

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Inter-Agency Environmental Coordination Meeting

March 7, 2013

Sacramento

#### Attendees

Allen, Meredith (phone)	PG&E		
Bartlett, Tina	CDFW	Loduca, Janet	PG&E
Beardsley Grant, Kate	PG&E	Loo, Loren	PG&E
Berry, Kellie	USFWS	LoVullo, TJ (phone)	FERC
Boland, Mary	PG&E	Lum, Megan	PG&E
Coontz, Jason	CPUC	Mandler, Mariano	PG&E
Cooper, Douglass (phone)	USFWS	Mayekawa, Douglas	PG&E
Dadey, Kate	USACE	Money, Pamela	PG&E
Donati, Nance	PG&E	Mulder, Cheryl	USFS
Edmonson, Steve (phone)	NMFS	Olah, Ryan	USFWS
Fernandez, Xavier	RWQCB	Ragazzi, Erin	RWQCB
Fischer, Niel	PG&E	Orsaba, Lisa	CPUC
Forrest, Kathleen	OHP	Pogacnik, Tom (phone)	BLM
Franks, Sierra	NMFS	Ross-leech, Diane	PG&E
Frantz, Brian	PG&E	Sanchez, Ken	USFWS
Ferranti, Annee (phone)	CDFW	Scroggins, Matt (phone)	RWQCB
Garcia, JB (phone)	CDFW	Sharp, Loren	PG&E
Garcia, Samuel	PG&E	Smith, Mark	PG&E
Geldard, Craig	PG&E	Smyly, Jeffrey	PG&E
Grober, Les	SWRCB	Thoma, Alvin	PG&E
Haley, Nancy	USACE	Thurman, Diane	PG&E
Henderson, Bruce (phone)	USACE	Turner, Kim	USFWS
Johnson, Kirk	PG&E	Vouchilas, Cathie (phone)	CDFW
Johnson, Mark	PG&E	White, David (phone)	NMFS
Koch, Chip	PG&E	Winn, Valerie	PG&E
Lee, Elizabeth	RWQCB		

**BLM** – Bureau of Land Management

**CDFW** – CA Department of Fish & Wildlife

**CPUC** – CA Public Utilities Commission

**FERC** – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

**NMFS** – National Marine Fisheries Service

**OHP** – Office of Historic Preservation

**RWQCB** – Regional Water Quality Control Board

**SWRCB** – CA State Water Resource Control Board

**USACE** – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**USFS** – U.S. Forest Service

**USFWS** – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## **Presentation Highlights (refer to full presentation deck for additional detail)**

### Welcome and Introduction

Welcome by Vice President Janet Loduca and Director Diane Ross-Leech. Janet provided a summary of 2012 action items from last year's meeting and highlighted progress and future activities. The microphone was passed around for individual introductions.

### Power Generation

Director Alvin Thoma provided the program overview, with specific details on Environmental activity by Craig Geldard. Hydro announced that the major projects for 2013 were: Sand Bar fish screen, Halsey Forebay retaining wall, and an update of the stream gauges to ensure they record for flooding and drinking water. Major permitting efforts will include Bass Lake, Philadelphia Dam Fish Ladder, and Kerchoff Lower Level. PG&E provided a Hydropower Project Map and a matching project list in the packets.

**Question:** *Do you have a list of stream gauge locations or a map?* PG&E has a project manager who would have that information. Request listed in action items for follow up.

**Question:** *Does PG&E have a list of the Hydro projects corresponding to the dots on the map? Or, does PG&E have another detailed list of projects that the agencies are working on?* The list of Hydro facilities that have projects in 2013 are in the packet on the table (in the attachments for those on the phone). There is a list of projects that are reviewed at the Federal Agency quarterly meeting. The last meeting occurred in February 2013. Project list will be provided in follow up communication with meeting attendees.

### Humboldt Bay Power Plant (HBPP) Decommissioning

Sr. Director Loren Sharp provided the overview. Engineering Manager Mark Smith was also on hand to answer questions.

**Question:** *What is unique about the project?* PG&E has not had to do decommissioning below ground historically. The project is very unique, with challenges that most sites don't have, including an underground reactor vessel approx. 70 feet below the surface. In order to remove the reactor, we will have to install a slurry wall to the clay to separate water from the Bay.

### Electric Transmission

Vice President Mark Johnson provided the program overview, with specific details on Environmental activity by Chip Koch. Electric Transmission spoke about involving Environmental earlier in the process, creating multi-year plans and improving contracting for more project control. The biggest concern quoted was supporting the 33% renewables goal and intermittency. PG&E provided an Electric Transmission Project Map and a matching project list in the packets.

**Question:** *(While discussing French Meadows) How many FERC approved projects do you have in Electric Transmission?* PG&E will provide information in a follow up to the meeting.

**Question:** *How far ahead does PG&E know of projects that will be built?* Permitting itself generally starts when funding becomes available. PG&E is looking at 2014 & 2015 plans now and will try to provide a multi-year view to get ahead of the permitting requirements. PG&E should know about 90% of the volume of projects coming in about 45-60 days from now.

### Gas Transmission & Pipeline Safety

Vice President Kirk Johnson provided the program overview, with specific details on Environmental activity by Brian Frantz. Gas Transmission is working on priority of its needs within the Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP). The Right Of Way (ROW) clearing has to happen quickly, as ROW reclamation is for the safety and reliability of the system. Kirk Johnson reported that PG&E will need to clear 700 miles over the next 5 years. PG&E provided a Gas Transmission Project Map and a matching project list in the packets.

**Question:** *We see that work is in progress for Gas Transmission, but we [agencies] are not seeing consultations. Can you talk about that?* PG&E is interacting with the agencies for work scheduled in 2013 and is trying to plan the work out before beginning the permitting process. Much of the less complex work was already performed in 2012 and beginning of 2013 which may be why some agencies did not have consultations.

