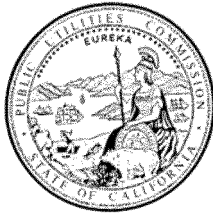


Docket:	:	<u>A.12-11-009</u>
Exhibit Number	:	<u>DRA-7</u>
Commissioner	:	<u>Florio</u>
ALJ	:	<u>Pulsifer</u>
Witness	:	<u>Wilson</u>



**DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES**  
**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Report on the Results of Operations  
for  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
General Rate Case  
Test Year 2014**

**Electric Distribution Capital Expenditures  
Part 1 of 2**

San Francisco, California  
May 3, 2013

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION .....	1
II.	SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.....	2
III.	CORNERSTONE.....	5
IV.	GENERAL DISCUSSION .....	6
	A. Background for Capital Expenditures .....	6
	B. 2013 and 2014 Escalation .....	7
	C. Functional Dollars .....	8
	D. UCCs and MWCs .....	8
	E. Overview of Electric Distribution Capital Adjustments .....	9
V.	DEFERRED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES.....	11
VI.	DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF DRA'S ADJUSTMENTS.....	18
	A. MWC 07 – Install/Replace Overhead Poles .....	19
	B. MWC 10 – Work at the Request of Others .....	24
	1. New Business Related WRO Expenditures .....	26
	2. High-Speed Rail.....	26
	3. Conclusions .....	27
	C. MWC 16 – New Business.....	27
	1. Residential Expenditures .....	33
	2. Non-Residential Expenditures .....	34
	3. PEV Related Expenditures .....	34
	4. Transformer Purchases .....	35
	5. Transformer Scrapping .....	36
	6. Conclusions .....	37
	D. MWC 06 – Distribution Line Capacity .....	37
	1. MWC 06B – Overhead Transformers .....	39
	2. MWC 06E – Complete Mainline Loops .....	40
	3. Conclusions .....	41
	E. MWC 46 – Distribution Substation Capacity.....	41
	F. MWC 48 – Substation Replacement of Other Equipment.....	44
	G. MWC 54 – Distribution Transformer Replacements .....	47

H.MWC 08 – Distribution Reliability Base .....	50
1. Overhead Conductor Replacement Program.....	52
2. Line Recloser Revolving Stock .....	53
3. Conclusions .....	54
I. MWC 49 – Reliability Circuit / Zone .....	54
J. MWC 56 – Replacement of Underground Assets .....	58
1. Traditional MWC 56 Expenditures .....	60
2. TGRAM/TGRAL Switch Replacements .....	62
3. Conclusions .....	64
K.MWC 30 – Rule 20A .....	64
APPENDIX A.....	71
APPENDIX B.....	73

1                   **ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

2   **I.       INTRODUCTION**

3           This exhibit presents the analyses and recommendations of the Division of  
4   Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) regarding Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s (PG&E)  
5   General Rate Case (GRC) forecasts of Electric Distribution capital expenditures for  
6   2012 through Test Year 2014. This exhibit corresponds to various chapters in  
7   Exhibit PG&E-4.

8           Electric distribution capital expenditures include plant investment in electric  
9   meters, distribution substations, underground cables, and replacing/reinforcing  
10   poles. Electric distribution capital includes projects to construct or modify facilities  
11   for the distribution of electricity, projects to construct or modify substations to  
12   transform transmission voltage to a lower distribution voltage, and projects to  
13   improve distribution system capacity and reliability (including aging infrastructure  
14   issues).

15          PG&E’s electric distribution system serves approximately 5.4 million  
16   customers.<sup>1</sup> Its service territory stretches from Eureka to Bakersfield, and from  
17   the Pacific Coast to the Sierras. To provide electric service to this large  
18   geographic area, PG&E maintains approximately 2.2 million poles,<sup>2</sup> over 720  
19   distribution substations,<sup>3</sup> and 140,000 miles of overhead and underground  
20   distribution lines.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 11-3, line 13.

<sup>2</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 6-2, line 29.

<sup>3</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 11-3, line 12.

<sup>4</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 11-3, line 12.

1           The dollar amounts presented in this exhibit reflect capital expenditures.  
2 As will be discussed later, this exhibit does not specifically address PG&E's  
3 capital additions, which are automatically calculated by the Results of  
4 Operations (RO) computer model based on the capital expenditures and  
5 completion dates that are loaded into it.

6           Section II of this exhibit presents a summary of DRA's recommended  
7 adjustments. Section III provides background on how Decision (D.)10-06-048, the  
8 Cornerstone Improvement Project decision, impacts this current rate case. Section  
9 IV discusses Unbundled Cost Categories (UCCs) and Major Work Categories  
10 (MWCs), and provides some background on how capital expenditures are  
11 organized. Section V discusses DRA's concerns regarding PG&E's deferral of  
12 previously authorized capital expenditures. Section VI provides detailed discussions  
13 of the investigations and analyses that form the basis of the applicable DRA  
14 recommendations.

15           This exhibit specifically addresses PG&E's forecasts associated with MWCs  
16 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 30, 46, 48, 49, 54, and 56. All other Electric Distribution capital  
17 expenditure forecasts are addressed in Exhibit DRA-8 (Electric Distribution Capital  
18 Expenditures, Part 2 of 2).

## 19   **II.   SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

20           The following bullets summarize DRA's recommended adjustments to  
21 PG&E's request for 2012 through 2014 Electric Distribution capital expenditures.  
22 (Adjustments due solely to differing capital escalation rates are not listed.)

- 23           • Recorded 2012 capital expenditures should be utilized in lieu of  
24           PG&E's 2012 estimated forecasts.
- 25           • Expenditures for MWC 07 (Install / Replace Overhead Poles)  
26           should be reduced by \$83.617 million in 2013.
- 27           • Expenditures for MWC 10 (WRO-Work at the Request of Others)  
28           should be reduced by \$1.794 million in 2013 and by \$7.647 million  
29           in 2014.

30

- 1       • Expenditures for MWC 16 (New Business) should be reduced by  
2       \$12.109 million in 2013 and by \$22.197 million in 2014.
- 3       • Expenditures for MWC 06 (Line Capacity) should be reduced by  
4       \$0.963 million in 2013 and by \$5.819 million in 2014.
- 5       • Expenditures for MWC 46 (Substation Capacity) should be reduced  
6       by \$1.034 million in 2014.
- 7       • Expenditures for MWC 48 (Substation Replacement of Other  
8       Equipment) should be reduced by \$9.628 million in 2014.
- 9       • Expenditures for MWC 54 (Substation Replacement of  
10       Transformers) should be reduced by \$9.803 million in 2014.
- 11       • Expenditures for MWC 08 (Reliability Base) should be reduced by  
12       \$23.694 million in 2014.
- 13       • Expenditures for MWC 49 (Reliability Circuit / Zone) should be  
14       reduced by \$30.791 million in 2014.
- 15       • Expenditures for MWC 56 (Replace Underground Assets) should  
16       be reduced by \$50.264 million in 2014.
- 17       • Expenditures for MWC 30 (Rule 20A) should be reduced by  
18       \$34.555 million in 2013 and by \$34.466 million in 2014.

19           Table 7-1 (see next page) shows recorded and estimated Electric Distribution  
20 capital expenditures for those MWCs addressed in this report, and compares DRA's  
21 recommendations for 2012 through 2014 with PG&E's proposed forecasts. As  
22 indicated by Footnote 1 on that table, Column 6 provides recorded 2012 data at the  
23 MWC level. As will be discussed later, PG&E did not have access to recorded 2012  
24 data at the time it prepared its testimony. Therefore, PG&E's testimony in this GRC  
25 regarding 2012 capital expenditures is based on forecasts.

**TABLE 7-1  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION CAPITAL EXPENDITURES -- UCC 301 (Functional Only)  
Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpapers For Exhibit PG&E-4  
Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

MWC Description	2007		2008		Recorded					Estimated					2014	
					2009		2010		2011		2012		2013			
Overhead Poles	\$28,775	\$33,272	\$34,319	\$44,540	\$89,113	\$119,316	\$159,798	\$76,181	\$83,677	\$69,578	\$69,541	\$37				
	\$56,353	\$60,940	\$66,853	\$64,974	\$64,500	\$110,725	\$83,290	\$81,496	\$4,704	\$96,465	\$88,848	\$7,647				
Customer Connects	\$298,343	\$278,908	\$263,648	\$180,960	\$211,699	\$234,589	\$272,545	\$260,436	\$12,109	\$39,566	\$317,369	\$22,197				
	\$78,102	\$88,685	\$83,230	\$81,363	\$90,258	\$89,408	\$85,148	\$84,185	\$933	\$107,913	\$102,094	\$5,819				
Cornerstone	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15	\$1,095	\$12,987	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				
Capacity - Cornerstone	\$75,271	\$106,567	\$95,239	\$63,092	\$63,009	\$51,507	\$52,616	\$52,610	\$6	\$74,892	\$73,858	\$1,034				
Capacity - Other Equip	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$270	\$34,077	\$41,951	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2013	\$0		
Capacity - Transformer	\$16,993	\$28,579	\$29,767	\$26,303	\$49,178	\$40,319	\$54,906	\$54,892	\$14	\$66,021	\$56,393	\$9,628				
Capacity - Transformer	\$33,030	\$46,724	\$52,325	\$38,326	\$46,138	\$52,482	\$41,151	\$41,143	\$8	\$64,851	\$55,051	\$9,803				
	\$11,054	\$9,845	\$9,294	\$17,234	\$20,666	\$18,547	\$25,205	\$25,200	\$5	\$68,186	\$44,492	\$23,694				
Capacity - Cornerstone	\$0	\$0	\$16	\$4,256	\$65,668	\$68,136	\$106,050	\$106,050	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				
Capacity - Zone	\$2,650	\$29,910	\$31,732	\$81,776	\$71,007	\$81,923	\$81,719	\$81,700	\$19	\$103,640	\$73,045	\$30,791				
Capacity - Asset-Gen	\$36,055	\$22,084	\$17,437	\$37,430	\$55,821	\$72,018	\$68,918	\$68,895	\$23	\$140,078	\$89,814	\$50,264				
	\$48,385	\$39,916	\$41,142	\$36,610	\$33,628	\$52,426	\$88,451	\$53,896	\$34,565	\$88,222	\$53,756	\$34,466				
	\$684,266	\$735,400	\$724,013	\$677,160	\$925,918	\$1,026,314	\$1,105,796	\$972,683	\$133,113	\$1,219,615	\$1,024,235	\$195,380				

1/ NOTE: PG&E's original forecast for 2012 totaled \$1,036,992.

2/ NOTE: DRA's forecasts for 2013 and 2014 include escalation amounts adjusted for forecast levels and 2.61% labor escalation rates.

1 **III. CORNERSTONE**

2 A careful inspection of Table 7-1 reveals that there are three lines (Lines 5, 7,  
3 and 11) that refer to “Cornerstone” project categories. In Application (A.) 08-05-023,  
4 filed May 15, 2008, PG&E applied to the California Public Utilities Commission  
5 (Commission) to increase its revenue requirement in order to recover costs to  
6 implement a reliability program for its Electric Distribution System. The Application  
7 was referred to as the Cornerstone Improvement Project (Cornerstone). The  
8 Cornerstone project was eventually authorized by the Commission, in a reduced  
9 form, in D.10-06-048, dated June 24, 2010. The Cornerstone decision authorized  
10 PG&E to undertake various capital projects, over the four-year period 2010 through  
11 2013, in order to improve the reliability of its electrical system. This current PG&E  
12 GRC does not re-analyze or re-litigate any of the Cornerstone projects. PG&E’s  
13 forecasts do not include expenditures to complete work previously approved in the  
14 Cornerstone decision; that work was handled separately in accordance with the  
15 Cornerstone decision.<sup>5</sup> For all intents and purposes, Cornerstone is outside the  
16 scope of this proceeding. However, in order to properly derive the correct test year  
17 2014 plant balance, which should include Cornerstone expenditures, the three  
18 Cornerstone lines are included in Table 7-1.

19 While Cornerstone capital expenditures will not be re-litigated in this  
20 proceeding, it should be noted that DRA has reflected 2012 recorded data in Column  
21 6 of Table 7-1, including the three Cornerstone lines. In order to develop the most  
22 accurate forecast for the test year 2014 plant balance, recorded data should be used  
23 whenever possible, thereby eliminating the expenditure uncertainties associated with  
24 forecasted estimates.

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<sup>5</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 1-29, lines 16 through 18.



1 **IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

2 **A. Background for Capital Expenditures**

3 Capital expenditures are cumulative in nature. Expenditures made during  
4 one year are added to expenditures that were made in previous years. Therefore,  
5 DRA must analyze all of the proposed capital expenditures occurring from the end of  
6 the last recorded year (2011) that was provided by PG&E in its application up  
7 through the end of the test year (2014). Proposed capital expenditures or additions  
8 for the attrition years (2015 and 2016) are also addressed by DRA, but are  
9 discussed in Exhibit DRA-22 (Post-Test Year Ratemaking).

10 DRA tries to obtain an additional recorded year of plant data (in this case  
11 2012) in order to eliminate one year of estimating uncertainty. For this GRC, DRA  
12 was able to obtain recorded 2012 capital expenditure data from PG&E. These data  
13 were available at the MWC level of detail and are shown in Column 6 of Table 7-1.  
14 Many of the tables shown in this exhibit present capital expenditures in finer detail  
15 than the MWC level. In those instances, those tables are usually shown with the  
16 sub-MWC forecasts for the year 2012 shown as an estimate, as the recorded details  
17 for the sub-MWC projects were not typically provided.

18 It is important to note the difference between capital expenditures and capital  
19 additions. As mentioned previously, PG&E's capital forecasts are presented as  
20 expenditures, not additions. Capital expenditures reflect the dollars that are being  
21 spent in a given year. Contrast this with capital additions, which reflect the amount  
22 of completed capital projects that are booked to plant in a given year. Capital  
23 expenditures may or may not equal additions for any year; more often than not, they  
24 will not agree. The reason for this difference is that capital projects that are started  
25 in a given year, but not completed until the next, will show up as expenditures in that  
26 first year, but will not be included as an addition until the second. (Since it is not  
27 "used and useful," it cannot be considered a plant addition until the second year.)  
28 The main reason for making this distinction is to alert the reader that the revenue  
29 requirement impact of DRA's proposed capital adjustments may not show up in the  
30 years in which they were made.

1 PG&E's capital exhibits and supporting workpapers (as well as its Results of  
2 Operation (RO) computer model) are organized around capital expenditures.  
3 PG&E's capital witnesses provide testimony regarding the magnitude of the capital  
4 dollars that are estimated to be spent each year, not how much is actually being  
5 booked to plant. PG&E relies on its RO computer model to manipulate these capital  
6 expenditures. Based on when the capital projects are scheduled to be completed,  
7 the RO model calculates the corresponding capital additions. Therefore, DRA's  
8 analyses and recommended capital adjustments are also stated in terms of capital  
9 expenditures.

## 10 **B. 2013 and 2014 Escalation**

11 In its exhibits and workpapers, PG&E has presented its recorded capital  
12 expenditures in nominal dollars. "Nominal" dollars refers to the fact that PG&E's  
13 forecasts are presented with estimates keyed to the year in which they occurred.  
14 Put another way, inflation is included in PG&E's numbers. For example, a 2011  
15 capital expenditure presented in nominal dollars will use 2011 expenditures that  
16 already include escalation, rather than presenting the estimate in constant dollars  
17 from a prior year (with inflation added later).

18 For its 2013 and 2014 forecasts, PG&E has offset escalation for those years  
19 by implementing productivity improvements and other initiatives.<sup>6</sup> As discussed in  
20 Exhibit DRA-2 (Summary of Earnings), DRA accepts PG&E's estimates for  
21 productivity. However, DRA's 2013 and 2014 escalation amounts are adjusted to  
22 reflect forecasts that differ from PG&E's; they are also adjusted to reflect DRA's  
23 recommended labor escalation rate of 2.61%<sup>7</sup> (versus PG&E's estimate of 2.75%).

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<sup>6</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 1-13, lines 1 through 11.

<sup>7</sup> See Exhibit DRA-4, Cost Escalation.

1           **C. Functional Dollars**

2           PG&E separates its Electric Distribution plant into three categories: Direct  
3           Functional plant, Direct-Assigned Common plant, and Residual Common plant.<sup>8</sup> In  
4           this testimony, we are only concerned with functional plant. PG&E uses the term  
5           “Functional” to refer to capital costs recorded in the Federal Energy Regulatory  
6           Commission (FERC) system of accounts.<sup>9</sup> This category is distinct from other types  
7           of capital expenditures, such as Direct-Assigned Common plant. These other  
8           categories of capital expenditures are analyzed and discussed in other DRA  
9           exhibits. Unless stated otherwise, all capital amounts shown in this exhibit only  
10          contain “Functional” dollars; note the use of that term in the second line of the  
11          heading for Table 7-1.

12           **D. UCCs and MWCs**

13          Consistent with previous Commission decisions, PG&E separates its utility  
14          business into numerous Unbundled Cost Categories (UCCs). Each of the 51 UCCs  
15          listed in PG&E’s testimony represents a distinct aspect of PG&E’s operations.<sup>10</sup>  
16          Many of these UCCs represent facets of PG&E’s business that are outside the  
17          review of this testimony, including UCCs for Electric Transmission, Gas Storage, etc.  
18          As initially received from PG&E, the RO model lists 23 UCCs that are actually  
19          included in this GRC. Of those, only eight UCCs actually pertain to Electric  
20          Distribution:<sup>11</sup>

- 21           • UCC 301 – Wires and Services
- 22           • UCC 302 – Transmission-Level Direct Connects
- 23           • UCC 303 – Public Purpose Program Administration

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<sup>8</sup> Exhibit PG&E-2, page 9-6, lines 3 through 5.

