



FILED

03/02/26

3:11 PM

A2504004

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing the Construction of the S-238 Hinkley Compressor Station Electrical Upgrades Project.

Application 25-04-004

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE’S RULING ON
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REVISED SCHEDULE**

On November 24, 2025, the *Assigned Commissioner’s Scoping Memo and Ruling* (Scoping Memo) set forth the schedule of this proceeding. Based on the Scoping Memo, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) served supplemental testimony on January 9, 2026. Also consistent with the Scoping Memo, on January 24, 2026, the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was posted on the Energy Division’s California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects website.¹ The Scoping Memo requires Intervenors’ prepared direct testimony to be served on March 7, 2026 and PG&E’s rebuttal testimony to be served on April 7, 2026.

On February 4, 2026, PG&E filed a motion to withdraw this instant application. On February 17, 2026 and February 19, 2026, The Utility Reform Network (TURN) and the California Public Utilities Commission’s (Commission)

¹ The Final Environmental Document was posted on January 29, 2026 (*available at <https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/panoramaenv/Hinkley/FMND.html>*).

Public Advocates Office (Cal Advocates) filed responses respectively. On February 20, 2026, via email, PG&E requested permission to file a Reply.²

On February 24, 2026, TURN and Cal Advocates requested guidance via email. TURN and Cal Advocates inquired whether intervenor testimony is due on March 7, 2026, pending PG&E's motion to withdraw this application.³ TURN states that given the resources required for testimony, such an expenditure of time and effort would be wasteful if the Commission grants PG&E's motion. Cal Advocates echoed this concern. These e-mails are treated as requests for an extension of time pursuant to Rule 11.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

In the interest of resolving this application as expeditiously as possible, this ruling provides the following direction:

- A. On March 11, 2026, PG&E shall file a compliance filing responding to the following questions:⁴
 1. As discussed on page 2 of PG&E's motion, what are the details of the "electrical equipment failures" that caused PG&E to start Hinkley Compressor Station Electrical Upgrades Project (Project) on January 20, 2026? PG&E shall identify the specific equipment and components as they relate to the description of the Project in PG&E's April 9, 2025 application.

² PG&E Email, February 20, 2026, affixed to this ruling as Attachment 1. Article 11 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rule) address motions in open proceedings. Rule 11.1(a) defines a motion as a request for the Commission or the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to take a specific action related to an open proceeding. Rule 11.6 states a motion for an extension of time may be made orally, by email, or by letter. As PG&E's request is not covered by Rule 11.6, PG&E may file a motion pursuant to Rule 11.1(a), 11.1(b), and 11.1(c).

³ TURN and Cal Advocates Emails, February 24, 2026, affixed to this ruling as Attachment 2.

⁴ If PG&E's responses include confidential material, Rule 11.4 permits motions for leave to file under seal.

2. Why did “electrical equipment failures” cause PG&E to start the Project on January 20, 2026?
 3. As discussed on Exhibit A, page 4 of PG&E’s motion, what are the details of “recent component failures and ongoing obsolescence issues that emerged in late summer 2025”?
 - a. Explain the specific “component failures” and how they impact operations.
 - b. Describe the specific issue or issues.
 - c. Identify the relevant dates during the late summer 2025.
 - d. Explain how the “recent component failures and ongoing obsolescence issues” is connected to the description of the Project in PG&E’s April 9, 2025 application.
 4. The Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration contains Mitigation Measures to avoid environmental impact which may occur during construction or operation of the Project. Has PG&E since January 20, 2026, and will PG&E in the during the Project, adhere to the Mitigation Measures?
- B. The parties are granted an extension on the service of the prepared testimony. Intervenor’s prepared direct testimony shall be due on March 25, 2026. PG&E’s rebuttal testimony shall be due on April 17, 2026.
- C. The evidentiary hearing, if needed, shall be held on May 14, 2026.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated March 2, 2026 at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ZHEN ZHANG
Zhen Zhang
Administrative Law Judge

Attachment 1

Zhang, Zhen

From: Gambelin, Darrin (Law) <DDGI@pge.com>

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 1:01 PM

To: Kline, Zita

Cc: mhawiger@turn.org; RegRelCPUCCases; Yuen, Joanie; PV.EcoGen.Advisors@gmail.com; Berrios, Mia; Fisher, Arthur "Iain"; Navis, Kyle; Vanderbilt, Lara; Taul, Matthew; Britt@UtilityAdvocates.org; James@UtilityAdvocates.org; Luke@UtilityAdvocates.org; Kraska, David (Law); Rehman, Uzma; Regulatory@Stoel.com; Law CPUC Cases; mhawiger01@gmail.com; Bawa, Niki; Zhang, Zhen

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: A.25-04-004, S-238 Hinkley CPCN, PG&E Request for Permission to File a Reply to Responses to its Motion to Withdraw Application

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Classification: Public

Chief Administrative Law Judge Kline,

I received an out of office reply from Judge Zhang, with instructions to contact you. Please see request below.

