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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY *
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 ACCIDENT *
SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA *

Docket No. DCA-10-MP-008

* * * * *

Interview of: PETER BECK

Anaheim Room
Marriott Hotel
San Francisco Airport
1800 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame, California 94010

Thursday,
September 16, 2010

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to
notice, at 10:28 a.m.

BEFORE: KARL GUNTHER
Accident Investigator

Free State Reporting, Inc.
(410) 974-0947

APPEARANCES:

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I N T E R V I E W

(10:28 a.m.)

1
2
3 MR. GUNTHER: On the record.

4 I'm Karl Gunther, National Transportation Safety Board.
5 We're investigating an accident that occurred on September 9th,
6 2010, in San Bruno, California. It's our accident number DCA-10-
7 MP-008.

INTERVIEW OF PETER K. BECK

8
9 BY MR. GUNTHER:

10 Q. Okay. We start out by getting your name, address, and
11 phone number for the record.

12 A. All right. My name is Peter Kenneth Beck. Do you want
13 the company address or my personal address?

14 Q. Either.

15 A. Okay. The company address is 3955 Arch Road, Stockton,
16 California.

17 Q. Okay. And phone number?

18 A. [REDACTED]

19 Q. Okay. And what is your function at PG&E?

20 MR. CHHATRE: Off the record, please, for one second?

21 (Off the record.)

22 (On the record.)

23 BY MR. GUNTHER:

24 Q. Okay. Mr. Beck, are you aware that you can have one
25 person with you that can be anyone you wish? It can be legal

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1 counsel. It can be your shop steward. It can be anyone. Are you
2 aware of this?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. Are you represented today by counsel?

5 A. Yes.

6 MR. JAQUES: And I'm Dane Jaques, here on behalf of the
7 witness.

8 MR. GUNTHER: Okay.

9 BY MR. GUNTHER:

10 Q. All right. Can I get your function with PG&E?

11 A. Technical crew leader B.

12 Q. Okay. What I'd like you do to is start from the.

13 beginning, on September 9th, and where you were, what you did, and
14 just go ahead and just go right through everything you did on that
15 day and evening.

16 A. Do you want me to start like first thing that morning?

17 Q. That's fine.

18 A. I mean, up until 11:30, when John Groppetti arrived, we
19 did some things that were -- have no bearing on this.

20 Q. That's okay. Just go ahead and start at the beginning.

21 A. Okay. In the morning, we -- my crew just consisted of
22 Ed De La Torre and myself. We met in an office, went over the
23 day's projected activities, went over a job safety analysis,
24 possible pitfalls. We discussed the need to troubleshoot some
25 receptacles out in the yard, because at that time we thought that

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1 we were going to need those to power chromatographs out in the
2 yard. That turned out to be not necessary.

3 So, anyway, that took a couple of hours of
4 investigation. At that point, I told Ed that it had come to light
5 that the breakers operating those chromatographs would not be
6 affected in the afternoon, so we didn't need to find an
7 alternative source of power for them.

8 So, at that point I told him to do a vehicle inspection
9 on both of our vehicles because those were due early in the month.
10 He took a couple of hours on those while I reviewed prints and
11 just mostly mentally getting prepared for when John Groppetti
12 would get there and we would start the procedure to clear the UPS
13 panel. I believe the acronym was UDP in the computer room. And
14 that was the main function of the day. The main goal was to clear
15 all of the circuits from that panel so we could replace the guts
16 of it to go from a three-phase panel and change it into a single-
17 phase panel.

18 So, subsequently, Oscar Martinez arrived. We discussed
19 the upcoming job with him. John Groppetti arrived. We discussed
20 how we were going to go about clearing the circuits. We had a
21 Daniel chromatograph that we needed to keep powered. We had a
22 couple ^{OF} power strip^S or power supplies ^{PS} that we needed to keep. And,
23 really, without the aid of a print, I can't tell you exactly the
24 circuits that we needed to keep powered. I believe there was five
25 of them on John's initial analysis that were critical that we keep

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1 powered -- or re-power as soon as we could, after we de-terminated
2 the wires from the breakers.

