



Preliminary Ignition Investigation Report

Ignition Database Index:	954
Electric Incident Investigation (EII) Number:	EI220623A
HAWC Incident Name:	Timm – 23 June 2022
PG&E Facility Ignition?	Yes
CPUC Reportable Ignition?	Yes
Date & Time of Incident:	June 23, 2022 at 1355 hours
Street Address:	[REDACTED]
City:	Vacaville
County:	Solano
Latitude/Longitude:	[REDACTED]
PG&E Division:	Sacramento
High Fire Threat District (HFTD):	Non-HFTD
High Fire Risk Area (HFRA)	No
Non Tier Buffer	Yes
Fire Index Area:	None
Fire Potential Index (FPI) Rating:	NA
Was there a PSPS event at the time of ignition?	No
Failure Driver:	Contact from object
Failure Sub-driver:	Vehicle contact
Circuit:	Vaca Dixon 1105
Circuit Protection Zone:	Vaca Dixon-1105-LR40092
Nominal Voltage:	12kV
PG&E Equipment associated with ignition:	Yes (Pole/Overhead)
EPSS enabled at time of ignition?	Yes
Fault Type:	Line to ground
Wire Down (Primary)?	No
MAVF Score	None
Lead Agency/Agency Having Jurisdiction:	CAL FIRE Sonoma Lake Napa Unit (LNU)
Fire Size:	10-99 acre (36 acres)
FAS Field Remarks:	"Could not complete tag as 3rd party w/o investigation confirming. could not complete as equip failure due to likely 3rd party damage. do, super, claims notified"
HAWC Summary:	"Units responded to a fire at Timm Road & Buena Vista Lane. Fire is being reported as forward progress stopped with a current size of 15 acre(s). EPSS enabled circuit(s): VACA DIXON 1105 was located within .25 miles of the reported location. An outage was reported on the EPSS enabled circuit(s). No other outages reported. Total customers affected was 1,410.

	Per PSS and T-man FAS report, the outage was due to 3rd party vehicle into a pole with damage to the pole and transformer. 1,000 foot of wire came down. Notifications have been made to: DCC, GCC, Escalated Ignition Report, Epage, PSS, and HAWC Ops. Closing the incident barring any significant changes.”
Injuries / Fatalities / Property Damage / Media Attention:	No injuries or fatalities. Property damage included a burnt barn. Multiple news outlets covered the incident. ¹
Weather Conditions:	Hot, with a temperature of 100 F and a relative humidity of 17%, sustained winds of 10 mph, and no gusting at the time of the incident.
Red Flag Warning (RFW) / High Wind Warning (HWW):	None
911 Standby Relief Time:	7 minutes
OIS #:	1740223
ILIS #:	22-0077836
FAS #:	T005661751
Assigned Attorney:	
EII Ignition Investigator & Phone:	

¹ <https://www.sfgate.com/california-wildfires/article/wildfire-starts-near-pleasanton-17261731.php>
<https://www.kcra.com/article/vegetation-fire-forces-evacuations-north-vacaville/40398275#>

Executive Summary

On June 23, 2022 at 1400 hours, PG&E Emergency Dispatch received a phone call from the Solano County Sheriff's Department, reporting lines down and an associated vegetation fire at [REDACTED], Vacaville ("Incident Location"). The downed line resulted in an outage on the Vaca Dixon 1105 12kV Overhead Distribution Circuit, resulting in 1,400 customers out of power. Shortly thereafter, PG&E dispatched a troublemen to the Incident Location (Figure 1) and he arrived at 1410 hours. Once at the Incident Location, the troubleman observed an active vegetation fire (Figure 2) with both CAL FIRE and Vacaville Fire District on scene working to contain the fire. The troubleman was able to find the fault location, which was a downed pole with wires down on both sides. The downed pole was in the west side of the Incident Location, three poles from the end of the line. The downed pole was near a Solano Irrigation District yard. The pole appeared to have been hit by a vehicle at the base of the pole and fell to the ground igniting the fire (Figure 3, Figure 4). The fire was named the Timm Fire by CAL FIRE and burned between 25-30 acres of land.

The troubleman worked with the PG&E Distribution Control Center ("DCC") to isolate the outage and begin restoring customers as the fire agencies continued to work towards containing the fire. At 1515 hours, the troubleman closed the upstream recloser, restoring power to 1,370 customers. The troubleman patrolled the lines in the fire area and did not find any issues with PG&E facilities other than the downed pole. He created an Electric Corrective Tag ("EC Tag") for the repair of the downed pole and its components.

A PG&E repair crew arrived at the Incident Location at 1930 hours and restored service to all customers at 0405 hours, on June 24, 2022. The repair crew replaced the pole and transformer on the downed pole and repaired the downed conductor at the Incident Location.

The Solano Irrigation District Superintendent later confirmed that their backhoe had struck the pole. They had been completing work in the area and contacted the pole with the front bucket of their backhoe.

The pole appeared healthy and without decay as the wood appeared bright and healthy where it broke at the base. The pole also had the proper reflective and hi-visibility markings on it. The most recent GO 165 patrol occurred on December 15, 2020 and no abnormal conditions were noted. The most recent GO 165 inspection occurred on January 19, 2019 and noted no abnormal conditions to the incident pole. PG&E reviewed all completed, cancelled, and pending EC tags generated at the Incident Location in the last five years between June 23, 2017 and June 23, 2022. No abnormalities were noted.

