

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (A.24-05-014)
AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF THE
POWER THE SOUTH BAY PROJECT**

Proposed Project:

LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) has filed an application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) requesting authorization to construct the Power the South Bay Project, also known as the Newark – NRS HVDC Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project was identified by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) in its 2021-2022 Transmission Plan as a reliability-driven project that would address multiple near-term and long-term overloads on the San José area 115 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission system and would provide system reliability benefits for the Greater Bay Area. The Proposed Project would help meet the area's growing electric demand and support California's clean energy transition.

Project Description:

The Proposed Project will be located in the Cities of Fremont, Milpitas, San José, and Santa Clara and the Counties of Alameda and Santa Clara, California. The Proposed Project would include two new high-voltage direct current (HVDC) terminals. The northern terminal site is the proposed Albrae terminal, which would be located along Weber Road approximately 0.8 miles west of Interstate 880 in the City of Fremont, approximately 0.2 miles northeast of the existing Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Newark substation. The new Albrae terminal would interconnect to PG&E's Newark substation via a new approximately 0.4-mile overhead and underground 230 kV alternating current (AC) transmission line located entirely on PG&E owned property.

The southern terminal site is the proposed Baylands terminal, which would be located along Los Esteros Road approximately 0.5 miles north of State Route 237 in the City of San José, approximately 1.8 miles northeast of the existing Silicon Valley Power (SVP) Northern Receiving Station (NRS) substation. The Baylands terminal would interconnect to SVP's NRS substation via a new approximately 3.5-mile 230 kV AC overhead and underground transmission line (3.3 miles underground and 0.2 mile overhead). The underground portion would be located approximately four to twelve feet beneath the surface, and would cross both private and public property, including within existing public roadways. The proposed route would include the following public roadways: Los Esteros Road, Grand Boulevard, Disk Drive, Nortech Parkway, and Lafayette Street.

A new approximately 8.6-mile 320 kV direct current (DC) overhead and underground transmission line (6.7 miles overhead and 1.9 miles underground) would connect the Albrae and Baylands terminals. The Albrae to Baylands 320 kV DC transmission line would include both overhead and underground components. The underground portion would be located approximately four to twelve feet beneath the surface, with the majority of the line being located within existing public roadways. The proposed route would include the following public roadways: Boyce Road, Cushing Parkway, Fremont Boulevard, McCarthy Boulevard, and Los Esteros Road. The overhead portion of the line would be located almost exclusively within the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (RWF). Construction is set to begin June 2026, or as soon as possible after permitting is completed. The planned completion is May 2028, or as soon as possible.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) Compliance:

The CPUC requires utilities to implement “no-cost” and “low-cost” measures to reduce public exposure to EMF. Accordingly, the Proposed Project is designed to avoid public exposure to EMFs to the extent possible. The majority of both the Albrae to Baylands 320 kV DC transmission line and the Baylands to NRS 230 kV AC transmission line are proposed to be placed underground, thereby already providing significant EMF level mitigation. The proposed overhead portion of the Albrae to Baylands 320 kV DC transmission line would be located entirely on property with restricted public access. The overhead portion of the Baylands to NRS 230 kV AC transmission line would be a single overhead span over the Guadalupe River. The proposed routing of the two overhead line segments is not in proximity to high-priority land use categories in the CPUC EMF policy, which represents an avoidance measure. LSPGC would also propose to implement the following EMF measures for the Proposed Project:

1. Locate high-current devices, transformers, capacitors, and reactors away from substation property lines to reduce EMF levels at the property line;

2. For underground duct banks within substations, the minimum distance should be 12 feet from the adjacent property lines or as close to 12 feet as practical;
3. Locate new substations close to existing power lines to the extent practical;
4. Increase the substation property boundary to the extent practical to reduce EMF levels at the property line;
5. Locate the underground transmission lines close to the center of the right-of-way;
6. Reduce the spacing between conductors for the 230 kV AC underground transmission lines to the extent practical which results in a reduction of EMF levels;
7. Optimizing phasing of the two conductor per phase 230 kV AC underground transmission line which results in a reduction of EMF levels;
8. Place overhead structures at or near the center of the right-of-way; and
9. Increase overhead structure heights to the extent practical.

Environmental Review:

LSPGC has prepared a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) that identifies potential environmental impacts created by the construction and operation of the Proposed Project. The PEA concludes that, with the implementation of Applicant-Proposed Measures, the potential significant environmental effects associated with the Proposed Project would be reduced to less-than-significant levels.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CPUC's Energy Division will conduct an independent review of the Proposed Project's environmental impacts. Depending on the results of that review, the Energy Division is expected to either prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) identifying any significant environmental impacts and specifying the mitigation measures or alternatives that would avoid or reduce the environmental impacts or a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) if it finds that the Proposed Project would not result in any significant environmental impacts if adopted mitigation measures are implemented.

Public Participation:

The public may participate in the environmental review process by submitting comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an EIR and draft EIR, or the Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt an MND, and by participating in any scoping meetings or public meetings that may be conducted. For information about the environmental review, contact the CPUC's Energy Division by email at tommy.alexander@cpuc.ca.gov or call (213) 266-4748.

Members of the public may provide public comments directly on the Docket Card of the Proposed Project via this link: apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2405014. If you have questions about how to comment, you may contact the Public Advisor using the contact information at the end of this notice. In addition, the CPUC may decide to hold a public participation hearing to take oral public comments.

Document Subscription Service:

The CPUC's free online subscription service sends subscribers an email notification when any document meeting the subscriber's criteria is filed in a CPUC proceeding (e.g., notices of hearings, rulings, briefs, and decisions). To sign up to receive notification of documents filed in this proceeding (or other CPUC matters), visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/subscription.

Assistance in Filing a Protest or Response:

In compliance with Rule 2.6 of the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, if you wish to file a protest or response to this application (A.24-05-014), you must do so by **June 19, 2024**. If your filing is accepted by the CPUC's Docket Office, you will become a party (participant) to this proceeding. For questions about how to file a protest or response, other ways to obtain party status, or about CPUC processes, contact the Public Advisor's Office by email at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov, or call 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or (415) 703-2074. Use LSPGC's CPCN A.24-05-014 in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.

To review a copy of LSPGC's application, or to request further information about the Proposed Project, please contact Lucy Marton of LSPGC by email at PSB@PowerTheBay.com or call (888) 214-5120. You can also visit the Proposed Project website at www.PowerTheBay.com.

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