Thank You,
Darrin Gambelin
Chief Counsel
PG&E

From: Gambelin, Darrin (Law) <darrin.gambelin@pge.com>

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 12:56 PM

To: zz1@cpuc.ca.gov

Cc: mhawiger@turn.org; RegRelCPUCCases <RegRelCPUCCases@pge.com>; Yuen, Joanie <JxYr@pge.com>; PV.EcoGen.Advisors@gmail.com; Berrios, Mia <MKBU@pge.com>; aei@cpuc.ca.gov; knv@cpuc.ca.gov; lv5@cpuc.ca.gov; mta@cpuc.ca.gov; Britt@UtilityAdvocates.org; James@UtilityAdvocates.org; Luke@UtilityAdvocates.org; Kraska, David (Law) <DTK5@pge.com>; uzm@cpuc.ca.gov; Regulatory@Stoel.com; Law CPUC Cases <LawCPUCCases@pge.com>; mhawiger01@gmail.com; Niki.Bawa@cpuc.ca.gov

Subject: A.25-04-004, S-238 Hinkley CPCN, PG&E Request for Permission to File a Reply to Responses to its Motion to Withdraw Application

Administrative Law Judge Zhang,

On February 4, 2026 PG&E filed a Motion to Withdraw Application No. 25-04-004. On February 17, 2026 TURN filed a Response to this Motion and on February 19, 2026 Cal Advocates filed a Response. Pursuant to CPUC Rule 11.1(f) PG&E requests permission to file a Reply to these Responses. If granted, PG&E will file and serve the Reply no later than March 2, 2026 (10 days from the last date for filing responses (February 19) falls on Sunday March 1).

Darrin Gambelin
Chief Counsel
PG&E

You can read about PG&E's data privacy practices at [PGE.com/privacy](https://www.pge.com/privacy).

(END OF ATTACHMENT 1)

Attachment 2

Zhang, Zhen

From: Bawa, Niki

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:19 PM

To: Zhang, Zhen

Cc: Marcel Hawiger; Gambelin, Darrin (Law); regrelcpuccases (pge.com); Joanie.Yuen@pge.com; Matt Sheriff; Mia.Berrios@pge.com; Fisher, Arthur "Iain"; Navis, Kyle; Vanderbilt, Lara; Taul, Matthew; Zhang, Zhen; Britt@utilityadvocates.org; James@utilityadvocates.org; Luke@utilityadvocates.org; David.Kraska@pge.com; Rehman, Uzma; Regulatory@stoel.com

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] A.25-04-004: Request for Procedural Guidance

Dear ALJ Zhang,

Cal Advocates shares TURN's concern that working on the testimony may result in a significant expenditure of time and effort that would prove wasteful if the Commission grants PG&E's request. Therefore, Cal Advocates respectfully requests guidance as to the Commission's intent regarding the current procedural schedule and whether Cal Advocates should file a Motion requesting an extension of the due date for intervenor testimony.

Kind Regards,

Niki

Niki Bawa (he/him)

Staff Attorney

California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102

(415)703-2049

www.cpuc.ca.gov

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From: Marcel Hawiger <mhawiger01@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:03 PM

To: Zhang, Zhen <Zhen.Zhang@cpuc.ca.gov>

Bawa, Niki <niki.bawa@cpuc.ca.gov>; Marcel Hawiger <mhawiger@turn.org>; Gambelin, Darrin (Law)

<darrin.gambelin@pge.com>; regrelcpuccases (pge.com) <RegrelcpucCases@pge.com>; Joanie.Yuen@pge.com; Matt Sheriff <PV.EcoGen.Advisors@gmail.com>; Mia.Berrios@pge.com; Fisher, Arthur "Iain" <Arthur.Fisher@cpuc.ca.gov>; Navis, Kyle <Kyle.Navis@cpuc.ca.gov>; Vanderbilt, Lara <Lara.Vanderbilt@cpuc.ca.gov>; Taul, Matthew <Matthew.Taul@cpuc.ca.gov>; Zhang, Zhen <Zhen.Zhang@cpuc.ca.gov>; Britt@utilityadvocates.org; James@utilityadvocates.org; Luke@utilityadvocates.org; David.Kraska@pge.com; Rehman, Uzma <Uzma.Rehman@cpuc.ca.gov>; Regulatory@stoel.com

Subject: [EXTERNAL] A.25-04-004: Request for Procedural Guidance

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Dear Judge Zhang:

The Scoping Memo of 11/24/25 set a deadline of January 9, 2026 for supplemental testimony from PG&E, and a deadline of March 7, 2026 for intervenor testimony in this proceeding A.25-04-004. On February 4, 2026, PG&E filed a Motion seeking authority to withdraw this application and pursue the Hinkley compressor station project based on an emergency exemption from the CPCN requirement of GO 177. TURN and the Public Advocates Office filed responses to PG&E's Motion by February 19, 2026.

Neither TURN nor Cal Advocates directly opposed PG&E's Motion to Withdraw, though TURN expressed concerns regarding PG&E's lack of showing regarding the existence of emergency conditions. TURN requests some guidance concerning the intervenor testimony due date of March 7. TURN is concerned that working on the testimony may result in a significant expenditure of time and effort that would prove wasteful if the Commission grants PG&E's request.

Additionally, TURN has questions concerning the factual showings in both PG&E's supplemental testimony as well as in its Motion to Withdraw. Due to the intervening work on the PG&E general rate case testimony, which was submitted February 13, 2026, TURN has not submitted the necessary data requests to date. Thus, if the Commission does not grant PG&E's request to withdraw the application, TURN would seek an extension in the testimony due date in this proceeding.

We would thus appreciate any guidance you may have as to: 1) the Commission's intent regarding the current procedural schedule; and 2) whether TURN should file a Motion requesting an extension of the due date for intervenor testimony.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter. Sincerely,

Marcel Hawiger
Consulting Attorney for TURN
510-684-1301
mhawiger01@gmail.com

cc: Service List for A.25-04-004

(END OF ATTACHMENT 2)