

**Notice of Exemption**

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
For U.S. Mail:  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1701 Nimbus Road  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Title:** PG&E Burson Road Gas Distribution HPR Replacement #31245971 (Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-020-02).

**Project Location:** The PG&E Burson Road Gas Distribution Project (Project) is located at three separate locations within the County of Calaveras. Location 1 is located at 5757 Carol Lane; approximately 2.5 miles west of Valley Springs; at approximately 38.173449°, -120.872377°. Location 2 is located at 2222 Quail Oaks Road; approximately 2 miles west of Valley Springs; at approximately 38.178947°, -120.867468°. Location 3 is located at 1842 North Ranchero Road; approximately 2 miles east of Valley Springs; at approximately 38.192034°, -120.792095°.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Incidental Take Permit number 2081-2018-020-02, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 783.0 et seq to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), as represented by Jaime Hoffman.

The Project includes replacing three high-pressure regulators (HPR) and three fire valves at three separate locations and deactivating and replacing approximately 880 feet of natural gas distribution line. The deactivated line will be abandoned in place. Installation of new line will be performed through open trench at one location and horizontal directional drill (HDD) at the other two locations.

It is anticipated that the Project's construction will include the use of pickup trucks with trailers, a rubber-tired or steel tracked backhoe or mini excavator, a dump truck, HDD equipment, pavement saw-cutting equipment, soil backfill compaction equipment, and hand tools.

Access, staging and parking will be on existing roads and disturbed/developed areas to the extent possible. Some off-road access and staging will be necessary.

Construction will take approximately six working days at each of the three locations and will take place during daylight hours only. The sequence of project activities at each site will consist of staging, ground excavation, removal and installation, testing, and restoration.

Work activities at each of the three locations will include the following:

Location 1 – A 5-foot by 5-foot bell hole and an 18-inch wide by 40-foot long by 4-foot deep trench will be excavated, all of which will be backfilled and restored to pre-project conditions. The only permanent above-ground structures are the HPR valve (approximately 2 feet by 3 feet in size) and the fire valve cover (an approximately 1-foot diameter circle flush with the ground), which replace existing structures of approximately the same size and footprint.

Locations 2 and 3 – Two 5-foot by 5-foot bell holes will be excavated at each location and new 400-foot gas lines will be installed via HDD at a depth of 7 feet or deeper. The bell holes will be backfilled and restored to pre-project conditions. The only permanent above-ground structures are the HPR valves (approximately 2 feet by 3 feet in size) and the fire valve covers (an approximately 1-foot diameter circle flush with the ground), which replace existing structures of approximately the same size and footprint.

Project activities include foot traffic; on-road and off-road access; vehicle and equipment parking and staging; excavation with a mini excavator, backhoe, or hand tools; horizontal directional drill; removal of old equipment; installation of new equipment; backfill of open excavations; and restoration to pre-project conditions.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**Person or Public Agency Carrying out Project:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15269 (b) and (c)
- Categorical Exemption.

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project meets the criteria for a statutory exemption pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15269 (b) and (c) because it consists of emergency repairs to privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to public health, safety, and welfare; and because it consists of actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Gabriele Quillman, Environmental Scientist, (916) 358-2955

Signature:  Date: 9/4/2019  
 Kevin Thomas, Regional Manager

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**