Comment Letter F

SUNSWEEET

SUNSWEEET GROWERS INC. 901 N. Walton Avenue Yuba City, CA 95991
530-751-5271 phone 530-755-5275 fax

May 1, 2009

California State Lands Commission
Attention: Christopher Hultt
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

SCH #200900042018
File Ref: W30173; WP6827; RO4807
CSLC MND#747

Dear Mr. Hultt:

In response to your Notice of Public Review dated April 2, 2009, Sunsweet operates a prune dehydration and maintenance facility at 900 and 920 Pease Rd. in Yuba City, California. We are offering our comments on the above referenced project which is scheduled to upgrade transmission equipment along Pease Road and across the Feather River to Lawrell Road. I have spoken to Mr. Rose from PG and E and he says the upgrade does not include any additional property condemnation or loss of use of any of our existing property at either of those locations. He claims that the new poles and equipment will reside in the same spot as the current poles and equipment. If this is the case, we are fully supportive of this project. The one major issue we have with this project is the timing. We will be in full harvest operation at both of those addresses from August 1 through September 30 each year, now and into the future. Our harvest never changes by more than 4-5 days each year. We need an assurance that this project will not impede our normal operations that time of year in any year. The remaining months of the year we can easily work around whatever projects may be ongoing along that stretch of Pease Road. The August and September periods we can NOT work around those types of projects. The commodity being harvested and delivered during that period is highly perishable and delays of even a few hours can have disastrous consequences to our grower/owners and our business processes.

If you have any questions about these comments, feel free to contact me at 530-751-5271 for further information or clarification.

Regards,

Mark Dalrymple
Vice President, Member Services

June 2009

1-19

PG&E Pease–Marysville
60 kV Transmission Line
Project MND
Response to Comment Letter F
Sunsweet Growers, Inc.
May 1, 2009

F-1 The project would not result in transmission line construction activity outside of PG&E’s existing right-of-way. All right-of-way agreements between PG&E and underlying landowners (such as those represented by Sunsweet Growers, Inc.) contain specific terms of use regarding access to and construction, operation, and maintenance activity allowed on such lands. This project, and the associated CSLC CEQA process, does not modify the conditions of these existing right-of-way agreements.

F-2 Comment acknowledged. Please refer to response F-1. Pursuant to PG&E’s right-of-way joint use policy, project construction shall not infringe on normal operations, especially during the harvest season. PG&E was provided a copy of this letter on May 13, 2009, has reviewed this comment, and is aware of the commenter's concern. PG&E has further committed to work with Sunsweet Growers, Inc. to ensure that harvest times are not affected by proposed transmission line construction work.

Additionally, Mitigation Measure AGR-3 requires that PG&E provide advanced notification of project activity to all landowners, aerial applicators, and the Sutter and Yuba County farm bureaus to provide adequate warning of construction activity. This mitigation measure would ensure that all landowners along the alignment are notified of pending construction activity. Advanced noticing requirements are also outlined in Mitigation Measure NOI-1d, which requires PG&E to provide advance notice (between two and four weeks prior to construction), by mail, to all sensitive receptors and residences within 300 feet of construction sites, staging areas, and access roads. This advance notice requirement would also require that a mechanism be set up for contacting PG&E and/or the construction contractor to ensure that community members can coordinate rescheduling, such as suggested in the commenter's letter. The inclusion of Mitigation Measures AGR-3 and NOI-1d would provide adequate notice to underlying or adjacent property owners who may be affected by project construction. Provision of such notice would allow concerned landowners or agricultural operators (such as Sunsweet Growers, Inc.) the opportunity to contact PG&E or the construction contractor to work out harvest timing concerns.