

Laura M. Fulton Senior Counsel 8330 Century Park Court, CP32F San Diego, CA 92123-1548

LFulton@SDGE.com

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VIA E-MAIL

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY NOTIFICATION TO THE OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY REGARDING SDG&E'S IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN, PURSUANT TO PUBLIC

**UTILITIES CODE SECTION 8389(e)(7)** 

Per Public Utilities Code Section 8389(e)(7) and the February 16, 2021 Wildfire Safety Division (WSD) Compliance Operational Protocols, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E or the Company) hereby submits to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (OEIS) this notification detailing the implementation of its approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan and recommendations of the most recent safety culture assessment; a statement of recommendations of the Board of Directors Safety Committee (Safety Committee) meetings that occurred during the quarter; and a summary of the implementation of the Safety Committee recommendations from SDG&E's previous advice letter.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this notification is to comply with the requirements of Section 8389(e)(7), which were added to the Public Utilities Code by Assembly Bill (AB) 1054 on July 12, 2019, and subsequently amended by AB 148 on July 22, 2021 to reflect the transition of the Wildfire Safety Division at the California Public Utilities Commission to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (OEIS). Section 8389(e)(7) requires electrical corporations to file a notice of implementation of its wildfire mitigation plan with OEIS "on a quarterly basis that details the implementation of both its approved wildfire mitigation plan and recommendations of the most recent safety culture assessment, and a statement of recommendations of the board of directors safety committee meetings that occurred during the quarter." Section 8389(e)(7) also requires that the notification "summarize the implementation of safety committee recommendations from the electrical corporation's previous notification and submission." SDG&E is simultaneously submitting this notice to the California Public Utilities Commission as an information only submittal.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The WSD's Compliance Operational Protocols provides guidance on the contents, format, and timing of the compliance reporting the WSD requires of the electrical corporations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This notification includes information relating to activities and events that occurred in the second quarter of 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> AL 3752-E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Public Utilities Code Section 8389(e)(7).

#### **BACKGROUND**

Governor Newsom signed AB 1054 into law on July 12, 2019. AB 1054 contains numerous statutory provisions and amendments designed to enhance the mitigation and prevention of catastrophic wildfires – including wildfires linked to utility equipment – in California. AB 1054 added Section 8389 to the Public Utilities Code. Section 8389(e) establishes the requirements for annual safety certifications<sup>5</sup> and, *inter alia*, requires electrical corporations to establish a safety committee of its board of directors composed of members with relevant safety experience, establish board-of-director-level reporting to the Commission on safety issues, and file quarterly submissions notifying OEIS and the Commission of the implementation of its Wildfire Mitigation Plan and other matters as described above.

#### **DISCUSSION**

#### Implementation of SDG&E's Approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan

SDG&E continues to track 35 quantitative metrics and 44 qualitative metrics on 78 different mitigations proposed in its 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Update. These mitigations involve a wide array of topic areas such as: inspection and maintenance programs, infrastructure replacement programs, and vegetation management programs designed to mitigate the risk of ignitions due to a fault on the electric system. SDG&E has mitigation programs to enhance situational awareness, which informs SDG&E's risk models and helps prioritize infrastructure replacement; and strategies and tools for real time decision making during emergency response or Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. SDG&E also has mitigations intended to reduce the impact of a wildfire once an ignition has occurred, including high-definition cameras, ground and aerial fire suppression resources, and a fuels management program.

In addition, SDG&E has implemented measures to mitigate the customer impacts associated with PSPS events, including the installation of remote switches to limit the number of customers exposed to PSPS, the establishment of customer resource centers during PSPS events, and SDG&E's customer outreach programs.

In Attachment A hereto, SDG&E provides a breakdown of the progress on quantitative targets for these mitigations. In summary, SDG&E has fire hardened 70 miles of its electric system, completed 100% of its HFTD Tier 3 Inspections, and completed 58% of vegetation inspections through June 30, 2021. More information on these metrics can be found in SDG&E's Quarterly Initiative Update, also filed August 2, 2021.

