

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	WilliamBAbrams_002-Q17		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_WilliamBAbrams_002-Q17		
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

Testimony Date: February 8, 2022 (See Attachment A: Pre-Trial Transcript)

**BACKGROUND TESTIMONY/EVIDENCE:**

Pg. 137 (lines 17-21)

“What I noticed was that these lines were cut right here, here, and here, effectively removing the jumpers. And additionally the insulators had been removed. So there should have been a jumper running down, hanging down with an insulator.”

**QUESTION 17**

- a. What has PG&E done to mitigate the risks of misconfigured jumpers?
- b. Does PG&E now cut these within the manufacturing facility to ensure proper length and configuration?

**ANSWER 17**

The cited testimony describes what the subject tower looked like in May 2020, after PG&E reconfigured equipment on the tower following the Kincade Fire to remove the jumper cables and supporting insulator strings. (See Tr. 137:8-24.) The witness did not allege that the jumpers were “misconfigured” in May 2020; he merely noted that they had been removed sometime after October 2019. The witness’s testimony in full reads:

“A. What I noticed [in May 2020, several months after the Kincade Fire] was that these lines were cut right here, here, and here, effectively removing the jumpers. And additionally the insulators had been removed. So there should have been a jumper running down, hanging down with an insulator. All three insulators [on Tower 001/006] were removed and the jumpers were trimmed back to

approximately about a foot from the [dead-end] shoe. This being the shoe right here [in a picture presented to the witness].

Q. Okay. And when you say there should have been the vertical insulators are you comparing that to what was there?

A. Compare and contrast from when I left in October [2019] to May [2020].”

Subsequent to the Kincade Fire, PG&E issued guidance requiring all open jumpers—jumpers that are electrically connected only at one end—to be cut as short as practical. The May 2020 tower configuration complied with this guidance. PG&E also inventoried its transmission system to identify and remediate open jumpers that did not comply with the new guidance.

In addition, subsequent to the Kincade Fire, PG&E removed the three spans of the Geysers #9 transmission line between towers 001/006 and 001/009, so that there is no need for supporting insulators on tower 001/006.