

300 Lakeside Dr. Oakland, CA 94612 Email: <u>Daniel.Kushner@pge.com</u>

August 25, 2025

Patrick Doherty
Program Manager | Compliance Assurance Division
Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Energy Safety NOV ID: CAD_PGE_CYA_20250325_1247 Notice of Violation: Government Code § 15475.1 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 17 § 29302(b)(2)

Dear Mr. Doherty:

This letter is in response to the above referenced Notice of Violation (NOV) dated July 24, 2025, regarding the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) inspection of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) initiatives completed per the locations submitted in its Fourth Quarter (Q4) Quarterly Data Report (QDR).

Energy Safety based its compliance assessment on the following statute and code sections:

California Government Code Section 15475.1, states:

- (a) The office may determine that a regulated entity is not in compliance with any matter under the authority of the office. If necessary, the office may undertake an investigation into whether the regulated entity is noncompliant with its duties and responsibilities or has otherwise committed violations of any laws, regulations, or guidelines within the authority of the office.
- (b) The office's primary objective is to ensure that regulated entities are reducing wildfire risk and complying with energy infrastructure safety measures as required by law.

California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 29302(b)(2), "Investigations, Notices of Defect and Violation, and Referral to the Commission" states in part:

"The Director may designate a compliance officer to consider the findings of any investigation. The compliance officer may issue any of the following:

(2) Notice of violation, identifying noncompliance with an approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan or any law, regulation, or guideline within the authority of the Office."

The NOV was identified from a March 25, 2025 inspection by Energy Safety in the vicinity of the city of Hat Creek, CA, in High Fire Threat District (HFTD) Tier 2 of PG&E's Q4 QDR report for WMP

Initiative 8.1.2.5.1 – Traditional Overhead Hardening (Transmission Conductor), Utility Initiative GH-06:

Violation 1. Energy Safety observed that in implementing 2024 WMP initiative 8.1.2.5.1 - Traditional Overhead Hardening - Transmission Conductor, PG&E failed to complete work on pole ID 013/264, Grid Hardening ID 74057080-8 at coordinates 40.809133, - 121.357947. Energy Safety considers this completeness violation to be in the Minor risk category.

Response

PG&E respectfully disagrees with Energy Safety's alleged NOV conclusion for Hat Creek #1-Westwood structure 013/264. PG&E understands this location refers to the span of conductor between structures 013/264 and 013/265.

As shown in "*Image 2*" below, the engineering drawing 238710 revision 3, found within the as-built previously provided to Energy Safety, there is one shunted splice between structure 013/264 and 013/265. This shunted splice is positioned closer in proximity to structure 013/265. PG&E has confirmed in the field as is shown in "*Image 1*":

The splice depicted in the NOV letter 'Item1IA1Img2': Splice, is a moused splice and does not represent the splice that was designated for replacement under the 2024 grid hardening initiative.



Image 1: Drone photo from December 2024 of structure 013/265 showing installed shunt splice (as pictured).

ΑP	eg s	STRUCT			LINE	STRING			STRUCTURE			POLE DATA			A		GUY DATA AND ANCHOR SIZE (DWG 022178) BOTTOM INSULATION														
PLAN MAP		NO.		STATION	ANGLE	HORIZ.	RULING	DD. 2000			1112					LEFT			RIGHT			AHEAD			BACK		PHASE	DWG.NO. DWG.NO.		REMARKS	
	PR	FINAL C	CONST.		\Rightarrow	SPAN-FT	SPAN-FT.	DRAWING	TYPE	X-ARM	DRAWING S	SSYIO	TSNCT	SET DEPTH		V.D.	LEAD	SIZE	V.D.	LEAD	SIZE	V.D.	LEAD	SIZE	V.D.	LEAD		(FEET)			FIGURES IN () DENOTE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND
П																															
	1.	3/264																													
							(SPI)						\neg		\neg																(1) SHUNT INSTALLED
	1.	3/265										П	\neg																		
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Image 2: Engineering drawing 238710 revision 3

In addition, for the 2026-2028 WMP, PG&E implemented a change to the GH-06 shunt splice program, in recognition of proactive improvements that could be made to the program. PG&E implemented the utilization of transmission LC notifications (priority P) to track and execute the completion of each shunt splice. By having individual notifications for each shunt splice, PG&E will have visibility and streamlined reporting. Please see attachment "PGE_TD-3330P-26_20250825_CONF.pdf", as this notification process already includes required location-specific photographs and documentation that undergoes the Work Verification process.

Please see attachment "PGE_TD-8123P-104_20250825_CONF.pdf", which states that the splice shunt work can utilize the notification process. Also see attachment "PGE_TD-3330P-26_20250825_CONF.pdf" Section 5, which discusses the quality control requirements of a notification. For additional context, please see Table 8-1 in the 2026-2028 WMP, which shows that GH-06 has moved from a target of number of lines, to a more unitized number of splice shunts.

Please do not hesitate to contact <u>WSComplianceMailbox@pge.com</u> if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Daniel Kushner, PhD Senior Director, Electric Risk & Compliance

cc: Samuel Isaiah, Senior Utilities Engineer Specialist, Energy Safety Yana Loginova, Program Manager, Energy Safety Shannon Greene, Program Manager, Energy Safety Cecilia Yaniz, Field Inspector, Energy Safety