PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
SmartMeterProgram-Upgrade
Application 07-12-009
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_023_Suppl-01_Q1-5		
PG&E File Name:	SmartMeterProgram-Upgrade_DR_DRA_023_Suppl-01_Q1-5		
Request Date:	October 13, 2010	Requester DR No.:	DRA_A0712009_072110
Date Sent:	October 28, 2010	Requesting Party:	Division of Ratepayer Advocates
PG&E Witness:		Requester:	Tom Roberts

QUESTION 1

The response to question 1 [DRA_023-Q1-11] indicates that 1,733 "Hex" meters have been installed. In contrast, the response to questions 2 indicates that 144,824 Hex meters will be switched to SSN meters. Please explain this apparent contradiction and/or provide updated data.

ANSWER 1

As a clarification, please note that the response to the original question 1 provided the number of meters deployed and currently installed in the field (e.g. there are 1733 HEX meters remaining in the field). Response to the original question 2 provided how many have been removed and replaced (e.g. there have been 144,824 Hex meters removed and replaced to date). The sum of meters in question one and two are the total numbers of meter types installed, including the meters that have been replaced as part of the Commission authorized SmartMeter™ Upgrade program.

QUESTION 2

PG&E's AMI transition plan dated June 12, 2008 indicates that 200k Hex electric meters without HAN would be installed, followed by 400k Hex meters with HAN.

a. How many Hex electric meters without HAN has PG&E purchased, or is under contract to purchase?

b. How many Hex electric meters with HAN has PG&E purchased, or is under contract to purchase?

c. Provide a summary of the number and type (HAN or not) of Hex electric meters installed, consistent with the response to question 1 above, and why the actual deployment deviated from the June 2008 AMI transition plan?

ANSWER 2

a) As referenced in response to question 1 above, the total number of Hex meters installed, all without HAN interface, is the sum of currently installed plus removed and replaced (1,733 + 144,824 = 146,557). In total, PG&E purchased 229,112 Hex electric meters of which 69,120 were sold back to Aclara.

b) None

c) As referenced in response to question 1 above, the total number of Hex meters, all without HAN interface, is the sum of currently installed plus removed and replaced (1,733 + 144,824 = 146,557).

PG&E's June 2008 deployment plan was targeted to deploy as many upgraded meters as possible (per the Commission authorized SmartMeter™ Upgrade Program) and as few of non-upgraded meters as possible. Therefore, the project plan strategy was to move to fully upgraded meters as testing and supply chain logistics allowed. As our efforts with meter manufacturers progressed, PG&E was able to move to meters incorporating the SSN communications card in October of 2008. This meant less non-upgraded meters to be installed. PG&E did not purchase upgraded meters that included Hexagram communication cards.

QUESTION 3

PG&E's AMI transition plan dated June 12, 2008 indicates that 242k DSCI meters would be installed. In contrast the response to question 1 indicated 130,222 DCSI meters have been installed. Please explain this apparent contradiction and/or provide updated data. Alternatively, explain why the actual deployment deviated from the June 2008 AMI transition plan.

ANSWER 3

As referenced in response to question 1 above, the total number of DCSI meters is actually the sum of currently installed plus removed and replaced (130,222 + 92,378 = 222,600).

QUESTION 4

Is it correct to state that all meters on the SSN network were <u>installed</u> with HAN capability?

ANSWER 4

Yes, as stated in response to question 1 of the original DRA_023 DR, all SSN meters have a HAN interface.

QUESTION 5

Does full activation of HAN capabilities in SSN meters require field visits after installation, or can activation be handled remotely?

ANSWER 5

Activation of HAN capabilities will be accomplished remotely. Field visits may be required on a case by case basis to address specific circumstances that may not allow reliable communication between the meter and the in-home receivers. This may be the case where the meters are located too far from the residences for example.