

## DOCKETED

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Humboldt Bay Generating Station - Compliance
<b>TN #:</b>	204142
<b>Document Title:</b>	Notice of Determination - Petition to Modify - Additional Eyewash/Shower Stations
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
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**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

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**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION  
PETITION TO MODIFY  
HUMBOLDT BAY GENERATING STATION  
(06-AFC-7C)**

On February 9, 2015, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) filed a petition with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) requesting to make minor improvements to the Humboldt Bay Generating Station (HBGS). The 163-megawatt facility was certified by the Energy Commission in its Decision on September 24, 2008, and began commercial operation on October 1, 2012. The facility is located in the City of Eureka, in Humboldt County, California.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION**

PG&E is requesting to install five additional emergency eyewash and shower stations on the HBGS project site. These additional stations would supplement the six existing emergency eyewash and shower stations already installed on-site. Three electric water heaters would be installed to heat the water for the shower stations. Eight approximately 3'x2' concrete pads would be poured for each of the shower stations and water heaters. In addition, above ground and below ground water pipelines and above ground electrical lines would be installed to operate the eyewash stations and heaters. The below ground pipelines would require approximately 500 linear feet of trenching at a depth of three to five feet.

The Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt/> has a link to the amendment petition on the right side of the webpage in the box labeled "Compliance Proceeding." Click on the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" option.

**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 Biological Resources, Land Use, Public Health, Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance, Transmission System Engineering, and Visual Resources are not affected by the proposed changes.

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

**Table 1**  
**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*	Process As Amendment	
Air Quality		X	N/A	N/A
Biological Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Cultural Resources		X	N/A	N/A
Facility Design		X	N/A	N/A
Geological Resources /Paleontological Resources		X	N/A	N/A
Hazardous Materials Management		X	N/A	N/A
Land Use	X		N/A	N/A
Noise & Vibration		X	N/A	N/A
Public Health	X		N/A	N/A
Socioeconomics		X	N/A	N/A
Soil & Water Resources		X	N/A	N/A
Traffic & Transportation		X	N/A	N/A
Transmission Line Safety & Nuisance	X		N/A	N/A
Transmission System Engineering	X		N/A	N/A
Visual Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Waste Management		X	N/A	N/A
Worker Safety & Fire Protection		X	N/A	N/A

\*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 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1769 (a)(2)).

For the technical areas Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Facility Design, Geological/ Paleontological Resources, Hazardous Materials Management, Noise and Vibration, Socioeconomics, Soil and Water Resources, Traffic and Transportation, Waste Management and Worker Safety and Fire Protection, staff has determined the modified project would continue to comply with applicable LORS, and the existing conditions of certification in the Final Decision are sufficient to ensure the proposed modifications would not have a significant effect on the environment. Staff notes the following for these technical areas:

- **Air Quality.** Petitioner is proposing to install small equipment that would require typical construction activities including minor grading, trenching and concrete pouring. Scope of work would require some construction activities and the use of motorized machinery. Minimal emissions from construction are anticipated and would be of short duration. Any construction activities would be subject to existing Condition of Certification **AQ-SC2** (Air Quality Construction Mitigation Plan) which would require the project owner to minimize fugitive dust during any earth moving activities such as trenching or grading. Air Quality impacts are expected to be insignificant.
- **Cultural Resources.** The proposed project would require approximately 502 linear feet of ground disturbance including excavations and trenching at levels deeper than previous ground disturbance. Implementation of existing Condition of Certification **CUL-6** (on-site monitoring) would mitigate potential impacts to cultural resources and would ensure the project remains in compliance with applicable LORS.
- **Facility Design.** Implementation of the current Facility Design conditions of certification **GEN-1** in the Final Decision will require the project owner to construct the proposed eyewash/ shower stations in accordance with applicable California Building Code provisions. No changes to the Facility Design conditions of certification are necessary.
- **Geologic and Paleontological Resources.** The proposed project would require the construction of concrete pads and trenching. As described in the final Commission Decision, the site is underlain by at least 9 feet of Holocene sediments which are considered to have negligible paleontological sensitivity. All design and construction would be in accordance with the existing Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan as part of Condition of Certification **PAL-3** in the original Commission Decision related to geologic hazards. Therefore the project would not have an impact on paleontological or geologic resources.
- **Hazardous Materials Management.** During the installation of the emergency eyewash/ shower stations, several hazardous materials will be used onsite. Similar to equipment maintenance activities, these materials would include solvents, gasoline, lubricants, and welding gases which are already included in the annual compliance report under existing Condition of Certification **HAZ-1**. No extremely hazardous or regulated hazardous materials will be used on site specifically for installation of the eyewash/ shower stations, and none of these materials pose significant potential for off-site impacts as a result of the limited quantities on site, their low relative toxicity, their physical state and/or their environmental mobility. Therefore, with continued compliance to existing conditions of certification, specifically **HAZ-1**, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment and the project would continue to comply with all applicable LORS.
- **Noise and Vibration.** No changes to the Noise and Vibration conditions of certification are necessary. With the implementation of existing conditions of certification **NOISE-3**

