

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
GTS RATE CASE 2011
Application 09-09-013
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_030-12		
PG&E File Name:	GTS-RateCase2011_DR_DRA_030-Q12		
Request Date:	February 17, 2012	Requester DR No.:	DRA-INM-4
Date Sent:	March 4, 2012	Requesting Party:	DRA
PG&E Witness:	Redacted	Requester:	Jack Gray

SUBJECT: CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

QUESTION 12

Please explain and provide workpapers for PG&E's conclusions on page 6-9 and 6-10 that the example projects were highest or second highest risk pipelines in the San Joaquin Valley and the Bay Area. Provide the actual risk of the projects, how that risk was determined, and how it compares to the risk of other pipeline segments of lesser risk.

ANSWER 12

The risk for the projects was determined according to the Top-100 White Paper (GTS-RateCase2011_DR_DRA_030-Q12A1ch01). The sorted actual risk numbers and determining factors for the highest risk segments of all of PG&E's transmission pipelines are shown on the 2008 Top-200 spreadsheet (GTS-RateCase2011_DR_DRA_030-Q12A1ch02).

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RateCase2011_DR_DRA_030-Q12

1 hydro-tested to its maximum design and the pipeline can
2 continue to operate at the same pressure with the higher safety
3 factor.

- 4 3. Installing a new segment of gas pipeline that is tested and
5 qualified to operate at the desired pressure within the new and
6 anticipated future class location area.

7 Typically, when a pipeline class location increases due to
8 development, PG&E will either pressure-test the pipeline to ensure
9 adequate safety or install a new pipeline segment to meet both the
10 safety requirements and maintain or increase capacity.

11 Development and urban expansion in the Bay Area, and
12 particularly in the Bakersfield area, will require significant investment
13 in pipeline replacements, due to class location changes per
14 CFR 192.611. An example of a Class Location Change project is:

- 15 • 2012 – Replace 10,080 feet of Line 300A in Bakersfield due to a
16 Class Location change. \$6.0 million.

17 **(2) Pipeline Risk Management Program**

18 In 1998, PG&E developed a pipeline Risk Management (RM)
19 Program to assess the risk of every segment of gas transmission
20 pipeline within PG&E's system. The Chief of the Utilities Safety
21 Branch at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or
22 Commission) approved the program on April 20, 2000.

23 Pipeline risk is determined by assessing two factors:
24 (1) probability or likelihood of failure; and (2) local consequence of
25 failure.

26 The probability of a pipeline failure depends on various physical
27 characteristics such as diameter, wall-thickness, operating pressure,
28 year installed, pipeline condition reports, method of construction,
29 type of coating, depth of cover, vulnerability to third-party damage,
30 and environmental factors such as proximity to earthquake faults
31 and potential landslides. Factors used to determine consequences
32 include: population density, impact zone of the pipeline, types of
33 structures in proximity to the pipeline, environmental impacts (water

1 crossings), magnitude of customer outages, and magnitude of gas
2 flow lost should the pipeline segment fail.

3 Utilizing these characteristics, PG&E developed a risk
4 assessment algorithm:

$$\text{Risk} = (\text{Likelihood of Failure}) \times (\text{Consequence of Failure})$$

5 The algorithms and associated variables used to develop the
6 Likelihood of Failure and Consequence of Failure were derived by
7 analyzing root cause technical data generated from pipeline failures
8 that occurred across the nation over a 10-year period. Even though
9 PG&E does not have a significant pipeline failure history, insights
10 from incidents that occurred within the PG&E system were also
11 used to establish the risk algorithms. The algorithms are reviewed
12 annually with subject matter experts to determine if additional data
13 or new incidents warrant a change to the algorithms.

14 PG&E uses these algorithms to derive risk numbers for every
15 unique segment of gas transmission pipe. The pipeline segment
16 risk numbers are then used to help identify, quantify, and prioritize
17 high-risk pipeline segments. PG&E analyzes each high-risk
18 segment and looks for engineering solutions and risk mitigation
19 techniques to reduce pipeline risk. Pipeline risk reduction
20 techniques include smart pigging, pipeline replacement, pipeline
21 relocation, pipeline rehabilitation/recoating, erosion mitigation,
22 underwater pipeline surveys, external corrosion direct assessment,
23 internal corrosion mitigation, landowner notification, and public
24 education programs. The RM Program ensures that PG&E is
25 allocating capital safety and reliability dollars and resources to the
26 highest risk pipeline segments and regulating stations within the
27 system.

28 Examples of projects within this Planning Order include:

- 29 • 2011-2014 – Replace 7.9 miles of Line 108 between Ripon and
30 Stockton. This is the highest risk pipeline in the San Joaquin
31 Valley. \$33.6 million.

