

## DOCKETED

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Colusa Generating Station - Compliance
<b>TN #:</b>	202974
<b>Document Title:</b>	Notice of Determination - Colusa Back-Up Water Pipeline
<b>Description:</b>	Notice of Determination for SAPM for Colusa Generating Station (CGS) Permanent Back-Up Water Supply Pipeline
<b>Filer:</b>	Eric Veerkamp
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
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**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

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**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION  
PETITION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT BACK-UP WATER SUPPLY  
PIPELINE  
FOR THE COLUSA GENERATING STATION  
(06-AFC-9C)**

On May 28, 2014, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) filed a petition with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) requesting to modify the Final Decision for the Colusa Generating Station, or the CGS (06-AFC-9C). The combined-cycle, natural gas-fired, electricity-generating 660-megawatt facility was certified by the Energy Commission in its Decision on April 23, 2008, and began commercial operation on December 22, 2010. The facility is located in an unincorporated area of Colusa County, California, approximately 6 miles north of the community of Maxwell and 4 miles west of Interstate 5.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION**

PG&E is proposing to construct a new permanent underground pipeline along the access road to directly draw water from the Glen Colusa Irrigation District's Glen Colusa Canal. This change has been necessitated by drought related water supply reductions that were instituted in late winter of 2013. The petition is to construct the pipeline to be used only if there is insufficient water in the Tehama Colusa Canal (TCC), the CGS's currently approved water delivery mechanism. The petition is available on the Energy Commission's CGS webpage at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/colusa>.

**ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION**

Energy Commission technical staff reviewed the petition for potential environmental effects and consistency with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS). Staff has determined that the technical or environmental areas of Alternatives, Efficiency, Reliability, Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance, Transmission System Engineering, and Visual Resources are not affected by the proposed changes, and no revisions or new conditions of certification are needed to ensure the project remains in compliance with all applicable LORS and existing conditions of certification for these areas.

For the technical areas of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Facility Design, Geological Resources, Hazardous Materials Management, Land Use, Noise and Vibration, Paleontological Resources, Public Health, Socioeconomics, Soil and Water Resources, Traffic and Transportation, and Worker Safety and Fire Protection, and Waster Management, staff has determined the project would continue to comply with applicable LORS and would not change any conditions of certification. Staff notes the following for these technical areas:

- Air Quality. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would continue to comply with applicable LORS and would not change any conditions of certification; the applicant should pay particular attention to continued implementation of AQSC-1 thru AQSC-5 and AQSC-12 pertaining to construction activities. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a Staff Approved Project Modification (SAPM).

- **Biological Resources.** With the implementation of the avoidance and minimization measures proposed in the petition and the existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would continue to comply with applicable LORS and would not change any conditions of certification; the applicant should pay particular attention to BIO-1 thru BIO-6, BIO-13, BIO-14. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Cultural Resources.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would continue to comply with applicable LORS and would not change any conditions of certification. Staff has indicated an emphasis be placed on CUL-1, and CUL-3 through CUL-7. In the event of a change in personnel, the project owner is obligated to carry out the actions described under CUL-2. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Facility Design.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would continue to comply with applicable LORS and would not change any conditions of certification. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Geological Resources.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Hazardous Materials Management.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Land Use.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Noise and Vibration.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Paleontological Resources.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Public Health.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- **Socioeconomics.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment; the applicant shall continue to emphasize the implementation of SOCIO-1 to ensure that

construction materials and supplies are procured within Colusa and Glenn County. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.

- Soil and Water. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the following Conditions of Certification would be in full force and effect and will require action on the applicant's part. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
  - The Drainage, Erosion, and Sediment Control Plan required in **SOIL&WATER-2** must be updated to include the proposed activities with necessary Best Management Practices.
  - "Emergency" in **SOIL&WATER-8** constitutes any situation under which there is insufficient water in the Tehama Colusa Canal affecting the Colusa Generating Station operations.
  - The maximum limit of 180 acre-feet per year found in **SOIL&WATER-8** includes water use for construction activities of the proposed amendment.
  - The GCC is a separate "source" from the TCC. Metering devices required in **SOIL&WATER-8** are also required for the GCC water, in order to report the total amount of water used from each source.
  - The signed Water Agreement required in **SOIL&WATER-11** must be in place prior to initial use of GCC water for the proposed amendment, which includes construction activities.
- Traffic and Transportation. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment; the applicant shall pay particular attention to compliance with TRANS-2 to adopt a traffic control plan to identify the traffic control measures to be implemented to ensure a safe construction zone. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- Waste Management. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.
- Worker Safety and Fire Protection. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff has indicated that the petition should be processed as a SAPM.

