP

May 2, 2018

Mr. Robert Peterson
California Public Utilities Commission
Energy Division, Infrastructure Permitting and CEQA
300 Capitol Mall, Suite 418, Workstation #85
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project (A.17-01-023) –
Response of NextEra Energy Transmission West, LLC and Pacific Gas and Electric
Company to February 27, 2018 Letter**

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Enclosed are the responses of NextEra Energy Transmission West, LLC (“NEET West”) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“PG&E”) (collectively, “Applicants”) to the requests for information from the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) Infrastructure Permitting and CEQA section (“Energy Division”) regarding the Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project (“Estrella Project”), as provided in the letter dated February 27, 2018 (“February 27 Letter”). In addition, the Applicants provide responses herein to supplemental questions raised by the Energy Division during meetings with the Applicants and in email correspondence with the Applicants.

The Applicants appreciate the opportunity to provide additional information to the Energy Division regarding the Estrella Project. Applicants have provided complete responses to all of the Energy Division’s requests, to the extent information is available,¹ with the exception of the distribution data requested in Item G (3.1). PG&E is working with Energy Division to fulfill this request.

¹ As discussed with CPUC staff, the information on the Templeton alternatives requested by the CPUC is based upon the level of analysis prepared to date and will be augmented once further design information has been obtained.

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Please note that the responsive documents submitted today and previously may refer to the existing 70 kV line and the proposed 70 kV line route alternatives running between Templeton Substation and Paso Robles Substation as the “Templeton-Paso Robles 70 kV lines.” It has been determined that the substation references in the line names should be switched because the correct name for these lines is the “Paso Robles-Templeton 70 kV lines.” Although the two naming conventions represent the same line, the proper line name convention will be followed in subsequent data request responses.

With the submission of this response, Applicants have provided more than sufficient information for Energy Division to deem their PEA complete at this time. Applicants therefore respectfully request that Energy Division issue a Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report as soon as possible so that evaluation of the Estrella Project can move forward without further delay and consistent with the CPUC Executive Director’s Statement Establishing Transmission Project Review Streamlining Directives,² the Applicants’ September 24, 2015 Request for Streamlined Review of the Estrella Project, and the requirements of the Permit Streamlining Act (Gov’t Code §§ 65940 *et seq.*).³ The Applicants stand ready to assist and support the Energy Division’s preparation of an EIR for the Estrella Project.

The Applicants’ response to the questions posed in the February Letter consists of the following documents that are enclosed herewith and incorporated herein by reference:

- Deficiency Response and Attachments
- Updated PEA Appendix G and “track changes” version of Updated Appendix G compared to original May 2017 version of Appendix G, with table of updates
- GIS data for Items 3.4-1.1 and 4.3-2.
- Transmission power flow data for Item G (3.1)

PG&E will file with the CPUC Docket Office the Updated Appendix G to the PEA and a “track changes” version of Updated Appendix G that is compared to the version of Appendix G that Applicants filed in May 2017.

SWCA Environmental Consultants will provide you with access to an FTP site where electronic copies of these documents can be downloaded.

² See Executive Director’s Statement Establishing Transmission Project Review Streamlining Directives, available at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2183>.

³ The Permit Streamlining Act limits the review of development project applications to two 30-day review periods and one 60-day appeal period. See Gov. Code § 65943; *Orsi v. Salinas*, 219 Cal.App.3d 1576, 1584 (1990). This proceeding is already beyond those limits given that the February 27 Letter constitutes the Energy Division’s fourth request for additional information.

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Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Mathew Swain

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