

RECLAMATION

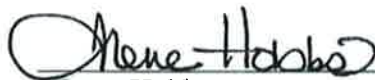
Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

PG&E 'S Installation of a 12 kV Overhead Power line - Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 95.73 – Central Valley Project

NCAO-CEC-13-08

Prepared by:



Irene Hobbs
Realty Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Date: 2/19/2013

Concurrence by:



Paul Zedonis
Natural Resources Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Date: 2/19/2013

Approved by:



fn: Brian Person
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office

Date: 2/19/13



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid Pacific Region

February , 2013

Proposed Action

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) is requesting permission to install, operate and maintain an overhead power line across the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 95.73 located in Section 32, Township 14 North, Range 2 West, M.D.B.&M.

Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion - D(10): Issuance of permits, licenses, easements and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau of Reclamation lands where the action does not allow or lead to larger public or private action.

Extraordinary Circumstances

Below is an evaluation of the extraordinary circumstances as required in 43 CFR 46.215.

- | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01; and 43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, Tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898; and 43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 13. This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007; 43 CFR 46.215 (k); and 512 DM 3). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |
| 14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act; EO 13112; and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | No | ☒ | Uncertain | ☐ | Yes | ☐ |

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8 (email attached).

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11 (email attached).

NEPA Action Recommended

☒ CEC – This action is covered by the exclusion category and no extraordinary circumstances exist. The action is excluded from further documentation in an EA or EIS.

☐ Further environmental review is required, and the following document should be prepared.

☐ EA

☐ EIS

Environmental commitments, explanations, and/or remarks:

Explanation and/or remarks:

PG&E is requesting permission to install, operate, and maintain a 12 kV overhead power line across Reclamation's right-of-way to serve the adjacent landowner's agricultural pump/well. The proposed power line extension will connect to an existing 12 kV power located outside Reclamation's right of way and extend approximately 215 feet across the Tehama Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 95.73 to a new power pole located outside Reclamation's right of way. A 35-foot minimum clearance over United States right-of-way shall be maintained at all times.

The proposed action is located near the town of Arbuckle shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 illustrates the proposed line extension area and Figure 3 illustrates the vertical profile of the wireline crossing. Figures 4 and 5 show the power pole placement location and the power pole that will be used as the electric source, respectively.

A site visit was conducted on August 7, 2012 with the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority's (TCCA) operation and maintenance foreman and Reclamation. Reclamation and TCCA have reviewed the request and have no objections.

No known threatened or endangered species, plant or animal will be affected and there will be minimal disturbance to the right-of-way.

Figure 1. General location of the proposed action (highlighted area)

