



Preliminary Ignition Investigation Report

Ignition Database Index:	20241646
Electric Incident Investigation (EII) Number:	N/A
Incident Name:	Spring
PG&E Facility Ignition?	Yes
CPUC Reportable Ignition?	Yes
Date & Time of Incident:	November 11, 2024
Street Address:	33211 Paraiso Springs Road
City:	Soledad
County:	Monterey
Latitude/Longitude:	36.33681, -121.35690
State Responsibility Area (SRA) / Local Responsibility Area (LRA) / Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)	State Responsibility Area (SRA)
PG&E Division:	Central Coast
High Fire Threat District (HFTD):	Tier 2
High Fire Risk Area (HFRA):	Yes
EPSS Buffer:	No
Fire Index Area (FIA):	570
Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: FIA	R1
Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: Circuit	R1
Was there a PSPS event at the time of ignition?	No
Suspected Initiating Event:	Equipment – PG&E
Failure Driver:	Equipment Failure
Failure Sub-driver:	Conductor failure-all
Circuit:	Los Coches 1101
Circuit Protection Zone:	Los Coches 1101625902
Nominal Voltage:	12kV
Pole SAP Equipment ID:	101757232 (source side), 101766759 (load side)
Subject to PRC 4292 Veg Pole Clearance:	Yes (Pole SAP ID 101766759)
PG&E Equipment associated with ignition:	4-ACSR Primary Conductor
EPSS enabled at time of ignition?	No
Fault Type:	Line-to-Ground
Wire Down (Primary)?	Yes
Lead Agency/Agency Having Jurisdiction:	CAL FIRE
Fire Size:	1 meter to <3 meters
FAS Field Remarks:	“wire down due to high winds slapping long span of 4 ACSR. 1 span 1 phase. wire on ground still energized upon arrival. opened LR via SCADA. cut

	wire in the clear. opened jumpers. MADE SAFE. re energized via SCADA. CAL FIRE on site. caused electrical burn marks in wet grass. fire report form filled out. pictures taken.”	
HAWC Summary:	“Resources responded to a report of a vegetation fire with powerlines down at 33211 Paraiso Springs Rd in Monterey County. The fire was contained to a 1 x 1 spot. There was an outage showing in OMT (OIS# 2621687) impacting 17 customers on the EPSS enabled LOS COCHES 1101 in a Tier 2. No additional outages or impact to assets reported at the time of incident closure. No notifications were made due to rapid containment of the fire. Closing barring any significant changes.”	
Injuries / Fatalities / Property Damage / Media Attention:	No	
Weather Conditions:	At 1500 near the Incident Location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature: 54.8°F • Relative Humidity: 90% • Wind Speed: 8.9 mph • Wind Gust: 11.6 mph 	
Red Flag Warning (RFW) / High Wind Warning (HWW):	No	
911 Standby Relief Time:	33 minutes	
OIS #:	2621685	
ILIS #:	24-0134235	
FAS #:	T006550100	
TOTL #:	N/A	
Assigned Attorney:	N/A	
Ignition Investigator & Phone:	██████████	██████████

Executive Summary

On November 11, 2024, at 1208 hours, PG&E received a SmartMeter™ last gasp at a meter off of Paraiso Springs Road in Soledad in Monterey County. At 1209 hours, the same meter's power was restored; then at 1211 hours, the meter sent a partial voltage alarm. At 1500 hours, CAL FIRE reported a wire down outage at 33211 Paraiso Springs Road ("Incident Location") to PG&E Dispatch. At 1506 hours, PG&E dispatched a troubleshooter to the Incident Location on the three-phase Los Coches 1101 12kV overhead distribution circuit in a Tier 2 HFTD, HFRA (Figure 1).

Upon arrival at the Incident Location at approximately 1541 hours, the troubleshooter observed one span of downed 4-ACSR on the ground and still energized between pole SAP IDs 101757232 and 101766759. The troubleshooter reported that there were burn marks in the wet grass surrounding the downed conductor with a burned area between one and three meters (Figure 3). CAL FIRE was on the scene mopping up the burned area. The troubleshooter created Priority A Electric Corrective Notification 129801455 to repair the broken conductor and asked the Distribution Control Center ("DCC") to open Line Recloser (LR) 625902 to de-energize the downed conductor. DCC opened LR 625902 at 1551 hours and the troubleshooter opened jumpers three spans to the source side of pole SAP ID 101766759 to isolate the trouble.