#### Implementation of SDG&E's Most Recent Safety Culture Assessment

The WSD has issued guidance on its annual safety culture assessment process,<sup>6</sup> and the 2021 first annual assessment commenced this spring. SDG&E provided all of the requested documentation to its third party contractor as part of its safety culture assessment. SDG&E also initiated its survey in May 2021. As the safety culture assessment has not yet been finalized, SDG&E has no information to report regarding implementation at this time. Once SDG&E's safety culture assessment is completed, SDG&E will include implementation information in future advice letters.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> SDG&E received its 2020 safety certification from the WSD via a letter dated September 14, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Resolution WSD-011.

#### July 20, 2021, Safety Committee Meeting

The SDG&E Board Safety Committee<sup>7</sup> advises and assists the Board of Directors in the oversight of safely providing electric and natural gas services to the Company's customers. The Safety Committee held a meeting on July 20, 2021, in which it received presentations from SDG&E management and employees, as discussed below. During the meeting, the Safety Committee asked questions and engaged with SDG&E management and employees regarding the subjects of their presentations.

At the July 20 meeting, the Safety Committee received the following presentations from SDG&E management and employees regarding safety issues, as follows.

Kevin Geraghty, SDG&E's Chief Safety Officer and its Senior Vice President for Electric Operations, reported on SDG&E's safety performance metrics to date. Ron Kiralla, SDG&E Director for Safety updated the Committee on SDG&E's "Serious Injury and Fatality (SIF) Program," including a review of all near-miss incidents that could have resulted in serious injury. Mr. Kiralla explained that SDG&E's SIF Program analyzes such incidents to gain insights and implement lessons learned. Mr. Kiralla updated the Committee on the ongoing SIF training for safety leaders throughout SDG&E, as well as operational supervisors and managers over the past few months. Mr. Kiralla and Mr. Geraghty answered the Committee members about the SIF program and SDG&E's safety performance metrics. Mr. Geraghty explained that the Committee recommendations from the prior meeting, including preparations for the 2021 fire season and safety in energized substations, would be covered during the meeting.

Jonathan Woldemariam, SDG&E Director of Wildfire Mitigation, and Brian D'Agostino, SDG&E Director of Fire Science and Climate Adaptation, briefed the Committee on the status of SDG&E's preparations for the 2021 wildfire season. Mr. D'Agostino briefed the Committee on the drought in the western United States and the potential for above average red-flag warning events in 2021. Mr. D'Agostino discussed SDG&E's weather forecasting capabilities, including AI-based forecasting models and satellite sensing capabilities. Mr. Woldemariam discussed SDG&E's grid-hardening strategies and vegetation management program, noting that increased inspections will continue to proactively address and reduce risk in the highest fire threat areas. Mr. Woldemariam also briefed the Committee on enhanced community and customer outreach, training for public safety partners, and integration of lessons learned to improve community outreach in preparation for potential PSPS events. Mr. Woldemariam and Mr. D'Agostino then responded to questions from the Committee regarding these topics.

Jamie Padilla, a START engineer for SDG&E's Kearny Operations and Maintenance group, gave an overview of maintenance and operations, highlighting safety and training at energized substations. Ms. Padilla reviewed the safety measures embedded in the phases of a construction project lifecycle and reported on the safety precautions taken during each phase. Ms. Padilla noted that the Kearney Operations and Maintenance group is well equipped with proper tools needed to perform operations safely and reported on the continuous efforts to improve safety at SDG&E's facilities, including the Kearny facility and substations. These efforts include near-miss reporting, the SIF Program, and SDG&E's efforts to achieve Voluntary Protection Program Star site recognition from Cal-OSHA. Ms. Padilla responded to questions regarding her presentation.

