

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

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_002		
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PG&E Witness:	N/A	Requester:	Tom Roberts

QUESTION 8

Is it possible to install the wrong SmartMeter module on a given model of gas meter? If so, how would this impact the metered usage?

ANSWER 8

The SmartMeter™ Module is installed by removing the gas meter register (or index), inserting the Module, and then sandwiching the Module by reapplying the register using longer mounting bolts. The bolt pattern must line up for this to be accomplished. Bolt patterns differ between meter makes and models. Consequently, it would be extremely difficult to install the wrong Module.

It is theoretically possible to force-fit a similar-sized module, but PG&E has not encountered this in SmartMeter™ installations to date. If an installer managed to mount the wrong unit – if, for example, the installer enlarged the mounting holes to attempt to fit a different bolt spacing – it is highly likely the Module would either bind the register drive shaft or fail to engage with the register shaft. Both cases would result in zero or intermittent registration.