

I am a Montclair Hills, Oakland California resident for the past 19 years. I am writing to express my deep concerns over PG&E has not included our neighborhood in it's new fire risk mitigation plan. PG&E's explanations are very inadequate to the level of danger fire poses in our neighborhood. I take it extremely personally because there was in fact a small fire caused by a power line right on my block, several years before we moved here. It destroyed 4 homes and stopped right before ours.

To specifically rebut PG&E's statements:

TOO DIFFICULT

Undergrounding that PG&E says is difficult **can** be done in Montclair's terrain, which is similar to the terrain where under grounding was successfully completed in the 1991 Oakland Hills Firestorm area nearby. Furthermore, undergrounding is currently being performed in Piedmont Pines, which is situated next to Montclair and has similar terrain. PGE stated that undergrounding reduces wildfire risk by 97%. Given the potential losses in money and human life, and the especially challenging situation if fire breaks out here, it is clearly worth the effort.

TOO EXPENSIVE

PGE should place the potential disastrous loss in human lives and dwellings above financial costs in its cost/benefit analysis. Comparing the loss in 1991 Oakland Hills Fire to the 2018 Camp Fire (which was caused by PGE powerlines), there were approximately 1384 dwellings per square mile destroyed in the Oakland Hills Fire, whereas there were approximately 78 dwellings per square mile destroyed in the Camp Fire. **Due to the density and proximity of dwellings in Montclair**, and combined with the high risk of **very limited ingress/egress**, a fire occurring in Montclair of similar intensity as the Camp Fire would result in catastrophic losses of human lives and dwellings many times surpassing the loss in the Camp Fire.

OVERHEAD HARDENING IS ADEQUATE & APPROPRIATE FOR MONTCLAIR

Montclair has very high tree fall-in risk and very high risk in ingress/egress. As such, overhead hardening is NOT effective to mitigate wildfires in Montclair, that leaves undergrounding the only effective option.

Signed,
Elizabeth Nichols
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