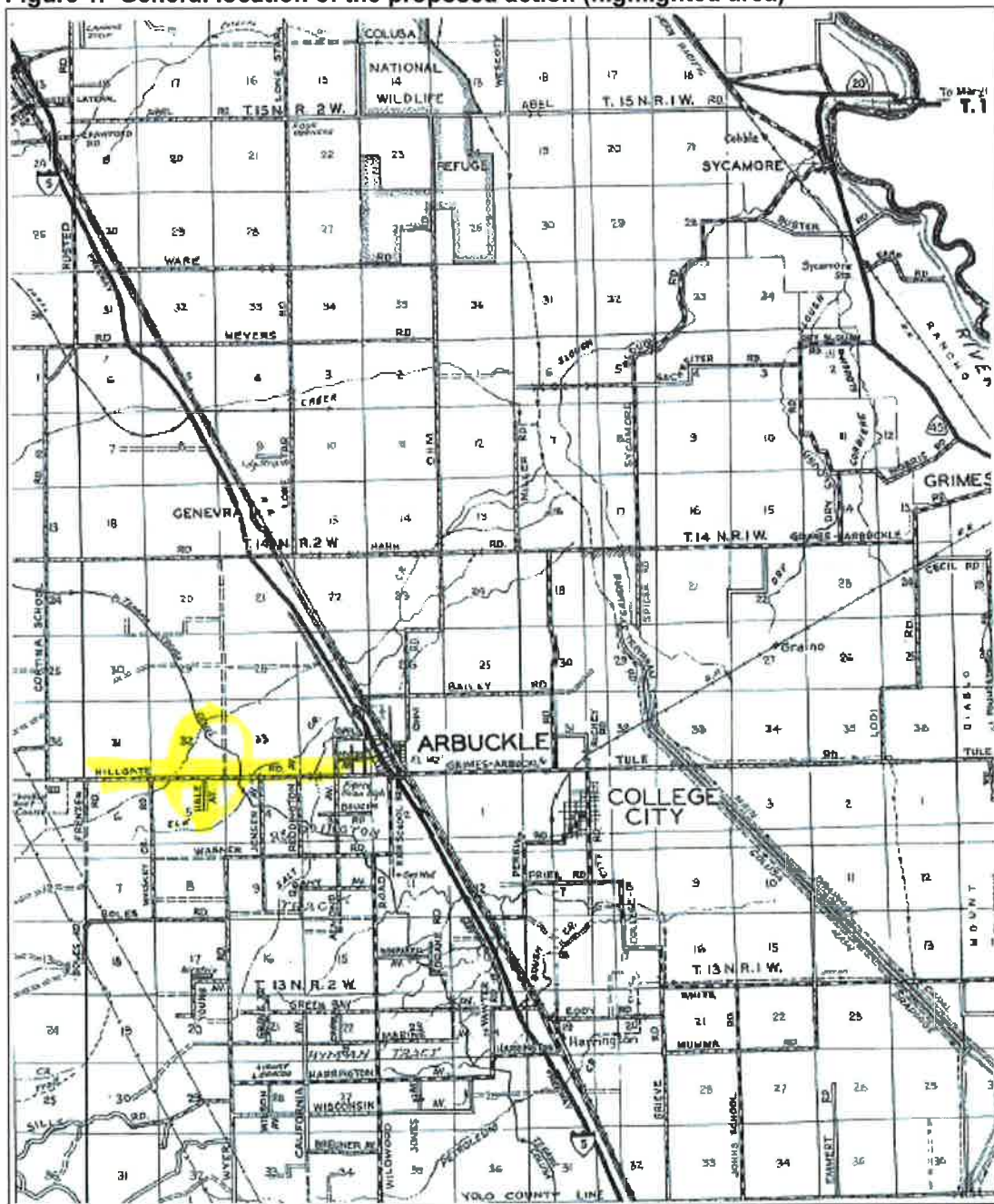


Figure 2.

