MINUTE ITEM

26

07/10/89
PRC 6205
PRC 6827
N. Smith

APPROVAL OF ADDENDUMS NOS. 9 AND 10
MASTER LEASE PRC 6827 AND APPROVAL OF
ADDENDUM NO. 19 OF
MASTER LEASE PRC 6205

The Commission approved the recommendations of Calendar Item 26 with the understanding that the attorney for Pacific Gas and Electric Company in San Francisco, Peter Baumgartner, give James A. McKelvey, Attorney, representing Richard Gunner, thirty days to negotiate the final location of the line.

A 30, 31, 32

S 14, 15

CALENDAR PAGE
MINUTE PAGE 2055

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. 26
was approved as Minute Item
No. 26 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 at its 7/10/89
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

26

A 30, 31, 32

S 14, 15

07/10/89
PRC 6205
PRC 6827
N. Smith

APPROVAL OF ADDENDUMS NOS. 9 AND 10
MASTER LEASE PRC 6827 AND
APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM NO. 19 OF
MASTER LEASE PRC 6205

APPLICANT: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Attn: Ernie Ralston
1401 Fulton Street
Fresno, California 93760

BACKGROUND:

At its April 25, 1985 meeting, the State Lands Commission approved the issuance of Master Lease PRC 6827 (Minute Item No. 4) to Pacific Gas and Electric Company for various electric transmission facilities, 60 KV and greater, throughout California.

At its August 26, 1982 meeting, the State Lands Commission approved the issuance of Master Lease PRC 6205 (Minute Item No. 19) to Pacific Gas and Electric Company for various electric transmission facilities, less than 60 kV, throughout California.

Each master lease provides that the lease may periodically be amended by a series of addenda for the purpose of adding to and deleting from the lease the parcels of land necessary for the distribution of electrical energy.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has proposed the North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line (North Fresno Project) to serve the North Fresno area. The North Fresno Project, as proposed, consists of:

- building a 115 kV transmission line from Herndon Substation to a proposed substation site located near Copper Avenue and Friant Road and from the proposed substation site to the Kerckhoff-Sanser 115 kV Transmission Line;
- building a 115/21 kV substation -- the proposed Woodward Substation, described in Chapter 6.0;
- adding 21 kV feeders to areas in the North Fresno area, as necessary.

The proposed 115 kV transmission line will be approximately 22.4 miles long and will be constructed in road franchise areas wherever possible. The majority (16.9 miles) of the proposed 115 kV transmission line will be consolidated with existing electrical distribution lines.

Unauthorized construction of the line in Madera County started on January 16, 1989, and was suspended at the direction of the staff of the State Lands Commission on March 21, 1989. Substation site preparation was initiated on March 13, 1989, and was suspended, on March 30, 1989, again at the direction of the State Lands Commission. The transmission line is essentially complete from Avenue 7 to the intersection of Road 40 and Avenue 9 in Madera County.

Staff determined that the existing 70 kV transmission line crossing the San Joaquin River near Lanes Bridge is not under permit to PG&E.

TERMS OF MASTER LEASE PRC 6827:

Initial period: 30 years beginning May 1, 1985.

Renewal options: One successive period of 15 years.

Public liability insurance: Combined single limit coverage of $2,000,000.

Current Consideration: $12,000 per annum; five-year rent review.

TERMS OF MASTER LEASE PRC 6205:

Initial period: 30 years beginning September 1, 1982.

Renewal options: One successive period of 15 years.

Public liability insurance: Combined single limit coverage of $2,000,000 or alternative acceptable to the State Lands Commission.

Current Consideration: $15,534 per annum; five-year rent review.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:

A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.

B. Cal. Code Regs.: Title 2, Div. 3; Title 14, Div. 6.

AB 884: 11/22/89.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. The annual rental value for each Addendum site is the minimum rental of $100 for this type of transaction.

2. In October, 1988, PG&E submitted an Initial Environmental Assessment (EA) for the North Fresno Project to the staff of the State Lands Commission (SLC). The EA, as revised by the State Lands Commission, was circulated to Responsible and Trustee agencies for review and comment on November 7, 1988. On the basis of comments received from Fresno County, the California Energy Commission, the State Reclamation Board, the State Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the staff prepared and circulated a proposed negative declaration (EIR ND 452) State Clearinghouse No. 88103108, on December 20, 1988. The public comment period ended on January 23, 1989. On May 23, 1989, staff circulated an amended proposed negative declaration, (EIR ND 452). The public comment period ended June 13, 1989. No comments were received.





0477

The amendment to the EA and proposed negative declaration addressee: 1) a minor realignment of approximately three (3) miles within Madera County; and 2) unauthorized construction prior to the adoption of the proposed negative declaration and approval of the subject by the State Lands Commission, the CEQA lead agency.

Based upon the Initial Study, the Proposed Negative Declaration, as amended, and the comments received in response thereto, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15074[b])

3. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370, et seq. but will not affect those significant lands.

EXHIBITS:

PRC 6827

"A-9" Land Description.
"A-10" Land Description.
"B-9" Location Map.
"B-10" Location Map.

PRC 6205

"A-19" Land Description.
"B-19" Location Map.
"C" Negative Declaration.
"D-1" Local Government Approval.
"D-2" Local Government Approval.
"D-3" Local Government Approval.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. CERTIFY THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION, EIR ND 452, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 88103108, WAS PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE CEQA AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.





0.478

2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

3. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY OF ADDENDUM NO. 9 AND 10 TO MASTER LEASE PRC 6827, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 1989, IN THE FORM ON FILE IN THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION WHICH ADDS TO SAID LEASE THE LANDS DELINEATED IN EXHIBITS "A-9" AND "A-10" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF, IN CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL RENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $12,100. ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LEASE PRC 6827, SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

4. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY OF ADDENDUM NO. 19 TO MASTER LEASE PRC 6205, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 1989, IN THE FORM ON FILE IN THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION WHICH ADDS TO SAID LEASE THE LAND DELINEATED IN EXHIBIT "A-19" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF, IN CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL RENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $15,534. ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LEASE PRC 6205 SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.





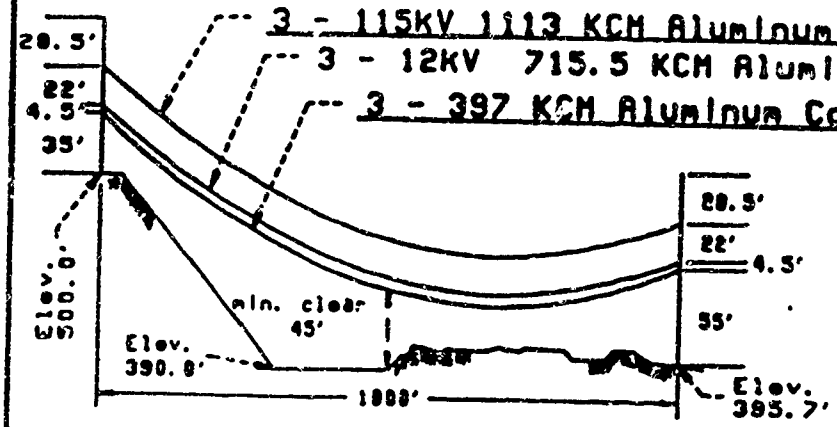
0.480

EXHIBIT A-9
LAND DESCRIPTION

PRC 6827

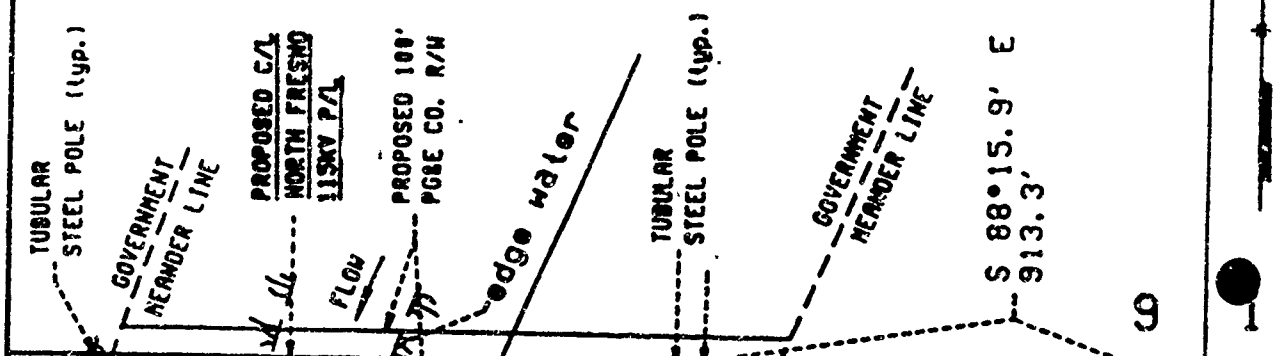
# T12S. R20E. M.D.B. & M.

S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 9

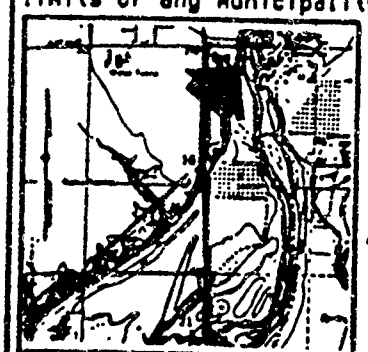



## PROFILE

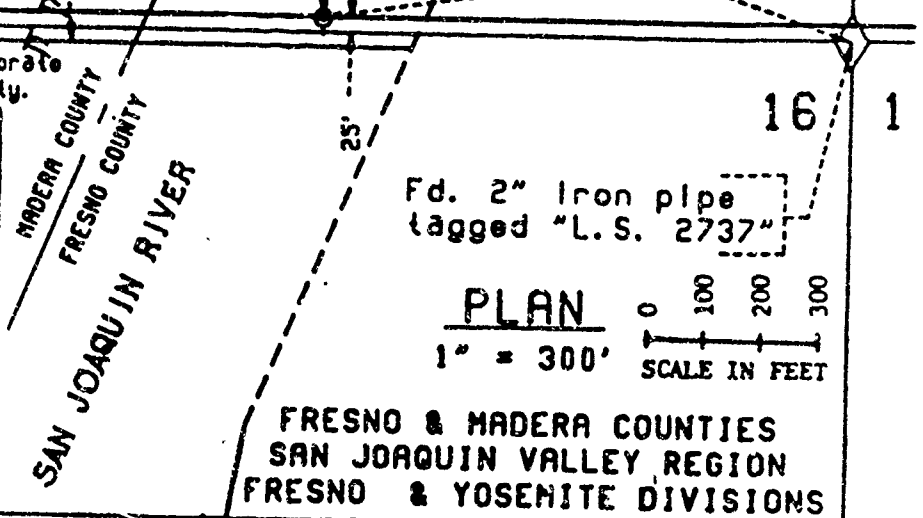
Scales:
H - 1" = 300'
V - 1" = 100'




Crossing not within corporate limits of any municipality.



VICINITY MAP - LANES BRIDGE QUAD.




## PLAN

1" = 300'

0 100 200 300
SCALE IN FEET

FRESNO & MADERA COUNTIES
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGION
FRESNO & YOSEMITE DIVISIONS

| APPROVED BY | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | REV. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | | | DR | DWN. | CHKD. | SUPV. | RE |

GM 194965-B
SUPV. G. Raymond
DSGN.
DWN. CPN/MS
CHKD. MS
O.K.
DATE 11-24-88 SCALE As Noted

# NORTH FRESNO 70& 115KV P/L
## CROSSING OVER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER
## 1-1/2 MI. N. OF LANES BRIDGE

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

D/M
DWG. LIST
SUPSDS
SUPSD BY
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1 SHEET
RE

