

1 [Emergency Declaration - Repair Transmission Line - Big Creek Shaft Road - Groveland,
2 California - Total Estimated Cost Not to Exceed \$400,000]

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3 **Resolution approving an emergency declaration of the San Francisco Public Utilities**
4 **Commission pursuant to Administrative Code, Section 6.60, to repair Hetch Hetchy**
5 **Water and Power's 230kV transmission line near Big Creek Shaft Road near**
6 **Groveland, California, for a total estimated cost not to exceed \$400,000.**

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8 WHEREAS, On February 16, 2019, during a large snow storm, a tree fell into Hetch
9 Hetchy Water and Power's 230kV transmission line near Big Creek Shaft Road near
10 Groveland, California; and

11 WHEREAS, The tree, which was located immediately next to but outside of the San
12 Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) right of way, damaged about 1500 feet of
13 conductor (all three phases) and at least one transmission tower; and

14 WHEREAS, Prior to hitting SFPUC's 230kV transmission line, the tree also fell into
15 Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) distribution line affecting power distribution to customers
16 near Groveland and power to the Groveland Community Services District's (GCSD) Big
17 Creek Shaft facility; and

18 WHEREAS, Big Creek Shaft is a diversion point for GCSD from the Hetch Hetchy
19 Regional Water System (HHRWS); and

20 WHEREAS, PG&E has restored power to all but six customers and has one day of
21 work to repair their distribution line that runs under SFPUC's transmission line before PG&E
22 can restore power to the remaining customers who are currently without power; and

23 WHEREAS, PG&E is waiting for SFPUC to repair its transmission line so that PG&E
24 can safely make repairs to PG&E's distribution line; and

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1 WHEREAS, The emergency declaration is necessary to authorize immediate
2 procurement of contractor services to perform assessments, design services, and repairs to
3 restore the 230kV system, which will make it possible for PG&E to repair the distribution
4 power lines that run under SFPUC transmission lines; and

5 WHEREAS, Power is also needed to restore water service to GCSD once the
6 Mountain Tunnel refill begins on March 4, 2019; and

7 WHEREAS, The SFPUC conveys water from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir through
8 hydrogeneration units at Kirkwood Powerhouse before it flows into the Mountain Tunnel for
9 delivery to the Regional Water System; and

10 WHEREAS, In order to deliver water to the Bay Area, the water first flows through the
11 hydrogeneration units at Kirkwood Power House; that hydroelectric power is conveyed to
12 the Intake Switchyard and conveyed through transmission lines to the electric grid; and

13 WHEREAS, An emergency bypass function at Kirkwood Powerhouse is available, but
14 that system is meant for system redundancy and reliability in an emergency, not for long-
15 term use that could damage the bypass infrastructure; and

16 WHEREAS, As such, restoring the power transmission system is also required to
17 allow for the hydrogeneration that provides water to upcountry and Regional Water System
18 customers; and

19 WHEREAS, The immediate and high-priority activities required include: (1) repair to
20 transmission tower 116S, including repair of structural damage and replacement of
21 insulators; (2) removal and replacement of 230kV conductor as needed (all three phases);
22 and (3) potential repair of structural damage to adjacent towers 11BS and 114S; and

23 WHEREAS, Work has already commenced under an existing contract of appropriate
24 scope; however, that existing contract can only be amended by up to \$170,000 without
25 Commission or Board action; and

1 WHEREAS, Administrative Code, Chapter 6, Article IV, Section 6.60, authorizes
2 department heads responsible for public work to award an emergency contract, exempt from
3 the competitive bidding process, in the event of an actual emergency, which is defined to
4 include, “ ... [t]he breakdown or imminent breakdown of any plant, equipment, structure,
5 street or public work necessitating immediate emergency repair or reconditioning to
6 safeguard the lives or property of the citizens, or the property of the City and County, or to
7 maintain the public health and welfare ...”; and

8 WHEREAS, On February 20, 2019, SFPUC General Manager declared an
9 emergency, approved by the Vice President of the San Francisco Public Utilities
10 Commission, to repair the transmission line because the President had resigned and a new
11 President has not been elected yet; and

12 WHEREAS, Administrative Code, Section 6.60(d) requires that the General Manager
13 immediately notify the Controller, and seek Board of Supervisors’ approval of emergency
14 public works with an estimated cost in excess of \$250,000; and

15 WHEREAS, The SFPUC General Manager estimates that the emergency work to
16 repair the transmission line is not expected to exceed \$400,000; and

17 WHEREAS, The Controller has certified that funds are available for this emergency
18 work and contract; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors approves the emergency declaration
20 issued by the SFPUC General Manager on February 20, 2019, to address and complete
21 repairs to transmission line near Big Creek Shaft Road near Groveland, California; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That actions taken to date by the San Francisco Public
23 Utilities Commission to address such emergency work and resolve the emergency condition
24 are hereby ratified.

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1 RECOMMENDED:

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4 HARLAN L. KELLY, JR.

5 General Manager of the SFPUC

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FUNDS AVAILABLE:

BEN ROSENFELD

Controller