

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_014-Q002		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2023_DR_CalAdvocates_014-Q002		
Request Date:	April 11, 2023	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2023WMP-14
Date Sent:	April 17, 2023	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
DRU Index #:		Requester:	Holly Wehrman

The following questions relate to your 2023-2025 WMP submission.

QUESTION 002

P. 358 of PG&E's WMP states,

“DTS-FAST is a technology developed internally at PG&E. It uses fraction of a second technologies to detect an object (such as a falling branch) approaching an energized power line and responds quickly to shut off power before the object impacts the line.”

- a) Following a DTS-FAST de-energization, does DTS-FAST re-energize the line once it detects that the object is no longer a threat?
- b) Please outline the scenarios under which DTS-FAST would keep the line de-energized following a DTS-FAST-induced de-energization.
- c) Please outline the scenarios under which DTS-FAST would re-energize the line following a DTS-FAST-induced de-energization.
- d) What reliability impacts does PG&E forecast from DTS-FAST installations?

ANSWER 002

- a) No, DTS-FAST does not have the capability to re-energize a line. Currently, DTS-FAST is monitoring only, and is not automatically sending the trip (de-energize) signal to operations until the system has more testing to ensure accuracy.
- b) DTS-FAST sensor data will report alarm conditions in real time. For example, if vegetation has fallen into the alarm zone and remains (i.e., leaning on the conductor line), the alarm will remain. However, if the vegetation falls away from the alarm zone, then the alarm will clear. Regardless, we will use the video cameras to validate the alarm and take appropriate actions.
- c) DTS-FAST does not have the capability to re-energize a line, but it will provide data to operations of sensor alarm statuses. In addition, DTS-FAST cameras will provide remote visual awareness of the alarm location.
- d) We do not currently have enough field data to draw formal conclusions about reliability impacts, but our goal is to ensure the DTS-FAST sensors report accurate wildfire risks with no false alarms.