- 1 • 2011-2014 – Replace 8 miles of Line 107 between Livermore
2 and Sunol. This is the highest-risk pipeline in the Bay Area.
3 \$35.1 million.
- 4 • 2011-2014 – Replace 4.3 miles of Line 131 in Fremont. This is
5 the second highest risk pipeline in the Bay Area. \$13.4 million.

6 **b. Cathodic Protection Planning Order**

7 This planning order includes the capital expenditures to comply with
8 federal and state regulations for cathodic protection to protect buried
9 steel gas pipelines from external corrosion. Capital projects primarily
10 include replacement of deteriorated and failed pipeline coatings as well
11 as corrosion prevention equipment such as anodes, rectifiers and
12 monitoring systems.

13 **c. Regulating Station Planning Order**

14 This planning order contains capital projects to replace
15 malfunctioning and obsolete equipment within existing gas regulation
16 stations. A gas regulation station is designed to reduce and regulate
17 high-pressure gas from either a backbone or local transmission pipeline
18 to a lower pressure before it is delivered into a transmission line or
19 distribution feeder main.

20 **d. Pipeline Reliability < \$1.0 Million Planning Order**

21 This planning order is for pipeline reliability capital projects that cost
22 less than \$1.0 million each. Total expenditures for this planning order
23 range from \$7.7 million in 2010 to zero in 2014. Projects with costs
24 greater than or equal to \$1.0 million are assigned to their own specific
25 planning order.

26 **4. Work Requested by Others, MWC-83 (Roy A. Surges)**

27 This category covers plant PG&E installs, replaces, and/or relocates at
28 the request of third parties, typically governmental agencies for public-works
29 projects. Cities, counties, developers, Caltrans and transportation agencies
30 such as Valley Transit Authority and Sacramento Regional Transit drive the
31 typical WRO relocations. Capital expenditures in this category are driven
32 entirely by existing land rights. PG&E pays zero to 100 percent of the
33 specific project relocation costs.

Top-100 White Paper

The "Top-100" is a list of gas transmission pipeline segments that have been identified as having the highest concern in PG&E's Risk Management system. This list enables PG&E to focus safety and reliability efforts in the highest risk areas.

The Top-100 is published annually by PG&E's Integrity Management department. The list is developed from the pipeline data in the GIS system accordance with Integrity Management's Risk Management Procedures (RMPs). The RMPs define how PG&E identifies and manages pipeline risk in accordance with 49 CFR 192. Only gas transmission pipelines as defined in 49 CFR 192 are evaluated.

The Top 100 List

The Top-100 list identifies the gas transmission pipeline segments that have the highest relative risk or likelihood of failure (LOF) due to four key types of threats. These threats include: Third Party dig-ins (TP), External Corrosion (EC), Design of Materials (DM), and Ground Movement (GM). The RMP-01 procedure provides risk algorithms and weighting for these threats. Every segment of gas transmission pipe in PG&E's system (as defined in 49 CFR 192) is evaluated.

For each of the threats above, a relative likelihood of failure and relative risk number is calculated according to the evaluation criteria established in the RMPs. The relative risk is the product of the likelihood of failure times the consequences of a failure at the location of the segment. Also, for each segment, the risk values for the four threats are added together, resulting in a relative overall risk, or Future Risk value. In total, there are 9 risk categories for each pipeline segment (TP Risk, TP LOF, EC Risk, EC LOF, DM Risk, DM LOF, GM Risk, GM LOF, and Future Risk).

The Top 100 list is comprised of:

- 10 pipeline segments with highest TP Risk.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest TP LOF.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest EC Risk.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest EC LOF.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest DM Risk.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest DM LOF.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest GM Risk.
- 10 pipeline segments with highest GM LOF.
- 20 pipeline segments with highest Future Risk.

Top-100 White Paper

The Top-100 list may have more or less than exactly 100 segments. Some individual pipe segments may appear in two or more different threats categories. Also, some of the categories may have several segments that tie for tenth in highest relative risk or likelihood of failure.

The segments that are within the 20 highest values for each of the risk categories would be considered to be in the Top-200, and those within the 30 highest in each category would be considered Top-300.

Evaluation by Pipeline Engineering

When the Top-100 list is published, the Pipeline Engineering group sorts the listed segments by Area and groups the segments by Line. The Top 200 and 300 lists are reviewed to check for adjacent or encompassed segments. It often makes sense to include adjacent segments in the scope of a pipeline replacement because as soon as the higher risk segments fall off the Top 100 list, the Top 200 segments will replace the Top 100.

The first evaluation of the Top-100 list involves reviewing the GIS data for assumed values or missing information. Researching records and updating the data may lower the calculated risk such that the segment is no longer within the "Top 100".

