

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC CO
Form 8-K
October 15, 2010

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report:
October 15, 2010
(Date of earliest event reported)

PG&E CORPORATION
(Exact Name of Registrant as specified in Charter)

California (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-12609 (Commission File Number)	94-3234914 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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One Market, Spear Tower, Suite 2400, San Francisco, CA (Address of principal executive offices)	94105 (Zip code)
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415-267-7000
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

N/A
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
(Exact Name of Registrant as specified in Charter)

California (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-2348 (Commission File Number)	94-0742640 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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77 Beale Street, P. O. Box 770000, San Francisco, California (Address of principal executive offices)	94177 (Zip code)
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(415) 973-7000
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

N/A
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting Material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

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- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 8.01 - Other Events

On October 15, 2010, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“Utility”), together with the California Public Utilities Commission’s (“CPUC”) Division of Ratepayer Advocates, The Utility Reform Network (“TURN”), Aglet Consumer Alliance and nearly all other intervening parties, filed a motion with the CPUC seeking approval of a settlement agreement to resolve almost all of the issues raised by the parties in the Utility’s 2011 General Rate Case (“GRC”). The proposed settlement agreement will be subject to public comment in the GRC proceeding and then considered by the full CPUC. In the GRC, the Utility requested an overall increase in electric distribution, gas distribution and utility-owned generation revenue requirements of \$1,064 billion over currently authorized amounts effective January 1, 2011.

Revenue Requirements: The settlement agreement proposes that the Utility’s total 2011 revenue requirements be increased by \$395 million, including \$103 million related to depreciation rate changes. In addition, the settlement agreement proposes to (1) establish a new balancing account for meter reading costs outside of the GRC that offsets \$113 million requested in the GRC application and (2) remove \$30 million of costs from the GRC for consideration in other ratemaking proceedings. Furthermore, approximately \$44 million of the revenue requirement the Utility requested in the GRC application remains subject to litigation in the GRC.

The following table shows the differences, based on cost category, between the amount of revenue requirements included in the GRC application and the amount proposed in the settlement agreement:

Table 1: Summary of Revenue Requirements by Cost Category (\$’s in Millions)

Cost category	Amounts included in the GRC application	Amounts proposed in the settlement agreement	Difference	Increase/Decrease	Increase/Decrease
				over amounts currently authorized for 2011 based on amounts proposed in settlement agreement	over amounts currently authorized for 2011 based on amounts included in GRC application
Operations and maintenance (“O&M”)	1,437	1,308	(129)	80	209
Customer services	498	329	(169)	(143)	26
Administrative and general (“A&G”)	857	768	(89)	95	184
Less: Revenue credits	(151)	(149)	2	(18)	(19)
Franchise fees and uncollectible customer accounts (“FF&U”), taxes (other than income taxes), and other adjustments	188	120	(68)	(37)	31
Depreciation, return, and income taxes	3,816	3,601	(215)	418	634
Total revenue requirements	6,646	5,977	(669)	395	1,064

The following paragraphs describe the revenue requirement reductions proposed in the settlement agreement compared to the amounts included in the GRC application:

The \$129 million reduction in revenue requirements for O&M costs reflects a lower forecast of costs for among other things, customer assistance services related to new customer connections, vegetation management, and development of utility-owned renewable generation.

The \$169 million reduction in revenue requirements for customer services costs reflects the reduction of costs related to customer retention and economic development efforts, information technology, dynamic pricing, and meter reading. While the Utility's GRC application requested recovery of \$113 million for meter reading costs in 2011, the settlement agreement proposes that these costs will instead be recovered via a new balancing account. The balancing account would track and recover incurred meter reading costs, subject to a cap of \$76 million, and the Utility also would retain the cost savings attributable to decreased meter reading costs due to the installation of SmartMeter™ devices. The total of the balancing account recovery plus retained cost savings is estimated to approximate the \$113 million originally requested.

The \$89 million reduction in A&G reflects lower funding for various PG&E Corporation and Utility corporate service functions and lower funding for employee incentive compensation. The Utility also agreed to seek recovery of \$5 million of costs incurred in connection with the sale of property in another proceeding rather than the GRC.

