



Peter Kenny
Sr. Vice President
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November 15, 2022

Ms. Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

Ms. Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez
Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Affairs
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)

RE: PG&E Vegetation Management Practices

Dear Ms. Warmerdam and Ms. Wong-Hernandez:

Thank you for your letter dated October 31, 2022 sharing your concerns around PG&E's wood management program. PG&E has a robust effort in 3 major initiatives to address felled wood, (1) Enhanced Vegetation Management program within High-Fire Threat Districts, (2) Tree Mortality program, and (3) Wood Management program focused on removing felled trees following the 2020 and 2021 wildfires.

We have reviewed your letter and would appreciate an opportunity to discuss several areas that may bring additional clarifications and directly respond to the seven requested items.

PG&E's Wood Management Program requires the respective landowner to decide whether they want us to perform wood management on their property. Approximately 19% of private property owners experiencing fire-related hazard tree mitigation choose to opt into the Wildfire Wood Management program. To increase property owner awareness, we leveraged this information to mature and build out a targeted communications strategy. Currently, we have implemented a multi-level effort from mailers, letters, phone calls, door hangers, interactive voice message (IVR) and door knocks. The intent is to bring awareness of the program to our customers and our communities. Additionally, this is an opportunity to engage and respond to any questions on PG&E's vegetation management programs. We are committed to making further improvements to our communications with our communities and our customers.

In July 2022, PG&E partially paused the execution component of the wood management program to increase safety oversight and deploy operational improvements. However, PG&E continued to receive opt-ins during this time. By the end of August, all aspects of the wood management program resumed.

Internal

Ms. Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Ms. Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez
November 15, 2022
Page 2


To directly address the concerns raised in your letter, we have outlined each item with a corresponding response:

- Immediately begin efforts to remove felled wood where requested by the property owner.
 - PG&E is currently removing felled wood, where requested by the property owner. The execution of the program was partially paused in July 2022. By the end of August, all aspects of the wood management program resumed.
- Remove all felled wood and wood chips deeper than 4” within 100’ of structures.
 - PG&E will continue to remove felled wood within 100’ of structures when a property owner provides the appropriate consent. Our current practice for wood chips is to leave an average depth of less than 18 inches from the ground surface unless otherwise specified in an easement or landowner agreement.
- Designate specific representatives whom property owners and local leaders can contact for removal of felled wood. Those individuals must be empowered to quickly and successfully resolve disputes that may arise.
 - PG&E will provide the appropriate points of contact, by region, for property owners to contact and work directly on the felled wood removal. The points of contact will be in addition to the contact information that is currently in place and includes the following: 1) contact wildfirewoodmanagement@pge.com, 2) call [1-800-687-5720](tel:1-800-687-5720), or 3) visit [Wildfire Wood Management Program \(pge.com\)](https://www.pge.com/wildfire-wood-management).
- Resolve widespread inconsistencies with contractors for greater quality control outcomes on the ground.
 - PG&E would appreciate the opportunity to meet to understand this request in greater detail. We are always seeking opportunities for continuous improvement.
- Utilize a single, consolidated form at the customer level for greater transparency among PG&E’s various vegetation management programs.
 - PG&E will evaluate the forms related to wood management programs and determine potential improvement opportunities.
- Discontinue misrepresenting public agency roles, responsibilities, and resources.
 - PG&E is unaware of any misrepresentations. We would like to obtain additional insights on your concerns.
- Direct PG&E regional Vice Presidents to convene a meeting with impacted counties to develop an actionable—and equitable—pathway forward.
 - We will work with you to schedule a meeting, at your earliest convenience, to discuss these concerns and determine the next steps in resolving them.

Ms. Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Ms. Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez
November 15, 2022
Page 3

Thank you for sharing your concerns and we look forward to partnering with you to reduce the risk of wildfires for our customers and our communities that we are privileged to serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Kenny". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Peter Kenny
Senior Vice President, Vegetation Management and System Inspections

cc : Ronald Richardson, Vice President, North Coast Region, PG&E
Joe Wilson, Vice President, North Valley & Sierra Region, PG&E
Joshua Simes, Vice President, Central Valley Region, PG&E
Alice Busching Reynolds, President, California Public Utilities Commission
Clifford Rechtschaffen, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
Darcie Houck, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
John Reynolds, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Director, California Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
Joe Tyler, Director, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection