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**PG&E Comments on Centering Equity and Environmental Justice  
Throughout CEC Efforts held on August 31, 2022**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*



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September 21, 2022

California Energy Commission  
Vice Chair Siva Gunda  
Docket Number 22-IEPR-04  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Comments on the Commissioner Workshop on Centering Equity and Environmental Justice Throughout CEC Efforts held on August 31, 2022 (Docket Number 22-IEPR-04)**

Dear Vice Chair Gunda,

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) appreciates the California Energy Commission's (CEC) efforts to explore approaches to ensure meaningful community engagement and develop a framework to center equity and environmental justice in its 2022 Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR). The workshop on August 31<sup>st</sup> focused attention on the need to address barriers to clean energy adoption and provide effective technical assistance to accelerate the transition to a clean energy future for all, including Native American communities.

PG&E agrees that the transition to clean energy must be inclusive and equitable and supports the CEC's creation of an Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) framework. PG&E is working to further incorporate ESJ principles into our organization and we aspire to better serve ESJ communities by expanding our engagement, collaboration, and partnerships. This includes our commitment to strengthen relationships and partnerships with Native American tribal governments and communities.

**Strengthening PG&E's Tribal Engagement**

At PG&E, we recognize our responsibility to understand and respect the needs of our neighbors, including the Native American tribal governments and communities we are privileged to serve. We maintain a Tribal Liaison and Deputy Tribal Liaison to lead PG&E's engagement with Native American tribal governments, communities, and organizations, including activities related to the development of sustainable, resilient communities. PG&E is showing our commitment to serve Tribes through visits by PG&E senior leaders with tribal governments at various Tribal locations. We're also improving our communication and

outreach through a quarterly Tribal newsletter that covers income-based programs available to Tribal communities and emergency preparedness.

PG&E meets regularly with Tribal governments and community members to share PG&E's clean energy programs and opportunities to participate—and to obtain feedback on these programs and improving our engagement processes. Engagement activities also include coordinating with Tribes to deploy PG&E's self-generation and community microgrid programs on Tribal lands.

With PG&E's recently announced climate goals toward net-zero energy and beyond, we look forward to partnering with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including Tribes, to co-create plans that will help ensure equity throughout California's energy transition.

PG&E continues its efforts to meaningfully engage in Tribal communities throughout our service area. Through our Better Together Giving Program, we supported Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education training through a solar suitcase workshop where educators, leaders, and youth from five Tribes learned about solar and backup power for their reservations. Each Tribe received five solar suitcases to keep at their reservation to use during a natural disaster. PG&E also supported the Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance with a 140-hour ecological restoration workforce development curriculum for 13 Lake County Tribal members—centered around traditional ecological knowledge and native leadership.

Through the Better Together Resilient Communities grant program, the PG&E Corporation Foundation has supported the climate resilience initiatives of numerous Tribes, including the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians Inter-Tribal Wildfire Resiliency Project, which used their grant to build capacity among Tribes with respect to fire resiliency, and the Wiyot Tribe, which used their grant to fund a Climate Change Adaptation Planning project to identify cultural and natural resources within the Tribe's ancestral lands and waters vulnerable to climate change and at risk to flooding.

Beyond these efforts, we are working with Tribal governments to develop Memorandums of Understanding that cover expectations for our work together. PG&E is building internal capacity through training for coworkers on Tribal cultural awareness, Tribal governmental structure, and Tribal expectations of PG&E. We are also proactively engaging with peers at California's other investor-owned utilities to collaborate and share best practices on how to most effectively support Tribal communities.

PG&E commends the CEC's progress on the development of a framework to center equity and environmental justice through its efforts on the IEPR and welcomes the opportunity for future discussion and collaboration on Tribal engagement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
/s/  
Licha Lopez