The \$68 million reduction in revenue requirements relating to FF&U, taxes (other than income) and other adjustments, includes \$44 million related to return and income taxes on the Utility's unrecovered investment in conventional electric meters that have been replaced by SmartMeter™ devices. The parties have agreed that this part of the Utility's request will be litigated as part of the GRC proceeding. If the Utility is successful, the \$44 million will be added back to the Utility's 2011 electric distribution revenue requirement. The settlement agreement also would adopt a higher uncollectible revenue factor that would be used in another CPUC proceeding to determine the amount of revenue the Utility can collect to offset uncollectible customer accounts. This is expected to result in additional revenues of approximately \$4 million.

The \$215 million reduction in revenue requirements for depreciation, return and income taxes consists of a \$105 million decrease driven by lower depreciation rates and a \$110 million decrease related to lower capital expenditures and other rate base adjustments. About \$49 million of the \$110 million reduction is related to the treatment of nuclear fuel and fuel oil inventory balances. Under the settlement agreement, the Utility agreed to continue recovering carrying costs on these balances at short-term interest rates (estimated to be \$1 million per year based on current rates) through the energy resource recovery balancing account ("ERRA") in accordance with the current regulatory treatment of these costs, rather than as part of the authorized GRC rate base. Another \$20 million of the reduction relates to costs to implement the California Independent System Operator's Market Redesign and Technology Update ("MRTU"). Consistent with the settlement agreement, the Utility plans to seek recovery of MRTU-related costs through the ERRA or other proceedings.

The following table shows the differences between the amount of revenue requirements included in the GRC application and the amount proposed in the settlement agreement for each business function:

Table 2: Summary of Revenue Requirements by Function (\$'s in Millions)

Function	Amounts included in the GRC application	Amounts proposed in the settlement agreement	Difference between amounts included in the GRC application and proposed in the settlement agreement		Increase/Decrease over amounts currently authorized for 2011 based on proposed in settlement agreement	Increase/Decrease over amounts currently authorized for 2011 based on amounts included in the GRC application
Electric distribution	3,534	3,190	(344)	183	527
Natural gas distribution	1,293	1,131	(161)	47	208
Electric generation operations	1,820	1,656	(164)	166	329
Total:	6,646	5,977	(669)	395	1,064

Attrition Year Revenues: The settlement agreement provides for an attrition increase of \$180 million to the authorized 2011 revenues in 2012 and an additional increase of \$185 million in 2013. On a comparable basis, the Utility had requested an attrition mechanism estimated to provide increases of approximately \$262 million in 2012 and approximately \$334 million in 2013.

Balancing Accounts: The settlement agreement proposes to establish a new “one-way” balancing account for the Utility to recover up to approximately \$20 million per year for costs associated with the Utility’s natural gas distribution integrity management program. If these costs are not spent during the GRC period, the unspent funds must be returned to customers. With the exception of this proposed new one-way balancing account and the proposed meter reading balancing account discussed above, the settlement agreement proposes to retain the existing balancing account structure without any substantial changes.

Capital Additions and Rate Base: The settlement agreement is consistent with capital expenditures for 2011-2013 averaging \$2.2 billion to \$2.3 billion per year for the portions of the Utility’s business addressed in the GRC. Proposed capital expenditures are lower than the amount included in the Utility’s GRC application, which averaged \$2.7 billion per year, based on a lower forecast for new customer connections and lower capital expenditures for hydroelectric generation facilities, information technology systems, and fleet replacement. The ultimate amounts of capital expenditures will depend on a number of factors, including the level of O&M, A&G, and other costs.

The settlement agreement proposes a 2011 annual average rate base of \$16.6 billion for the portions of the Utility’s business reviewed in the GRC compared with the Utility’s request of \$17.2 billion. The \$0.6 billion difference is based on the capital expenditure reductions described above, the removal of MRTU-related capital expenditures, the continued funding of nuclear fuel and fuel oil inventory through the ERRA proceeding rather than through rate base, and the adjustment of deferred taxes to reflect the Utility’s updated estimate of the impact of 2009 bonus depreciation.

In order to allow settlement discussions to proceed, the CPUC suspended the procedural schedule for the GRC, which had previously provided for a final decision in December 2010. It is possible that the CPUC will not issue a decision until after the end of the year. On August 6, 2010, the Utility filed a motion requesting that, regardless of the timing of a CPUC decision, any revenue requirement change be effective on January 1, 2011. That motion remains pending before the CPUC.

