

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	WilliamBAbrams_002-Q02		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_WilliamBAbrams_002-Q02		
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. 60 (lines 12-17)

“In regards to the spur ridge, we're going to have erratic winds that blow down and around the spur ridge causing eddy effects in there. Being that the wind is swirling around in that area, it may increase speed and intensity of the wind, make the direction of the fire behavior erratic and shift all over the place... It increased in intensity as I approached the tower, and becoming more and more exposed to the wind as I made my way out to the tower's location.”

QUESTION 02

- a. How has PG&E mitigated these microclimate/wind effects by placing wind sensors at different elevations to pick up on these variations that contributed to Kincade Fire ignitions?
- B, Are wind sensors now placed closer to these towers to pick up these types of variations?

ANSWER 02

The cited testimony is that erratic winds made the “*fire behavior* erratic” – not that erratic or “swirling” winds contributed to the failure of the conductor or to the ignition of the fire.

PG&E has installed a network of more than 1300 weather stations; these weather states range from 4 to nearly 8500 feet above mean sea level. PG&E uses data from these weather stations to run state-of-the art mesoscale meteorological modeling (used by

meteorologists throughout the world) to calculate wind at different elevations and locations to account for local terrain and microclimate effects.

Since the Kincade Fire, PG&E has installed additional weather stations, including over 50 new weather stations in Sonoma County. For safety reasons, wind sensors cannot be installed within what is called Minimum Approach Distance, which is the minimum safe working distance for those working in the vicinity of electrical lines.