50-275/323

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9	Attorneys for BNY WESTERN TRUST COMPA	NY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE							
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11		Z Floor H111 75 10  RN TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE  NITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION  Case No. 01 30923 SFM 11  TRIC COMPANY, Chapter 11 Case  OBJECTION OF BNY WESTERN Debtor  TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, TO DEBTOR'S							
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14	In re	Case No. 01 30923 SFM 11							
15	PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY,	) Chapter 11 Case							
16	a California corporation,								
17	Debtor Federal I.D. No. 94-0742640	) TRUSTEE, TO DEBTOR'S							
18 19		UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF THE							
20									
21		Date: December 19, 2001							
22		Time: 9:30 a.m.							
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26	THE HONORABLE DENNIS MONTALI, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE, ID ALL PARTIES IN INTEREST:								
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28		BNY Western Trust Company ("BNY Trust"), the successor trustee under the Indenture							
	(defined below), by and through its attorneys, Whi	I through its attorneys, White & Case LLP, hereby objects to the Disclosure							
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Statement for Plan of Reorganization Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Disclosure Statement") proposed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the "Debtor") and its parent company, PG&E Corporation (collectively, the "Proponents"), and respectfully states as follows:

# I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Disclosure Statement does not satisfy the requirements of Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code<sup>1</sup> and should not be approved absent modification. The Disclosure Statement does not provide adequate information for creditors and interest holders to make an informed decision regarding the Proponents' proposed plan of reorganization (the "Plan"). Among other omissions, the Disclosure Statement does not provide adequate information regarding:
  - The Debtor's determination not to honor contractual obligations to pay pre-payment premiums under the Indenture (defined below) and the potential ramifications of that decision;
  - The treatment of mortgage bonds that matured prior to the Petition Date;
  - The treatment of mortgage bonds that mature prior to the Effective Date;
  - The basis for the different classification and treatment of like mortgage bonds under the Plan;
  - The failure of the Plan to provide for the termination of indentures governing mortgage bonds upon the cancellation of such bonds on the Effective Date.

The omitted information is necessary to enable the Bondholders (defined below) to make an informed judgment about the Plan.

II.

### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

2. BNY Trust is the successor trustee pursuant to that certain First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1920, by and among Mt. Shasta Power

Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

Corporation, Mercantile Trust Company (San Francisco), the National City Bank of New York, and the Debtor, as supplemented by fourteen supplemental indentures (the "Indenture").

- 3. There are approximately \$3.67 billion of bonds outstanding under Indenture (the "Mortgage Bonds", and the holders thereof, the "Bondholders"). The Mortgage Bonds are secured by first-priority liens and security interests on virtually all of the Debtor's assets. The value of the Debtor's assets greatly exceeds the obligations owed to the Bondholders. According to the Debtor's operating report for the month ended September 30, 2001, the Debtor maintains total assets of in excess of \$25.1 billion, including cash of in excess of \$4.3 billion.
- 4. The Debtor commenced its chapter 11 case on April 6, 2001. On May 9, 2001, the Court entered an Order approving the cash collateral stipulation (the "Cash Collateral Stipulation") between the Debtor and BNY Trust. The Cash Collateral Stipulation, provides for, among other things, the timely payment of interest and sinking fund obligations owed to the Bondholders under the Indenture. See Cash Collateral Stipulation, ¶ 7.
- 5. BNY Trust timely filed a proof of claim on behalf of the Bondholders on or about August 30, 2001 (the "Proof of Claim"). The Proof of Claim included a schedule detailing the amounts outstanding under various series of Mortgage Bonds issued under the Indenture. A copy of this schedule (the "Schedule") is attached as Exhibit "A" to the Declaration of Todd Duncan submitted in support hereof. As detailed on the Schedule, there are three categories of Mortgage Bonds currently outstanding under the Indenture:
  - Twelve series of Mortgage Bonds aggregating in excess of \$3.3 billion, with maturity dates ranging form March 1, 2002 through August 1, 2026. (the "Unmatured Mortgage Bonds");
  - Certain matured but unpresented Mortgage Bonds aggregating approximately \$284,000 (the "Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds");
  - Five series of Mortgage Bonds issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$345 million maturing on various dates ranging from June 1, 2009 through

December 1, 2023, the proceeds of which are used to service certain pollution control bonds issued by the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (the "PC Mortgage Bonds").

6. The Proponents filed the Plan and Disclosure Statement on September 20, 2001. The Plan provides disparate treatment to the holders of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds and the PC Mortgage Bonds and fails to include the Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds within the definition of Mortgage Bonds. The Plan also provides that the holders of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds will not receive any premium (contractual or otherwise) in connection with the prepayment of certain of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds on the Effective Date and is silent as to the treatment of any Unmatured Mortgage Bonds that may mature prior to the Effective Date. Finally, the Plan fails to provide for the termination of the Indenture in connection with the cancellation of the Mortgage Bonds on the Effective Date. The Disclosure Statement fails to adequately address any of these issues.

