National Economic Research Associates, Inc.

1166 6th Avenue, 34th Floor

New York, NY 10036

Telephone: (212) 345-3000 Facsimile: (212) 345-4650

Consultant for the Debtor

50-275/523

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

In Re
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY, a California corporation,
Debtor.

Case No. 01-30923 Chapter 11 Case (No Hearing Scheduled)

Federal I.D. No. 94-0742640

NATIONAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.'S COVER SHEET APPLICATION FOR ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 25, 2001 TO MARCH 25, 2002

National Economic Research Associates, Inc. ("NERA") submits its Cover Sheet Application (the "Application") for Allowance and Payment of Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period September 25, 2001 through March 25, 2002 (the "Application Period"). In support of the Application, NERA respectfully represents as follows:

- 1. NERA is consultant to the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, debtor and debtor-in-possession in the above-referenced bankruptcy case (the "Debtor). NERA hereby applies to the Court for allowance and payment of interim compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in the bankruptcy matter during the Application Period.
- 2. NERA was engaged by the Debtor to provide services in the bankruptcy matter, which engagement was approved by the Court Order dated February 6, 2002. Excluding administrative time invoiced for which NERA is not seeking to be compensated, NERA billed a total of \$367,849.16 in fees (representing 1,440.75 hours expended) and expenses for services rendered in the bankruptcy matter during the Application Period. These fees and expenses break down as follows:

| Period | Fees | Expenses | Total |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 9/25/01-10/29/01 | \$116,512.50 | \$228.46 | \$116,740.96 |
| 10/30/01-11/26/01 | \$152,815.00 | \$900.04 | \$153,715.04 |
| 11/27/01-12/31/01 | \$23,940.00 | \$513.97 | \$24,453.97 |
| 1/1/02-1/28/02 | \$25,085.00 | \$1,315.62 | \$26,400.62 |

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| 1/29/02-2/25/02 | \$25,142.50 | \$187.32 | \$25,329.82 |
|-----------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 2/26/02-3/25/02 | \$21,208.75 | \$0.00 | \$21,208.75 |
| Total | \$364,703.75 | \$3,145.41 | \$367,849.16 |

- 3. Accordingly, NERA seeks allowance of interim compensation in the total amount of \$313,143.60 at this time. This total is comprised as follows: \$309,998.19 (85% of the fees for services rendered)¹ plus \$3,145.41 (100% of the expenses incurred).
- 4. With regard to the copies of this Application served on counsel for the Committee, counsel for the Debtor and the Office of the United States Trustee, attached as Exhibit 1 hereto are NERA's invoices for each month covered by this application; and attached as Exhibit 2 are the detailed time statements summarizing the services rendered during the Application Period that comply with all Northern District of California Bankruptcy Local Rules and Compensation Guidelines and the Guidelines of the Office of the United States Trustee. The time statements include the name of each professional who performed services in connection with this case during the period covered by this Application and the hourly rate for each such professional.
- 5. NERA has served a copy of this Application (without Exhibits) on the Special Notice List in this case.
- 6. Pursuant to this Court's "ORDER ESTABLISHING INTERIM FEE APPLICATION AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE" which was entered on or about July 26, 2001, as amended on or about November 8, 2001, the Debtor is authorized to make the payment requested herein without a further hearing or order of this Court unless an objection to this Application is filed with the Court by the Debtor, the Committee or the United States Trustee and served by the fifteenth day of the month following the service of this Application. If such an objection is filed, Debtor is authorized to pay the amounts, if any, not subject to the objection. NERA believes that this Cover Sheet Application was mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, on or about April 30, 2002.
- 7. The interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses sought in this Application is on account and is not final. Upon conclusion of this case, NERA will seek fees and reimbursement of the expenses incurred for the totality of the services rendered in this case. Any interim fees or reimbursement of expenses approved by this Court and received by NERA will be credited against such final fees and expenses as may be allowed by this Court.
- 8. The Firm represents and warrants that its billing practices comply with all Northern District of California Bankruptcy Local Rules and Compensation Guidelines and the Guidelines of the Office of the United States Trustee.

 Neither NERA nor any members of NERA has any agreement or understanding of any kind or nature to divide, pay over or share any portion of the fees or

Payment of this amount would result in a "holdback" of \$54,705.56.

expenses to be awarded to NERA with any other person or attorney except as among the members and associates of NERA.

WHEREFORE, NERA respectfully requests that the Debtor pay compensation to NERA as requested herein pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the "ORDER ESTABLISHING INTERIM FEE APPLICATION AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE."

Dated: 5/1/02

National Economic Research Associates, Inc.

Eugene T. Meehan, Senior Vice President
National Economic Research Associates, Inc.
Consultant to Pacific Gas & Electric Co.