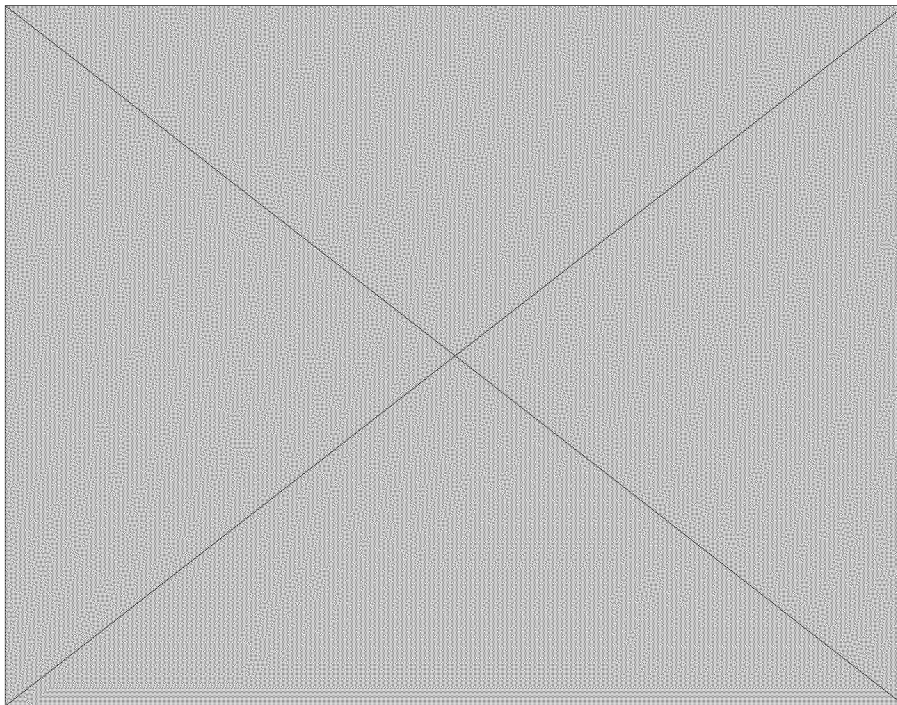


From: Clanon, Paul  
Sent: 12/12/2013 8:09:23 AM  
To: Doll, Laura (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=LRDD)  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Incident at Fontaine | Oakland Geology  
<http://oaklandgeology.wordpress.com/2013/12/11/incident-at-fontaine/>

## Incident at Fontaine

I want to say at the outset that I am not a licensed geologist, only a writer with a degree in the field. But when I read in today's paper about a ruptured gas line in East Oakland that started a fire at the intersection of Golf Links Road and Fontaine Street on Tuesday, this was the first thing that came to mind: the Hayward fault. The intersection in question is just to the right of the word "Viejo."



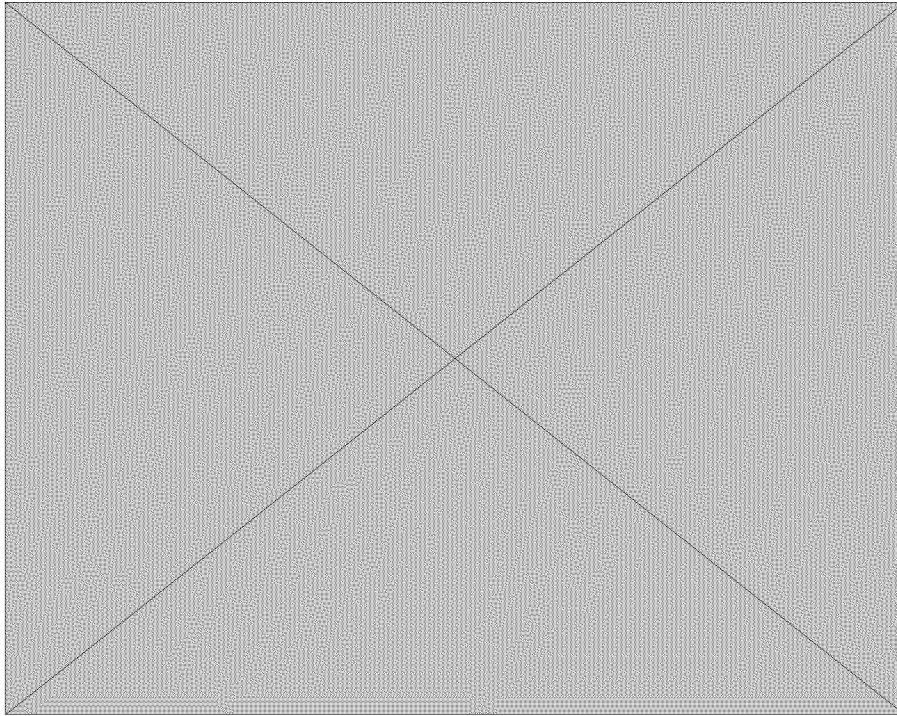
Perhaps those of you who accompanied me last year on a tour of the Hayward fault in this area thought the same thing.