<sup>9</sup> Exhibit PG&E-2, page 9-6, footnote 2.

<sup>10</sup> Exhibit PG&E-2, page 1-7 and 1-8, Table 1-1.

<sup>11</sup> Exhibit PG&E-2, page 9-5, Table 9-2, lines 8 through 15.

- 1           • UCC 306 – Cornerstone
- 2           • UCC 307 – SmartMeter – Electric
- 3           • UCC 309 – SmartMeter Opt Out – Electric
- 4           • UCC 320 – Streetlights – LED
- 5           • UCC 330 – MRTU – Demand Response

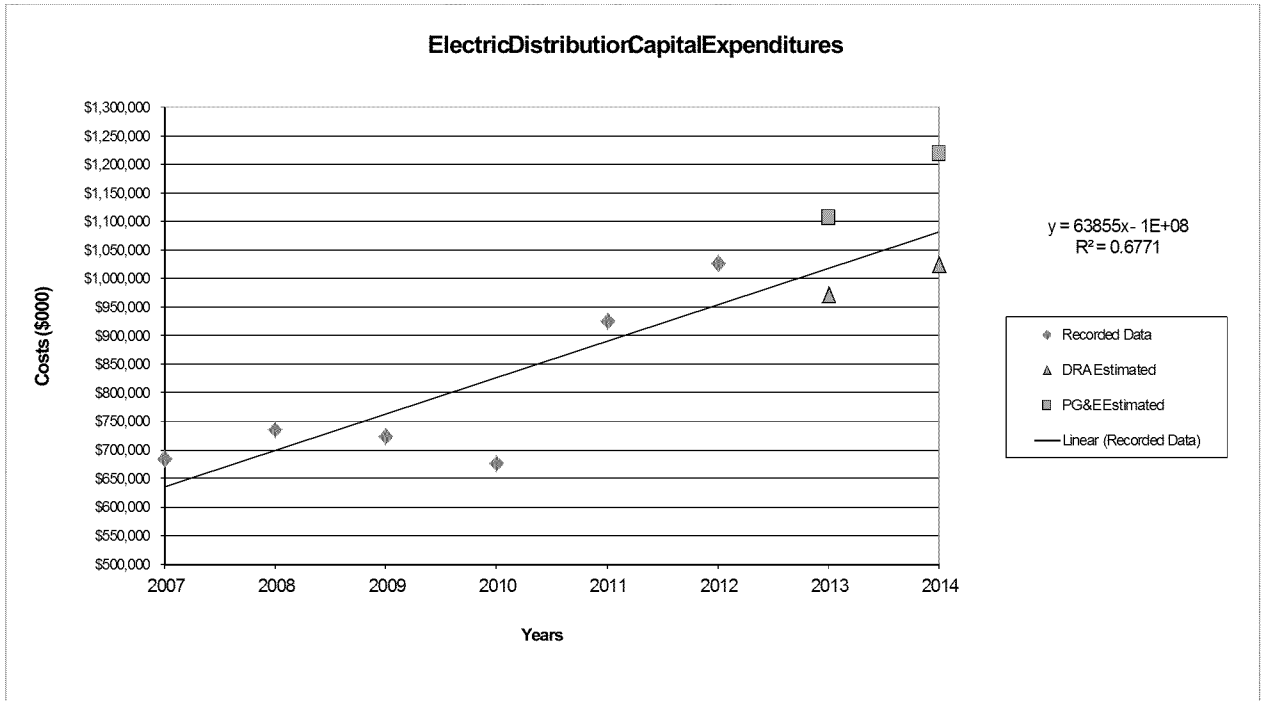
6           This DRA exhibit analyzes capital projects associated with UCC 301 –Wires  
7 and Services for Electric Distribution (although DRA has reflected recorded 2012  
8 data for UCC 306 – Cornerstone). Any capital costs contained in the other UCCs  
9 are discussed in other DRA exhibits.

10           PG&E divides its capital projects into Major Work Categories (MWCs).  
11 MWCs are descriptive categories into which are placed the numerous capital  
12 projects being proposed by PG&E. Table 7-1 lists the 14 capital MWCs that are  
13 being analyzed in this exhibit. As discussed previously, of these 14, three are  
14 associated with Cornerstone projects, and are only analyzed to the extent that  
15 recorded 2012 data are incorporated. These 14 MWCs do not constitute all of the  
16 capital MWCs contained in UCC 301. The remaining MWCs contained in UCC 301  
17 are analyzed in Exhibit DRA-8.

### 18           **E. Overview of Electric Distribution Capital Adjustments**

19           Earlier in this exhibit, Table 7-1 presented a detailed look at the capital  
20 expenditures being forecasted by PG&E and DRA for the years 2012, 2013, and  
21 2014. Given the level of detail contained in that table, it may be difficult to visualize  
22 how the proposed expenditures compare to the recorded data. The following graph  
23 trends six years of total recorded data for the MWCs being analyzed in this report.  
24 The graph then compares the overall forecasts for 2013 and 2014 with that trend of  
25 past recorded expenditures:

**Graph 7-1**  
**ElectricDistributionCapital**  
**Historicaland ForecastCapitalExpenditures**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**



1

2 As Graph 7-1 shows, PG&E is forecasting 2013 and 2014 expenditures that  
 3 are higher than the historical trend, while DRA is forecasting expenditures that are  
 4 slightly lower. PG&E gives various reasons for this projected increase in 2013 and  
 5 2014 expenditures, including catching up on previously deferred capital  
 6 expenditures, replacing aging infrastructure, and strengthening the distribution  
 7 system to accommodate increased loads. DRA has analyzed these issues and  
 8 concluded that in some instances, PG&E's capital forecasts are reasonable.  
 9 However, as Table 7-1 indicates, DRA does not agree with all of PG&E's forecasts.  
 10 Section VI of this exhibit discusses and analyzes each of DRA's recommended  
 11 adjustments.

12 It should be noted that Cornerstone expenditures end in 2013. Since there  
 13 are no Cornerstone capital expenditures in 2014, PG&E's forecast of higher 2014  
 14 expenditures represents a significant increase over prior years. The absence of

1 Cornerstone expenditures in 2014 is one reason why DRA's 2014 forecast is lower  
2 than the historical trend.

3 It is important to point out that neither PG&E nor DRA utilized Graph 7-1 to  
4 derive its estimates. However, this graph does provide a visual "reasonableness  
5 check" to judge whether or not the proposed expenditures comport with what may be  
6 expected given recent historical experience.

## 7 **V. DEFERRED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

8 One of the fundamental principles of utility regulation in California is that  
9 revenue requirements resulting from General Rate Cases are not developed using  
10 recorded data, but are instead calculated using forecasts of expenses and capital  
11 additions for future years. These so-called future test years provide an incentive for  
12 utilities to develop new, more efficient ways to run their companies. If a utility can  
13 devise more cost-effective ways to do business, it can generally retain the difference  
14 between what it was authorized in the future test year and what it actually spends.  
15 Of course, with test year rate making, utilities also run the risk of spending more than  
16 what they were authorized if unexpected expenses or capital additions are  
17 necessary.

18 Another fundamental principle of utility regulation is that the Commission  
19 typically does not micromanage utility spending. The Commission presumes that  
20 utility managers are in the best position to make the numerous decisions that are  
21 required to run a utility efficiently and reliably. If expenditures in one area are less  
22 than expected, managers may decide to shift those unexpended funds to areas  
23 where expenditures may be higher.

24 Taken together, these two principles provide a framework for how utilities are  
25 expected to operate in California. Since it is never possible to forecast test year  
26 expenses and capital expenditures with 100% accuracy, utilities can earn more than  
27 authorized in some years (when actual expenses/additions are less than forecasted,  
28 or if the utility develops a more cost-effective way of doing business), and can earn  
29 less than authorized in other years (when actual expenses/additions are greater than

1 forecasted, or the utility is not run efficiently). Utility managers are expected, and  
2 even encouraged, to make the decisions necessary to run their utilities in as efficient  
3 a manner as possible, consistent with safe and reliable service.

4 DRA expects that PG&E management will use its judgment to spend capital  
5 dollars in the most effective manner possible. DRA would not likely take negative  
6 notice of PG&E spending more or less than authorized for a given MWC if these  
7 over- and under-expenditures occurred randomly. In regard to this current GRC,  
8 DRA has observed a trend wherein, for certain MWCs, PG&E repeatedly spends  
9 less than the Commission authorizes. This under-spending is not due to new  
10 efficiencies, but to continued deferrals of the authorized expenditures. DRA has  
11 observed that for these specific MWCs, PG&E fails to spend the authorized dollars  
12 on the projects for which they were requested, and subsequently requests  
13 expenditures for the same capital projects in succeeding GRCs.

14 One example of this is MWC 07 – Pole Replacements. In the 2011 GRC  
15 (A.09-12-020), PG&E stated the following:

16 The primary driver for the higher level of capital expenditures is the  
17 need to address poles rescheduled for replacement due to a  
18 reallocation of funds to higher priority work.<sup>12</sup>

19 In the current GRC, PG&E notes that its 2014 request for pole replacement  
20 expenditures is lower than previous years, stating:

21 PG&E's capital expenditure forecast is lower because the Company  
22 plans to eliminate the current backlog of pole replacement work by the  
23 end of 2013.<sup>13</sup>

24 The above quote indicates that, at least through 2013, PG&E is requesting  
25 elevated capital expenditures for MWC 07 in order to eliminate a backlog of work.  
26 DRA will discuss MWC 07 in greater detail later in this exhibit. However, an  
27 examination of PG&E's spending history shows that it has been spending less than

---

<sup>12</sup> PG&E 2011 GRC (A.09-12-020), Exhibit PG&E-3, page 3-1, lines 26 through 29.

<sup>13</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 7-1, lines 21 through 23.

1 was authorized for pole replacements. This has been observed over the last two  
2 rate case cycles. This under-spending has been taking place despite PG&E's  
3 ongoing stated goal of trying to eliminate the backlog of deferred pole replacements.

4 A second example of PG&E deferring capital forecast occurs with MWC 56 –  
5 Underground Cable Replacement. In its last GRC, PG&E stated the following in  
6 explaining why underground cable capital expenditures were lower in 2007 through  
7 2010:

8 This is because the Company redirected resources originally targeted  
9 for underground assets to other higher priority areas. Reallocating  
10 resources from underground assets to other higher priority areas is  
11 also planned for 2009 and 2010.<sup>14</sup>

12 In the current GRC, PG&E states the following concerning tie-cable  
13 replacement expenditures, an MWC 56 capital category:

14 Earlier forecasts reflected that the tie-cable replacement work in the  
15 East Bay would be completed in 2013; however, rescheduling and  
16 reprioritization of work was required to address the replacement of  
17 TGRAM/TGRAL switches, considered a higher priority.<sup>15</sup>

18 MWC 56 capital expenditures are discussed in more detail later. However, an  
19 examination of PG&E's spending history for this MWC shows that it has spent much  
20 less than what was authorized for underground cable replacement over the last two  
21 rate case cycles.

22 What concerns DRA about the above quotations is the repeated nature of the  
23 deferrals; these are not one-time occurrences. They are also not cases of a utility  
24 manager shifting authorized expenditures from an area that does not require them to  
25 an area that does; these appear to be cases of PG&E not spending authorized  
26 expenditures for needed projects so as to fund other projects deemed to be a higher

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<sup>14</sup> PG&E 2011 GRC (A.09-12-020), Exhibit PG&E-3, page 12-5, lines 15 through 18.

<sup>15</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 16-16, lines 11 through 14.



1 priority. DRA understands that deferrals may happen occasionally, but in these  
2 cases the deferrals have been ongoing.

3 While utility managers are allowed to transfer/spend company funds as they  
4 see fit, that does not equate to an automatic acceptance by the regulatory agency of  
5 every managerial decision that is made. As recent Commission decisions have  
6 ruled, utilities are usually not allowed a second opportunity to recover expenses that  
7 were previously authorized but were subsequently deferred. The same should hold  
8 true for deferred capital expenditures. It is inappropriate to continually defer the  
9 same authorized capital expenditures away from capital projects deemed necessary  
10 by the utility, and then seek recovery of the same projects in a later proceeding.

11 When necessary authorized expenditures are deferred, PG&E appears to be  
12 circumventing the fundamental principle of test year ratemaking stated above (i.e.,  
13 that utilities run the risk of spending more than what they were authorized if  
14 unexpected and/or higher than expected expenses or capital additions occur).  
15 Taken to an extreme, it is hypothetically possible for a utility to never earn less than  
16 what it was authorized; if expenses or capital costs are higher than forecasted, it  
17 could theoretically simply defer sufficient expenditures, no matter how essential they  
18 may be, to offset the higher expenses/additions. This type of ratemaking philosophy  
19 skews the GRC process in the utility's favor (i.e., a utility is free to retain unspent  
20 revenues when actual costs are less than authorized, but never spends more than  
21 authorized because it is able to defer expense/plant expenditures that exceed what  
22 was forecasted). This practice should not be condoned by the Commission.

23 PG&E states that from 2007 to 2012, it spent more on capital than the  
24 imputed GRC amount for the Electric Operations line of business.<sup>16</sup> PG&E does not  
25 state whether the over-spending occurred every year of that period, or whether it is  
26 adding together the recorded expenditures for all of the years, and comparing that  
27 total to the sum of what was authorized. Whichever methodology PG&E used is of  
28 little consequence. As the quotations presented earlier in this section clearly show,

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<sup>16</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 1-23, lines 3 and 4.

1 PG&E has, in several instances, repeatedly deferred capital expenditures that had  
2 previously been authorized. In the 2011 GRC, PG&E was forthcoming in stating:

3 In an effort to remain within the capital and expense expenditure levels  
4 imputed from the 2007 GRC Settlement Agreement, PG&E adjusted  
5 work where possible by focusing on work in higher priority  
6 categories.<sup>17</sup>

7 The fact that PG&E claims that it actually spent more than was authorized  
8 does not diminish the fact that it engaged in a practice that was designed to  
9 ameliorate its higher than expected capital expenditures. As stated previously,  
10 expenditures that are higher than authorized are simply the naturally occurring result  
11 of test year ratemaking, and the utility will ultimately earn a return on those  
12 investments in subsequent rate cases.

13 Historically, Commission decisions have frequently ruled that utilities should  
14 not be permitted to recover expenses that have previously been authorized but were  
15 deferred. Recent Commission decisions are starting to take the same position  
16 regarding deferred capital expenditures, echoing DRA's concerns expressed above.  
17 In the decision for Southern California Edison's (SCE) Test Year 2003 GRC (D.04-  
18 07-022), the Commission discussed the need to consider SCE's deferral of pole  
19 inspections and stated that:

20 This is necessary to ensure that ratepayers are not required to pay a  
21 second time for activities explicitly authorized by the Commission in the  
22 past ...<sup>18</sup>

23 Later, in the same decision, the Commission stated:

24 Based on the foregoing, we will reduce SCE's capital forecast for pole  
25 replacements by \$3.447 million (68,934 intrusive inspections that were

---

<sup>17</sup> PG&E 2011 GRC (A.09-12-020), Exhibit PG&E-3, page 1-35, lines 10 through 13.

<sup>18</sup> Decision 04-07-022, page 106.

1 funded by ratepayers but not performed by SCE times \$50 per missed  
2 inspection).<sup>19</sup>

3 In the Test Year 2007 PG&E GRC decision (D.07-03-044), the Commission stated:

4 More recently, the Commission disallowed \$1.4 million in annual  
5 expenses and \$3.4 million in capital costs that SCE requested for  
6 deferred pole maintenance, stating that “ratepayers should not be  
7 required to pay twice for the same authorized expense.”<sup>20</sup>

8 Later, in the same decision, the Commission stated:

9 The Commission has repeatedly held that it is unjust and unreasonable  
10 to make ratepayers pay a second time for activities explicitly authorized  
11 by the Commission in the past. Here, there is no dispute that PG&E  
12 received funding for lead paint and PCB abatement in its prior GRC  
13 proceeding, and that PG&E seeks funding for these activities a second  
14 time in the current proceeding. ... In order to find that the Settlement  
15 Agreement is consistent with the law, which includes adherence to  
16 long-established Commission precedent, we must be satisfied that all  
17 of PG&E’s lead paint and PCB abatement costs are excluded from the  
18 O&M expenses adopted by the Settlement.<sup>21</sup>

19 In D.09-03-025, SCE’s Test Year 2009 GRC, the Commission states the following:

20 In this proceeding, SCE seeks additional funds for activities explicitly  
21 authorized by the Commission in the past. SCE seeks funds to redress  
22 maintenance postponed due to unanticipated load and customer  
23 growth in 2006-2007. To address this unforeseen customer and load  
24 growth, SCE diverted millions of dollars in capital replacements away  
25 from its Infrastructure Replacement project ... In the past, we have  
26 found circumstances, such as the unanticipated scope of Year 2000  
27 (Y2K) projects, to justify deferral of certain maintenance work. The  
28 circumstances surrounding Y2K and the related Y2K projects were  
29 one-time events and, as such, unique. In contrast, we do not find  
30 customer and load growth, even when unanticipated, to create unique  
31 circumstances. Load growth and customer growth are routine aspects

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<sup>19</sup> Decision 04-07-022, page 110.

<sup>20</sup> Decision 07-03-044, page 93.

<sup>21</sup> Decision 07-03-044, pages 94 and 95.