3 Let's see. We -- the first -- if you want me to just
4 continue with --

5 Q. Sure.

6 A. To my recollection, the first breaker that we traced
7 out, we physically lifted the floorboards and traced the wires
8 from panel UDP to the Daniel chromatograph to ensure that when we
9 killed that circuit we were indeed killing the -- what we thought
10 we were, rather than having one of those moments later that this
11 isn't happening the way we thought it was going to happen and
12 getting an alarm on something else. So we physically traced that
13 out. It was indeed as the print had called for it.

14 So then we killed the breaker, de-terminated it at the
15 load side. We put a "man on line" tag at the breaker. Then we
16 had purchased some temporary UPS systems that take 120 volts. And
17 they were battery back-up, temporary. So then we ran what we call
18 a pigtail from those on the load side of the UPS and re-terminated
19 in the panel. At John's direction, we re-energized those. I
20 don't think on that particular -- I know Gas Control had been
21 apprised of what we were going to do previous to this. I don't
22 know if Oscar called them on this particular circuit. If we -- if
23 he felt that it was necessary to talk with them on this circuit or
24 not, that's kind of out of my job description. That's up to Oscar
25 and Gas Control.

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1 So then we worked through all of the circuits that we --
2 that John had deemed necessary to keep powered up, so we could
3 free up this panel. This whole exercise was to free the panel so
4 those guys could leave, Ed and I could -- would get a clearance on
5 the supply to that panel, kill it, replace all of the innards,
6 re-terminate, and then we'd re-energize the panel at a later date.
7 I mean, obviously, to this point, we hadn't done that yet because
8 we hadn't been back in.

9 So we worked through all of the circuits. We went to
10 the next room. We had three circuits in a communication room that
11 we re-powered with another UPS system on a plug strip. And I
12 think there was five -- a variety of things we plugged into the
13 plug strip that we wanted to keep hot for communication. We went
14 through those one a time, re-powered them. At this point
15 everything was looking good.

16 At this time, to my recollection, we went back into the
17 other room where the UDP panel was and we were turning off -- we
18 were just starting on breaker number 1, and any of the ones that
19 we hadn't re-powered with UPS, we started turning those off
20 because they had been deemed non-critical. So we were clearing
21 the panel, one breaker at a time.

22 When we got -- and, forgive me, but I don't remember
23 what breaker. We came to a breaker, clicked it off, and I believe
24 we heard like a beep -- a warning, an alarm. We had triggered
25 something that was unexpected. Something -- either we had missed

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1 something in the panel or something was mislabeled. We weren't
2 sure at this point. So I believe it was Oscar who walked out into
3 the old operator's room where there's a mimic board. It's a large
4 board that pretty much does that. It mimics all the valves in the
5 yard. I don't know if you guys have been out there, but it's --
6 you know, it's got different color differentiation for open and
7 closed. It gives you an idea, where the old operators used to be.
8 They could look up there and see exactly what the condition in the
9 yard was.

10 So, we had lost power to that mimic board. So, at that
11 point, we had a discussion. Okay. That's unexpected, but it's
12 not -- it doesn't affect operations. This is just a display. So
13 the discussion was do we want to re-power that, go to that
14 trouble, or is it something that we can just live without? Do we
15 care?

16 It was decided that, yeah, we'd like to have it back
17 because it was a convenience for the local techs. They were used
18 to it. We had space on a temporary UPS or we could even -- I
19 think we ended up powering it from an outlet. Because it wasn't
20 deemed critical, we didn't need it on UPS. So we powered it off
21 of a -- and this is my recollection. I don't think this one's on
22 a UPS. If you go there, I think you'll find it's plugged into an
23 outlet in the control room. It runs back to the panel. And,
24 anyway, we decided to do that.

25 So we -- I don't know if we re-powered it through the

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1 UDP panel for a short time while we were deciding this, or if we
2 just left it off. I just don't recollect that. But I do
3 recollect that we went through the same procedure we had with all
4 of the other ones that we had put a temporary power to. We
5 de-terminated it. We resupplied it with a pigtail. There were a
6 few moments while we had to get another -- like an extension cord.
7 And before going through all of these procedures, we had taken a
8 clamp-on meter and checked amperage on each line and made sure
9 that whatever pigtail we could use, it would be sufficient to
10 handle that amperage. And I think the largest load we looked at
11 was like 1.8 amps. So just about any pigtail we used would have
12 been more than enough to handle it. We fed that.

