

News Release

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PG&E Accepts Plan for Permanent Conservation of 140,000 Acres of California Land Landmark Plan Protects Resource-Rich Lands for Generations to Come

SAN FRANCISCO - Pacific Gas and Electric Company today announced that it has submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) an application in support of its Land Conservation Commitment. Working closely with The Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, PG&E is permanently protecting 140,000 acres of its Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountain watershed lands and Carrizo Plains for the benefit of current and future generations of Californians.

"These lands are associated with our extensive hydroelectric system and stretch from the Hat Creek, Pit and McCloud Rivers in the north to Kern River in the south," said Steven Kline, vice president, corporate environmental and federal affairs at PG&E. "We're excited to embark on the final stage of this commitment which will ensure that these 140,000 pristine acres of California land be conserved for a broad range of public benefits for many years to come."

In December, PG&E accepted Volumes I and II of the final Land Conservation Plan (LCP) developed by the Stewardship Council. The plan provides a framework for the permanent conservation of these properties - over 1,000 parcels across 22 California counties - for the protection of six beneficial public values: natural habitat of fish, wildlife and plants, open space, outdoor recreation by the general public, sustainable forestry, agricultural uses and historic resources. The application filed today requests approval for a streamlined process by which the land conservation transactions will be reviewed and approved by the CPUC.

Beginning this year, the Stewardship Council will work with PG&E and interested stakeholders to develop the individual land transaction packages that will ultimately comprise the real estate transactions for which PG&E will seek CPUC approval. The pilot planning units include Bucks Lake in Plumas County, Doyle Springs in Tulare County, Kennedy Meadows in Tuolumne County and McArthur Swamp in Shasta County. Transaction planning for the remaining 43 units is expected to continue through 2013. The plans for these lands will address real estate, legal and conservation terms at the parcel level.

PG&E is also working in close cooperation with the Stewardship Council to fund its Youth Investment Program. The grant-making program is designed to better connect California's youth with the environment and to help build the next generation of environmental leaders and stewards.

The Stewardship Council is a collaborative land conservation and youth investment foundation. For more information on the Stewardship Council, please visit www.stewardshipcouncil.org.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation, is one of the largest combined natural gas and electric utilities in the United States. Based in San Francisco, with 20,000 employees, the company delivers some of the nation's cleanest energy to 15 million people in northern and central California. For more information, visit www.pge.com/about/.

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