1 of any rate case. If the adopted forecast overestimates expenses we  
2 do not ask a utility to return funds to ratepayers. Similarly, if an  
3 adopted forecast underestimates expenses, we do not go back and  
4 give the utility funds to complete projects that should have been  
5 addressed in the prior GRC cycle. In short, errors in forecasting occur  
6 and we do not go back and fix these errors. Consistent with our policy  
7 regarding deferred maintenance, in certain instances in this decision,  
8 we adopt reductions to SCE's forecast for operation & maintenance  
9 and capital expenditures to reflect our finding that unanticipated load  
10 and customer growth does not justify SCE's decision to, among other  
11 things, defer maintenance.<sup>22</sup>

12 Lastly, in the most recent SCE GRC decision (D.12-11-051 for Test  
13 Year 2012), the Commission makes the following statement regarding SCE's  
14 repeated attempts to obtain authorization for capital projects that had been  
15 previously deferred:

16 SCE was authorized \$3.9 million in its 2006 GRC to fund a new  
17 administration building, but said it diverted these funds to meet  
18 unforeseen load growth during that time period. In 2009, SCE's  
19 request for \$4.92 million for the administration building project was  
20 denied because of the previously approved funding. SCE points out  
21 that, on the merits of the project, TURN admits that the current offices  
22 are not sufficient to house even what TURN deems electric-only  
23 employees.

24  
25 When the Commission rejected the predecessor project in 2009, it was  
26 because it viewed deferred funds for unexpected load growth and  
27 customer growth as routine, within SCE's discretion, and not subject to  
28 re-funding in the next GRC. The facts are essentially the same,  
29 despite SCE's repackaging of the project. Moreover, approximately  
30 \$2.3 million was added to the Main Building project as a result of the  
31 rejection of the Administration building in the 2009 GRC. Thus, the  
32 overall request by SCE for its re-configured Administration construction  
33 is almost \$7.8 million.  
34

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<sup>22</sup> Decision 09-03-025, pages 3 through 5.

1 We agree with TURN that these costs appear to be excessive and  
2 growing as a result of SCE's management making discretionary  
3 choices to not use authorized funds for the identified projects and to  
4 keep coming back to ratepayers for more. Accordingly, the  
5 Commission finds it reasonable to exclude the entire capital request.<sup>23</sup>

6 The Commission should continue its policy of not allowing utilities to seek  
7 funds for previously authorized capital expenditures that are necessary but have  
8 been deferred. In Section VI, DRA discusses and analyzes the differences it has  
9 with PG&E's capital forecasts. In several of those analyses, DRA observes that  
10 PG&E is seeking Commission approval for projects that have previously been  
11 authorized, but have been deferred. In some instances, the deferrals have occurred  
12 over several rate case cycles. The ratemaking concerns raised here play a factor in  
13 DRA's recommended adjustments.

## 14 **VI. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF DRA'S ADJUSTMENTS**

15 DRA is recommending adjustments to 11 of the 14 MWCs analyzed in this  
16 exhibit. DRA has issued numerous data requests in order to get additional  
17 information and clarify issues. All of PG&E's proposed expenditures were carefully  
18 analyzed. The following 11 sections (some with multiple sub-sections) discuss each  
19 of the capital MWCs shown in Table 7-1 for which DRA has recommended  
20 adjustments. As previously discussed in Section IV B, whenever DRA's 2013 and  
21 2014 forecasts differ from PG&E's, DRA has calculated new escalation amounts.<sup>24</sup>  
22 DRA is using a revised labor escalation rate forecast of 2.61%, as recommended in  
23 Exhibit DRA-4 (Cost Escalation), which impacts the escalation of all the capital  
24 forecasts, even if those forecasts agree with PG&E's estimates. In the sections that

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<sup>23</sup> Decision 12-11-051, pages 89 and 90.

<sup>24</sup> In the workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, Workpaper Table 20-18 (page WP 20-18) shows a spreadsheet that uses un-escalated forecasts and labor/non-labor escalation rates to derive revised escalation amounts. DRA utilized that table to derive its escalation forecasts.

1 follow, DRA has not discussed forecast differences that are due solely to escalation  
2 amounts that differ because of the use of the revised labor escalation rates.

3 **A. MWC 07 – Install/Replace Overhead Poles**

4 PG&E has full or joint ownership of approximately 2.2 million wood  
5 distribution poles.<sup>25</sup> These poles are inspected, and when necessary, restored or  
6 replaced. The numbers of poles replaced each year, as well as the unit cost to  
7 make the replacements, varies from year to year as well as from division to division  
8 within PG&E’s service territory.

9 Table 7-2, shown on the next page, provides recorded data as well as  
10 forecasted estimates for each of the capital categories that constitute MWC 07. Line  
11 4 of that table summarizes PG&E’s and DRA’s forecasts (including escalation) for  
12 the years 2012, 2013, and 2014. The first line of Table 7-2 shows expenditures for  
13 replacing poles, the capital category that traditionally constitutes the majority of the  
14 MWC 07 capital expenditures. Line 2 shows that beginning in 2012, PG&E  
15 proposes to begin replacing center bore streetlights. Footnote 1 in Column 7  
16 indicates that the total expenditure for that column (\$119.316 million) is a recorded  
17 number. DRA was able to obtain a recorded figure for the 2012 total, but did not  
18 have access to recorded data for Lines 1 and 2 of Column 7. Therefore, in order to  
19 equal the recorded total for the column, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1 forecast  
20 and mathematically adjusted it (to \$99.318 million) so that the sum of both lines  
21 equaled the recorded amount.

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<sup>25</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 6-2, line 29.

**TABLE 7-2  
MWC 07 -- Pole Replacements and Center Bore Streetlights  
Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Tables 7-1 and Table 7-5  
Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded										
		2007	2008	2009	2010	PG&E	DRA	2012		2013		
						/	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	Estimated	
		\$28,775	\$33,272	\$34,319	\$44,540	\$89,113	\$155,700	\$99,318	\$149,083	\$67,810	\$67,810	\$67,816
	Streetlight Replacements	--	--	--	--	--	\$19,998	\$19,998	\$6,300	\$6,300	--	--
		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$4,115	\$2,065	\$1,762	\$1,725
	including 2013 & 2014 Escalation	\$28,775	\$33,272	\$34,319	\$44,540	\$89,113	\$155,704	\$119,316	\$159,798	\$76,181	\$69,578	\$69,841
		<del>\$28,775</del>	<del>\$33,272</del>	<del>\$34,319</del>	<del>\$44,540</del>	<del>\$89,113</del>	<del>\$155,704</del>	<del>\$119,316</del>	<del>\$159,798</del>	<del>\$76,181</del>	<del>\$69,578</del>	<del>\$69,841</del>
	1											

/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$119,316 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.

**TABLE 7-3  
MWC 07 -- POLE REPLACEMENT  
Recorded Versus Authorized Capital Expenditures (Thousands of Nominal Dollars)**

Category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Recorded 1/	Recorded 1/	Recorded 1/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount 3/	Recorded 2/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 3/	Recorded 2/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 3/	Recorded 2/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 3/	Recorded Amount 4/	TY 2011 Settlement Amount 2/	
Pole Replacement (Historical)	\$59,446	\$40,134	\$37,772	\$94,137	\$28,775	\$94,137	\$33,272	\$94,137	\$34,319	\$94,137	\$44,540	\$60,000	\$89,113

1

1/ NOTE: 2004 through 2006 recorded data come from the PG&E Test Year 2011 GRC, specifically Table 3-2 of the Workpapers (page 3-2).

2/ NOTE: 2007 through 2011 recorded data come from workpaper page WP 7-4 in the current GRC.

3/ NOTE: 2007 Settlement adopted PG&E's 2007 forecast. (See page 62 of D.07-03-044 which states that the Settlement adopts PG&E's request.) Attrition years (08, 09, and 10) are assumed to equal TY 2007.

4/ NOTE: 2011 Settlement adopted PG&E's MWC 07 request of \$60,000. (Page 1-15 of Attachment 1 of D.11-05-018, PG&E's 2011 GRC decision, does not show any adjustments for MWC 07.)

	$\Sigma$ 07 -11		
	Authorized	Spent	$\Delta$
2007	\$94,137	\$28,775	\$65,362
2008	\$94,137	\$33,272	\$60,865
2009	\$94,137	\$34,319	\$59,818
2010	\$94,137	\$44,540	\$49,597
2011	\$60,000	\$89,113	(\$29,113)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$436,548</b>	<b>\$230,019</b>	<b>\$206,529</b>



1 Table 7-3, shown on the previous page, breaks down the years 2007 through  
2 2011 to show how the authorized MWC 07 capital expenditures for each year  
3 compare to what PG&E actually spent. As indicated at the bottom of the table, DRA  
4 has calculated that over that five-year period, PG&E has spent \$206.529 million less  
5 than it was authorized for pole replacements.

6 In discussing the number of poles that it proposes to replace each year,  
7 PG&E states the following:

8 The forecasted numbers of units for 2012 and 2013 reflect PG&E's  
9 effort to eliminate the current backlog of pole replacement work. By  
10 2014, PG&E plans to reach a consistent level of pole replacement  
11 work.<sup>26</sup>

12 The above quotation explicitly states that there is currently a backlog of poles  
13 that need to be replaced. As discussed in Section V of this exhibit, PG&E stated in  
14 its last GRC that it sought higher MWC 07 expenditures in order to address pole  
15 replacements that had previously been rescheduled (i.e., deferred) due to a  
16 reallocation of funds to higher priority work. In spite of the fact that a deferral of pole  
17 replacement expenditures has resulted in a backlog of replacements over two rate  
18 case cycles, Table 7-3 indicates that PG&E has consistently spent less than the  
19 amount the Commission has authorized.

20 PG&E's pattern of under spending has continued into 2012. When DRA  
21 analyzed PG&E's RO computer model, DRA noted that PG&E was forecasting that it  
22 would spend \$87.393 million in 2012 to help eliminate the pole replacement backlog.  
23 In Data Request 086-GAW, DRA requested that PG&E provide the recorded amount  
24 that was actually spent to reduce the backlog. In its response, PG&E stated that its  
25 actual 2012 expenditures for backlog elimination amounted to \$56.328 million, over  
26 \$30 million less than it had forecasted.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 7-5, lines 12 through 14.

<sup>27</sup> PG&E's response to DR DRA-086-GAW, Question 2c. \$87.393 million requested in 2012 for backlog elimination minus \$56.328 million actually spent equals \$31.065 million underspent.

1 The relevant question that must now be answered is whether or not it is  
2 reasonable, for this rate case, to authorize increased MWC 07 expenditures so as to  
3 eliminate the backlog by the end of 2013. In DRA's judgment, the answer to that  
4 question is "no." There should not have been a backlog in the first place. As shown  
5 in Table 7-3, PG&E has historically spent far less than it was authorized for pole  
6 replacements. If PG&E had not deferred the pole replacements initially, and had not  
7 compounded the backlog problem by spending less than was authorized, the need  
8 to address this backlog problem would have likely never occurred. Since PG&E  
9 caused the backlog problem, and exacerbated the issue by spending less than what  
10 it was authorized, it should not be allowed to once again ask ratepayers to foot the  
11 bill.

12 As discussed in Section V, the Commission has increasingly been reluctant to  
13 allow utilities to seek ratepayer funding for previously authorized projects that have  
14 been deferred. This same approach should be applied to MWC 07. Furthermore,  
15 PG&E has provided no assurance that pole replacement deferrals will not continue  
16 in the future. Indeed, recorded 2012 total expenditures for MWC 07 are  
17 considerably lower than what PG&E had forecasted. (See Table 7-2, Row 5,  
18 Columns 6 and 7.) Based on PG&E's expenditure history, it is uncertain whether the  
19 pole replacement backlog problem would be addressed even if PG&E was  
20 authorized to increase its MWC 07 spending to its requested levels.

21 PG&E states that by 2014, it plans to reach a "steady state" of pole  
22 replacement work (i.e., additional capital dollars are no longer needed to eliminate  
23 the pole replacement backlog).<sup>28</sup> If PG&E's 2014 forecast of \$67.816 million is the  
24 steady state level, then no more than that amount should be spent for 2013. DRA is  
25 recommending that the steady state amount of \$67.816 million be adopted for 2013  
26 and 2014.

27 DRA's recommended total 2013 expenditure level is \$83.617 million less than  
28 PG&E's forecast; this difference also reflects escalation changes. This lower level

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<sup>28</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 7-1, line 24.

1 does not indicate that the pole replacement backlog problem should be ignored, or  
2 delayed to a future GRC. DRA's lower forecast should only be construed to mean  
3 that it is recommending that ratepayers not be required to once again foot the bill for  
4 eliminating the pole replacement backlog during this GRC cycle.

### 5 **B. MWC 10 – Work at the Request of Others**

6 Under its obligation to serve requirements, its tariff rules, and its franchise  
7 agreements with local governments, PG&E is required to perform various capital  
8 projects as part of its Work at the Request of Others (WRO) program. Typical WRO  
9 projects include relocating electric distribution and service facilities at the request of  
10 a governmental agency or other third party, and overhead electric facility  
11 underground conversions covered by Tariff Rules 20B and 20C.<sup>29</sup>

12 MWC 10 is actually comprised of various sub-MWCs. Table 7-4 (see next  
13 page) provides a more detailed breakdown of the projects that constitute MWC 10.  
14 Line 11 of that table summarizes PG&E's and DRA's total MWC 10 forecasts  
15 (including escalation) for the years 2012, 2013, and 2014. Footnote 1 in Column 7  
16 of that table indicates that the total expenditure for that column (\$110.725 million) is  
17 a recorded number. DRA was able to obtain a recorded figure for the 2012 total, but  
18 did not have access to recorded data for the sub-MWCs. Therefore, in order to  
19 equal the recorded total for the column, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1 forecast  
20 and mathematically adjusted it (to \$33.725 million) so that the sum of the 2012 sub-  
21 MWCs equaled the recorded amount. The following sections discuss each of the  
22 sub-MWCs for which DRA has recommended forecasts that differ from PG&E's  
23 estimates.

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<sup>29</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 9-28, lines 3 through 7.

**TABLE 7-4  
MWC 10 -- Distribution Work Requested By Others (WRO)  
Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 9-35  
Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded																		
		2007				2008				2009			2010		2011		2012		2013	
		PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	
ted WRO Expenditures	\$24,530	\$13,663	\$5,739	\$8,921	\$16,495	\$17,000	\$33,725	\$22,000	\$20,309	\$28,000	\$25,606									
ed WRO Expenditures	\$24,007	\$30,971	\$30,102	\$52,000	\$59,450	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$51,000	\$51,000	\$50,000	\$53,000									
jects:																				
er	--	--	--	\$2,708	\$6,215	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	Estimated	\$3,000							
y	--	--	--	\$161	\$2,997	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	--	--									
ail	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$5,000									
Specific Projects	--	--	--	\$2,869	\$8,412	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$13,000	\$8,000									
stment	\$1,216	\$276	(\$48)	\$304	(\$360)	--	--	--	--	--	--									
	--	--	--	--	--	(\$24,300)	--	\$2,290	\$2,188	\$2,465	\$2,212									
2013 & 2014 Escalation	\$50,353	\$50,910	\$35,853	\$64,974	\$84,400	\$69,700	\$110,725	\$83,290	\$81,496	\$96,465	\$88,818									
	\$50,353	\$50,910	\$35,853	\$64,974	\$84,400	\$69,700	\$110,725	\$81,000	\$79,309	\$94,000	\$86,606									
1																				

NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$110,725 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.

1                                   **1. New Business Related WRO Expenditures**

2                   Line 1 of Table 7-4 is actually linked to MWC 16 – Customer Connections.  
3           Both DRA and PG&E agree that Line 1 costs should be calculated as a percentage  
4           of the Residential, Non-Residential, and Electric Vehicle expenditures that are  
5           calculated in MWC 16. Since DRA and PG&E are using the same methodology to  
6           develop their Line 1 forecasts, differences between the forecasts are due solely to  
7           different estimates being calculated in MWC 16. DRA discusses MWC 16 in greater  
8           detail later in this exhibit.

9                                   **2. High-Speed Rail**

10           As shown on Lines 4, 5, and 6 of Table 7-4, MWC 10 also reflects costs  
11           PG&E feels it will likely incur during the construction of three large infrastructure  
12           projects: the Transbay Center, the Central Subway, and the California High-Speed  
13           Rail project. DRA has not proposed any adjustments for MWC 10 costs associated  
14           with the Transbay Center or the Central Subway, but proposes that costs related to  
15           the High-Speed Rail project be reduced by \$5.000 million in 2014.

16           Construction on California’s proposed High-Speed Rail system was originally  
17           scheduled to begin in late 2012. It has since been pushed back to July of this year,  
18           which is a delay of at least six months. However, even the July date may be pushed  
19           back according to news articles reviewed by DRA. The LA Times reports that offers  
20           to purchase property from land owners will only be “the first step in a convoluted  
21           legal process that will give farmers, businesses, and homeowners leverage to delay  
22           the project by weeks, if not months, and drive up sales prices.”<sup>30</sup> The San Jose  
23           Mercury News reports that Quentin Kopp “has submitted a lengthy critique of the  
24           current project’s legality in support of a lawsuit filed by Kings County and local  
25           farmers.”<sup>31</sup> At the time that this exhibit is being written (April 2013), DRA is not

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<sup>30</sup> LA Times, January 27, 2013.

<sup>31</sup> San Jose Mercury News, March 19, 2013.

1 aware of whether all of the 400 land parcels that are necessary for the first phase of  
2 the project have yet been purchased.

