

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Wildfire Mitigation Plans
Rulemaking 18-10-007
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_035-Q02		
PG&E File Name:	WildfireMitigationPlans_DR_CalAdvocates_035-Q02		
Request Date:	January 19, 2021	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2021WMP-01
Date Sent:	February 9, 2021	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Matthew Yunge, PE

QUESTION 02

For each publicly owned electric utility and electrical cooperative (collectively, POUs) to which you supply power, please respond to the following:

- a) Have you coordinated with the POU to ensure resilience of the POU during a public safety power shutoff (PSPS) event that you initiate? Please describe the nature of this coordination if so.
- b) In 2020, what coordination, planning, or other activities took place between you and the POU to mitigate the effect of a potential PG&E-initiated PSPS event on the POU and its customers?

ANSWER 02

- a) PG&E has coordinated with the following POUs with respect to resiliency during a PSPS event:
 - In 2020, PG&E had discussions with the City of Healdsburg, City of Ukiah, Lassen Public Utility District, Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) with regards to specific PSPS event criteria, efforts to provide alternate sources or partial load, and PSPS, in general.
 - At the request of Senator McGuire's office, on October 8, 2020, PG&E attended a conference call with Christopher Nielsen, Legislative Director at CA State Senate; NCPA; Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative; and the Cities of Healdsburg and Ukiah to discuss PSPS event issues, communication during PSPS Emergency Operation Center operations, and voluntary curtailment to reduce PSPS impacts.
 - During 2020, PG&E's assigned Customer Relationship Manager for the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) ensured CCSF's water treatment facilities, jails, and certain other CCSF accounts were properly identified as critical facilities and updated communication contacts to ensure accurate PSPS communication. PG&E also addressed resiliency, and CCSF has back-up generation for these critical accounts.

- PG&E and the Modesto Irrigation District (MID) identified two accounts which are radio towers that fall within an area impacted by PSPS. MID determined these sites are not critical to its operation and can be powered with portable generation relatively easily.

b)

- PG&E hosted an interactive Wholesale Transmission PSPS Webinar on August 14, 2020. The seminar was attended by the City of Healdsburg, City of Ukiah, Port of Oakland, Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD), and Turlock Irrigation District (TID).
- On September 1, 2020, at the request of the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), City of Healdsburg and the City of Ukiah, PG&E conducted a PSPS notification exercise in which contact personnel at Healdsburg, Ukiah, and the NCPA Dispatch Desk were sent a practice e-mail notification for PSPS simulation purposes. The notification contained customer-specific information including affected transmission lines, estimated weather conditions and timelines, and PG&E Grid Control Center contact information for operational questions. The recipients confirmed receipt of the notification and concluded the exercise. This planning activity supported mitigation of potential PSPS events by ensuring that NCPA members became familiar with PSPS e-mail notifications sent by the PG&E Emergency Operations Center in advance. The exercise also helped to confirm the requested points of contact at the NCPA member utilities.
- PG&E held online PSPS Portal Trainings that included POUs on September 25, 2020 and October 2, 2020 in order to provide better support during PSPS events, review the registration process, and discuss the resources and information available during PSPS events.
- PG&E hosted a PSPS Listening Session Webinar on December 10, 2020 attended by POUs impacted in 2020. During the Webinar, PG&E discussed PSPS criteria, weather stations, system hardening, preparation, communication, PSPS Portal access for Public Safety Partners, and other related topics.
- PG&E held an Engineering and Operations Committee WebEx on October 9, 2020 with NCPA and the Cities of Healdsburg and Ukiah on improved sectionalizing during PSPS events to reduce the scope and impact of PSPS events and the development of procedures to curtail load and limit indirect-impacts of transmission level PSPS events due to a loss in generation or transmission capabilities.
- PG&E is including the installation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and motor operated switches in PG&E's contingency/sectionalizing planning.

- PG&E's Emergency Operations Center sent notification emails to, and PG&E's Grid Control Center communicated directly via phone with, transmission-voltage-impacted POUs in 2020 to coordinate separation, islanding, and resyncing with PG&E's grid. In 2020, most of the impacted POUs were able to island from PG&E by being fed from alternate sources.