

# Attachment A

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# Community Pipeline Safety Initiative

## Monterey County

July 30, 2015





### Meeting Purpose

- Discuss pipeline safety in your community
- Work together to ensure emergency access to the pipeline
- Discuss replacement and restoration options
- Review community outreach program
- Discuss proposed safety work
- Gather your input and answer questions
- Capture any items for follow-up



### Pipeline Safety

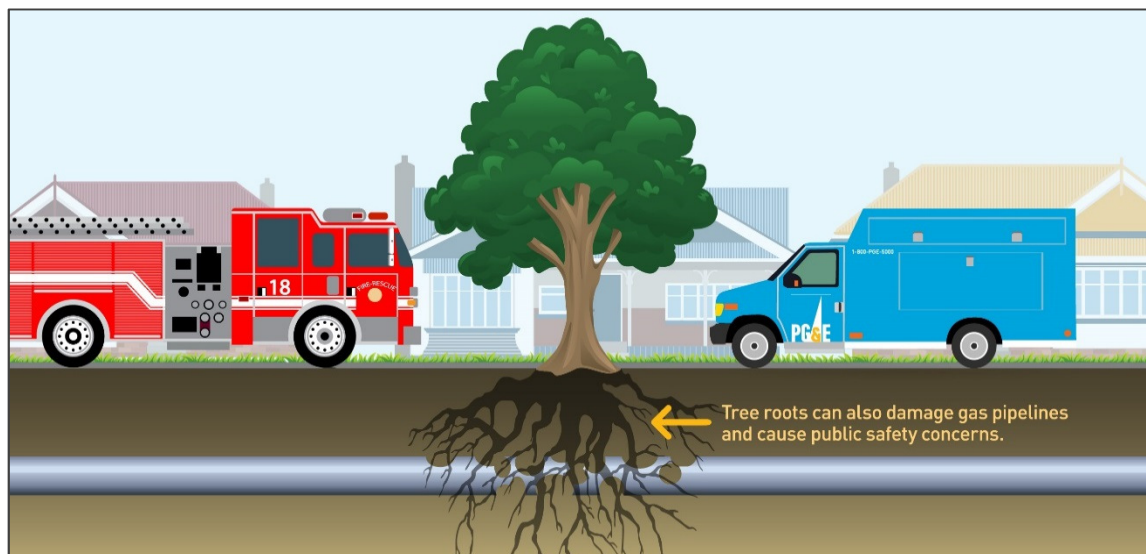
- PG&E's top priority is the safety of our customers and the communities we live in and serve
- We have made important changes to improve the safety and reliability of our natural gas transmission system
- This includes:
  - **Pressure-testing** gas transmission pipelines
  - **Installing** automated gas valves
  - **Replacing** transmission pipelines
  - **Leak surveying** all distribution and transmission pipelines





## Community Pipeline Safety Initiative

- We are checking the area above and around the pipeline to:
  - Ensure first responders and safety crews have immediate access in a natural disaster or other emergency, when every second counts
  - Confirm the pipe can be properly inspected, maintained and operated
  - Prevent tree roots from damaging the pipe by exposing it to corrosion
  - Make sure the area provides a clear visual indicator of underground facilities





### Pipeline and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA)

- Led and supported by the United States Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
- “In the event of an emergency, a clear ROW [right-of-way] is necessary to facilitate access by both the pipeline operator and emergency response personnel. Obstructions on the ROW can prohibit their ability to respond.”
- “Trees should not be allowed within the boundary of the ROW. Tree roots have the potential to damage pipeline coatings which may contribute to the loss of integrity of the pipeline.” *(PIPA Report, November 2010, pg 41)*



*Example of the impact tree roots can have on a gas pipeline.*

For more information, or to download a copy of the report, please visit [www.pipa-info.com](http://www.pipa-info.com)

## Tree Root Studies

- In addition to the PIPA report, PG&E conducted a series of tree root studies with California State University Fresno and third-party consultants
- The studies found:
  - At approximately 75% of the sites examined, tree roots were found to have caused damage to the pipe's external coating
  - Tree roots can wrap around a pipe and cause structural damage to it, especially if tree roots are uprooted during windstorms and earthquakes



