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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

12 April 2016

Adam O'Conner  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
6111 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**91 7199 9991 7035 8421 0529**

### NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

**WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ  
STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH  
A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY,  
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE REPLACEMENT  
PROJECT R-300 ON LINE 407, SUTTER COUNTY**

On 29 March 2016, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order) for construction dewatering at the above-referenced site. The submittal contains all the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order; therefore, the NOI is considered complete. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under State Water Resources Control Board General Order 2003-0003-DWQ-0148. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

#### PROJECT LOCATION

PG&E is installing a new section of underground piping on Line 407 to improve operability of its natural gas transmission pipelines. The pipeline will be approximately 14 miles in length, as shown on Attachment A. The western end of the segment begins at a point 2,200 feet west of County Road 98 and runs east through agricultural fields, beneath the Tule Canal, crosses under the Sacramento River, and continues along the east side of the Sacramento River parallel to Riego Road. The new pipeline ends at the intersection of Riego Road and Power Line Road at the site of the to-be-constructed PG&E Riego Road Station. The project spans portions of the city of Yolo and unincorporated areas in Yolo County, and unincorporated communities in Sutter County.

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fourth Edition, revised October 2011 (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, contains implementation plans and policies for protecting waters of the basin, and incorporates by reference plans and policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. Pursuant to §13263(a) of the California Water Code (CWC), waste discharge requirements must implement the Basin Plan.

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON P.E., BCEE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706 | [www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley)

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Construction is scheduled to start 16 May 2016 and is anticipated to be complete by 1 January 2017. Dewatering will begin on or after 16 May 2016 and may be required intermittently until 1 January 2017. Pipeline construction will include open trench, jack and bore, and horizontal directional drilling techniques. Dewatering will be performed using a series of groundwater extraction wells and/or in-excavation sump pumps. Groundwater will be dewatered into fractionation tanks staged near the excavation to allow for sedimentation and management prior to discharge.

During pre-construction activities, PG&E installed six temporary monitoring wells along the alignment of the new pipeline section to characterize groundwater quality and to aid in groundwater treatment design. An unfiltered sample and a field filtered sample were collected from the six wells. Concentrations of constituents were compared to California Drinking Water Maximum Concentration Levels (MCLs). The concentrations for most constituents were less than MCLs, except for certain field filtered metals.

Settled groundwater will be pumped through particulate filters. A specialized media such as organically modified zeolite (OMZ) may be used as the final process for trace metal removal, if required. It is expected that the proposed treatment system will reduce dissolved metal concentrations to below MCLs and will be suitable for land application and/or reuse as irrigation supply.

A suitable parcel for land discharge has been identified adjacent to the project alignments and the landowner has authorized irrigation or groundwater recharge reuse of 325,000 gallons/day of excavation groundwater for the duration of the project. Additional parcels may be identified at a later date, if necessary to accommodate new-pipe hydrotest water and groundwater volumes that are encountered or that are closer to the project work area. If suitable parcels are identified for land discharge at a later date, PG&E will submit to the Water Board a Project Notification Form following receipt of the landowner discharge authorization.

## **FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability regulates construction dewatering and reuse of the treated water at the Caltrans SUT99 Riego Road intersection project.

1. Water generated during construction dewatering shall be disposed of as described in the Notice of Intent and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
2. Construction dewatering discharge at a location or in a manner different from that described in the Notice of Intent or this Notice of Applicability is prohibited.
3. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, section 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
4. Analytical results shall be submitted on a semi-annual basis in accordance the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program. As shown on Table 2 of the MRP for Dewatering Projects, sampling will be conducted on a semiannual basis with the first

semiannual report **due the 15<sup>th</sup> of the second month** after the reporting period (i.e., for the reporting period of January through June, the semiannual report is due August 15<sup>th</sup>).

5. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until the Notice of Applicability is officially terminated.
6. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, and this letter authorizing applicability could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

### DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to:

[centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov).


To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: PG&E, Natural Gas Pipeline Replacement Project R-300 Sutter County		
Program: Non-15 Compliance	Order: R5-2003-0003-DWQ-0148	CIWQS Place ID: 823620

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
ECM Mailroom  
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Brendan Kenny is your new point of contact for any questions about the Order. In addition, all monitoring and technical reports should be submitted to him. The enclosed transmittal sheet shall be included with each monitoring report. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Brendan will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Brendan at (916) 464-4635 or at [bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov).

  
PAMELA C. CREEDON For  
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Attachment A: Project Location Map  
Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ  
Monitoring Report Transmittal Form

cc w/o: Sharon Schiffers, Sutter County Environmental Health Department, Yuba City