

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_035-Q03		
PG&E File Name:	WildfireMitigationPlans_DR_CalAdvocates_035-Q03		
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 03

Regarding your wildfire risk model¹:

- a) Have you developed a risk-estimation model that quantifies the wildfire risk level of each of your circuits?
- b) If the answer to question 3(a) is yes, explain the finest level physical granularity (i.e. individual equipment, pole/tower, circuit-segment, circuit) with which you assess the wildfire risk level of your facilities.
- c) If the answer to question 3(a) is yes, explain the finest level of temporal granularity (i.e. day, week, month, year) with which you assess the wildfire risk level of your facilities.
- d) How are transmission and distribution circuits treated differently in the model referred to in question 3(a)?
- e) Does the model in question 3(a) allow you to rank circuits or circuit-segments by risk level?
- f) Does the model in question 3(a) rank transmission and distribution circuits together or separately?
- g) Are your wildfire risk model's outputs for transmission and distribution circuits comparable to each other?

ANSWER 03

- a) Yes, PG&E explains its wildfire risk models in detail in its 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP), Section 4. For distribution planning purposes, PG&E currently uses the 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model.
- b) The 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model current spatial capability is to a pixel level of 100m x 100m, for purposes of mitigation planning, the results from pixel areas are aggregated to circuit segments.
- c) The 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model assess wildfire risk on an annual basis to help inform the plans of mitigation programs. For more detail concerning the

¹ Wildfire risk model refers to a risk-estimation model that quantifies the wildfire risk level of your facilities.

frequency of updates for PG&E's wildfire risk models, see Section 4.5.1(g) in the 2021 WMP. Please note that models used for operational purposes are updated much more frequently, as described in Section 4.5.1 of the 2021 WMP.

- d) PG&E currently uses the 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model for distribution planning purposes. We do not currently have a similar model for transmission planning purposes. Instead, PG&E currently uses the Transmission Operability Assessment Model for "PSPS events, but is also a factor incorporated into operational, maintenance, and investment decisions for the transmission system." See 2021 WMP, Section 4.5.1(b) (discussing the 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model) and Section 4.5.1(f) (discussing Transmission Operability Assessment Model). However, PG&E is in the process of developing a 2022 Wildfire Transmission Risk Model that will be used for planning purposes for work performed in 2022. See 2021 WMP, Section 4.5.1(b) (discussing future model development)
- e) Yes, at a circuit segment level.
- f) Separately, PG&E has different models for distribution and transmission.
- g) No. The 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model is used for planning purposes. The Transmission Operability Assessment Model is used for operational purposes. PG&E does expect that the 2022 Wildfire Transmission Risk Model will have similar outputs to the 2021 Wildfire Distribution Risk Model.