

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Wildfire Mitigation Plans Discovery 2023
Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_003-Q008		
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QUESTION 008

For each WMP initiative listed below, please state how the modeled Wildfire Risk Scores for each circuit or circuit-segment influence how work in 2023 will be sequenced.

- a. EVM
- b. Covered conductor installation
- c. Undergrounding
- d. Distribution pole replacement
- e. Grid sectionalization
- f. Detailed inspections of distribution assets
- g. Detailed inspections of transmission assets
- h. Aerial inspections of distribution assets
- i. Aerial inspections of transmission assets
- j. LiDAR inspections of distribution assets
- k. LiDAR inspections of transmission assets

ANSWER 008

- a. PG&E is not conducting EVM in 2023.
- b. The circuit segments selected for the installation of covered conductor in the System Hardening program were based on the highest wildfire risk criteria described in response to Question 7(b). To then sequence projects, PG&E assesses the dependencies and readiness of each project based on the stage of the work (e.g., designing/estimating, permit acquisition, construction) to appropriately schedule each individual project, as the development time for each project can vary widely. Once projects are in the construction phase, schedules can continue to evolve based on various factors that impact project execution, including unanticipated weather, material availability, and customer preference of timing of re-connection.
- c. The circuit segments selected for the installation of underground lines in the System Hardening program were based on the highest wildfire risk criteria described in

response to Question 7(c). To then sequence projects, PG&E assesses the dependencies and readiness of each project in each stage of the work (e.g., designing/estimating, permit acquisition, land rights acquisition, construction) to appropriately schedule each individual project, as the development time for each project can vary widely. Once projects are in the construction phase, schedules can continue to evolve based on various factors that impact project execution including unanticipated weather, material availability, community limitations (e.g., for road closures), customer preference of timing of re-connection, discovery of hard rock, and/or detection of unmarked existing utility infrastructure.

- d. After the work for 2023 is prioritized based on the process described in response to Q007 part d, the pole replacement sequencing is determined based on each pole's priority bucket, estimating and material readiness, and crew and clearance availability.
- e. For transmission line, there is no targeted work planned in 2023 for grid sectionalization. For distribution, the 2023 additional sectionalizing and protective device installation work is prioritized by highest reliability benefit and not wildfire risk.
- f. In 2023, PG&E's sequencing for the ground inspection plan is informed by wildfire consequence as described in 2023 WMP Section 8.1.3.2.1. Detailed inspection activities in HFTD and HFRA are scheduled such that extreme, severe, and high consequence plat maps will be completed by July 31. Medium consequence plat maps will be completed by October 1. Low consequence plat maps will be completed by December 31. Inspections are also sequenced based on field conditions including physical access, environmental restrictions, permitting constraints and customer refusals.
- g. In 2023, the overhead transmission assets in scope for inspection are each labeled with the average wildfire risk of their host circuit for consideration in inspection sequencing. Assets are typically grouped by line for execution efficiency. The sequence prioritization also considers operational field knowledge and constraints, including restricted physical access periods, to inform the schedule for completion.
- h. In 2023, PG&E's sequencing for the pilot aerial inspections is not directly based on wildfire risk score. However, in areas of overlap with detailed ground inspections, aerial inspections are scheduled to take place in the same time frame as the scheduled ground inspection, which is based on wildfire consequence. Sequencing is based on the scheduled ground inspection as well as operational field knowledge and constraints, including restricted physical access periods.
- i. In 2023, the overhead transmission assets in scope for inspection are each labeled with the average wildfire risk of their host circuit for consideration in inspection sequencing. Assets are typically grouped by line for execution efficiency. The sequence prioritization also considers operational field knowledge and constraints, including restricted physical access periods, to inform the schedule for completion.
- j. PG&E does not have a stand-alone LiDAR distribution inspection program but collects LiDAR data on distribution to support various needs, including flight planning for aerial inspections and engineering analyses, such as pole loading calculations. PG&E did not use the wildfire risk model in 2022 or 2023 to select locations or sequence LiDAR collection activities

- k. PG&E does not use risk-informed prioritization for Transmission LiDAR inspections, rather, it inspects 100 percent of the system annually using LiDAR. The Transmission Routine NERC and Non-NERC Inspection cycle consists of a LiDAR inspection followed by a ground patrol based on LiDAR findings. The LiDAR inspection provides an inventory of potential vegetation for ground patrol, and the results of the ground patrol prescribe the forecasted tree work to comply with state and federal regulations.