



GENERAL QUESTIONS

What does the Gas Transmission Vegetation Management do to keep the pipeline safe and clear?

To help keep the pipeline safe and clear, we continue to monitor the area above and around the pipe as part of our regular pipeline inspections and patrols. Our inspections and patrols include looking for any new structures, trees or brush that could impede access and to confirm no trees previously left in place have developed into a safety concern.

Why are structures and trees located over the pipeline a safety concern?

Certain trees, tree roots, brush and structures can delay emergency access for safety crews and prevent them from performing important safety and maintenance work. When located too close to the gas pipeline, these items can also damage the pipe. Customers who are concerned that a structure or tree is located over the pipeline in their community can call PG&E at **1-877-259-8314**.

Why can't PG&E just move the pipe?

Rerouting a pipeline is a major undertaking that is very disruptive to the community and environment and can take several years to complete. By working together to address items that are too close to the pipeline, we can help ensure the pipe continues to provide safe and reliable gas service for years to come.

What permits is PG&E getting for this work? Will PG&E apply for tree permits?

PG&E works closely with the city or county to obtain any encroachment permits that may be required for this safety work. While PG&E is not required to secure tree removal permits for work related to this safety program, we will obtain all ministerial encroachment permits and/or building permits associated with this work.

How does PG&E decide which trees are removed and which can stay? What is the criteria?

We understand how important trees are to your community and the environment. To determine which trees needed to be removed for safety reasons, PG&E's Community Pipeline Safety Initiative conducted a tree-by-tree review. The review was conducted by pipeline safety experts and certified arborists, involved an in-depth analysis of every tree located within 14 feet of the gas transmission pipeline and determined if the tree could remain in place with regular monitoring or if it needed to be replaced away from the pipe. The review took into consideration many important factors, such as the tree species, its expected size at full growth, its distance from the pipe and the ability of first responders to safely access the pipe in an emergency. For more information about the tree-by-tree review, please see our **Community Pipeline Safety Initiative Fact Sheet** at pge.com/gasveg.

To help keep the pipeline safe and clear, we continue to monitor the area above and around the pipe as part of our Gas Transmission Vegetation Management program. These inspections include looking for any new structures, trees or brush that could impede access and to confirm no trees previously left in place have developed into a safety concern. The program will conduct inspections according to industry best practices and our vegetation standard, which incorporates elements of the tree-by-tree review process described above.

How often will PG&E inspect the pipeline?

PG&E regularly monitors and patrols the area above and around the gas pipeline throughout our service territory as part of our Gas Transmission Vegetation Management. Our inspections and patrols include looking for any new structures, trees or brush that could impede access and to confirm that no trees previously left in place have developed into a safety concern. Other departments within PG&E may also patrol areas for other necessary gas and electric maintenance work, including overhead electrical pruning.

QUESTIONS ABOUT WORK ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

How can customers find out if they have a gas pipeline on or near their property?

Most private properties do not have an underground transmission pipeline on them. Customers can find out if there is a natural gas transmission pipeline in their area by calling PG&E at **1-877-259-8314** or searching our online Gas Transmission Pipeline Map at pge.com/pipelinelocations. In addition, a reference to the pipeline is typically included in the title report for a property. Customers may have also noticed pipeline markers, either upright orange markers or flat medallions on the ground, that mark where the pipeline runs.

Why were homes allowed to be built above a gas pipeline?

It's common for pipelines to run through urban areas. The system is built that way to ensure the delivery of safe and reliable gas service to customers living in these areas. Easements are put in place to ensure safe access to the pipeline for maintenance work and in case of emergencies. We will continue to monitor the gas pipeline as part of our Gas Transmission Vegetation Management work.

Will PG&E provide a replacement tree, mitigation or compensation for loss of property value?

Typically, mitigation, including tree replacement and restoration offered as part of the Community Pipeline Safety Initiative, is not available for our ongoing vegetation maintenance work.

We implemented the Community Pipeline Safety Initiative as part of important changes to improve the safety and reliability of our gas system and moving forward we have a shared responsibility to keep the area safe and clear. However, we will review restoration and mitigation requests on an individual basis and are committed to working with each property owner to develop a path forward for this safety work.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

What does PG&E's environmental review involve? How does PG&E protect wildlife?

Prior to conducting work, we review the area for any critical habitat, endangered species, native plants or cultural resources that need to be protected during work, as needed. This is done through both a database search and a field visit. We are especially mindful of the nesting bird season from mid-February to August. During this time the team performs bird surveys for all projects and will postpone work if an active nest is identified.

What kind of herbicide will PG&E use? How is it applied? How much will PG&E use and for how long? What is the half-life? What are the harmful effects of that herbicide on people, animals (including bees), water, air and soil? Is it necessary to use it?

As part of this safety work, we typically use targeted applications of herbicides to prevent the regrowth of trees and brush. The product we plan to use in this area has been approved for use by the State of California since 2006. Any application would be applied directly to the tree stump within 15 minutes of vegetation removal, per state guidelines. The product will be applied well below the per acre allowable limits. Any application would be carefully managed by a Pest Control Advisor licensed by the Department of Pesticide Regulations, a division of the California Environmental Protection Agency. If a property owner is uncomfortable with the use of herbicides on their property, we will not use them. We will continue to monitor the area around the pipe for any potential regrowth.

Learn More

For more information about our gas vegetation safety efforts, please visit pge.com/Gasveg