

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Wildfire Mitigation Plans Discovery 2023-2025
Data Response

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PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Henry Sweat

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL FILES

QUESTION 002

Generally, what is PG&E's corporate process and strategic procedure for switching to a new model to support decision-making regarding mitigation alternatives (e.g., migrating from WDRM v3 to WDRM v4)? What steps are involved?

ANSWER 002

PG&E utilizes Utility Standard: TD-7201S, Wildfire Risk Management Distribution Standard to help guide its decision-making in this area. Specifically, section 4 describes our management of change process. Section 4 of this procedure is copied below.

4. WDRM Management of Change

4.1 In support of PG&E's stand that "Catastrophic Wildfires Shall Stop," the nascent science of wildfire risk modeling necessitates updates and improvements on a frequent basis.

1. The risk models based on machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) provide advanced technics to support this stand. While advanced and powerful, they are statistical forecasts. As such, the statistical or predictive performance of one model and then a subsequent improved model can be evaluated.

4.2 The prioritization of locations or assets provided by models is not necessarily similar. Models with similar statistical predictive performance can be achieved with different model results.

1. For example, if two models with similar predictive performances address 75% of future outage locations, the actual ranked prioritization in which 75% is identified can differ.
 - a. IF one of the statistically close models incorporates data that improves identified required corrective work to mitigate the risk, THEN the work plan may need to rely more heavily on that model.

4.3 In accordance with the above facts, base the transition from one model to the next for work plan development on both the improvement in predictive performance and the nature of the work plan related to the model features.

4.4 Programs with a long lead time where work plans are developed a year or more in advance (such as system hardening/undergrounding) may decide to keep or

“grandfather” all or a portion of the existing work plan commitment before switching to the new model version. Other programs with shorter work plan cycle times may switch to the new model sooner.

4.5 For each of the programs identified in the following Section 5, guidelines for transitioning to new models are provided.

1. The WRGSG must approve both the WDRM and the Wildfire Consequence Model before they are released for prioritizing and planning work.