

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY**  
**Wildfire Mitigation Plans**  
**Rulemaking 18-10-007**  
**Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_047-Q01		
PG&E File Name:	WildfireMitigationPlans_DR_CalAdvocates_047-Q01		
Request Date:	March 2, 2021	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2021WMP-13
Date Sent:	March 9, 2021	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Tyler Holzschuh

The following questions relate to PG&E's 2021 wildfire mitigation plan (WMP).

**QUESTION 01**

- a) Do PG&E's intumescent wood pole coatings reduce the risk of PG&E's wood poles starting fires if (for whatever reason) a conductor contacts a wooden portion of the pole?
- b) If the answer to part (a) is yes, state the basis of this conclusion.

**ANSWER 01**

- a) Yes.
- b) The concept of intumescent wrap coatings is that when it is exposed to flames, it swells up and prevents poles from catching on fire. PG&E has just started the use of intumescent coated poles within the last year; however, intumescent coatings have been used in steel construction beams and members for many years and have been proven to be an effective fire prevention tool in building construction.

If a pole were to have an energized conductor contact the pole, the intumescent coating would likely reduce the risk of that wooden pole igniting and starting a fire. There would be no direct contact with the wood as the poles are completely covered with intumescent wrap coatings.

PG&E participated with partner utilities in testing of intumescent poles that were exposed to high temperatures and flames. The intumescent pole performed well during these tests.