

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_016-Q08		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_CalAdvocates_016-Q08		
Request Date:	March 18, 2022	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-16
Date Sent:	March 23, 2022	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Dillon Copa

The following questions relate to your 2022 WMP Update submission.

QUESTION 08

Section 7.3.5.8 of PG&E's 2022 WMP discuss remote sensing inspections of vegetation around transmission electric lines and equipment.

- a) Please describe the circumstances in which PG&E employs ground-based LiDAR inspections.
- b) Please describe the circumstances in which PG&E employs aerial LiDAR inspections.
- c) If PG&E uses ground-based LiDAR inspections more often than aerial LiDAR, please explain why.
- d) What is the approximate total cost per circuit-mile to perform ground-based LiDAR inspections?
- e) What is the approximate total cost per circuit-mile to perform aerial LiDAR inspections?
- f) When PG&E performs ground-based LiDAR inspections, is this work performed at the same time as VM patrols, inspection patrols, or other patrol work, in order to minimize costs? Please explain your response.

ANSWER 08

- a) There are no ground-based LiDAR inspections for Transmission Vegetation Management.
- b) LiDAR inspection planning starts in the late spring of the preceding year. By late June, the inspection schedules for the up-coming cycle are set. LiDAR acquisitions occurs in the late summer and inspection deliveries start in the fall and finish in the following spring. LiDAR deliveries are sent to PG&E for ground pre-inspection patrols.

The TVM team uses airborne LiDAR data to assign tree detection codes and risk rankings for each tree in its defined transmission Rights-of-Way (ROW). Utilizing the individual tree metrics, Utility Arborists inspect trees in the field to additionally identify tree defects, disease, tree lean or other issues that may flag a tree as a hazard. The combination of the LiDAR tree metrics and the hazard tree

identification inspection determines if a tree will be removed (or trimmed) to lessen the potential impact of a wildfire and/or allow PG&E to safely keep a powerline turned on during a PSPS weather event.

- c) There are no ground-based LiDAR inspections for Transmission Vegetation Management.
- d) There are no ground-based LiDAR inspections for Transmission Vegetation Management.
- e) The approximate total cost per circuit-mile to perform aerial LiDAR inspections is \$777.
- f) There are no ground-based LiDAR inspections for Transmission Vegetation Management.