which requires implementation of a noise program and **NOISE-6** which limits hours of construction noise, the proposed installation of the eyewash and shower stations would not have a significant adverse effect related to noise and vibration impacts and the project would continue to comply with all applicable LORS.

- **Socioeconomics.** Staff has determined that the proposed modification would have no significant socioeconomic impacts. The proposed modification would require ten construction workers and would take about a month. The modification would have no impact on socioeconomic criteria: induce population growth, displace people or housing, necessitate the construction of additional housing, or adversely impact public services.
- **Soil and Water Resources.** The proposed eyewash/ shower stations could result in 1,000 square feet of soil disturbance. This amount of soil disturbance is unlikely to produce any serious erosion or sedimentation. Condition of Certification **SOIL&WATER-1** requires the project owner to prepare and maintain a Drainage Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. The plan should be updated and the modification should be reported in the next annual compliance report. Adherence to the plan in accordance with **SOIL&WATER-1** would ensure there would be no significant impacts related to soil and water resources.
- **Traffic and Transportation.** The project would require 10 construction workers and minimal deliveries. Because the daily traffic related to the project would be minimal, no impacts related to traffic and transportation are anticipated and impacts would be less than significant.
- **Visual Resources.** The proposed eyewash/ shower stations would be approximately seven feet tall. The stations would visually blend in with the existing structures. There would be no impact related to visual resources.
- **Waste Management.** The hazardous materials generated during construction would include dried paint and possibly trace amounts of miscellaneous building materials. Approved Conditions of Certifications **WASTE-2** and **WASTE-5** would apply to the proposed petition. **WASTE-2** would require the appropriate remediation of any contaminated soils encountered during trenching for the pipeline. **WASTE-5** would require the project owner to submit the actual construction totals for construction waste generated. Adherence to the requirements of **WASTE-2** and **WASTE-5** would ensure that there would be no significant impacts related to Waste Management and the project would continue to comply with applicable LORS.
- **Worker Safety and Fire Protection.** With the implementation of existing conditions of certification, the proposed installation of additional eye wash stations and associated equipment would not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and would continue to comply with all applicable LORS. The short duration of construction for the installation of the equipment shall comply with worker safety and fire safety measures

contained in health and safety plans per Condition of Certification **WORKER SAFETY-1** utilized for construction of the main facility.

Section 1769(a)(2) of 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[s] 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 has been mailed to the Commission's facility mail list of interested parties and property owners adjacent to the facility site. It has also been e-mailed to the facility listserv. The listserv is an automated Energy Commission e-mail system by which information about this facility is e-mailed to parties who have subscribed. To subscribe, go to the Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, scroll down the right side of the project's webpage to the box labeled "Subscribe," and provide the requested contact information.

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, the petition will be approved 14 days after this Notice is docketed. To use the Energy Commission's electronic commenting feature to object to staff's determination, go to the Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, click on the "Submit e-Comment" link, and follow the instructions in the on-line form. Be sure to include the facility name in your comments. Once submitted, the Energy Commission Dockets Unit reviews and approves your comments, and you will receive an e-mail with a link to them.

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

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Unit, MS-4  
Docket No. 06-AFC-7C  
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 publicly accessible on the Energy Commission's webpage for the facility.

If you have questions about this Notice, please contact Jonathan Fong, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-5005, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at [Jonathan.Fong@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Fong@energy.ca.gov).

For information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the petition, please call the Public Adviser at (800) 822-6228 (toll-free in California) or send your e-mail to [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 to [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

Date: April 13, 2015



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