A PG&E crew completed repairs to the conductor and closed the open jumpers on November 12, 2024 at approximately 0405 hours.

On the day of the incident at 1500 hours, the temperature was 54.8°F, relative humidity was 90%, and wind speed was 8.9 miles per hour with the strongest gusts up to 41.3 miles per hour at 1210 hours.

As the conductor was repaired and not replaced, no material was collected as part of this investigation. Asset Failure Analysis conducted an Extent of Condition and did not identify any corrective actions for this incident.

System Protection Analysis

EPSS was disabled for the Los Coches 1101 circuit at 0700 hours on the day of the incident due to the expected R1 FPI conditions for the circuit, the expected wind speeds, relative humidity and fuel moisture thresholds for the Incident Location. No protective devices tripped during this incident. LR 625902 received alarms starting at 1211 hours and likely would have tripped if EPSS was enabled during the ignition.

Ignition Impact

The ignition burned an area under the downed conductor between one and three meters in size and caused an outage to one customer for approximately 780 minutes and 17 customers for approximately 69 minutes. There were no injuries, fatalities, property damage, or media attention identified for this incident.

Sequence of Events

November 11, 2024

- 1208 hours: SmartMeter™ last gasp downstream of incident location.
- 1209 hours: Power restored at meter.
- 1211 hours: Partial voltage alarm downstream of incident location.
- 1500 hours: CAL FIRE reported wires down outage at 33211 Paraiso Springs Road.
- 1506 hours: Troubleshooter dispatched to Incident Location.

- 1547 hours: Troubleshooter reported wire down at transformer CGC 413063037431.
- 1550 hours: DCC opened LR 625902.
- 1615 hours: Troubleshooter opened jumpers three poles to the source side of transformer CGC 413063037431 to isolate trouble.
- 1620 hours: DCC closed LR 625902.

November 12, 2024

- 0249 hours: PG&E crew arrived at Incident Location for repair.
- 0405 hours: PG&E crew completed repair and closed jumpers to restore power.

Corrective Notification Associated with Ignition

The troubleshooter created Priority A Electric Corrective Notification 129801455 to repair the broken conductor. This work was completed the morning of November 12, 2024.

Pending Work

Type	Number	Description	Priority	Date Identified	Due Date
EC Notification	128570866	Replace flashed transformer, repair improper connector, replace decayed crossarm.	E	April 17, 2024	April 17, 2025
COE Notification	N/A				
LC Notification	N/A				
Veg Work Order	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

Source Side Structure	101757232	
Info / Inspection	Most Recent Date	Findings
Install Date:	1969	N/A
Inspection:	June 12, 2024	Pole cracked through hardware. Insulators damaged and crossarm burned.
	April 25, 2023	No adverse conditions.
Corrective History:	July 12, 2024	Crossarm and insulator replaced.
Aerial Inspection Records:	June 12, 2024	See most recent inspection.
Pole Intrusive Test:	June 28, 2017	Pass.
WSIP Inspection:	April 25, 2019	No adverse conditions.

Load Side Structure	101766759	
Info / Inspection	Most Recent Date	Findings

Install Date:	1969	N/A
Inspection:	April 16, 2024	Transformer bushing flashed.
	April 25, 2023	High sign missing or broken. Secondary connectors installed on primary conductor. Tap clamps installed incorrectly.
Corrective History:	May 19, 2023	Made permanent primary connections, removed chance clamps, and covered ground run.
Aerial Inspection Records:	April 16, 2024	See most recent inspection.
Pole Intrusive Test:	June 28, 2017	Pass.
WSIP Inspection:	April 25, 2019	No adverse conditions.