3 DRA is not attempting to critique or judge the reasonableness of the High-  
4 Speed Rail project. DRA is stating that the start of the project has already been  
5 delayed by half a year, and seems likely to be delayed significantly longer. Given  
6 these delays, it is DRA's judgment that PG&E will spend considerably less than it  
7 originally forecasted in 2014 for MWC 10 costs associated with the High-Speed Rail  
8 project. PG&E's 2014 forecast of \$10.000 million should be reduced by half,  
9 corresponding to the six-month delay in the start of construction. Accordingly, DRA  
10 is recommending a \$5.000 million forecast for 2014.<sup>32</sup>

### 11 3. Conclusions

12 As shown in Table 7-4, there are several sub-MWCs for this capital work  
13 category. As discussed above, DRA has made adjustments to various components  
14 of these calculations, including the use of 2012 recorded data. The net result of  
15 DRA's adjustments is that DRA is recommending that MWC 10 capital expenditures  
16 be \$41.025 million higher than PG&E's forecast in 2012, \$1.794 million lower in  
17 2013 (which includes DRA's revised calculations for escalation), and \$7.647 million  
18 lower in 2014 (which also includes revised escalation). PG&E's and DRA's  
19 estimates for MWC 10 are summarized on Line 2 of Table 7-1

### 20 C. MWC 16 – New Business

21 Similar to the mandates mentioned in MWC 10, PG&E is required under its  
22 obligation to serve requirements, its tariff rules, and its franchise agreements with  
23 local governments, to undertake various capital projects as part of its New Business  
24 Customer Connections program. The capital projects included in MWC 16 include  
25 installing electric infrastructure required to connect new customers to PG&E's

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<sup>32</sup> DRA is not proposing a similar reduction in 2013. PG&E is forecasting \$1.000 million for 2013. DRA has concluded that PG&E is likely to spend somewhere near that amount simply by continually monitoring the progress of the High-Speed Rail project and conducting periodic meetings.

1 electric distribution system, and upgrading its system to accommodate increased  
2 loads from existing customers.<sup>33</sup>

3 New Business capital expenditures are linked to overall economic growth and  
4 the resulting increase in new customers and electrical loads. If economic conditions  
5 are poor, fewer new houses tend to be built, resulting in fewer new connections.  
6 Similarly, existing customers will tend to postpone new purchases, resulting in lower  
7 load growth. PG&E's New Business costs decreased significantly during the  
8 recession, but have recently begun to increase. The difficulty in deriving forecasts  
9 for MWC 16 capital expenditures stems from the number of variables that can  
10 potentially impact the final estimate. Not only must estimates be made for the  
11 number of new connections each year, but estimates must also be made regarding  
12 how those new connections will impact subdivision backbone costs, subdivision  
13 costs, residential costs, and non-residential costs.

14 The next three pages contain tables that detail the calculations needed to  
15 develop forecasts for MWC 16 expenditures. Table 7-5 is a summary table that  
16 provides PG&E's and DRA's forecasts for each of the sub-MWC categories that  
17 make up MWC 16. Line 9 of that table summarizes PG&E's and DRA's forecasts  
18 (including escalation) for the years 2012, 2013, and 2014. Table 7-6 shows the  
19 derivation of the New Business costs associated with the growth of various classes  
20 of customers. Table 7-7 shows the calculations whereby the estimates for numbers  
21 of new connections are divided amongst the various customer categories.

22 The tables are being presented in the order described above so that the  
23 summary is seen first, and each succeeding table provides greater detail as to how  
24 the forecasts in the summary were derived. In discussing the development of these  
25 estimates, it makes more sense to start with Table 7-7, which shows the forecasts of  
26 new connections for the various categories of customers, as well as how those  
27 forecasts are developed. This is the first step in calculating MWC 16 forecasts, so it  
28 is the first table that will be discussed.

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<sup>33</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 9-1, lines 13 through 15.

**TABLE 7-5**  
**MWC 16 -- Distribution New Business Customer Connects**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 9-20**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

C Description			Recorded			2012		PG&E		2012 DRA 1		DRA
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	PG&E	PG&E	DRA	PG&E			
	\$135,769	\$94,455	\$73,928	\$48,378	\$55,277	\$64,000	\$56,173	\$94,000	\$86,108	\$142,000	\$127,379	
	\$95,440	\$424,160	\$125,008	\$84,711	\$100,172	\$94,000	\$111,057	\$105,000	\$104,702	\$112,000	\$113,292	
	--	--	--	--	\$1,440	\$4,000	\$3,489	\$6,000	\$2,352	\$8,000	\$2,880	
	\$67,523	\$53,564	\$60,802	\$47,628	\$51,521	\$54,000	\$60,139	\$57,000	\$57,184	\$65,000	\$62,961	
	\$2,034	\$2,050	\$5,374	\$3,207	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,731	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	
	(\$2,153)	(\$2,927)	(\$2,364)	\$36	\$408	--	--	--	--	--	--	
	--	--	--	--	--	(\$9,000)	--	--	--	--	--	
	\$298,343	\$278,908	\$263,648	\$180,960	\$211,699	\$210,000	\$234,589	\$272,545	\$260,436	\$339,566	\$317,369	
2014 Escalation	\$298,343	\$278,908	\$263,648	\$180,960	\$211,699	\$210,000	\$234,589	\$265,000	\$253,347	\$331,000	\$309,511	
	1											

/ NOTE: All of DRA's numbers in the 2012 column are recorded. (Obtained from PG&E in response to Data Request 211-GAW on 3/19/13.)



**TABLE 7-6**  
**MWC 16 -- Derivation of Residential and Non-Residential Expenditures from Unit and Unit Costs Forecasts**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 9-21**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Description			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	2007	2008	Recorded				2012		PG&E		2013 DRA 1	
			2009	2010	2011		/	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	
Units	33,274	11,130	2,993	2,795	3,577	4,786	3,224	9,074	5,671	17,321	10,585	
Units	\$1,528	\$1,964	\$2,283	\$504	\$3,447	\$2,153	\$3,720	\$2,153	\$2,153	\$2,153	\$2,153	
Units Expenditures	\$50,843	\$21,859	\$6,833	\$1,409	\$12,330	\$10,304	\$11,993	\$19,536	\$12,210	\$37,292	\$22,789	
Units	21,704	11,024	8,259	6,018	5,836	6,837	7,102	11,342	11,342	19,245	19,245	
Units	\$884	\$1,141	\$1,249	\$1,191	\$1,298	\$1,313	\$1,262	\$1,292	\$1,292	\$1,146	\$1,146	
Units Expenditures	\$19,186	\$12,578	\$10,315	\$6,549	\$7,342	\$8,977	\$8,963	\$14,200	\$14,200	\$22,055	\$22,055	
Units	28,695	23,741	16,434	10,658	11,372	12,697	13,514	17,013	17,013	23,521	23,521	
Units	\$2,291	\$2,528	\$3,455	\$5,511	\$3,131	\$3,509	\$2,606	\$3,509	\$3,509	\$3,509	\$3,509	
Units Expenditures	\$65,740	\$60,017	\$56,779	\$37,420	\$35,606	\$44,554	\$35,217	\$59,699	\$59,699	\$82,535	\$82,535	
Units	15,570	15,000	11,000	6,144	6,487	6,647	6,034	6,000	6,000	10,459	10,459	
Units	\$6,105	\$8,744	\$10,502	\$6,936	\$11,803	\$10,832	\$12,435	\$10,832	\$10,832	\$10,832	\$10,832	
Units	\$95,110	\$131,160	\$125,908	\$81,711	\$100,172	\$93,664	\$111,057	\$104,702	\$104,702	\$113,292	\$113,292	
Units	\$230,879	\$225,615	\$199,836	\$130,089	\$155,449	\$157,499	\$167,230	\$198,137	\$190,811	\$255,174	\$240,671	
1												

/ NOTE: All of DRA's numbers in the 2012 column are recorded. (Obtained from PG&E in response to Data Request 211 on 3/19/13.)

**TABLE 7-7**  
**MWC 16 -- Historic and Forecasted Residential and Non-Residential New Business Units**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 9-28**

			Recorded								Estimated			
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2012	2013	2013	
										PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	
70,652	75,559	70,997	63,166	50,399	34,765	24,693	18,676	17,208	19,534	20,616	28,355	28,355	42,766	
46.53%	50.48%	57.29%	50.56%	43.06%	31.71%	33.45%	42.93%	33.91%	35.00%	34.45%	40.00%	40.00%	45.00%	
32,673	36,142	40,674	31,936	21,704	11,024	6,259	6,066	5,636	6,637	7,102	11,342	11,342	19,245	
37,779	37,417	30,323	31,230	28,695	23,741	6,434	10,668	11,372	12,597	13,514	7,013	17,013	23,521	
14.73%	109.29%	120.84%	132.30%	153.31%	100.96%	36.24%	34.86%	61.29%	70.00%	45.40%	80.00%	50.00%	90.00%	
37,715	41,685	49,151	42,250	33,274	11,130	2,993	2,795	3,577	4,786	3,224	9,074	5,671	17,321	
--	--	14,064	16,087	15,579	15,000	1,989	9,144	8,487	8,647	8,931	9,666	9,666	10,459	
/ NOTE: All of DRA's numbers in the 2012 column are recorded. (Obtained from PG&E in response to Data Request 211-GAW on 3/19/13.)														

1 To begin the MWC 16 calculations, estimates for New Business connections  
2 must be determined for Residential customers (Line 1 of Table 7-7) and New Non-  
3 Residential customers (Line 7). As shown on those two lines, DRA and PG&E are in  
4 agreement for those forecasts for 2013 and 2014. As Footnote 1 in Table 7-7  
5 indicates, DRA was able to obtain recorded 2012 data for all of the items in Column  
6 11. Recorded Residential and Non-Residential connections are both slightly higher  
7 than PG&E had forecasted.

8 New Subdivision connections (Line 3 of Table 7-7) are calculated as a  
9 percentage of the Residential connections. As Line 2 indicates, DRA has accepted  
10 the 2013 and 2014 allocation percentages used by PG&E. For 2012, DRA utilized  
11 recorded data, which resulted in an allocation percentage slightly lower than PG&E's  
12 estimate.

13 Line 4 of Table 7-7 is calculated by subtracting Line 3 from Line 1. Because  
14 of DRA's access to recorded 2012 data, PG&E's and DRA's numbers for that year  
15 differ slightly, but are in agreement for 2013 and 2014.

16 New Residential Backbone connections (Line 6 of Table 7-7) are calculated  
17 as a percentage of the Subdivision connections. Line 5 shows the allocation  
18 percentages that were used to derive the Backbone connections. As can be seen  
19 on Line 5, the allocation percentages have varied widely, from a high of 153.31% in  
20 2007 to a low of 34.86% in 2010. PG&E forecasted an allocation of 70% for 2012,  
21 and because of increased growth, increased that allocation by an additional 10  
22 percentage points for 2013 as well as for 2014 (i.e., 2013 equals 80% and 2014  
23 equals 90%). Based on recorded 2012 data, DRA has calculated that the allocation  
24 percentage for 2012 is 45.40%, much lower than PG&E's forecast of 70%. DRA  
25 agrees with PG&E that the Backbone allocation percentage will increase for 2013  
26 and 2014, but in DRA's judgment, the 10 percentage point increases forecasted by  
27 PG&E are too high, especially considering that the 2012 recorded allocation of  
28 45.40% is actually a decrease from the 2011 percentage (61.29% in Column 9). In  
29 DRA's judgment, increases of five percentage points each year are reasonable.  
30 DRA is forecasting that the Backbone allocation percentages will be 50.00% in 2013  
31 (versus PG&E's forecast of 80%) and 55.00% in 2014 (versus PG&E's estimate of

1 90%). Because DRA's Backbone allocation percentages for 2012, 2013, and 2014  
2 are lower than PG&E's forecasts, DRA's forecasts of New Backbone connections  
3 (Line 6) are also lower than PG&E's for all three years.

4 The last line on Table 7-7 shows the forecasts for New Non-Residential  
5 connections. Because of DRA's access to recorded 2012 data, PG&E's and DRA's  
6 numbers for that year differ slightly, but are in agreement for 2013 and 2014.

7 Once the numbers of new connections have been established, the next step  
8 in the MWC 16 chain of calculations is to derive the costs to serve these new  
9 connections, which is shown on Table 7-6. As shown on Lines 2, 5, 8, and 11 of  
10 Table 7-6, PG&E has developed unit costs for each of the different categories of  
11 connections. DRA has examined the 2013 and 2014 unit costs and has agreed with  
12 PG&E's estimates. As Footnote 1 on that table indicates, DRA was able to obtain  
13 recorded 2012 data for all of the items in Column 7. The recorded 2012 unit cost  
14 data differ from PG&E's estimates – two of the recorded unit costs are higher than  
15 forecasted, and two are lower.

16 Lines 1, 4, 7, and 10 on Table 7-6 contain the forecasts for the numbers of  
17 connections. These data are simply transferred from Table 7-7. The actual  
18 calculations for the costs are derived on Lines 3, 6, 9, and 12. For each class of  
19 customer connection, the number of new units is multiplied by the unit costs,  
20 resulting in the forecasted expenditures.

21 The last stage of the MWC 16 calculations is to incorporate these forecasts  
22 into Table 7-5, which summarizes all of the sub-MWCs. As Footnote 1 in that table  
23 indicates, DRA had access to recorded 2012 data. All of the information contained  
24 in Column 7 of Table 7-5 is recorded. The following sections discuss each of the  
25 lines in Table 7-5 for which DRA has made adjustments to PG&E's forecasts.

## 26 **1. Residential Expenditures**

27 Line 1 of Table 7-5 shows the forecasted capital expenditures that PG&E and  
28 DRA have calculated are necessary to provide electric service to New Residential  
29 customers. The components of that calculation come from Table 7-6. More  
30 specifically, Line 1 of Table 7-5 equals the sum of Lines 3, 6, and 9 (Residential  
31 Backbone, Residential Subdivisions, and Residential Other expenditures) on Table

1 7-6. The differences between PG&E's and DRA's forecasts on Line 1 of Table 7-5  
2 are completely due to the differences that occurred in Tables 7-6 and 7-7, which  
3 have been discussed previously. Since DRA used recorded 2012 data in Tables 7-6  
4 and 7-7, the resulting 2012 DRA forecast for Line 1 of Table 7-5 is also recorded.  
5 The net result of these changes is that DRA is recommending expenditures of  
6 \$56.173 million for 2012 (versus \$64.000 million for PG&E), \$86.108 million for 2013  
7 (versus \$94.000 million for PG&E), and \$127.379 million for 2014 (versus \$142.000  
8 million for PG&E).

9 **2. Non-Residential Expenditures**

10 MWC 16 costs for Non-Residential connections are shown on Line 2 of Table  
11 7-5. The numbers shown on Line 2 come from Table 7-6, and are simply copied  
12 from Line 12 of that table. (It should be noted that for its 2012, 2013, and 2014  
13 estimates for Line 2 of Table 7-5, PG&E has chosen to round, to the nearest million,  
14 the Table 7-6 forecasts.) As mentioned in the previous section, the differences  
15 between PG&E's and DRA's forecasts on Line 2 of Table 7-5 are entirely due to the  
16 differences that occurred in Tables 7-6 and 7-7, which have been discussed  
17 previously. Since DRA used recorded 2012 data in Tables 7-6 and 7-7, the resulting  
18 2012 DRA forecast for Line 2 of Table 7-5 is also recorded. The net result of these  
19 changes is that DRA is recommending expenditures of \$111.057 million for 2012  
20 (versus \$94.000 million for PG&E), \$104.702 million for 2013 (versus \$105.000  
21 million for PG&E), and \$113.292 million for 2014 (versus \$113.000 million for  
22 PG&E).

23 **3. PEV Related Expenditures**

24 Line 3 of Table 7-5 shows MWC 16 costs associated with strengthening  
25 PG&E's electrical system to handle additional load caused by Plug-In Vehicles  
26 (PEV). PG&E has estimated that approximately 16% of the applications it receives  
27 for PEV-related load checks results in some type of capital improvement to address

1 load or voltage issues.<sup>34</sup> PG&E has also estimated that it has to spend \$7,500 in  
2 capital costs each time it makes a PEV-related system upgrade. DRA has examined  
3 these assumptions and agrees with them.

4 As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7, DRA had access to recorded 2012  
5 data. DRA's 2012 PEV Expenditure amount of \$3.489 million is a recorded figure  
6 that was provided by PG&E. DRA's Line 3 forecasts for 2013 and 2014 are based  
7 on PEV estimates developed in MWC EV. DRA's expense witness for MWC EV has  
8 developed PEV application estimates that differ from PG&E's estimates. DRA's  
9 2013 and 2014 forecasts for Line 3 of Table 7-5 reflect the decreased PEV  
10 application estimates that are developed for MWC EV.<sup>35</sup> The net result of these  
11 changes is that DRA is recommending expenditures of \$3.489 million for 2012  
12 (versus \$4.000 million for PG&E), \$2.352 million for 2013 (versus \$6.000 million for  
13 PG&E), and \$2.880 million for 2014 (versus \$8.000 million for PG&E).

#### 14 **4. Transformer Purchases**

15 Line 4 of Table 7-5 details the costs associated with purchasing transformers  
16 to accommodate load growth caused by new connections. Transformer  
17 expenditures are separated into three categories: purchases to support Residential  
18 New Business (including PEV) growth, purchases to support Non-Residential New  
19 Business growth, and purchases to support Other growth. These three categories  
20 are indexed to the forecasted increases in capital expenditures for Residential New  
21 Business connections, Non-Residential New Business connections, and Other  
22 connections.<sup>36</sup>

23 Footnote 1 in Column 7 of Table 7-5 states that DRA was able to obtain  
24 recorded 2012 data for all of the sub-MWCs, including Transformer Purchases. The  
25 use of this recorded data accounts for the difference between PG&E's and DRA's

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<sup>34</sup> Exhibit PG&E 4, page 9-18, lines 7 through 9.

