23 October 2026

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS; PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, R-2005 GAS TRANSMISSION PROJECT (WDID# 5C10CR00108), FRESNO COUNTY

On 9 October 2026, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (Applicant or PG&E) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 1 August 2023 State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regional General Permit 8 (General Certification Order) for the R-2005 Gas Transmission 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) staff has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under the General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place in 0.18 acres/162.3 linear feet of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers' Regional General Permit 8, Emergency Repair and Protection Activities, subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the General Certification Order. This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of the General Certification Order (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2023/rgp-8-certification-mainbody.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and the General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated

7 October 2026, 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 Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.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 0.4-acre Project consists of installing temporary supports beneath an exposed section of natural gas transmission Line 138 where it crosses Fresno Slough. This action is proposed in advance of the forecasted super El Niño conditions that pose an imminent threat to critical utility infrastructure, public safety, and the reliability of natural gas service in Fresno County. Approximately 50 feet of the 18-inch pipeline has become exposed due to accelerated channel erosion near Elkhorn Avenue in Burrel, Fresno County. PG&E is requesting emergency authorization to stabilize the exposed segment by installing temporary helical pile supports drilled below the scour depth to anchor the pipeline in place. These supports would remain until the pipeline is permanently lowered under PG&E Project R-2005 (anticipated in 2027), pending receipt of all required permits.

PG&E proposes to address the emergency conditions by installing six (6) 12.75-inch-diameter vertical steel helical piles to support three EZ-Line pipe clamps along the exposed portion of the 18-inch gas transmission pipeline (L-138). The piles would be drilled approximately 22 feet below existing grade within Fresno Slough, extending beneath the scour depth to securely anchor the pipeline and prevent structural failure from continued erosion. Each pile would be capped with a 24-by-24-by-¾-inch plate, and paired piles would be connected by a beam to which the EZ-Line pipe clamps would be bolted. When the permanent pipeline replacement project mobilizes, the temporary clamps, beams, pile caps, and helical piles would be fully removed from the slough, leaving no temporary materials in place. Project elements affecting aquatic resources include approximately 0.18 acres of temporary impacts to stream channel aquatic type resources.

Construction is planned to begin as soon as materials arrive at the end of October 2026, with an estimated duration of two weeks, weather permitting. Two access routes may be used. The preferred route is the existing levee road on the west bank of Fresno Slough, requiring only minor grading in the low-flow channel to safely access the work area; the federal levee itself would not be graded. Mowing would be necessary to reach the area requiring minor grading, with an anticipated mowed/graded width of approximately 15–20 feet. A secondary access route through the slough bed may be used only if needed; this route would require vegetation mowing but no grading or improvements.

The Project incorporates several erosion and sediment control measures to minimize disturbance and protect the surrounding environment. All work will occur only during dry weather, and work areas will be limited to the minimum necessary to complete the scope of work. Mats will be placed along the access route and within the channel to reduce ground disturbance and soil compaction. Prior to construction, the site will be cleared of grass, and temporary matting will be installed to support staging activities. Following construction, disturbed areas will be stabilized immediately with

habitat-appropriate seed and rolled erosion control products. All materials and stockpiles will be staged outside the channel, and fiber rolls will be installed along drainage perimeters as needed. Additionally, all vehicle traffic will be restricted to established roadways and approved access routes to further limit site impacts.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-project conditions.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	0.18	21	162.3

PROJECT LOCATION:
The Project is located on the west bank of Fresno Slough within the Kings River Bypass, approximately 0.9 miles south of West Elkhorn Avenue in Fresno County.

Section 3, Township 17 South, Range 18 East, MDB&M

Latitude: 36.473796 degrees and Longitude: -120.004767 degrees

PROJECT SCHEDULE:
The approximate timeframe of Project construction is October 2026 through November 2026.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:
An application fee of $4,212.00 was received on 9 October 2026. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(4), and was calculated as category F - Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
The Applicant shall submit all reports in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment B of Order No. WQ 2023-0061-DWQ, and in accordance with conditions specified in this Notice of Applicability and email it to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Ernesto P. Garcia at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov. The WDID No. for this Project is 5C10CR00108.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Ernesto P. Garcia at (559) 445-6126 or at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: Via email only:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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R9cwa401@epa.gov

Maya Bickner (SPK-2026-00262)
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