

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_026-Q007		
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PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Holly Wehrman

**QUESTION 007**

Describe the challenges or advantages entailed in increasing load capacity on a circuit that has previously been hardened with covered conductor.

**ANSWER 007**

There are no significant differences to increasing load capacity on a circuit that has been hardened with covered conductor as compared to one that has not been hardened. In each case, the systems' structures and components will have to be replaced as required to support larger conductor or an additional underbuilt circuit. It might be possible for a hardened system to require fewer protection upgrades and, to a lesser extent, pole replacements to increase load capacity. It might also be possible for new load growth not to require physical system changes on a hardened system if it was already upgraded to support forecasted growth.