

To: OFFICE OF ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY

From: Beverly Christenson, 2085 Drake Drive, Oakland, CA 94611

Date: May 26, 2023

Before the OEIS approves 2023 - 2025 PG&E's Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) there are certain risk factors that need to be considered and included in this risk model.

Montclair is located in the Oakland Hills, a highly populated area with multiple wildfire risk factors:

- High voltage power lines
- High population density
- Limited escape routes
- High vegetation fuel load
- Steep terrain/topography

I am a 37-year resident of Montclair. My husband and I bought a home, raised a family, and I now enjoy retirement in the same neighborhood. When I reflect on my time here in Montclair, a terrifying life experience comes to mind.

The Oakland Hills Firestorm (1991) engulfed our community and caused a lot of pain and anguish. Information was scarce and there was uncertainty about what to do. On that particular day, a fire began to burn out of control fueled by high winds and an abundance of structures and vegetation. We could see dark billows of smoke in the distance. Burning embers appeared floating in the wind dropping randomly about.

A helicopter circled overhead with instructions to evacuate, we gathered our two young children, our dog, and a few personal items and fled the neighborhood. We wondered if our house would survive when we were able to make it back. We were lucky that day but that was not the case for everyone, we had personal friends that lost their homes and much more.

Knowing all too well the pain of this experience, please revisit and recognize that Montclair has a unique combination of wildfire risk factors that needs to be considered.

I feel strongly that Montclair should **DEFINITELY** be considered for the proposed 10,000-mile undergrounding project. If having underground powerlines can lessen the odds of another firestorm disaster, I would hope PG&E will reconsider their proposal for Montclair's status. Thank you.

Regards,

Beverly Christenson, *37-year resident*