



FILED

07/01/21
09:56 AM

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric
Company for Authority, Among Other Things,
to Increase Rates and Charges for Electric and
Gas Service Effective on January 1, 2020.

(U 39 M)

Application No. 18-12-009
(Filed: December 13, 2018)

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S (U39M)
2020 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT REPORT**

MARY A. GANDESBERY
TESSA M. G. CARLBERG

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
PO Box 7442
San Francisco, CA 94120
Telephone: (415) 973-7950
Facsimile: (415) 972-5520
E-Mail: Tessa.Carlberg@pge.com

Dated: July 1, 2021

Attorneys for
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric
Company for Authority, Among Other Things,
to Increase Rates and Charges for Electric and
Gas Service Effective on January 1, 2020.

(U 39 M)

Application No. 18-12-009
(Filed: December 13, 2018)

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S (U39M)
2020 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submits its 2020 Vegetation Management Report in Compliance with Decision 20-12-005, *Decision Addressing the Test Year 2020 General Rate Case of Pacific Gas & Electric Company* (2020 GRC Decision). The 2020 GRC Decision approved a multi-party settlement agreement. Article 2.3.4 of the settlement agreement addresses funding of vegetation management programs included in PG&E's Vegetation Management Balancing Account (VMBA). Section 2.3.4.5 states:

Vegetation Management Reporting

PG&E shall file an annual report that includes the results of the tree inspections, subject to combining the report with any other annual report required by AB 1054 or otherwise required by the Commission. The first annual report would be for the year 2020 and shall be provided by July 1, 2021.

PG&E's 2020 Vegetation Management Report is provided as Attachment A.

Respectfully submitted,

TESSA M. G. CARLBERG

By: /s/ Tessa M. G. Carlberg
TESSA M. G. CARLBERG

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
PO Box 7442
San Francisco, CA 94120
Telephone: (415) 973-7950
Facsimile: (415) 972-5520
E-Mail: Tessa.Carlberg@pge.com

Dated: July 1, 2021

Attorney for
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
ATTACHMENT A
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S (U39M)
2020 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT REPORT



PG&E 2020 Vegetation Management Report

Settlement Agreement 2.3.4.5, VM Reporting

Background: On December 11, 2020, the CPUC issued D.20-12-005. Ordering Paragraph (OP) 1 of the 2020 GRC Decision approves the Settlement Agreement (Settlement), with modifications, and thereby authorizes PG&E to modify the existing one-way Vegetation Management Balancing Account (VMBA) to a two-way VMBA Expense Balancing Account that records actual Routine and EVM costs compared to amounts adopted in the Settlement. The Decision also requires PG&E to record costs for Tree Mortality and Fire Risk Reduction, previously recovered through the CEMA, in the modified VMBA.

Section 2.3.4.5 of the Settlement Agreement states:

PG&E shall file an annual report that includes the results of the tree inspections, subject to combining the report with any other annual report required by AB 1054 or otherwise required by the Commission. The first annual report would be for the year 2020 and shall be provided by July 1, 2021.

2020 Tree Inspections Results

PG&E's 2020 Vegetation Management Report includes the results of tree inspections associated with the Electric Distribution Vegetation Management Program, encompassing the programs of: Routine Vegetation Management; Enhanced Vegetation Management (EVM); and the Tree Mortality program (formerly CEMA). "Inspections" are defined as the number of circuit miles patrolled and evaluated.

VM Inspections 2020

Program	ACTUAL Inspections	TARGET Inspections	2020 Performance	WMP Unit of Measure	2020 Tree Work Numbers
Routine VM (Distribution)	79,617	79,617	100%	# Circuit miles (Distribution miles)	~1.4M trimmed trees ~200K trees removed Including 2019 carry-over
EVM	1,878	1,800	104%	# Circuit miles completed and verified	~162K trees mitigated (trimmed or removed)
Tree Mortality ¹	43,571	43,571	100%	# Circuit miles completed	~41K CEMA trees removed ~29K trees trimmed ² Including 2019 carry-over

Notes:

- 1) Tree Mortality work was previously funded by CEMA. Tree Mortality 2020 Targeted and Actual inspection circuit miles exclude 126 planned CEMA miles completed under the Major Emergency due to fire events.
- 2) Brush removals are classified as "trimmed" in the Tree Mortality program.

Routine Vegetation Management work encompasses patrolling, inspecting and maintaining clearances for trees along PG&E's overhead (OH) high voltage Distribution lines. The program covers routine tree trimming and removal, vegetation control, contractor quality control, environmental compliance and public education, and fire risk reduction work.

The **Enhanced Vegetation Management** program (EVM) is focused on addressing vegetation that poses a higher potential for wildfire risk in high fire-threat areas, as designated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). To help further reduce the risk of trees, limbs or branches from coming into contact with power lines, tree crews complete necessary tree pruning work and removing any dead or dying trees.

Tree Mortality (formerly CEMA Tree Mortality) work was implemented in response to the 2014 Drought Emergency proclamation issuance of Commission Resolution (Res.) ESRB-4 the Governor's October 30, 2015 Bark Beetle Tree Mortality Emergency Proclamation, and the February 18, 2014 letter from the CPUC Safety and Enforcement Division, which all relate to the mitigating the effects of the drought on tree mortality and fire risk reduction. ESRB-4 directs investor-owned utilities (IOU) to take remedial measures to reduce the likelihood of fires started by or threatening utility facilities.