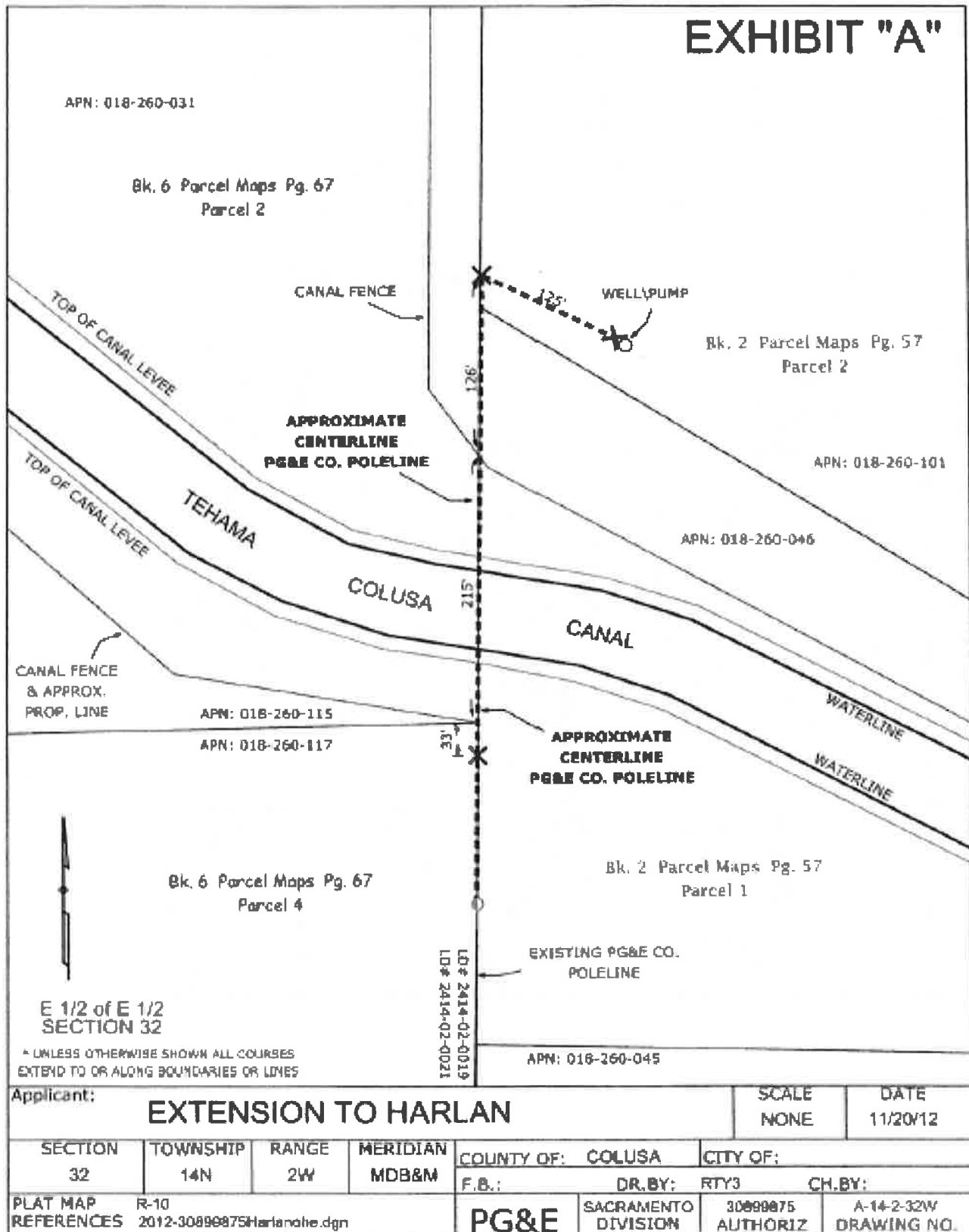


Figure 3.