13 Somewhere in this procedure, while we were in that
14 panel, we lost the display for the pressures, which was
15 physically, I believe, right below the controller -- the
16 controllers and their displays that are right on the controllers.
17 And that was like -- that was obviously not a good thing, because
18 I didn't have an explanation as to why Oscar said we lost the
19 displays for the pressure. And I believe that is also what Gas
20 Control would be looking at. I'm not an expert on that. I hadn't
21 looked at the prints. I'm just -- that's just my impression.

22 This isn't something that we had planned on working on.
23 But because we were in -- if you guys were over there, I think you
24 know in that panel there's hundreds of terminations in there --
25 terminal blocks. So somehow through re-powering this mimic

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1 display, maybe by jostling a wire or -- I'm not going to speculate
 2 -- at that point we lost the display for the pressures. And that
 3 was like, darn, you know. That's probably not what I said at the
 4 time.

5 When we were subsequently ~~pressure shooting~~ -- ~~pressure~~
 6 ~~shooting~~ -- troubleshooting, I'm working with John Groppetti and
 7 he's good at this stuff. And he and I are talking it over and
 8 we're trying to discern why we lost these displays. And so we --
 9 Oscar had gone into the archives to get some prints, because they
 10 have prints on site. This wasn't something we expected to work
 11 on, so it took him a minute to find those prints. And he comes
 12 back with the best prints he could find for that deal.

13 We found the power supplies that fed that display and we
 14 noticed that we had -- there's two power supplies. We had -- on
 15 the output side, we had three volts DC on one and seven and a
 16 half, roughly. You know, they were point-something. This is --
 17 they're supposed to be nominally 24 volts. So then we -- okay, we
 18 don't know why this is what we've got, but this is what we have,
 19 you know. So, now we're in full troubleshooting mode, thinking
 20 what in the world -- you know, what have we got going now?

21 So, we lifted the load side, as I remember, just to
 22 check the power supply itself. And we had 35 volts, which was
 23 more in the normal range of what these things might put out. But
 24 as soon as we reapplied the load, we're down to three or seven,
 25 depending on which one we're -- the same problem.

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1 So then there was a diode right downstream of each of
2 these. But we can't check on the other side of the diode right
3 there because the way it's mounted in the cabinet. It's not
4 available to us. I can't get a volt meter in there. So, then we
5 were back in, tracing wires on the back side of the panel again.
6 And these -- if you guys have been there, you know that these
7 things are just -- there's a lot of wires back there. It's very
8 difficult to pull one wire and trace it back through that thing,
9 but we did.

10 And it went to a -- one of them, at least off of one ^{PB}
11 power supply, went to a distribution terminal block ^{WHERE} ~~that~~ we took
12 voltage. We still had the three-point whatever. John asked me to
13 de-terminate each distribution wire on the distribution side, one
14 at a time. And I did that. I think it was a fifth wire that
15 cleared the problem. So it was good. Okay, so now we're getting
16 somewhere. We have a short on this -- something that's drawing
17 this power supply down.

18 As I put them back in, all but that one, the problem
19 reappeared. And it's like, you know, that doesn't make sense -- I
20 mean, was our reaction to that. But, you know -- so we were
21 thinking this over and we decided, okay, let's start over. We're
22 going to make sure. We get a flashlight in there and we're going
23 to make sure that we don't have a short, like just a loose wire on
24 one of the wires that might have come out and shorted itself out.
25 Something we hadn't seen.

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1 So I get a flashlight so that I can see better. I clean
2 up the wires. We terminate and re-terminate and de-terminate, I
3 think three times, trying to chase this problem down. Sometime in
4 here, I believe, is when we lost power to the controllers, which
5 was not something that should have been directly involved in what
6 we were working on. And I don't believe it was.

7 And during this time, I mean, you know, we're -- you
8 know, we're working as hard as we can, tracing these wires out.
9 I've got Ed tracing out wires and Oscar's on the phone with Gas
10 Control, because they're concerned because they had lost sight of
11 the pressures. And this is before we lost the controllers. But
12 they were having a communication problem. And at this -- and it's
13 my understanding is that during this time is when the incident in
14 San Bruno happened. And so they were especially concerned with
15 not being able to see the pressures.

16 Sometime during in here, we lost the controllers. They
17 had gone blank on the far side of the panel. Oscar was over there
18 and said, you know, an exclamation of some type, that we lost the
19 controllers.

