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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_034-Q06					
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_CalAdvocates_034-Q06					
Request Date:	November 17, 2022	Requester DR No .:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-34			
Date Sent:	December 5, 2022	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office			
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Holly Wehrman			

Please note the following questions pertain to PG&E's quarterly data report and quarterly initiative update for the third quarter of 2022, filed with Energy Safety on November 1, 2022.

## **QUESTION 06**

Table 7.2 of PG&E's Quarterly Data Report shows that, in 2022, PG&E has recorded a total of 7 distribution ignitions in HFTD tiers 2 and 3 combined attributed to "Utility work / Operation." In all prior years, this value was either 0 or 1.

- a) Please verify that the number of distribution ignitions in HFTD attributed to "Utility work / Operation" is correct as stated above. If the numbers are inaccurate, provide corrected counts.
- b) Please explain why PG&E has recorded more distribution ignitions in 2022 in the HFTD associated with "Utility work / Operation" compared to past years.
- c) If PG&E has experienced more distribution ignitions in the HFTD associated with "Utility work / Operation" compared to past years, has PG&E initiated an internal investigation or audit to assess why?
- d) If the answer to part (c) is yes, please provide the results or preliminary findings from any such investigation or audit.
- e) If the answer to part (c) is no, please explain why PG&E has not felt it necessary to investigate these numbers.
- f) For each of the 7 ignitions described above, please list the following information:
  - i. date,
  - ii. time,
  - iii. latitude,
  - iv. longitude,
  - v. HFTD tier at ignition location,
  - vi. Size of the fire,
  - vii. cause of the fire, and
  - viii. a description of the utility work or operation that contributed to the ignition.

## ANSWER 06

- a) The ignition counts by driver on our QDR represent a snapshot in time at the time of publishing and are subject to change based on further investigation. Therefore, based on additional information gathered since our last reporting date, we actually observed eight total CPUC Reportable Ignitions in HFTD through Q3 2022 that would best be described with the failure driver "Utility work/Operation."
- b) We established the Enhanced Ignition Analysis (EIA) program in late 2021, which has allowed for thorough investigations to be conducted on all ignitions within HFTD. Utility workmanship and operation errors are difficult to identify as they often require specialized resources (including but not limited to work methods experts, failure analysis engineers, system protection experts) that are now available to our Ignition Investigation team after establishing this program. As shown in the table below, the causes for these events are wide ranging and we believe that these types of events are not actually increasing in frequency but are just being better categorized due to our EIA program.
- c) Yes, we have started a common cause analysis related to the three re-energization ignitions below. However, this analysis is still in the data-gathering phase.
- d) We do not yet have any results or preliminary findings to share as this analysis is still in its early phases.
- e) N/A

Index No.	Ignition Date	Ignition Time	Fire Latitude	Fire Longitude	HFTD	Fire Size (Acres unless otherwise stated)	Failure Driver	Description
450	4/18/2022	18:17:00	39.566503	- 120.709942	Tier 2	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	A connector, installed approximately in 1952, failed due to improper installation.
991	6/26/2022	14:47:00	38.3792645 2	- 122.000645 5	Tier 2	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	Loose source-side connection on fuse cutout failed.
1022	6/29/2022	13:21:00	37.3016951 7	- 119.648795 4	Tier 2	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	Switching error created overload situation, resulting in conductor failure. Conductor was weakened by previous gunshot which would have been a contributing factor.
1256	7/25/2022	09:16:00	38.6438191 2	- 122.743559 9	Tier 3	5	Utility work / Operation	Ignition caused by re-energization during post outage response.
1267	7/26/2022	18:31:00	38.6600506	- 122.473936	Tier 2	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	A secondary connector, installed in 2022, failed due to improper construction.

f) Please see the table below for the requested information.

1349	8/9/2022	16:16:00	38.5498648 2	- 123.146267 5	Tier 3	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	A secondary connector, installed approximately in 2012, failed due to improper construction.
1547	9/7/2022	08:56:00	38.7150511	- 120.949118 5	Tier 3	<0.25	Utility work / Operation	Ignition caused be re-energization during post outage response.
1636	9/16/2022	05:44:00	36.6338344	- 118.995654 9	Tier 2	<3 meters of linear travel	Utility work / Operation	Ignition caused by re-energization during post outage response.