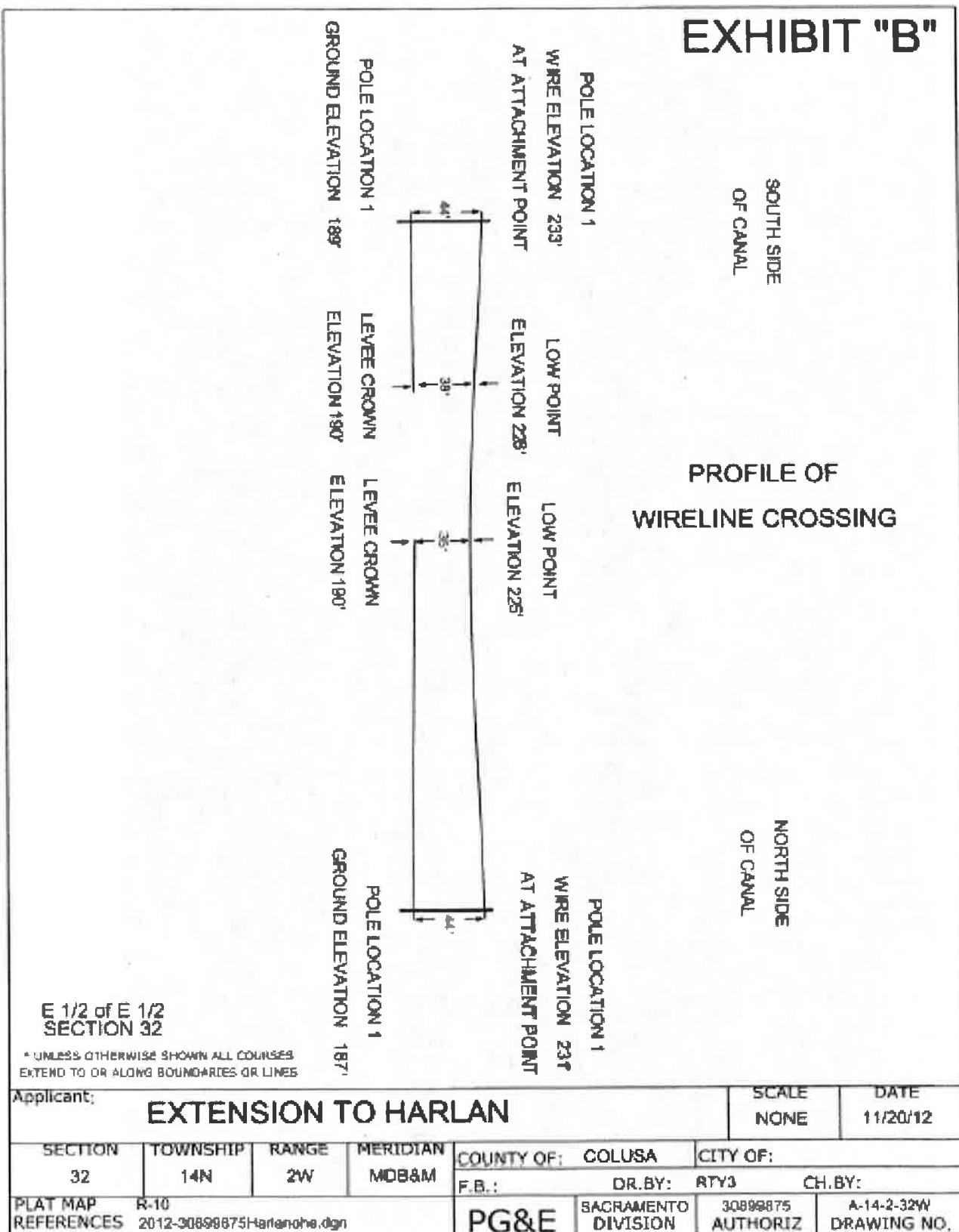


Figure 4

