



**Pacific Gas and  
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August 16, 2013

Patty Kouyoumdjian  
Executive Officer  
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard  
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150

Re: PG&E Petition for Review of Resolution No. R6V-2013-0060 Certifying a Final Environmental Impact Report

Dear Executive Officer Kouyoumdjian:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) appreciates the time and effort the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) has devoted to developing and approving the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (Resolution No. R6V-2013-0060). This milestone represents significant progress toward our mutual goal of resolving the groundwater contamination issues in Hinkley.

PG&E has expressed its public support for moving forward with the EIR and the remedy, particularly after many of the concerns expressed in our comments on the draft EIR were resolved through productive dialogue between Regional Board staff and PG&E. PG&E has one concern with the final approved EIR regarding Mitigation Measure WTR-MM-2, and that objection is stated in the enclosed petition. This issue should not impede our progress in implementation of the remediation efforts outlined in the EIR, as the triggering circumstances for WTR-MM-2 have not yet and may not occur in the future. We believe that continued technical meetings and dialog between PG&E, you and your staff are likely to resolve this remaining issue if it arises in the future. To that end PG&E is filing the attached Petition for Review of the EIR for consideration by the State Water Resources Control Board that includes a request for the Petition to be placed in immediate abeyance. The Petition's purpose is to provide PG&E an opportunity to discuss possible solutions with the Regional Board and members of the community if at any time in the future, that opportunity is needed.

Working cooperatively with the Regional Board, the Independent Review Panel (IRP) Manager and the community of Hinkley, PG&E continues to work hard to find solutions to cleaning up the groundwater contamination resulting from our historical operations at the Hinkley Compressor Station while also addressing community concerns about their drinking water. Through our interim remedial actions, we have made significant progress on reducing the levels of hexavalent chromium in the groundwater.

We also continue to conduct and support studies to ensure decisions can be made based on the most accurate scientific data possible. We appreciate your willingness to work with PG&E and continue our progress in addressing technical and community issues. We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with you and your staff.

Please feel free to call me directly with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Bilbrey  
Director, Chromium Remediation