PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY Wildfire Mitigation Plans Discovery 2023 Data Response

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			Safety
DRU Index #:		Requester:	Colin Russell Lang

SUBJECT: REGARDING CUSTOMER GROUP IN PSPS OBJECTIVE PS-05

QUESTION 004

In PSPS objective PS-05, PG&E states that it will focus on a group of customers "not limited to AFN, MBL and self-identified vulnerable populations."

- a. How does PG&E define this group of customers it is focusing on?
- b. What is the size of this group of customers that PG&E is focusing on?

Answer 004

- a. In addition to access and function needs (AFN), medical baseline (MBL), and self-identified vulnerable (SIV) populations, PG&E intends to focus on customers more frequently impacted by PSPS and/or EPSS. Additionally, since permanent batteries are more costly to implement than portable batteries, PG&E intends to additionally focus on lower-income customers (i.e. CARE and FERA participants)¹ and other customers who may lack the financial means to acquire backup power.
 - Currently, PG&E is planning to support permanent batteries for customers who have experienced the greatest number of EPSS outages in recent years. Greater levels of financial support would be provided to CARE, FERA, MBL, and SIV customers. While these characteristics may be adjusted over the ten-year outlook, PG&E envisions continuing to focus on the groups more frequently impacted by outages and who lack the means to acquire backup power.
- b. As mentioned in part a., PG&E is focusing on customers who were more frequently impacted by EPSS outages in recent years. Currently, this population is estimated to be approximately 19,000 customers, approximately 4,000 of which are CARE, FERA, MBL, or SIV customers. These customer counts may vary over time based on customers' evolving resiliency needs and experience of EPSS impacts.

¹ The California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and the Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs provide bill discounts for income-qualified customers. See www.pqe.com/care