

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY**  
**Wildfire Mitigation Plans**  
**Rulemaking 18-10-007**  
**Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	MGRA_010-Q10		
PG&E File Name:	WildfireMitigationPlans_DR_MGRA_010-Q10		
Request Date:	February 25, 2021	Requester DR No.:	WMP-2021 MGRA PGE DataRequest 4
Date Sent:	March 2, 2021	Requesting Party:	Mussey Grade Road Alliance
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Joseph Mitchell

***The following data requests are being issued to PG&E.***

**QUESTION 10 (25)**

Regarding PG&E POMMS model output presented on pp. 431-433: In its comments on the 2020 WMPs, MGRA noted that there were significant differences between the 99th percentile results from PG&E and SCE meteorology models in areas where model predictions overlapped.<sup>1</sup> Did PG&E and SCE consult on weather model differences in 2020 and if so what was their conclusion regarding differences between their models, particularly with regard to 99th percentile wind discrepancies?

**ANSWER 10 (25)**

PG&E did not consult with SCE on weather model differences in 2020. We also do not know how SCE computed their 99 percentile winds and if they are based on hourly or daily data. PG&E and SCE have developed their weather models independently from one another, although both models are variations of the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) Model. Model domain overlap occurs because the domain of a weather model must extend beyond the area of concern due to a phenomenon known as edge effects, where model accuracy is lower at the edges of the weather model field. If the area of discrepancy is located near the edge of one of the weather models, edge effects could be partially responsible for this discrepancy. Also, while the same base model is utilized by both utilities, the WRF Model contains a significant number of parameter and physics options and variables which are determined by the end user. PG&E leveraged the expertise of two external numerical weather prediction expert companies to configure and validate its version of the WRF Model to perform best within the boundaries of the PG&E service territory. This was done by validating several recent historical storms against weather stations in the PG&E territory. Also, PG&E calibrated the 2km version of the WRF Model primarily against offshore wind event days in order to maximize model performance on days that would potentially require PSPS to be enacted as the POMMS model is the basis of PG&E meteorology's forecast scoping process.

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<sup>1</sup> MUSSEY GRADE ROAD ALLIANCE COMMENTS ON 2020 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANS OF SDG&E, PG&E, SCE; April 7, 2020; pp. 53-55.