The paper reported, "An investigation into what caused the fire was underway Tuesday and could take several days to complete, according to PG&E." Let's keep an eye out on what they report.

## About these ads

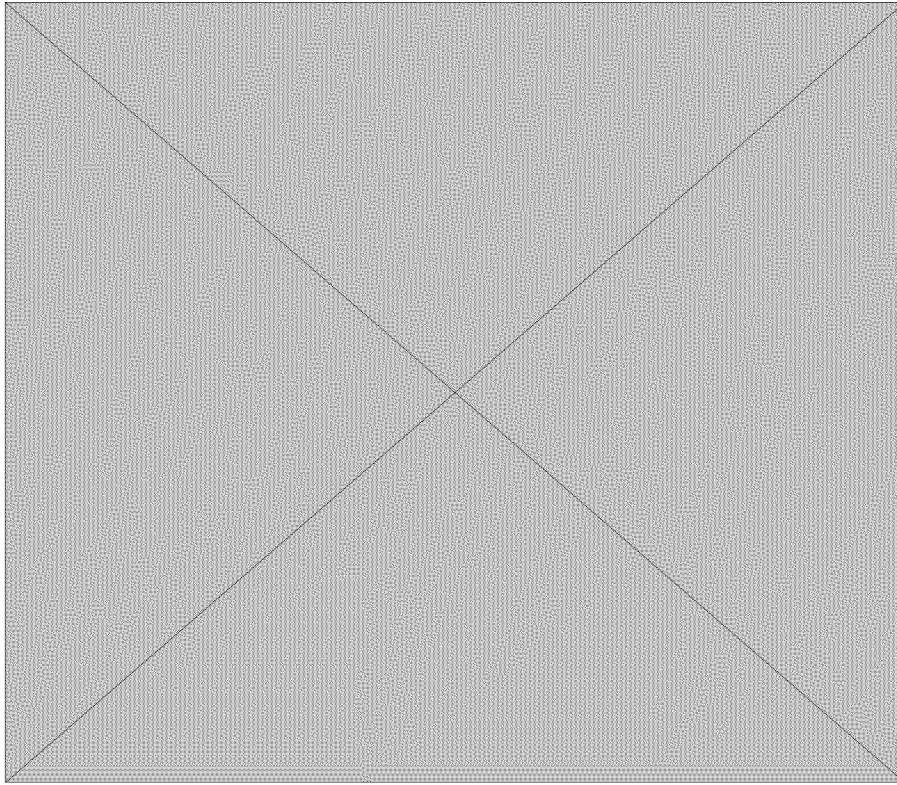
This entry was posted on 11 December 2013 at 7:53 pm and is filed under [other](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

2-1/2 years ago, I presented a [photo of a cut mark](#) in the curb of 39th Avenue where the Hayward fault is mapped. This month I happened to visit the spot [during an Oakland Urban Pathways walk](#), and I took the opportunity to take a new photo.



It has moved slightly, just a few millimeters, in the intervening time.

The U.S. Geological Survey monitors the fault closely through Oakland. They don't measure this mark, or if they do it's not definitive. The definitive survey is along a longer line across the fault, because the fault movement isn't limited to a perfectly thin geometric plane. Their measurements show that this part of Oakland is creeping approximately 4 millimeters per year. Heck, here's a good source, from a [2000 paper](#) by the USGS guys that was [published in \*Geophysical Research Letters\*](#):



The authors note that Oakland has a relatively slow rate of creep, and they interpret that as a sign that the fault here is more extensively locked than it is elsewhere. The area and degree of locking bears directly on the energy the fault is capable of releasing. Mind you, we have over a decade of new data and new thinking since that paper was published, but the data is sound.

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