

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

123 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94106
415/972-7000

February 29, 1996



Ms. Maria Morrison
East Bay Municipal Utility District
375 Eleventh Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4240

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WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS

SUBJECT: FSC NOP/Initial Study

Dear Ms. Morrison,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study for the Folsom South Canal (FSC) Connection Project. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has the following comments to offer regarding the scope and content of the project Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

We have met with Mr. Mark Bluestein, EBMUD civil engineer, regarding possible sources of electric transmission service to serve the new loads generated by the pumping plant(s) for this facility. EBMUD and PG&E staff are conducting preliminary studies to identify the most cost effective alternative available (230 kV or 115 kV) to meet this project's energy needs. Regardless of which alternative/route(s) is selected, PG&E is required to obtain formal approval from the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the construction of these new electric facilities. This approval process includes providing the CPUC with documentation demonstrating that environmental review of the project has been completed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because CEQA defines a project to be the whole of an action, the construction, operation and maintenance of PG&E's facilities must be considered during the environmental review process for the larger overall project. PG&E will be happy to work with EBMUD to ensure that the electric facility alternatives and potential environmental effects are appropriately identified and addressed in the EIR.

PG&E also owns and operates many gas and electric facilities which could be impacted by the proposed project. To promote the safe and reliable maintenance and operation of PG&E's facilities, the CPUC has mandated specific clearance requirements between utility facilities and surrounding objects or construction activities. EBMUD staff should be directed to coordinate with PG&E early in the development of project plans to ensure compliance with these standards. The FSC Connection Project development plans should provide for unrestricted utility access and prevent easement encroachments that might impair the safe and reliable maintenance and operation of PG&E's facilities.

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We also encourage EBMUD to include information about the issue of electric and magnetic fields (EMF) in the project EIR. It is PG&E's policy to share information and educate the public about the issue of EMF. Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) exist wherever there is electricity--in appliances, homes, schools and offices, and in power lines. There is no scientific consensus on the actual health effects of EMF exposure, but it is an issue of public concern. If you have questions about EMF, please call your local PG&E office. A package of information which includes materials from the California Department of Health Services and other groups will be sent to you upon your request. I have included a copy of our EMF Bill Insert for your information.

We look forward to working with EBMUD to provide timely, reliable and cost effective electric service to the Folsom South Canal (FSC) Connection Project. Please contact Loren Loo of my staff at (415) 973-5817 if you have any questions regarding our comments or wish to further discuss the project. To ensure that PG&E can continue to provide appropriate input for this project we would appreciate being copied on all future correspondences regarding this subject as the EIR is developed. Please mail this information to:

Mike Gunby
Building and Land Services
PG & E
4040 West Lane
Stockton, CA 95210

Sincerely,



Michael Schonherr, P.L.S.
Supervisor, Environmental Planning and Routing

cc: Tom Marki
Steve Danneker
Loren Loo
Mike Gunby