



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

ELECTRIC INCIDENT REPORT FORM

TO: CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

PG&E Reference Number: EI220105A	
CPUC Website	January 12, 2022 at 1720 hours
CPUC Recipient	Date & Time CPUC Notified
1-800-235-1076	PG&E
Telephone Number	Reported by
	415-973-2782
	Telephone Number

Report Type: 20-Day Report
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INJURY/FATALITY: An incident which results in a fatality or personal injury to an employee or 3rd party rising to the level of in-patient hospitalization and is attributable or allegedly attributable to utility owned electric facilities. Incidents involving motor vehicles are not reportable unless they result in death or injury attributable or allegedly attributable to electrical contact with the utility owned electric facilities.

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MEDIA: An incident that is attributable or allegedly attributable to Pacific Gas and Electric owned electric facilities and is subject to significant public attention and/or media coverage.

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PROPERTY DAMAGE: A single electric incident where property damage of the utility or a single 3rd party is estimated to exceed \$50,000 and is attributable or allegedly attributable to utility owned electric facilities.

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OPERATOR JUDGEMENT: Any incident that is significant in the judgement of the operator, even though it may not meet the incident reporting criteria.

20-Day Report Sent to CPUC – Date: February 10, 2022

Amended 20-Day Report Sent to the CPUC – Date:
February 22, 2022

Initial Report Sent to CPUC – Date: January 12, 2022



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TO: CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

PG&E Reference Number: EI220105A

20-Day Report

Date and Time of Incident:	January 5, 2022 at 1800 hours		
Date and Time Incident Determined Reportable:	January 12, 2022 at 1700 hours		
Location of Incident:	[REDACTED]		
City:	Nevada City	Division:	Sierra
		County:	Nevada
Circuit/Facility:	Brunswick 1105	Voltage:	12kV
Service Interrupted (Date and Time):	December 26, 2021 at 2355 hours	Total Customers Affected:	70
Service Restored (Date and Time):	January 6, 2022 at 1725 hours		

Description of Incident:

On December 26, 2021, the National Weather Service issued a Winter Storm Warning, for the California Sierra and northern mountains. These storms created extensive snow falls in the region. PG&E notified their customers of upcoming potential disruptions in their service on December 26, 2021. At 2355 hours on December 26, 2021, 70 customers on the Brunswick 1105 12kV Overhead Distribution Circuit ("Brunswick 1105") in the Sierra Division northeast of Nevada City lost power. On January 5, 2022, at 1420 hours, electric service was restored to 65 customers on a section of the Brunswick 1105 line. Electric service was restored to the remaining affected customers.

On the evening of January 5, 2022, upon returning home, the owner of [REDACTED] Nevada City ("Incident Location") observed service had been restored to the property for the first time since December 26, 2021. Electric service is provided to the main house by PG&E via an underground service conductor to the SmartMeter and circuit breaker box outside of the residence. This underground service is fed by the Brunswick 1105 distribution line and is 0.77 miles away from the location of the downed tree. The Incident Location also contains a barn located 350 feet south-southeast of the residence. Electricity is supplied to the barn via an underground customer-owned conductor connected to the residence electric service panel. SmartMeter data for the Incident Location indicates a "NIC POWER RESTORED" status was recorded at 1425 hours on January 5, consistent with the restoration work that had been performed by PG&E on the line that day.

After sunset, the property owner was grabbing firewood outside the residence and reported hearing several "pops" and subsequently noticed a column of smoke and a red glow coming from the barn. The property owner immediately called 911 and waited for their arrival. Photos were taken by the property owner starting at 2015 hours showing the progression of the fire.

The Nevada County Fire department was dispatched and arrived on scene but could not prevent the barn from



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being a total loss. No other property than the barn and its contents, including tools, raw materials, generators, and appliances, were impacted by the fire. PG&E was not contacted about the incident and did not record an outage for this location after the power was restored at 1425 hours; consequently PG&E was not involved in the emergency response.

On January 12, 2022, at 1615 hours, PG&E received a message in its claim hotline from the property owner of the Incident Location putting forward a claim for property damage in the amount of \$128,200 for the barn that burnt down. The claim states PG&E equipment failed and caused the structure fire that occurred at the Incident Location. PG&E subsequently reported this to the CPUC under the Property Damage criterion.

On January 25, 2022, at 0900 hours, representatives from PG&E and the CPUC met with the property owner and inspected the main house exterior and barn at the Incident Location. The property owner indicated that he had several workers performing restoration on a barn located on his property on the day of the incident, as well as the preceding days. The property owner noted that the contract crew, performing repair work on the barn, was using portable gas-powered generators to continue operating power tools during the outage. On January 5, 2022, the contract crew had left for the day before the property owner returned.

During the main house exterior inspection, PG&E representatives observed no apparent damage near the SmartMeter nor the connection to the PG&E underground service line riser. The property owner reportedly zip-tied the main service electric panel after the incident to indicate that it had not been touched since the incident. PG&E and CPUC representatives observed the property owner cut the zip tie and open the panel and found the breaker for the barn to be in the tripped position.

During the barn inspection, PG&E representatives observed the barn and interior contents destroyed by the fire, with a few walls standing and heavy charring on the supporting columns. Inside the barn, several portable generators, including one with the remnants of an extension cord, were identified as well as spools of wire tool remnants etc., consistent with the restoration work, as well as the description of the property owner. Several propane cylinders, as well as propane heaters were found in and around the area of fire damage. The customer owned electric box was located in the center of the damaged structure with wiring provided by the underground conductor through a conduit. The conductor was melted and partially severed at the entrance to the electric box.

The exact source of the ignition could not be determined; however, propane heaters, cooking equipment, portable generators, and the building electrical wiring cannot be ruled out. There was no evidence that a failure of PG&E equipment was responsible for the fire and no evidence was retained during this inspection.

PG&E has not yet received an investigation report from the Nevada County Fire Department however there is no indication at this time that PG&E is being investigated as a cause of this fire. This report concludes PG&E's investigation into this incident, however PG&E will reopen the investigation if new information comes to light. This information is preliminary, and all the times, customer numbers and measurements mentioned in this report are approximate. PG&E is fully cooperating and communicating with external agencies as required.



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Attachments (Amended on February 22, 2022):

- Attachment 01_2017_SAP_103026156 GO 165 patrol records_Amended_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 02_2018_SAP_103026156 GO 165 patrol records_Amended_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 03_2017_SAP_100004757 GO 165 patrol records_Amended_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 04_2018_SAP_100004757 GO 165 patrol records_Amended_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 05_2020_SAP_103026156 GO 165 inspection records_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 06_2021_SAP_103026156 GO 165 inspection records_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 07_2020_SAP_100004757 GO 165 inspection records_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 08_2021_SAP_100004757 GO 165 inspection records_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 09_EC tag_122549515_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 10_ILIS_22-0005996_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 11_Incident_Location_Service_Map_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 12_Incident_Satellite_View_CONF.pdf
- Attachment 13_Fire_photographs_01_05_2022.pdf
- Attachment 14_Inspection_photographs_01_25_2022_CONF.pdf