JL-152

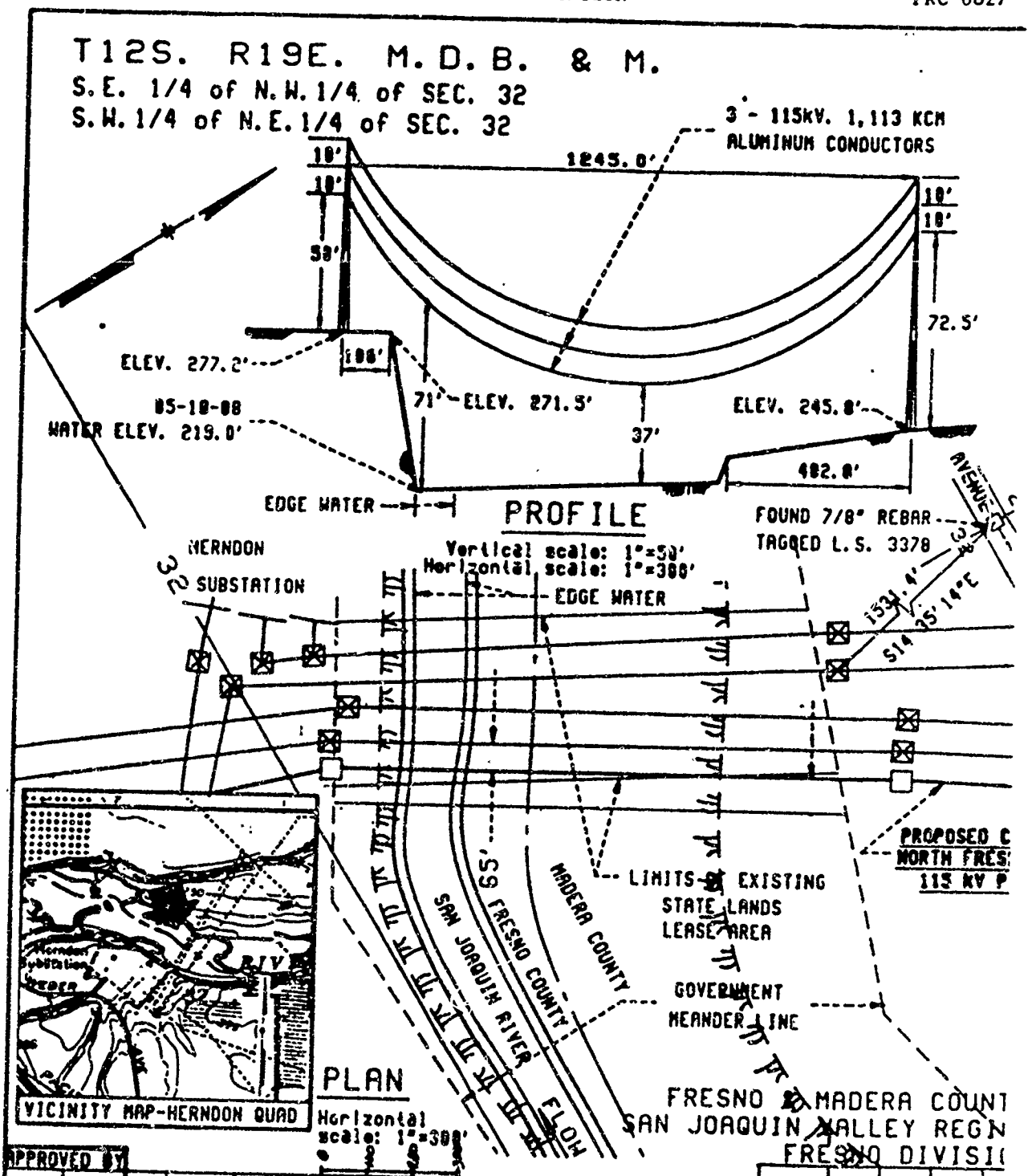
CALENDAR PAGE 356
MINUTE PAGE 2161

PREPARED NOVEMBER 4, 1988 BY BXU 1

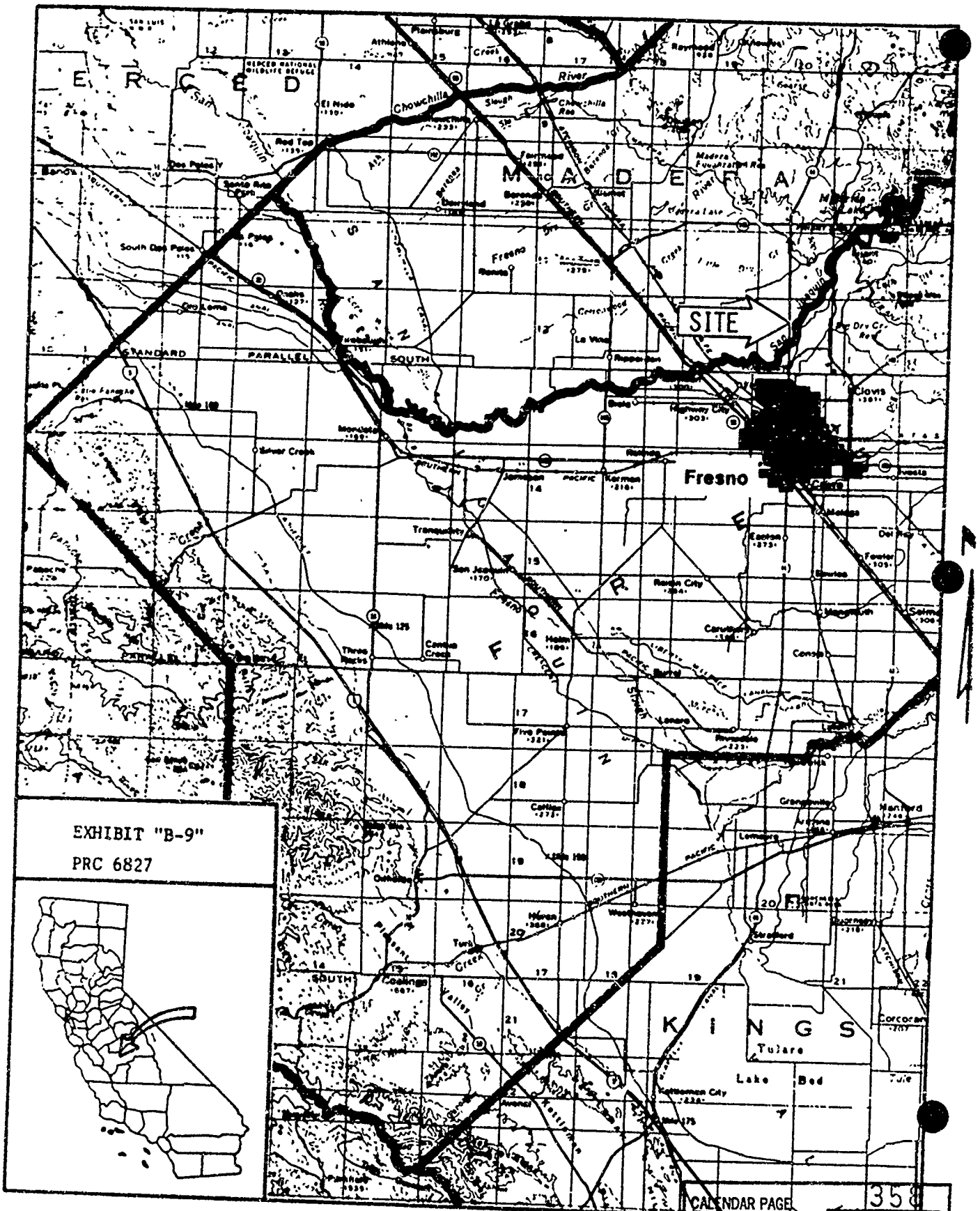
0.481

EXHIBIT "A-10"
LAND DESCRIPTION

PRC 6827




PREPARED NOVEMBER 4, 1988 BY BIU 1

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0.483

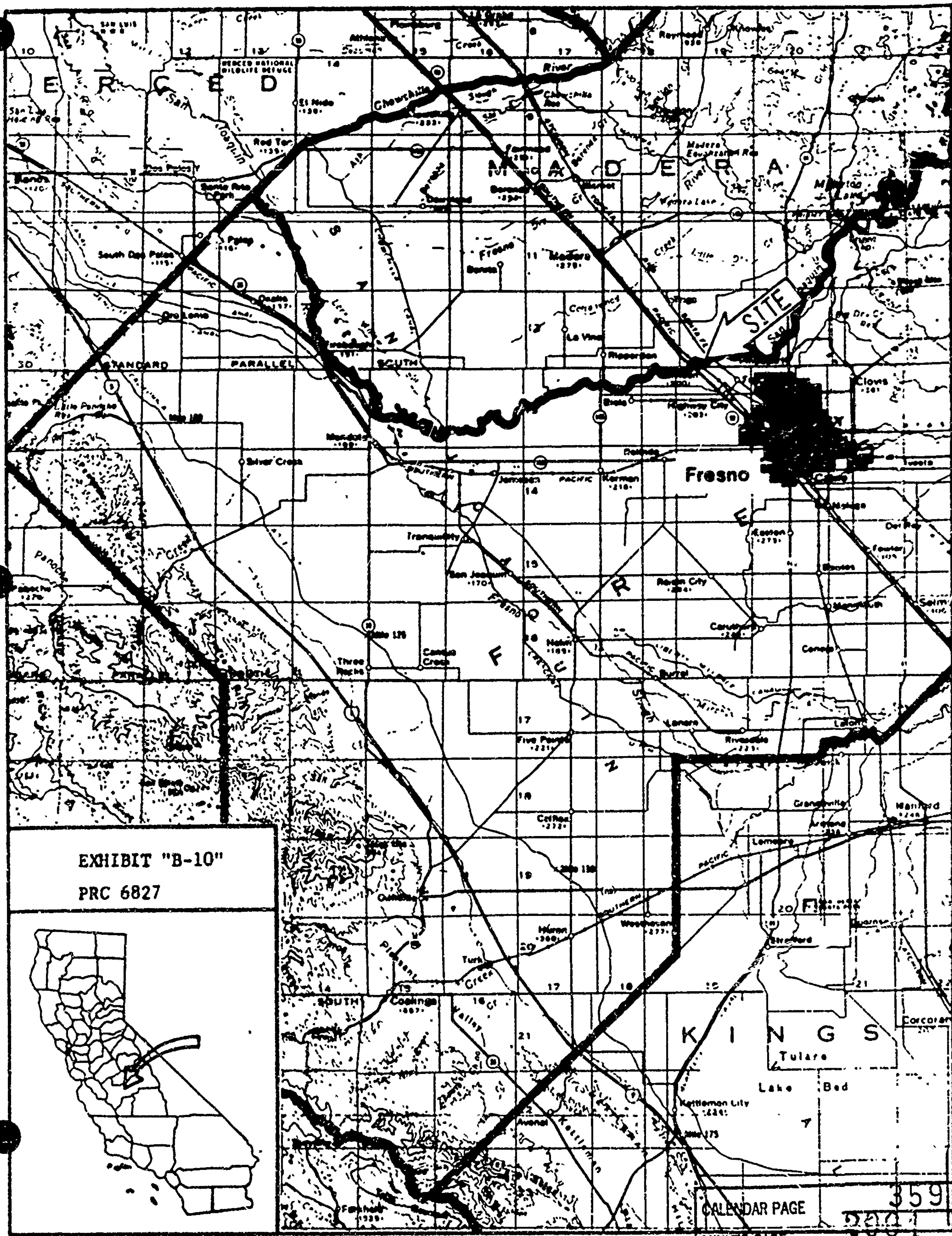



EXHIBIT "B-10"

PRC 6827

CALENDAR PAGE 359

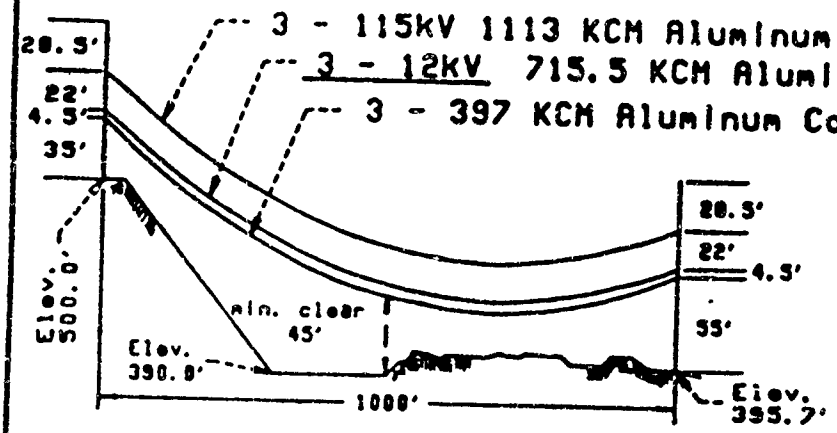
MINUTE PAGE

0_484

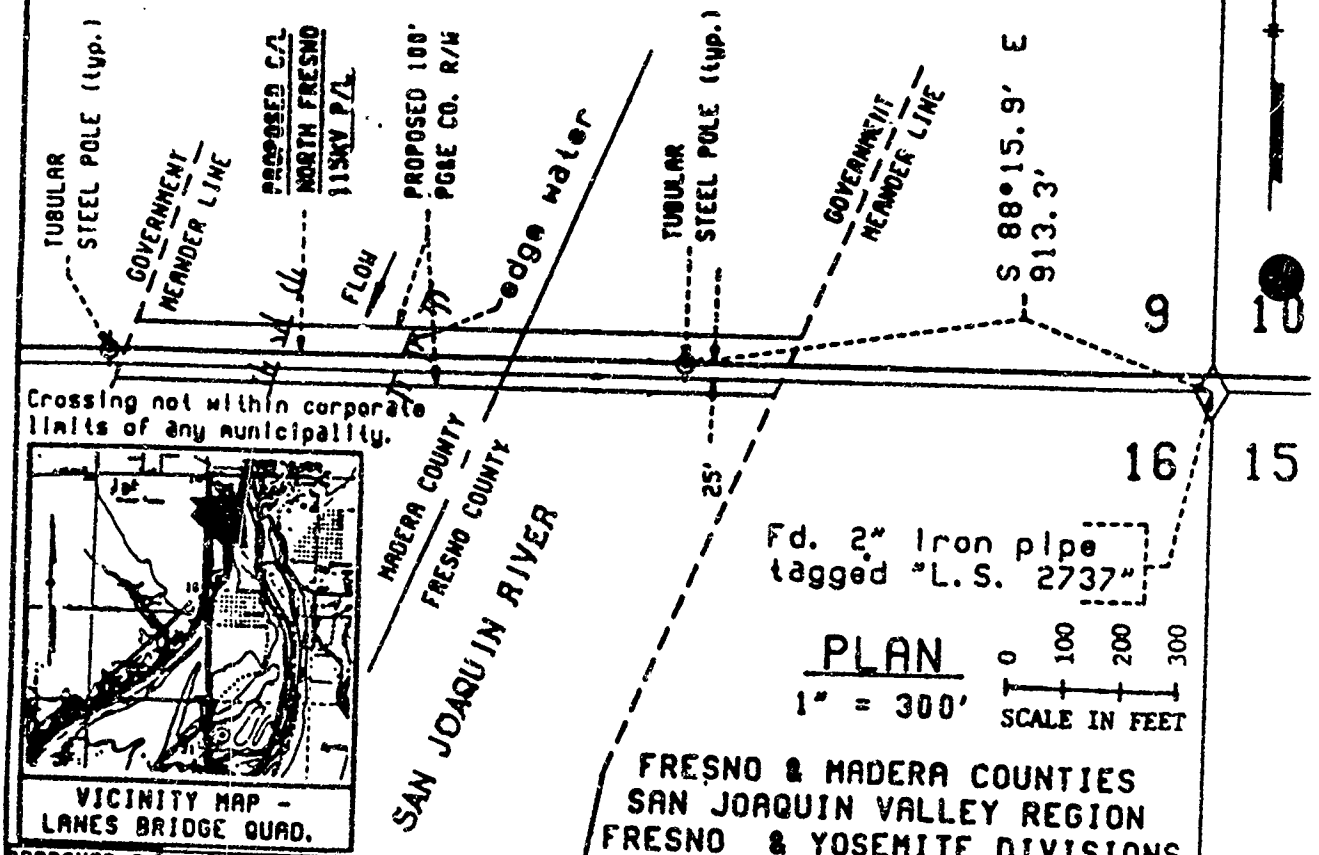
EXHIBIT A-19
LAND DESCRIPTION

PRC 6205

T12S. R20E. M.D.B. & M.
S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 9




PROFILE
Scales:
H - 1" = 300'
V - 1" = 100'






VICINITY MAP - LANES BRIDGE QUAD.

PLAN
1" = 300'
0 100 200 300
SCALE IN FEET

FRESNO & MADERA COUNTIES
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGION
FRESNO & YOSEMITE DIVISIONS

APPROVED BY

| REV. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | BY | DWN. | CHKD. | SUPV. | APVD. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

GM 194965-8
SUPV. G. Raymond
DSGN.
DWN. CPW/MS
CHKD. MS
O.K.
DATE 10-24-88 SCALE As Noted

NORTH FRESNO 12 KV P/L
CROSSING OVER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER
1-1/2 MI. N. OF LANES BRIDGE
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

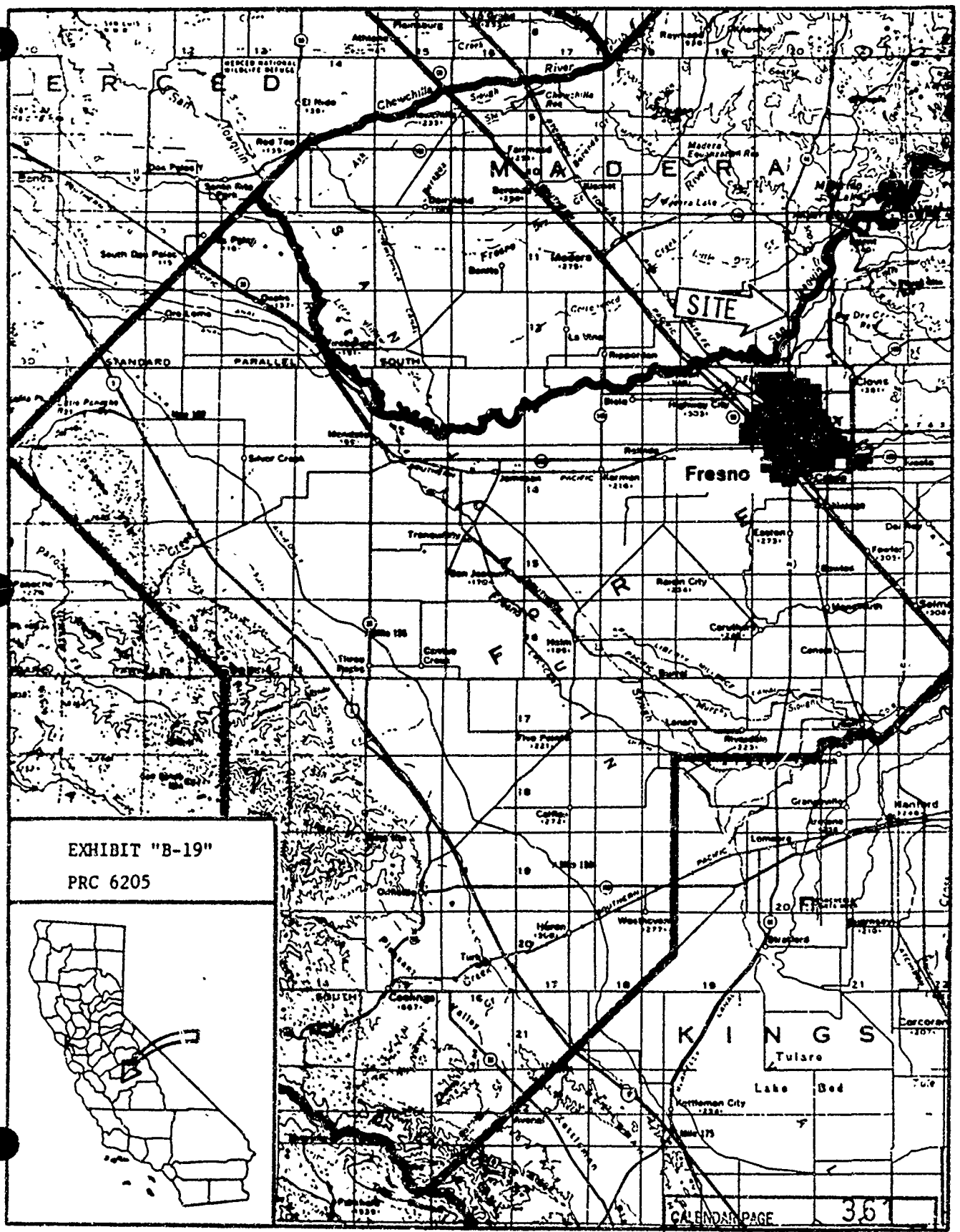
D/R
CHKD. LIST
SUPSDS
SUPSD BY
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1 SHEETS
REV.
PL-152

PREPARED NOVEMBER 3, 1988 BY BIU 1

MINUTE PAGE 2065



0.485




CALENDAR PAGE 361

MINUTE PAGE 2066

0:486

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tenth St., Rm 121, Sacramento, CA 95814—916/445-0613

NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

See NOTE below

SCH # 8810 3108

EXHIBIT "C"

1. Project Title: NORTH FRESNO 115kV TRANSMISSION LINE

2. Lead Agency: STATE LANDS COMMISSION 3. Contact Person: TED T. FUKUSHIMA

3a. Street Address: 1807-13th Street 3b. City: Sacramento

3c. County: Sacramento 3d. Zip: 95831 3e. Phone: (916)322-7813

PROJECT LOCATION 4. County: Fresno/Madera 4a. City/Community: Fresno

4b. Assessor's Parcel No. ____ 4c. Section ____ Twp. ____ Range ____

5a. Cross Streets: ____ 5b. Per Rural, Nearest Community: ____

6. Within 2 miles: a. State Hwy # ____ b. Airports ____ c. Railways ____ d. Waterways San Joaquin River

7. DOCUMENT TYPE

CEQA

01. ___ NOP 06. ___ NOE
02. ___ Early Cons 07. ___ NOC
03. X Neg Dec 08. ___ NOD
04. ___ Draft EIR
05. ___ Supplement/Subsequent EIR (Prior SCH No.: ____)

NEPA

09. ___ NOI 11. ___ Draft EIS
10. ___ FONSI 12. ___ EA

OTHER

13. ___ Joint Document
14. ___ Final Document
15. ___ Other ____

8. LOCAL ACTION TYPE

01. ___ General Plan Update
02. ___ New Element
03. ___ General Plan Amendment
04. ___ Master Plan
05. ___ Annexation
06. ___ Specific Plan
07. ___ Community Plan
08. ___ Redevelopment
09. ___ Rezone
10. ___ Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tract Map, etc.)
11. ___ Use Permit
12. ___ Waste Mgmt Plan
13. ___ Cancel Ag Preserve
14. ___ Other ____

9. DEVELOPMENT TYPE

01. ___ Residential: Units ____ Acres ____
02. ___ Office: Sq. Ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
03. ___ Shopping/Commercial: Sq. Ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
04. ___ Industrial: Sq. Ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
05. ___ Water Facilities: MGD ____
06. ___ Transportation: Type ____
07. ___ Mining: Mineral ____
08. ___ Power: Type ____ Watts ____
09. ___ Waste Treatment: Type ____
10. ___ OCS Related
11. X Other: Electric Transmission Line

RECEIVED DEC 21 1988 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

10. TOTAL ACRES: ____ 11. TOTAL JOBS CREATED: ____

12. PROJECT ISSUES DISCUSSED IN DOCUMENT

01. X Aesthetic/Visual
02. ___ Agricultural Land
03. ___ Air Quality
04. X Archaeological/Historical
05. ___ Coastal Zone
06. ___ Economic
07. ___ Fire Hazard
08. ___ Flooding/Drainage
09. X Geologic/Seismic
10. ___ Jobs/Housing Balance
11. ___ Minerals
12. X Noise
13. ___ Public Services
14. ___ Schools
15. ___ Septic Systems
16. ___ Sewer Capacity
17. ___ Social
18. ___ Soil Erosion
19. ___ Solid Waste
20. ___ Toxic/Hazardous
21. X Traffic/Circulation
22. ___ Vegetation
23. ___ Water Quality
24. ___ Water Supply
25. X Wetland/Riparian
26. X Wildlife
27. ___ Growth Inducing
28. ___ Incompatible Landuse
29. X Cumulative Effects
30. ___ Other ____

13. FUNDING (approx) Federal $ ____ State $ ____ Total $ ____

14. PRESENT LAND USE AND SETTING:

15. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Installation, operation, and maintenance of a 115kV overhead electric transmission line. The project will also involve the construction of a new substation.