20 MR. JAQUES: Can you give us some times on this? You've
21 been talking about a lot of things. Can you just indicate the
22 times that you remember, so that everybody understands?

23 MR. BECK: When we started this process, I think it was,
24 say, 3:30 in the afternoon. When we started the initial process
25 of clearing the UDP panel. Or maybe even earlier than that,

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1 because I remember thinking that it looked like we were going to
2 be able to finish by 4:30, which is the normal quitting time. And
3 things went smoothly, initially. Things were going well and I was
4 looking forward to being able to clear this panel so I could get
5 on with the rest of the job, because it was a lot of just physical
6 work that needed to be done before I could finish.

7 So it was afternoon, late afternoon. By the time we got
8 into this deal and lost the controllers, I would have to guess at
9 what time it was, 4:30, something like that. I'm sure that it was
10 -- looking at the record, it would -- if we lose the controllers,
11 then the regulators are designed to fail open. The monitors come
12 into play, which, from my understanding, is that they did.
13 There's a resultant rise of 10 or 12 psi. So I believe the set
14 point was 375 for the raids and nominally 385 for the monitors.
15 And I believe that's what happened. And no one's told me
16 otherwise. And everyone that I've talked to has said, okay, yeah,
17 the monitor did take over. Because that was a concern at the
18 moment, especially when we heard that there was a problem
19 downstream.

20 So we were having these intermittent electrical problems
21 dealing with this. At one point we saw a short or saw a spark in
22 the panel and we had to re-terminate that wire. It was a 120-volt
23 system. I didn't stop at that time to look up and see what that
24 system was. It's just we saw a problem and fixed it. Because we,
25 at the time, had our hands full trying to get these displays back.

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1 And this is before we had lost the controllers.

2 At some point we got the controllers back. And I wish I
3 could tell you exactly what we did that cleared that problem, but
4 I don't know. From that point, things started to slow down a
5 little. I talked to my boss. He said he was on the way because
6 there had been this incident in San Bruno. I said okay, and I
7 advised him of the status there, that we had the controllers back.
8 I believe three of them had lost their program, and I couldn't
9 tell you which three. There was a technician coming out to
10 reprogram those.

11 Mark Kazimirsky, the engineer, came out. I think Oscar
12 had called him. Jody Garcia, who is my supervisor, showed up
13 somewhere around that time. And I wish I could tell you what time
14 that was, but I wasn't that much tuned into the clock. You know,
15 I was more involved in did the monitors take over? I mean, what
16 can I do to -- regardless of the rumors I'm hearing downstream, I
17 mean, my job is to regain control of what we've got going on there
18 and to ensure that any electrical problem I'm having isn't -- is
19 going to be mitigated as quickly as possible. The rest of it,
20 I've got to have blinders on and just not -- you know, it doesn't
21 matter, to some extent, what's going on out there in the world
22 because I've got to fix this problem. Because that's the best
23 thing I can do is mitigate what's going on, regardless of what it
24 is.

25 So we ensured that we had done everything we could

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1 possibly do to have mitigated the problem. Oscar was out in the
2 yard checking the monitors. He was in communication with Gas
3 Control. And I can't tell you what that discussion was about. I
4 just -- I had to -- for my job, I had to make sure that I knew
5 that he was in touch with them. And I knew that for a fact, that
6 he was back and forth. They had called him; he had called them.
7 They were in communication, so that wasn't a concern of mine.

8 Jody Garcia informed me that for everything that he
9 could find out, that the monitors did take over, that we at no
10 time exceeded the MAOP of the line or actually came near it.

11 MR. JAQUES: I think this is a good time for you to stop
12 and take questions, unless something --

13 MR. BECK: Well, you know, I thought this was going to
14 be a more question/answer and not a narrative, but that's the way
15 it went.

16 BY MR. GUNTHER:

17 Q. Well, a narrative is part of it. That's valuable, as
18 well.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. It helps us understand what happened.

21 There's one term that you said, a UDP?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Define that.

24 A. That is the name of that UPS panel that's in the
25 communication room, computer room, at Milpitas.

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1 Q. And what does it do?

2 A. It's a three-phase -- currently, it's a three-phase
3 panel that supplies the power to the Daniels chromatograph.
4 There's a whole list of things that had been deemed it necessary
5 that they have battery back-up in case of a failure.

