



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company**

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April 2, 2013

Patty Kouyoumdjian
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Control Board, Lahontan Region
2401 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150



Re: Public Misunderstanding of the Regional Board Position on Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Access Agreements

Dear Executive Officer Kouyoumdjian:

The purpose of this letter is to request clarification from the Regional Board regarding statements made by or attributed to Regional Board staff at the February 28, 2013 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. During that meeting, it was stated that the Regional Board's position is that PG&E could not require a written consent agreement as a condition for the installation of a treatment system. The public took this statement to mean that they could either alter or withhold signature on an access agreement and PG&E would still be required to install the Whole House Water (WHW) systems by August 31, 2013 and that failure to do so would result in PG&E being in violation of the WHW Order. We raised our concern about this statement with the legal staffs of both the Office of Enforcement and the Regional Board and discussed the issue with you and your staff on March 7, 2013. We understood from those conversations the statement made at the February 2013 CAC meeting was not an accurate reflection of the Regional Board's position, and that you would look into what steps could be taken to clarify any public misunderstanding of the issue.

Unfortunately, at the March 28, 2013 CAC meeting, this issue was raised again by one of the CAC members and it was re-stated that based on Regional Board staff comments, the public is not required to sign an unaltered access agreement. This statement was not clarified by Regional Board members present at this meeting.

PG&E is concerned that the continued public misunderstanding of the Regional Board's position on access agreements is hindering the implementation of the program. As we shared with you on March 7, 2013, PG&E has streamlined our access agreement to address community concerns. Our understanding is that the Regional Board agrees with PG&E's position that we can require a signed, unaltered access agreement before we can move forward with installation of a WHW unit. Further, as long as the requirements of the agreement are reasonable and PG&E has taken reasonable steps to obtain the

signed, unaltered access agreement, we will not be in violation of the order should the resident refuse to sign. We appreciate your immediate attention to this issue and your commitment to rectify the public misunderstanding relating to the access agreements. If we have misunderstood your position, please contact me at (925) 551-1182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheryl Bilbrey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheryl Bilbrey
Director, Chromium Remediation