<sup>35</sup> See Exhibit DRA-5 (Electrical Distribution Expenses, Part 1 of 2).

<sup>36</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 9-26, lines 7 through 14.

1 2012 forecasts. For both 2013 and 2014, PG&E and DRA utilized a complex  
2 spreadsheet to calculate forecasts for Line 4. This spreadsheet has not been  
3 included in this exhibit as it is fairly complicated. However, its basic concept is  
4 relatively straight forward. First, year to year percentage increases are calculated  
5 for Residential, Non-Residential, and Other capital expenditures. Second, those  
6 percentages are applied to the last recorded transformer purchases for those same  
7 categories. As an example, suppose that Residential New Business expenditures  
8 for 2012 are 10% higher than the expenditures in 2011. Let's further suppose that  
9 the cost of purchasing new transformers to support Residential New Business was  
10 \$1.000 million in 2011. Then the calculated cost to purchase new Residential-  
11 related transformers in 2012 would be \$1.100 million.<sup>37</sup> The same type of  
12 calculation is made each year for each of the three categories of transformer  
13 expenditures. The last part of the Line 4 calculations is simply to add together the  
14 three categories of transformer purchases for each year. (It should be noted that  
15 PG&E rounds its forecast to the nearest million.) Those totals constitute the  
16 forecasts for Line 4 of Table 7-5. The net result of these changes is that DRA is  
17 recommending expenditures of \$60.139 million for 2012 (versus \$54.000 million for  
18 PG&E), \$57.184 million for 2013 (versus \$57.000 million for PG&E), and \$62.961  
19 million for 2014 (versus \$65.000 million for PG&E).

## 20 **5. Transformer Scrapping**

21 When old transformers are retired, PG&E incurs a cost to remove them, as  
22 shown on Line 5 of Table 7-5. For 2013 and 2014, PG&E has estimated that  
23 transformer scrapping costs will be \$3.000 million each year. DRA does not oppose  
24 PG&E's forecasts. For 2012, DRA used the recorded amount of \$3.731 million.

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<sup>37</sup> \$1.000 million for 2011 Residential New Business transformer expenditures times the 10% increase in 2012 for Residential New Business costs equals a calculated 2012 Residential New Business transformer cost of \$1.100 million, 10% higher than the 2011 amount.

1                                   **6. Conclusions**

2                   As shown in Table 7-5, not only are there many sub-MWCs for this capital  
3 work category, but some of the sub-MWCs are fairly complex to calculate. PG&E  
4 and DRA are in agreement on the procedures for how these various forecasts  
5 should be calculated. As discussed above, DRA has made adjustments to various  
6 components of these calculations, including the use of 2012 recorded data. The net  
7 result of DRA's adjustments is that DRA is recommending that MWC 16 capital  
8 expenditures be \$24.590 million higher than PG&E's forecast in 2012, \$12.109  
9 million lower in 2013 (which includes DRA's revised calculations for escalation), and  
10 \$22.197 million lower in 2014 (which again includes revised escalation calculations).  
11 PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 16 are summarized on Line 3 of Table 7-1.

12                                   **D. MWC 06 – Distribution Line Capacity**

13                   MWC 06 reflects capital expenditures for expansion work that takes place  
14 outside of substations, and includes projects to correct capacity and overload  
15 problems on PG&E's distribution system. Line 4 of Table 7-1 summarizes PG&E's  
16 and DRA's forecasts for MWC 06. Table 7-8 (on the following page) provides a  
17 more detailed breakdown of the various sub-MWC capital categories that constitute  
18 MWC 06.

19                   As Table 7-8 clearly shows, there are a number work categories contained in  
20 MWC 06. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access to  
21 the recorded total expenditures for 2012. To be clear, the only recorded number  
22 available to DRA was the total figure of \$89.408 million. DRA did not have access to  
23 recorded 2012 data for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 06. In order for the  
24 forecasts in Column 7 to total \$89.408 million, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1  
25 forecast and mathematically adjusted it (to \$40.749 million) so that the total for  
26 Column 7 equaled the recorded amount.



**TABLE 7-8**  
**MWC 06 -- Distribution Line Capacity**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 12-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded											PG&E ≥ DRA
			2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		2012		2013		
							PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	
1	06A-Feeder Projects Assoc. with Substations	\$39,230	\$47,004	\$38,347	\$41,044	\$33,214	\$34,398	\$40,749	\$26,787	\$26,787	\$36,797	\$36,797	\$0
2	06B-Overhead Transformers	\$622	\$1,727	\$845	\$2,145	\$3,107	\$2,110	\$2,110	\$4,500	\$3,600	\$5,000	\$3,600	\$1,400
3	06D-Circuits Reinforcements (DE Managed)	\$6,291	\$6,344	\$6,236	\$6,636	\$11,075	\$3,606	\$3,606	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$9,034	\$9,034	\$0
4	06E-Circuits Reinforcements (PS Managed)	\$21,489	\$27,080	\$20,102	\$23,105	\$33,337	\$34,471	\$34,471	\$37,000	\$37,000	\$30,043	\$30,043	\$0
5	06E-Reinforce Circuits > 6000 Customers	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
6	06E-Complete Mainline Loops	--	--	--	--	\$2,705	\$2,470	\$2,470	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$7,500	\$3,271	\$4,229
7	06G-Voltage Complaints (Includes PEV)	\$2,187	\$2,147	\$2,840	\$2,328	\$2,463	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
8	Line Voltage Regulator Revolving Stock	\$3,283	\$2,383	\$5,858	\$3,905	\$4,357	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$4,324	\$4,324	\$0
9	Escalation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$2,361	\$2,298	\$2,715	\$2,525	\$190
10	Total	\$75,102	\$99,695	\$93,230	\$91,363	\$90,258	\$93,057	\$99,408	\$95,148	\$94,185	\$107,013	\$102,004	\$5,819
11	Total Excluding 2013 & 2014 Escalation	\$75,102	\$88,685	\$83,230	\$81,363	\$90,258	\$83,057	\$89,408	\$82,787	\$81,887	\$105,198	\$99,569	\$5,629
	1												
		/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$89,408 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/8/13											

1 A closer examination of Table 7-8 shows that PG&E and DRA are in  
2 agreement with most of the forecasts. DRA has made adjustments to only two of  
3 the sub-categories: Line 2 (Overhead Transformers) and Line 6 (Complete Mainline  
4 Loops). The next two sections will discuss DRA's adjustments for each of those  
5 sub-MWCs.

### 6 **1. MWC 06B – Overhead Transformers**

7 Projects in this sub-category correct capacity deficient line transformers in  
8 PG&E's electrical distribution system. To correct these deficiencies, PG&E will  
9 either replace the existing transformer with one of a higher capacity, or add a new  
10 transformer and transfer load. As stated in its testimony, PG&E plans to increase  
11 the replacement of confirmed overloaded distribution line transformers beginning in  
12 2014.<sup>38</sup>

13 In its workpapers, PG&E provides a table that shows that each transformer  
14 replacement is estimated to cost \$12,000; that amount is assumed to remain  
15 constant through 2016.<sup>39</sup> DRA has examined this cost and concludes that it is  
16 reasonable. In this same table, PG&E shows that it replaced 259 transformers in  
17 2011, and forecasts replacing 176 in 2012. PG&E proposes replacing 375 in 2013  
18 and 417 in 2014.

19 PG&E's has failed to justify its proposed transformer replacements for 2013  
20 and 2014. For 2012, PG&E's forecast of 176 transformer replacements represents a  
21 decrease of 83 replacements over the prior year. Clearly, PG&E has given low  
22 priority to this matter. If there was some necessity to accelerate transformer  
23 replacements, PG&E would have begun doing so in 2012, rather than decreasing  
24 the replacements. In DRA's judgment, replacing 300 transformers in both 2013 and  
25 2014 is a more reasonable estimate. DRA's 2013 and 2014 forecasts represent an  
26 increase of 124 over the forecasted 2012 level, and are over 15% greater than the

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<sup>38</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 12-15, lines 16 and 17.

<sup>39</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 12-35, line 26.

1 recorded 2011 level of 259. As shown in Line 2 of Table 7-8, DRA's  
2 recommendation of 300 transformer replacements each year for 2013 and 2014  
3 results in a forecast that is \$0.900 million lower than PG&E's 2013 estimate, and is  
4 \$1.400 million lower than PG&E's 2014 estimate.

## 5 **2. MWC 06E – Complete Mainline Loops**

6 PG&E's primary mainline system is designed so that each section is  
7 connected to the mainline at both ends. However, not all of PG&E's mainline  
8 sections currently meet this design standard. PG&E is proposing to complete the  
9 mainline loops on those sections that are not connected at both ends.

10 In its workpapers, PG&E shows that it wants to complete 115 mainline loop  
11 projects over the six-year period 2011 through 2016.<sup>40</sup> In the first three years of the  
12 completion period (2011 through 2013), PG&E is undertaking 16 mainline loop  
13 projects. DRA has examined the capital expenditures for that period and has  
14 concluded that PG&E's 2012 and 2013 forecasts are reasonable.

15 The remaining 99 projects are being forecasted for the last three years of the  
16 completion period (2014 through 2016). DRA understands why PG&E wants to  
17 undertake these projects. However, no justification has been provided to explain  
18 why the number of mainline loop projects proposed for this rate case is over six  
19 times greater than the previous three-year period. It is also important to note that  
20 Line 6 of Table 7-8 shows that no projects of this type were done prior to 2011. That  
21 fact, coupled with the fact that PG&E is only proposing to undertake 16 mainline loop  
22 projects over the period 2011 through 2013, indicates that there is no urgency to  
23 complete all 115 projects by 2016. DRA is recommending that 32 mainline loop  
24 projects be undertaken in this second three-year period (2014 through 2016), which  
25 is twice as many as were completed in the 2011 through 2013 period. DRA is  
26 recommending that the 32 projects be equally divided over the three-year rate case

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<sup>40</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, Workpaper Table 12-12, pages WP 12-37 through WP 12-41.

1 cycle (2014 through 2016). At an average cost of \$306,700 per project,<sup>41</sup> DRA's  
2 2014 recommendation for this sub-MWC is \$3.271 million,<sup>42</sup> as compared to  
3 PG&E's forecast of \$7.500 million.

### 4 **3. Conclusions**

5 As shown in Table 7-8, there are quite a few sub-MWCs for this capital work  
6 category. PG&E and DRA are in agreement on the basic procedures for how these  
7 various forecasts should be calculated. As discussed above, DRA has made  
8 adjustments to several components of these calculations, and is using the recorded  
9 total of \$89.408 million for 2012. The net result of DRA's adjustments is that DRA is  
10 recommending that MWC 06 capital expenditures be \$6.351 million higher than  
11 PG&E's forecast in 2012, \$0.963 million lower in 2013 (which includes DRA's  
12 revised calculations for escalation), and \$5.819 million lower in 2014 (which again  
13 includes revised escalation). PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 06 are  
14 summarized on Line 4 of Table 7-1.

### 15 **E. MWC 46 – Distribution Substation Capacity**

16 Whereas MWC 06 (see previous section) reflects capital expenditures for  
17 capacity expansion work that takes place outside of substations, MWC 46 examines  
18 capacity work within substations. Typical projects consist of upgrading existing  
19 substation banks, installing additional banks, or installing other equipment in new  
20 substations. Line 6 of Table 7-1 summarizes PG&E's and DRA's forecasts for MWC  
21 46. Table 7-9 (on the following page) provides a more detailed breakdown of the  
22 various sub-MWC capital categories that constitute MWC 46.

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<sup>41</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 12-41, line 117. Total capital expenditures for the 99 loop completion projects forecasted by PG&E during the 2014 through 2016 period are \$30,364,960. This equates to roughly \$306,700 for each of the 99 projects.

<sup>42</sup>  $(32 \text{ total projects}) \div (3 \text{ years}) \times (\$306,700 \text{ per project}) = \$3.271 \text{ million for 2014.}$

**TABLE 7-9**  
**MWC 46 -- Distribution Substation Capacity**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 12-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description						Recorded					2012		
							2008		2009		PG & E		DRA 1	
											2010		2011	
									/		PG & E		DRA	PG & E
\$64,617	\$102,240	\$92,235	\$61,157	\$59,394	\$53,599	\$46,776	\$49,020	\$49,020	\$67,800	\$66,800	\$66,800			
\$8,654	\$4,327	\$3,004	\$1,935	\$3,615	\$4,731	\$4,731	\$2,120	\$2,120	\$5,250	\$5,250	\$5,250			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$1,476	\$1,470	\$1,842	\$1,842	\$1,842			
\$73,271	\$106,567	\$95,239	\$63,092	\$63,009	\$58,330	\$51,507	\$52,616	\$52,610	\$71,892	\$73,892	\$73,892			
\$73,271	\$106,567	\$95,239	\$63,092	\$63,009	\$58,330	\$51,507	\$51,140	\$51,140	\$73,050	\$72,050	\$72,050			
/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$51,507 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated														

1 As Table 7-9 shows, there are only a couple of work categories contained in  
2 MWC 46. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access to  
3 the recorded total expenditures for 2012. The only recorded number available to  
4 DRA was the total figure of \$51.507 million. DRA did not have access to recorded  
5 2012 data for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 46. In order for the forecasts  
6 in Column 7 to total \$51.507 million, DRA chose the Line 1 forecast and  
7 mathematically adjusted it (to \$46.776 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled  
8 the recorded amount.

9 A closer examination of Table 7-9 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
10 data for 2012, DRA made only one adjustment to PG&E's forecasts. This single  
11 adjustment to Line 1 of Table 7-9, amounting to \$1.000 million in 2014, reflects  
12 DRA's conclusion that one of PG&E's proposed capital projects will not be  
13 undertaken until after 2014.

14 During the capital review process of a GRC, DRA seeks to determine whether  
15 the requesting utility has adequately justified the need for each of its proposed  
16 capital projects. DRA then seeks to determine that the estimated cost of each  
17 project is reasonable. For substation projects, utilities have an additional regulatory  
18 requirement that must be met. General Order (GO) 131-D states, in part, the  
19 following in Section III.B:

20 "No electric public utility shall begin construction in this state of any  
21 electric power line facilities or substations which are designed for immediate  
22 or eventual operation at any voltage between 50 kV or 200 kV or new or  
23 upgraded substations with high side voltage exceeding 50 kV without this  
24 Commission's having first authorized the construction of said facilities by  
25 issuance of a permit to construct in accordance with the provisions of  
26 Sections IX.B, X, and XI.B of this General Order." (Emphasis added.)

27 As part of its regulatory burden, for each Substation project with high side  
28 voltage exceeding 50 kV, PG&E must either obtain a Permit To Construct (PTC) or a  
29 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the Commission, or it  
30 must determine that the project falls under one of the exempt categories, which  
31 excludes the project from compliance with the PTC portions of the Order.

1 To investigate this matter further, DRA issued Data Request DRA-160-GAW.  
2 The thrust of this data request was to obtain an explanation of what authority PG&E  
3 was operating under in order to proceed with these MWC 46 capital projects. In its  
4 response, PG&E stated that it would be seeking a PTC for its proposal to construct  
5 the Gosford Substation project, but had not yet done so. PG&E further stated that  
6 the final permitting would be determined at a later date when the project was more  
7 thoroughly defined.

8 In DRA's experience, PTCs are often lengthy proceedings that can take years  
9 to resolve. The Gosford Substation project has apparently not yet been sufficiently  
10 defined to begin the PTC process. PG&E has forecasted spending \$1.000 million  
11 for this project in 2014.<sup>43</sup> In DRA's judgment, it is likely that this project will not  
12 begin until after 2014. At this stage, it is not even known whether or not the PTC will  
13 be approved. DRA has therefore reduced PG&E's 2014 capital forecast by \$1.000  
14 million (\$1.034 million when revisions for escalation are included). The adjustments  
15 included in Table 7-9 are summarized on Line 6 of Table 7-1.

#### 16 **F. MWC 48 – Substation Replacement of Other Equipment**

17 MWC 48 addresses PG&E's request to replace substation equipment (other  
18 than transformers, which are discussed in MWC 54). Table 7-10 (on the following  
19 page) provides a more detailed breakdown of the various sub-MWC capital  
20 categories that constitute MWC 48. Line 12 of that table totals the sub-MWCs and  
21 summarizes PG&E's and DRA's forecasts for 2012, 2013, and 2014 (including  
22 forecasts for escalation).

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<sup>43</sup> The Gosford Substation is a multi-year project that is not scheduled to be completed until 6/1/16. Workpaper Table 12-8 (page WP 12-19) shows on line 39 that \$1.000 million is scheduled to be spent in 2014, with additional expenditures in 2015 and 2016. DRA is not currently recommending that the project be cancelled, only that the 2014 expenditures be pushed back an additional year.

