PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Wildfire Mitigation Plans Discovery 2022
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	WilliamBAbrams_002-Q31		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_WilliamBAbrams_002-Q31		
Request Date:	April 13, 2022	Requester DR No.:	Email Transmittal – 2022WMP DR-02
Date Sent:	April 25, 2022	Requesting Party:	William B. Abrams
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Will Abrams

SUBJECT: PG&E WMP GAP ANALYSIS GIVEN KINCADE FIRE TESTIMONY AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Expert Testimony: Mr. Gary Uboldi, Fire Captain Specialist Peace Officer with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection who has investigated over 400 wildfires across his 20+ year career

Expert Testimony: Mr. Joseph Hemstock, 38 Year as PG&E as Supervisory Inspector, Crew Foreman, Electrical Transmission Supervisor and other lead roles plus 10 years as PG&E consultant

Testimony Date: February 9, 2022 (See Attachment B: Pre-Trial Transcript)

BACKGROUND TESTIMONY/EVIDENCE:

Pg. 266 (lines 15-22)

> "Q. In terms of higher level of what you were used to seeing, are you saying that just generally speaking there was
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> contamination there? A. Of course. I mean look at the tower. You've seen that tower. There's no galvanizing left. Q. Is that based upon the proximity of the tower to the plant? A. Correct."

QUESTION 31

a. Given that extreme corrosiveness is associated with towers close to power plants, how has PG&E mitigated risks specific to these towers?

b. What WMP standards have been created to mitigate these risks?

ANSWER 31

PG&E instructs inspectors to look for, and report for repair, corrosion damage on PG&E equipment. PG&E also employs proactive measures to reduce the risk of corrosion, including transmission tower coating and cathodic protection. These protection methods are explained as follows in Section 7.3.3.15 of the 2022 WMP:

- Transmission tower coating, specifically for structures in areas subject to atmospheric corrosion, are engineered with chemical compounds, such as

corrosion inhibitors, designed for these corrosive environments which enable long term corrosion protection of the steel, protection from UV exposure, and resistance to abrasion, ensuring years of protection.

- Transmission tower cathodic protection uses a technique to control the corrosion of a metal surface by making it the cathode of an electrochemical cell. A simple method of protection connects the metal to be protected to a more easily corroded sacrificial metal to act as the anode. The sacrificial metal then corrodes instead of the protected metal. For structures needing large protection requirement, where passive galvanic cathodic protection is not adequate, an external DC electrical power source is used to provide sufficient current.

On the subject tower specifically, inspections in 2019 specifically noted and assessed rust and pitting on the tower and tagged the tower for re-coating. The conditions had nothing to do with the Kincade Fire.