

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512  
www.energy.ca.gov

**DOCKET**  
06-AFC-7

DATE DEC 14 2007

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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**  
**PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT**  
**FOR THE HUMBOLDT BAY REPOWERING PROJECT**  
**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (06-AFC-7)**

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E's) proposed Humboldt Bay Repowering Project (HBRP) Application for Certification (06-AFC-7). The PSA was published on November 29, 2007. The PSA contains the California Energy Commission staff's initial engineering and environmental evaluation of the HBRP, and staff's findings are summarized as follows:

- **Public Health** - Based on staff's preliminary health risk assessment, the HBRP could cause a significant cancer risk to public health and would not conform to related laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS). The potential health risk is associated with HBRP's proposed use of diesel fuel as a backup during natural gas curtailments. Natural gas with a diesel pilot would be the normal source of fuel for the dual-fueled reciprocating engine-generator units.
- **Air Quality** - Staff cannot conclude the project's impacts would be less than significant in Air Quality or that the project would conform with all applicable LORS in the area of Air Quality. Air Quality issues stem primarily from PG&E's goal to operate the HBRP during natural gas curtailments on diesel fuel. Energy Commission staff and North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) both propose an upper limit for hours of operation using diesel fuel, which is needed to support evaluation of emission impacts and to establish necessary air emission offsets. In addition, PG&E and staff disagree on whether natural gas curtailments qualify as an emergency condition, which is a factor in determining allowable emission limits under the regulations.
- **Biology** - Staff is unable to make a final recommendation regarding the HBRP due to staff's pending review of Coastal Commission documents regarding compliance with the Coastal Act.
- **Land Use** - The potential public health risk also has the effect of causing land use non-conformity under Humboldt County's Humboldt Bay Area Plan as a cancer risk would not be compatible with adjacent land uses that are occupied by residences.

Agencies and members of the public are encouraged to participate in the PSA review process. Written comments are appreciated by January 2, 2008. The staff will also be taking into account comments made at the PSA workshop held in Eureka on December 14, 2007.

Notice of Availability  
December 2007

The PSA is available for review at the following local libraries:

Humboldt County Library  
1313 3rd Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Humboldt County Library – Fortuna  
Branch  
775 14th Street  
Fortuna, CA 95540

Humboldt County Library – Arcata  
Branch  
500 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arcata, CA 95521

Humboldt County Library – Rio Dell  
Branch  
715 Wildwood Avenue  
Rio Dell, CA 95562

Humboldt County Library – Ferndale  
Branch  
807 Main Street  
P.O. Box 397  
Ferndale, CA 95536

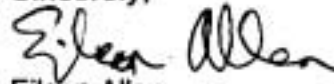
Humboldt State University Library  
One Harpst Street  
Arcata, CA 95521-8299

The PSA is also available on the Internet at [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt). However, if you would like a paper copy or CD of the PSA, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the California Energy Commission, Attention: Terry Piotrowski, Siting Project Secretary, or by phone at (916) 653-4677, or by e-mail at [tpiotrowski@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:tpiotrowski@energy.state.ca.us).

If you desire information on how to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228. Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to John Kessler, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 654-4649 or at [jkessler@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:jkessler@energy.state.ca.us). The status of the project, an electronic copy of the Application for Certification, the PSA, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's web site at [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt).

If you need reasonable accommodation in terms of American Disabilities Act assistance or for language translation, please contact Lourdes Quiroz of the Administrative Services Division at (916) 654-5146, or e-mail Lourdes at [lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us). News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Executive Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989.

Sincerely,



Eileen Allen  
Siting and Compliance Office Manager

12/14/07  
Date

Enclosure  
Mailed to List 7212 – Property Owners

**Please send me a paper copy / CD (circle one) of the California Energy Commission staff's Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Humboldt Bay Repowering Project (HBRP) Application for Certification (06-AFC-7).**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**City/State/Zip:**

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California Energy Commission  
**Attention:** Terry Piotrowski  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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