



## Preliminary Ignition Investigation Report

<b>Ignition Database Index:</b>	20240223
<b>Electric Incident Investigation (EII) Number:</b>	N/A
<b>Incident Name:</b>	Garrison
<b>PG&amp;E Facility Ignition?</b>	Yes
<b>CPUC Reportable Ignition?</b>	Yes
<b>Date &amp; Time of Incident:</b>	March 26, 2024, 1953 hours
<b>Street Address:</b>	Highway 101 & Bradley Road
<b>City:</b>	Bradley
<b>County:</b>	Monterey
<b>Latitude/Longitude:</b>	35.8280186514, -120.7597621632
<b>State Responsibility Area (SRA) / Local Responsibility Area (LRA) / Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)</b>	Federal Responsibility Area
<b>PG&amp;E Division:</b>	Los Padres
<b>High Fire Threat District (HFTD):</b>	Tier 2
<b>High Fire Risk Area (HFRA):</b>	Yes
<b>EPSS Buffer:</b>	No
<b>Fire Index Area (FIA):</b>	570
<b>Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: FIA</b>	R1
<b>Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating: Circuit</b>	R1
<b>Was there a PSPS event at the time of ignition?</b>	No
<b>Suspected Initiating Event:</b>	Equipment Failure
<b>Failure Driver:</b>	Equipment Failure
<b>Failure Sub-driver:</b>	Conductor Failure
<b>Circuit:</b>	San Miguel 1106
<b>Circuit Protection Zone:</b>	San Miguel 1106N34
<b>Nominal Voltage:</b>	12kV
<b>Pole SAP Equipment ID:</b>	101945278
<b>Subject to PRC 4292 Veg Pole Clearance:</b>	No
<b>PG&amp;E Equipment associated with ignition:</b>	Primary Conductor
<b>EPSS enabled at time of ignition?</b>	No
<b>Fault Type:</b>	Line to Ground
<b>Wire Down (Primary)?</b>	Yes
<b>Lead Agency/Agency Having Jurisdiction:</b>	Camp Roberts Fire Department
<b>Fire Size:</b>	Under three meters in size
<b>FAS Field Remarks:</b>	EC to repair wire down. Small grass fire.

<b>HAWC Summary:</b>	small spot of vegetation from wire down. Forward progress is stopped and canceling resource. small fire started by dropped line. fire was on base property not in the SRA.
<b>Injuries / Fatalities / Property Damage / Media Attention:</b>	No report of injuries, fatalities, property damage or media
<b>Weather Conditions:</b>	It was a fair and dry day on March 26, 2024 near the incident location. The high temperature for the day was 64.0° at 17:20 and the low temperature was 37.8° at 03:10. The relative humidity was as high as 97% at 08:10 and was as low as 47% at 16:30. The strongest wind gust was 19.3 mph at 16:20 from the north-northwest
<b>Red Flag Warning (RFW) / High Wind Warning (HWW):</b>	No/No
<b>911 Standby Relief Time:</b>	38 minutes
<b>OIS #:</b>	2416046, 2416048
<b>ILIS #:</b>	24-0047162
<b>FAS #:</b>	T006355821
<b>TOTL #:</b>	N/A
<b>Assigned Attorney:</b>	N/A
<b>Ignition Investigator &amp; Phone:</b>	

## Executive Summary

On March 26, 2024 at 2107 hours PG&E received notification through SmartMeter™ data indicating a three-phase overhead segment of the San Miguel 1106 21kV circuit was experiencing a power outage impacting 92 customers. The San Miguel 1106 circuit is in a Tier 2 High Fire Threat District, located in Bradely, California just outside of Camp Roberts.

The area power outage notifications alerted PG&E to have a troubleshooter dispatched to the area, to investigate the cause. The Troubleshooter logged his arrival time at 2205 hours.

Upon investigating the area, the troubleshooter located one of three phases had fallen to the ground, igniting a vegetation fire below the overhead facilities. The nearest protection device did not operate due to the line to ground fault being load-side, creating a back feed event. The troubleshooter reported the incident into PG&E's grid control center who then initiated a clearance sequence to allow de-energization to make the area safe.

A section of #4 copper conductor failed load side at the dead-end attachment near the bell. The live conductor fell onto the grass fuel bed which retained moisture due to recent rains. The fire footprint was under three meters in size, which self-extinguished. This incident was named the Garrison Fire.

The copper conductor that fell to the ground was collected by the troubleshooter, however, the section of conductor at the dead-end attachment was not preserved. This retained section of conductor was installed in 1962 making it 62 years old. The collected section of conductor was sent to Applied Technology Services (ATS) to be analyzed for a failure mode. The overall visual examination of the damaged conductor showed signs of melting and patina/discoloration.

