



Preliminary Ignition Investigation Report

Ignition Database Index:	20241189
Electric Incident Investigation (EII) Number:	N/A
Incident Name:	Amaral
PG&E Facility Ignition?	Yes
CPUC Reportable Ignition?	Yes
Date & Time of Incident:	August 21, 2024 @ approximately 1020 hours
Street Address:	Near Amaral Court and Rockville Road
City:	Suisun City
County:	Solano
Latitude/Longitude:	38.252714, -122.174453
State Responsibility Area (SRA) / Local Responsibility Area (LRA) / Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)	State Responsibility Area (SRA)
PG&E Division:	Sacramento
High Fire Threat District (HFTD):	Tier 2
High Fire Risk Area (HFRA):	Yes
EPSS Buffer:	No
Fire Index Area (FIA):	180
Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: FIA	R3
Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: Circuit	R3
Was there a PSPS event at the time of ignition?	No
Suspected Initiating Event:	Contact – Animal – Bird
Failure Driver:	Contact from object
Failure Sub-driver:	Contact – Animal – Bird
Circuit:	Cordelia #2 Tap
Circuit Protection Zone:	Cordelia #2 Tap - CB
Nominal Voltage:	60kV
Pole SAP Equipment ID:	Pole SAP ID # 45138158 – Transmission Structure # 004/095
Subject to PRC 4292 Veg Pole Clearance:	No
PG&E Equipment associated with ignition:	#7 copper transmission conductor
EPSS enabled at time of ignition?	No
Fault Type:	Line to Ground
Wire Down (Primary)?	No
Lead Agency/Agency Having Jurisdiction:	CAL FIRE
Fire Size:	10-99 acres
FAS Field Remarks:	Appears turkey made contact with 60kV (Cordelia) or distribution (Napa 1112). Bird found at base of

	pole. Appears fire started there & burned to the west. Est by CAL FIRE of 12 acres, veg only. Loc. of two poles west of sw-393 ¹
HAWC Summary:	Resources responded to a vegetation fire at Amaral Ct and Rockville Rd. Forward progress has been stopped at 12 acres in a Tier 2 area. The JAMESON 1105 EPSS enabled circuit was in the direct vicinity of the fire. There was an outage in OMT OIS# 2547231 affecting one customer. There was a transmission line outage in the area on the Tulocay-Napa #1-60kV, but it is unknown at this time if it was related. The PSS respond but canceled enroute when forward progress was stopped. The IC reported power lines were down and some poles were on fire. As of this report there are no damage reports. The FAS reports states it started from an animal and has a photo of a bird at the base of a pole. SIPT responded to the incident, but it is unknown if they arrived. Notifications were made to the Operations Supervisor, PSS, DCC, GCC, EII, Early Alert, PFR and Gas Control. ²
Injuries / Fatalities / Property Damage / Media Attention:	No injuries, fatalities, property damage or media attention reported.
Weather Conditions:	At 1020 hours near the Incident Location: Temperature: 64.1°F Relative Humidity: 74% Wind Speed: 12.3 mph Wind Gust: 19.0 mph out of the west
Red Flag Warning (RFW) / High Wind Warning (HWW):	Red Flag Warning (RFW) – No High Wind Warning (HWW) – No
911 Standby Relief Time:	N/A
OIS #:	2547231
ILIS #:	N/A
FAS #:	T006480208
TOTL #:	T24-014247
Assigned Attorney:	N/A
Ignition Investigator & Phone:	

¹ Language is verbatim from FAS report # T006480208.

² Language is verbatim from HAWC Early Alert Tool

Executive Summary

On August 21, 2024, at approximately 0929 hours, PG&E became aware that the Cordelia #2 60 kV transmission line relayed and did not test as directed by operations. A PG&E troubleshooter was dispatched at 1020 hours near Amaral Court and Rockville Road to patrol for the issue. The incident was in a Tier 2 High Fire Threat District (HFTD) and High Fire Risk Area (HFRA) during R4 conditions. PG&E's Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) were not enabled for the transmission line at the time of the incident.

The troubleshooter arrived on scene at approximately 1031 hours and observed a dead (burnt) bird at the base of the transmission pole SAP ID # 45138158 / Structure # 004/095, with distribution underbuild (Napa 1112). Initial analysis indicates a bird made contact with 60kV transmission line which resulted in a vegetation fire measuring 10.75 acres in size³. The troubleshooter completed a patrol of the fault location and found no damage to line or equipment. The transmission line was returned to service.

Analysis of the incident from PG&E Electric Program Manager and Avian Subject Matter Expert (SME) indicates a wild turkey appears to have made contact with the transmission's center phase while landing or taking flight from the crossarm. The turkey fell dead at the base of the pole and a fire ensued. A Bird Incident Report (Bird Incident Reporting Incident No. ETR0821240946) was created on August 22, 2024. The SME completed a historical review of the Cordelia #2 60kV transmission line. This incident was the only avian contact related ignition going back 10 years. The risk of this location and surrounding area sustaining a similar incident remains low. No additional mitigations were recommended as a result of the incident.

