



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Maziar Movassaghi
Acting Director
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Sent Via Email

December 18, 2009

Ms. Yvonne Meeks
Portfolio Manager – Site Remediation
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
4325 South Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

APPROVAL OF FINAL GROUNDWATER CORRECTIVE MEASURE STUDY/
FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT FOR SWMU 1/ AOC 1 AND AOC 10, PACIFIC GAS
AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E), TOPOCK COMPRESSOR STATION, NEEDLES,
CALIFORNIA (EPA ID NO. CAT080011729)

Dear Ms. Meeks,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is in receipt of the December 17, 2009 electronic submission of the final *Groundwater Corrective Measure Study/ Feasibility Study Report For SWMU 1/ AOC 1 And AOC 10* (CMS/FS Report). Although numerous comments and concerns were received from agencies and other stakeholders on the January 2009 draft CMS/FS Report, DTSC believes that the responses to the comments (ref. Appendix C of final CMS/FS Report) and the associated revisions made in the final CMS/FS Report to be adequate. Furthermore, DTSC assumes that no additional substantive changes were made to the report aside from those discussed between DTSC, United States Department of Interior (DOI) and PG&E as part of the comment resolution process as identified in Appendix C of the report. Based on this premise, DTSC approves the report as it was prepared according to the scope and in a manner consistent with the requirements of the February 1996 Corrective Action Consent Agreement. This approval should not be seen as final approval of the conceptual design, or as approval of PG&E's recommendation for final remedy and does not imply concurrence with all statements made by PG&E in the CMS/FS Report. DTSC will approve a final remedy only after careful evaluation and completion of the Environmental Impact Report and the public involvement process.

Based on our evaluation of the CMS/FS Report, DTSC concurs with the range of conceptual alternatives presented and agrees that the document provides adequate

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conceptual information for final remedy consideration. As noted by PG&E in the CMS/FS Report, the alternatives presented in the CMS/FS Report are conceptual and the actual design of the final remedy may vary based on site constraints including, but not limited to, cultural, biological and technical considerations. DTSC agrees that PG&E will develop greater detail of the agency approved remedy in the upcoming remedial design phase of the project.

Currently, DTSC anticipates the selection of a proposed final remedy along with the associated draft Environmental Impact Report for public notice and public input by the second quarter of 2010. DTSC expects a final decision on the remedy in fourth quarter 2010 after consideration of all comments.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact me at (714) 484-5439.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Yue', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Aaron Yue
Project Manager
Geological Services Branch

aky:120902D

cc: PG&E Topock Consultative Workgroup Members – Via Email
PG&E Topock Geo/Hydro Technical Workgroup Members – Via Email
Tribal Representatives in PG&E Contact List – Via Email