CLEARINGHOUSE CONTACT: JOHN KEENE 916-445-0613

STATE REVIEW BEGAN: 12-22-88

DEPT REV TO AGENCY: 1-13

AGENCY REV TO SCH: 1-18

SCH COMPLIANCE : 1-20

PLEASE RETURN NOC WITH ALL COMMENTS

AQMD/APCD: 7,15 Resources (File Date: 12/24)

FAX TELEPHONE: 916-323-3749

Distribution List

W/C N/C
- Resources
- [redacted]
- Fish & Game
- [redacted]
- DWR
- Reclamation
- [redacted] OHP
- NAHC
- [redacted]
- Energy Comm
- [redacted]
- [redacted] Bd
- [redacted] 3RD)
- [redacted]

W/C N/C
- RWQCB# 5 Fresno
- Caltrans# 6
- [redacted]
- PUC
- [redacted] (Schools)
- [redacted]

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MINUTE PAGE 2067

0.487

City of
FRESNO
City Hall • 209 488-1591
Fresno, California 93721-1899

Development Department
George A. Kerber
Director

December 28, 1988

Please reply to:
Ray Beach
209 488-1361

Ted. T. Fukushima
State Lands Commission
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Fukushima:

SUBJECT: NORTH FRESNO 115KV TRANSMISSION LINE
DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Staff has reviewed the draft Negative Declaration for the proposed North Fresno 115kv Transmission Line and would note the following concerns:

1. Copper Avenue is a designated arterial street with a planned width of 106 feet.

2. The proposed transmission line should be relocated to accommodate the proposed arterial street a minimum of 55 feet north of the center line for Copper Avenue between Friant Road and Willow Avenues.

3. City policies prohibit the planning for or construction of new reads in the San Joaquin Riverbottom.

4. The proposed line will cross a designated egret habitant blue heron rookeries, and an eagle fishery. What additional precautions can be taken to avoid possible conflicts with these tpes of wild fowl.

5. Several rare plants have been identified in the immediate alighment of the Powerline where it crosses the San Joaquin River. See the Joint Fresno City/County Reconnaissance Study completed for the San Joaquin River.

6. Residential development in the Woodward Park area has not exceeded five unites per acre, though plans permit 10 units



0488

per acre. Current plans are being adjusted and by June of 1989 will limit new development to less than 5 units per acre. Estimated population for the Woodward Park Area will drop from a buildout projection of 150,000 to no more than 60,000 maximum with less people being likely.

The City has appreciated this opportunity to review this Negative Declaration and would ask that should you have any questions concerning our comments please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 322-7813.

Very truly yours,

PLANNING DIVISION

Rayburn R. Beach

Rayburn R. Beach
Supervising Planner

pg
6071T/298

CALENDAR PAGE 364
MINUTE PAGE 2069

0489

STATE OF CALIFORNIA-STATE LANDS COMMISSION

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, Governor

STATE LANDS COMMISSION
1807 13TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

To: INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: November 7, 1988

File Ref.: PRC 6827, PRC 6205

SCH No.: 8810 3108

Subject: CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21080.3

The State Lands Commission is the Lead Agency for the purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act for the proposed project described below and in the attached material:

Project Title: NORTH FRESNO 115kV TRANSMISSION LINE

Project Proponent: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project Location: In the vicinity of the City of Fresno within Fresno and Madera Counties.

Project Description: Installation, operation, and maintenance of a 115kV overhead electric transmission line. The project will also involve the construction of a new substation.

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 21080.1, 21080.2, and 21080.3, we request the position of your agency/organization as to whether an Environmental Impact Report(EIR) or a Negative Declaration(ND) should be prepared for this project. Please be specific as to whether you believe the document required is an EIR or ND.

In order to assure timely processing of this application, we further request that you respond by November 23, 1988. Should you have any questions, please telephone the undersigned at (916) 322-7813. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this regard.

ATTACHMENT

Ted T. Fukushima

TED T. FUKUSHIMA
Division of Research & Planning

| | |
|---|---|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 365 |
| MINUTE PAGE | 2070 |

Form 59.36a (11/84)

County of
FRESNO

**Public Works & Development Services Department**

Richard D. Welton
Director

November 22, 1988

Mr. Ted T. Fukushima
State Lands Commission
1807 - 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Fukushima:

Subject: Review and Comment -- Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Pacific Gas and Electric North Fresno 115 k V Transmission Line

Fresno County Public Works & Development Services Department staff have reviewed the Environmental Assessment for the above proposal, and we have the following comments:

1. We agree with the mitigation measures discussed in the Environmental Assessment that would support the proposed San Joaquin River Regional Parkway. We anticipate that the State Department of Fish and Game will address potential biological resource impacts and the effects the proposal could have on the San Joaquin River and environs.

2. The hearing process discussed below may result in additional Environmental Assessment-related comments. If it does, we will include these with the comments that will be submitted to you at a later date.

In reference to project-related issues, we have the following comments:

1. Section 875 of the County Zoning Ordinance requires that routes of proposed electrical power lines be submitted for County review prior to the filing with a State agency, or prior to any condemnation proceedings. This section of the County Zoning Ordinance also states that both the County Planning Commission and County Board of Supervisors consider the proposal and make appropriate recommendations. The referenced hearings are noticed hearings and provide the public with an opportunity to make comments about the proposal. The State Lands Commission should defer any decision on the proposed transmission line until the County completes the referenced hearing process. We plan on processing the Director Review and Approval and Environmental Assessment for the proposed substation and the Section 875 applications at the same time. At the completion of this process, we will send our comments to the State. Since the proponent has not submitted all the referenced applications to the County at this time, it is difficult to estimate when the hearing process will be completed. However, we anticipate that the hearing process should be completed during February, 1989.

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MINUTE PAGE 2071

453-5055
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor/Fresno, California 93721/Phone (209)
Equal Employment Opportunity — Affirmative Action — Handicap Employer

2. An Encroachment Permit must be obtained from the County for all work conducted within the County's right-of-way.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please keep us informed about the progress of the proposed project.

Very truly yours,

Jerry K. Boren
Development Services Manager

Richard S. Gilbert

Richard S. Gilbert
Staff Analyst III

RSG:mar
7334K

CALENDAR PAGE 367
MINUTE PAGE 2072

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—THE RESOURCES AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REGION 4
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
(209) 222-3761

November 30, 1988

Mr. Ted T. Fukushima
Division of Research and Planning
State Lands Commission
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Fukushima:

The Department has reviewed PG&E's document North Fresno 115 KV Transmission Line. Fresno and Madera counties and found the scoping and content thorough and complete; issues presented at public meetings have been adequately addressed.

Surveys conducted for the presence of rare and endangered plants, insects, and wildlife should be made available to the Department for review prior to the commencement of construction. Likewise, any alteration and/or elimination of existing shrubs and trees along the riparian corridor will require mitigation and/or rehabilitation. These measures should be developed in consultation with the Department.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ron Remple, Associate Wildlife Biologist at the above address or telephone number.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

George D. Nokes

George D. Nokes
Regional Manager

cc: Don Furman
San Joaquin River Committee

CALENDAR PAGE 368
MINUTE PAGE 2073

State of California

The Resources Agency

# Memorandum

Date : NOV 23 1988

To :
1. A-38
   Gordon F. Snow
   Assistant Secretary for Resources
   The Resources Agency
2. Ted T. Fukushima
   Division of Research and Planning
   State Lands Commission
   1807 - 13th Street
   Sacramento, CA 95814

From : THE RECLAMATION BOARD

Subject : North Fresno 115 KV Transmission Line (SCH 88103108)

Staff for The Reclamation Board has reviewed the Initial Environmental Assessment and request for Early Consultation for the subject project and has the following comments.

The proposed transmission line will cross the San Joaquin River Designated Floodway at two locations. A permit from the Board will be required before start of work in the designated floodway at each river crossing.

For more information, the project proponent should contact Melvin M. Schwartz, Encroachment Control Section, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 455-7, Sacramento, California, 95814, telephone (916) 324-3889.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

RAYMOND E. BARSCH
General Manager

CALENDAR PAGE 369
MINUTE PAGE 2074

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—THE RESOURCES AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, Governor

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

November 23, 1988

Mr. Ted Fukushima
State Lands Commission
Division of Research and Planning
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line, Sch# 88102108**

Dear Mr. Fukushima:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the options of preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or a Negative Declaration (ND) on the proposed North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line. The project is proposed by Pacific Gas and Electric (PGandE).

An EIR should be prepared because the project involves construction of a new substation, and approximately 5.5 miles of new line in an area with no existing lines. The proposed substation, new line, and the proposed 16.9 miles of consolidation with existing lines will result in potential adverse impacts (e.g., visual, land use and biology) which should be discussed in detail in an EIR.

In addition to our EIR position, we have two specific comments on the Initial Environmental Assessment prepared by PGandE for the State Lands Commission.

- The discussion of Land Use Impacts (Section 3.3.2, para. 2 on p. 3-14) contains the sentence "Throughout California, transmission lines and agricultural operations, including vine crops are acknowledged compatible uses." In the CEQA document which you prepare (i.e., EIR or ND), please elaborate on which parties have acknowledged the compatibility of the uses, and under what circumstances. Our experiences with the proposed Geothermal Public Power Line project and other transmission line projects, is that proposed routes crossing agricultural areas often generate considerable public controversy. The impacts of a transmission line on cultivation, irrigation, and aerial application practices, can be substantial. Therefore, we feel that the sentence on p. 3-14 is misleading.

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- Figure 1-1 should indicate which route sections involve construction of new line and which areas involve consolidation with existing lines.

This concludes the CEC staff's comments on the options of preparing an EIR or an ND, and on the Initial Environmental Assessment for the North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line. Please contact Eileen Allen at (916) 324-3231 if you desire any additional information from us.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Therkelsen

ROBERT L. THERKELSEN, Chief
Energy Facility Siting and Environmental
Protection Division

RLT:EA:tw

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# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Division of Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803
Sacramento, California 95825


December 23, 1988

Ms. Margie McHenry
Public Works & Development Services Department
County of Fresno
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor
Fresno, California 93721

Subject: Proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line, Fresno and Madera Counties, California

Dear Ms. McHenry:

Thank you for your letter of December 14, 1988 requesting the Fish and Wildlife Service's review and comments regarding the proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line Project. We understand that the County of Fresno will evaluate the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's proposal to construct, operate, and maintain two 115-kV overhead transmission lines from existing Company transmission facilities for the operation of a new substation.

The Service reviewed the Environmental Assessment for the proposed project and provided comments and recommendations to the State Lands Commission in our December 7, 1988 letter. We also provided our comments and concerns to the Company in our May 19, 1988 letter. The May 19 and December 7, 1988 letters are enclosed for your reference. We have no further comments to add at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line. Should you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Roger Guinee of my staff at (916) 978-4613.

Sincerely,

James D. Carson

James D. Carson
Acting Field Supervisor

Enclosures


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cc: Reg. Dir., AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR
SESO, FWS, Sacramento, CA (Case No. 1-1-88-I-436)
Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco
National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Rosa
Dir., CDFG, Sacramento
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Reg. IV, Fresno
Mary Boland, CDFG, Fresno
California Public Utilities Comm., Sacramento
Ted Fukushima, State Lands Commission, Sacramento
Chuck McClue, PG&E, Fresno

# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Division of Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803
Sacramento, California 95825


December 7, 1988

Mr. Ted T. Fukushima
Division of Research & Planning
State Lands Commission
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line, Fresno and Madera Counties, California

Dear Mr. Fukushima:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 1988 requesting the Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) review and comments regarding the Environmental Assessment for the proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line Project. We understand that the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Company) proposes to construct, operate, and maintain two 115-kV overhead transmission lines from existing Company transmission facilities for the operation of a new substation. One line will be constructed from Herndon Substation and the other line will extend from the existing 115-kV lines located east of the Coppermine Substation.

The Service has reviewed the Environmental Assessment and believes that most of the concerns discussed in our May 19, 1988 letter have been addressed. The May 19 letter is enclosed for your reference. However, we have included several additional comments for your consideration.

The Environmental Assessment indicates that prior to construction the Company will conduct surveys in the project area for several federally listed endangered and threatened species, including the bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), San Joaquin kit fox (Vulpes macrotis mutica), blunt-nosed leopard lizard (Gambelis silus), and valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmocerus californicus dimorphus). Surveys will also be conducted for several candidate plants and animals listed in the Environmental Assessment that may occur along the transmission right-of-way. The survey methodologies should be reviewed by the Service prior to initiation and the results should be reviewed by the Service and other interested resource agencies prior to project construction.

The Service reminds the Company that if endangered or threatened species are present and likely to be affected by the transmission line project, and if a Federal agency is involved with permitting or funding the work, then formal consultation with our endangered species staff must be initiated pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. However, if a Federal agency is not involved in the permitting or funding of the project, endangered species are protected from taking by Section 9 of the Endangered


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Species Act. Prior to the surveys, please contact Dave Harlow of our endangered species staff at (916) 978-4866 for specific information on survey methodology and the project proponent's responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act. The project area should not be disturbed until consultation is completed.

The Service is concerned about the potential for bird collisions with the proposed Herndon-Woodward transmission line as it crosses the San Joaquin River. In addition to the mitigation measures discussed in the Environmental Assessment, the Service recommends that the Company in consultation with the resource agencies: (1) conduct site-specific surveys to determine the magnitude of avian mortality at the proposed transmission line and (2) implement site-specific mitigation or compensation measures to reduce this collision hazard to waterfowl and other birds or offset any adverse impacts to these wildlife resources. For example, brightly colored marker balls on the transmission line may be effective in reducing avian collisions.

Finally, the Service recommends that the Company develop a compliance and monitoring plan to ensure implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures for the proposed project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Assessment for the proposed North Fresno 115-kV Electric Transmission Line. I hope these comments will be of assistance to you. Should you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact Roger Guinee of my staff at (916) 978-4613.

Sincerely,

James J. McKevitt
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Reg. Dir., AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR
SESO, FWS, Sacramento, CA (Case No. 1-1-88-I-436)
Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco
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California Public Utilities Comm., Sacramento
Chuck McClue, PG&E, Fresno

# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Division of Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803
Sacramento, California 95825


May 19, 1988

Mr. Jerry Sarkisian
Project Manager
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
1401 Fulton Street
Fresno, California 93760

Subject: Proposed North Fresno 115 kV Electric Transmission Line, Fresno and Madera Counties, California

Dear Mr. Sarkisian:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 1988 requesting the Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) participation in an April 20, 1988 Task Force Meeting to discuss our concerns regarding the proposed North Fresno 115 kV Electric Transmission Line Project. We understand that the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Company) proposes to construct, operate, and maintain two 115 kV overhead transmission lines from existing Company transmission facilities for the operation of a new substation. One line will be constructed from Herndon Substation and the other line will extend from the existing 115 kV lines located east of the Coppermine Substation. The Service believes that environmental studies should be conducted to adequately assess the project's potential adverse impacts on fish and wildlife resources. The Service was unable to send a representative to the April 20 Task Force Meeting, therefore we offer the following comments for your consideration.

Threatened or Endangered Species

The Service's endangered species staff has advised us that, to the best of their knowledge, three federally listed endangered species occur in the project area. They are the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), the San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), and the blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelis silus*). The Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), a federally listed threatened species may also occur in the project area. Surveys along the proposed transmission corridors are recommended for these species.

They have also advised that several candidate species may occur along the transmission right-of-way, and therefore could be affected by facilities siting, road improvements or other work. Candidate species are not protected by the Endangered Species Act, but we urge their consideration as they could be listed as endangered or threatened during later stages of the


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project. Any assessment for the project should consider the following candidate species:

Hopping's blister beetle, Lytta hoppingi (2)
Molestan blister beetle, Lytta molesta (2)
Morrison's blister beetle, Lytta morrisoni (2)
Moestan blister beetle, Lytta moesta (2)

(1) Category 1: Taxa for which the Fish and Wildlife Service has sufficient biological information to support a proposal to list as endangered or threatened.

(2) Category 2: Taxa for which existing information may warrant listing, but for which substantial biological information to support a proposed rule is lacking.

If during the course of environmental studies (studies that would necessarily be part of any detailed investigation to assess the impacts of the proposed project on fish and wildlife resources) it is determined that endangered or threatened species are present and likely to be affected by the transmission line project, and if a Federal agency is involved with permitting or funding the work, then formal consultation with our endangered species staff must be initiated pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act to determine if the contemplated actions would jeopardize the continued existence of these species, or adversely modify critical habitats of such species. However, if a Federal agency is not involved in the permitting or funding of the project, endangered species are protected from taking by Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act. Please contact Dave Harlow at (916) 978-4866 for further information regarding endangered species and the project proponent's responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act. The project area should not be disturbed until consultation is completed.

Fishery Resources

The proposed transmission project will cross the San Joaquin River. Rainbow trout (Salmo gairdneri) and other resident fish utilize the San Joaquin River. In general, habitat for rainbow trout and resident fish resources are of high to medium value and are relatively abundant. Consequently, the Service's mitigation goal is to ensure no net loss of habitat value while minimizing loss of in-kind habitat value. Project mitigation measures should be developed to compensate for impacts that cannot be avoided.

If you have not already done so, we recommend that you contact the California Department of Fish and Game for further consultation regarding potential project impacts on resident fisheries in the area. If potential impacts are identified, adequate provision should be made for the protection of aquatic resources at present levels of population and productivity.