PG&E Meteorology data pulled from the MesoWest observation site that was approximately 2.0 miles east-southeast of the Incident Location indicates a fair and dry day on August 21, 2024. At 1020 hours near the Incident Location, the temperature was 64.1°F, with relative humidity of 74%. Winds were 12.3 miles per hour (mph) out of the west with gusts up to 19.0 mph. There were no Red Flag or High Wind Warnings in effect nor did this ignition occur during a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event.

Prior to the incident, there were no outstanding electric or vegetation tags for transmission pole SAP ID # 45138158 / Structure # 004/095 and/or the associated distribution pole SAP ID # 104051394.

This information is preliminary and subject to change based on new data.

System Protection Analysis

The Cordelia #2 Tap transmission circuit was not enabled with Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) at the time of the ignition incident. Therefore, EPSS was not a factor in this incident.

Ignition Impact

The incident resulted in a vegetation fire 10.75 acres in size⁴. A sustained outage lasting 236 minutes occurred, affecting one customer. No injuries, property damage or media coverage associated with this incident was identified.

³ Fire size is based on information from CAL FIRE report.

⁴ Information from CAL FIRE report Incident No. 24CALNU0015962

Sequence of Events

August 21, 2024

- 0929 hours – 60kV transmission line relayed and did not test. Reports of sustained interruption to Cordelia #2 Tap.
- 0946 hours – First Irwin Time.
- 1020 hours – PG&E dispatches a troubleshooter to investigate. SmartMeter™ last gasp.
- 1031 hours – PG&E troubleshooter arrives onsite and observed a dead (burnt) bird at the base of a pole. Initial analysis indicates bird made contact with 60kV transmission line.
- 1447 hours – Troubleshooter completed patrol of fault location and found no damage to line or equipment. Okay given to return line to service.

Corrective Notification Associated with Ignition

No damage was sustained to PG&E equipment warranting any repairs as a result of the ignition.

Pending Work

Type	Number	Description	Priority	Date Identified	Due Date
EC Notification	N/A	N/A			
COE Notification	N/A	N/A			
LC Notification	N/A	N/A			
Veg Work Order	N/A	N/A			

Please note this may not include pending major program or project work at the incident location.

Asset Info & Most Recent Inspections and Tests

Info / Inspection	Most Recent Date	Findings
Install Date:	January 1973	45-foot, Class 5 pole - Douglas Fir – per EDGIS
Inspection:	June 9, 2022	Steel/Lattice Ground Detailed Inspection – No non-condition issues or compelling abnormal conditions reported.
	February 12, 2024	Steel/Lattice Ground Detailed Inspection – No non-conformances identified that required corrective actions.
Patrol:	N/A	
Corrective History:	N/A	
Aerial Inspection Records:	May 14, 2022	Per [REDACTED] – 86 photos taken with no abnormal conditions reported.
VM Inspection:	N/A	N/A
EVM Inspection:	N/A	N/A
Equipment Test:	N/A	N/A
Pole Intrusive Test:	N/A	Light duty steel pole

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of December 11, 2024; event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

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Internal

CONFIDENTIAL

WSIP Inspection:	N/A	N/A
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Incident Location: SAP Pole ID # 45138158 / Structure # 004/095

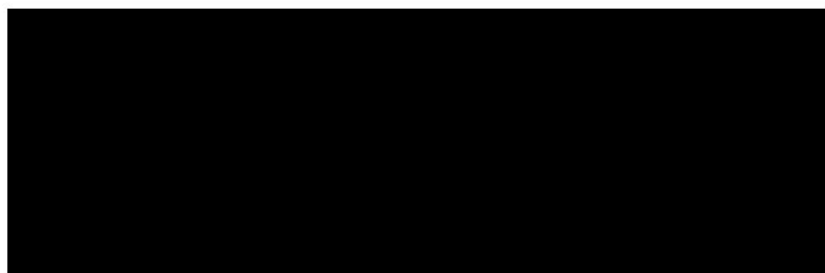
Hazard Barrier Analysis:

Hazard	Contact from Object	Sub-Hazard	Contact – Animal – Bird
Target	Avian contact with transmission line resulting in an 11-acre fire in a Tier 2 HFTD		
Barrier	Expected vs. Observed Performance	Why did the barrier not prevent the ignition event? (See ICF Codes)	Opportunity
Barriers that were Assessed as Opportunities			
Pole Clearing Program	Expected Performance: Limit fire spread potential near poles for a PG&E equipment involved ignition event within State Responsibility Areas.; Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	N/A	10-foot radius clearance around the pole may have limited the spread of the fire.
Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings - Instantaneous Trip Settings	Expected Performance: Automatically turn off power when a hazard is detected to reduce the risk of ignition in High Fire Risk Areas.; Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	[A4B1C1D2 - Strategy: EPSS Strategies; HFTD-Related; EPSS only implemented on selected circuits]	The Cordelia #2 Tap transmission circuit was not enabled with Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) at the time of the ignition incident. EPSS may not turn off power quick enough to prevent this avian contact incident.