**Question:** *Does PG&E have some say in when contractors perform work?* PG&E has an Environmental Management Compliance Plan and the Environmental team has to release the permitting work before the construction work can occur. Gas Transmission also has In-Line inspections and according to federal code timelines, there are times when an immediate dig is necessary to review pipeline integrity.

**Question:** *Are Gas Transmission activities covered in the quarterly federal meetings?* Yes. USFWS added that they had quarterly meetings with PG&E when priorities are set. Other agencies commented that this helps to maintain a straight direction on what the identified priorities are for the company.

**Question:** *Can we get a list of vegetation removal/maintenance projects and timing?* Electric Transmission Vegetation Management removal/maintenance is not project work but is considered maintenance work. This would not be something that would appear on a project list, but can be made available as a schedule of maintenance activity.

**Question:** *What is the priority for Gas Transmission?* Looking to the immediate future the right of way (ROW) clearing has to happen fast. The ROW reclamation is for the safety and reliability of the system. Kirk Johnson reported that PG&E will need to clear 700 miles over the next 5 years.

### Agency Announcements/Feedback

- Army Corp:
  - The development of a template for consultants to standardize how information is submitted has worked really well
  - Sacramento District restructuring – people moving around and will be covering different areas
  - Sequestration – As of 4/27, ACE will be taking a 20% cut in pay and will have Fridays off for the rest of the fiscal year. Because of budget cuts, the Corps will not have a lot of money. It cannot separately fund positions/cost share as can other agencies because of how it is funded in the budget (part of Dept. of Defense). The Corps could accept cost shares from other public agencies (e.g., CPUC), but not from corporations.
- US Fish & Wildlife:
  - HCPs and programmatic templates are very helpful

- 40% of budget currently coming from PG&E, WAPA, others; hiring freeze in place; PG&E Government Relations person may want to send a message to DC about the need for funds
- Not having furloughs because 18 vacant positions have not been filled
- Appreciate PG&E coming in early during project development; will work to have staff available for discussions
- US Forest Service:
  - Adaptive management working well (e.g., Mokelumne, Rock Creek Cresta) – wish we could work like that every day; stakeholders are still insisting on meeting once a month even though PG&E has had the license for 10 years
  - Budget - will not have furloughs because the USFS has already cut back; have only minimum funding for relicensing activities
  - Vegetation Management - If Veg Mgmt has no projected schedule of activities, USFS can't anticipate what projects are coming in, and won't have the manpower to respond to veg mgmt requests
- CPUC:
  - The CPUC's CEQA unit is well-staffed and well-coordinated. The CPUC would like to see coordination between state and federal agency furlough days.
  - PG&E might want to have the CPUC in attendance with the agencies to interface on consultations with the CDFW in particular as the concerns are not easy.
  - The earlier PG&E consults with them, the better
- CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife:
  - Reimbursable contracts are working well. PG&E coming in early to talk about engineering on projects is appreciated.
  - Site visits are helpful for CDFW to understand the work PG&E is doing; CDFW is putting an emphasis on the 1600 permitting process asking offices to make field visits so don't be surprised if there are after-the-fact inspections
  - Incidental take permits now done on a regional basis – hopeful that this will help streamline
- RWQCB (SF and Central Valley)
  - Good to have early coordination
  - Furloughs ending on June 30
  - Down to two positions working on 401 certifications; working to fill positions, but it will take time to get new staff up to speed, so work turnaround will be slower at the beginning - Elizabeth Lee asked that PG&E go through herself or Trevor with questions
  - Educational opportunities exist on both sides (PG&E site visits for RWQCBs and agency information for PG&E)
- Office of Historic Preservation
  - Appreciate our consistency and thoroughness on cultural resource issues; PG&E has knowledgeable cultural staff
  - Looking forward to hiring people for the reimbursable contract
- Bureau of Land Management
  - Great meeting, good information; impressed with the planning
  - Utility work in general is increasing and realty specialists are limited. PG&E should get in touch with local BLM offices on public land impacts early in the process to keep projects on line
  - SCE doing a master reimbursable agreement to keep work going
- Miscellaneous feedback:

- PG&E among the most organized people they deal with
- HCPs are paying off
- More detailed list of projects desired - no need to discuss each project, but agencies could use a detailed list as it would be helpful for staff planning

Wrap Up and Next Steps

The key conclusion for the meeting was that agencies would like earlier engagement from PG&E. PG&E agreed that additional information would be provided as available, and all action items would be addressed. Janet Loduca and Diane Ross-Leech thanked everyone for their participation and noted that a survey would be sent to the meeting participants for additional feedback.

**Action Items**

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Target Due Date	Status
Provide list of stream gauge locations	<b>Craig Geldard (PG&amp;E)</b>	<b>4/15/13</b>	
Provide project list from Federal Quarterly meeting	<b>Nance Donati (PG&amp;E)</b>	<b>4/5/13</b>	
List the FERC approved projects in Electric Transmission	<b>Chip Koch (PG&amp;E)</b>	<b>4/15/13</b>	
Share advance project lists (2 years out) once available from PG&E's new multi-year planning process	<b>Chip Koch (PG&amp;E)</b>	<b>5/15/13</b>	
Provide Vegetation Management Schedule	<b>Neil Fischer</b>	<b>5/15/13</b>	
Prioritize project lists by region across electric, gas and hydro	<b>Nance Donati</b>	<b>5/31/13</b>	
Collect information on agency staff updates and furloughs and share with inter-agency group	<b>Nance Donati</b>	<b>4/30/13</b>	
Send participant survey	<b>Nance Donati</b>	<b>4/15/13</b>	