**TABLE 7-10**  
**MWC 48 -- Distribution Substation Replacement of Other Equipment**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 13-12**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded										2013 DRA	2013 PG&E			
				2007	2008		2009		2010		PG&E 2011			DRA 1 2012		
										/	PG&E			PG&E	DRA	PG&E
	\$5,566	\$23,949	\$25,261	\$17,682	\$28,125	\$34,377	\$26,541	\$33,588	\$33,588	\$42,962	\$33,588	\$9,000				
	\$5,474	\$1,837	\$1,043	\$2,540	\$10,166	\$6,004	\$6,004	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0,000	\$9,000	\$9,000				
	--	--	--	\$1,146	\$3,735	\$550	\$550	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600				
	\$1,602	\$315	\$135	\$1,169	\$1,605	\$800	\$800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800				
	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,000	\$421	\$1,070	\$200	\$200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$1,800				
	\$957	\$421	\$347	\$1,075	\$961	\$1,841	\$1,841	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800				
	\$3	--	--	\$25	\$1,100	\$2,812	\$2,812	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$2,050	\$2,050	\$2,050				
	\$1,695	\$808	\$1,030	\$2,448	\$2,025	\$2,246	\$0	\$2,086	\$2,086	\$1,968	\$1,968	\$1,968				
	--	(\$50)	\$21	(\$203)	\$86	\$0	\$0	--	--	--	--	--				
	\$16,993	\$28,579	\$29,767	\$26,303	\$49,176	\$50,401	\$40,319	\$54,906	\$54,892	\$66,021	\$56,393	\$56,393				
	\$16,993	\$28,579	\$29,767	\$26,303	\$49,176	\$50,401	\$40,319	\$53,374	\$53,374	\$64,380	\$55,006	\$55,006				
1																

/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$40,319 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.



1 As Table 7-10 clearly shows, there are quite a few work categories contained  
2 in MWC 48. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access  
3 to the recorded total expenditures for 2012. The only recorded number available to  
4 DRA was the total figure of \$40.319 million. DRA did not have access to recorded  
5 2012 data for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 48. In order for the forecasts  
6 in Column 7 to total \$40.319 million, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1 forecast and  
7 mathematically adjusted it (to \$26.541 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled  
8 the recorded amount.

9 A closer examination of Table 7-10 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
10 data for 2012, DRA made only one adjustment to PG&E's forecasts. This single  
11 adjustment to Line 1 of Table 7-10 only impacts 2014.

12 In the 2011 GRC, PG&E sought to undertake 14 switchgear replacement  
13 projects over the period 2009 through 2013. In the current 2014 GRC, PG&E states  
14 in its testimony that only two of the switchgear projects proposed during the last  
15 GRC were actually completed.<sup>44</sup> Indeed, a close inspection of the projects  
16 proposed (and authorized) in the 2011 GRC shows that 11 of the replacement  
17 projects are being requested again in the current GRC. In its testimony, PG&E  
18 states that it decided to reschedule the original 2011 switchgear projects so that it  
19 could apply lessons learned from the two projects that it did complete.<sup>45</sup> More  
20 specifically, PG&E states that rather than pursuing multiple switchgear projects  
21 simultaneously as originally planned in the 2011 GRC, it decided to wait to complete  
22 and learn from the Mission Substation project, and then leverage lessons learned  
23 from that project to the other switchgear projects.<sup>46</sup>

24 In this current GRC, PG&E is proposing to work on 10 switchgear projects  
25 simultaneously in 2013. Since PG&E was only able to complete two switchgear  
26 projects during the last GRC cycle, undertaking 10 projects in one year may be

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<sup>44</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 13-9, lines 23 through 25.

<sup>45</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 13-9, lines 26-28.

<sup>46</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 13-9, lines 29 through 33.

1 ambitious. DRA assumes that PG&E has gained experience from working on the  
2 Mission Substation project, and is now better equipped to work on multiple  
3 replacement projects. Therefore, even though PG&E's 2013 request of \$33.588  
4 million is larger than any previous recorded year since at least 2007, DRA is  
5 accepting PG&E's forecast.

6 For 2014, PG&E is proposing to work on 13 switchgear projects  
7 simultaneously. This request is ambitious. PG&E's 2014 forecast of \$42.962 million  
8 is more than 50% higher than the previous largest recorded expenditure (\$28.125  
9 million in 2011). In DRA's judgment, a more reasonable forecast for 2014 is the  
10 \$33.588 million forecast proposed by PG&E (and accepted by DRA) for 2013. As  
11 previously mentioned, the use of the \$33.588 million forecast will provide PG&E with  
12 a higher level of expenditures than any previously recorded year since at least 2007.  
13 It will also enable PG&E to work on multiple projects simultaneously, allowing for the  
14 replacement of the most unreliable switchgears.

15 DRA has only made adjustments to one sub-MWC, and is using the recorded  
16 total of \$40.319 million for 2012. The net result of DRA's adjustments is that MWC  
17 48 capital expenditures are \$40.319 million in 2012, which is \$10.082 million lower  
18 than PG&E's forecast. For 2014, DRA is recommending \$56.393 million (which  
19 includes DRA's revised escalation calculations), which is \$9.628 million lower than  
20 PG&E's estimate. PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 48 are summarized on  
21 Line 8 of Table 7-1.

## 22 **G. MWC 54 – Distribution Transformer Replacements**

23 In MWC 54, PG&E identifies, prioritizes, and replaces transformers (within  
24 substations) that have the highest risk of failing. This program also maintains an  
25 adequate supply of mobile and emergency transformers.<sup>47</sup> Table 7-11 (on the  
26 following page) provides a more detailed breakdown of the various sub-MWC capital  
27 categories that constitute MWC 54.

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<sup>47</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 13-14, lines 2 through 6.

**TABLE 7-11**  
**MWC 54 -- Distribution Substation Replacement of Transformers**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 13-12**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded									
				2007	2008	2009	2010	PG & E	DRA 1		2012
						/	PG & E	DRA			PG & E
\$30,101	\$40,376	\$41,366	\$36,174	\$41,470	\$57,241	\$47,374	\$36,700	\$36,700	\$53,950	\$44,400	
\$1,237	\$5,857	\$2,968	\$423	\$3,198	--	--	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$3,000	\$3,000	
\$1,701	\$520	\$5,060	\$1,915	\$1,240	\$1,267	\$1,267	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300	\$6,300	
--	(\$29)	(\$59)	(\$176)	\$230	\$57	\$57	--	--	--	--	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$1,151	\$1,143	\$1,604	\$1,604	
\$33,039	\$46,724	\$52,335	\$38,335	\$46,138	\$62,329	\$52,462	\$41,151	\$41,443	\$64,854	\$55,000	
\$33,039	\$46,724	\$52,335	\$38,335	\$46,138	\$62,329	\$52,462	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$63,250	\$53,700	
/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$52,462 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.											

1 As Table 7-11 shows, there are several work categories contained in MWC  
2 54. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access to the  
3 recorded total expenditures for 2012. The only recorded number available to DRA  
4 was the total figure of \$52.462 million. DRA did not have access to recorded 2012  
5 data for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 54. In order for the forecasts to  
6 total \$52.462 million, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1 forecast and mathematically  
7 adjusted it (to \$47.374 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled the recorded  
8 amount.

9 A closer examination of Table 7-11 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
10 data for 2012, DRA made only one adjustment to PG&E's forecasts. This single  
11 adjustment to Line 1 of Table 7-11 only impacts 2014.

12 In its testimony, PG&E states that its 2014 forecast for Transformer  
13 Replacements is based on replacing 11 transformers. PG&E states that the number  
14 of targeted transformer replacements is consistent with historical trends.<sup>48</sup> In its  
15 workpapers, PG&E shows a chart of historical transformer replacements for the  
16 period 2007 through 2011.<sup>49</sup> That table shows that the yearly replacement rate  
17 varies between 6 and 14, with an historical average of less than 10. When the table  
18 is expanded to include PG&E's forecasts for 2012 and 2013, the average drops to  
19 just above 9. Because of the variability in the number of replacements, DRA is  
20 recommending that the average of 9 replacements be used in 2014. DRA therefore  
21 reduced PG&E's 2014 forecast of 11 replacements by two. In its workpapers, PG&E  
22 states that the average unit cost for a transformer greater than 70 kV is \$4.775  
23 million.<sup>50</sup> Since DRA is recommending a reduction of two transformers, DRA  
24 reduced PG&E's forecast by \$9.550 million, which is two times the unit cost for this  
25 equipment.

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<sup>48</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 13-14, lines 17 through 21.

<sup>49</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 13-15, Table 13-13.

<sup>50</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 13-16, line 54.

1 As discussed in the previous paragraphs, DRA has only made one  
2 adjustment to one sub-MWC, and is using the recorded total of \$52.462 million for  
3 2012. The net result of DRA's adjustments is that DRA is recommending that MWC  
4 54 capital expenditures be \$52.462 million for 2012, \$9.867 million lower than  
5 PG&E's forecast. For 2014, DRA's forecast is \$55.051 million (which includes  
6 DRA's revised escalation calculation), \$9.803 million lower than PG&E's estimate. It  
7 should be noted that even though DRA's 2014 forecast is lower than PG&E's, DRA's  
8 estimate is over 30% higher than PG&E's 2013 forecast (which DRA accepts as  
9 reasonable). PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 54 are summarized on Line 9  
10 of Table 7-1.

#### 11 **H. MWC 08 – Distribution Reliability Base**

12 Capital projects included in MWC 08 address local reliability issues that occur  
13 routinely throughout PG&E's service territory. Typical projects include: installing  
14 fused cutouts, line reclosers, sectionalizers, switches, fault indicators, fused  
15 switches and interrupters; rebuilding and reframing overhead distribution lines; and  
16 performing other reliability and system protection improvement work.<sup>51</sup> Table 7-12,  
17 shown on the next page, provides a more detailed breakdown of the capital  
18 categories that constitute MWC 08.

19 As Table 7-12 shows, there are several sub-MWCs contained in MWC 08. As  
20 indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access to the recorded  
21 total expenditures for 2012. The only recorded number made available to DRA was  
22 the total figure of \$18.547 million. DRA did not have access to recorded 2012 data  
23 for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 08. In order for the forecasts in Column  
24 7 to total \$18.547 million, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 2 forecast and  
25 mathematically adjusted it (to \$6.172 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled  
26 the recorded amount.

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<sup>51</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-15, lines 5 through 10.

**TABLE 7-12**  
**MWC 08 -- Distribution Reliability Base**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 15-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded										
				2007	2008	2009		2010	PG&E 2011	DRA 1 2012		
							/	PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA	
		\$4,642	\$6,036	\$5,067	\$4,402	\$4,001	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$9,580	\$9,580
	Replacement Program	\$3,527	\$2,620	\$3,023	\$3,302	\$5,020	\$9,100	\$6,172	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$32,500	\$32,500
	ing Stock	\$2,885	\$1,189	\$1,213	\$9,440	\$10,736	\$8,875	\$8,875	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$24,420	\$17,820
		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$705	\$700	\$1,686	\$1,092
	013 & 2014 Escalation	\$11,054	\$9,845	\$9,294	\$17,234	\$20,666	\$21,565	\$18,547	\$25,205	\$25,200	\$68,196	\$44,492
		\$11,054	\$9,845	\$9,294	\$17,234	\$20,666	\$21,565	\$18,547	\$24,500	\$24,500	\$66,500	\$43,400
1												

/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$18,547 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/8/13.

1 A closer examination of Table 7-12 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
2 data for 2012, DRA made two adjustments to PG&E's proposed forecasts, both of  
3 which only impact 2014. Each of those adjustments will be discussed in the  
4 following two sections.

### 5 **1. Overhead Conductor Replacement Program**

6 PG&E's electric distribution system includes over 113,500 miles of overhead  
7 conductor.<sup>52</sup> To improve system safety and integrity, PG&E is forecasting an  
8 increase for overhead conductor replacement work that will address annealed or  
9 deteriorated conductors. To calculate this sub-MWC (Line 2 of Table 7-12), PG&E  
10 takes a straightforward approach: it develops a cost (per foot) to replace overhead  
11 conductors, and multiplies that cost by the amount of replacement footage it  
12 forecasts it will replace each year

13 DRA examined PG&E's forecasted costs to replace a circuit foot of  
14 distribution line, and agrees that those costs are reasonable. DRA also agrees with  
15 PG&E's proposal to replace 80,000 circuit feet in 2013. However, PG&E is  
16 proposing to replace 325,000 circuit feet in 2014, over four times the quantity  
17 estimated in 2013.<sup>53</sup> Not only is this over four times greater than its 2013 forecast,  
18 but it is also four times greater than the highest previously recorded replacement  
19 amount (81,312 circuit feet in 2008) since at least 2008.

20 PG&E states that a Value of Service (VOS) study shows a benefit to cost ratio  
21 for this project of 2.0.<sup>54</sup> However, even if the VOS study is positive, judgment must  
22 be exercised in determining the quantity of replacements carried out each year. As  
23 an extreme example, no one would seriously suggest that all 113,500 miles of  
24 overhead conductor be replaced in one year, even assuming the benefit to cost ratio  
25 is positive. In DRA's judgment, an increase in the quantity of overhead conductor

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<sup>52</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-16, lines 14 and 15.

<sup>53</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 15-7, line 2.

<sup>54</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-17, lines 8 and 9.

1 replacements is warranted in 2014, but not at the increased amount suggested by  
2 PG&E. DRA recommends that 160,000 circuit feet of overhead conductor be  
3 replaced in 2014, which is a more moderate increase than proposed by PG&E. That  
4 quantity represents a 100% increase over PG&E's request for the prior year, and is  
5 nearly double the previously highest recorded amount replaced (81,312 circuit feet in  
6 2008). Using a replacement cost of \$100 per circuit foot,<sup>55</sup> DRA's 2014 forecast of  
7 replacing 160,000 circuit feet results in a recommended capital expenditure of  
8 \$16.000 million. Using the same replacement cost, PG&E's forecast of replacing  
9 325,000 circuit feet results in a 2014 cost of \$32.500 million.

## 10 **2. Line Recloser Revolving Stock**

11 Due to PG&E's increased usage of line reclosers, it has determined that it is  
12 more cost effective to purchase and stock all of its reclosers through a centralized  
13 process. Similar to the previous section, PG&E forecasts its expenditures for this  
14 sub-MWC (Line 3 of Table 7-12) using a simple process: PG&E determines a  
15 reasonable cost for each recloser that it purchases, and multiplies this cost by the  
16 number of units it proposes to buy in a given year.

17 DRA examined PG&E's forecasted unit cost to replace a single line recloser,  
18 and agrees that those costs are reasonable. DRA also agrees with PG&E's  
19 proposal to replace 545 reclosers in 2013. In 2014, PG&E is proposing to replace  
20 1,110 reclosers in 2014, more than double the previous year.

21 As will be discussed in MWC 49 (see Section I, to follow), DRA is  
22 recommending reductions to the number of Fault Location, Isolation and Service  
23 Restoration (FLISR) systems PG&E is proposing to install in 2014. DRA  
24 recommends that 100 systems be installed, half of PG&E's forecast of 200. As  
25 shown in PG&E's workpapers, there are three reclosers per FLISR system.<sup>56</sup>  
26 Therefore, a decrease of 100 FLISR system installations in 2014 will result in a

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<sup>55</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 15-7, line 3. On that table, PG&E estimates a replacement cost (per circuit foot) of \$100 for 2013 and 2014.

<sup>56</sup> Workpaper for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 15-9, line 21.



1 decrease of 300 recloser purchases in that year. Consequently, in calculating its  
2 estimate for Line 3 of Table 7-12, DRA reduced PG&E's 2014 forecast of 1,110  
3 reclosers by 300, resulting in a forecast of 810. Using a replacement cost of  
4 \$22,000 per line recloser,<sup>57</sup> DRA's 2014 forecast of replacing 810 reclosers results  
5 in a recommended capital expenditure of \$17.820 million. Using the same  
6 replacement cost, PG&E's forecast of replacing 1,110 reclosers results in a 2014  
7 cost of \$24.420 million.

### 8 **3. Conclusions**

9 As discussed in the previous two sections, DRA has made two adjustments to  
10 MWC 08, and is using the recorded total of \$18.547 million for 2012. The net result  
11 of these adjustments is that DRA is recommending that total MWC 08 capital  
12 expenditures be \$18.547 million in 2012, \$3.018 million lower than PG&E's forecast.  
13 For 2014, DRA's forecast is \$44.492 million (which includes DRA's revised  
14 escalation calculation), \$23.694 million lower than PG&E's estimate. It should be  
15 noted that even though DRA's 2014 forecast is lower than PG&E's, DRA's estimate  
16 is over 76% higher than PG&E's 2013 forecast (which DRA has found reasonable).  
17 PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 08 are summarized on Line 10 of Table 7-1.

#### 18 **I. MWC 49 – Reliability Circuit / Zone**

19 Capital projects contained within MWC 49 include reliability improvements  
20 beyond those addressed in MWC 08. Those projects include the installation of Fault  
21 Location, Isolation and Service Restoration (FLISR) systems, improvement of poor  
22 performing circuits, installation of overhead fuses, installation of overhead line  
23 reclosers and underground protective devices, installation of fault indicators,  
24 replacement of recloser controls, and work in communities to resolve high-impact  
25 reliability issues.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 15-8, line 13. On that table, PG&E estimates a unit cost of \$22,000 for 2012, 2013, and 2014.

<sup>58</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-14, lines 12 through 15, and page 15-15, lines 1 and 2.

1 Table 7-13, shown on the next page, provides a more detailed breakdown of  
2 the capital categories that constitute MWC 49. As that table clearly shows, there are  
3 numerous sub-MWCs contained in MWC 49. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column  
4 7 of that table, DRA had access to the recorded total expenditures for 2012. The  
5 only recorded number available to DRA was the total figure of \$61.923 million. DRA  
6 did not have access to recorded 2012 data for the sub-categories that constitute  
7 MWC 49. In order for the forecasts in Column 7 to total \$61.923 million, DRA  
8 arbitrarily chose the Line 2 forecast and mathematically adjusted it (to \$54.144  
9 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled the recorded amount.

