

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Wildfire Mitigation Plans Discovery 2022
Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	WilliamBAbrams_002-Q26		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_WilliamBAbrams_002-Q26		
Request Date:	April 13, 2022	Requester DR No.:	Email Transmittal – 2022WMP DR-02
Date Sent:	April 25, 2022	Requesting Party:	William B. Abrams
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Will Abrams

**SUBJECT: PG&E WMP GAP ANALYSIS GIVEN KINCADE FIRE TESTIMONY AND
SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Expert Testimony: Mr. Gary Uboldi, Fire Captain Specialist Peace Officer with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection who has investigated over 400 wildfires across his 20+ year career

Expert Testimony: Mr. Joseph Hemstock, 38 Year as PG&E as Supervisory Inspector, Crew Foreman, Electrical Transmission Supervisor and other lead roles plus 10 years as PG&E consultant

Testimony Date: February 9, 2022 (See Attachment B: Pre-Trial Transcript)

BACKGROUND TESTIMONY/EVIDENCE:

Pg. 260 (lines 7-24)

“Q. Describe for us why it was -- describe your experience with this tower. A. It was a constant source of entertainment. It was -- because of its location to this unit here over on the side, what you don't see is the cooling towers for the Geysers unit. And those cooling towers are constantly spewing steam or, you know, vapors or whatever and what are contained within that. That would always go out over the tower. The prevailing winds always pushed it towards that tower. And obviously there -- originally this was all PG&E equipment, obviously. But it would cause problems with arcing. They would get operators up there -- even back when it was PG&E's -- would call up. There were people who would call me and say, hey, 01, that's lit up like a Christmas tree. Q. You said lit up like a Christmas tree? A. Yes.”

QUESTION 26

- a. How has PG&E mitigated these risks to ensure “spewing steam” from cooling towers doesn't cause arcing as was identified as a “constant source of entertainment”?
- b. Where in the PG&E WMP does it reference changed mitigation practices due to this new information?

ANSWER 26

This information is not “new.” As the witness stated, the observations of “arcing” on the line near the Geysers 9/10 plant occurred in “[19]93, '4, about '95, somewhere in those three, four years.” (Tr. 260:27-28.) In 1999, PG&E sold the plant to Calpine; in 2001, Calpine took the plant offline. Taking the plant offline in 2001 eliminated all steam and any associated arcing.