6 Q. Okay. Could I get your credentials, formal education?

7 A. I have a gas tech license from the State of California,
8 accredited through the PG&E apprenticeship.

9 Q. Okay. Do you have like a regular -- any kind of high
10 school diploma?

11 A. Oh, yeah.

12 Q. Okay. College degree?

13 A. I have -- I graduated from high school. I've got two
14 years of junior college and one year of a four-year college.

15 Q. Okay. Go ahead.

16 MR. FASSETT: Point of clarification: The State of
17 California recognizes PG&E's journeyman program and the state
18 recognizes journeymen to perform this work. Is that correct?

19 MR. BECK: Right. I gave your cohort a copy of my
20 apprenticeship completion card, which the State of California sent
21 to me that said, "You are an accredited journeyman gas
22 technician."

23 BY MR. GUNTHER:

24 Q. Are there any other courses, credentials, you've taken
25 through PG&E?

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1 A. We just have -- no credentials.

2 Q. Ever take courses?

3 A. We have refresher courses that we go through
4 periodically.

5 MR. GUNTHER: Go ahead.

6 MR. FASSETT: Point of clarification: It's a -- the
7 journeyman program is a three-year program; is that correct?

8 MR. BECK: Right.

9 MR. FASSETT: With multiple steps within the program?

10 MR. BECK: Right, six steps.

11 MR. FASSETT: And various classes associated with each
12 step?

13 MR. BECK: Exactly.

14 BY MR. GUNTHER:

15 Q. Okay. Are you covered under PG&E's OQ program?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And which covered tasks are you covered under?

18 A. Geez, I have a list upstairs, if you want.

19 Q. All right. If you can provide it later, that's fine.

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. That's fine.

22 A. I brought that with me.

23 Q. Okay.

24 MR. GUNTHER: All right. Ravi?

25 MR. CHHATRE: Yes, sir.

1 MR. GUNTHER: Do you want to go ahead and ask questions?

2 MR. CHHATRE: Yes.

3 I think what we should do is introduce ourselves. So we
4 should go ahead and do that.

5 My name is Ravi Chhatre. I'm the investigator-in-charge
6 of this accident. I work with the National Transportation Safety
7 Board.

8 MR. BECK: Okay.

9 MR. CHHATRE: As an accident investigator.

10 BY MR. CHHATRE:

11 Q. I think during the course here on, if you use any
12 acronyms, please tell us what that is.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. And we have that right after the transcript, rather than
15 at the end.

16 A. Sure.

17 Q. What is "pigtail"?

18 A. That is a power cord consisting of a neutral, a ground,
19 and a hot lead. Three wires within one. It has a male end
20 plugged into the uninterruptible power source, the UPS. The other
21 end has been skinned -- is what we say. The three wires are freed
22 and then the ends of them are skinned, where it's bare wire. And
23 so you can put those into the terminal blocks and from that
24 uninterruptible power source, the temporary, we can power whatever
25 circuit that we deem necessary.

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1 Q. So they are open copper wires --

2 A. Right.

3 Q. -- just sturdy enough to be stuck in directly into
4 the --

5 A. Right.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Right.

8 MR. FASSETT: Point of clarification: Are they solid or
9 braided wires?

10 MR. BECK: Braided.

11 MR. JAQUES: And also, the wires are plugged into an
12 outlet or are they plugged in somewhere else?

13 MR. BECK: They're plugged into the UPS. Right.

14 MR. JAQUES: Just to clarify, there are two ends of the
15 cord; one of them is a plug and the other one is bare wire?

16 MR. BECK: Right.

17 MR. JAQUES: Where do each of those go? I think it's
18 getting a little bit confused.

19 MR. BECK: One plugs into the UPS, which is a battery
20 back-up system. And, you know, in addition to the 120 volts
21 running through it. And the other end is skinned and landed in
22 the panel to power whatever.

23 It's -- by -- there's a terminal block and you use a
24 screw and you land it in the terminal.

25 BY MR. CHHATRE:

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1 Q. You also mentioned that -- something about the
2 cabinet -- I think it was some kind of --

3 A. Oh, the diode?

4 Q. The diode?

5 A. Right.

6 Q. And what diode -- if you were to reach that, what -- how
7 would that have helped you in your diagnostic work?

8 A. Well, that would have -- at the time we were curious as,
9 perhaps, the diode itself was part of the problem. It turns out
10 it wasn't.

