

United States District Court
Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

No. CR 14-00175 WHA

v.

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

Defendant.

**ORDER REQUESTING
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
FOLLOWING PG&E’S NOVEMBER
18 BRIEFING**

The Court has read PG&E’s submission dated November 18, 2020, and acknowledges the efforts of PG&E and its counsel. By **DECEMBER 16, 2020 AT NOON**, PG&E shall please answer these additional questions:

1. State the full extent to which PG&E itself (as opposed to its contractors and/or subcontractors) maintains records with respect to individual distribution lines in Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas:
 - a. Setting forth the reports of inspections identifying trees or limbs for removal and the data thereof;

- 1 b. Setting forth the full extent to which the work identified in such inspections
- 2 was accomplished and dates accomplished;
- 3 c. Setting forth the full extent to which the work identified in such inspections
- 4 has NOT been performed.
- 5 2. In its response dated November 3, 2020, PG&E stated on page two its intention to
- 6 improve contractor fidelity to the EVM program and stated that mid-2019
- 7 improvements “included 100% work verification, increased contractor training,
- 8 contractor competency tests, and numerous changes to improve EVM
- 9 recordkeeping.” State in plain terms what each of these changes are, the date of their
- 10 implementation, and contractor compliance since that implementation.
- 11 3. Explain each type of consequence that PG&E considers when evaluating a region for
- 12 the Black Swan criteria. Also explain the source of the information informing each
- 13 consequence. (For example, if potential loss of life is a “consequence” factored in,
- 14 explain how the estimated potential loss of life is calculated and from what source the
- 15 underlying population figures are derived).
- 16 4. Please provide a real-life example of calculations using the equations described in
- 17 footnote seven of PG&E’s November 18 response. In responding, please re-state the
- 18 equations, identify an *example* from the real world of values associated with each
- 19 variable, and perform the calculation while “showing your work.”
- 20 5. Explain the ArcGIS and Collector App systems in detail. Specifically:
 - 21 a. Explain how the ArcGIS records operate with respect to the “TC_Worked”
 - 22 field. When and how is the TC_Worked field generated? Do any alternative
 - 23 field(s) account for tree(s) or portions of line that were inspected but where
 - 24 inspectors did not identify any hazard trees/limbs?
 - 25 b. Explain whether these system(s) allow and/or require workers to upload
 - 26 evidence of tree removal or trimming along with an indication that work was
 - 27 completed. Explain how the ArcGIS and Collector App systems
 - 28 communicate, if at all, with PG&E’s PMD system, including the degree to

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which the PSPS decision-makers including the meteorology team have access to tree inspection and removal/trimming data from the ArcGIS and Collector App systems.

6. Is the gray pine now in PG&E’s possession, a portion of which was removed by CalFire, marked by any spray paint?
 - a. PG&E shall ask CalFire and/or the Shasta County District Attorney’s office to answer, *first*, whether the portions of the gray pine that CalFire removed show any spray paint and, *second*, whether the portion of tree that it removed contained burn marks that could obscure such paint.
7. The declaration dated November 18, 2020, attached to the response as Exhibit A states at paragraph 23:

[A]t times in 2019, PG&E’s vegetation management team gave guidance not to perform separate CEMA inspection and to close the CEMA project in PG&E’s PMD following the commencement of the routine patrol in situations where, as a result of risk-based prioritization changes to the routine patrol schedule, the CEMA patrol (the scope of which is subsumed in a routine patrol) had been scheduled close in time to the routine patrol.

How many CEMA inspections, required by the 2019 Wildlife Mitigation Plan, were NOT conducted as a result of these schedule changes during PG&E’s pre-inspection annual calendar, November 16, 2019, to November 15, 2020?
8. Update PG&E’s response to this question based on any new information, investigation, or conclusions reached since the filing of the November 18 response:

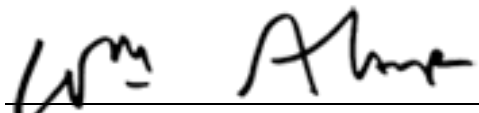
“Is there specific evidence that the particular gray pine [removed by CalFire] was trimmed or removed prior to the Zogg fire? Was this tree identified for work by any patrol?”
9. In its response dated November 3, 2020, PG&E states that it utilizes a risk model to select areas to be worked for EVM. Why can’t the system for determining whether a distribution line will be de-energized in a PSPS event operate on a risk model, which takes into account the extent to which the relevant distribution lines are in compliance

1 with Public Resource Code Sections 4292 and 4293 and PG&E's own Wildfire
2 Mitigation Plan?

3
4 Please respond by **DECEMBER 16, 2020, AT NOON.**

5 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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7 Dated: November 24, 2020.

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10 WILLIAM ALSUP
11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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