Historical outages and surges on the San Miguel 1106 circuit were reviewed and data showed two surge events occurred in the beginning of 2024. These surges occurred near the protection devices of this specific Incident Location.

The overall cause of the failure is unknown as the section connected at the dead-end was not collected as evidence. ATS analysis suggests that the integrity of the copper conductor was likely compromised during the surges along with the age of the conductor, resulting in its failure. While the troubleshooter suggested that the copper conductor was corroded at the dead-end connector causing it to fail. Overall, the age, integrity and historical surge events are all contributing factors as to why the conductor failed.

The pole had been flagged to be replaced in July of 2019 from a routine inspection. This work request was re-evaluated and placed on hold, with an updated due date of June 2023, which was not completed.

After the outage was recorded on March 26, 2024, the troubleshooter requested a repair crew. The PG&E repair crew was onsite at 2320 hours to complete the damaged conductor replacement.

It was a fair and dry day on March 26, 2024 near the Incident Location. The elevated temperature for the day was 64.0°F at 1720 hours and the low temperature was 37.8°F at 0310 hours. The relative humidity was as high as 97% at 0810 hours and was as low as 47% at 1630 hours. The strongest wind gust was 19.3 miles per hour (mph) at 1620 hours from the north-northwest. This weather report was verified from Mesowest. The observation site was at 851-foot elevation and approximately 3.7 miles northeast of the Incident Location.

## System Protection Analysis

Enhanced Power Safety Settings (EPSS) were not enabled on the San Miguel 1106 circuit On March 26, 2024, due to not meeting the wind speed, relative humidity, and/or fuel moisture required for enablement during the R1 conditions in the Los Padres division at the time of the incident.

## Ignition Impact

The failed conductor disengaged from the bell, causing the energized wire to fall to the ground. The topography consisted of a mixture of fresh and dried grasses. Due to the recent rains, the time of day and the cooler weather, the fire did not rapidly spread and burned less than three meters of ground vegetation.

## Sequence of Events

### **March 26, 2024**

- 1953 hours, First No Light report and outage initiated for San Miguel 1106 Circuit
- 1953 hours, Reports of a wire down
- 2102 hours, Line Recloser N34 open
- 2107 hours, Troubleshooter dispatched
- 2205 hours, Troubleshooter onsite
- 2257 hours, Switch 5675 open
- 2302 hours, Line Recloser N36 close
- 2320 hours, Repair crew dispatched

### **March 27, 2024**

- 0227 hours, Repair crew onsite
- 0422 hours, Wire down close, Fuse 32697 closed
- 0448 hours, Line Recloser N34 close, power restored
- 0449 hours, Repairs complete repair crew left site

## Corrective Notification Associated with Ignition

Notification # 128373092 – A PG&E crew replaced conductor on March 27, 2024

## Pending Work

Type	Number	Description	Priority	Date Identified	Due Date
EC Notification	117230827	Replace decayed/rotten pole	E	05/14/2019	05/14/2020
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.

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of **March 29, 2024** event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

Doc. R18 – Mar 2024

Internal

## Asset Info & Most Recent Inspections and Tests

Load Side Structure		
Info / Inspection	Most Recent Date	Findings
Install Date:	1962	45' Douglas Fir Wood, Class 5 Pole
Inspection:	06/28/2022	Damaged pole, burnt, deformed corroded, gunshot, signs of cracking/decay, anchor rod broken/corroded
	08/20/2019	High Sign missing
Patrol:	N/A	
Corrective History:	06/28/2022	Replace decayed/rotten pole – not worked EC TAG 117230827
Aerial Inspection Records:	N/A	
VM Inspection:	N/A	
EVM Inspection:	N/A	(Note: document if “not previously in EVM Scope”)
Equipment Test:	N/A	
Pole Intrusive Test:	10/30/2017	No follow up work identified
WSIP Inspection:	N/A	

