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A2602018

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U 39 E) for Approval Under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Sell the Hamilton Branch Hydroelectric Project.

Application 26-02-018

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S SCOPING MEMO AND RULING

This scoping memo and ruling sets forth the issues, need for hearing, schedule, category, and other matters necessary to scope this proceeding pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1701.1 and Article 7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules).

1. Procedural Background

This proceeding was initiated on February 27, 2026 upon the filing of an application by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E or Applicant) for authorization to sell its Hamilton Branch Hydroelectric Project and associated electric facilities (Project), located near Lake Almanor in Plumas and Lassen Counties.

A prehearing conference was held on May 13, 2026 to address the issues of law and fact, determine the need for hearing, set the schedule for resolving the matter, and address other matters as necessary. After considering the application and discussion at the prehearing conference, I have determined the issues and initial schedule of the proceeding to be set forth in this scoping memo.

2. Issues

The issues to be determined or otherwise considered are:

1. Should the Commission authorize the proposed transaction pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 851?
 - a. Does the California Environmental Quality Act require environmental review of the proposed transaction, and if so, does the proposed transaction comply with the California Environmental Quality Act?
 - b. Does the proposed transaction comply with the Commission’s Tribal Land Transfer Policy?
 - c. Does the proposed transaction comply with the Commission’s Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan?
2. Should the Commission approve the proposed ratemaking treatment of the proposed transaction, if authorized?

3. Need for Evidentiary Hearing

There are no material issues of disputed fact. Accordingly, no evidentiary hearing is needed.

4. Schedule

The following schedule is adopted here and may be modified by the assigned Commissioner or Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) as required to promote the efficient and fair resolution of the application:

Event	Date
Supplemental information (if needed) filed by Applicant	Q3 2026
Intervenor’s prepared direct testimony served	July 31, 2026
Prepared rebuttal testimony served	August 21, 2026
Opening briefs	September 18, 2026
Reply briefs [matter submitted]	October 9, 2026
Proposed decision published for party comments	Q4 2026 / Q1 2027

The proceeding will stand submitted upon the filing of reply briefs, unless the assigned Commissioner or ALJ requires further evidence or argument. Based on this schedule, the proceeding will be resolved within 18 months as required by Public Utilities Code Section 1701.5.

5. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program and Settlements

The Commission's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program offers mediation, early neutral evaluation, and facilitation services, and uses ALJs who have been trained as neutrals. At the parties' request, the assigned ALJ can refer this proceeding to the Commission's ADR Coordinator. Additional ADR information is available on the Commission's website.¹

Any settlement between parties, whether regarding all or some of the issues, shall comply with Article 12 of the Rules and shall be served in writing. Such settlements shall include a complete explanation of the settlement and a complete explanation of why it is reasonable in light of the whole record, consistent with the law and in the public interest. The proposing parties bear the burden of proof as to whether the settlement should be adopted by the Commission.

6. Category of Proceeding and Ex Parte Restrictions

This ruling confirms the Commission's preliminary determination² that this is a ratesetting proceeding. Accordingly, ex parte communications are restricted and must be reported pursuant to Article 8 of the Rules.

¹ <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/adr/>

² Resolution ALJ 176-3579.

7. Public Outreach

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1711(a), where feasible and appropriate, before determining the scope of the proceeding, the Commission sought the participation of those likely to be affected, including those likely to derive benefit from, and those potentially subject to, a decision in this proceeding. This matter was noticed on the Commission's daily calendar. Where feasible and appropriate, this matter was incorporated into engagements conducted by the Commission's External Affairs Division with local governments and other interested parties.

8. Intervenor Compensation

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1804(a)(1), a customer who intends to seek an award of compensation must file and serve a notice of intent to claim compensation by June 12, 2026, 30 days after the prehearing conference.

9. Response to Public Comments

Parties may, but are not required to, respond to written comments received from the public. Parties may do so by posting such response using the "Add Public Comment" button on the "Public Comment" tab of the online docket card for the proceeding.

10. Public Advisor

Any person interested in participating in this proceeding who is unfamiliar with the Commission's procedures or has questions about the electronic filing procedures is encouraged to obtain more information at <http://cpuc.ca.gov/pao> or contact the Commission's Public Advisor at 866-849-8390 or send an e-mail to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

11. Filing, Service, and Service List

The official service list has been created and is on the Commission's website. Parties should confirm that their information on the service list is

correct and serve notice of any errors on the Commission's Process office, the service list, and the ALJ. Persons may become a party pursuant to Rule 1.4.³

When serving any document, each party must ensure that it is using the current official service list on the Commission's website.

This proceeding will follow the electronic service protocol set forth in Rule 1.10. All parties to this proceeding shall serve documents and pleadings using electronic mail, whenever possible, transmitted no later than 5:00 p.m., on the date scheduled for service to occur.

Rule 1.10 requires service on the ALJ of both an electronic and a paper copy of filed or served documents. The assigned ALJ orders parties to provide only electronic service of filed or served documents on the ALJ.

When serving documents on Commissioners or their personal advisors, whether or not they are on the official service list, parties must only provide electronic service. Parties must not send hard copies of documents to Commissioners or their personal advisors unless specifically instructed to do so.

Persons who are not parties but wish to receive electronic service of documents filed in the proceeding may contact the Process Office at process_office@cpuc.ca.gov to request addition to the "Information Only" category of the official service list pursuant to Rule 1.9(f).

The Commission encourages those who seek information-only status on the service list to consider the Commission's subscription service as an alternative. The subscription service sends individual notifications to each subscriber of formal e-filings accepted by the Commission. Notices sent through

³ The form to request additions and changes to the Service list may be found at <https://www.cpsc.ca.gov/-/media/cpsc-website/divisions/administrative-law-judge-division/documents/additiontoservicelisttranscriptordercompliant.pdf>

subscription service are less likely to be flagged by spam or other filters. Notifications can be for a specific proceeding, a range of documents and daily or weekly digests.

12. Receiving Electronic Service from the Commission

Parties and other persons on the service list are advised that it is the responsibility of each person or entity on the service list for Commission proceedings to ensure their ability to receive emails from the Commission. Please add “@cpuc.ca.gov” to your email safe sender list and update your email screening practices, settings and filters to ensure receipt of emails from the Commission.

13. Assignment of Proceeding

Matthew Baker is the assigned commissioner and Valerie U. Kao is the assigned ALJ for the proceeding.

IT IS RULED that:

1. The scope of this proceeding is described above and is adopted.
2. The schedule of this proceeding is set forth above and is adopted.
3. Evidentiary hearing is not needed.
4. The category of the proceeding is ratesetting.

Dated June 25, 2026, at San Francisco, California.

 /s/ MATTHEW BAKER
Matthew Baker
Assigned Commissioner