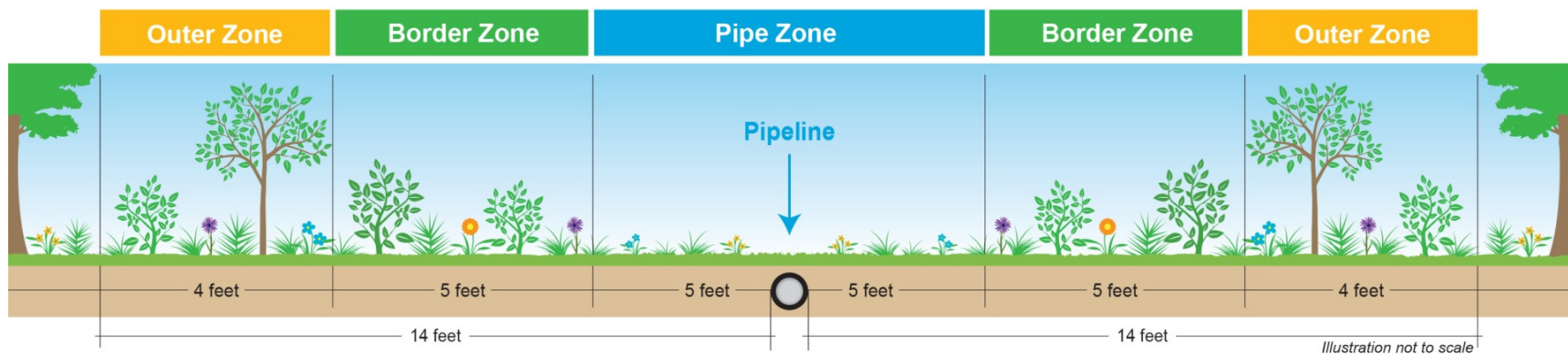
*Example of the impact tree roots can have on a gas pipeline.*





## Guide to Safe Landscaping

**Making sure the right plants and trees are located in the right location adds to the safety and natural beauty of your community**



- Pipe Zone – Lawns, flowers, low-profile grasses and low-growing herbaceous plants are permitted within the Pipe Zone.
- Border Zone – Small to medium shrubs with a trunk or main branch less than 8” in diameter at full maturity are permitted within the Border Zone. Diameter is measured four and a half feet from the ground.
- Outer Zone – Large shrubs and small trees with a trunk less than 36” at full maturity are permitted within the Outer Zone. Diameter is measured four and a half feet from the ground.



### Tree Replacement and Restoration (Franchise)

- We understand how important trees are to the community. They are important to us too. When a tree poses a safety concern and needs to be replaced from county-owned or franchise areas, PG&E offers:
  - **Restoration:** Work together to develop a landscape plan that restores the area disturbed with native, drought-tolerant landscaping, such as grasses, flowers, mulch or bark
  - **Tree Replacement:** Discuss the following replacement options:
    - **Option 1:** One 15-gallon replacement tree per tree, and PG&E will plant all of the trees
    - **Option 2:** Two 15-gallon replacement trees per tree, and PG&E will donate the trees to a local non-profit or related tree organization to plant
    - **Option 3:** An in-lieu payment at the value of two 15-gallon trees per tree
  - **Protected Trees:** For those trees designated protected or heritage by the county, we will submit ministerial permits and meet the replacement tree ratio specified in the county's tree ordinance



## Tree Replacement and Restoration (Private Property)

- When trees need to be replaced for safety reasons from private property, PG&E will work with property owners to offer the following:
  - **Restoration:** Work together to develop a landscape plan that restores the area with native, drought-tolerant landscaping, such as grasses, mulch or bark
  - **Replacement:** Provide a minimum of one 15-gallon replacement tree or an in-lieu payment per tree
  - **Delivery:** Coordinate with the property owner and deliver the replacement tree(s) to be planted by the property owner
- We recognize every customer and yard is different, and we will address special circumstances on a case-by-case basis





### Community Partnership and Outreach

- When a structure or tree poses a safety concern, PG&E will work together with the municipality or property owner to develop a plan that ensures public safety while preserving the unique character of the community or property
- Our outreach involves:
  - Meeting with county officials and staff to share what we know about the safety risks and work together to plan for the gas safety work on franchise and county-owned areas
  - Communicating about gas pipeline safety to all residents within 500-feet of the safety work
  - Reaching out to those residents who live in close proximity to the upcoming safety work
  - Conducting direct outreach to private property owners
  - Partnering with the county to host neighborhood open houses, as needed
  - Door-to-door outreach to the residents adjacent to the gas safety work on franchise areas, as needed



## Overview of Vegetation Work in Monterey County

<b>Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work</b>	
Tree Removals	307
Tree Prunes	69
Brush Removals	148

<b>Proposed Private Property Work</b>	
Tree Removals	2,134
Tree Prunes	452
Brush Removals	2,727