10 A closer examination of Table 7-13 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
11 data for 2012, DRA made only one adjustment to PG&E's proposed forecasts. That  
12 adjustment impacts the 2014 forecast for FLISR system expenditures (Line 1 of  
13 Table 7-13).

14 The FLISR program was authorized by the Commission in the Cornerstone  
15 decision (D.10-06-048). Attachment A to that decision specifies the capitalized  
16 expenditures that were authorized. Attachment A states that over the four-year  
17 period 2010 through 2013, PG&E was authorized to install FLISR systems, totaling  
18 \$136.341 million, on the 400 worst performing circuits, with appropriate prioritization  
19 of projects based on the severity of the problem and cost effectiveness analysis.

20 The Cornerstone program ends in 2013, and expenditures associated with  
21 Cornerstone are excluded from this GRC (with the exception of using 2012 recorded  
22 data). However, as discussed in its testimony, PG&E is proposing to continue the  
23 FLISR program.<sup>59</sup> PG&E proposes shifting this program to MWC 49 beginning in  
24 2014, and forecasts expenditures of \$60.000 million per year in order to install 200  
25 FLISR systems per year.

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<sup>59</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-12, lines 3 and 4.

**TABLE 7-13**  
**MWC 49 -- Distribution Reliability Circuit / Zone**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 15-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded											
		2007		2008		2009		2010		PG&E 2011	DRA 1	2012	
							/			PG&E	DRA	PG&E	DRA
		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		\$60,000	\$30,000
		\$1,702	\$5,047	\$14,143	\$54,422	\$57,259	\$52,128	\$64,144	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$26,000
		\$3,690	\$5,228	\$2,307	\$7,582	\$2,363	\$2,024	\$2,024	\$800	\$800	\$1,500	\$1,600	Estimated
		\$8,295	\$13,654	\$11,039	\$12,244	\$6,204	\$1,796	\$1,796	\$3,100	\$3,100	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
		\$1,157	\$2,750	\$1,512	\$4,050	\$2,200	\$2,015	\$2,015	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400
	Overhead and Underground	\$4,054	\$3,232	\$2,731	\$2,879	\$2,944	\$1,944	\$1,944	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,250	\$5,250	\$5,250
		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$1,719	\$1,700	\$2,590	\$1,799	\$1,799
		\$21,030	\$29,910	\$31,732	\$81,776	\$71,067	\$59,907	\$61,923	\$61,719	\$61,700	\$103,640	\$73,049	\$73,049
	2013 & 2014 Escalation	\$21,896	\$29,910	\$31,732	\$81,776	\$71,067	\$59,907	\$61,923	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$101,250	\$71,250	\$71,250
	1												

/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$61,923 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.

1 PG&E claims that the reliability of its electric distribution system has been  
2 improving.<sup>60</sup> DRA agrees with PG&E's request to continue making these reliability  
3 improvements if they can be accomplished in a cost-effective manner. However, in  
4 DRA's judgment, PG&E's 2014 FLISR installation request is excessive. As noted in  
5 the Cornerstone decision, the 400 worst performing circuits are being addressed in  
6 that program over the 2010 through 2013 period. The 400 worst circuits are "low  
7 hanging fruit" in the sense that installing FLISR systems on those circuits will garner  
8 the most improvements in reliability.

9 PG&E's FLISR proposal for MWC 49 would entail spending \$180.000 million  
10 to install 600 FLISR systems over the period 2014 through 2016, far more than the  
11 \$136.341 million that was found reasonable over the four-year period covered by  
12 Cornerstone. PG&E's test year 2014 forecast will result in PG&E spending more  
13 money to gain fewer benefits. Rather than installing 200 FLISR systems in 2014, as  
14 proposed by PG&E, DRA has concluded that 100 installations are more reasonable.  
15 DRA's recommendation of 100 installations equals the average number of  
16 installations undertaken during the Cornerstone period (i.e., 400 installations over  
17 the four-year period 2010 through 2013 equals 100 per year). DRA estimates that  
18 100 FLISR installations in 2014 will allow PG&E to continue its reliability  
19 improvement program. At \$300,000 per system, DRA's 2014 FLISR system forecast  
20 is \$30.000 million.<sup>61</sup>

21 PG&E states that a Value of Service (VOS) study shows a benefit to cost ratio  
22 for this project of 31.2.<sup>62</sup> However, even if the VOS study is positive, judgment must  
23 be exercised in determining the quantity of FLISR system installations carried out  
24 each year. As an extreme example, no one would recommend that all 600 FLISR  
25 systems that PG&E proposes to install during the 2014 through 2016 period should

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<sup>60</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, pages 15-4 through 15-11.

<sup>61</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 15-9, line 42.  $(\$300,000 \text{ per system}) \times (\text{DRA's 2014 forecast of 100 systems}) = (\$30.000 \text{ million})$ .

<sup>62</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 15-21, lines 24 and 25.

1 be immediately installed even assuming the benefit to cost ratio is positive. In DRA's  
2 judgment, installing 100 FLISR systems in 2014 continues the average replacement  
3 rate found reasonable in the Cornerstone decision, and will allow PG&E to continue  
4 its reliability improvements. The net result of DRA's adjustments is that DRA is  
5 recommending that total MWC 49 capital expenditures be \$61.923 million in 2012,  
6 \$2.016 million higher than PG&E's forecast. For 2014, DRA's forecast is \$73.049  
7 million (which includes DRA's revised escalation calculation), \$30.791 million lower  
8 than PG&E's estimate. PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 49 are summarized  
9 on Line 12 of Table 7-1.

### 10 **J. MWC 56 – Replacement of Underground Assets**

11 PG&E's electric underground distribution system consists of primary  
12 distribution cables and associated switches, vaults, enclosures, conduits, splices,  
13 cable connectors, and other equipment.<sup>63</sup> Capital projects for MWC 56 primarily  
14 consist of replacing cables and switches in order to provide safe and reliable service.  
15 When underground cables fail, and the nature of the failure requires the immediate  
16 replacement (or repair) of the cable, that work is charged to MWC 17. MWC 56 only  
17 includes capital costs for failed cables that do not require immediate repair. Table 7-  
18 14, shown on the next page, provides a more detailed breakdown of the capital  
19 categories that constitute MWC 56.

20 As Table 7-14 clearly shows, there are several sub-MWCs contained in MWC  
21 56. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had access to the  
22 recorded total expenditures for 2012. The only recorded number available to DRA  
23 was the total figure of \$72.018 million. DRA did not have access to recorded 2012  
24 data for the sub-categories that constitute MWC 56. In order for the forecasts in  
25 Column 7 to total \$72.018 million, DRA arbitrarily chose the Line 1 forecast and  
26 mathematically adjusted it (to \$37.018 million) so that the total for Column 7 equaled  
27 the recorded amount.

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<sup>63</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 16-1, lines 11 through 13.

**TABLE 7-14**  
**MWC 56 -- Underground Cable Replacement**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 16-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded									DRA Estimated				
		1	2	3	2007	2008	2009		2010			2011		2012	
							/	PG&E		DRA		PG&E			
								PG&E	DRA	DRA		PG&E	PG&E		DRA
	\$30,055	\$22,084	\$17,348	\$31,500	\$34,142	\$33,200	\$37,018	\$38,600	\$38,600	\$76,400	\$38,600				
	--	--	--	\$16	\$798	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$21,000	\$21,000				
			\$89	\$5,91	\$20,881	\$23,000	\$28,000	\$22,400	\$22,400	\$39,200	\$28,000				
			--	--	--	--	--	\$1,918	\$1,895	\$3,478	\$2,214				
14 Escalation	\$30,055	\$22,084	\$17,437	\$37,430	\$55,821	\$74,200	\$72,018	\$68,918	\$68,895	\$140,078	\$89,814				
	\$30,055	\$22,084	\$17,437	\$37,430	\$55,821	\$74,200	\$72,018	\$67,000	\$67,000	\$138,000	\$87,600				
1															
/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$72,018 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.															

1 Line 1 of Table 14 contains the recorded and forecasted estimates for the  
2 types of projects that have been traditionally included in MWC 56. Such capital  
3 categories as Tie-Cable Replacement, Critical Operating Equipment (COE) Cable  
4 Replacement, and Reliability-Related Cable Replacement are all included in Line 1.  
5 Lines 2 and 3 of Table 7-14 represent new work initiatives that PG&E is including in  
6 this GRC for the first time: Network Cable Replacement and TGRAM/TGRAL Switch  
7 Replacements.

8 A closer examination of Table 7-14 shows that, other than the use of recorded  
9 data for 2012, DRA made two adjustments to PG&E's proposed forecasts. Both  
10 adjustments (one for Line 1 and one for Line 3) only impact 2014. Each of these  
11 proposed DRA adjustments will be discussed in the following two sections.

### 12 **1. Traditional MWC 56 Expenditures**

13 Tie-Cable Replacement, Critical Operating Equipment (COE) Cable  
14 Replacement, and Reliability-Related Cable Replacement are the traditional capital  
15 categories found in MWC 56. DRA examined PG&E's proposed 2013 capital  
16 forecasts for these three categories and accepts them. However, PG&E is  
17 forecasting large increases for two of these three categories starting in 2014. For  
18 the area of Reliability-Related Cable Replacements, PG&E's 2014 forecast is slightly  
19 higher than in previous years, and DRA has concluded that the forecast is  
20 reasonable. However, for the other two project categories, PG&E's rationale for the  
21 large 2014 increases appears to be to catch-up with project backlogs.

22 In its testimony, PG&E states that it rescheduled and reprioritized the Tie-  
23 Cable Replacement work it had scheduled to do in the last GRC.<sup>64</sup> PG&E also  
24 notes that it wants to reduce the backlog of existing COE Cable Replacement  
25 projects.<sup>65</sup> In DRA's judgment, there should not have been any backlogs in the first  
26 place.

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<sup>64</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 16-16, lines 12 through 14.

<sup>65</sup> Workpapers for Exhibit PG&E-4, page WP 16-29, footnote 1.

**TABLE 7-15  
MWC 56 -- CABLE REPLACEMENT (Excluding Network and TGRAM / TGRAL Replacements)  
Recorded Versus Authorized Capital Expenditures (Thousands of Nominal Dollars)**

Category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2008	2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	
	Recorded 1/	Recorded 1/	Recorded 1/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount 4/	Recorded 2/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded 2/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded 3/	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded Amount 5/	TY 2011 Settlement Amount 3/	
Cable Replacement (Historical)	\$16,447	\$35,102	\$33,209	\$64,150	\$30,055	\$64,150	\$22,084	\$64,150	\$17,348	\$64,150	\$31,503	\$51,354	\$34,142

1

- 1/ NOTE: 2004 through 2006 recorded data come from the PG&E Test Year 2011 GRC, specifically Table 12-1 of the Workpapers (page 12-1).
- 2/ NOTE: 2007 and 2008 recorded data come from workpaper page WP 16-6 in the current GRC.
- 3/ NOTE: 2009 through 2011 recorded data come from workpaper page WP 16-6 in the current GRC. However, expenditures associated with the Network Cable Replacement program and the TGRAM/TGRAL Switch Replacement program are excluded as they are new programs that would not have been included in the authorized amounts.
- 4/ NOTE: 2007 Settlement adopted PG&E's 2007 forecast. (See page 62 of D.07-03-044 which states that the Settlement adopts PG&E's request.) Attrition years (08, 09, and 10) are assumed to equal TY 2007.
- 5/ NOTE: 2011 Settlement adopted PG&E's MWC 56 request of \$51,354. (Page 1-15 of Attachment 1 of D.11-05-018, PG&E's 2011 GRC decision, does not show any adjustments for MWC 56.)

	Σ 07 -11		Δ
	Authorized	Σ 07 -11 Spent	
2007	\$64,150	\$30,055	\$34,095
2008	\$64,150	\$22,084	\$42,066
2009	\$64,150	\$17,348	\$46,802
2010	\$64,150	\$31,503	\$32,647
2011	\$51,354	\$34,142	\$17,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$307,954</b>	<b>\$135,132</b>	<b>\$172,822</b>



1 As shown in Table 7-15 on the previous page, PG&E has historically spent  
2 much less than it was authorized for cable replacements. By the end of 2011, PG&E  
3 had cumulatively, over the period 2007 through 2011, spent nearly \$173 million less  
4 than it had been authorized. In DRA's judgment, any forecasted expenditure that is  
5 significantly larger than the \$30+ million that was expended in 2010 and 2011 is  
6 being proposed so as to catch-up with projects that were previously deferred and to  
7 eliminate backlogs. DRA has concluded that the 2013 forecast of \$38.600 million  
8 (used by both PG&E and DRA) is also reasonable for 2014.

9 As discussed in Section V, the Commission has increasingly been reluctant to  
10 allow utilities to seek ratepayer funding for previously authorized projects that have  
11 been deferred. This same reluctance should be applied to MWC 56. Furthermore,  
12 PG&E has provided no assurance that underground replacement deferrals will not  
13 continue in the future. Based on PG&E's expenditure history, DRA is uncertain that  
14 the deferral/backlog problems would be addressed even if PG&E was authorized to  
15 increase its 2014 MWC 56 spending to its requested levels.

16 DRA's recommended 2014 expenditure level of \$38.600 million is \$37.800  
17 million less than PG&E's forecast. However, this lower level does not indicate that  
18 the backlog/deferral of traditional MWC 56 capital expenditures should be ignored,  
19 or delayed to a future GRC. DRA's lower forecast reflects DRA's recommendation  
20 that ratepayers not be required to once again foot the bill for capital projects that  
21 have been deferred for many years.

## 22 2. TGRAM/TGRAL Switch Replacements

23 The second adjustment recommended by DRA involves Line 3 of Table 7-14;  
24 this is one of the new work initiatives that PG&E is including in this GRC for the first  
25 time. Transfer Ground Rocker Arm Main / Transfer Ground Rocker Arm Line  
26 (TGRM/TGRAL) switches consist of an operating assembly contained in a welded  
27 steel tank filled with nearly 100 gallons of insulating oil.<sup>66</sup> These switches were  
28 developed for use in underground vaults in order to operate the underground electric

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<sup>66</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 16-6, lines 5 through 8.

1 distribution system. PG&E plans to replace 100 switches in 2012, 80 in 2013, and  
2 140 each year in 2014 through 2016.

3 PG&E states that it has determined that the TGRAM/TGRAL switches need to  
4 be retired due to reliability and safety concerns. PG&E inspected each of these  
5 switches, and ranked them based on their condition. Appendix A at the end of this  
6 exhibit contains a copy of this condition-based ranking. As shown in Appendix A, as  
7 of the end of 2011, 155 of the 771 switches have already been replaced, with 616  
8 switches remaining to be replaced. PG&E states that it plans to replace an  
9 additional 100 switches in 2012, resulting in 516 remaining.

10 As mentioned previously, PG&E is forecasting the replacement of 80  
11 TGRAM/TGRAL switches in 2013. Although this is lower than the projected 100  
12 replacements for 2012, DRA concludes that this 2013 replacement level is  
13 reasonable. However, DRA has concluded that the 140 replacements forecasted by  
14 PG&E in 2014 are excessive.

15 DRA is recommending that 100 TGRAM/TGRAL switches be replaced each  
16 year beginning in 2014. This equates to all of the remaining switches being replaced  
17 in slightly more than four years (roughly one year longer than PG&E's proposed  
18 schedule), as there are 436 switches that are scheduled for replacement as of the  
19 beginning of 2014.<sup>67</sup> In its testimony, PG&E indicates that it would like to replace all  
20 of the switches by the end of 2016, although it should be noted that even PG&E's  
21 proposed replacement rate of 140 switches per year will not accomplish that goal.<sup>68</sup>  
22 In DRA's judgment, extending the replacement schedule by an additional year  
23 beyond what PG&E is requesting poses no significant risk and is reasonable.

24 As shown in Appendix A of this report, 441 of the 661 total switches that will  
25 ultimately be replaced fall into the lowest (Tier 8) category, meaning that these

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<sup>67</sup> As of the end of 2011, there were 616 TGRAM/TGRAL switches remaining to be replaced. Subtracting the 100 that are scheduled for replacement in 2012 and the 80 scheduled for replacement in 2013 leaves 436.

<sup>68</sup> Replacing 140 switches per year over the 3-year period 2014 through 2016 equates to 420 replacements, less than the 436 switches that remain.

1 switches have no significant visible oil leaks or corrosion. Stated another way, as of  
2 the end of 2011, the total combined number of switches falling into Tiers 1 through 7  
3 equals 175 switches, and should be addressed by the 180 switches replaced in  
4 2012 and 2013.<sup>69</sup> Therefore, extending the replacement period by an additional  
5 year (from 2016 to 2017) will not compromise safety or reliability. Since PG&E  
6 forecasted that it would replace 100 switches in 2012 at a cost of \$28.000 million,  
7 DRA is using that same figure for the 100 switches that it recommends be replaced  
8 in 2014.

### 9 **3. Conclusions**

10 As discussed in the previous two sections, DRA has made two adjustments to  
11 MWC 56, and is using the recorded total of \$72.018 million for 2012. The net result  
12 of its adjustments is that DRA is recommending that MWC 56 capital expenditures  
13 be \$2.182 million lower than PG&E's forecast in 2012. For 2014, DRA is forecasting  
14 total MWC 56 expenditures of \$89.814 million (which includes DRA's revised  
15 escalation calculation), \$50.264 million lower than PG&E's estimate. It should be  
16 noted that even though DRA's 2014 forecast is lower than PG&E's, DRA's estimate  
17 still represents a 30% increase over PG&E's 2013 forecast (which DRA has found  
18 reasonable). PG&E's and DRA's estimates for MWC 56 are summarized on Line 13  
19 of Table 7-1.