Migratory Waterfowl Habitat

The impacts, if any, of project construction and operation on migratory waterfowl and their habitats should be evaluated. Mitigation plans for adverse project impacts on waterfowl resting, feeding and nesting habitat should be developed. In general, waterfowl habitat is of high value and is becoming scarce throughout the State. The Service's mitigation goal is to insure that there is no net loss of in-kind habitat value.

The possible adverse impacts to waterfowl of constructing two transmission lines should be investigated. In locations where the potential for significant waterfowl collisions exist, site-specific mitigation measures to reduce this hazard to waterfowl and other birds should be developed and implemented.

Wildlife Habitat

The wildlife habitat lost as a result of ground-disturbing activities should be quantified. Appropriate compensation measures should be proposed for loss of wildlife habitat. In general, wildlife habitat for resident species is of high to medium value and is relatively abundant. Our mitigation goal is to ensure no net loss of habitat value while minimizing loss of in-kind habitat value.

Transmission lines should be designed to prevent electrocution of perching birds, particularly hawks and eagles. Guidance for proper design of the transmission lines may be found in the following publication:

> Olendorff, R.R., Miller, A.D., and Lehman, R.N. 1981. Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines, State of the Art in 1981. Raptor Research Foundation, University of Minnesota. 111 pp.

In general, the Company should ensure that the damage to fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, particularly wetlands (including vernal pools) and riparian vegetation, is avoided or minimized. Decisions which would result in adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources while conducting the environmental studies should be avoided. A compensation plan should be included for adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources resulting from project construction and operation.

Summary

The Council of Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act define mitigation to include: (1) avoiding the impacts; (2) minimizing the impacts; (3) rectifying the impacts; (4) reducing or eliminating the impacts over time; and (5) compensating for the impacts. The Service supports and adopts this definition and considers the specific elements listed above to represent the desirable sequence of steps in the mitigation planning process. Accordingly, we maintain that the best way to mitigate for adverse biological impacts is to avoid them entirely.

Please be advised that this letter does not constitute a letter of formal consultation. As yet we have insufficient information regarding this project to allow us to fully understand its potential impacts on fish and wildlife resources. I hope these comments will be of assistance to you. Should you have any questions concerning these comments please contact Roger Guinee of my staff at (916) 978-4613.

Sincerely,

James J. McKevitt
Field Supervisor

cc: Reg. Dir., AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR
SESO, FWS, Sacramento, CA (Case No. 1-1-88-I-436)
Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco
National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Rosa
Dir., CDFG, Sacramento
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California Public Utilities Com., Sacramento
State Lands Commission, Sacramento
Bob English, PG&E, Fresno

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✓ ND sent 12/20/88

Form 13.5 (Rev. 9/88)

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Sacramento, CA 95814

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✓ *Jeffrey Arthur, Consultant
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife
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✓ *Assembly Natural Resources Committee
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✓ *Scott Brown
Land Department, Room 500
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
P.O. Box 7444
Sacramento, CA 95826

✓ *Robert Collins
Office of Attorney General
3580 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010

✓ *N. Gregory Taylor
Office of Attorney General
3580 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010

~~*Don Hoagland (Geothermal only)~~

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Mariposa, CA 95338

Terry Trumbull
Lawrence/Trumbull Associates
101 University Avenue, 2nd Floor
Palo Alto, CA 94301-1638

Sacto-Letter
P.O. Box 266
Oakdale, CA 95361

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Applicant

✓ * Pacific Gas & Electric Company
1401 Fulton Street
Fresno, CA 93760
Attn.: Ernie Ralston



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Sacramento, CA 95825

~~*U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service~~
~~24000 Avila Road~~
~~Laguna Niguel, CA 92677~~
~~Attn.: John C. Wolfe~~

~~*Mike Shoaff~~
~~P.O. Box 6854~~
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

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~~The Wolter Associates~~
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~~Long Beach, CA 90807~~

✓ *San Diego Gas & Electric Company
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Attn.: Jim Cassie

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Fresno, CA 93650

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Fresno Co. Dev't. Serv. Dept.
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

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Madera Co. Planning Dept.
135 West Yosemite Avenue
Madera, CA 93637

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[X] Mr. Nick Yorvino, Dev't. Mgr.
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✓ California Department of Justice Library
3580 Wilshire Boulevard, Room 701
Los Angeles, CA 90010

✓ College of the Redwoods
Del Norte Education Center
883 West Washington Boulevard
Crescent City, CA 95531

✓ University of Washington
Government Publications Section, M-25
Seattle, WA 98195

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(REV. 10/87)

# AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# AND

# PROPOSED EIR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

CALENDAR PAGE 387
MINUTE PAGE 2092

EXHIBIT "C"

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

**STATE LANDS COMMISSION**

LEO T. McCARTHY, *Lieutenant Governor*
GRAY DAVIS, *Controller*
JESSE R. HUFF, *Director of Finance*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
1807 - 13th Street
Sacramento, California 95

CLAIRE T. DEDRICK
Executive Officer

May 22, 1989

TO: Ms. Norma Woods
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Request for a Shortened Review Period for Amended Environmental Assessment (EA) and Proposed EIR ND. 452, North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line

The staff of the State Lands Commission hereby requests a shortened review period of twenty-one (21) days for the subject document. The original environmental assessment/initial study was circulated to Responsible and Trustee agencies for review and comment on November 7, 1988. Staff summarily prepared and circulated a proposed negative declaration (EIR ND 452) on December 20, 1988. The thirty (30) day public comment period for that document ended January 23, 1989.

We believe a shortened review for the amended document is valid because:

1) the original document was subject to a full and complete thirty day review; and

2) the change in the project is minor and said change does not alter the prior conclusion reached in EIR ND 452 that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Please contact me at 2-7827 if you require additional information or clarification prior to your consideration of this request.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY DWIGHT E. SANDERS

DWIGHT E. SANDERS, Chief
Division of Research
and Planning

cc: James F. Trout, Assistant Executive Officer
bcc: Nanci Smith
Ted Fukushima

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA–STATE LANDS COMMISSION

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

STATE LANDS COMMISSION
1807 13TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

# AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EIR ND 452

File Ref.: PRC 6827

SCH#: 8810 3108

Project Title: NORTH FRESNO 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE

Project Proponent: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project Location: In the vicinity of the City of Fresno within Fresno and Madera Counties.

Project Description: Installation, operation, and maintenance of a 115kV overhead electric transmission line. The project will also involve the construction of a new substation.

Contact Person: TED T. FUKUSHIMA Telephone: (916) 322-7813

This document is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et seq., Public Resources Code), the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Code Regulations), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2901 et seq., Title 2, California Code Regulations).

Based upon the Initial Study (Environmental Assessment) and its amendment, it has been found that:

[X] the project, as amended and proposed, will not have a significant effect on the environment

[ ] mitigation measures included in the project will avoid potentially significant effects.

| | |
|---|---|
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| MINUTE PAGE | 2094 |

Form 13.17 (2/89)

NORTH FRESNO

115 kV ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE

AMENDMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

AND PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

SCH. NO. 8810 3108

May 1989

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**BACKGROUND**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has proposed the North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line (North Fresno Project) to serve the North Fresno area. The North Fresno Project, as proposed, consists of:

- building a 115 kV transmission line from Herndon Substation to a proposed substation site located near Copper Avenue and Friant Road and from the proposed substation site to the Kerckhoff-Sanger 115 kV Transmission Line;
- building a 115/21 kV substation - the proposed Woodward Substation, described in Chapter 6.0;
- adding 21 kV feeders to areas in the North Fresno area, as necessary.

The proposed 115 kV transmission line will be approximately 22.4 miles long and will be constructed in road franchise areas wherever possible. The majority (16.9 miles) of the proposed 115 kV transmission line will be consolidated with existing electrical distribution lines.

As originally proposed, the line begins at the Herndon Substation site in Madera County, crosses the San Joaquin River and runs northeast to Road 35, and continues north on Road 35 and Avenue 9. At Avenue 9, the proposed line turns and runs east to Road 38 where it jogs north. At Avenue 10, the route again runs east, then crosses Highway 41 and the San Joaquin River entering Fresno County, and adjoins Copper Avenue. The route continues east along Copper Avenue to the Coppermine Substation. Just east of Coppermine Substation, the proposed line turns northeast for approximately 3,000 feet. The route then heads east, crossing the Friant-Kern Canal, and terminates at the Kerckhoff-Sanger 115 kV Transmission Line.

In October, 1988, PG&E submitted an Initial Environmental Assessment (EA) for the North Fresno Project to the staff of the State Lands Commission (SLC). The EA, as revised by the SLC, was circulated to Responsible and Trustee agencies for review and comment on November 7, 1988. On the basis of comments received from Fresno County, the California Energy Commission, the State Reclamation Board, the State Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the staff prepared and circulated a proposed negative declaration (EIR ND 452) on December 20, 1988. The public comment period ended on January 23, 1989.

This amendment to the EA and proposed negative declaration addresses: 1) a minor realignment of approximately three (3) miles within Madera County (Attachment 1); and 2) unauthorized construction prior to the adoption of the proposed negative declaration and approval of the subject by the SLC, the CEQA lead agency. This amendment should be reviewed in conjunction with EIR ND 452 previously circulated as described above. All page and section numbers referenced below are within said document. A limited quantity of the October, 1988 document is available at the Sacramento office of the SLC.

## ROUTE AND ALIGNMENT CHANGE IN MADERA COUNTY

An alternate route is proposed in Madera County in lieu of the original route submitted in the Initial EA. The alignment has been changed from Avenue 10 to Avenue 9 between Road 38 and Road 40 (see page 2-2). Proceeding east on Avenue 9, the alternate route continues east on Avenue 9 instead of turning north on Road 38. At the intersection on Avenue 9 and Road 40, the line turns north along the extension of Road 40 which is a private paved farm access road. The route rejoins the original alignment at Avenue 10. A revised route map is attached (Attachment 1) which depicts both the original alignment and the alternate, and now final alignment. The final section of the route consists of the reconstruction of exiting 12 kV distribution lines along existing roads in agricultural areas. Consequently, the environmental setting for the final alignment is identical to that described in the Initial EA.

In the Initial EA, the route description in Section 2.2 and Exhibit 4 on page 3-27 indicates that the 115 kV line will be constructed on the south side of Avenue 10 for the segment approximately one half mile west of Highway 41. The final proposal for this segment will be the reconstruction of the 115 kV with the existing 12 kV line in-place on the north side of Avenue 10. Exhibit 4 has been revised to illustrate the correct location of the new transmission line and is included as Attachment 2.

## CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED TO DATE

The construction of the line in Madera County started on January 16, 1989 and was suspended at the direction of the staff of the SLC on March 21, 1989. Substation site preparation was initiated on March 13, 1989 and was suspended, again at the direction of the SLC, on March 30, 1989.

The transmission line is essentially complete from Avenue 7 to the intersection of Road 40 and Avenue 9 in Madera County. Starting at Herndon Substation, the towers have been erected on both sides of the San Joaquin River crossing but no insulators or conductors have been installed. Both towers are located on PG&E owned land.

Transmission line segments completed to date are referenced to locations noted on the revised route map (Attachment 1). The construction of the new 115 kV line and transfer of the existing 12 kV distribution lines onto the new poles has been completed from location A to location B. Between locations B and C, approximately 2,600 feet of the line (8 poles with insulators) have been installed but no conductors have been strung. Between locations C and D, five holes have been dug and covered, with the poles lying on the ground next to the hole.

At the substation site, the rough grading has been completed, a temporary construction fence has been installed, and the foundation work has been started. To date, the foundations for the control building, the transformer, and one circuit breaker have been completed with work on the second circuit breaker foundation started. In addition to this work, three of the four pullboxes have been installed and the hole excavated for the fourth.

With the exception of the route change discussed above, the project as constructed to date is consistent with that described and analyzed in the Initial EA. "Before and After" photos are enclosed which document the appearance of the previous 12 kV distribution line and the recent reconstruction with the new 115 kV line. (See Attachment 3)

The following discussion reexamines the specific resource issues, and identifies the status of each issue, in terms of anticipated impacts and mitigation proposed in the text of the Initial EA, in light of the work completed to date:

<u>Section 3.1 (page 3-1)</u> - Geotechnical Factors: No impacts were identified in the Initial EA and none have been encountered as a result of the construction completed to date.

<u>Section 3.2 (page 3-5)</u> - Biological Resources: No impacts to such resources were identified in the Initial EA for that portion of the line in Madera County. The surveys described in Section 3.2.3 on page 3-10 have been completed and a copy

is attached hereto in Attachment 6. As stated in a letter to the staff of the Commission dated May 16, 1989, "PG&E will be incorporating the mitigation measures described in this document (Attachment 6) as part of the construction and operation of the Project." (elaboration added)

Section 3.3 (page 3-12) - Land Use: No significant land use impacts were either identified in the initial document or have occurred as a result of the construction.

Section 3.4 (page 3-18) - Traffic and Construction: Mitigation discussed consisted of traffic control measures to protect the workers and motorists. Traffic along the construction route was found to be very light and traffic control measures were adequate to mitigate all impacts on local traffic/circulation.

Section 4.5 (page 3-19) - Visual Quality: Mitigation of the portion of the line constructed to date has followed that discussed on page 3-23 including using materials and colors similar to the ones used on the existing distribution pole line. No tree trimming has been required to provide clearance for the 115 kV line.

Section 3.6 (page 3-31) - Noise: No construction noise impacts were identified and none have occurred. Operational impacts are fully described and no change was noted during construction.

Section 3.7 (page 3-33) - Public Health and Safety: No impacts were anticipated and none have occurred as a result of the construction completed to date.

Section 6.3 (page 6-2) - Substation: All work completed to date on the substation site has been in accordance with applicable permits and approvals from Fresno County. The mitigation applicable to the work completed to date consists of changes made to the Site Plan prior to approval by Fresno County. A copy of this Site Plan is attached as Attachment 5.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Expedited Project Schedule

The original project schedule included in the Initial EA was based on electrical load growth projections which utilized 1987 and earlier data and the capacity of the existing electrical distribution system. Using this projection, it was determined that the new line and substation would be needed by the summer of 1990 to meet the anticipated demand. However, by the fall of 1988, all of the actual summer load data was analyzed, and it was determined that the previous projected load increases were significantly understated. The revised projections indicated that existing distribution system would experience a capability deficiency of up to 23 megawatts depending on summer temperature and area development. This translates to approximately 4,800 customers. If Woodward Substation is not in service at the time of peak summer temperatures when the greatest electrical loads are experienced, there is a possibility that extended outages may be experienced.

The existing substation most likely to be affected by an overload would be Bullard Substation which currently serves approximately 7,200 customers. Depending of the source of the problem, outages at Bullard could last from 6 to 24 hours. Besides potential outages in an overload situation, PG&E loses flexibility to shift load to or from the various distribution circuits. For example, if a car knocks down a power pole, the electrical system attempts to shift the load to another circuit. This in turn could overload that circuit and an outage would occur. Additionally, clearances (intentional circuit switching to de-energize a circuit) to allow connection of new shopping centers or housing developments would be difficult to schedule. Consequently, the project schedule was revised to reflect an earlier construction start date in order to meet the 1989 peak summer temperatures when the greatest electrical load would be experienced. A revised project schedule is enclosed as Attachment 4.

### Fresno County Transmission Route Review

As noted in the Initial EA, Fresno County ordinances require the submittal of proposed electric transmission lines for a formal review, including public hearings before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. This review, which was completed on February 28, 1989, included recommendations for pole placement along the south side of Copper Avenue, east of Willow Avenue, to

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ensure consistency with the ultimate road right of way width. From Willow Avenue to Minnewawa Avenue, the poles are to be located a minimum of 40 feet from the centerline of Copper Avenue. East of Minnewawa to the end of Copper Avenue, the poles are to be located a minimum of 28 feet from the centerline of Copper Avenue. To date, none of the ultimate right of way width has been dedicated between Willow and Minnewawa Avenues. From Minnewawa east to the end of Copper Avenue, approximately 34% of the ultimate right of way has been dedicated. Private easement right requirements will vary, depending on the status of road right of way dedication. PG&E will acquire sufficient rights to provide a 20 foot easement on either side the center line, utilizing the existing county road right of way to the extent possible.

**Madera County Transmission Route Review**

The Madera County Board of Supervisors has reviewed and endorsed the proposed project, including the route change discussed in this amendment.