11 Q. And how do you know that now, that it was not a problem?

12 A. Well, I don't know -- I'd say it's unlikely. I should
13 say it's unlikely that that's part of the problem. It may well
14 turn out to be that there is a problem with it, that it was
15 intermittent.

16 Q. And did you mention that the way it's mounted in the
17 cabinet is a problem, did you mention that to anyone at PG&E?

18 A. Since --

19 Q. Since you could not get to the diode, did you mention
20 that at the time --

21 A. Well, I couldn't measure voltage on the back side of the
22 diode. That will -- I mean, subsequent to your investigation, we
23 will have an investigation. And I'm sure everything that -- all
24 of these points will be discussed at PG&E.

25 Q. I guess my question is since you could not reach there

1 at the time, which did apparently have some kind of an impact in
2 the diagnostic work, did you talk to somebody at PG&E at that
3 time, immediately after that, and say, "Hey, this is a problem;
4 correct it"?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay. Now, I think you mentioned something in the
7 process, that there was a fifth wire, you did something and then
8 the problem was resolved, at least temporarily?

9 A. Right.

10 Q. Can you elaborate a little bit? I didn't quite get
11 that.

12 A. While we were terminating the -- what we call the
13 pigtail for, I believe that was the --

14 Q. If you want to draw something, I can provide you paper,
15 if that would help.

16 A. Well, we lost power to the mimic display. And while we
17 were re-powering that with a pigtail, in that portion of the
18 panel --

19 Q. Meaning you're sticking those open wires --

20 A. Right.

21 Q. -- into something that would --

22 A. We were terminating those in a terminal block. In the
23 adjacent -- or right above that set of numbers in the terminal
24 block, I noticed that there was a spark on one of the other
25 terminals that we weren't working on.

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1 Q. Okay.

2 A. This was, maybe, six or eight inches above the area in
3 which we were working.

4 And at the time that we were doing that, then,
5 naturally, we pulled off of that and we had to re-terminate that
6 wire -- or just tighten the screw, basically, is what it amounted
7 to, to make sure that we had a good connection there.

8 Q. The one that was sparking or the one that you were
9 sticking in?

10 A. The one that was sparking.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. And we did that. I just -- I add that, because it was
13 something out of the ordinary. I don't know if it's related or
14 not.

15 Q. Sure. And so, the fifth wire which was the problem, and
16 supposedly whatever you did to that fifth wire, seemed to have
17 solved the problem. The question is: What did you do on that
18 fifth wire, just plug it in -- or am I getting something wrong
19 here? You mentioned about a fifth wire, you did something to the
20 fifth wire, and the problem went away temporarily.

21 A. The fifth wire?

22 Q. Yeah, that's what my -- unless -- did anybody get
23 something different or --

24 MR. GUNTHER: Oh, yeah.

25 MR. CHHATRE: Go ahead.

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1 MR. GUNTHER: It was a five-wire and when he got to the
2 fifth wire.

3 MR. BECK: Oh, okay. Now, I understand.

4 BY MR. CHHATRE:

5 Q. Yeah, bare with me.

6 A. Okay. That was on the power supplies. When --

7 Q. The mini-power supplies?

8 A. The 24-volt power supply.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. John is on one side of the panel. I'm on the other.
11 I'm de-terminating, we're troubleshooting, and as I'm pulling
12 these off one at a time, on, I believe, the fifth one out of seven
13 or eight, it cleared.

14 Q. Meaning the power came back to 24 volts?

15 A. Right. And he said, "That's the one."

16 Now, in subsequent troubleshooting, as we're putting
17 these things back, that became not true. And that was one of
18 those frustrating moments that electricians have. I don't know
19 how else to say that. It's like, "Okay, what we thought isn't
20 true." And then, as a troubleshooter does, then you regroup and
21 you start over.

22 Q. And that's when you pulled all at the same time?

23 A. Then -- yeah, at one point we had them all off of there.
24 And then we got a flashlight and these braided wires -- I
25 retrimmed them. This wasn't a very comfortable area to work, and

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1 you cleaned everything up. We were getting intermittent
2 responses, which is like the worse that an electrician can look
3 for. It makes things hard to troubleshoot. It wasn't definitive.

