



---

## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 31, 2014

Mr. Ernie Ralston  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
111 Stony Circle  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Mr. Ralston:

**Subject:** Notice of Applicability (NOA) for Coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for US Army Corps of Engineers 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits.

**File:** Pacific Gas and Electric, Humboldt Bay Power Plant, Tank Asbestos Panel Disposal Area Boundary Determination Project  
WDID No. 1B14070WNHU / ECM PIN CW-807809

On July 18, 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a 2012 Certified Nationwide Permit Notification Form, Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage under, the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits (General 401 Order) for the Pacific Gas and Electric, Humboldt Bay Power Plant, Tank Asbestos Panel Disposal Area Boundary Determination Project (Project).

The Project is located on the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit 110.00. The Project impacts to wetlands, waters of the US, are located within Humboldt County, California. Approximate coordinates of the Project location are latitude 40.7417° N, and longitude 124.2087° W.

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the Project, as described in the NOI, is categorically exempt from CEQA review (section 15306 class 6 – Information Gathering) and meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits.

### Project Purpose and Description:

The primary purpose of the Project is to conduct hand augering to collect soil samples of the area where asbestos tank panels were placed in the 1970s to determine the approximate boundary of the material. The hand auger is 3.5 inches in diameter and up to 12 samples will be collected to a depth of approximately 5 to 10 feet below ground surface. Project soil samples will be transported to a laboratory for analysis and then properly disposed of. Once boundaries have been determined, an asbestos removal plan will be

prepared and submitted with permit applications submitted for final site restoration of the power plant site.

Project totals of temporarily impacted area approximate 3.5 square feet of wetlands, waters of the US. The Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. The Project is expected to be implemented during the summer and fall of 2014 with sampling being completed within approximately one week. The Applicant shall restore disturbed areas to pre-project conditions within one year of Project completion.

Receiving Water: Wetlands  
Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit 110.00

Filled Excavated Area: Permanent Area Impacted: None  
Temporary Area Impacted: 3.5 Square feet wetlands

Total Linear Impacts: Length Permanently Impacted: None  
Length Temporarily Impacted: None

Fill Volume: None

Latitude/Longitude: 40.7417° N / 124.2087° W

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Order.

Please call Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

---

Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer

140731\_HBPPTankAsbestosPanelDisposalBoundaryCores

Weblink: The State Water Resources Control Board the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits can be found here:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp\\_401.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp_401.pdf)

Original to: Mr. Ernie Ralston, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 111 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Electronic copy to: Laurie Monarres, US Army Corps of Engineers,  
[Laurie.A.Monarres@usace.army.mil](mailto:Laurie.A.Monarres@usace.army.mil)