
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

25 September 2026

Sam Hillaire
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
300 Lakeside Drive
Oakland, CA 94612

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, KC10 BRIDGE GARNET FIRE REBUILD PROJECT (WDID# 5C10CR00106), FRESNO COUNTY

On 17 September 2026, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 1 August 2023 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Regional General Permit 8 (General Certification Order) for the KC10 Bridge Garnet Fire Rebuild (Project). After reviewing the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within 0.0151 acre of waters of the United States.

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

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

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 17 September 2026, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project consists of restoring vehicular access across an unnamed creek to the Balch penstock valve-house and associated hydro generation safety infrastructure within the Applicant's Balch FERC Project 175. The Project entails complete removal of the damaged steel frame (boxcar) bridge and construction of a culvert/earthen bridge crossing.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include installation of headwalls, wing walls, footings, and rock slope protection. Construction isolation measures, including placement of an upstream sandbag barrier and diversion pipeline, will temporarily reroute water around the active work area and require short-term occupation of the channel. Adjacent upland areas will be used for staging and access to support in-channel construction, but no additional waters occur within these support zones.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-Project condition.

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.0001	50	
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.015	47.6	
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located within the Sierra National Forest in eastern Fresno County.

Latitude: 36.91765 degrees and Longitude: -119.08804 degrees

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The approximate timeframe of Project construction is September 2026 through December 2026.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$4,212.00 was received on 17 September 2026. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(4), and was calculated as category F - Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Applicant shall submit all reports in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment B of Order No. WQ 2023-0061-DWQ, and in accordance with conditions specified in this Notice of Applicability and email it to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Brandon Salazar at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov. The WDID No. for this Project is 5C10CR00106.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Brandon Salazar at (559) 445-6278 or at Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan
for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: Via email only:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
R9cwa401@epa.gov

Maya Bickner (SPK-2026-00481)
United States Army Corps of Engineers
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Justin Sloan
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Pacific Gas and Electric Company
KC10 Bridge Garnet Fire Rebuild

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 4
R4LSA@wildlife.ca.gov

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Jason Higginbotham
Pacific Gas and Electric Company