**ATTACHMENT 5** 

## Attachment 5: Summary of Investor-Owned Utility Options for Proposed Electric Load Exceeding Capacity of Utility Infrastructure

Investor-owned utilities such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company are regulated by California Public Utilities Commission under the California Public Utilities Code. Per CPUC-approved Electric Rule 2, a utility may not refuse to extend electric service to retail customers in PG&E's service territory provided the customer complies with applicable tariff, easement and safety and reliability requirements. In situations where existing infrastructure may not be capable of serving a new load proposed by a customer, PG&E will apply the appropriate tariffs and associated cost responsibilities in order to serve the new load.

If a project proposes peak load and/or generation that exceeds the capacity of existing utility infrastructure serving the location, or if the utility determines the change would push service voltage levels out of ranges specified in CPUC Electric Rule 2.C, there are three possibilities:

- Modify Design: The project may be modified to reduce the proposed peak load and/or generation to match existing infrastructure capacity, such as through efficiency, battery storage, or other modifications.
- Upgrade Utility Equipment Dedicated to the Project: The project sponsor can upgrade service infrastructure, subject to Electric Rule 16, and utility will provide the level of service supported by the upgraded service infrastructure.
- Wait for Utility Facility Upgrade: If the requested peak load and/or generation can only be met after upgrades to distribution or transmission infrastructure are completed by the utility, it may take some time to construct the facilities necessary to serve the new load. The project sponsor may coordinate a construction and service level schedule to accommodate the time needed to construct the facilities as well as a ramp up schedule of the project's load.

Alternative: When a request for retail service exceeds limitations specified in Electric Rule 2, the Exceptional Case provision of Electric Rule 16.G allows:

"When the application of this rule appears impractical or unjust to either party, or ratepayers, PG&E or Applicant may refer the matter to the Commission for a special ruling or for approval of special conditions which may be mutually agreed upon."

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