



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company**

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April 11, 2013

*Via E-Mail
pac@cpuc.ca.gov and
By Messenger*

Mr. Paul Clanon, Executive Director
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Public Utilities Code §455.5(b) Notice Regarding Extension of Planned
Outage at Rock Creek Cresta- FERC Project No. 1962 – Rock Creek Unit 2**

Dear Mr. Clanon:

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code §455.5(b), every electric, gas, heat, and water corporation is required to notify the Commission when any major facility has been out of service for nine consecutive months.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“PG&E”) holds the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) license for the 196 MW Rock Creek-Cresta Hydroelectric Project (“Rock Creek”). On November 1, 2012 PG&E notified the Commission that it was in the midst of an extended planned outage of portions of the Rock Creek Project. PG&E undertook the planned outage in order to significantly upgrade Project safety, reliability, and efficiency.¹ FERC License Article 302 authorizes the efficiency upgrades. The purpose of this letter is to update the Commission on the status of the upgrade.

During start-up activities on January 16, 2013, the Pressure Relief Valve (“PRV”) was tested at 100% flow and caused severe cavitation in the stilling chamber to the extent that the test could not be completed. This level of cavitation required PG&E and its contractor, Voith Hydro and Siemens Company, to conduct a thorough inspection of the stilling chamber where it was discovered that approximately 220 square feet of cladding from the walls and the floor had been stripped from the chamber. This damage needed to be repaired before commissioning of the unit

¹ PG&E’s November 1, 2012 Notice is attached.



Mr. Paul Clanon, Executive Director
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Re: Rock Cresta Outage of Unit No. 2, FERC Project No. 1962
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could be continued, and it required significant engineering design to insure the repair would be robust. The stilling chamber repair is expected to be complete by April 15th, and the projected return to service is planned for the end of the month.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (415) 973-7145 or by e-mail at ARF3@pge.com.

Very truly yours,

Annette Faraglia

AF:bd
Attachment

cc: Mr. Edward F. Randolph, Director – Energy Division, CPUC – *Via E-Mail, efr@cpuc.ca.gov*
Ms. Debbie Powell, Director – Hydro Operations & Maintenance, PG&E
Mr. Erik B. Jacobson, Sr. Director – Regulatory Relations, PG&E



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November 1, 2012

Via E-Mail
pac@cpuc.ca.gov and
By Messenger

Mr. Paul Clanon, Executive Director
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Public Utilities Code § 455.5(b) Notice Regarding Extension of Planned
Outage at Rock Creek Cresta, Unit 2 - FERC Project No. 1962**

Dear Mr. Clanon:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E") holds the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") license for the 182MW Rock Creek Cresta Hydroelectric Project ("Rock Creek"). PG&E is in the midst of an extended planned outage of portions of the Rock Creek Project in order to significantly upgrade Project safety, reliability, and efficiency. FERC License Article 302 authorizes the efficiency upgrades.

On October 19, 2011, PG&E took Rock Creek's 56MW Unit 2 out of service to perform the upgrade of the Unit 2 turbine-generator and related equipment. PG&E's goal was to complete this work by April 2012. However, after the Unit was disassembled, additional repair work - such as restacking the generator core, replacing cooling water piping, and reinsulating field poles - were identified. Also, interference conditions discovered during the construction process required certain design changes. These discoveries caused PG&E to seek an extension from FERC and now Unit 2's estimated return to service date is December 31, 2012.

PG&E has installed the new pressure relief valve, turbine runner, wicket gates, governor and excitor, restacked the generator core, rewound the generator stator and installed new unit controls. PG&E is in the process of commissioning all newly installed equipment associated with the Unit 2 upgrade. Commissioning also required an approved Factory Acceptance Test ("FAT") of the governor. The FAT has been delayed because the software program was in development. It is anticipated that the final variances and acceptance will be completed during Phase Two of commissioning to be completed by mid-November 2012.



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Pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 455.5(b), every electric, gas, heat, and water corporation is required to notify the Commission when any major facility has been out of service for nine consecutive months. Rock Creek's 56MW Unit 2 has been out of service since October 19, 2011. PG&E apologizes for the delay in submitting this § 455.5(b) Notice, regarding the extension of a planned outage, to the Commission.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice please contact me at (415) 973-7145 or by e-mail at ARF3@pge.com.

Very truly yours,



Annette Faraglia

AF:bd

cc: Mr. Edward F. Randolph, Director – Energy Division, CPUC – *Via E-Mail, efr@cpuc.ca.gov*
Mr. Randal S. Livingston, Vice-President – Power Generation, PG&E
Mr. Erik B. Jacobson, Sr. Director – Regulatory Relations, PG&E