

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

NORTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE  
1385 EIGHTH STREET, SUITE 130  
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA 95521  
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WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV



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## **NORTH COAST DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*For the  
October 2015 Meeting of the California Coastal Commission*

September 24, 2015

**To:** Commissioners and Interested Parties  
**From:** Alison Dettmer, North Coast District Deputy Director

Following is a listing for the waivers, emergency permits, immaterial amendments and extensions issued by the North Coast District Office for the October 2015 Coastal Commission hearing. Copies of the applicable items are attached for your review. Each item includes a listing of the applicants involved, a description of the proposed development, and a project location.

Pursuant to the Commission's direction and adopted procedures, appropriate notice materials were sent to all applicants for posting at the project site. Additionally, these items have been posted at the District office and are available for public review and comment.

This report may also contain additional correspondence and/or any additional staff memorandum concerning the items to be heard on today's agenda for the North Coast District.

**DE MINIMIS WAIVERS**

The Executive Director has determined that the following developments do not require a coastal development permit pursuant to Section 30624.7 of the California Coastal Act of 1976.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Location</b>
1-15-1337-W Pacific Gas & Electric Co., Attn: Mason Holmes	Rehabilitate an existing overhead power line by: replacing approximately 4,567 feet of conductor, performing other overhead work, replacing five poles, replacing and installing additional ground anchors, and installing one additional pole.	At 23 locations along an existing overhead electrical alignment located west of the City of Arcata on Moxon Lane, Bay School Rd., and Dolly Varden Road, Humboldt County.

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## Coastal Development Permit De Minimis Waiver Coastal Act Section 30624.7

Based on the project plans and information provided in your permit application for the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a Coastal Development Permit pursuant to Section 13238.1, Title 14, California Code of Regulations. If, at a later date, this information is found to be incorrect or the plans revised, this decision will become invalid; and, any development occurring must cease until a coastal development permit is obtained or any discrepancy is resolved in writing.

**Waiver:** 1-15-1337-W

**Applicant:** Pacific Gas & Electric Company (Attn: Mason Holmes)

**Location:** At twenty-three locations along an existing overhead electrical alignment located west of the City of Arcata on Moxon Lane, Bay School Road, and Dolly Varden Road (Humboldt County).

**Proposed Development:** Maintain an existing overhead electrical alignment by replacing approximately 4,567 feet of conductor, performing other overhead work, replacing five poles, replacing two ground anchors, installing one additional pole, and installing three additional ground anchors. For each new and replacement pole, a rubber-tired PG&E line truck will use a boom-mounted 24" diameter auger to excavate a hole at depth of 6.5 to 7 feet. The line truck will then lift the new pole into its hole, and the native soils will be used to backfill to grade around the hole. Once the electrical equipment is transferred to the new pole, the old pole will be lifted out of the ground and the hole backfilled with the remaining spoils from the new pole's hole. Ground anchors will be installed by a truck-mounted pneumatic drill. Anchor installation will not involve any excavation nor backfilling of soil. Each new or replacement pole will require approximately 4 square feet of soil disturbance, and each anchor will require approximately 2 square feet of soil disturbance.

**Rationale:** Ground disturbance is proposed at 10 of the 23 work sites along the existing overhead electrical alignment, including two locations adjacent to the bank of Liscom Slough, one location adjacent to a roadside ditch, and four locations adjacent to small depressions in the road shoulder that puddle after rain events. To protect aquatic resources, no soil disturbance will take place in wetlands, and work adjacent to wetlands will be limited to dry conditions (i.e. no standing water in the work or access footprints; no measurable precipitation within the previous 48 hours; no active precipitation during any work period; and less than 60% likelihood of precipitation for any given work day based on forecast data obtained from [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)). All work will be performed from trucks that will remain on existing paved roads. Excess soil will be disposed of in upland areas outside of the coastal zone. Any equipment removed, including wood poles, conductor, and oil-filled electrical equipment, will be transported to a PG&E facility for proper disposal. In addition, if any

**Coastal Development Permit De Minimis Waiver**

1-15-1337-W

cultural resources are identified during project activities, all work in the vicinity of the discovery will cease immediately and the PG&E Cultural Resources Specialist and three Wiyot-area tribal historic preservation officers will be notified. Therefore, as proposed, the development will not adversely impact coastal resources and is consistent with all applicable Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act.

This waiver will not become effective until reported to the Commission at their October 2015 meeting and the site of the proposed development has been appropriately noticed, pursuant to 13054(b) of the California Code of Regulations. The Notice of Pending Permit shall remain posted at the site until the waiver has been validated. If four (4) Commissioners object to this waiver of permit requirements, a coastal development permit will be required.

Charles Lester,  
Executive Director

  
Cristin Kenyon  
Coastal Planner

cc: Commissioners/file