## Overview of Vegetation Work in Aromas CDP

Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work	
Tree Removals	274
Brush Removals	22

Proposed Private Property Work	
Tree Removals	79
Brush Removals	23



## Overview of Vegetation Work in Elkhorn CDP

<b>Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work</b>	
Tree Removals	45
Brush Removals	0

<b>Proposed Private Property Work</b>	
Tree Removals	179
Brush Removals	111



## Overview of Vegetation Work in Pajaro CDP

Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work	
Tree Removals	0
Brush Removals	0

Proposed Private Property Work	
Tree Removals	27
Brush Removals	12





## Overview of Vegetation Work in Pine Canyon CDP

<b>Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work</b>	
Tree Removals	0
Brush Removals	0

<b>Proposed Private Property Work</b>	
Tree Removals	0
Brush Removals	19



## Overview of Vegetation Work in Prunedale CDP

<b>Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work</b>	
Tree Removals	187
Brush Removals	164

<b>Proposed Private Property Work</b>	
Tree Removals	2,301
Brush Removals	3,008



## Overview of Vegetation Work in San Ardo CDP

Proposed Franchise/County-Owned Work	
Tree Removals	0
Brush Removals	0

Proposed Private Property Work	
Tree Removals	4
Brush Removals	64



### Tree-by-Tree Review for Franchise Areas

- An in-depth review of franchise trees was recently completed
- The analysis helps ensure we are only replacing trees that pose a safety or emergency access concern. It involves:
  - Analyzing specific vegetation and pipeline data, such as the height and species of a tree and the age and coating of the pipeline
  - Determining if a tree is a manageable risk and can potentially remain with regular monitoring, or an unacceptable risk and must be replaced
- In the future, it may be determined that manageable risk trees pose an unacceptable safety risk and will need to be replaced





## Tree-by-Tree Review for Franchise Areas

### What does the tree-by-tree review involve?

Our pipeline integrity and risk management experts review a number of factors, including:

1. Distance from the pipeline to tree	8. Soil instability
2. Diameter at breast height (DBH)	9. Date of construction
3. Distance from the top of the pipeline to the surface (depth of cover)	10. Presence/visibility of line markers
4. Tree species	11. Ability to access the pipeline for patrols
5. Potential for pipeline corrosion from tree roots	12. Ability to access pipeline for emergency response
6. Pipeline coating type	13. Tree health/condition and density of trees in a given planting area
7. Lightning exposure	



## Private Property Review Process

- The review involves meeting with property owners to discuss safety risks and gather more information about their tree(s) and property
- This analysis will determine which trees need to be replaced for safety reasons and which can potentially remain in place with regular monitoring
- Trees and brush within 5 feet of pipeline must be removed to ensure access and protect public safety
- Trees located between 5.1 and 14 feet will be reviewed as part of the assessment, and in some cases, may be able to remain in place with ongoing monitoring



# Proposed Gas Safety Work (KMZ Review)





## Symbolization Key for KMZ Files

-  Tree Removal on Franchise/Unacceptable
-  Tree Removal on Franchise/Manageable
-  Tree Prune on Franchise
-  Brush Unit on Franchise
-  Tree Removal on Private
-  Tree Prune on Private
-  Brush Unit on Private
-  Tree Removal on County-Owned Parcels or Franchise VegPt within Easement
-  Tree Prune on County-Owned Parcels
-  Brush Unit on County-Owned Parcels
-  Tree Removal on County-Owned Parcel/Unacceptable
-  Tree Removal on County-Owned Parcel/Manageable
-  Tree Removal on Private-Owned Parcel/Unacceptable
-  Tree Removal on Private-Owned Parcel/Manageable





### Next Steps

- Answer all of your questions
- Garner feedback and recommendations
- Reach agreement on a plan forward
- Begin outreach to private property owners





# Always Call Before You Dig

- Damage from excavation is the most common cause of pipeline accidents
- If you plan on doing any digging, such as planting a tree or installing a fence, please call **811** before you dig
- With one free call to **811** at least two working days in advance, PG&E will send a crew that can mark our underground gas and electric facilities before you begin work, helping you plan a safe project



# Questions?





### Contact Information

- For questions regarding the upcoming pipeline safety work, please contact Eric Daniels, your Local Government Relations Representative, at **805-595-6405** or by email at **[eric.daniels@pge.com](mailto:eric.daniels@pge.com)**
- For more information, visit us at **[pge.com/GasSafety](http://pge.com/GasSafety)**



Thank You



