
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

28 August 2025

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT 40 (ORDER NO. WQ 2023-0022-DWQ) FOR THE PG&E T-1680 L-131 HYDROTEST PROJECT (WDID# 5B01CR00051), PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY BAY AREA OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

On 5 August 2025, Pacific Gas & Company (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the Water Quality Order No. WQ 2023-0022-DWQ Waste Discharge Requirements and Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the PG&E T-1680 L-131 Hydrotest Project (Project). After reviewing the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within less than 0.0068 acre/102 linear feet of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under the General Certification. This Notice of Applicability (NOA) requires that the Project be implemented in conformance with the Project description in the Application and in compliance with the conditions of approval specified in this NOA and in the General Certification.

A copy of the General Order No. [WQ 2023-0022-DWQ](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders/2023/pge-om-wdr.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Order webpage and is enclosed.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 4 April 2023, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 8.57-acre PG&E T-1680 L-131 Hydrotest Project (Project) consists of the Applicant completing a required hydrotest to assess the L-131 pipeline between mile point 25.0970 and 26.9769 per their Transmission Integrity Management Program.

The Applicant is proposing to perform this strength test on Line 131 where this section of pipe does not have valid strength test records. Two drip removals are required to facilitate the strength test of the pipe. No permanent or temporary access improvements are needed to implement the project. The workspace will encompass approximately 4.56 acres for drip excavation and project staging and laydown. An 8-foot by 40-foot excavation and 2-foot by 52-foot trench excavation is proposed to locate the drip, remove the drip, and repair the pipe. A second 8-foot by 40-foot excavation is proposed for the installation of a temporary test head and temperature probe. If required, the excavations will be shored to prevent sloughing.

A 25-foot buffer is estimated around the excavation footprint to account for locating the drip if it is not found in the initial excavation. Proposed work at this location will result in the temporary excavation of approximately 3 cubic yards of soil (0.00035 acre) from an intermittent drainage. Additionally, proposed work will result in the temporary excavation of approximately 4 cubic yards of soil (0.00042 acre) from a seasonal wetland.

Location C:

The project workspace will encompass approximately 1.46 acre for drip excavation and project staging and laydown. An 8-foot by 40-foot excavation is proposed to locate the drip, remove the drip, and repair the pipe. If required, the excavation will be shored to prevent sloughing. A 25-foot buffer is estimated around the excavation footprint to account for locating the drip if it is not found in the initial excavation. Proposed work at this location will result in the temporary excavation of approximately 53 cubic yards of soil (0.006 acre) from seasonal wetland habitat in this location.

Plating will be used to protect the pipeline from the load weight where they intersect access and work areas. The project will be completed during the dry season; therefore, no water diversion is required. The workspaces will be delineated prior to mobilization of personnel and equipment. Mowing vegetation for fire safety will be required. No tree trimming or removal is required. Topsoil will be salvaged to maintain the existing strata and seed bank and spoils will be stored in uplands in the approved workspace. The site will be restored to pre-project conditions.

The Project will temporarily impact 0.0068 acre/102 linear feet of waters of the United States.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Address: Located in the city of Livermore.

Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 005-060-002-2, 902-0007-005-1, 902-0007-004-01

Latitude: 37°46'17.17" and Longitude: -121°44'15.13"

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

15 May 2026 through 30 October 2026

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$4,212.00 was received on 5 August 2025. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), and was calculated as category E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Sara Gevorgyan by phone at (916) 464-4710 or by email at Sara.Gevorgyan@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Anne Walter for:
Patrick Pulupa Executive Officer

Enclosure: Water Quality Order NO. WQ 2023-0022-DWQ] Waste Discharge
Requirements and Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

Attachment: Figure 1: Location Map

cc: Distribution List, [via email only]

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CWA Section 401 WQC Program
State Water Resources Control Board
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Figure 1: Location Map

