

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

20 April 2012

Jeffrey Smyly, Water Quality Manager  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
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Walnut Creek, CA 94598

### NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

***WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ, STATEWIDE GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SEGMENTS T-097-12 AND T-099-12 HYDROSTATIC TEST DISCHARGE, STANISLAUS COUNTY***

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) for discharge to land of hydrostatic test water from an existing natural gas transmission line under Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order). The hydrostatic testing will involve Pipeline Segments T-097-12 and T-099-12 in Stanislaus County.

The NOI contains the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order, and is therefore complete. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge will meet the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under General Order 2003-0003-DWQ-0031. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PG&E will conduct hydrostatic pressure line testing of its existing natural gas pipeline. For the pressure test, the line segment will be isolated and vented. The pipeline segment will be filled with water and then pressurized for eight hours in accordance with industry standards. Water for the pressure test will be supplied from an agricultural supply well located on the Mape's Ranch property in T3S, R7E, Section 26 MDB&M, which is owned by Lyons Land and Cattle, Inc. Approximately 176,000 gallons of water will be utilized for the test.

Following the pressure test, hydrostatic test water will be placed in portable storage tanks and treated using activated carbon to remove residual contaminants from the water prior to discharge. According to the Discharge Monitoring Plan, samples of hydrostatic test water will be collected both prior to and following treatment and analyzed for: CAM-17 metals, volatile organic compounds, semivolatile organic compounds, organochlorine pesticides and PCBs, hexane extractable oil and grease, total suspended solids, pH, and specific conductance.

Following treatment and testing, the hydrostatic test water will be discharged as irrigation water via temporary irrigation lines on approximately 26 acres of agricultural land owned by Lyons Land and Cattle, Inc. A signed agreement between PG&E and Mr. Bill Lyons, an authorized representative of Lyon Land and Cattle, Inc., was included with the NOI. The discharge will comply with PG&E's Best Management Practices (BMPs) for non-storm water discharges.

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability (NOA) regulate the discharge of hydrostatic test water from PG&E's Hydrostatic Test Project of Natural Gas Transmission Line Segments T-097-12 and T-099-12 to 26 acres of agricultural land owned by Lyon Land and Cattle, Inc.

#### **FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

1. Hydrostatic test waters shall be disposed of as described in the NOI and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
2. Discharge of hydrostatic test water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI 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 from the treatment system monitoring shall be submitted on a semi-annual basis in accordance the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program.
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 NOA 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.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA or associated fees, please contact Anne Olson at (916) 464-4740 or by email at [aolson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:aolson@waterboards.ca.gov) . Questions regarding compliance and monitoring should be directed to Guy Childs at (916) 464-4648 or [gchilds@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gchilds@waterboards.ca.gov) .

  
PAMELA C. CREEDON  
Executive Officer

Enc: Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ

cc: Paul Scherbak, CH2M Hill, San Francisco