**List of Attachments**

1. Revised Route Map
2. Revised Exhibit 4
3. Before and After Photos
4. Revised Schedule
5. Substation Site Plan
6. Threatened and Endangered Species Surveys



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ATTACHMENT 1

REVISED ROUTE MAP

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CALENDAR PAGE 398
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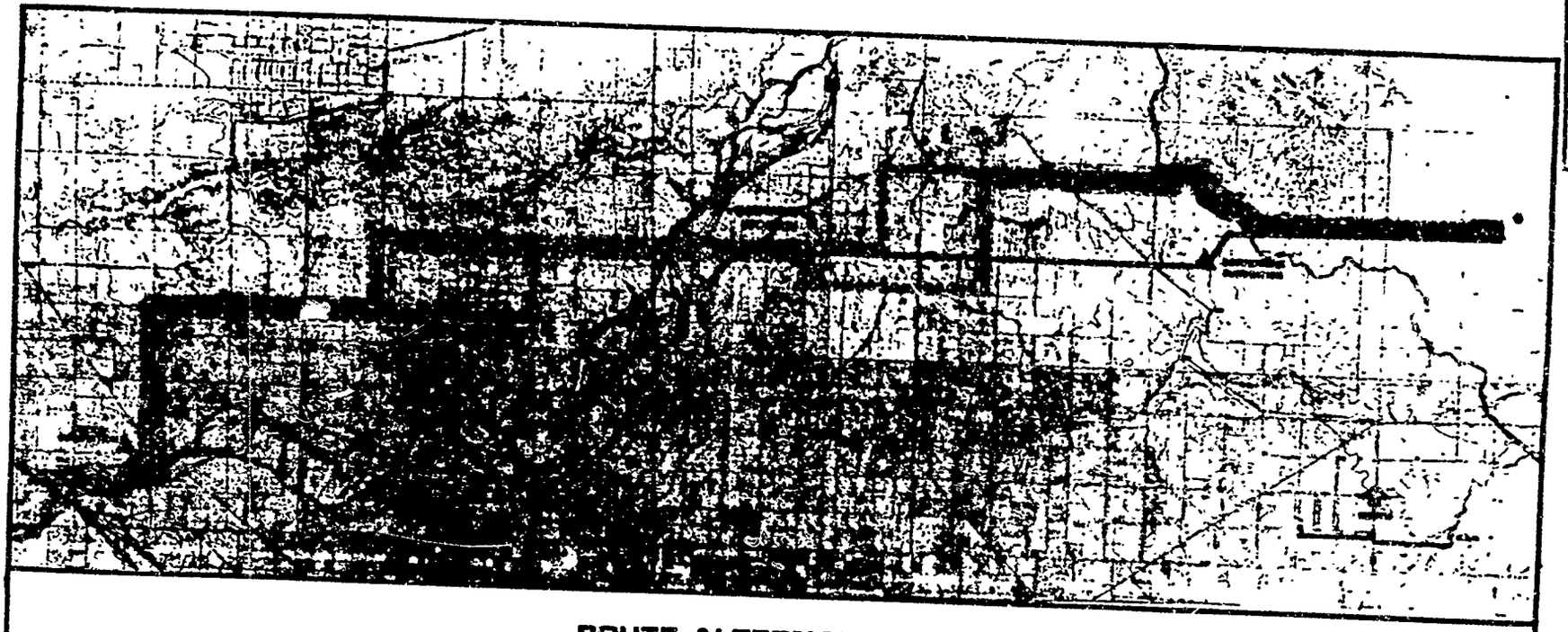

## ROUTE ALTERNATIVES

LEGEND

- INITIAL PROPOSED ROUTE
- A–B HERNDON WOODWARD TAP
- B–C KERCKHOFF-WOODARD TAP
- ●●●●●● ALTERNATE ROUTE 1
- OOOOO ALTERNATE ROUTE 2
- FINAL PROPOSED ROUTE

1–4 LINE SEGMENTS REFERENCED IN TEXT

AMENDED INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESEMENT

PG&E NORTH FRESNO 115kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

FIGURE 1-1

ATTACHMENT 2

REVISED EXHIBIT 4

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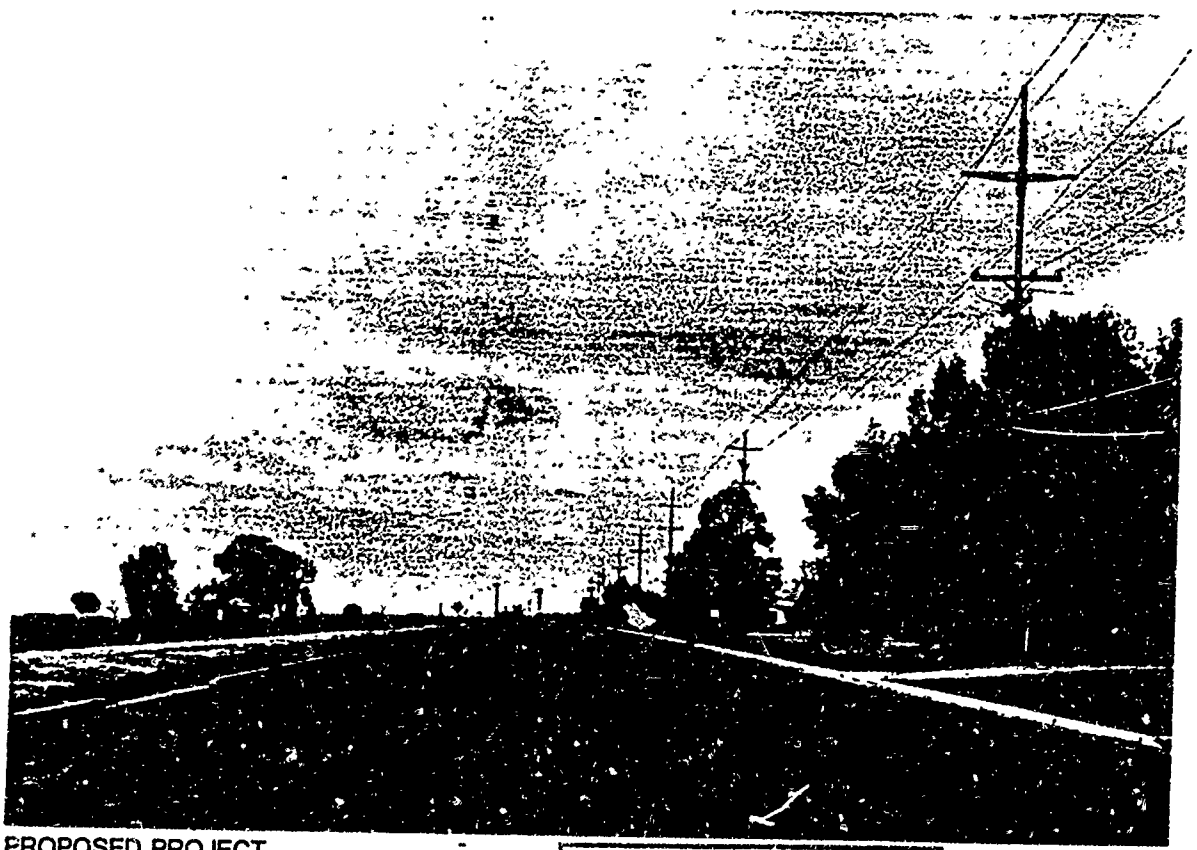
EXISTING CONDITION



PROPOSED PROJECT

**AVENUE 10**
LOOKING WEST

NORTH FRESNO TRANSMISSION EXPANSION

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EXHIBIT 4

ATTACHMENT 3

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION
OF
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED TO-DATE

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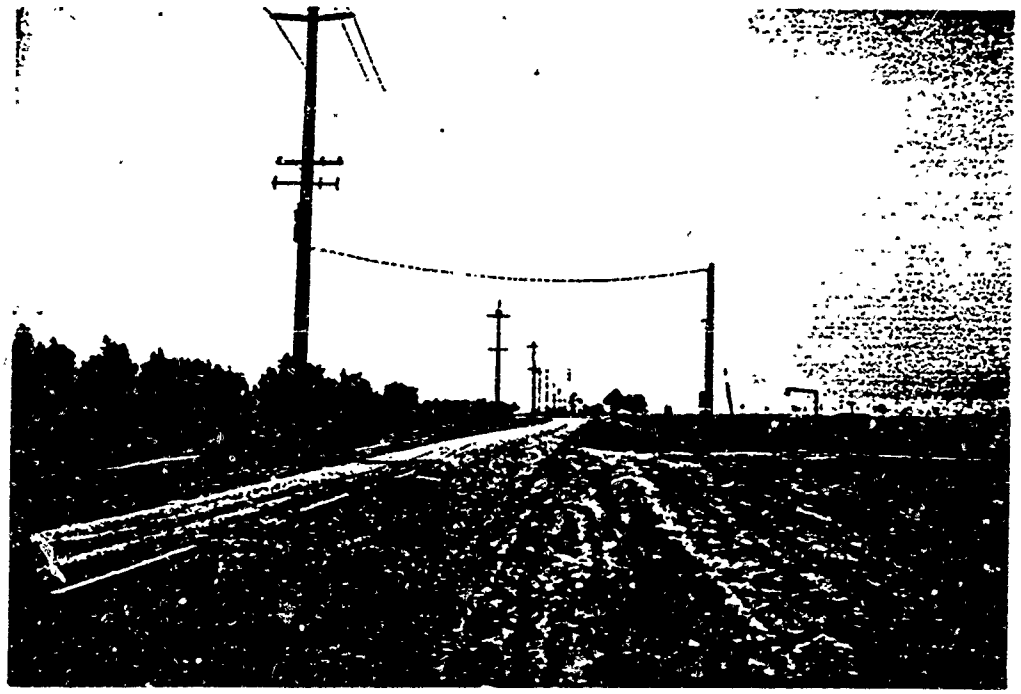
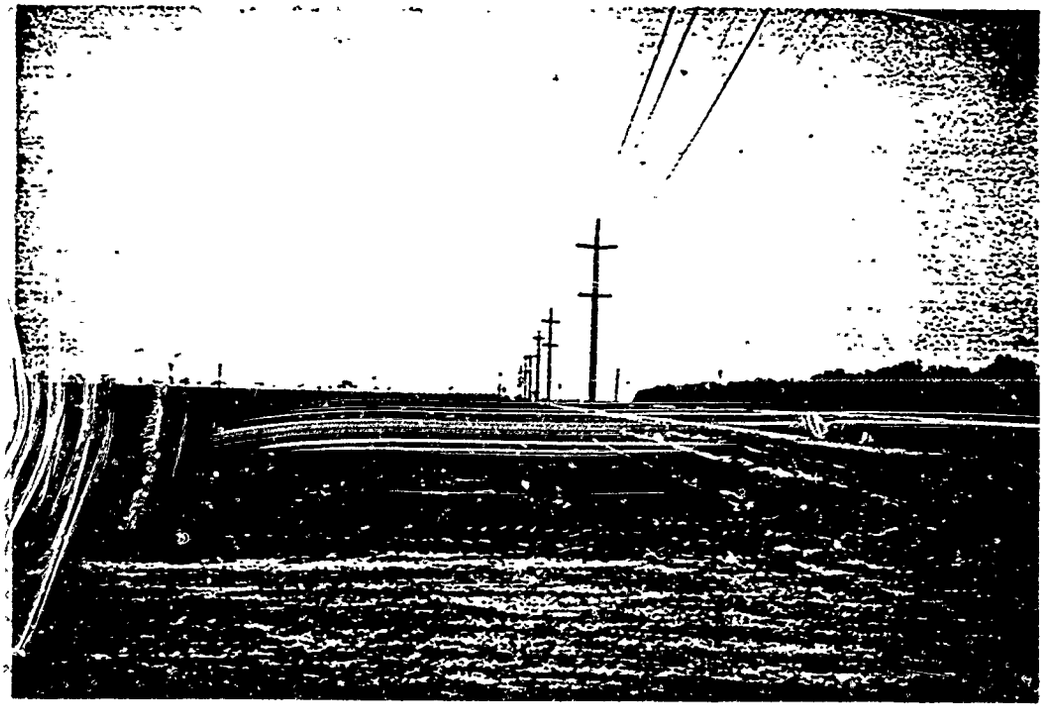


Looking south on Road 35 at the road crossing near Avenue 7. The line crosses at a bend in the road.

April 6, 1989

The line construction ends at the pole designated by an arrow. The structure to the right side of the picture is a temporary safety structure over the railroad.

April 6, 1989



Looking south on Road 35. Construction is complete.

April 6, 1989

This is the last transmission pole installed which is located north of Avenue 7. The towers and lines in the background are existing.

April 6, 1989

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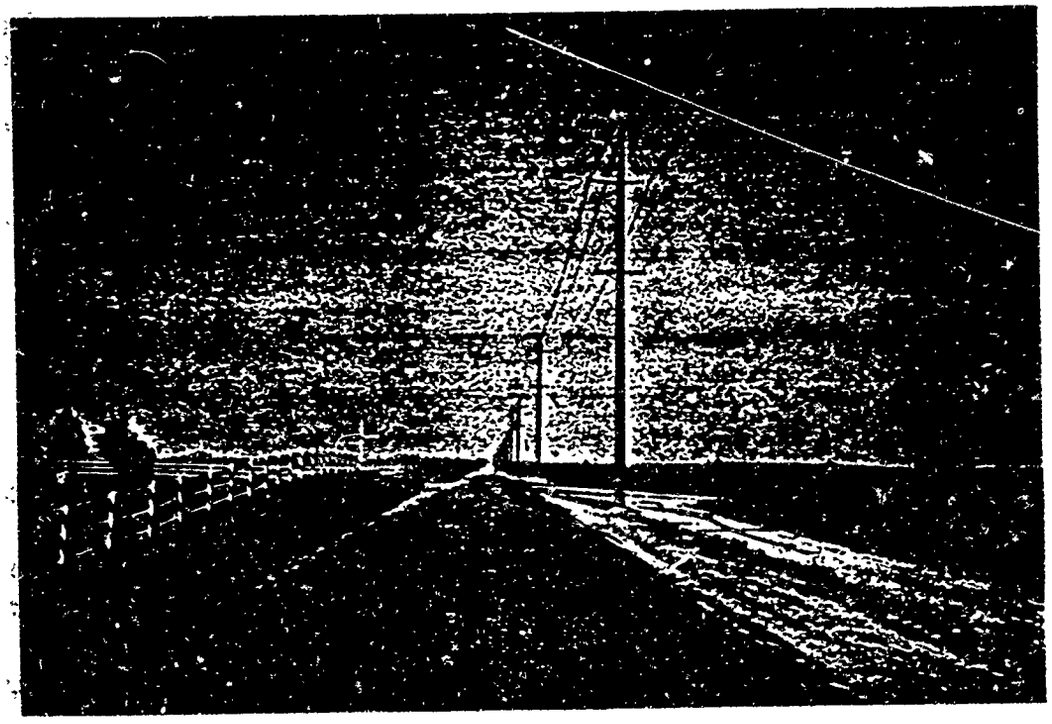

Looking west down Avenue 9 at the Road 36 intersection.
Construction is complete.

April 6, 1989

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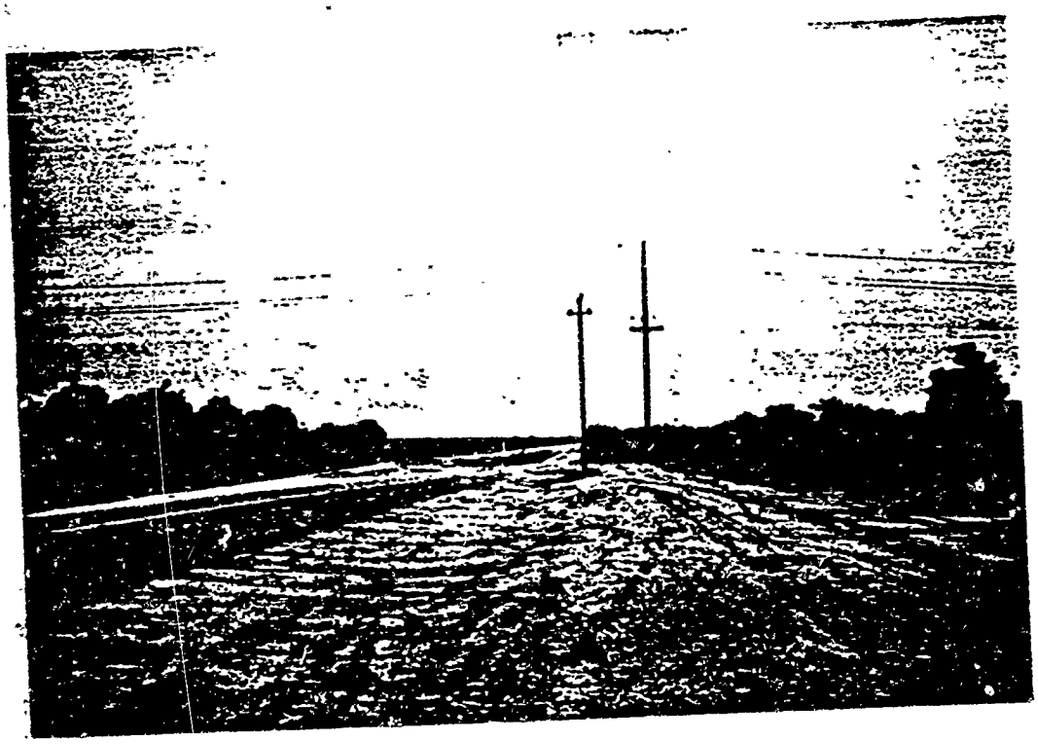

Looking south down Road 38 at the Avenue 9 intersection. The transmission line was to be built on the north side of Avenue 9 and then along the west side of Road 38 as described in the Initial Environmental Assessment. The re-route constructs the line on the north side of Avenue 9 past this intersection as shown.

April 13, 1989

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Looking west on Avenue 9 at the Road 39 intersection.
Construction is complete.

April 6, 1989

Looking east down Avenue 9. Construction is complete.