PG&E Corporation and the Utility are unable to predict whether the CPUC will approve the settlement agreement.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrants have duly caused this report to be signed on their behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

PG&E CORPORATION

Dated: October 15, 2010

By:

LINDA Y.H. CHENG
LINDA Y.H. CHENG
Vice President, Corporate Governance
and
Corporate Secretary

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Dated: October 15, 2010

By:

LINDA Y.H. CHENG
LINDA Y.H. CHENG
Vice President, Corporate Governance
and
Corporate Secretary

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Quarter2,519.362,409.752,519.36Fourth Quarter 2,690.16 2,529.12 2,673.612018 First
Quarter2,872.872,581.002,640.87Second Quarter2,786.852,581.882,718.37Third
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2019)2,596.642,447.892,582.61

“Standard & Poor[®],” “S&P,” “S&P 500” “Standard & Poor’s 500” and “500” are trademarks of Standard and Poor’s Financial Services LLC. See “S&P 500[®] Index” in the accompanying index supplement.

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Dual Directional Trigger Jump Securities Based on the Performance of the S&P 500® Index due January 17, 2024

Principal at Risk Securities

Additional Terms of the Securities

Please read this information in conjunction with the summary terms on the front cover of this document.

Additional Terms:

If the terms described herein are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying product supplement, index supplement or prospectus, the terms described herein shall control.

Underlying index publisher:

S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or any successor thereof

Postponement of maturity date:

If, due to a market disruption event or otherwise, the valuation date is postponed so that it falls less than two business days prior to the scheduled maturity date, the maturity date will be postponed to the second business day following the valuation date as postponed.

Denominations:

\$1,000 per security and integral multiples thereof

Trustee:

The Bank of New York Mellon

Calculation agent:

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC (“MS & Co.”)

Issuer notice to registered security holders, the trustee and the depositary:

In the event that the maturity date is postponed due to postponement of the valuation date, the issuer shall give notice of such postponement and, once it has been determined, of the date to which the maturity date has been rescheduled (i) to each registered holder of the securities by mailing notice of such postponement by first class mail, postage prepaid, to such registered holder’s last address as it shall appear upon the registry books, (ii) to the trustee by facsimile confirmed by mailing such notice to the trustee by first class mail, postage prepaid, at its New York office and (iii) to The Depository Trust Company (the “depository”) by telephone or facsimile, confirmed by mailing such notice to the depository by first class mail, postage prepaid. Any notice that is mailed to a registered holder of the securities in the manner herein provided shall be conclusively presumed to have been duly given to such registered holder, whether or not such registered holder receives the notice. The issuer shall give such notice as promptly as possible, and in no case later than (i) with respect to notice of postponement of the maturity date, the business day immediately preceding the scheduled maturity date and (ii) with respect to notice of the date to which the maturity date has been rescheduled, the business day immediately following the actual valuation date.

The issuer shall, or shall cause the calculation agent to, (i) provide written notice to the trustee and to the depository of the amount of cash, if any, to be delivered with respect to the securities, on or prior to 10:30 a.m. (New York City time) on the business day preceding the

maturity date, and (ii) deliver the aggregate cash amount, if any, due with respect to the securities to the trustee for delivery to the depository, as holder of the securities, on the maturity date.

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Principal at Risk Securities

Additional Information About the Securities

Additional Information:

Minimum ticketing size: \$1,000 / 1 security

Tax considerations: Although there is uncertainty regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the securities due to the lack of governing authority, in the opinion of our counsel, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, under current law, and based on current market conditions, a security should be treated as a single financial contract that is an “open transaction” for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Assuming this treatment of the securities is respected and subject to the discussion in “United States Federal Taxation” in the accompanying product supplement for Jump Securities, the following U.S. federal income tax consequences should result based on current law:

§ A U.S. Holder should not be required to recognize taxable income over the term of the securities prior to settlement, other than pursuant to a sale or exchange.

§ Upon sale, exchange or settlement of the securities, a U.S. Holder should recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and the U.S. Holder’s tax basis in the securities. Such gain or loss should be long-term capital gain or loss if the investor has held the securities for more than one year, and short-term capital gain or loss otherwise.

