WHEREAS the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, (Water Board) finds:

1. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) and associated documents for a project to increase the volume of discharge to the existing Desert View Dairy Land Treatment Unit and to include groundwater pumping from two adjacent parcels for discharge to the Land Treatment Unit for the purposes of controlling migration of groundwater containing hexavalent chromium and treating the chromium in extracted groundwater.

2. Before taking action on the RWD, the Water Board, as Lead Agency, must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA - Public Resources Code 21000, et seq.).

3. The Water Board, as the CEQA Lead Agency, circulated Negative Declarations for the original project and an optimization project and certified them on July 27, 2004 and November 28, 2007, respectively, that include conditions regarding potential impacts to the environment.

4. The RWD indicates that, in addition to existing groundwater extraction, the revised optimization project would extract groundwater from two parcels adjacent to the existing project and the maximum discharge of extracted groundwater to the existing Land Treatment Unit would be increased by 50 percent. The quality of the discharged water would have similar or lower concentrations of chromium and increased concentrations salts (total dissolved solids or TDS) and nitrate. The Water Board’s Negative Declarations did not address the potential impacts to the environment resulting from the proposed changes in discharge requirements. Therefore, the Water Board prepared an Addendum to the Negative Declaration called “Addendum to the Negative Declarations for Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s Desert View Dairy Land Treatment Unit” (Addendum).

5. California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164 describes when an Addendum to a Negative Declaration is appropriate to make minor changes in the Negative Declaration.
a. As described in the Addendum and in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164(a), none of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15162 that may require a subsequent Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) have occurred.

b. As described in the Addendum and in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164(b), there are only minor technical changes required to the original Negative Declarations certified by the Water Board.

c. As described in the Addendum and in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164(c), the Addendum should be considered attached to the final Negative Declarations certified by the Water Board. It was circulated to the Water Board’s agenda mailing list for this item.

d. As described in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164(d), the Water Board considered the Addendum during the July 2010 meeting.

e. As required in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164(e), the Addendum describes that the Water Board decided that a subsequent Negative Declaration or EIR was not necessary because impacts from the modified project are less than significant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Water Board, as the CEQA Lead Agency, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15164, circulated, considered and adopts the Addendum.

2. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15094, the Executive Officer is authorized to submit a Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research indicating the Water Board has adopted this Addendum.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on July 14, 2010.

Harold J. Singer
EXECUTIVE OFFICER