April 6, 1989

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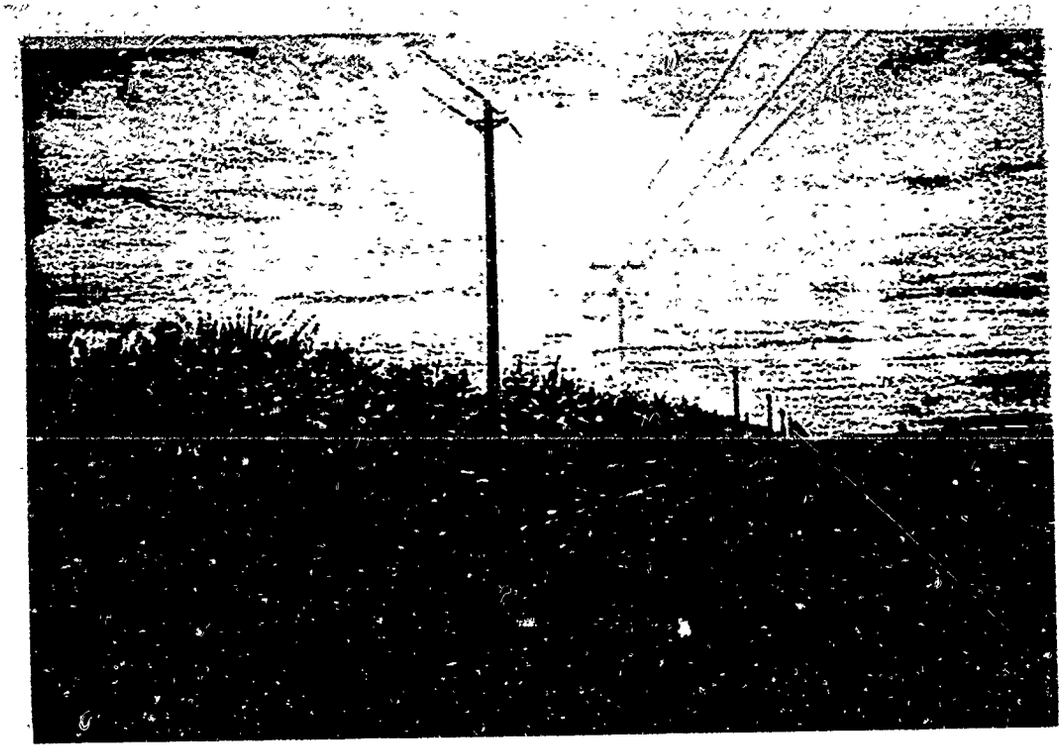
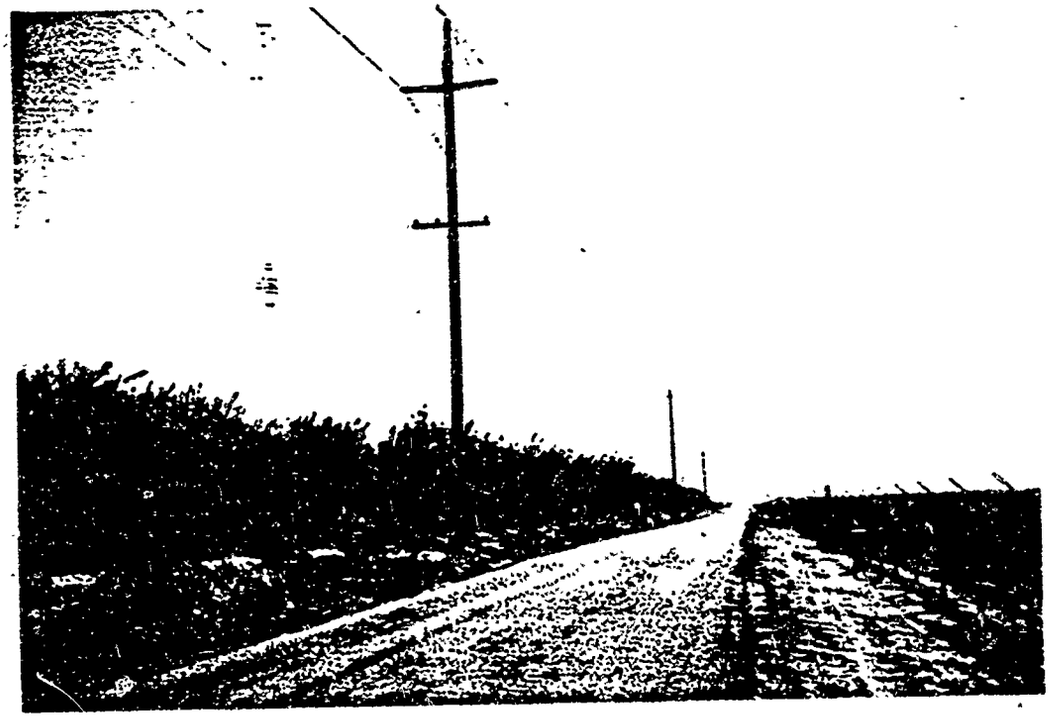


Looking east on Avenue 9 prior to any construction.

March 6, 1989



Looking east on Avenue 9, construction is complete.

April 13, 1989

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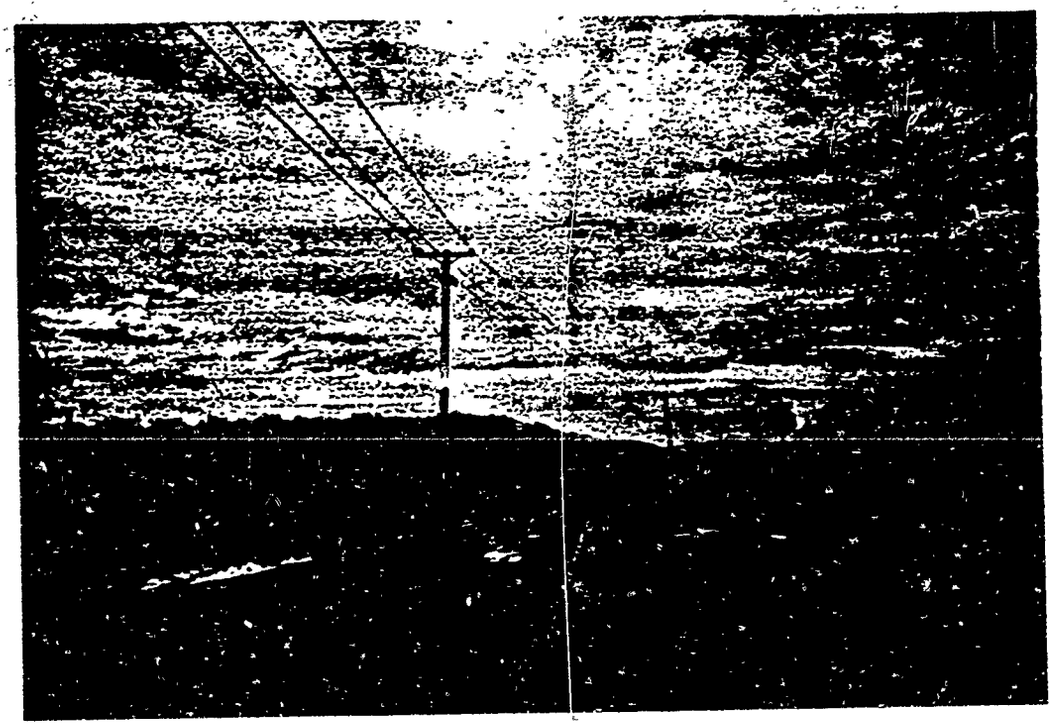
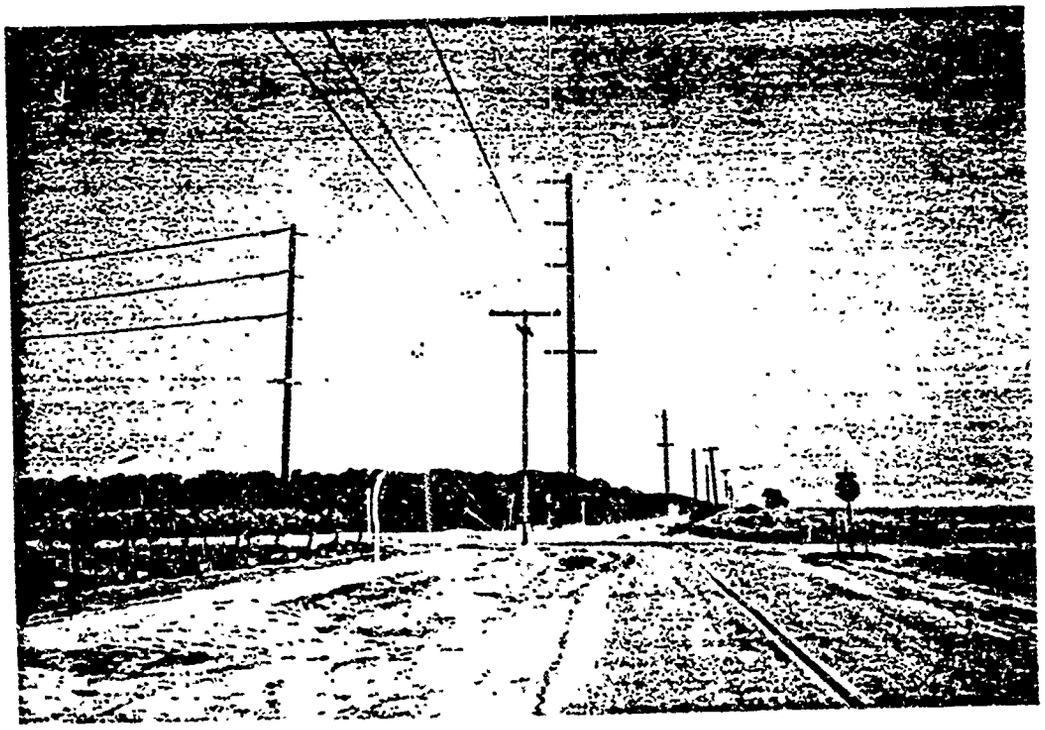


Looking north on Road 40 at the intersection of Avenue 9, prior to any construction.

March 6, 1989



Looking north on Road 40 at the intersection of Avenue 9 after transmission line construction has started. The transmission line termination can be seen. The distribution line on the east of the Road 40 extension is existing.

April 13, ~~1989~~

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The intersection of Avenue 9 and Road 35. Construction is complete. This picture matches Exhibit 3 at Page 3-26 of the Initial Environmental Assessment, which was incorrectly labeled as Road 38.

March 6, 1989

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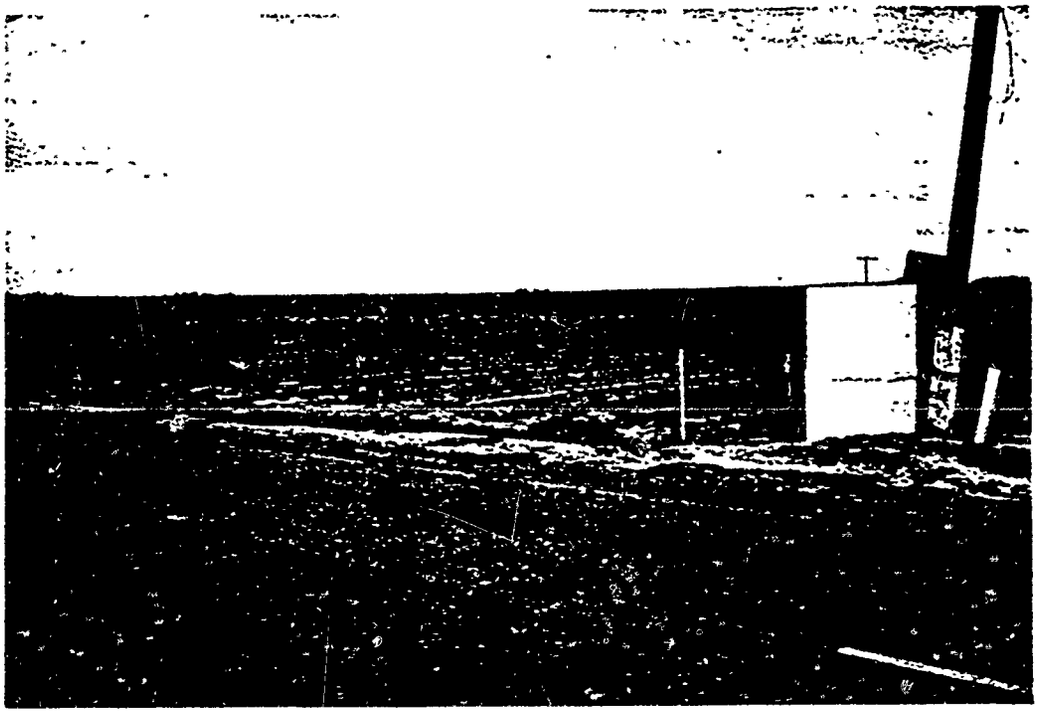
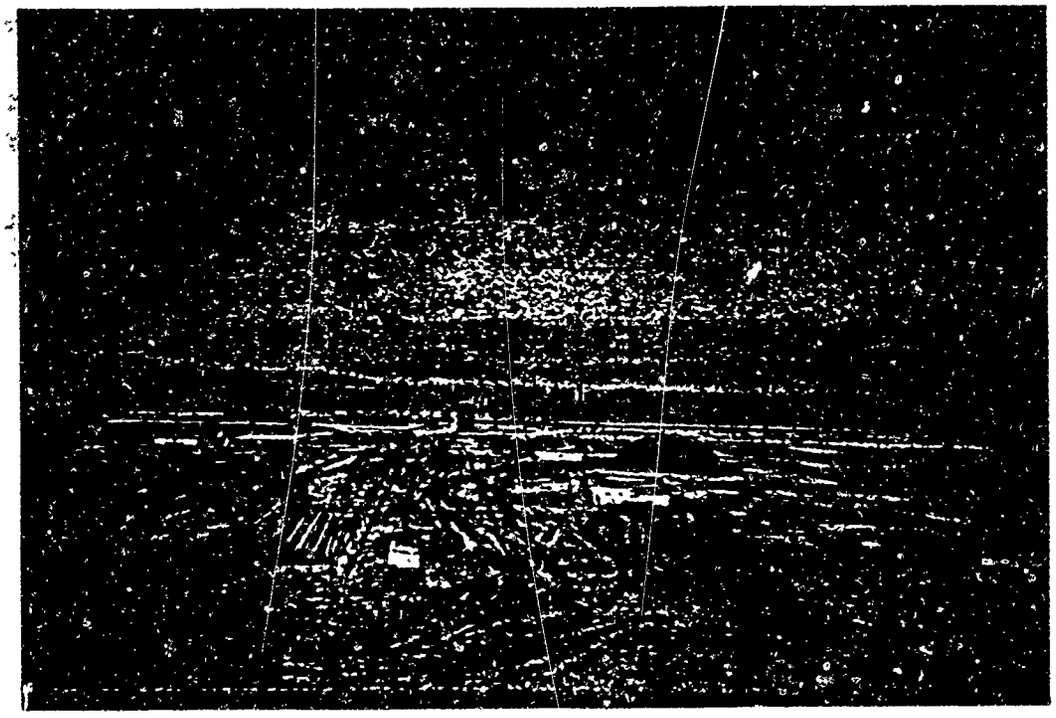


The Woodward Substation site prior to any development. This picture was taken on the southside of Copper Avenue at the southeast corner of the subsite.

March 6, 1989



Woodward Substation:

A. Installed Pullboxes (3 each)

B. Transformer Pad (1 each)

C. 115kv Circuit Breaker Pad (1 each)

Picture taken from east fence of the substation yard.

April 6, 1989

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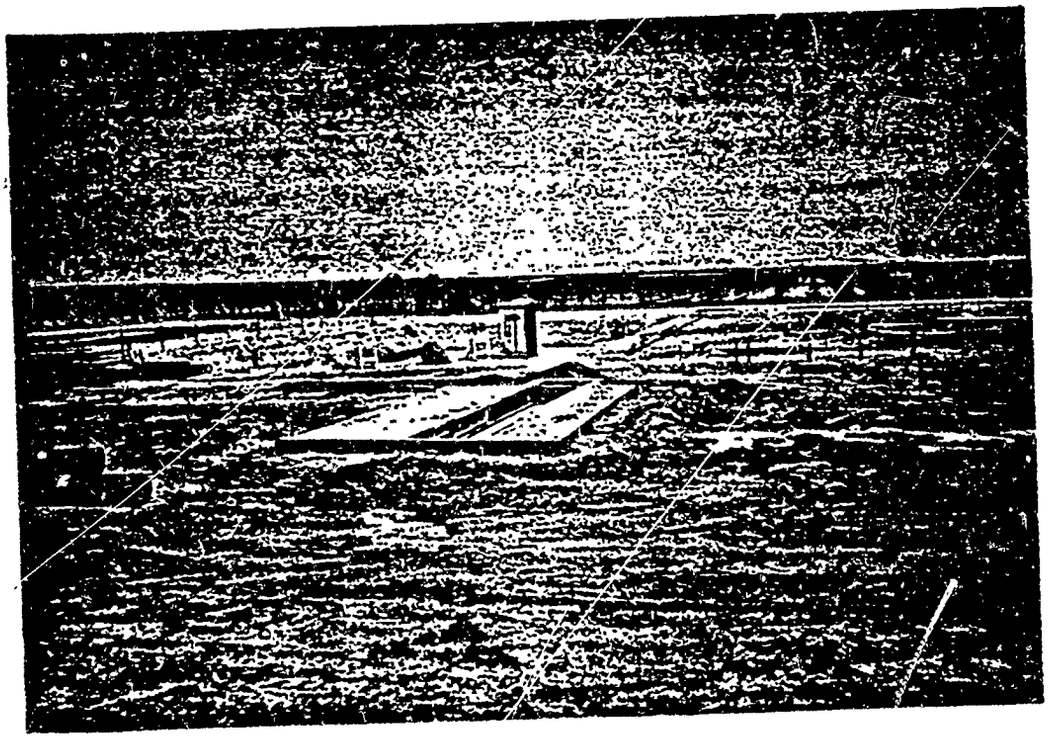
The Woodward Substation site after construction was stopped. The site has been brought to rough grade, the storm water basin has been formed, and the temporary construction fence erected. This picture was taken on the south side of Copper Avenue at the southeast corner of the subsite.

April 6, 1989



Woodward Substation control building foundation and storm water basin. Picture taken from south fence of substation yard.

April 6, 1989

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Woodward Substation:

A. 115kv Circuit Braker Pad (1 Each)

B. Control Building Pad

C. Transformer Pad (1 Each)

D. Pullboxes (3 Each)

Picture taken from north fence of the substation yard.

April 6, 1989

Looking east on Copper Avenue prior to construction..