Roger Schwecke, Senior Vice President and Chief Infrastructure Officer for Southern California Gas Company, and Gina Orozco, Vice President for Gas Engineering and System Integrity at Southern California Gas Company, presented on gas safety matters, including the Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) and supply issues related to certain small diameter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Safety Committee members include Erbin B. Keith, Chairman; Robert J. Borthwick; and Caroline A. Winn.

polyethelene pipe. Mr. Schwecke provided background on the DIMP program, which was designed to replace early vintage gas distribution mains and services. Ms. Orozco reported that the Company is moving toward the use of quantitative risk modeling to address safety risks and construction threats, and provided an update on the DIMP replacement plan, including progress to date.

Mr. Schwecke and Ms. Orozco provided background on potential quality concerns with certain small diameter polyethelene pipe and the Company's response to the issue, including immediate actions taken to "stop the job" on pipe installations and efforts to quarantine the pipe, communicate with internal and external stakeholders, and assess impacts. Christina Ihrig, SDG&E Vice President for Operations Support, discussed SDG&E's efforts to secure alternative supplies for construction and maintenance.

Lastly, Erbin Keith, Chair of the Safety Committee, provided the following Safety Committee recommendations to SDG&E:

- SDG&E should make presentations at an upcoming Safety Committee meeting on the following topics:
  - Safety issues related to inspection of overhead lines, including training requirements for inspectors and quality assurance/quality control processes.
  - The Company's efforts to ensure workforce safety related to covered conductor construction and maintenance.
  - The safety of Access and Functional Needs customers during wildfire or PSPS events.

## Implementation of Recommendations of the Board of Directors Safety Committee in the Prior Quarter

As noted in AL 3708-E, SDG&E's Safety Committee provided the following recommendations to the company at the May 4, 2021, meeting:

SDG&E should make presentations at upcoming Safety Committee meetings on the following topics:

- 2021 California legislative efforts to mitigate wildfires, including Senate Bill 85.
- SDG&E's preparations for the upcoming 2021 fire season, including the steps SDG&E is taking to ensure employee, contractor, and customer safety.

At the July 20 meeting, as noted above, Jonathan Woldemariam and Brian D'Agostino covered the second topic. As California's legislative session has not yet concluded, SDG&E will address legislative efforts related to wildfire at a future meeting.

## UPDATE ON SDG&E'S WILDFIRE SAFETY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Per the requirement established in D.20-05-051 that SDG&E report on advisory council activities on a quarterly basis, SDG&E's Wildfire Safety Community Advisory Council met on May 21, 2021. The Wildfire Safety Community Advisory Council is comprised of several important stakeholders in the SDG&E community, and includes representatives from local and tribal governments, public safety partners, and Access and Functional Needs communities.

SDG&E's Chief Executive Officer, Caroline Winn, opened the meeting and provided updates regarding SDG&E's ongoing efforts to mitigate wildfire risk, including its newest sustainability initiative involving goat grazing near electrical infrastructure to address vegetation growth. Ms. Winn also addressed new shareholder-funded grants to local tribal communities to address the

digital divide exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. SDG&E worked with tribal leaders to identify and target tribal communities in need when providing the grant.

SDG&E's Director of Fire Science and Climate Adaptation, Brian D'Agostino provided an update on weather conditions and the impact of the ongoing drought on the 2021 fire season. Several stakeholders asked questions and provided input regarding preparation for fire season in light of the dry weather. Mr. D'Agostino then presented on SDG&E's partnerships and relationships with academic institutions to study climate science and apply the findings to improve electric system operations. After the presentation, Ms. Winn noted that the new technology developed through these partnerships improves SDG&E's and our communities' situational awareness capabilities and allows the Company to mitigate wildfire risk and address other potential reliability threats like coastal flooding.

David Buckley, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Technosylva, presented on Technosylva's efforts to develop fire science and fire modeling capabilities. Mr. Buckley discussed the origins and refinement of SDG&E's fire models and SDG&E's efforts to develop an unprecedented comprehensive fire model to predict fire risk before a fire starts. He added that Technosylva now partners with agencies like CAL FIRE and performs over 10 million fire simulations daily. Mr. Buckley also presented to the Council on Technosylva's recent PSPS analysis performed for the Commission and discussed Technosylva's findings that SDG&E's PSPS events in 2019 aided in preventing damage from catastrophic wildfires in SDG&E's service territory.