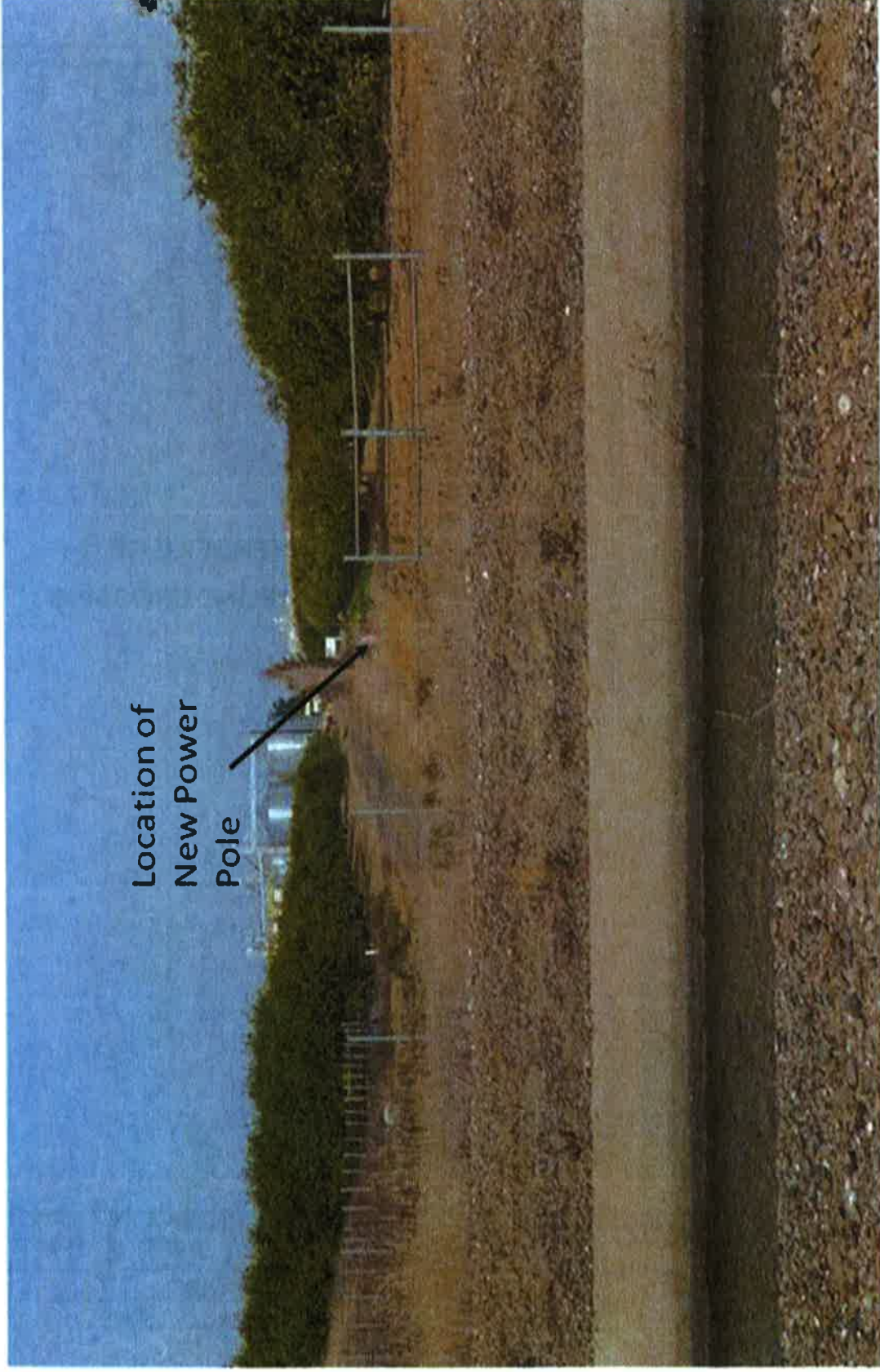
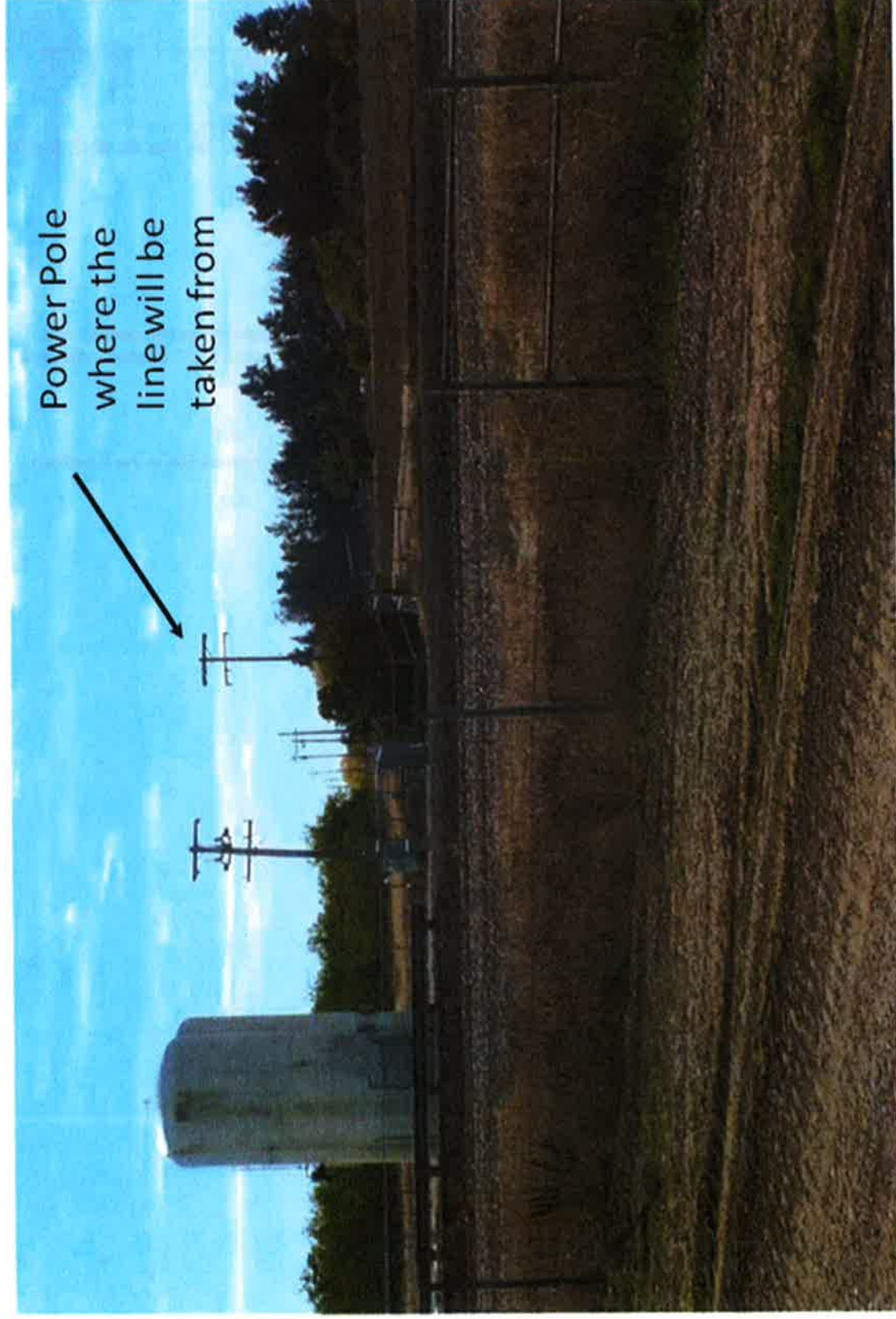