March 6, 1989

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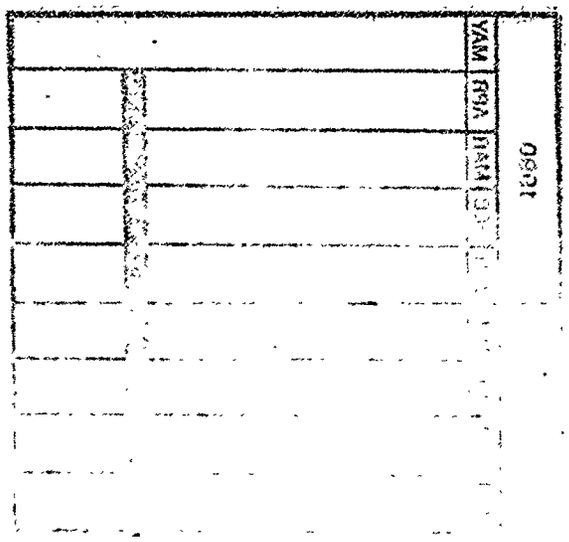


ATTACHMENT 4

REVISED PROJECT SCHEDULE

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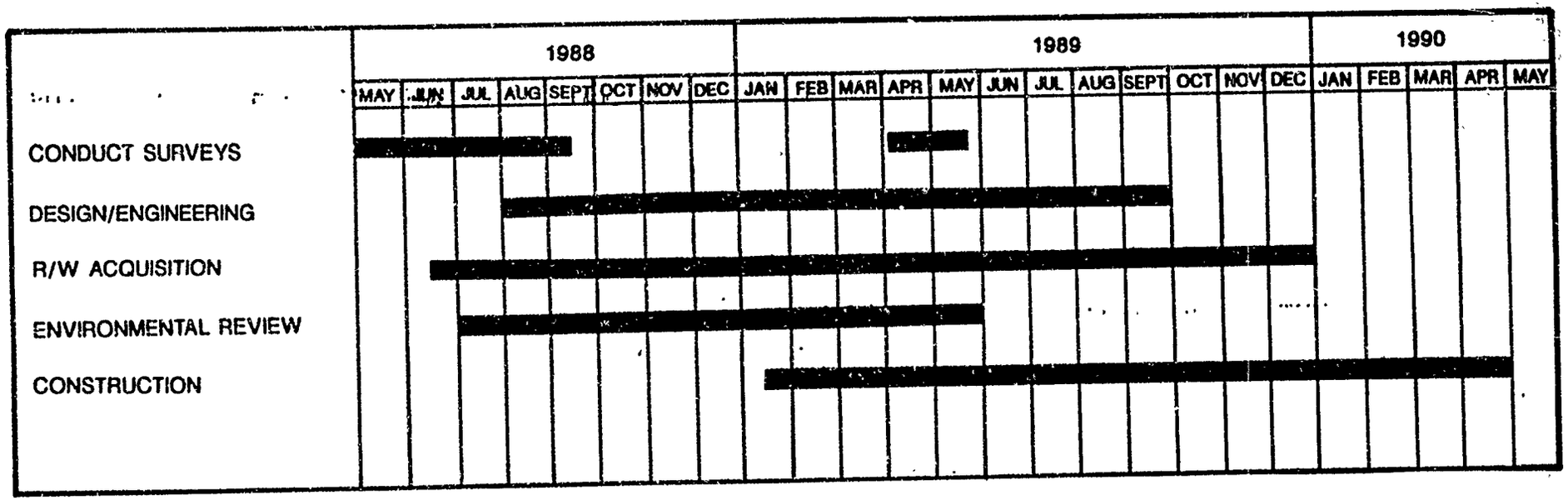
# PROJECT SCHEDULE




NORTH FRESNO 115kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

FIGURE 2-4



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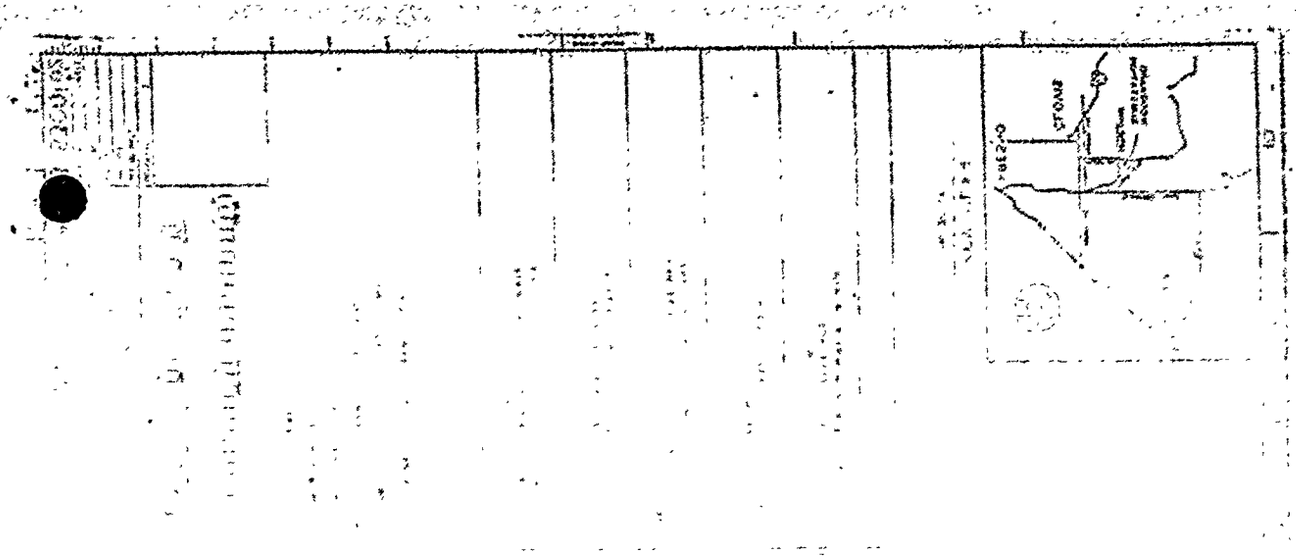
MINUTE PAGE 2119



ATTACHMENT 5

FINAL SUBSTATION SITE PLAN

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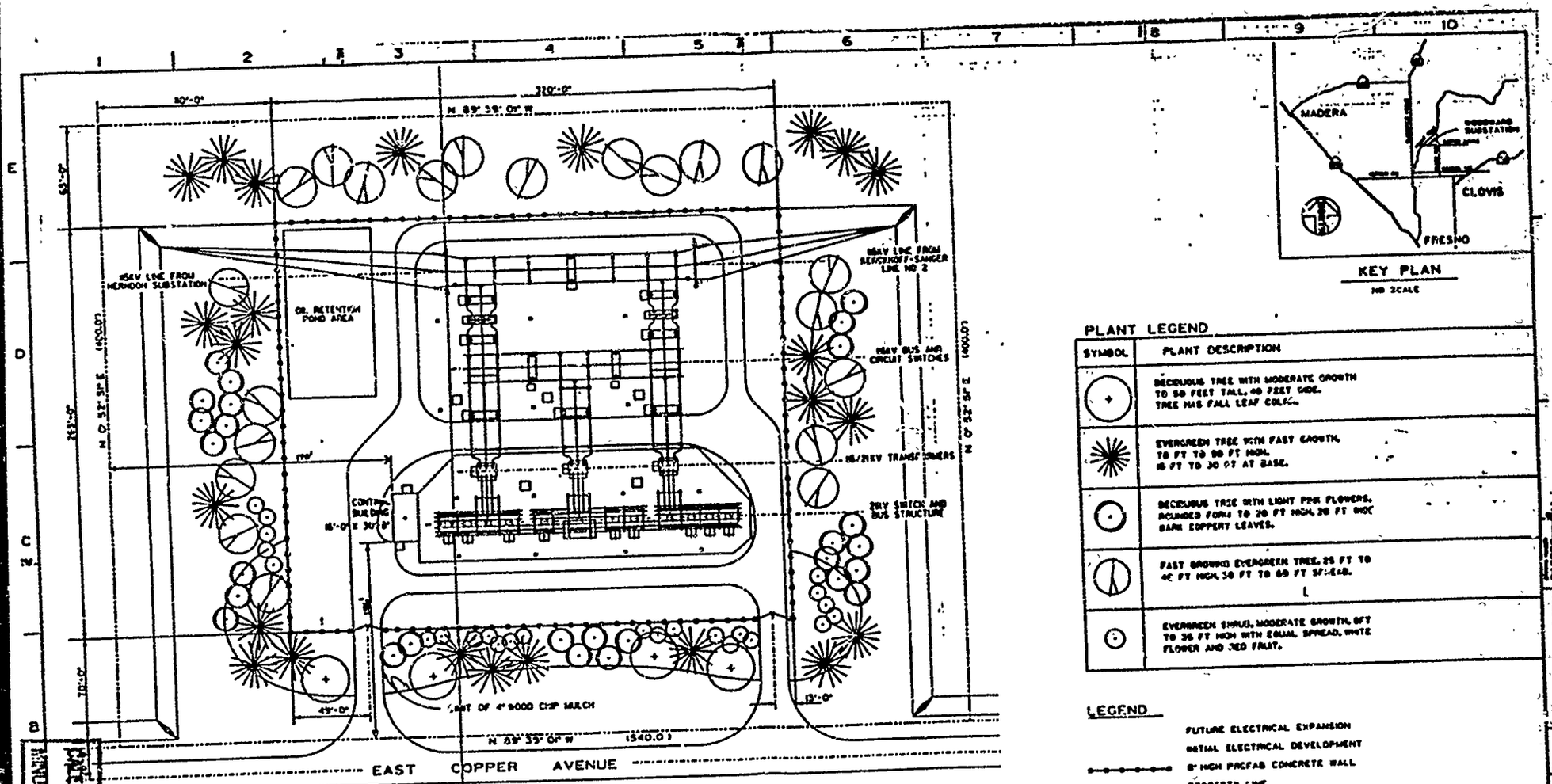
MINUTE PAGE 2120




## PLANT LEGEND

| SYMBOL | PLANT DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|
| | DECIDUOUS TREE WITH MODERATE GROWTH TO 50 FEET TALL, 40 FEET WIDE. TREE HAS FALL LEAF COLOR. |
| | EVERGREEN TREE WITH FAST GROWTH, 70 FT TO 90 FT HIGH. 15 FT TO 30 FT AT BASE. |
| | DECIDUOUS TREE WITH LIGHT PINK FLOWERS. ROUNDED FORM TO 20 FT HIGH, 20 FT WIDE BARK COPPERY LEAVES. |
| | FAST GROWING EVERGREEN TREE, 25 FT TO 40 FT HIGH, 30 FT TO 60 FT SPREAD. |
| | EVERGREEN SHRUB, MODERATE GROWTH, 6FT TO 36 FT HIGH WITH EQUAL SPREAD, WHITE FLOWER AND RED FRUIT. |

## LEGEND

- FUTURE ELECTRICAL EXPANSION
- INITIAL ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT
- 8' HIGH PREFAB CONCRETE WALL
- PROPERTY LINE
- POWER POLE
- LIGHT FIXTURE

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

- PROPERTY AREA GROSS - 216,000 SQ FT = 4.965 ACRES
- PROPERTY AREA NET INSIDE FENCE) 84,800 SQ FT = 1.947 ACRES
- PERCENT OF PROPERTY AREA NET INSIDE FENCE) TO BE DEVELOPED INITIALLY INCLUDES ROADWAY AND ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT) - 77.5%
- PERCENT OF PROPERTY AREA NET INSIDE FENCE) FOR FUTURE ELECTRICAL EXPANSION - 22.2%
- CONTROL BUILDING HEIGHT - 8' - 6"
- CONTROL BUILDING AREA - 490 SQ FT
- BUILDING COVERAGE - 0.57%

# PLAN

0 10 20 40 80 120

SCALE 1"=30'

NORTH

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE PLAN
WOODWARD SUBSTATION

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

355300 02

CALENDAR PAGE 4.16

MINUTE PAGE

**ATTACHMENT 6**

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES SURVEYS**

CALENDAR PAGE 417
MINUTE PAGE 2122

# NORTH FRESNO 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

## THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES SURVEYS
## Herndon-Woodward Tap

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) proposes construction and operation of the North Fresno 115 kV Transmission Line to ensure continuous and reliable electric service to the growing north Fresno area. The North Fresno Project consists of the construction of a 115 kV transmission line from the existing Herndon Substation to a proposed substation on Copper Road at Maple Avenue (Herndon-Woodward Tap), and from the proposed substation site to the existing Kerckhoff-Sanger 115 kV Transmission Line (Woodward-Kerckhoff Tap). In addition, the Project includes construction of a 115/21 kV substation at the Copper-Maple site and the construction of 21 kV feeders to areas in the north Fresno area as required (PG&E 1988).

The route of the proposed Herndon-Woodward Tap contains habitat suitable to support populations of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Surveys were conducted to determine the presence of these species and the anticipated effects of project construction and operation on the species' habitat.

### SURVEY METHODS AND RESULTS

#### VALLEY ELDERBERRY LONGHORN BEETLE

The valley elderberry longhorn beetle occurs in the Central Valley of California in association with riparian vegetation, particularly elderberries (*Sambucus* spp.), its host plant. Populations of this threatened (federal) species may have always been rather rare and of limited abundance (USF&WS 1984).

Although no occurrences have been recorded from the San Joaquin River in Fresno or Madera counties, specimens of the California elderberry longhorn beetle (*D. c. californicus)* have been collected in the vicinity of the project (J. Halstead, Kings River Conservation District, 1989, pers. comm.).

Surveys were conducted during April 1989 at two locations along the San Joaquin River: 1) from the Santa Fe Railroad crossing in Sec. 33, T.12S., R.19E. to the State Highway 99 crossing in Sec. 31, T.12S., R.20E. (Figure 1) and ; 2) from Cobbs (Rank) Island in Sec. 3, T.12S., R.20E. to the State Highway 41 crossing in Sec. 21, T.12S., R.20E. (Figure 2). Table 1 lists the survey dates and weather conditions.

Systematic searches of the riparian vegetation were conducted by two qualified biologists. Access to the search area was by boat. Surveys focused on locating suitable

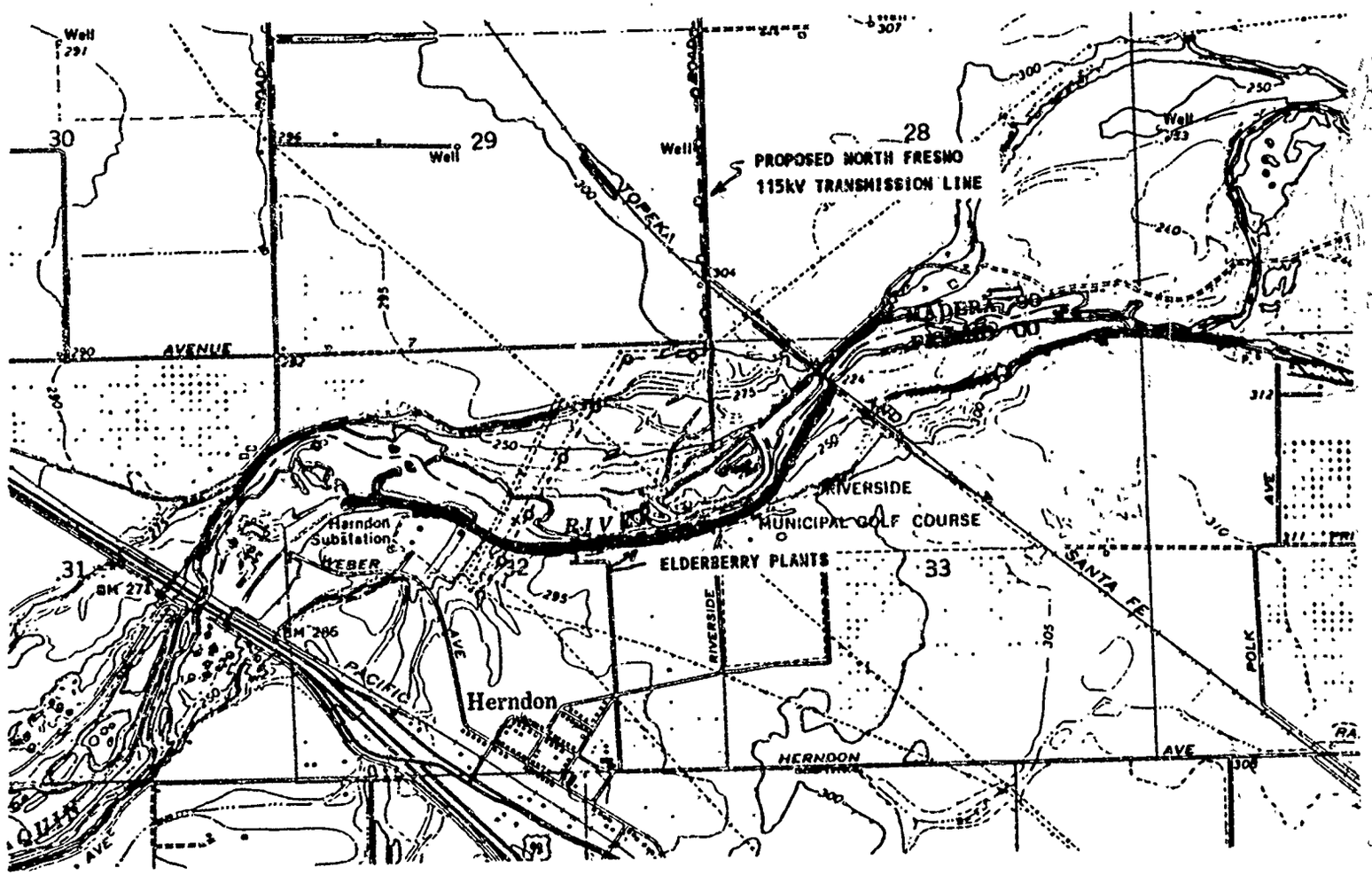



FIGURE 1. Locations of elderberry plants in the vicinity of the North Fresno 115 kV transmission line.

