## Pacific Gas and Electric Company 250 Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Program Year Three Sites

**Project Update** 

September 2012

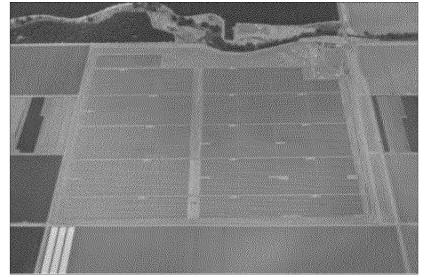


## Program Year One and Two Solar PV Update

- All three Program Year One sites are operational
- All three Program Year Two sites are operational

Solar Station	MWs	Construction Completion Status (as of September 2012)
Huron	20	100 percent
Giffen A	10	100 percent
Cantua	20	100 percent





Cantua Solar Station

## Program Year Three Solar PV Overview

### Three Sites

- Gates: 20 MW
- Guernsey: 20 MW
- West Gates: 10 MW

### Location

- Fresno County and Kings County Western Valley
- Local site review process required under GO-131D is complete for all three sites and Fresno County (West Gates and Gates) and Kings County (Guernsey) concurs with selected sites



# Site Selection Criteria

### Environmental

- Biological resources
- Cultural resources
- Proximity to sensitive receptors
- Land use

- Engineering/Land
  - Solar radiation
  - Slope
  - Substation proximity and capacity
  - Cost of interconnection
  - Flood zone/Water table
  - Land cost



## Environmental Review—Key Topics

Potential Impact	Assessment Methodology	Conclusion
Biological Resources	<ul> <li>Conducted on-site biological surveys</li> <li>Conducted protocol-level Swainson's hawk surveys</li> <li>Reviewed California Natural Diversity Database</li> <li>Consulted with resource agencies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No sensitive species identified at the three locations</li> <li>Received concurrence from CDFG and USFWS for the three sites</li> </ul>
Cultural and Paleontological Resources	<ul> <li>Conducted archival records search</li> <li>Contacted Native American Heritage Commission for the presence of sacred sites</li> <li>Conducted pedestrian surveys of areas of potential impact</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No cultural or paleontological resources identified for the three sites</li> </ul>
Sensitive Receptors	•Reviewed locations of sensitive receptors	Rural residences identified within 1 mile of the project areas
Land use	<ul> <li>Reviewed soils designation</li> <li>To satisfy farm community concerns we are avoiding farmland under a Williamson Act Contract</li> <li>Trying to avoid prime farmland to the extent feasible</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gates and West Gates will be constructed on PG&amp;E – owned land</li> <li>No Williamson Act contracts for the three sites</li> </ul>



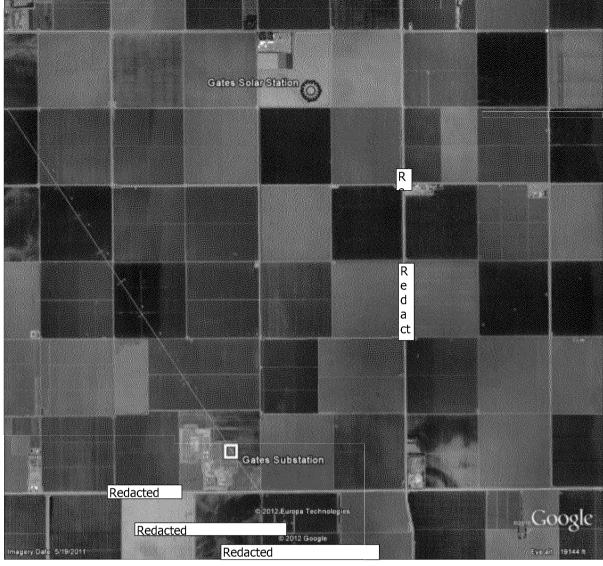
# **Consultations and Outreach**

- Project Specific
  - Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
  - Kings County Community Development Department
  - California Department of Fish and Game (San Joaquin Valley)
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Field Office, Endangered Species Program, San Joaquin Valley Branch
  - San Joaquin Valley Air
     Pollution Control District



- Program Specific
  - Fresno County Farm Bureau
  - Fresno County Board of Supervisors
  - Kings County Farm Bureau
  - Kings County Board of Supervisors

#### **Gates Solar Station**





- Pacific Gas and Electric Company...
- 120-acre site
  - Gen-tie is approximately 2 miles long

#### **Guernsey Solar Station**





- Pacific Gas and Electric Company...
- 160-acre site
- Gen-tie is approximately 4.5 miles long

#### West Gates Solar Station





Pacific Gas and

Electric Company.

• 55-acre site

Gen-tie is approximately 0.3 mile long (within PG&E substation property)

# Next Steps for Program Year Three

- Received all ministerial permits or required approvals for Gates Solar Station Project, West Gates Solar Station Project and Guernsey Solar Station
- Grading to start at West Gates Solar Station and Guernsey Solar Station in September 2012
- Continued coordination with local, state and federal agencies, as needed

