

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
SmartMeter™ CPUC Staff Inquiry  
Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_002		
PG&E File Name:	SM CSI_DR_DRA_002-Q24		
Request Date:	December 21, 2010	Requester DR No.:	DRA_2
Date Sent:	February 9, 2011	Requesting Party:	DRA
PG&E Witness:	N/A	Requester:	Tom Roberts

**QUESTION 24**

Do PG&E gas meters, pressure regulators, or any other gas distribution system within 5 ft of the gas meter vent gas? If so, please describe situations that result in gas venting, and provide an estimate of the amount of gas released.

**ANSWER 24**

With the exception of a rarely activated safety feature on the pressure regulator, PG&E's gas meters, gas pressure regulators, and gas distribution system within the immediate vicinity of the gas meter do not vent gas. The sole exception is that modern gas pressure regulators are designed with an internal relief valve that can vent gas into the atmosphere in the event that the regulator fails and cannot maintain the metering pressure. This internal relief safety feature is to prevent subjecting the customer's house lines or gas appliances to higher pressure in the event of a regulator malfunction. Such malfunctions are very rare occurrences. The potential amount of gas vented through the relief valve varies according to the type of regulator malfunction and the pressure in the distribution main at the time of the malfunction.