

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

24 May 2017

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CERTIFIED MAIL
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REVISED 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-300B, LINE 407
PLACER AND SUTTER COUNTIES**

On 1 March 2017, 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 dewatering and hydrostatic testing at the above-referenced site. Additional information was submitted on 11 May 2017 and 23 May 2017 in NOI addenda to add additional land application areas (LAAs). The submittals contain 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-0163. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

PROJECT LOCATION

PG&E is planning on replacing approximately 61,800 feet (11.7 miles) of natural gas pipeline on Line 407 in Placer and Sutter Counties. The project spans portion of the cities of Pleasant Grove and Roseville. The pipeline segment begins at the northeast corner of Powerline and West Riego Road in Sutter County and ends at the intersection of Baseline Road and Walerga Road/Fiddymont Road in Placer County. A project location map is in Attachment 1, which is attached to this NOA.

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.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PG&E is installing a new section of pipe on Line 407 to improve reliability and operability of its natural gas transmission pipelines. Construction is scheduled to start 1 June 2017 and is anticipated to be completed by 31 October 2017. Dewatering will begin on or after 1 June 2017, and may be necessary intermittently until 31 October 2017.

During pre-construction activities, PG&E installed 13 temporary monitoring wells along the alignment of proposed pipeline section to determine depths to groundwater and to characterize groundwater quality. Based on the most recent depth to water data collected at the temporary wells, four of the wells are currently dry: two wells located along the central part of the alignment (Pz962 and Pz994) and within a mile of Natomas Road and two wells east of Pz994 (Pz1030 and Pz1122). PG&E will continue to monitor groundwater levels in the temporary wells on a monthly basis during the pipeline construction project. Groundwater depth may be influenced by irrigation water deliveries and/or rainfall during construction.

Unfiltered and field filtered groundwater samples were collected from the remaining nine wells in October 2016 to characterize groundwater (pre-discharge conditions). Baseline conditions show localized metal concentrations greater than Water Quality Objectives (WQOs). Geotracker and Envirostor database search results indicate the absence of potential groundwater or soil pollution along the project alignment. No sites of environmental concern were identified within 1,000 feet of PG&E's planned excavations.

Pipeline construction will include open trench, jack and bore, and horizontal directional drilling techniques. It is anticipated that dewatering of the bore pit excavations and trenches will be necessary, as groundwater has been measured at levels ranging from approximately one foot to seven feet below ground surface in the project vicinity. 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/settling and flow management prior to discharge.

Settled groundwater will be pumped through particulate filters prior to discharge. For locations where a single filtration system will be used to meet requirements for both land discharges and surface water discharges (authorized under a separate general permit), additional specialized filtration media such as organic carbon, greensand, and/or organically modified zeolite may be used, if required, to meet the separate surface water permit authorization. The decision to use specialty media will be made by the PG&E Water Quality Scientist and will be based on analytical data compared to discharge limits and water quality objectives. Proposed groundwater and hydrotest water discharge monitoring is described in the Discharge Monitoring Plan in Attachment 4 of the NOI.

It is anticipated that some of the extracted groundwater and clean hydrotest water may be utilized along the 100 foot wide easement along the length of pipeline installation for dust control in accordance with best management practices. This project is authorized for discharge of storm water and authorized non-storm water under the California Storm water Construction General Permit, Order Number 2009-0009-DWQ, WDID number 5S57C375495.

PG&E has identified approximately 195 acres (not including PG&E's easement areas) as land LAAs for hydrostatic and dewatering discharge. The LAA parcels are located adjacent to the project alignment and are not owned by PG&E. Landowners of these parcels have authorized PG&E to supply irrigation or discharge on their property for the duration of the project.

Property owners' authorizations are included in Attachment 5 of the NOI and included with the NOI Addendum. Approximate volumes of water to be discharged to each LAA are shown below.

Parcel	Owner	Approximate Volume (gpd)	Acres
1	Tom Atkinson	1,247,000	7.67
2	Matt Lauppe	1,547,700	57
3	Cooper Brother Farms, Inc.	720,000 of groundwater 2,500,000 of hydrotest water	35
4	Matt Lauppe	1,500,000	83
5	Natomas Basin Conservancy	up to 300,000	12
6	James Sopwith	350,000 groundwater 2,500,000 hydrotest water	8
PG&E Property	PG&E	440,000 of groundwater 2,500,000 of hydrotest water	-- ¹

¹gpd = gallons per day

Exact acreage to be used as LAAs is unknown. PG&E can discharge groundwater and hydrostatic testing water to land within the 100 foot easement along the length of the pipeline installation.

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 each 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 (Attachment 6 of the NOI) to the Water Board following receipt of landowner land discharge authorizations.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability regulates construction dewatering and hydrostatic testing water discharges at the natural gas pipeline replacement project, R-300B, Line 407.