The next Wildfire Safety Community Advisory Council meeting is scheduled to take place on August 18, 2021.

#### **NOTICE**

A copy of this filing has been served on the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, including interested parties to service lists R.18-10-007 and R.18-12-005, by providing them a copy electronically.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Laura M. Fulton
Attorney for
San Diego Gas and Electric Company

## Attachment A 2021 Progress Update Q2



# SDG&E's 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Progress Update

(All data as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

## 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Activities Q2 Summary



7.3.2 – Situational Awareness &		7.3.4 – Asset Management & Inspections						7.3.5 –
7.3.2.1 Advanced weather monitoring and weather stations  7.3.2.3 Fault indicators for detecting faults on electric lines and equipment		7.3.4.1  Detailed inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment	7.3.4.2 Detailed inspections of transmission electric lines and equipment	7.3.4.4 Infrared inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment	7.3.4.5 Infrared inspections of transmission electric lines and equipment	<b>7.3.4.6</b> Intrusive pole inspections	<b>7.3.4.9.1</b> HFTD Tier 3 inspections	Vegetation Management & Inspections
								<b>7.3.5.2</b> Detailed inspections of vegetation around
		7.3.4.9.2 Drone assessments	<b>7.3.4.9.4</b> Drone assessments of transmission infrastructure	7.3.4.9.5 Additional transmission aerial 69kV tier 3 visual inspection	7.3.4.10 Patrol inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment	7.3.4.11 Patrol inspections of transmission electric lines and equipment	<b>7.3.4.14</b> Substation inspections	distribution electric lines and equipment
<b>7.3.2.4.1</b> Fire Science & Climate Adaptation Department		of distribution infrastructure						7.3.5.5  Fuels management and reduction of "slash" from vegetation
7.3.3 – Grid Design & System Hardening								management activities
7.3.3.1 Capacitor maintenance and replacement program	<b>7.3.3.3</b> Covered conducto installatio	r Expulsion tus		Microgrids	7.3.3.9 Installation of system automation equipment	7.3.3.10  Maintenance, repair, and replacement of connectors, including hotline clamps	<b>7.3.3.11.1</b> Resiliency grant programs	7.3.5.9  Other discretionary inspection of vegetation around distribution electric lines and equipment, beyond inspections mandated by rules and regulations
<b>7.3.3.11.2</b> Standby power programs	<b>7.3.3.11.</b> Resilience assistance programs	y Undergroundi e of electric line	es overhead syste	7.3.3.17.2 Transmission m overhead system hardening	7.3.3.17.3 Cleveland National Forest distribution and transmission system hardening	7.3.3.18.1 Distribution communications reliability improvements	7.3.3.18.2 Lightning arrestor removal and replacement	7.3.5.20  Vegetation  management to  achieve clearances  around electric lines  and equipment



## 7.3.2 – Situational Awareness and Forecasting

7.3.2.1

Weather station upgrades

7.3.2.4.1

Cameras installed

140% Advanced weather monitoring & station upgrades Volume vs 2021 Goal: 35 of 25 weather station upgrades (140%) Key Actions: Goal exceeded due to available inventory and

available work crews.

**6%** Fire Science & Climate Adaptation Department Volume vs 2021 Goal: 1 of 17 cameras installed (6%) **Key Actions:** A contracting delay was resolved, allowing program start. Program is expected to meet target by year end.

7.3.2.3 equipment 39 Wireless fault

indicators

**8%** Fault indicators for detecting faults on electric lines and

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 39 of 500 wireless fault indicators (8%) **Key Actions:** Program is expected to meet target by year end.



## 7.3.3 – Grid Design and System Hardening (1 of 2)

7.3.3.1 **SCADA** capacitors

#### 81% Capacitor maintenance and replacement program

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 26 of 32 SCADA capacitors (81%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

miles CC

7.3.3.3

#### **6%** Covered conductor installation

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 1.2 of 20 miles covered conductor (6%) **Kev Actions:** Heavier construction period expected in Q3/Q4 due to scoping changes from Traditional to Covered Conductor

7.3.3.7 **Expulsion fuses** 

#### 20% Expulsion fuse replacement

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 808 of 3.970 expulsion fuses (20%) **Key Actions:** Redesigns due to accounting issues for combined projects caused delay. Program expected to meet target by year end.