# III. DISCUSSION

# The Disclosure Statement Fails to Provide Adequate Information

7. The Disclosure Statement fails to satisfy the requirements for approval of disclosure statements set forth in Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code because it does not contain "adequate information". See 11 U.S.C. § 1125; In re Unichem Corp., 72 B.R. 95, 97 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 1987) ("The purpose of a disclosure statement is to provide all material information which creditors and equity security holders affected by the plan need in order to make an intelligent decision whether to vote for or against the plan"). The failure to provide adequate information is fatal to the confirmation process. Without adequate information, creditors and interest holders are unable to assess, among other things, whether the Plan is feasible or offered in good faith, or whether their treatment under the Plan is reasonable. Courts have strictly enforced the requirement that disclosure statements contain adequate information. See Oneida Motor Freight.

Inc. v. United Jersey Bank (In re Oneida Motor Freight, Inc.), 848 F.2d 414, 417 (3d Cir. 1988)("[W]e cannot overemphasize the debtor's obligation to provide sufficient data to satisfy the Code standard of 'adequate information'"); In re Crowthers McCall Pattern, Inc., 120 B.R. 279, 300 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1990)("Given the . . . paramount position section 1125 occupies in the Chapter 11 process, there is little, if any, room for harmless error").

- 8. The Bankruptcy Code does not set forth specific categories of information that the disclosure statements must include because Congress intended that "adequate information in any particular instance [would] develop in a case-by-case basis". H.R. Rep. No. 95-595; 95<sup>th</sup> Cong. I<sup>st</sup> Sess. 408 (1977). Congress left to the Court's discretion the determination of adequate information. See In re Cardinal Congregate I, 121 B.R. 760, 764 (Bankr. S.D.Ohio 1990("Congress left vague the standard for evaluating what constitutes adequate information so as to permit a case-by-case determination based on the prevailing facts and circumstances"); In re Dakota Rail, Inc., 104 B.R. 138, 142 (Bankr. D. Minn. 1989)(nonexclusive list of 19 types of general information that should be included in a disclosure statement).
- 9. The Disclosure Statement does not contain adequate information for the following reasons;
  - A. The Disclosure Statement Does Not Contain Any Justification for the Debtor's Refusal to Pay Prepayment Premiums in respect of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds or the Potential Ramifications of such Decision.
- 10. The Plan provides that the Allowed Secured Claims of the holders of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds shall be paid in full, in cash, but that the amount of such Allowed Secured Claims shall not include the amount of any premiums that the Debtor is contractually bound to pay in connection with the prepayment of certain series of Unmatured Mortgage Bonds.

  See Plan, § 4.5(b)

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The Disclosure Statement fails to inform the holders of the Unmatured Mortgage 11. Bonds that oversecured creditors are generally entitled to receive prepayment premiums and other amounts provided under an indenture as part of their allowed secured claim. The Disclosure Statement also fails to disclose why the Debtor believes that it is not obligated to honor its commitments to pay such premiums to the holders of the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds in this case. As oversecured creditors, the Bondholders are entitled to all reasonable "fees, costs or charges" under the Indenture. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(b). The prepayment premiums constitute "charges" for purposes of Section 506(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. See Imperial Coronado Partners, Ltd. v. Home Federal Savings & Loan Assoc. (In re Imperial Coronado Partners, Ltd.), 96 B.R. 997 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1989)(requiring payment of prepayment premium pursuant to Section 506(b) of the Bankruptcy Code); Continental Securities Corp. v. Shenandoah Nursing Home Partnerships, 193 B.R. 769, 775 (W.D. Va. 1996)("typical prepayment penalty contained in a lending instrument is a "charge" within the meaning of 506(b)"); In re 433 South Beverly Drive, 117 B.R. 563, 568 (Bankr, C.D. Ca. 1990)("Nothing in title 11 automatically invalidates a provision for a prepayment premium which is otherwise enforceable under applicable non-bankruptcy law").

12. In order to meet the disclosure requirements of Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Proponents must modify the Disclosure Statement to include a discussion of the general allowability of prepayment premiums to oversecured creditors and why the Proponents believe that the Debtor is not obligated to pay such amounts in this case. The Proponents must also disclose that the failure to pay any prepayment premiums may render the Plan unconfirmable if the Bondholders reject the Plan. See 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(7)(A).

