

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	MGRA_009-Q006		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2023-2025_DR_MGRA_009-Q006		
Request Date:	April 8, 2024	Requester DR No.:	MGRA Data Request No. 2
Date Sent:	April 11, 2024	Requesting Party:	Mussey Grade Road Alliance
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Joseph Mitchell

**PS-07: Reduce PSPS Impacts to Customers (Section 9.1.5)**

**QUESTION 006**

Explain how MSO reduces PSPS incidence.

**ANSWER 006**

For clarification, Motorized Switch Operator (MSO) devices do not reduce “PSPS incidence,” but rather the scope of customer impact during a PSPS event.

While MSO devices were intended to serve as a sectionalizing device, PG&E identified MSO devices as an ignition risk when operated while energized due to the chance of arc flashes. As a result, MSO devices are not operated while energized, but must first be de-energized before they can be operated.

If an MSO device is selected for a PSPS event, the next upstream non-MSO device must first be used to temporarily de-energize the MSO device, so that the MSO device can be operated while de-energized. The non-MSO device is closed to energize up to the now-open MSO device.

This procedure eliminates the ignition risk from the MSO device but results in a short duration PSPS outage for the customers located between the MSO device and the upstream device. If the MSO device is replaced with a non-MSO device such as reclosers, subsurface equipment, and other vacuum switch equipment approved for current usage, these short duration outage customers will no longer experience any outage during the PSPS event because the replacement devices can be opened directly without needing to utilize an upstream device.