7.3.3.8.1

6 Sectionalizing **60%** PSPS sectionalizing enhancements

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 6 of 10 sectionalizing devices (60%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.8.2 Microgrids

#### **0%** Microgrids

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 0 of 2 microgrids (0%) **Key Actions:** Sherilton Valley is currently being evaluated against scheduled grid hardening efforts. Cameron South will be descoped due to undergrounding efforts and critical infrastructure in place.

7.3.3.9 Circuits enabled

devices

#### 25% Installation of system automation equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 2 of 8 circuits enabled (25%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.10 Hotline clamps

#### 69% Maintenance, repair, and replacement of connectors, including hotline clamps

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 1,546 of 2,250 hotline clamps (69%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.11.1 Generators

#### **3%** Resiliency grant programs

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 59 of 2,000 generators (3%)

Key Actions: Delay on battery delivery. Program expected to meet

target by year end.



## 7.3.3 – Grid Design and System Hardening (2 of 2)

7.3.3.11.2 206 Generators 50% Standby power programs

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 206 of 413 generators (50%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

Rey Actions. Program on time and target.

7.3.3.11.3 **O** Generators

**0%** Resiliency assistance programs

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 0 of 1250 generators (0%)

**Key Actions:** Program to begin receiving data late July, data to be reported in Q3.

7.3.3.16 **17.9** Miles UG 72% Undergrounding of electric lines and/or equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 17.9 of 25 miles UG (72%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.17.1 **43.6** Miles hardened

44% Distribution overhead system hardening

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 43.6 of 100 miles hardened (44%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.17.2 1.5 OH 0 DUB 16% Transmission overhead system hardening

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 1.5 of 6.7 miles OH (22%), 0 of 2.7 miles

DUB (0%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.3.9 **6.5** Miles Distribution OH <u>96%</u> <u>Cleveland National Forest distribution and transmission</u> system hardening

Volume vs 2021 Goal: YTD totals include primary and secondary conductor installs.

**1**Base stations

10% Distribution communications reliability improvements

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 1 of 10 base stations (10%)

**Key Actions:** Remaining base stations targeting completion in Q3/Q4 of 2021.

Lightning arrestors

7.3.3.18.2

42% Lightning arrestor removal and replacement

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 386 of 924 lightning arrestors replaced

(42%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and on target.





### 7.3.4 – Asset Management and Inspections (1 of 2)

7.3.4.1 19,088 Inspections  $\underline{86\%} \ \underline{\text{Detailed inspections of distribution electric lines and}} \\ \text{equipment}$ 

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 19,088 of 22,269 inspections (86%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.4.9.4 **223**Inspections

**8%** <u>Drone assessments of transmission infrastructure</u>

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 223 of 2,715 inspections (8%) **Key Actions:** Currently scoping additional inspections to

complete in Q3/Q4.

7.3.4.4 **3,908** Inspections

**22%** Infrared inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 3,908 of 18,000 inspections (22%) to add text Key Actions: Program will continue to ramp up in 0,5%4 to add text

7.3.4.2 **1192** Inspections

<u>61%</u> <u>Detailed inspections of transmission electric lines and equipment</u>

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 1192 of 1943 inspections (61%) Key Actions: Program on time and target..

7.3.4.5

O
Inspections

 $\underline{0\%} \, \underline{\text{Infrared inspections of transmission electric lines and}} \, \\ \\ \text{equipment}$ 

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 0 of 6166 inspections (0%) **Key Actions:** Program scheduled to resume in August.

7.3.4.6 **6,754** Inspections

69% Intrusive pole inspections

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 6,754 of 9,796 inspections (69%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.4.9.2

Inspections

**0**% <u>Drone assessments of distribution infrastructure</u>

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 0 of 22,000 inspections (0%) **Key Actions:** Delays in contracting caused program start date to slip and will ramp up in early Q3. Program is expected to meet target by year end.