In 2007, the U.S. Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) released a notice requesting comments on the U.S. federal income tax treatment of “prepaid forward contracts” and similar instruments. The notice focuses in particular on whether to require holders of these instruments to accrue income over the term of their investment. It also asks for comments on a number of related topics, including the character of income or loss with respect to these instruments; whether short-term instruments should be subject to any such accrual regime; the relevance of factors such as the exchange-traded status of the instruments and the nature of the underlying property to which the instruments are linked; the degree, if any, to which income (including any mandated accruals) realized by non-U.S. investors should be subject to withholding tax; and whether these instruments are or should be subject to the “constructive ownership” rule, which very generally can operate to recharacterize certain long-term capital gain as ordinary income and impose an interest charge. While the notice requests comments on appropriate transition rules and effective dates, any Treasury regulations or other guidance promulgated after consideration of these issues could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in the securities, possibly with retroactive effect.

As discussed in the accompanying product supplement for Jump Securities, Section 871(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder (“Section 871(m)”) generally impose a 30% (or a lower applicable treaty rate) withholding tax on dividend equivalents paid or deemed paid to Non-U.S. Holders with respect to certain financial instruments linked to U.S. equities or indices that include U.S. equities (each, an “Underlying Security”). Subject to certain exceptions, Section 871(m) generally applies to securities that substantially replicate the economic performance of one or more Underlying Securities, as determined based on tests set forth in the applicable Treasury regulations (a “Specified Security”). However, pursuant to an IRS notice, Section 871(m) will not apply to securities issued before January 1, 2021 that do not have a delta of one with respect to any Underlying Security. Based on our determination that the securities do not have a delta of one with respect to any Underlying Security, our counsel is of the opinion that the securities should not be Specified Securities and, therefore, should not be subject to Section 871(m).

Our determination is not binding on the IRS, and the IRS may disagree with this determination. Section 871(m) is complex and its application may depend on your particular circumstances, including whether you enter into other transactions with respect to an Underlying Security. If withholding is required, we will not be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to the amounts so withheld. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the potential application of Section 871(m) to the securities.

Both U.S. and non-U.S. investors considering an investment in the securities should read the discussion under “Risk Factors” in this document and the discussion under “United States Federal Taxation” in the accompanying product supplement for Jump Securities and consult their tax advisers regarding all aspects of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the securities, including possible alternative treatments, the issues presented by the aforementioned notice and any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or non-U.S. taxing jurisdiction.

The discussion in the preceding paragraphs under “Tax considerations” and the discussion contained in the section entitled “United States Federal Taxation” in the accompanying product supplement for Jump Securities, insofar as they purport to describe provisions of U.S. federal income tax laws or legal conclusions with respect thereto, constitute the full opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP regarding the material U.S. federal tax consequences of an investment in the securities.

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Principal at Risk Securities

The proceeds from the sale of the securities will be used by us for general corporate purposes. We will receive, in aggregate, \$1,000 per security issued. The costs of the securities borne by you and described on page 2 above comprise the cost of issuing, structuring and hedging the securities.

Use of proceeds and hedging:

On or prior to January 11, 2019, we hedged our anticipated exposure in connection with the securities by entering into hedging transactions with our affiliates and/or third party dealers. We expect our hedging counterparties to have taken positions in the stocks constituting the underlying index and in futures and/or options contracts on the underlying index or its component stocks listed on major securities markets. Such purchase activity could have increased the value of the underlying index on January 11, 2019, and, therefore, could have increased the value at or above which the underlying index must close on the valuation date so that investors do not suffer a significant loss on their initial investment in the securities. In addition, through our affiliates, we are likely to modify our hedge position throughout the term of the securities, including on the valuation date, by purchasing and selling the stocks constituting the underlying index, futures or options contracts on the underlying index or its component stocks listed on major securities markets or positions in any other available securities or instruments that we may wish to use in connection with such hedging activities. As a result, these entities may be unwinding or adjusting hedge positions during the term of the securities, and the hedging strategy may involve greater and more frequent dynamic adjustments to the hedge as the valuation date approaches. We cannot give any assurance that our hedging activities will not affect the value of the underlying index, and, therefore, adversely affect the value of the securities or the payment you will receive at maturity, if any. For further information on our use of proceeds and hedging, see “Use of Proceeds and Hedging” in the accompanying product supplement.

Benefit plan investor considerations:

Each fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”) (a “Plan”), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the Plan’s particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the securities. Accordingly, among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the Plan.