\*Incident Location: SAP ID: 101945278

## Hazard Barrier Analysis:

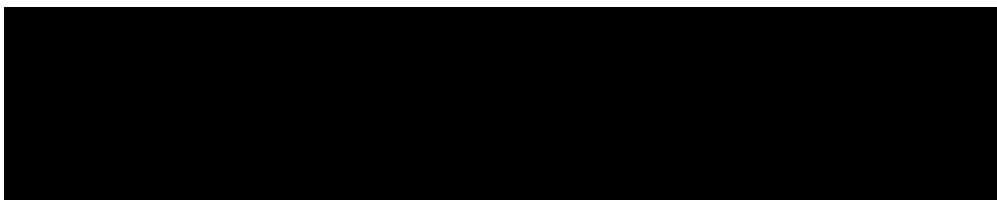
Hazard	Equipment Failure	Sub-Hazard	Primary Conductor Failure
Target	Damaged Conductor		
Barrier	Expected vs. Observed Performance	Why did the barrier not prevent the ignition event? (See <a href="#">ICF Codes</a> )	Opportunity
Barriers that Negatively Affected Ignition			
Field Safety Reassessment	Expected Performance: Perform annual safety re-assessments of tags to document if there has been a change to field condition of non-conformance that poses increased risk to safety and repair prior to failure/ignition; Observed Performance: Barrier did not perform as expected	A1B1C2D6 – Limitation: Visibility Limitation; Equipment Condition Visibility; Other condition not visibly apparent	Pole was identified needing replacement in 2019, however it was pushed out several times. Had the pole been replaced as noted, the older overhead equipment may have been

			swapped out utilizing current equipment
Barriers that were Assessed as Opportunities			
Infrared Inspections	Expected Performance: Identify overheating equipment, such as a conductor, in the field before they fail and cause ignitions.; Observed Performance: Unknown	N/A	Opportunity to check aging conductor to determine if replacement is needed
Distribution System Hardening Program	Expected Performance: Targets conductor replacement in high wildfire risk areas and areas most impacted by PSPS; Observed Performance: Barrier did not exist	N/A	This is a Tier 2 district, changing the conductor could benefit the area in reducing wildfires