Figure 5





Zedonis, Paul <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

PG&E 'S Installation of a 12 kV Overhead Power line

1 message

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>
To: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Tue, Feb 19, 2013 at 8:10 AM

Paul,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) request to install, operate and maintain an overhead power line across the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 95.73 located in Section 32, Township 14 North, Range 2 West, M.D.B.&M.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is the American Indian Reservation approximately 10 miles Northwest of the project location.

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 978-5194



IN REPLY
REFER TO:
MP-153
ENV-3.00

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

February 5, 2013
MEMORANDUM

To: Paul Zedonis
Natural Resource Specialist – Northern California Area Office

From: Brandee Bruce /S/
Architectural Historian – Division of Environmental Affairs

Subject: 13-NCAO-085: PG&E 'S Installation of a 12 kilovolt (kV) Overhead Power Line - Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC), Milepost (MP) 95.73 – Central Valley Project (CEC13-08)

This proposed undertaking by Reclamation is to permit Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to install, operate, and maintain a 12 kV transmission line across Reclamation's right-of-way on the TCC. This is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to the NHPA Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). Reclamation has no further obligations under NHPA Section 106, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1).

The new PG&E overhead power line will serve the adjacent landowner's agricultural pump/well. The proposed power line will connect to an existing 12 kV power pole located outside Reclamation's right-of-way and extend approximately 215 feet across the TCC at MP 95.73 to a new power pole located outside Reclamation's right-of-way. A 35-foot minimum clearance over United States right-of-way shall be maintained at all times. The proposed action is located near the town of Arbuckle, California.

After reviewing CEC-13-08, dated February 2013, I concur with item 8 which states that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.

This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

CC: Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153), Anastasia Leigh – Regional Environmental Officer (MP-150)