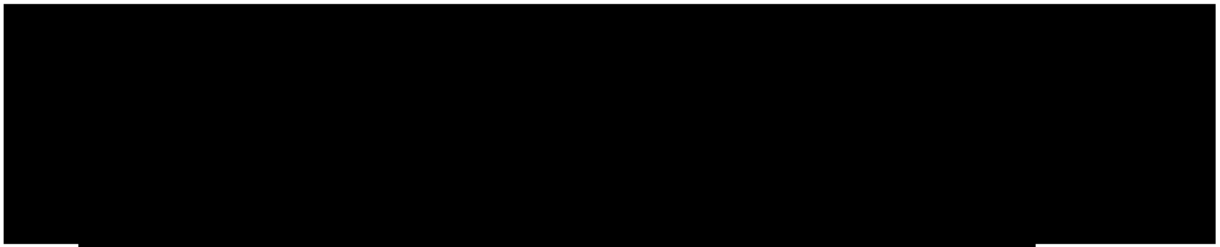
Hazard Barrier Analysis:

Hazard	Equipment Failure	Sub-Hazard	Primary Conductor Failure
Target	Conductor failure in Tier 2 HFTD leading to 1-3 meter fire.		
Barrier	Expected vs. Observed Performance	Why did the barrier not prevent the ignition event? (See ICF Codes)	Opportunity
Barriers that were Assessed as Opportunities			
Covered Conductor on Primary Conductors	Expected Performance: Decrease ignition potential upon wire-to-wire contact and wire falling to ground. Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	A4B2C1D2 – Program limited to certain conductors	Covered conductor may have prevented failure if wire-to-wire contact occurred or decreased ignition potential when broken conductor fell to ground.
Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings - Downed Conductor Detection	Expected Performance: Automatically turn off power when downed conductor is detected. Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	A4B1C1D1 – Conditions did not meet EPSS enablement criteria	EPSS settings were disabled the morning of the incident. If enabled, DCD may have decreased ignition potential when wire fell to ground.
Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings - Instantaneous Trip Settings	Expected Performance: Automatically turn off power upon fault. Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	A4B1C1D1 – Conditions did not meet EPSS enablement criteria	EPSS would likely have tripped when alarms were detected several hours before the ignition.

Potential Next Steps / Associated CAP Items:

None at this time.

Single Line Diagram



LEGEND



Substation



Fuse



Line
Recloser



Area of
Interest

Photos and Diagrams of Events

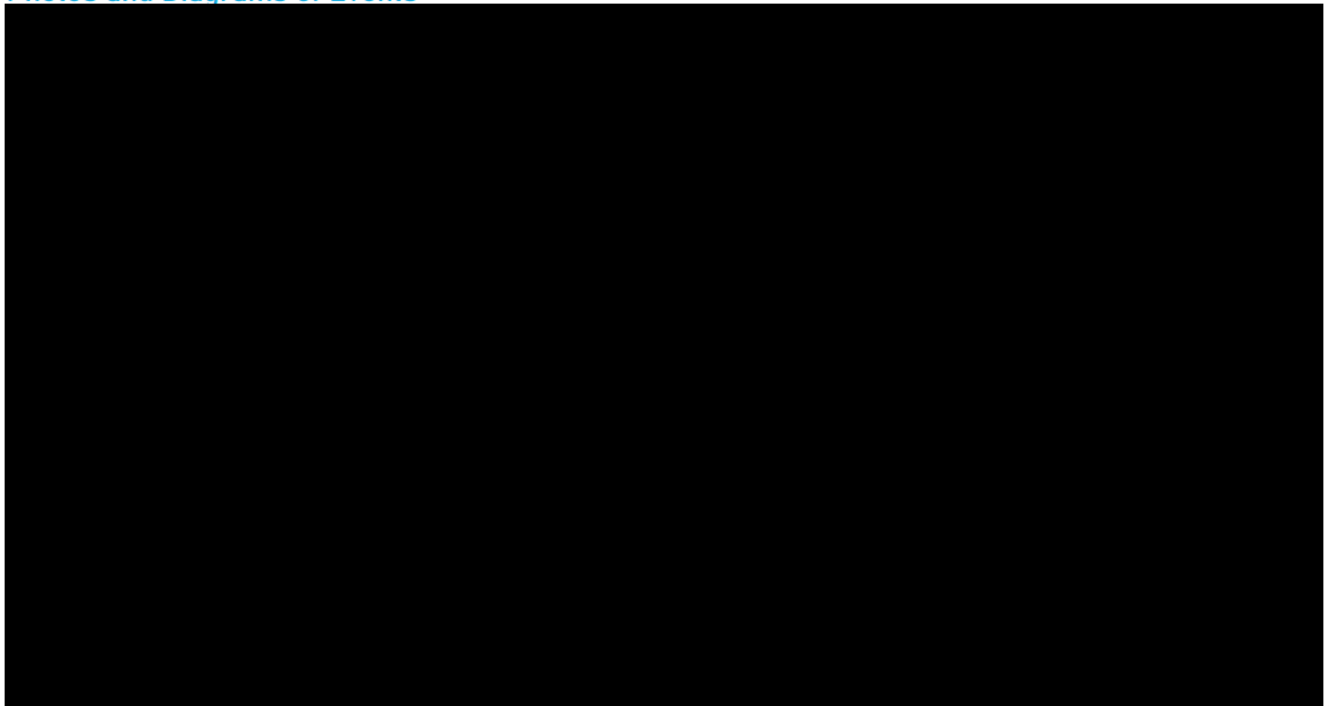


Figure 1. EDGIS map of Incident Span.

