

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_026-Q03		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_CalAdvocates_026-Q03		
Request Date:	July 15, 2022	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-26
Date Sent:	July 28, 2022	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Tyler Holzschuh

QUESTION 03

- a) Has PG&E studied the use of fast earthing switches⁴ (e.g. utility equipment manufacturer ABB's ultra-fast earthing switch) to extinguish a fault faster than using traditional circuit breakers to prevent wildfires?
- b) If the answer to part (a) is yes, when did PG&E conduct this analysis?
- c) If the answer to part (a) is yes, please provide all such studies or analyses that PG&E has produced or performed.
- d) If PG&E has reviewed any external (i.e., not created by PG&E) reports, studies or analyses related to the distribution protection scheme described in part (a), please *identify* each such document.
- e) Does PG&E plan to implement the distribution protection scheme described in part (a) on any portion of its electric distribution system?

ANSWER 03

- a) No, no formal study has been performed to investigate the use of fast earthing switches to prevent wildfires. Our understanding is that the ABB ultra-fast earthing switch is a single-use device that must be physically replaced after each operation, making it impractical for our fire risk reduction work.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Not applicable.
- d) Not applicable.
- e) Not at this time.

⁴ Also known as crowbars.