

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

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| PG&E Data Request No.: | CalAdvocates_018-Q02 | | |
| PG&E File Name: | WMP-Discovery2022_DR_CalAdvocates_018-Q02 | | |
| Request Date: | March 25, 2022 | Requester DR No.: | CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-18 |
| Date Sent: | March 30, 2022 | Requesting Party: | Public Advocates Office |
| PG&E Witness: | | Requester: | Holly Wehrman |

The following questions relate to your 2022 WMP Update submission.

QUESTION 02

PG&E's response to data request CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-15, Question 16 shows a reduction of approximately \$412 million in projected total vegetation management expenditures from 2022 to 2023.

- a. Does the reduction in total VM expenditure from 2022 to 2023 result primarily from PG&E's plan to combine aspects of the EVM program into routine VM?
- b. If the answer to part (a) is yes, please explain all the substantive ways in which vegetation management activities in 2023 will differ from vegetation management activities in 2022.
- c. If the answer to part (a) is no, please state the basis for the reduction in projected VM expenditures from 2022 to 2023.
- d. Please explain how PG&E will achieve comparable risk reduction in 2023 as in 2022 despite significantly reduced spending.

ANSWER 02

- a. The reduction in total VM expenditures from 2022 to 2023 results primarily from changing the scope of the VM Program to align to PG&E's updated wildfire risk mitigation strategy. The forecast costs for work in the Routine VM program increase starting in 2023 because strike tree assessment and hazard tree removal transition from Enhanced VM to Routine VM and the Routine VM program is strengthened through the strike tree risk assessments (Exhibit (PG&E-4), p. 9-23, lines 15-16, p. 9-30, and Figure 9-5, p. 9-24, February 25, 2022 GRC Update). PG&E reduced its forecast to reflect its commitment to reducing the costs of its VM programs through efficiencies (Exhibit (PG&E-4), p. 9-2, lines 21-25, February 25, 2022 GRC Update).
- b. See response to part (a).
- c. See response to part (a).
- d. By transitioning the strengthened tree assessment from Enhanced VM to Routine VM program, it allows PG&E to target high risk trees across the entire HFTD,

instead of only those high risk trees located within the ~1800 miles (7 percent) of HFTD targeted by EVM. This is why, despite the reduced cost in EVM and increased cost for Routine VM, PG&E expects to reduce more risk across the system.

See program risk reduction associated with vegetation management programs in PG&E's wildfire risk model. Specifically, the EO-WLDFR-3_RSE Input File, Tab: RSE results, lines 11, 78 and 79. This file was provided to parties in response to GRC-2023-PhI_DR_ED_001-Q01Supp01Rev02Atch01.zip file which provides PG&E's February 25, 2022, updated risk modeling workpapers for EO-WLDFR.