

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 20, 2013

Ms. Cristina Holstine
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Land Planner, Technical and Land Services
245 Market Street, Rm. 1054A
San Francisco, CA 94105-1702

Subject: Extension of NTP#3 for Vegetation Trimming

Dear Ms. Holstine:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is issuing this extension to allow for vegetation trimming and clearing activities at the Crazy Horse Switching Station Project (project) after February 1, 2013. Notice to Proceed (NTP) #3 was issued by the CPUC on August 17, 2012. NTP #3 authorized the following activities:

1. Removal and/or trimming of approximately 202 trees and vegetation trimming and clearing within all of the approved project work areas
2. Construction of temporary and permanent access roads, including blading a new logging road
3. Installation of Towers 10/51 and 10/52

As a Condition of Approval, all activities under NTP #3 were to be:

"...completed prior to February 1, 2013...unless USFWS and CDFG have approved or commented on a project Avian Protection Plan (APP) and work is authorized by the CPUC."

PG&E has requested CPUC approval for trimming of vegetation at the project site after February 1, 2013. PG&E provided USFWS and CDFG comments on the project Avian Protection Plan to CPUC on March 19, 2013. CPUC is therefore authorizing this extension of NTP #3 to allow for vegetation trimming activities after February 1, 2013. All vegetation trimming activities being conducted under this extension shall comply with the project Avian Protection Plan. This extension authorizes vegetation trimming only in those work areas defined in NTP #3. This extension does not allow for any additional activities on the project site. Construction of the switching station will require separate authorization by CPUC.

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CPUC would like to schedule a meeting with PG&E to discuss the Avian Protection Plan. While the Avian Protection Plan meets the requirements of Mitigation Measure Biology-37, and is sufficient for vegetation trimming activities, there other Project mitigation measures that are not adequately addressed in the Avian Protection Plan. These other requirements will need to be addressed prior to CPUC approving construction of the switching station.

Please contact me or Susanne Heim at Panorama Environmental if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Andrew Barnsdale
CPUC Project Manager

cc: Susanne Heim, Panorama Environmental, Inc.
Aaron Lui, Panorama Environmental, Inc.
Janet Liver, TRC
Judi Mosley, PG&E Attorney

Appendix A: Memo for Analysis of Minor Project Modifications #6 and #7
Appendix B: Crazy Horse Project Modification Request dated February 13, 2013