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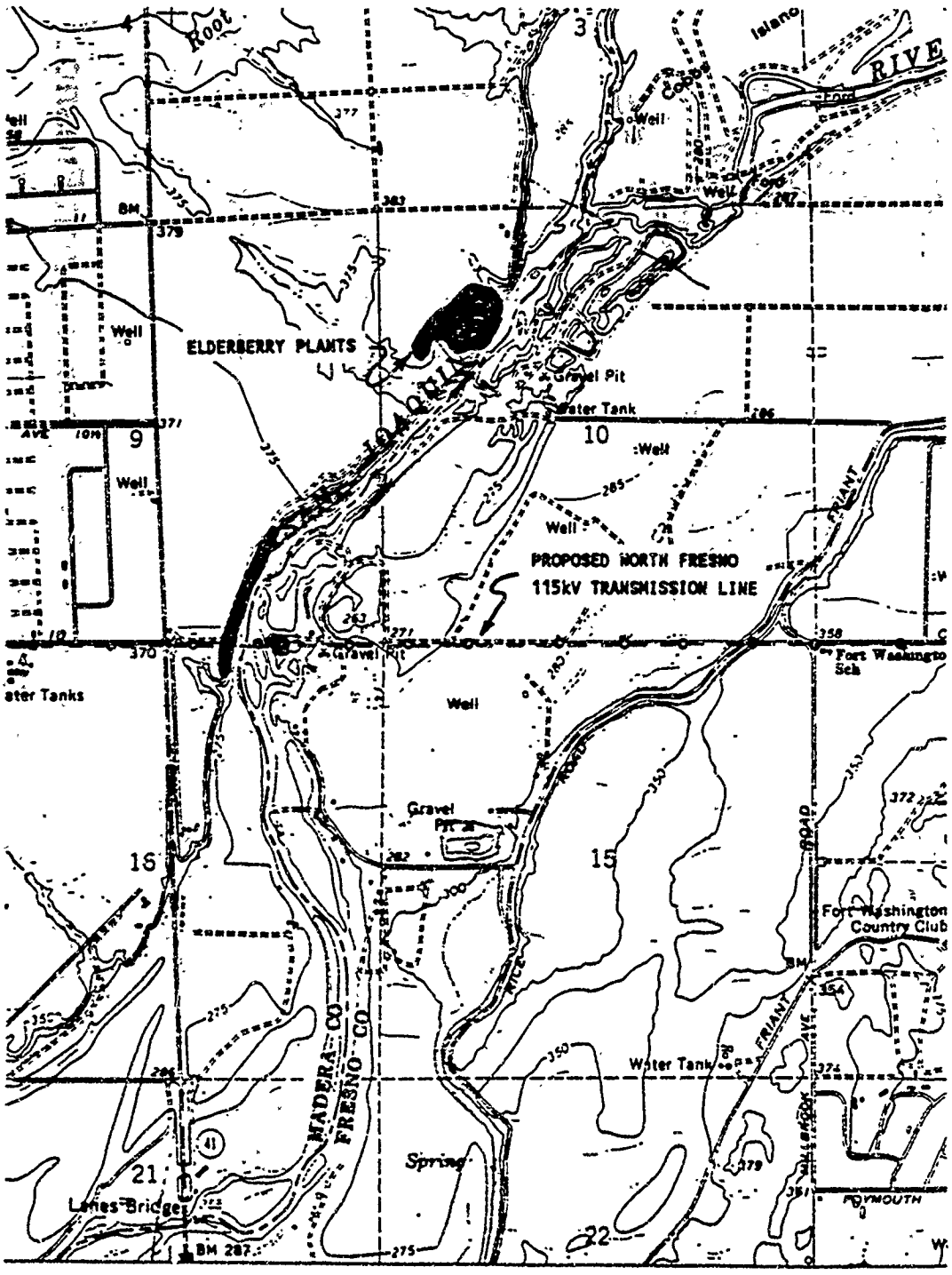


**FIGURE 2. Locations of elderberry plants in the vicinity of the North Fresno 115 kV transmission line.**

## TABLE 1. Dates and conditions of threatened and endangered wildlife species surveys for the North Fresno 115 kV transmission line.

| Date (1989) | Survey Type | Weather Conditions | Subject |
|---|---|---|---|
| March 3 | Aerial (helicopter) | Partly cloudy, air temperature 10° C | Bald eagle, Swainson's hawk |
| April 6, 7 | Boat/ground | Clear, air temperature 34° C | Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Swainson's hawk |
| April 11 | Aerial (fixed-wing) | Clear, air temperature 25° C | Swainson's hawk |
| April 19 | Boat/ground | Partly cloudy, air temperature 28° C | Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Swainson' hawk |
| April 25 | Boat/ground | Partly cloudy, air temperature 20° C | Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Swainson' hawk |

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habitat for valley elderberry longhorn beetles as well as emergence holes and adults in suitable elderberry plants.

A partial list of the plant species observed in the vicinity of the transmission line crossings is presented in Appendix A. Elderberries (*Sambucus mexicanus*) occur in the vicinity of both transmission line crossings (Figures 1 and 2) as well as scattered areas from Lost Lake to State Highway 99. The plants' growth form varies from small shrubs to large trees, as is typical of the species. Suitable elderberry plants (tree form with trunk girths in excess of 10 cm) occur at both transmission line crossings. Emergence holes were observed at several locations (Figures 1,2 & 3), however no emergence holes were observed on plants at the proposed transmission line crossings. It is estimated that infestation frequencies (i.e., at least one elderberry longhorn beetle emergence hole per tree) at the surveyed sites average less than 25%. No adults were observed during the surveys.

## SWAINSON'S HAWK

The Swainson's hawk was once an abundant breeding raptor in California, from the northeastern part of the state south along the eastern edge of the Sierra Nevada to the Owens Valley, throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, and along the southern coast from Ventura County to San Diego County (Grinnell and Miller 1944). The 1979 breeding range of the Swainson's hawk, a threatened species (California), includes the northeast corner of California and the Central Valley from Shasta County south to Fresno County (Bloom 1980). It is estimated that about 375 pairs nest in California (Harlow and Bloom 1989). Swainson's hawks were observed in Madera and Tulare Counties in April 1989 (Fresno Audubon Society 1989).

Swainson's hawks nest in oaks, sycamores, willows, and cottonwoods in flatlands adjacent to grasslands, sagebrush, alfalfa, and hay fields, frequently within a mile of a riparian zone, except in arid regions (Bloom 1980). The birds migrate to South America, possibly Argentina (Bloom 1980) during fall (September through October) and return in the spring (March through May). Breeding occurs from late March through late August (Polite 1982).

Both aerial and ground surveys were conducted for Swainson's hawks in the San Joaquin River area from Friant Dam downstream to State Highway 99 (boat/ground surveys) and State Highway 145 (aerial surveys). Appendix B lists the bird species observed during these surveys. Although suitable nesting habitat does occur within the area, no Swainson's hawks were observed during the surveys.

## BALD EAGLE

Historically bald eagles bred throughout California except the desert regions. Nesting bald eagles were extirpated from southern California by 1960 and from central California by 1970, leaving a remnant nesting population in the northern interior of the state (Detrich 1985). Nesting probably occurred in the vicinity of Pine Flat Reservoir on the Kings River as recently as 1970, however, no recent records (since 1900) exist

**FIGURE 3. Elderberry longhorn beetle emergence hole.**

(approxjmatley 1 cm X 0.5 cm)

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of nesting bald eagles in the San Joaquin River area in the vicinity of the proposed project (Detrich 1985).

Bald eagles, an endangered species (federal and California), are very mobile and winter throughout California. Suydam and Conrad (1988) report that a minimum of 27 bald eagles used Millerton Lake (about 8 miles from the proposed Herndon-Woodward Tap crossing of the San Joaquin River) during the winter of 1985. The eagles typically arrive at Millerton Lake in November and leave in March (Suydam and Conrad 1988).

Although bald eagles characteristically winter California in association with large bodies of water which provide foraging habitat, they may use rivers as daily and seasonal movement corridors or foraging and roosting habitat. Although bald eagle sightings have been reported from the San Joaquin River in the vicinity of the Ball Ranch, little information is available on bald eagle activities within the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam (R. Johnson, Millerton Lake State Park, 1989, pers. comm.).

One aerial survey was conducted on March 3 from Friant Dam downstream to State Highway 145. No bald eagles were observed. The wintering population of bald eagles left the Millerton Lake area about March 15 (R. Johnson, Millerton Lake State Park, 1989, pers. comm.).

## ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

Due to apparent infrequent occurrence and lack of observed nesting activity there are no impacts anticipated to populations of bald eagles or Swainson's hawks. The clearing or trimming of large cottonwoods (*Populus fremontii*), sycamores (*Platanus racemosa*), valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*), and black willow (*Salix gooddingii*) necessary for conductor clearance could reduce suitable nesting sites for the Swainson's hawk and roosting sites for bald eagles. The threat of transmission line collision to raptors is low (Olendorff and Lehman 1986).

Although no individuals of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle were observed during the surveys, suitable habitat and evidence of elderberry longhorn beetle occurrence do occur in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project. The installation of poles, conductor stringing and tensioning, and vehicle and foot traffic have the potential to destroy valley elderberry longhorn beetle host plants (*Sambucus mexicanus*). The planned removal of the existing Borden-Coppermine 70 kV wood pole structures adjacent to the San Joaquin River could result in destruction of elderberry plants.

## MITIGATION MEASURES

Towers and poles will be located to avoid any potential damage to elderberry plants. The existing Borden-Coppermine 70 kV double pole structures to be removed will be dismantled by hand to avoid damaging the surrounding elderberry plants (Figure 4).

FIGURE 4. Existing Borden-Coppermine 70 kV double pole structure.

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Vehicle and foot traffic will be minimized to avoid vegetation damage and soil compaction. Conductors will be strung without damaging the vegetation below. Tree trimming for conductor clearance will be minimized. Prior to vegetation trimming or removal for transmission line maintenance at the San Joaquin River crossings, a biologist experienced in identifying elderberry shrubs and elderberry longhorn beetle emergence holes will conduct a survey to determine the number and diameter of elderberry plants to be disturbed. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be contacted to discuss measures to avoid harming the plants or other compensation measures if damage is unavoidable.

## LITERATURE CITED


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Suydam, R.S., and E. Tyler. 1988. Wintering bald eagles at Millerton Lake, Fresno/Madera Counties, California. Millerton Lake State Recreation Area, San Joaquin Valley District.

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# Appendix A. Partial list of plant species occurring at the proposed North Fresno 115 kV transmission line crossings of the San Joaquin River.

*Platanus racemosa*
*Salix gooddingii*
*S. lasiolepis*
*S. hindsiana*
*Fraxinus latifolia*
*Nicotiana glauca*
*Sambucus mexicana*
*Populus fremontii*
*Alnus rhombifolia*
*Acer negundo*
*Rubus procerus*
*Quercus lobata*
*Solidago elongata*
*Epilobium paniculatum*
*Juncus balticus*
*Scirpus sp.*
*Ludwigia peploides*
*Artemesia douglassiana*
*Typha latifolia*
*Lupinus albifrons*
*Urtica holosericea*
*Conyza canadensis*
*Verbascum blattaria*
*Xanthium canadense*
*Rumex crispus*
*Eremocarpus sp.*
*Bromus rubens*
*Heterotheca sp.*
*Lactuca scariola*
*Avena fatua*
*A. barbata*
*Bromus mollis*
*B. rubens*
*Cynodon dactylon*
*Datura inoxia*
*Marrubium vulgare*
*Calandrinia ciliata*
*Capseila bursa-pastoris*
*Erodium cicutarium*

# Appendix B. Bird species observed during surveys (aerial/boat/ground) conducted on the San Joaquin River (Friant Dam to State Highway 145).

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|---|---|
| Double-crested cormorant | *Phalacrocorax auritus* |
| Black-crowned night-heron | *Nycticorax nycticorax* |
| Green-backed heron | *Butorides striatus* |
| Snowy egret | *Egretta thula* |
| Great egret | *Casmerodius albus* |
| Great blue heron | *Ardea herodias* |
| Canada goose | *Branta canadensis* |
| Mallard | *Anas platyrhynchos* |
| Cinnamon teal | *Anas cyanoptera* |
| Wood duck | *Aix sponsa* |
| Bufflehead | *Bucephala albeola* |
| Common merganser | *Mergus merganser* |
| American coot | *Fulica americana* |
| Killdeer | *Charadrius vociferus* |
| Spotted sandpiper | *Actitus macularia* |
| Turkey vulture | *Cathartes aura* |
| Black-shouldered kite | *Elanus caeruleus* |
| Sharp-shinned hawk | *Accipiter striatus* |
| Cooper's hawk | *Accipiter cooperii* |
| Red-shouldered hawk | *Buteo lineatus* |
| Red-tailed hawk | *Buteo jamaicensis* |
| Rough-legged hawk | *Buteo lagopus* |
| American kestrel | *Falco sparverius* |
| California quail | *Callipepla californica* |
| Mourning dove | *Zenaida macroura* |
| Great-horned owl | *Bubo virginianus* |
| Belted kingfisher | *Ceryle alcyon* |
| Northern flicker | *Colaptes auratus* |
| Acorn woodpecker | *Melanerpes formicivorus* |
| Western kingbird | *Tyrannus verticalis* |
| Black phoebe | *Sayornis nigricans* |
| Tree swallow | *Tachycineta bicolor* |
| Cliff swallow | *Hirundo pyrrhonota* |
| Barn swallow | *Hirundo rustica* |
| Scrub jay | *Aphelocoma coerulescens* |
| American crow | *Corvus brachyrhynchos* |
| American robin | *Turdus migratorius* |
| Northern mockingbird | *Mimus polyglottos* |
| Starling | *Sturnus vulgaris* |
| Yellow-rumped warbler | *Dendroica coronata* |
| Black-headed grosbeak | *Pheuticus melanocephalus* |
| Rufous-sided towhee | *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* |
| White-crowned sparrow | *Zonotrichia leucophrys* |
| Western meadowlark | *Sturnella neglecta* |
| Red-winged blackbird | *Agelaius phoeniceus* |
| Brewer's blackbird | *Euphagus cyanocephalus* |
| Northern oriole | *Icterus galbula* |
| Western tanager | *Piranga ludoviciana* |
| House sparrow | *Passer domesticus* |
| House finch | *Carpodacus mexicanus* |

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EXHIBIT "D-1"

File #8/08
February 28, 1989
Resolution #89-088

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

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|---|---|
| TRANSMISSION ROUTE REVIEW APPLICATION NO. 88-01 - PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE | RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING PREFERRED TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE LOCATION AND MODIFICATIONS |

WHEREAS, Transmission Route Review Application No. 88-01 has been filed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company seeking the review of the construction of a new 115 kV transmission line from the existing Herndon Substation to the existing Kerchoff-Sanger 115 kV transmission lines; and

WHEREAS, the California State Lands Commission acting as the lead agency has prepared an Initial Environmental Assessment on said transmission line route; and

WHEREAS, said application was reviewed at a public hearing by the Fresno County Planning Commission on the 19th day of January, 1989; and

WHEREAS, said Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt a Resolution supporting Route No. 1 generally following the Copper Avenue alignment subject to the modifications set forth in the Resolution of said Commission; and

Whereas, this application came before this Board for review on the 28th day of February, 1989, pursuant to the provisions of Section 875 of the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board does hereby support Route No. 1 generally following the Copper Avenue alignment, subject to the following recommended modifications:

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1. Construction and installation of the transmission line route should adhere to the mitigation measures identified in the Initial Environmental Assessment prepared by the State Lands Commission relating to impacts on wildlife and aesthetics that are outlined in the Assessment.

2. The wood pole transmission line to be constructed between Willow and Minnewawa Avenues should be on an alignment a minimum of 40 feet south of the centerline of Copper Avenue.

NOTE: The ultimate right-of-way for this road segment is 84 feet, 42 feet either side of the existing road centerline.

3. The wood pole transmission line to be constructed from Minnewawa Avenue east to the end of Copper Avenue should be on an alignment a minimum of 28 feet south of the centerline of Copper Avenue.

NOTE: The ultimate right-of-way for this road segment is 30 feet either side of the existing road centerline.

4. Encroachment permits should be obtained for any work performed within the County's right-of-way.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of this Board be directed to cause a copy of this Resolution to be mailed to the California State Lands Commission, to the attention of Dwight Sanders, Division of Research & Planning, 1807 13th Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 28th day of February, 1989, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Vagim, Andreen, Levy, Conrad

NOES: None

ABSENT: Supervisor Koligian

Vernon Conrad

CHAIRMAN, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

SHARI GREENWOOD, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

BY Gwen. Leffall
Deputy

File #8708

Agenda #19b

Resolution #89-088

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COUNTY OF FRESNO
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

EXHIBIT "D-2"

City of
FRESNO
City Hall • 209 488-1591
Fresno, California 93721-1899

Development Department
George A. Kerber
Director

January 20, 1989

Nanci Smith
Land Agent
State Lands Commission
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Smith:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED P.G.&E. INSTALLATION OF 115KV OVERHEAD ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE ACROSS THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER (STATE FILE REFERENCE: PRC 6827)

In response to your letter of January 11, 1989, related to the subject matter, we have reviewed the proposal of P.G.&E.

Staff has concluded that although a permit from the City of Fresno is not necessary, it is required, however, by provisions of the Fresno Municipal Code, that plans be submitted to the Development Director for his review and recommendation prior to acquisition of rights-of-way.

The provisions of the Fresno Municipal Code provide that the Director shall confine his review to the route, placement, height of towers, and the effect on land use.

Further, the Code provides that the Director shall complete his review and make findings within 30 days after filing of plans and data. In this regard, plans and information that shall be submitted to the Director includes the following:

1. The location of the route on a map.
2. The type of tower and transmission lines.
3. Approximate height of towers.
4. Width of right-of-way.
5. Other pertinent data.

Offhand, we do not see any problem in the approval of this project by the City of Fresno.

I trust that this is responsive to your inquiry. If you have any questions regarding this letter or the requirements of the Fresno Municipal Code, please feel free to call me or Mr. Hubert St. John, Deputy Director for the Development Services Division.

Very truly yours,

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

George A. Kerber

George A. Kerber
Director

cd
4856U/161U

c: Hubert St. John

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EXHIBIT "D-3"

# MADERA COUNTY

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

• 135 WEST YOSEMITE AVENUE
• MADERA, CALIFORNIA 93637—3583
• (209) 675-7821

January 17, 1989

Ms. Nanci Smith
Land Agent
State Lands Commission
1807 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Smith:

In response to your letter dated January 11, 1989, no permits will be required from this office for the crossing of PG&E's transmission lines across the San Joaquin River.

Sincerely,

LEONARD GARCUPE
Planning Director

LG:em

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