

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	CalAdvocates_017-Q08		
PG&E File Name:	WMP-Discovery2022_DR_CalAdvocates_017-Q08		
Request Date:	March 21, 2022	Requester DR No.:	CalAdvocates-PGE-2022WMP-17
Date Sent:	March 24, 2022	Requesting Party:	Public Advocates Office
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Holly Wehrman

QUESTION 08

Pages 12-77 of document “2022-02-25_PGE_2022_WMP-Update_R0_Section 4.6_Atch01.pdf” contain the joint response by PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E to the issue identified by Energy Safety titled “Limited evidence to support the effectiveness of covered conductor.

”Page 52 of this document states, with regard to risk event mitigation, “In general, a spacer cable system and an ABC [aerial bundled cable] system provide higher effectiveness than a covered conductor system due to their strength and in the case of ABC both its strength and greater insulation properties.”

Page 62 of this document states, with regard to PSPS event mitigation, “Similar to the assessment in the section above, a spacer cable system and an ABC system provide could provide higher benefits than a covered conductor system due to their strength and in the case of ABC both its strength and greater insulation properties.”

- a) Does PG&E have any spacer cable installed in its system currently? If so, state the approximate number of miles, disaggregated by HFTD tier (see definitions P through S).
- b) If PG&E has any spacer cable installed in its system, please provide the actual cost per mile to install the spacer cable, disaggregated by installation year.
- c) Please provide an estimate of the current cost per mile to install spacer cable in PG&E’s HFTD.
- d) If PG&E were to install a spacer cable system, would the percentage of poles replaced as part of the installation be higher, lower, or comparable to PG&E’s current pole replacement rate in covered conductor projects?
- e) Please state PG&E’s reasons for installing covered conductor instead of spacer cable in its HFTD, despite the apparent benefits of spacer cable described above.

ANSWER 08

- a) PG&E does not have any spacer cable installed in our system currently.

Internal

- b) N/A
- c) N/A
- d) If PG&E were to install a spacer cable system, the percentages of poles replaced would be about the same if not higher than the rate of pole replacements for covered conductor. It is assumed that existing poles would be replaced with stronger steel and/or fire-resistant poles to support this system.
- e) The most prevalent reasons for PG&E's decision not to install spacer cable are (1) the need for all new equipment types (including spacer brackets, installation tools, etc.), and (2) its limitation to 12kV systems only. Spacer cable may also only be useable in bucket truck accessible locations due to the need for a bosun chain (line cart) for installation, maintenance, and inspection.