In addition, we and certain of our affiliates, including MS & Co., may each be considered a “party in interest” within the meaning of ERISA, or a “disqualified person” within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), with respect to many Plans, as well as many individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans (such accounts and plans, together with other plans, accounts and arrangements subject to Section 4975 of the Code, also “Plans”). ERISA Section 406 and Code Section 4975 generally prohibit transactions between Plans and parties in interest or disqualified persons. Prohibited transactions within the meaning of ERISA or the Code would likely

arise, for example, if the securities are acquired by or with the assets of a Plan with respect to which MS & Co. or any of its affiliates is a service provider or other party in interest, unless the securities are acquired pursuant to an exemption from the “prohibited transaction” rules. A violation of these “prohibited transaction” rules could result in an excise tax or other liabilities under ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code for those persons, unless exemptive relief is available under an applicable statutory or administrative exemption.

The U.S. Department of Labor has issued five prohibited transaction class exemptions (“PTCEs”) that may provide exemptive relief for direct or indirect prohibited transactions resulting from the purchase or holding of the securities. Those class exemptions are PTCE 96-23 (for certain transactions determined by in-house asset managers), PTCE 95-60 (for certain transactions involving insurance company general accounts), PTCE 91-38 (for certain transactions involving bank collective investment funds), PTCE 90-1 (for certain transactions involving insurance company separate accounts) and PTCE 84-14 (for certain transactions determined by independent qualified professional asset managers). In addition, ERISA Section 408(b)(17) and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code provide an exemption for the purchase and sale of securities and the related lending transactions, provided that neither the issuer of the securities nor any of its affiliates has or exercises any discretionary authority or control or renders any investment advice with respect to the assets of the Plan involved in the transaction and provided further that the Plan pays no more, and receives no less, than “adequate consideration” in connection with the transaction (the so-called “service provider” exemption). There can be no assurance that any of these class or statutory exemptions will be available with respect to transactions involving the securities.

Because we may be considered a party in interest with respect to many Plans, the securities may not be purchased, held or disposed of by any Plan, any entity whose underlying assets include “plan assets” by reason of any Plan’s investment in the entity (a “Plan Asset Entity”) or any person investing “plan assets” of any Plan, unless such purchase, holding or disposition is eligible for exemptive relief, including relief available under PTCEs 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1, 84-14 or the service provider exemption or such purchase, holding or disposition is otherwise not prohibited. Any purchaser, including any fiduciary purchasing on behalf of a Plan, transferee or holder of the securities will be deemed to have represented, in its corporate and its fiduciary capacity, by its purchase and holding of the securities that either (a) it is not a Plan or a Plan Asset Entity and is not purchasing such securities on behalf of or with “plan assets” of any Plan or with any assets of a governmental, non-U.S. or church plan that is subject to any federal, state, local or non-U.S. law that is substantially similar to the

Morgan Stanley Finance LLC

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Principal at Risk Securities

provisions of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (“Similar Law”) or (b) its purchase, holding and disposition of these securities will not constitute or result in a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or violate any Similar Law.

Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing the securities on behalf of or with “plan assets” of any Plan consult with their counsel regarding the availability of exemptive relief.

The securities are contractual financial instruments. The financial exposure provided by the securities is not a substitute or proxy for, and is not intended as a substitute or proxy for, individualized investment management or advice for the benefit of any purchaser or holder of the securities. The securities have not been designed and will not be administered in a manner intended to reflect the individualized needs and objectives of any purchaser or holder of the securities.

Each purchaser or holder of any securities acknowledges and agrees that:

(i) the purchaser or holder or its fiduciary has made and shall make all investment decisions for the purchaser or holder and the purchaser or holder has not relied and shall not rely in any way upon us or our affiliates to act as a fiduciary or adviser of the purchaser or holder with respect to (A) the design and terms of the securities, (B) the purchaser or holder’s investment in the securities, or (C) the exercise of or failure to exercise any rights we have under or with respect to the securities;

(ii) we and our affiliates have acted and will act solely for our own account in connection with (A) all transactions relating to the securities and (B) all hedging transactions in connection with our obligations under the securities;

(iii) any and all assets and positions relating to hedging transactions by us or our affiliates are assets and positions of those entities and are not assets and positions held for the benefit of the purchaser or holder;

(iv) our interests are adverse to the interests of the purchaser or holder; and

(v) neither we nor any of our affiliates is a fiduciary or adviser of the purchaser or holder in connection with any such assets, positions or transactions, and any information that we or any of our affiliates may provide is not intended to be impartial investment advice.

