

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	WilliamBAbrams_002-Q23		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_WilliamBAbrams_002-Q23		
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. 203 (lines 10-25)

“Q. And the February 2019 inspection report noted no problems with the jumpers, right? A. I believe that's what the report said, yes. Q. You also attached to your report of the Kincade Fire a report of a drone inspection from May of 2019, is that right? A. Yes. Q. So this would have been between five and six months before the Kincade Fire, is that right? A. Yes. Q. And the May 2019 inspection report says that it also looked at the conductors on the tower, right? A. I believe so. Q. And the May 2019 inspection report noted no problems with the conductors, right? A. I believe that's what the report stated.”

QUESTION 23

How has PG&E modified their inspection practices and noted those changes within their WMP given that these inspections did not successfully catch the many failures in configuration and maintenance practices that caused the Kincade Fire?

ANSWER 23

There was no testimony, nor is there evidence, that PG&E inspectors failed to identify any visible, reportable issue with the jumper cables during the 2019 inspections of the subject tower. To the contrary, high-resolution photographs taken during the 2019

inspections show there were no visible or reportable issues with the jumper cables during those inspections.

Nevertheless, following the Kincade Fire, PG&E took the following steps to mitigate the risk of potentially similar fires:

- PG&E issued guidance requiring open jumpers to be cut as short as practical—typically two to three feet.
- PG&E surveyed its transmission system to identify and correct open jumpers that exceeded this new guidance.
- PG&E reviewed its transmission lines to determine if other energized spans not serving customer load remained. In the High Fire Threat Districts, PG&E found one such span and de-energized it.
- PG&E issued revised guidance regarding idle transmission facilities. The revised guidance stated that idle transmission facilities included energized spans not serving customer load.
- PG&E revised its inspection forms so that inspectors are required to report facilities not serving customer load

Section 7.3.3.17.2 of the WMP provides a summary of PG&E's efforts with respect to idle transmission facilities. PG&E's design specifications, including its open jumpers guidance, are not typically included in the WMP.