Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife Bay Delta Region 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100 Fairfield, CA 94534 (707) 428-2002 AskBDR@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: PGE 74020724-Ignacio-Alto Tower Relocation Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MAN-32277-R3)

Project Location (Marin County): The Project is located at Corte Madera Creek, in the City of Larkspur, County of Marin, State of California; Latitude 37.944017 °N, Longitude 122.514194 °W; in the northwest ¼ of Section 10, Township 1 North, Range 6 West of the Mount Diablo Base Range and Meridian; U.S. Geological Survey San Rafael quadrangle; and immediately east of the Highway 101 northbound off-ramp to Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, and south of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MAN-32277-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E).

The overall project consists of relocating an existing power line structure (Structure 013/113) on the Ignacio-Alto 60 kV line from a location within Corte Madera Creek to a location in an adjacent upland area.

The Project covered under this Agreement is limited to dismantling and removing the power line structure, and removing the structure's foundation to six inches below the mudline.

The power line structure may be dismantled using a variety of methods, which may include removal of the lattice structure by lifting with a bucket truck or crane parked on the offramp of Highway 101, mobilizing an approximately 25-foot by 40-foot barge (or similar floating work platform) into place adjacent to the existing structure, using a shallow draft boat, accessing the structure and foundations from the adjacent boardwalks, or walking to the structures from the nearby shoreline. The structure and guy wires will be removed in a piecemeal fashion and moved offsite. Structure removal work will occur at night and is expected to take between one and three nights.

After the existing power line structure has been removed, the foundation for the structure and the foundations for the four guy wires will be removed to six inches below the mudline. To facilitate removal of the foundations, approximately 15-foot by 15-foot cofferdams will be centered on each of the five foundations, as necessary based on tidal flows. These cofferdams will be lined with untreated plywood, visqueen, or similar material to capture dust and debris which will be collected and taken offsite. Dewatering of the cofferdams will be necessary for work to proceed during higher tides, but during lower tides, the surrounding areas are anticipated to be exposed based on modeled tides in the area. Concrete cutting equipment, jack hammers, chain saws, and other similar tools will be used to remove the foundations. It is anticipated that each foundation will take between 1 and 3 days to remove depending on site conditions.

The Project will result in temporary impacts to 1,325 square feet of stream and riparian habitat. The Project will not result in any permanent impacts and removal of the power line structure and associated foundations will result in a net increase of the streambed by approximately 48.25 square feet. PG&E shall allocate 1,325 feet (0.03 acres) of habitat from PG&E's Bay Area Habitat Conservation Plan conservation portfolio to offset temporary impacts to salt marsh habitat.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: PG&E

Exempt Status:

Notice of Exemption	
☐ Statutory Exemption.	
☐ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 3; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15303	
Reasons why project is exempt: The project involves the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures or installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures.	
CDFW Contact Person: Alexander Single, Environmental Scientist, (707) 799-4210,	
Alexander.Single@wildlife.ca.gov DocuSigned by:	3/14/2023
Signature: <u>(raiz Weiglitman</u>	Date:
Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager	
Date received for filing at OPR:	<u> </u>