#### Potential Next Steps / Associated CAP Items:

- No CAP items associated with this incident

#### Single Line Diagram



##### LEGEND



Substation



Fuse



Line Recloser



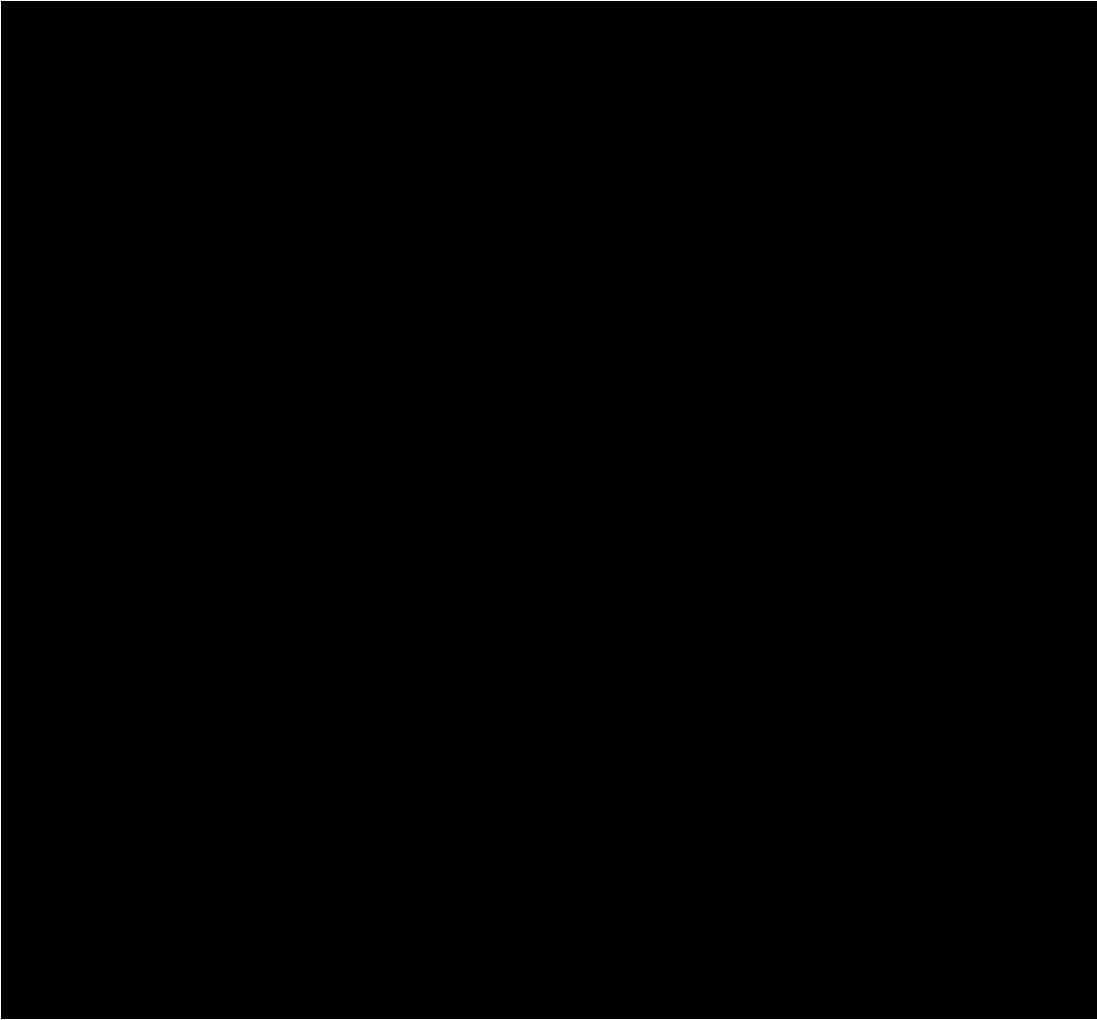
Area of Interest

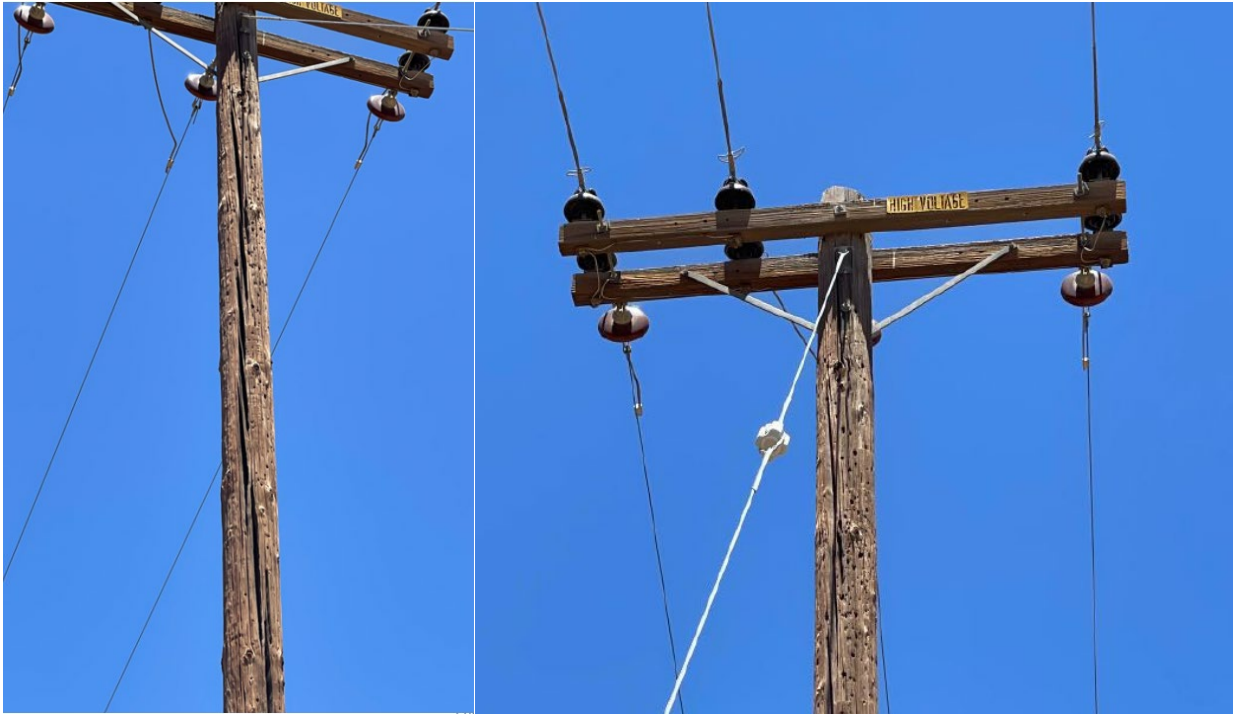
#### Photos and Diagrams of Events

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of **March 29, 2024** event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

Doc. R18 – Mar 2024

Internal





*Photo 2 - Photo taken 06/28/2022 from inspector showing pole is decayed/rotted and needs replacement.*



*Photo 3- Photo taken 03/26/24 by troubleshooter showing pole top, where conductor broke away.*

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of **March 29, 2024** event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

Doc. R18 – Mar 2024

Internal





*Photo 4 - Photo taken 03/26/24 by troubleshooter showing downed conductor.*



*Photo 5 - Photo taken 03/26/24 by troubleshooter showing where it appears broken end of conductor has corrosion.*

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of **March 29, 2024** event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

Doc. R18 – Mar 2024

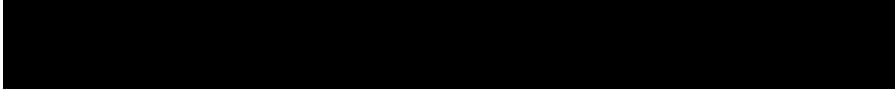
Internal



*Photo 6 - Photo taken 03/26/24 by troubleshooter showing fire location.*

#### [Attachments](#)

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



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