Each purchaser and holder of the securities has exclusive responsibility for ensuring that its purchase, holding and disposition of the securities do not violate the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA or the Code or any Similar Law. The sale of any securities to any Plan or plan subject to Similar Law is in no respect a representation by us or any of our affiliates or representatives that such an investment meets all relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by plans generally or any particular plan, or that such an investment is appropriate for plans generally or any particular plan. In this regard, neither this discussion nor anything provided in this document is or is intended to be investment advice directed at any potential Plan purchaser or at Plan purchasers generally and such purchasers of these securities should consult and rely on their own counsel and advisers as to whether an investment in these securities is suitable.

However, individual retirement accounts, individual retirement annuities and Keogh plans, as well as employee benefit plans that permit participants to direct the investment of their accounts, will not be permitted to purchase or hold the securities if the account, plan or annuity is for the benefit of an employee of Morgan Stanley, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management or a family member and the employee receives any compensation (such as, for example, an addition to bonus) based on the purchase of the securities by the account, plan or annuity.

Additional considerations:

Supplemental information regarding plan of distribution; conflicts of interest:

Client accounts over which Morgan Stanley, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management or any of their respective subsidiaries have investment discretion are not permitted to purchase the securities, either directly or indirectly.

MS & Co. will act as the agent for this offering and will not receive a sales commission in connection with sales of the securities.

MS & Co. is an affiliate of MSFL and a wholly owned subsidiary of Morgan Stanley, and it and other affiliates of ours expect to make a profit by selling, structuring and, when applicable, hedging the securities.

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MS & Co. will conduct this offering in compliance with the requirements of FINRA Rule 5121 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., which is commonly referred to as FINRA, regarding a FINRA member firm's distribution of the securities of an affiliate and related conflicts of interest. MS & Co. or any of our other affiliates may not make sales in this offering to any discretionary account. See "Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" and "Use of Proceeds and Hedging" in the accompanying product supplement.

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Validity of the securities: In the opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special counsel to MSFL and Morgan Stanley, when the securities offered by this pricing supplement have been executed and issued by MSFL, authenticated by the trustee pursuant to the MSFL Senior Debt Indenture (as defined in the accompanying prospectus) and delivered against payment as contemplated herein, such securities will be valid and binding obligations of MSFL and the related guarantee will be a valid and binding obligation of Morgan Stanley, enforceable in accordance with their terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, concepts of reasonableness and equitable principles of general applicability (including, without limitation, concepts of good faith, fair dealing and the lack of bad faith), *provided* that such counsel expresses no opinion as to (i) the effect of fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent transfer or similar provision of applicable law on the conclusions expressed above and (ii) any provision of the MSFL Senior Debt Indenture that purports to avoid the effect of fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent transfer or similar provision of applicable law by limiting the amount of Morgan Stanley's obligation under the related guarantee. This opinion is given as of the date hereof and is limited to the laws of the State of New York, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act. In addition, this opinion is subject to customary assumptions about the trustee's authorization, execution and delivery of the MSFL Senior Debt Indenture and its authentication of the securities and the validity, binding nature and enforceability of the MSFL Senior Debt Indenture with respect to the trustee, all as stated in the letter of such counsel dated November 16, 2017, which is Exhibit 5-a to the Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed by Morgan Stanley on November 16, 2017.

Contact: Morgan Stanley Wealth Management clients may contact their local Morgan Stanley branch office or our principal executive offices at 1585 Broadway, New York, New York 10036 (telephone number (866) 477-4776). All other clients may contact their local brokerage representative. Third-party distributors may contact Morgan Stanley Structured Investment Sales at (800) 233-1087.

Where you can find more information: MSFL and Morgan Stanley have filed a registration statement (including a prospectus, as supplemented by the product supplement for Jump Securities and the index supplement) with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, for the offering to which this communication relates. You should read the prospectus in that registration statement, the product supplement for Jump Securities, the index supplement and any other documents relating to this offering that MSFL and Morgan Stanley have filed with the SEC for more complete information about MSFL, Morgan Stanley and this offering. You may get these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC web site at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, MSFL and/or Morgan Stanley will arrange to send you the prospectus, the product supplement for Jump Securities and the index supplement if you so request by calling toll-free 800-584-6837.

You may access these documents on the SEC web site at www.sec.gov as follows:

Product Supplement for Jump Securities dated November 16, 2017

Index Supplement dated November 16, 2017

Prospectus dated November 16, 2017

Terms used but not defined in this document are defined in the product supplement for Jump Securities, in the index supplement or in the prospectus.

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