### 20 **K. MWC 30 – Rule 20A**

21 Rule 20A provides that utilities will convert existing overhead electric  
22 distribution lines, telecommunication lines, cable lines, etc. to underground facilities  
23 when such undergrounding has been determined to be in the public interest. To  
24 make this determination, a city or county government reviews a potential Rule 20A  
25 project to ensure it meets the criteria described in the tariffs. In addition, the local

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<sup>69</sup> As of the end of 2011, Appendix A shows that 616 switches need to be replaced. Subtracting the 441 switches in Tier 8, there remain 175 switches in Tier 1 through Tier 7 combined. Since 100 switches are scheduled to be replaced in 2012, with 80 more replaced in 2013 (for a total of 180), the Tier 1 through Tier 7 switches should be largely replaced by 2014.

1 government must create an underground district and meet with the public and utility  
2 representatives.<sup>70</sup>

3 Table 7-16, on the next page, sets forth the recorded expenditures and the  
4 2012 through 2014 forecasts for MWC 30. As that table shows, there are no sub-  
5 MWCs to analyze. As indicated by Footnote 1 in Column 7 of that table, DRA had  
6 access to the recorded total expenditures for 2012. The recorded 2012  
7 expenditures for MWC 30 were \$52.426 million, \$9.373 million less than PG&E had  
8 forecasted for that year.

9 PG&E calculates and allocates what it terms “work credits” in accordance with  
10 Section 2.b of the Rule 20A tariff. These work credits are allocated annually to the  
11 city or county. Because the cost for undergrounding overhead distribution facilities  
12 is usually quite expensive, it can take a number of years for a city or county to  
13 accumulate sufficient work credits to fund a Rule 20A project. These annual credits  
14 (as well as the accumulated credits) are not actual cash dollars; there is no bank  
15 account maintained by the cities or by PG&E that contains these credits or their  
16 dollar equivalent. To help explain this concept, PG&E uses the analogy of “frequent  
17 flyer miles” – an airline passenger accumulates sufficient mileage credits until they  
18 can be redeemed for a seat upgrade or a free flight. Rule 20A work credits operate  
19 in a similar manner; a city or county government accumulates sufficient credits until  
20 they are “redeemed” for a Rule 20A project.

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<sup>70</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 18-2, lines 21 through 28.

**TABLE 7-16**  
**MWC 30 -- Rule 20A**  
**Recorded and PG&E's Estimated Data From Workpaper Table 18-5**  
**Nominal Dollars (\$000)**

Line #	MWC Description	Recorded										DRA	
		2007					2008						2012
		2009		PG & E		DRA 1		PG & E					
			/	PG & E	DRA	DRA							
	\$45,385	\$39,916	\$41,142	\$36,610	\$33,628	\$61,799	\$52,426	\$86,000	\$52,426	\$86,000	\$52,426		
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	\$2,451	\$1,470	\$2,222	\$1,330		
14 Escalation	\$45,385	\$39,916	\$41,142	\$36,610	\$33,628	\$61,799	\$52,426	\$83,451	\$53,896	\$88,222	\$53,756		
	\$45,385	\$39,916	\$41,142	\$36,610	\$33,628	\$61,799	\$52,426	\$86,000	\$52,426	\$86,000	\$52,426		
1													
/ NOTE: DRA's 2012 Total of \$52,426 is a recorded amount. It was obtained from PG&E in an e-mail dated 3/1/13.													

1 Over the past several rate case cycles, it has been noted that the level of  
2 unspent work credits has been increasing. In its 2003 GRC, PG&E stated that the  
3 accumulated amount had reached \$296 million (as of 2001) and that it therefore  
4 expected to perform a large amount of undergrounding in 2002 and 2003.<sup>71</sup>

5 Similarly, in its 2007 GRC, PG&E stated:

6 By 2005, the total accumulation of unspent allocations was  
7 approximately \$355.6 million. This large accumulation has created an  
8 increased demand by the cities and counties for Rule 20A work. As a  
9 result, PG&E's forecast of Rule 20A capital expenditures anticipates  
10 the cities' and counties' demand for substantial undergrounding work in  
11 2005-2009.<sup>72</sup>

12 In its 2011 GRC, PG&E stated:

13 By the start of 2009, cities had approximately \$818.4 million in total  
14 accumulated work credits, and in addition, because Rule 20A allows  
15 communities to borrow up to five years of work credit allocations at the  
16 "then-current levels," communities could borrow (and redeem) up to  
17 \$404.9 million in allocated work credits in addition to their accumulated  
18 unspent balance.<sup>73</sup>

19 In its current GRC, PG&E states that it is implementing a plan to increase the  
20 rate at which requested Rule 20A projects are completed.<sup>74</sup> PG&E also states that  
21 it would like to eliminate the backlog of work by 2017, and proposes to greatly  
22 increase its forecast of MWC 30 expenditures in 2013 through 2016 by spending  
23 \$86.000 million per year. (See Columns 8 and 10 in Table 7-16.) As can be seen in  
24 Line 1 of Table 7-16, \$86.000 million is much higher than any recorded expenditure  
25 since at least 2007.

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<sup>71</sup> PG&E 2003 GRC (A.02-11-017), Exhibit PG&E-2, page 3-32.

<sup>72</sup> PG&E 2007 GRC (A.05-12-002), Exhibit PG&E-4, page 3-32, lines 17 through 22.

<sup>73</sup> PG&E 2011 GRC (A.09-12-020), Exhibit PG&E-3, page 7-7, lines 16 through 21.

<sup>74</sup> Exhibit PG&E-4, page 18-6, lines 2 and 3.

1 DRA analyzed several factors in order to evaluate the reasonableness of  
2 PG&E's proposal to increase spending. First, DRA examined the Rule 20A reports  
3 that are sent to the Commission. In accordance with Ordering Paragraph 7 of  
4 Decision 73078 in Case 8209, PG&E is required to submit an annual report to the  
5 Commission providing various financial information regarding the amounts of Rule  
6 20A allocations and the amounts that have actually been spent. DRA has included  
7 the Rule 20A financial data for 2011 and 2012 in an appendix (Appendix B) to this  
8 testimony. On Line 10 of the 2011 report, the data show that PG&E has,  
9 cumulatively, spent \$574,783,800 less than had been allocated over the years. The  
10 comparable figure for 2012 (on Line 11) shows \$579,423,402. While neither figure  
11 definitively indicates how much PG&E will actually spend in a given year, those  
12 figures do indicate that it is spending less than is being allocated, and that the  
13 spending imbalance is growing.

14 DRA examined the total amounts for the category "Funds Committed" (Line  
15 13 on the 2011 report and Line 14 on the 2012 report), which represents the sum of  
16 the dollars necessary to finish jobs that are not yet completed, plus the dollars  
17 allocated for projects where underground districts have already been formed. In  
18 2011, the total for "Funds Committed" amounted to \$521,430,773, while in 2012, the  
19 total was \$442,126,301. These two figures do not definitively indicate how much will  
20 be spent in a given future year. However, since the "committed" amount is lower at  
21 the end of 2012 than it was at the end of 2011, it does suggest that the actual levels  
22 of capital expenditures in 2013 and 2014 are unlikely to be much higher than the  
23 2012 amounts.

24 Next, DRA sought to examine how historical recorded MWC 30 capital  
25 expenditures compared to what PG&E had been authorized. Table 7-17, on the  
26 next page, presents authorized Rule 20A expenditures and recorded expenditures,  
27 and compares the two. As shown at the bottom of the table, from 2007 through  
28 2012, PG&E has consistently spent less for MWC 30 than has been authorized.  
29 Based on PG&E's expenditure history, there is no certainty that the backlog of work  
30 would be addressed, even if PG&E was authorized to increase its 2013 and 2014  
31 MWC 30 spending to its requested levels. Table 7-17 causes DRA to question

**TABLE 7-17  
MWC 30 -- RULE 20A UNDERGROUNDING  
Recorded Versus Authorized Capital Expenditures (Thousands of Nominal Dollars)**

Category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	2004	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Recorded 1	Recorded 1	Recorded 1	TY 2007 Settlement Amount 4/	Recorded 1	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded 1	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded 2	TY 2007 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 4/	Recorded 5/	TY 2011 Settlement Amount (Attrition) 5/	Recorded 3
	\$68,357	\$55,000	\$45,385	\$39,916	\$55,000	\$41,142	\$55,000	\$36,610	\$80,000	\$33,628	\$80,000	\$52,426	

- 1/ NOTE: 2004 through 2008 recorded data come from the PG&E Test Year 2011 GRC, specifically Table 7-2 of the Workpapers (page WP 7-2) for Exhibit PG&E-3.
- 2/ NOTE: 2009 and 2011 recorded data come from workpaper page WP 18-1 in the current GRC.
- 3/ NOTE: 2012 recorded data come from PG&E's response to DR 211-GAW. E-mail response sent 3/1/13.
- 4/ NOTE: 2007 Settlement adopted PG&E's 2007 forecast. (See page 62 of D.07-03-044 which states that the Settlement adopts PG&E's request.) Attrition years (08, 09, and 10) are assumed to equal TY 2007. \$55,000 forecast for 2007 comes from Exhibit PG&E-4, page 3-35, line4.
- 5/ NOTE: 2011 Settlement adopted PG&E's MWC 30 request of \$80,000. (Page 1-15 of Attachment 1 of D.11-05-018, PG&E's 2011 GRC decision, does not show any adjustments for MWC 30.) The 2012 attrition year is assumed to equal TY 2011.

	$\Sigma$ 07 -12 Authorized	$\Sigma$ 07 -12 Spent	$\Delta$
2007	\$55,000	\$45,385	\$9,615
2008	\$55,000	\$39,916	\$15,084
2009	\$55,000	\$41,142	\$13,858
2010	\$55,000	\$36,610	\$18,390
2011	\$80,000	\$33,628	\$46,372
2012	\$80,000	\$52,426	\$27,574
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$196,681</b>	<b>\$103,319</b>



1 the likelihood that, even if PG&E's forecast was authorized, it would suddenly begin  
2 spending all of the \$86.000 million it is requesting for 2013 and 2014, especially  
3 given the fact that the commencement of Rule 20A projects are not entirely within  
4 the control of PG&E.

5 The final piece of DRA's Rule 20A analysis was to examine how PG&E's  
6 forecast for 2012 comported with reality. As shown in Table 7-16 (Row 4, Column  
7 6), PG&E forecasted \$61.799 million for Rule 20A expenditures in 2012. PG&E's  
8 forecast presumably incorporated its recent proposals to eliminate the work backlog,  
9 as well as its most recent forecasts. However, as the saying goes, "the proof is in  
10 the pudding." In spite of the fact that 2012 was the first forecast year for PG&E in  
11 this GRC, and would involve the least amount of extrapolation of data trends, the  
12 actual 2012 recorded amount for MWC 30 was \$52.426 million, \$9.373 million less  
13 than PG&E's forecast.

14 Based on all of DRA's analyses, PG&E has failed to justify the  
15 reasonableness of its forecasts of \$86.000 million per year for 2013 and 2014. The  
16 annual Rule 20A reports to the Commission indicate that future expenditures will not  
17 be greater than the 2012 recorded amount of \$52.426 million. Based on the totality  
18 of the evidence, DRA is convinced that the 2012 recorded expenditure of \$52.426  
19 million is also a reasonable forecast for 2013 and 2014. When escalation is  
20 included, DRA's 2013 and 2014 forecasts are \$53.896 million and \$53.756 million,  
21 respectively. MWC 30 capital expenditures are included in Line 14 of Table 7-1.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Condition-Based Ranking of TGRAM / TGRAL Switches**

**Workpaper Table 16-9**  
**Pacific Gas and Electric Company**  
**Exhibit (PG&E-4), Chapter 16, Underground Asset Management**  
**TGRAM/ TGRAL Tier Completion Summary**

WP 16-28

Line No.	Priority / Tier	Units Completed EOY 2011	Units Remaining as of YE 2011	Tier Description	Details
1	1	13	0	Tier 1 = Oil clarity, oil leak, corrosion, cracks in lead sheath, condition at cable entry	
2	2	3	1	Tier 2 = Oil clarity/leak and corrosion	
3	3	5	2	Tier 3 = Oil leak and corrosion/other condition	
4	4	21	39	Tier 4 = Oil clarity and/or oil leak	
5	5	10	8	Tier 5 = Oil clarity and corrosion	
6	6	1	5	Tier 6 = Oil clarity or oil leak (no corrosion)	
7	7	39	120	Tier 7 = Other conditions (no oil conditions)	
8	8	63	441	Tier 8 = No significant visible oil leaks or corrosion conditions identified. Continued inspection is required to monitor future conditions	
9	<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>616</b>		(2)

10  
11  
12  
13

**Forecast Assumptions and Details**

- (1) Please refer to WP 16-27 "Forecasted TGRAM/TGRAL Switch Replacement Expenditures" for details on the forecasted amounts of units to be completed for 2012-2016.
- (2) It is forecasted that a total of 16 units will be completed in conjunction with other program work from 2012 thru 2016

(PG&E-4)

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Rule 20A Conversions**

#### **Annual Report to the Commission on Rule 20A Conversions**

**REPORT OF RULE 20A CONVERSIONS**

UTILITY: Pacific Gas and Electric Company YEAR ENDING 2011

**ALLOCATIONS FOR CONVERSION**

1 Total Allocations (1968-2010)		<u>1,812,432,682</u>
2 Report Year's Allocation (2011)	<u>41,300,000</u>	
3 Total Allocations Through Report Year 1968-2011 (1+2)		<u>1,853,732,682</u>

**EXPENDITURES FOR CONVERSIONS**

4 Total Expended for Completed conversions (1968-2010)	<u>1,055,766,142</u>	
5 Total Report Year Expended for Completed Conversions (2011)	<u>27,685,376</u>	
6 Total Expended for Completed Conversions Through Report Year (1968-2011) (4+5)		<u>1,083,451,518</u>
7 Total Expended on Conversions Not Completed by Report Year-End (2011)	<u>195,497,365</u>	
8 Total Expended (6+7)		<u>1,278,948,882</u>

**TOTAL UNEXPENDED FUNDS (3 - 8)**

9 If Expenditures are Greater than Allocations		<u>0</u>
10 If Allocations are Greater Than Expenditures (One of the above, 9 or 10 will always be "0")		<u>574,783,800</u>

**FUNDS COMMITTED**

11 Total funds Authorized to Complete Partially completed Jobs Shown on Line 7	<u>223,714,176 **</u>	
12 Funds for Jobs Not Under Construction where U.G. districts have been formed Under enabling Legislation	<u>297,716,597</u>	
13 Total Committed (11 + 12)		<u>521,430,773</u>

**ADDITIONAL FUNDS COMMITTED**

14 Funds Required for Identified Projects Under Study by Active U.G. communities as of Report Year Ending 12/31/2008	<u>no longer used*</u>	
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**MEMO INFORMATION**

15 Advance for Specific Communities Beyond Current Allocations		<u>167,699,682</u>
16 Reserve Funds Held for Specific Communities for Which No Specific Current Projects are Under Study as of Report Year-End		<u>470,278,453</u>
17 Expenditures to Case 9365 (Transmission Dollars Which are Included in the Total Cost above in Line 8 )		<u>no longer used*</u>

\* no longer used as of 12/31/2008

\*\* PG&E recently discovered that some of the items that PG&E had been reporting on line 12 were also included in line 11. We have eliminated the duplication that we found in Line 11 of our numbers. If Line 11 was calculated the same as last year (including the duplication), the Line 11 amount would be \$567,027,829.

**REPORT OF RULE 20A CONVERSIONS**

UTILITY: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

YEAR ENDING 2012

**ALLOCATIONS FOR CONVERSION**

1 Total Allocations (1968-2011):		<u>1,853,732,682</u>
2 Report Year's Allocation (2012):	<u>41,300,000</u>	
3 Total Allocations Through Report Year 1968-2012 (1+2)		<u>1,895,032,682</u>

**EXPENDITURES FOR CONVERSIONS**

4 Total Expended for Completed conversions (1968-2011)	<u>1,083,451,518</u>	
5 Total Report Year Expended for Completed Conversions (2012)	<u>82,130,401</u>	
6 Total Expended for Completed Conversions Through Report Year (1968-2012) (4+5)		<u>1,165,581,918</u>
7 Total Expended on Conversions Not Completed by Report Year-End (2012)	<u>150,027,362</u>	
8 Total Expended (6+7)		<u>1,315,609,280</u>

**TOTAL UNEXPENDED FUNDS (3 - 8)**

9 If Expenditures are Greater than Allocations		<u>0</u>
11 If Allocations are Greater Than Expenditures (One of the above, 9 or 10 will always be "0")		<u>579,423,402</u>

**FUNDS COMMITTED**

12 Total funds Authorized to Complete Partially completed Jobs Shown on Line 7	<u>150,027,362</u>	
13 Funds for Jobs Not Under Construction where U.G. districts have been formed Under enabling Legislation	<u>274,098,939</u>	
14 Total Committed (11 + 12)		<u>442,126,301</u>

**ADDITIONAL FUNDS COMMITTED**

14 Funds Required for Identified Projects Under Study by Active U.G. communities as of Report Year Ending 12/31/2008	<u>no longer used*</u>
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**MEMO INFORMATION**

15 Advance for Specific Communities Beyond Current Allocations	<u>170,662,388</u>
16 Reserve Funds Held for Specific Communities for Which No Specific Current Projects are Under Study as of Report Year-End	<u>485,428,053</u>
17 Expenditures to Case 9365 (Transmission Dollars Which are Included in the Total Cost above in Line 8.)	<u>no longer used*</u>

\* no longer used as of 12/31/2008