

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
General Rate Case 2011 Phase I
Application 09-12-020
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_186-03q		
PG&E File Name:	GRC2011-Ph-I_DR_DRA_186-Q03q		
Request Date:	March 9, 2010	Requester DR No.:	DRA-186-TLG
Date Sent:	March 23, 2010	Requesting Party:	DRA
PG&E Witness:	Redacted	Requester:	Tamera Godfrey

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES FOR MWC BF, BG, AND BK

QUESTION 3Q

PG&E forecasted \$40.712 million for MWC BF. This is an increase of \$7.487 million or 22.53% over 2008 recorded adjusted expenses of \$33.225 million. PG&E's MWC BF includes individual forecasts for ten subaccounts/line items. The questions below relate to the following five subaccounts/line items and forecast: \$5.641 million for Overhead Line Equipment Inspected and Tested, \$1.131 million for Underground Line Equipment Inspected and Tested, \$2.923 million for Network Transformers Inspected, \$0.311 million for Special Patrols, and \$0.881 million for Miscellaneous Maintenance Items.

- q) PG&E forecasted \$0.881 million associated with implementing mobile hand-held units for 2011. The \$0.881 million is forecasted for "defining the business requirements for the new technology and the time it will take for field employees to learn the new technology". Provide all source documentation PG&E's management relied upon to determine each specific expense included in the increase (i.e. breakdown of contract costs and source/basis for estimates, copies of vendor contracts for studies, annual salary breakdown for new positions and basis/source for estimated salary, etc.) in order to fully justify the request. Also provide copies of PG&E's cost benefit analysis performed and all documentation that PG&E's management relied upon to determine that this work was required in the test year and other documentation that shows PG&E's step by step management approval process for each project (i.e. person(s) requesting project, project preparation, scope, research performed for need/requirements, design, test, implementation, review and communication of needs and expectations, defined deliverables, etc.

ANSWER 3Q

PG&E currently assigns and executes its preventive electric distribution maintenance (e.g., patrols and inspections, line equipment inspections and testing, group street lights, overhead infrared) work by use of paper records. Such records include paper

maps with facility symbols to identify the location and type of facility/equipment, and paper forms to document abnormal conditions (which subsequently clerical personnel enter into SAP).

No specific documentation or cost benefit analysis is available for this work of implementing mobile hand-held units in 2011. PG&E's Electric Distribution Maintenance Program process improvement initiative (Exhibit (PG&E-3), Chapter 2, page 2-7, lines 13-24) includes a long-term recommendation to implement hand-held mobile computers. A formal cost-benefit analysis and recommendation has not been submitted, however, based on discussion with other California utilities regarding the electronic tools they use, there are several benefits for having mobile units. Examples of the benefits are: streamlining of the documentation process, improving efficiencies in executing work, improving asset management, and implementing of condition based maintenance.