1. Water generated during construction dewatering and hydrostatic testing 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 and hydrostatic testing discharges 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 with the hydrostatic testing monitoring requirements the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program. For discharges occurring between January and June, the semi-annual monitoring report is due August 15, and for discharges occurring between July and December, the monitoring report is due February 15.

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.

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: Pipeline Replacement Project R-300B, Line 407, Placer and Sutter Counties		
Program: Non-15 Compliance	Order: R5-2003-0003-DWQ-0163	CIWQS Place ID: 832087

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

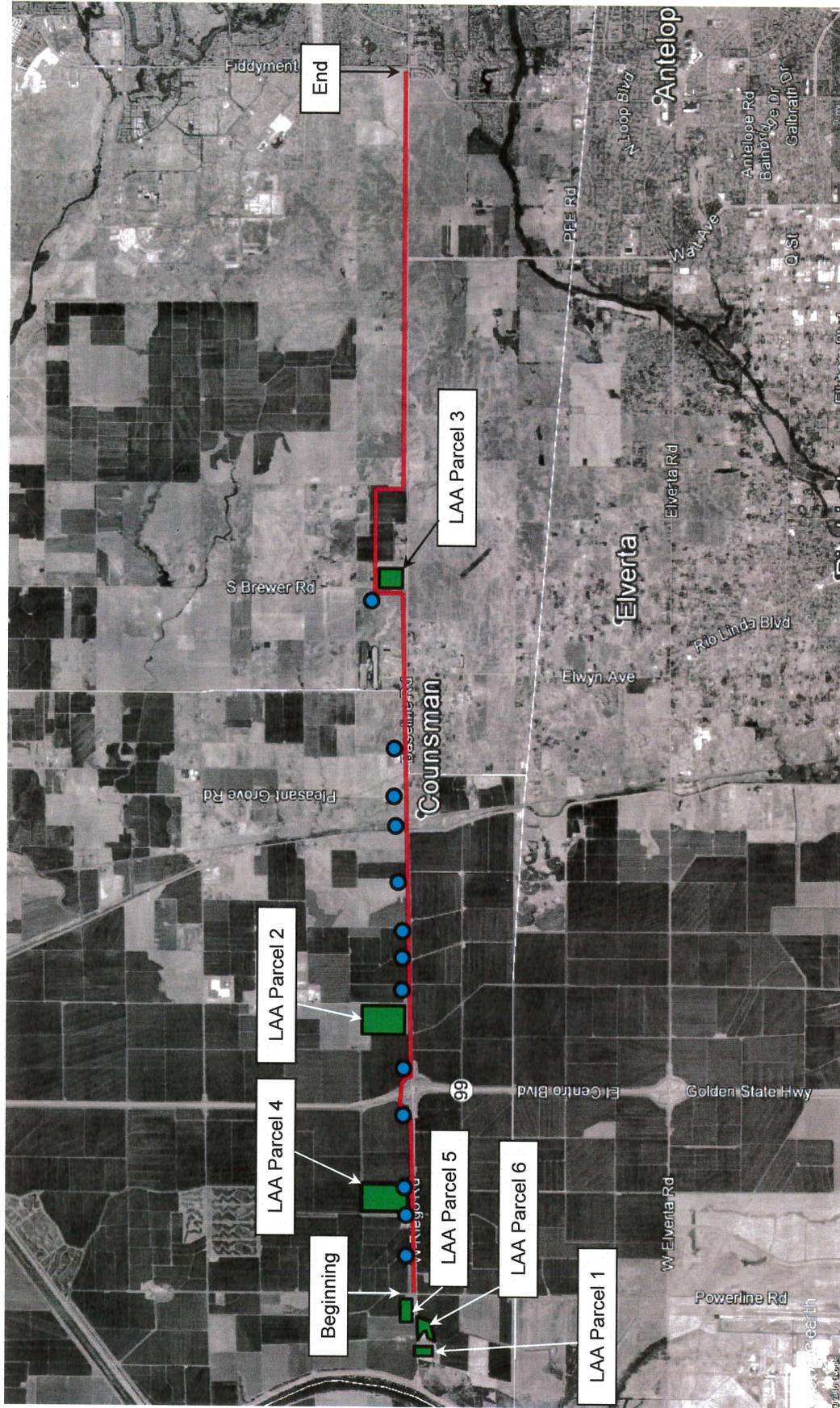
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
ECM Mailroom
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Guy Childs 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, Guy will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Guy at (916) 464-4648 or at gchilds@waterboards.ca.gov.

For 
PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ
Attachment A – Project Location Map

cc w/encl: Daniel Sanchez, PG&E, San Ramon
cc w/o encl: Wesley Nicks, Placer County Environmental Health Department, Auburn
Jeff Williams, Sutter County Environmental Health Department, Yuba City



PROJECT LOCATION MAP
 PG&E PIPELINE REPLACEMENT
 PROJECT, R-300B, LINE 407
 PLACER AND SUTTER COUNTIES



- Legend**
- Line 407 Pipeline Project
 - LAAs
 - Temporary Groundwater Monitoring Wells (approximate locations)