4 At some point in there, that system started working
5 properly again.

6 Q. While you were putting the wires in?

7 A. Yeah. Then, all of the sudden, as I put them back in,
8 one at a time, there was no short. There was no problem. And we
9 got to the end and everything's working.

10 Q. And this wire -- these braided wires, once you stick
11 that thing in, do you tighten with a screw or --

12 A. Yes, you tighten with a screwdriver.

13 Q. Didn't you wonder what --

14 A. Did I wonder? You bet I wondered.

15 Q. Did you have some kind of a discussion after that as to
16 what might be doing that?

17 A. Right. Then we were back to the diode again, that
18 perhaps somehow -- and I'm not an electrical engineer. My
19 understanding of a diode, it allows electricity to pass one way
20 and it can't return. It's a check valve for electricity, you
21 know. Why it would -- or how it could possibly affect it the way
22 like that, I don't know.

23 Q. Now, since then, has that diode been replaced or nothing
24 has been done to that?

25 A. No, because we haven't been allowed to go back even in

1 the building, let alone replace anything.

2 Q. So the diode still sits --

3 A. Right. And it's functioning at this moment.

4 Q. Did you even wonder at that time that this may not be a
5 permanent fix, since you didn't know what caused it?

6 A. Right. I have been wondering -- yes.

7 Q. Do you guys have any kind of a diagnostic decision as to
8 how to go about it? Whether you did or not is a different
9 question. But did you guys have a discussion as to how you can
10 diagnose the problem further or is there anything you can do?

11 A. After Mark Kazimirsky arrived, the engineering head, we
12 had discussions as to probable scenarios. But I don't know -- it
13 doesn't do any good for me to rehash the guesses we had because
14 that's what they were; they were speculation.

15 Q. Was any official request made to continue the diagnostic
16 work?

17 A. At that point everything was back in operation. My
18 instructions were, "Hands off." Because I wanted to get back in
19 there and continue and investigate. I mean, that's what I do. I
20 didn't like leaving it a job undone. But due to the enormity of
21 this incident, it was decided not -- I don't, know whose
22 decision -- that we would cease and desist.

23 Q. Let me back up just for a second. So when you guys --
24 oh, it's working now, 24 volts coming out. Was that before the
25 accident or before the accident?

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1 A. Everything was working after -- or, yeah, after -- I
2 believe. I'm operating on my recollection here and there's a lot
3 of things happening at once.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. I believe the 24 volts came back -- I mean the
6 controllers came back after we had cleared them.

7 Q. But still, that happened before the incident or not?

8 A. I don't know when the incident happened. You mean,
9 talking about the incident in San --

10 Q. San Bruno.

11 A. Yeah, I --

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. -- I had no TV, no radio, no --

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. All I heard was a rumor that something had happened
16 downstream.

17 Q. But when you finished that, was it kind of uneasy that
18 you did not know what caused it? Did you officially report to
19 somebody at PG&E that --

20 A. Yeah, we agreed -- we sat around. Everybody involved
21 sat around and --

22 Q. Who is "we"?

23 A. That would be John Groppetti, myself --

24 Q. I'm sorry, go slower. John -- what was the last name?

25 A. Groppetti. He was in here this morning. He's an

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1 engineer.

2 Q. Okay. All right.

3 A. Myself, Oscar Martinez.

4 Q. And what's Oscar's --

5 A. He's a gas tech. He's a maintenance --

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. -- gas tech that was working with us that day.

8 Ed De La Torre, who was an apprentice.

9 Q. Ed?

10 A. Ed De La Torre.

11 Q. Can you spell it?

12 A. He will be a witness.

13 Q. Okay. All right.

14 A. Later on.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. At this time, Jody Garcia.

17 Q. And Jody is?

18 A. He's my supervisor.

19 Q. Do you know his title?

20 A. I beg your pardon?

21 Q. Do you know his title?

22 A. Supervisor -- you know, I really don't know his official
23 title.

24 Q. That's okay. If you don't, you don't.

25 A. I'd give you a bum steer, and I don't want to do that.

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1 Q. He's your supervisor. Okay.

2 And who else?

3 A. Mark Kazimirsky.

4 Q. Okay. And his background?

5 A. And he's an engineering -- he's one of our engineers.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. I don't know what his title is.

