

**Notice of Intent to Adopt
a Mitigated Negative Declaration**
Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Vierra Reinforcement Project
(A.18-06-004)

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The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) for consideration of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) permit to construct the Vierra Reinforcement Project. PG&E proposes to add a new double-circuit power line, connecting from the Vierra Substation to the Tesla-Stockton Cogen Junction 115 kilovolt (kV) Power Line, to reinforce the area's 115 kV system and the 60 kV systems connected at Kasson, Manteca, and Salado substations. The closest cross streets near the western extent of the power line are Nestle Way and Christopher Way. The closest cross streets near the eastern extent of the power line are D'Arcy Parkway and Vierra Road. The Vierra Substation would be expanded approximately 340 feet to the west, and the substation's existing 115 kV equipment would be replaced, upgraded, and reconfigured to accommodate the project's new 115 kV double-circuit lines. Vierra Substation and the power line alignment are located in the City of Lathrop. The new power line would require minor modifications within an additional six substations (Howland Road, Kasson, Manteca, Tracy, Tesla, and Ripon Cogen) in Alameda and San Joaquin counties, to integrate protection of the new line into the existing system. New telecommunication equipment would be installed at various substations and existing microwave stations (Mount Oso and Highland Peak), including microwave towers or monopoles, and microwave dishes on existing towers. Control room equipment would be upgraded at Howland Road, Ripon Cogen, and Tesla substations.

Extended by Executive Order (EO) N-80-20 until the State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, certain CEQA noticing requirements (e.g., the requirement to publicly post and file materials concerning the project with the county clerk) have been suspended as authorized by Governor Newsom's previous EO N-54-20 that said "The public filing, posting, notice, and public access requirements . . . are suspended for a period of 60 days." Therefore, access to the MND and other project information/reports will be solely available electronically through the CPUC's website at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/CEC/VierraReinforcement/index.htm>. Consistent with subparagraphs (a) through (c) of Paragraph 8 of EO N-54-20, this Notice of Intent has also been mailed to nearby property owners, responsible and trustee agencies, and the county clerk, sent to the California State Clearinghouse, and published in the Stockton Record. Persons who cannot access the materials through the link above are encouraged to email the CPUC at Vierra@energy.ca.gov, with a subject line "Vierra", to arrange for alternative means of access to project materials.

The 30-day public comment period for the Draft IS/MND is from October 16, 2020 to November 16, 2020. Comments may be submitted by email or U.S. Mail postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on November 16, 2020. Please be sure to include your name, phone number and return address. Written comments on the Draft IS/MND should be sent to Mike Rosauer, CPUC Project Manager; c/o California Energy Commission STEP Division; 1516 Ninth Street, MS-40; Sacramento, CA 95814 or Email: Vierra@energy.ca.gov.

Following the public comment period, the CPUC will prepare a Final IS/MND that will address comments received on the Draft IS/MND. At this time, the date, time, and place of any scheduled public meetings or hearings to be held by the CPUC on the proposed project are not yet known. A notice of any such public meeting or hearing will be provided at a future date.

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