- B. The Disclosure Statement does not Adequately Address the Treatment of those Unmatured Mortgage Bonds that are likely to Mature Prior To the Effective Date of the Plan.
- 13. As set forth on the Schedule, at least one series of Unmatured Mortgage Bonds is likely to mature prior to the Effective Date. The Disclosure Statement does not address whether the Debtor intends to timely repay these Unmatured Mortgage Bonds as they mature, or whether these amounts will not be repaid until the Effective Date. If the Debtor does not intend to pay these obligations until the Effective Date, the Proponents must disclose what, if any, post-maturity interest rate the Debtor intends to pay through the Effective Date.
  - C. There is No Discussion of the Treatment of the Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds
- 14. As previously noted, approximately \$284,000 of Mortgage Bonds that matured prior to the Petition Date have yet to be presented for payment. These Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds are not included in the definition of "First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds" under the Plan. In fact, these Bonds do not appear to be treated in any manner under the Plan. BNY Trust believes that Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds should be incorporated into the definition of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds under the Plan. In any event, the Disclosure Statement must be amended to address the intended treatment of the Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds.
- 15. BNY Trust believes that the Debtor is obligated to continue to accrue interest at the contract rate on the Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds until they are presented for payment.
  - D. There is No Discussion of the Basis for the Different Classification and <u>Treatment of the PC Mortgage Bonds and the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds</u>
- 16. Although the PC Mortgage Bonds were issued under the same Indenture as the Unmatured Mortgage Bonds and the Matured Unpresented Mortgage Bonds, they are separately

classified and receive different treatment under the Plan. Controlling case law prohibits the Proponents from classifying similar claims separately without a legitimate economic or business reason. See In re Barakat, 99 F.3d 1520, 1526 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1996)(debtor must have legitimate business or economic justification to classify similar claims differently). Yet the Proponents fail to provide any justification for the disparate treatment of virtually identical claims under the Plan.

17. Furthermore, while the Plan would result in significant diminution in the collateral supporting the PC Mortgage Bonds, the Disclosure Statement fails to address the impact of the proposed spin-off of a substantial portion of the Debtor's assets on the holders of the PC Mortgage Bonds.

## E. There is no Discussion of the Cancellation of the Indenture

18. The Disclosure Statement and the Plan should be modified to provide for the cancellation of the Indenture upon the completion of the distributions contemplated under the Plan and the payment of the costs and expense of BNY Trust. The Disclosure Statement explains that on the Effective Date, all prepetition promissory notes, bonds, debentures and debt instruments, other than those reinstated or renewed pursuant to the Plan will be deemed canceled. See Disclosure Statement, p. 127. However, the Disclosure Statement and the Plan fail to provide for the termination of the indentures that govern such instruments. The Proponents offer no basis for the continued existence of such indentures beyond the Effective Date. The Disclosure Statement and Plan must be modified to provide for the cancellation of such indentures.

IV.

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

BNY Trust expressly reserves the right to supplement these objections at the hearing to consider approval of the Disclosure Statement, and to assert these or any other objections in connection with any hearing to consider confirmation of the Plan.

V.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, BNY Trust respectfully requests that the Court direct the Proponents to modify the Disclosure Statement to address the objections contained herein, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York November 1, 2001

Evan C. Hollander, Esq.
WHITE & CASE LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Denise Milton, Esq. MANWELL & SCHWARTZ 20 California Street, Third Floor San Francisco, California 94111

Counsel for BNY Western Trust Company

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10	Attorneys for BNY WESTERN TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE							
11	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT							
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13	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA							
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17	COMPANY, a California corporation,  Chapter 11 Case							
18	Debtor Date: December 19, 2001							
19	Federal I.D. No. 94-0742640  ) Time: 9:30 a.m. ) Place: 235 Pine Street, San Francisco, California							
20	San Trancisco, Camonna							
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22	DECLARATION OF TORR BYRIGHT							
23	DECLARATION OF TODD DUNCAN IN SUPPORT OF OBJECTION OF BNY WESTERN TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, TO DEBTOR'S DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PLAN OF REORGANIZATION UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE							
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25	ENTERNIEM CHAPTER II OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE							
25 26	ENTROPY CHAPTER II OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE							
	ENDINGER CHAPTER II OF THE BANKRUPICY CODE							