PG&E reported this incident to the CPUC on June 27, 2022, under the property damage criterion due to PG&E Law-Claims receiving a property damage claim from a neighboring property alleging damages sustained from this incident exceeded \$50,000. PG&E collected the pole, conductor, and transformer from the downed pole as evidence.

This ignition occurred in the Non-Tier Buffer zone for EPSS Enablement.

EPSS Analysis

The PG&E Distribution Asset Planning team reported that EPSS settings were enabled on the upstream line recloser (LR 40092) at the time of the incident, and the line recloser detected line to ground fault and tripped as intended. The fault also caused Fuse 9355 to open.

ILIS report 22-0077836 indicates that this was a line to ground fault. The EPSS distribution asset planning team reported that there were no AMI partial voltage alarms. Recorded fault magnitude was 919A (B-ph) and 983A (GRD). MTT (minimum time to trip) pick up of 340A and GRD of 130A were exceeded.

This was enabled at this location due to non-tier buffer zone.

Ignition Impact

The incident ignited a fire that grew to 25 to 30 acres in size and reportedly damaged a barn structure on the neighboring property. The incident caused an outage for 1410 customers over a total period of approximately 14 hours. There were no injuries or fatalities associated with the fire, but several media outlets reported on the fire.

Sequence of Events

June 23, 2022

- 1356 hours—PG&E detects that Line recloser 40092 opened.
- 1400 hours—Solano County Sheriff notifies PG&E of wires down and a fire, and PG&E dispatches a troubleman to investigate.
- 1410 hours—Troubleman arrives on site and reports 2 of 3 fuses blown at Fuse 9355.
- 1515 hours—Troubleman closes LR 40092, restoring service to 1366 customers.
- 1930 hours—Repair crew arrives at the Incident Location.

June 24, 2022

- 0405 hours—Repair crew completes repairs and restores service to final 44 customers.

Corrective Notification Associated with Ignition

PG&E created EC Notification tag #123908882 to replace the downed pole, transformer, and downed conductor at the Incident Location. All work was completed on June 24, 2022.

Pending Work

Type	Number	Description	Priority	Date Identified	Due Date
EC Notification	None				
COE Notification	None				
LC Notification	None				
Veg Work Order	None				

Please note this may not include pending major program or project work at the incident location.

Asset Info & Most Recent Inspections and Tests

Info / Inspection	Most Recent Date	Findings
Install Date:	2002	
Inspection:	03/26/2014	No abnormal conditions
	01/19/2019	No abnormal conditions
Patrol:	12/15/2020	No abnormal conditions
Corrective History:	N/A	
Aerial Inspection Records:		
VM Inspection:	N/A	
EVM Inspection:	N/A	

This report is preliminary and based on available information as of 07/26/2022; event data is subject to change based upon subsequently discovered information.

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Internal

Equipment Test:	N/A	
Pole Intrusive Test:	04/10/2018	Pass
WSIP Inspection:	N/A	

*Incident Location: SAP ID: 103692242

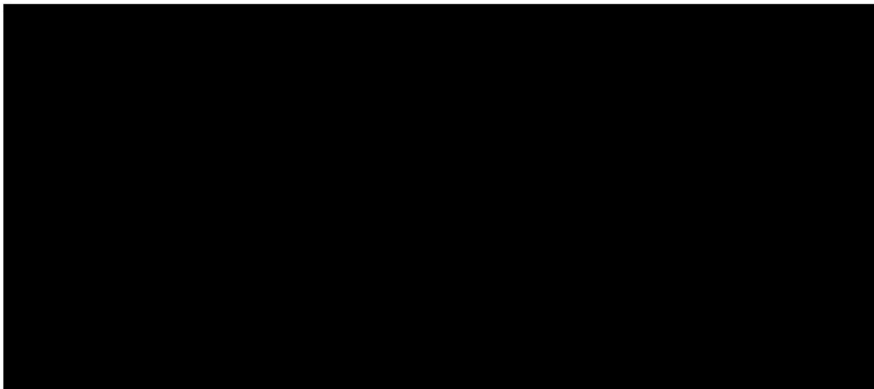
Hazard Barrier Analysis:

Hazard	Third party vehicle contact				
Target	Third party vehicle contacting PG&E assets				
Barrier	Objective	Expected Performance	Did Barrier Perform as Expected	Did Barrier Contribute to Incident	Defect
Markers and translucent material.	Increase pole visibility	Vehicles circling the pole remain away.	Unknown, since it is unclear whether the backhoe operator could have seen the markers when they struck the pole.	No	None


Potential Next Steps / Associated CAP Items:

None.


Single Line Diagram




LEGEND




Substation



Fuse



Line Recloser



Area of Interest

Photos and Diagrams of Events



Figure 1: EDGIS Map of the incident location, with subject pole indicated.



Figure 2: Burned vegetation north of two PG&E poles (SAP ID #103692240 and 103692238), looking south.



Figure 3: Stub of subject pole (SAP ID #103692242) broken and burning but still embedded in the ground (indicated).



Figure 4: Top of subject pole and transformer (indicated) burning on the ground.

Attachments

Attachments and references are located in the ESA folders below:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----END of REPORT-----

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Internal