

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A FINAL INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR THE SHEPHERD SUBSTATION PROJECT IN FRESNO COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA**

TO: All Interested Parties

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared a Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Final IS/MND) to evaluate the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) application for the Shepherd Substation Project (project). The application requires approval by the CPUC of a grant request by the applicant to install and operate an electrical substation and associated power and distribution lines. The Final IS/MND has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Final IS/MND responds to public comments submitted regarding the Draft IS/MND that was prepared for this project, and also describes any changes and corrections made to the Draft IS/MND. The CPUC is the Lead Agency under CEQA and will prepare a decision document for the MND.

Project Summary. PG&E is proposing to construct and operate the Shepherd Substation, a 115/21-kilovolt (kV) electrical substation with capacity for up to three 45-megavolt-ampere (MVA) transformers. A 115-kV overhead power line interconnection would be constructed to link the substation to the existing power grid. Two new 21-kV distribution lines and one 12-kV distribution line would be constructed south of the substation.

The project is needed to accommodate existing load and future growth within the remaining developable land in the Woodward Distribution Planning Area (DPA). The Woodward DPA serves the northeastern portion of the City of Fresno and the northwestern portion of the City of Clovis. The new substation and associated facilities would serve to meet long-term capacity needs, increase future system flexibility, minimize ratepayer costs and environmental impacts, and maximize system efficiency and reliability.

Project Location. The project is located just north of the City of Clovis, within an unincorporated area of Fresno County, California. The proposed substation would be located at the southwest corner of Sunnyside Avenue and Perrin Avenue.

Final IS/MND Availability. The Final IS/MND is being published on Friday, January 4, 2013. The Final IS/MND will be available for review on the CPUC website (http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/panoramaenv/Shepherd_Substation/index.html).

Any questions regarding the Final IS/MND can be directed to:

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