- I, Todd Duncan, declare as follows:
- 1. I am a Vice President of BNY Western Trust Company ("BNY Trust"), the successor trustee under that certain First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1920, by and among BNY Trust, Mt. Shasta Power Corporation, Mercantile Trust Company (San Francisco), the National City Bank of New York, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the "Debtor"), as supplemented by fourteen supplemental indentures (collectively, the "Indenture"). This Declaration is based on my personal knowledge of the Indenture, BNY Trust's general operations, practices and policies, upon my review of BNY Trust's records concerning the matters stated herein, and upon a review of the Debtor's Monthly Operating Report for the month ended September 30, 2001. If called as a witness, I could and would testify competently to the facts stated herein.
- 2. I make this declaration in support of the Objection of BNY Western Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee, to Debtor's Disclosure Statement for Plan of Reorganization (the "Objection").
- 3. According to BNY Trust's records, in excess of \$3.67 billion of bonds are outstanding under Indenture (the "Mortgage Bonds", and the holders thereof, the "Bondholders"). The Mortgage Bonds are secured by first-priority liens and security interests on virtually all of the Debtor's assets. According to the Debtor's operating report for the month ended September 30, 2001, the value of the Debtor's assets exceed \$25.1 billion, and include cash of in excess of \$4.3 billion.
- 4. I understand that the Debtor commenced a voluntary bankruptcy case on April 6, 2001 (the "Petition Date"). On May 9, 2001, the Court entered an Order approving the cash collateral stipulation (the "Cash Collateral Stipulation") between the Debtor and BNY Trust.

Among other things, the Cash Collateral Stipulation provides for the timely payment of interest and sinking fund obligations owed to the Bondholders under the Indenture.

- 5. BNY Trust filed a proof of claim on behalf of the Bondholders on or about August 30, 2001 (the "Proof of Claim"). The Proof of Claim included a schedule detailing the amounts outstanding under various series of Mortgage Bonds issued under the Indenture. A copy of this schedule is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" (the "Schedule"). As detailed on the Schedule, there are three categories of Mortgage Bonds currently outstanding under the Indenture:
  - Twelve series of Mortgage Bonds aggregating in excess of \$3.3 billion, with maturity dates ranging from March 1, 2002 through August 1, 2026;
  - Certain matured but unpresented Mortgage Bonds aggregating approximately \$284,000;
  - Five series of Mortgage Bonds issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$345 million maturing on various dates ranging from June 1, 2009 through December 1, 2023, the proceeds of which are used to service certain pollution control bonds issued by the California Pollution Control Financing Authority.
- 6. I understand that the Debtor and its parent company, PG&E Corp. (collectively, the "Proponents") filed the Disclosure Statement for Plan of Reorganization Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Disclosure Statement") and the accompanying plan of reorganization (the "Plan") on September 20, 2001. I have reviewed the Disclosure Statement and the Exhibits thereto. My review has led me to believe that the Disclosure Statement does not contain sufficient information in several key areas. Therefore, BNY Trust requests that the Disclosure Statement be modified to address the issues raised in the Objection so as to enable the Bondholders to make an informed vote on the Plan

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 26th day of November, 2001 at Los Angeles, California.

Todd H. Duncan, Vice President

TEL:213 630 6285

#### Sheet1

Issue Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company First and		Maturity Date	Principal Outstanding	Date Issued	Original Amount		Service	Sinking Fund Payment	Secured
Mortgage Bonds	TRUSTEE	08/01/2011	75.000.000.00	10/19/1983	75,000,000.00	Variable	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	Ϋ́
SERIES 81B		05/01/2024	166,864,000.00	04/25/1991	200,000,000.00	0.08800	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	IY —
SERIES 91A		03/01/2002	340,324,000.00	03/19/1992	400,000,000.00	0.07875	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	ΙΥ
SERIES 92A	TRUSTER	05/01/2025	163,000,000,00	03/31/1992	200,000,000.00	0.08375	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	ĬΥ
SERIES 92B		11/01/2022	325,676,000,00	10/27/1992	400,000,000.00	0.08250	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	Y
SERIES 92D		03/01/2026	279.690.000.00	03/24/1993	300,000,000,00	0.07250	6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	ΙY
SERIES 93A		08/01/2003	318.876.000.00	08/02/1993	400,000,000,00		6/1/- 12/1	2/1 - 8/1	ΙΥ
SERIES 93C		08/01/2026	401,610,000,00	08/02/1993	450,000,000,00				ĺΥ
SERIES 93D		10/01/2005	289,495,000,00	09/20/1993	300,000,000.00				ΙΥ
SERIES 93E		10/01/2023	330,875,000,00	09/27/1993	400,000,000.00				ΪÝ
SERIES 93F		03/01/2004	337.850,000.00	11/18/1993	350,000,000.00				TY
SERIES 93G		103/01/2024	299,200,000,00	11/18/1993	350,000,000.00		6/1/- 12/1		İΥ
SERIES 93H	INUSTEE	03/01/2024	233,200,000.00	111101100			<u> </u>		<del>   </del>
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SEREIS OO	DISB AGY		154,464,74	<del></del>		<del> </del>	6/1/- 12/1		<del>  </del>
SERIES 92c	DISB AGY		\$284,129,20			<b> </b>	1 0/1/- 12/1		<del>  </del>
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