ALJ/DB1/mln/avs **Date of Issuance 8/11/2020**

Decision 20-08-014 August 6, 2020

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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| Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a California corporation, for a Permit to Construct the Humboldt Bay-Humboldt #1 60 kV Reconductoring Project Pursuant to General Order 131-D. (U39E.)  | Application 19-02-004 |

**ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**

**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding until November 8, 2020.

1. **Background**

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a) provides that ratesetting cases must be resolved within 18 months after initiation unless the Commission makes a written determination that the deadline cannot be met, including findings as to the reason, and issues an order extending that deadline. In this proceeding, the 18‑month deadline for resolution is August 8, 2020.

On February 7, 2019, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) filed this application for a permit to construct the Humboldt Bay-Humboldt #1 60 kilovolts Reconductoring Project. As provided by General Order (GO) 131-D, the proposed project is subject to environmental review pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

On August 28, 2019, the assigned Commissioner issued a scoping memo and ruling for this proceeding (Scoping Memo). The Scoping Memo noted that environmental review of the application would likely take a year or longer to complete and the Commission would therefore require additional time beyond the 18-month statutory deadline to resolve the proceeding.

The Commission issued its Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration on April 17, 2020. A telephonic prehearing conference (PHC) was held on June 10, 2020.

A proposed decision resolving this matter is expected to be published in the very near future. An extension of the statutory deadline until November 8, 2020, is necessary to publish a proposed decision, review comments on the proposed decision, and allow the Commission sufficient time to deliberate and to issue its final decision.

# Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may waive the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment on a decision that extends the 18-month deadline set forth in Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a). Under the circumstances of this case, it is appropriate to waive the 30-day period for public review and comment.

# Assignment of Proceeding

Genevieve Shiroma is the assigned Commissioner and Daniel Buch is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. PG&E filed this application on February 7, 2019.
2. A telephonic PHC was held on June 10, 2020.
3. On August 28, 2019, the scoping memo and ruling was issued.
4. The statutory deadline for resolving this ratesetting proceeding is
August 8, 2020.
5. An extension of the statutory deadline until November 8, 2020 is necessary to allow sufficient time to publish the proposed decision, review comments received on the proposed decision and allow the Commission enough time to deliberate and to issue its final decision.

# Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline should be extended to November 8, 2020.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding is extended until November 8, 2020.

This order is effective today.

Dated August 6, 2020, at San Francisco, California.

MARYBEL BATJER

 President

LIANE M. RANDOLPH

MARTHA GUZMAN ACEVES

CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN

GENEVIEVE SHIROMA

 Commissioners