**The headlines are always the same. Below are headlines clipped from our country’s most recent fire disaster. The same mistakes, the same bad choices, the same loss of life.**

Here in the Oakland Hills, we wait for action. Does OEIS have meaningful impact to curb PG&E.

Every expert agrees, Cal Fire, Almeda County, Oakland Fire Department, FEMA, The City of Oakland. PG&E is the only professional organization that does not seem to understand the risk that we face here in the hills of Oakland. The sad fact is that they do understand the risk and continue to ignore it because this project is something they don’t want to do, and no one is forcing them to do it. PG&E’s response to the risk is always the same. Do nothing until forced.

Hopefully that is where the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety fulfills its mandate to save the lives of the vulnerable.

PG&E has set forth the same pathetic excuses and has no shame in trying anything and everything to shirk their duty to so many communities. All of these excuses have been invalidated many times by their own experts.

1. ***Oakland hills do not meet high risk needs to underground powerlines*:** PG&E in it’s own internal rating designate this area as tier 3. This is the highest risk designation PGE has.
2. ***Other areas are higher priority because of the economic factors and income levels:***  This is highly misleading as the Montclair area is a legacy community with residents who have lived here over 70 years. This is an affordable community with many residents bringing their families here from San Franciso to find affordable housing. This is mixed with highly vulnerable elderly residents who have limited mobility and do not drive. There are social cost here too and the highly vulnerable who will be victimized by downed powerlines in the event of a fire.
3. ***PGE noted in its Reply that it is “difficult” to underground in mountainous terrain and hard rock areas (pg 69 of Reply Letter R-0).:*** Not true it has been done many times in the past and in this area.
4. ***PGE stated in its cost/benefit analysis that it costs more to underground in mountainous terrain****:* What is the cost of doing nothing. **Many times the cost of undergrounding.**
5. ***PGE stated that overhead hardening is effective in wildfire mitigation in areas with low tree fall-in risk and low risk in ingress/egress:*** Hardening is the ultimate PG&E lie. Hardening is refuted by PG&E’s own risk mitigation plan. It does not work in areas of dense vegetation and densely treed areas and forest. This is an insult and truly illustrates PG&E’s absolute carelessness for human life and suffering. Hardening does not work in this area.

**The Oakland Hills will have other fires. What will the headline read. Lives saved or lives lost.**

**Here are the headlines today.**

**Hawaiian Electric stock plunges 40% after lawsuit alleges it failed to shut power off ahead of the Maui wildfires**

**Downed power lines block a road outside a burnt home in the aftermath of a wildfire in Lahaina, Hawaii.**

**Little warning, few escape routes, phones knocked out: The chilling similarities between the Maui and Paradise fires.**

*More than 2,200 homes and businesses – structures reduced to*[*ashen piles*](https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/10/weather/gallery/maui-fire-gallery/index.html)*in the angular plots on which they once stood; family cars and work vehicles, now hollowed out metallic shells packed in the streets.*

*More than 100 lives lost to the deadliest disaster in Hawaii’s state history, and the deadliest wildfire in the US in over 100 years.*

*Most of the bodies found in the initial sweep of Lahaina were found in cars,*[*on streets or in other places out*](https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/15/us/hawaii-maui-wildfires-death-toll-tuesday)*in the open, Green said.*

*Lines blocking the road in Hawaii.* This is not exceptional but typical every wildfire.

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