

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

|                        |   |                   |                             |
|------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| PG&E Data Request No.: | CalAdvocates_042-Q11                            |                   |                             |
| PG&E File Name:        | WildfireMitigationPlans_DR_CalAdvocates_042-Q11 |                   |                             |
| Request Date:          | February 21, 2021                               | Requester DR No.: | CalAdvocates-PGE-2021WMP-08 |
| Date Sent:             | March 3, 2021                                   | Requesting Party: | Public Advocates Office     |
| PG&E Witness:          |   | Requester:        | Henry Burton                |

**SUBJECT: NON-SPATIAL DATA TABLES**

The following questions relate to the attachment “Attachment 1 - All Data Tables Required by 2021 WMP Guidelines.xlsx.”

**QUESTION 11**

Per Table 12, for the following programs, the projected operating expense (OPEX) in 2021 is more than 2.5 times the OPEX in 2020. For each case, please explain the large increase in projected spending.

- a. 7.3.2.1.2 Advanced weather monitoring and weather stations, Fuel Moisture Sampling and Modeling
- b. 7.3.2.1.3 Advanced weather monitoring and weather stations, Weather Stations
- c. 7.3.3.13 Pole loading infrastructure hardening and replacement program based on pole loading assessment program
- d. 7.3.3.9.1 Installation of system automation equipment, Installation of System Automation Equipment

**ANSWER 11**

a. In 2020, PG&E established an internal LFM sampling program. Through 2020, 30 sites were selected to be sampled monthly and came online incrementally throughout the year. Not all sites were sampled the entire year. In 2021, the increased cost is associated with each location being sampled monthly throughout the year; thus, more samples will be collected, processed, and uploaded to the National Fuel Moisture Database.

b. The projected increase in operating expenses for Weather Stations in 2021 is driven by costs associated with the on-going maintenance, calibrations, and monitoring for the 404 additional weather stations installed in 2020.

c. This project is primarily driven by Capital investments (2020 spend of ~\$3M) with incremental operating expenses for software enhancements and training. The 2020 charges of \$61K were directly related to the software enhancements. The increase in 2021 forecast to \$152K is for operationalizing and training PG&E employees on the enhanced software.

d. This program is primarily driven by Capital investments (see 2020 spend of ~\$20M and 2021 forecast of \$17M) but minor operating expenses may be incurred in relation to this initiative. In 2020 PG&E's forecast for operating expenses was \$127K, consistent with the 2021 and 2022 forecasts of \$134K and \$138K, respectively, shown in the 2021 WMP. However, the minor operating expenses in 2020 did not materialize to the level anticipated so the 2020 actual recorded operating expenses was only \$10K, a significant underrun in percentage terms but not a significant variance in terms of total dollars within PG&E's electric operations budgets. The "increase" therefore from the 2020 actual to the 2021 forecast is in alignment with our previous, minor operating expenses forecast in support of this program.