The next evaluation involves focusing on the type of risk threat and identifying mitigation alternatives. For Third Party threats, adding pipeline markers or increasing the cover may be needed to reduce the risk. For External Corrosion threats a close interval survey, or other indirect assessment may justify lowering the risk value. For Design Materials threats, verify piping properties in GIS and check if it includes flaws such as wrinkle bends or miters. Past examination results and hydrotest records may be also utilized to reduce the risk of the old pipelines. For Ground Movement threats, a detailed study can justify lowering the risk values, otherwise, replacement and possibly rerouting may be necessary to reduce risk. The main contributing threats for Overall Future Risk segments will have to be identified in order to identify mitigating alternatives.

To establish a list of potential projects to be considered for pipeline replacement, the focus was primarily on the Design of Materials risk category. This is because replacement is the primary mode of mitigating old pipelines in poor condition. Third Party, External Corrosion, and Ground Movement were also reviewed for segments with known conditions that warrant pipeline replacement.

Creating Projects

After mitigation alternatives are identified, projects can be scoped. The projects are entered into PSRS as reliability projects. These projects are prioritized based on level of risk reduction and leveled for budgeting purposes.

Top-100 White Paper

Each year, the RMP criteria evolve, GIS data is updated, and new technologies add mitigation alternatives. As new Top-100 lists are published and projects are identified, the existing projects need to be reevaluated and re-prioritized.

Questions

For questions, please contact:

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Appendix

"Beginning in 1985v2.doc" - A history of PG&E's Risk Management program, by

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STG No	STG Name	STG Type	STG Status	STG Date	STG Amount	STG Balance	STG Description	STG Category	STG Sub-Category	STG Code	STG Unit	STG Rate	STG Total	STG Remarks
1001	STG 1001	ED	01	01/01/05	1000.00	1000.00	STG 1001	ED	01	01	1000.00	1000.00	STG 1001	
1002	STG 1002	ED	01	01/01/05	2000.00	2000.00	STG 1002	ED	01	01	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	STG 1002
1003	STG 1003	ED	01	01/01/05	3000.00	3000.00	STG 1003	ED	01	01	3000.00	3000.00	3000.00	STG 1003
1004	STG 1004	ED	01	01/01/05	4000.00	4000.00	STG 1004	ED	01	01	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00	STG 1004
1005	STG 1005	ED	01	01/01/05	5000.00	5000.00	STG 1005	ED	01	01	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	STG 1005
1006	STG 1006	ED	01	01/01/05	6000.00	6000.00	STG 1006	ED	01	01	6000.00	6000.00	6000.00	STG 1006
1007	STG 1007	ED	01	01/01/05	7000.00	7000.00	STG 1007	ED	01	01	7000.00	7000.00	7000.00	STG 1007
1008	STG 1008	ED	01	01/01/05	8000.00	8000.00	STG 1008	ED	01	01	8000.00	8000.00	8000.00	STG 1008
1009	STG 1009	ED	01	01/01/05	9000.00	9000.00	STG 1009	ED	01	01	9000.00	9000.00	9000.00	STG 1009
1010	STG 1010	ED	01	01/01/05	10000.00	10000.00	STG 1010	ED	01	01	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	STG 1010
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1012	STG 1012	ED	01	01/01/05	12000.00	12000.00	STG 1012	ED	01	01	12000.00	12000.00	12000.00	STG 1012
1013	STG 1013	ED	01	01/01/05	13000.00	13000.00	STG 1013	ED	01	01	13000.00	13000.00	13000.00	STG 1013
1014	STG 1014	ED	01	01/01/05	14000.00	14000.00	STG 1014	ED	01	01	14000.00	14000.00	14000.00	STG 1014
1015	STG 1015	ED	01	01/01/05	15000.00	15000.00	STG 1015	ED	01	01	15000.00	15000.00	15000.00	STG 1015
1016	STG 1016	ED	01	01/01/05	16000.00	16000.00	STG 1016	ED	01	01	16000.00	16000.00	16000.00	STG 1016
1017	STG 1017	ED	01	01/01/05	17000.00	17000.00	STG 1017	ED	01	01	17000.00	17000.00	17000.00	STG 1017
1018	STG 1018	ED	01	01/01/05	18000.00	18000.00	STG 1018	ED	01	01	18000.00	18000.00	18000.00	STG 1018
1019	STG 1019	ED	01	01/01/05	19000.00	19000.00	STG 1019	ED	01	01	19000.00	19000.00	19000.00	STG 1019
1020	STG 1020	ED	01	01/01/05	20000.00	20000.00	STG 1020	ED	01	01	20000.00	20000.00	20000.00	STG 1020

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