Potential Next Steps / Associated CAP Items:


None at this time.


Single Line Diagram





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LEGEND

 Substation

 Fuse

 Line
Recloser

 Area of
Interest

Photos and Diagrams of Events

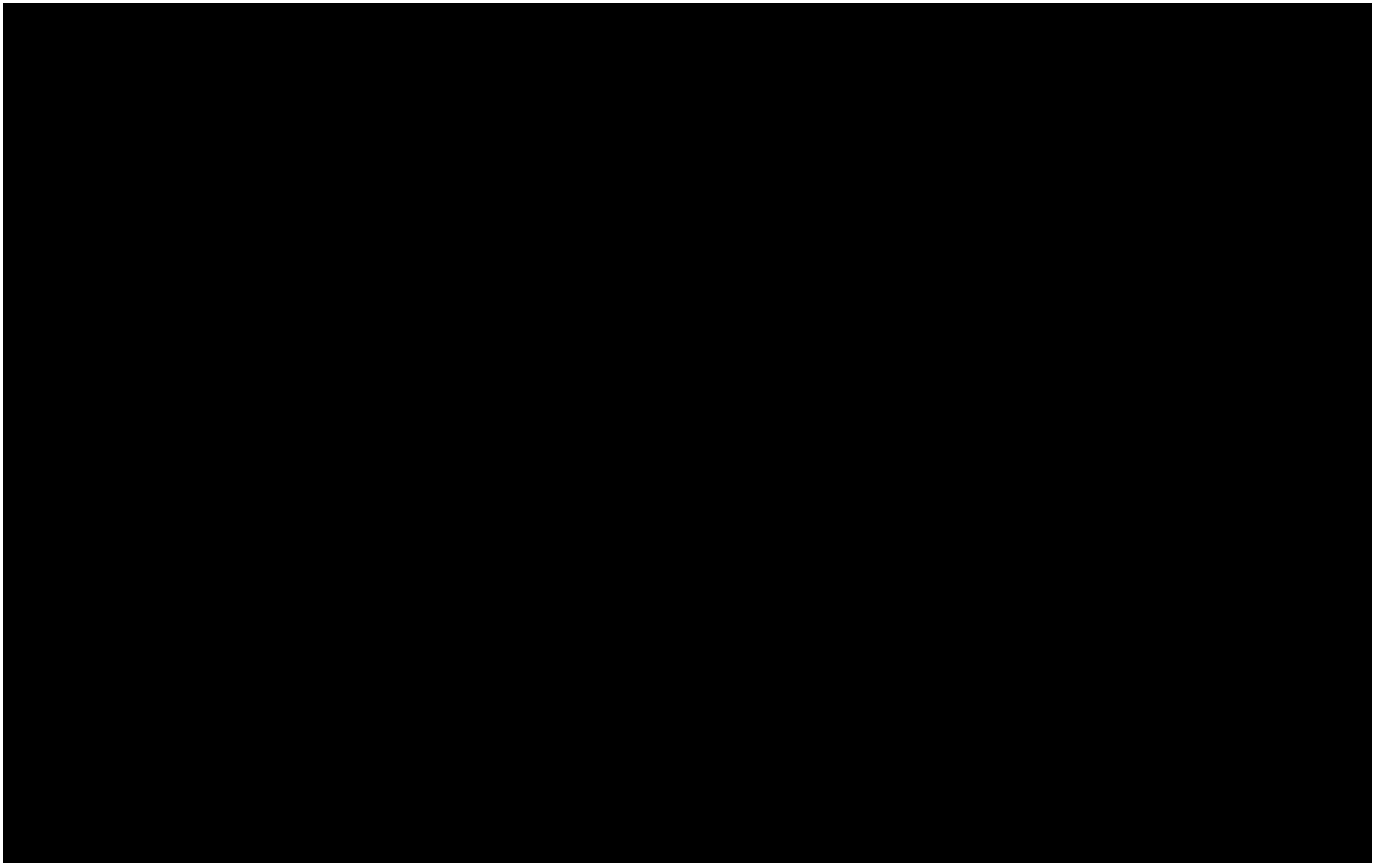


Figure 1 Google Earth image of Incident Location.

File Name: AMARAL



Figure 2 Image of Incident Location from CAL FIRE report. Blue dot indicates the location of the transmission Structure # 004/095.



Figure 3 Photo of dead bird found at base of pole taken by troubleshooter on the date of incident.



Figure 4 Photo of specific origin area taken from CAL FIRE report. Dead bird and transmission pole.



Figure 5 Photo taken during Compliance Inspection on May 10, 2022 (EC Notification # 123559383) for Distribution underbuilt (SAP Equipment ID # 104051394 - Distribution).



Figure 6 Aerial image taken on May 14, 2022 obtained from Sherlock database. No compelling abnormal conditions identified during inspection.

Attachments

Attachments and references can be located in the ESA folder, located below:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----END of REPORT-----