7.3.4.9.1 10,841 Inspections

100% HFTD Tier 3 inspections

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 10,841 of 10,815 inspections (100%)

**Key Actions:** Program completed for 2021.



## 7.3.4 – Asset Management and Inspections (2 of 2)

7.3.4.9.5

Inspections

0% Additional transmission aerial 69kV tier 3 visual inspection

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 0 of 1654 inspections (0%) Key Actions: Program resumes in August.

nspections

7.3.4.10 **61,830** Inspections **72%** Patrol inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 61,830 of 86,000 inspections (72%) Key Actions: Program on time and target.

7.3.4.14

179

Inspections

7.3.4.11

6,094
Inspections

**54%** Substation inspections

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 179 of 330 inspections (54%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

<u>96%</u> Patrol inspections of transmission electric lines and equipment

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 6,094 of 6324 inspections (96%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.



## 7.3.5 – Vegetation Management and Inspections

7.3.5.2 233,867 Trees inspected **51%** Detailed inspections of vegetation around distribution electric lines and equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 233,867 of 455,000 trees inspected (51%) **Key Actions:** Program on time and target.

7.3.5.9
6,065
Trees
trimmed/removed

<u>36%</u> Other discretionary inspection of vegetation around distribution electric lines and equipment, beyond inspections mandated by rules and regulations

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 6,065 of 17,000 trees trimmed/removed (36%) Key Actions: Program on time and target.

7.3.5.5

Poles cleared

7.3.5.20

32,744

Poles brushed

<u>0%</u> Fuels management and reduction of "slash" from vegetation management activities

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 0 of 500 poles cleared (0%)
Key Actions: Program resumes in early September.

<u>92%</u> <u>Vegetation management to achieve clearances around</u> electric lines and equipment

Volume vs 2021 Goal: 32,744 of 35,500 poles brushed (92%)

**Key Actions:** Program on time and target.



## Appendix

Off Track Activity Details

## 2021 WMP Off Track Activities – Details



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7.3.3.8.2

Microgrids

#### 0% Microgrids

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 0 of 2 microgrids (0%)

**Key Actions:** Sherilton Valley is currently being evaluated against scheduled grid hardening efforts. Cameron South will be descoped due to undergrounding efforts and critical infrastructure in place.

The Microgrids initiative (7.3.3.8.2) is not on track to meet the target of two additional microgrids for 2021. One site is being re-assessed for other grid hardening initiatives, and the second site has been removed from scope as those customers will have the PSPS impact mitigated by the Strategic Undergrounding (7.3.3.16) initiative. SDG&E continues to look for and develop additional microgrid sites for implementation in 2022. The microgrid spend is still on track as SDG&E converts existing microgrid sites from traditional generation to renewable power sources. SDG&E expects to meet the risk reduction targets for the initiative in future years.

7.3.4.9.4 **223** Inspections

## <u>8%</u> <u>Drone assessments of transmission</u> <u>infrastructure</u>

**Volume vs 2021 Goal:** 223 of 2,715 inspections (8%)

**Key Actions:** Currently scoping additional inspections to complete in Q3/Q4.

SDG&E completed its initial pilot effort, which included flights and assessments of 223 transmission structures in Q1/Q2 of 2021. The low issue rate of 1.5%, along with its other fire-hardening Projects currently underway have resulted in SDG&E lowering the target for transmission flights in 2021 to approximately 1,200 structures (including the 223 flights already completed. The additional structure were selected through a collaborative review with multiple departments including our transmission construction maintenance group, wildfire safety, and transmission engineering to perform flights and assessments of higher risk assets (e.g. older structures in high wind areas or areas subject to PSPS events).

As discussed in the Q1 report, SDG&E may continue to refine this scope to reduce overlap with other efforts, such as fire-hardening or other inspections, so as to reduce cost and provide value to the ratepayers, while focusing on enhancing our wildfire safety work.