Staff's conclusions for each technical or environmental area are summarized in the table on the following page.

**Summary of Staff Responses to Petition**

TECHNICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS REVIEWED	STAFF RESPONSE			Revised Conditions of Certification Recommended
	Technical Area Not Affected	No Significant Environmental Impact* (SAPM)	Process As Amendment	
Air Quality		X		
Alternatives	X			
Biological Resources		X		
Cultural Resources		X		
Efficiency	X			
Facility Design		X		
Geological Resources		X		
Hazardous Materials Management		X		
Land Use		X		
Noise & Vibration		X		
Paleontological Resources		X		
Public Health		X		
Socioeconomics		X		
Soil & Water Resources		X		
Traffic & Transportation		X		
Transmission Line Safety & Nuisance	X			
Transmission System Engineering	X			
Visual Resources	X			
Waste Management		X		
Worker Safety & Fire Protection		X		

\*There is no possibility that the proposed modifications would have a significant effect on the environment, and the modifications would not result in a change in or deletion of a condition adopted by the Commission in the Final Decision, or make changes that would cause project noncompliance with any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards (20 Cal. Code Regs., § 1769 (a)(2)).

Section 1769(a)(2), Title 20, California Code of Regulations states, “(w)here staff determines that there is no possibility that the modifications may have a significant effect on the environment, and if the modifications will not result in a change or deletion of a condition adopted by the commission in the final decision or make changes that would cause the project not to comply with any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards, no commission approval is required...”

Pursuant to that section, Energy Commission staff has determined for this petition that approval by the full Commission is not required and the proposed modifications meet the criteria for approval at the staff level because:

- The modification[s] will not have any significant effect on the environment;
- Existing conditions of certification are sufficient to cover the proposed modification without changes to, or deletions of, any conditions of certification; and
- The project as modified will maintain full compliance with applicable LORS.

This Notice of Determination is being provided to interested parties and property owners adjacent to the facility site. This Notice has been mailed to the CGS mail list and sent electronically to the CGS listserv.

Any person may file an objection to staff's determination within 14 days of the date of this Notice on the grounds that the project modification does not meet the criteria set forth in section 1769(a)(2). Absent any relevant objections, this petition will be approved 14 days after this notice is docketed. An objection to staff's determination may be submitted using the Energy Commission's e-commenting feature, as follows: Go to the Energy Commission's CGS webpage and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Provide contact information—a full name, e-mail address, comment Title, and either a comment or an attached document are required. The comment Title should be "[Your Name]'s Comments re CGS (Water Pipeline) Determination." Type your comments into the "Comment Text" field, or upload a document with your comments. The maximum upload file size is 10MB, and only .doc, .docx, or .pdf attachments will be accepted. Enter the CAPTCHA that is used to prevent spamming. Then click on the "Agree and Submit your Comments" button to submit your comments to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit for review. When your comments are approved and docketed, you will receive an e-mail with a link to them on the facility webpage.

Written comments or objections may also be mailed or hand-delivered to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Unit, MS-4  
Docket No. 06-AFC-9C  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All comments and materials filed with and approved by the Dockets Unit will be added to the facility Docket Log and be publically accessible on the Energy Commission's webpage for the facility.

If you have questions about this Notice, please contact Eric Veerkamp, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-4611, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at [eric.veerkamp@energy.ca.gov](mailto:eric.veerkamp@energy.ca.gov).

For information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the CGS (Water Pipeline) petition, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser at (916) 654-

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4489, or at (800) 822-6228 (toll-free in California). The Public Adviser's Office can also be contacted via e-mail at [publicadviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadviser@energy.ca.gov). News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHRISTOPHER J. MARXEN**, Manager  
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Siting, Transmission, & Environmental Protection Division

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