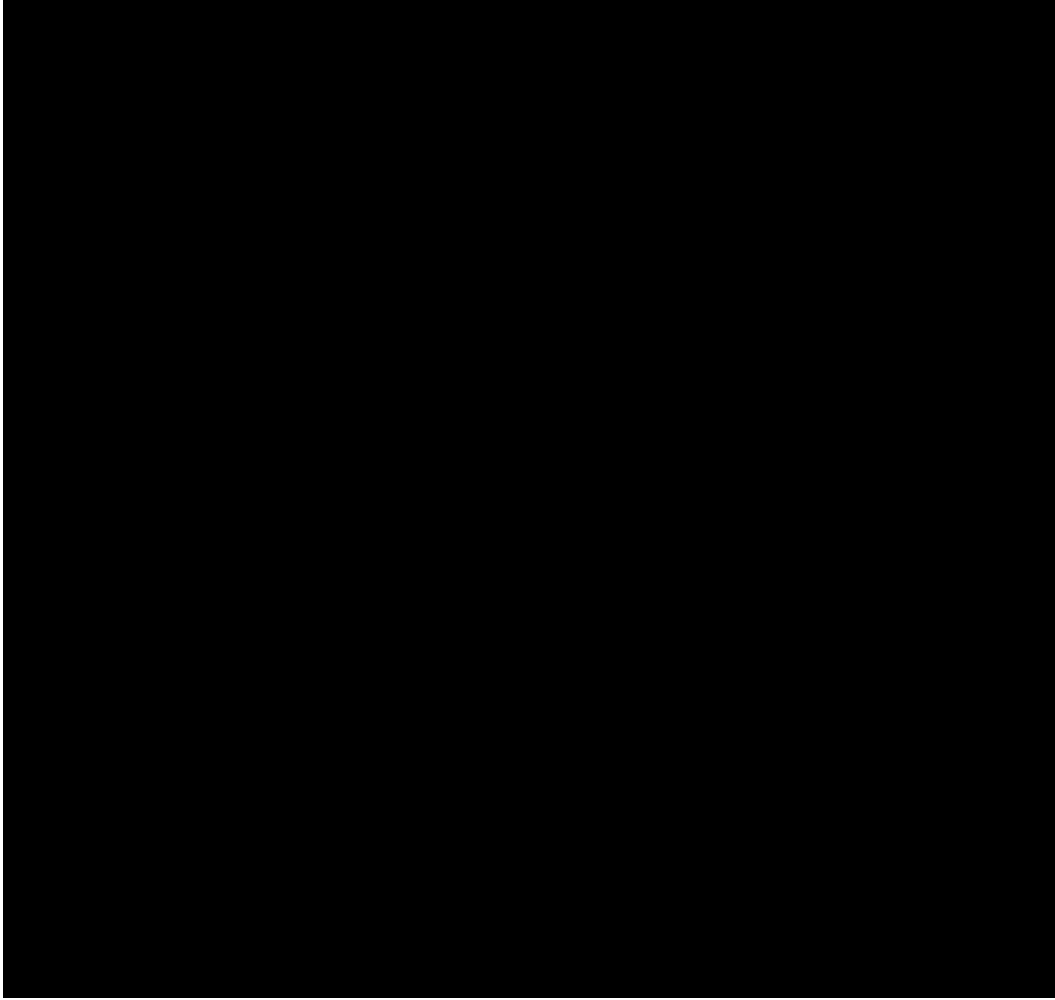


Figure 2. Google Earth image of incident span.



Figure 3. Incident photos showing pole SAP ID 101757232 with broken conductor (left) and burn area (center and right) (taken November 11, 2024).

Attachments

The ESA folder below contains attachments and references related to this incident:

[REDACTED]

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