8 Q. That's okay. Who else?

9 A. Who else was sitting -- Wayne Fong was at the table at
10 some point. He was the engineer that came to reprogram the three
11 controllers that we lost.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. And I -- the general sense, is all I can tell you, is
14 that due to the severity of the problem downstream, we had better
15 not continue, that we had everything in control, we had the
16 controller back, and our best bet was to take a hands-off approach
17 at that point.

18 Q. But was there any formal consensus documented that once
19 the dust settles, you guys will go back and do the diagnostics?
20 Was that decision made?

21 A. I wanted to do that, just because that's what I do. My
22 boss said, no, it's -- we need to stand back. And after a little
23 thought, I agreed with him that maybe that would be best.

24 Q. That is because of the accident that happened, correct?

25 A. Because of what happened downstream. Under normal

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1 circumstance, if we had had that scenario, then we probably
2 -- and I'm guessing, and I probably shouldn't -- but we might have
3 continued, even though it was late at night.

4 Q. No, I understand. I think my question was, was it
5 decided to stand down, but "We should come back to this and find
6 out"? Was that kind of a discussion there somewhere in the
7 meeting?

8 A. Yeah, I'm hoping we can do that next week. But --

9 Q. No, that's not what I asked you. I -- what I'm asking
10 you is during that meeting, the round-table meeting you had, was
11 it discussed that after this incident or whatever caused you not
12 to do anything right now and when the dust settles, that we should
13 come back and try to rediagnose the problem?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Was it discussed?

16 A. Yes, absolutely.

17 Q. And what was the decision taken, then, yes or no?

18 A. I don't understand your question.

19 Q. Okay.

20 MR. FASSETT: Point of clarification: I believe he
21 answered the question earlier when he said, yes, we'd like to come
22 back and troubleshoot, and once we get clearance, PG&E will do an
23 investigation to determine that.

24 MR. CHHATRE: I'm trying to find out -- to me, I don't
25 know who said, "We'd like to." But was a decision made by, I

1 think, a couple of supervisors in here that, okay, after this is
2 done, we will do it. "Like to do" is something different than
3 "will do."

4 MR. FASSETT: I understand. But I think he asked the
5 question -- he answered the question you asked. There's another
6 supervisor coming in. I suggest that you wait.

7 MR. CHHATRE: That's fine. That's good for me.

8 MR. FASSETT: Okay.

9 BY MR. CHHATRE:

10 Q. Now, on this three-year program -- I forget the
11 terminology, "journeyman"?

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. What does that program involve? I mean, how do you get
14 into the program and how you complete the program?

15 A. You're chosen to be in it, I like to think because you
16 showed a certain aptitude. It's a three-year study. There's also
17 a lot on the job --

18 Q. On-the-job training?

19 A. -- on-the-job training, in addition to -- I don't -- I
20 couldn't tell you how many weeks at San Ramon Learning Center that
21 we spend.

22 Q. So this is a formal education?

23 A. Right. We have our own campus in San Ramon.

24 Q. Okay.

25 MS. MAZZANTI: Point of clarification: It is a

1 negotiated, agreed-to, joint apprenticeship. The union and the
2 company negotiated it. It is a certified -- they get
3 certification, and it is -- both parties have worked on this
4 apprenticeship. So it is a formal apprenticeship program. They
5 kind of -- as they turn out, at the end they are a journeyman. So
6 it is an absolute formal education.

7 MR. CHHATRE: And I think I understand. PG&E said it
8 has been certified by the State of California.

9 I have no more questions. Thank you very much.

10 MR. BECK: Thank you.

11 MR. GUNTHER: Pete from PHMSA?

12 MR. KATCHMAR: I'll wait.

13 MS. MAZZANTI: Debbie Mazzanti, IBEW 1245.

14 MR. KATCHMAR: All right. Thank you for coming in,
15 Peter. My name is Peter Katchmar. I'm with the US DOT. I'm here
16 in support of the California PG&E, who has been called out in the
17 NTSB.

18 BY MR. KATCHMAR:

19 Q. I just have a couple of questions, but I really want to
20 thank you for coming in.

21 You've -- you were talking about 4:30, you lost -- you
22 understood that you lost the three controllers?

23 A. I believe we lost all of them in the yard.

24 Q. Okay. But that was around 4:30?

25 A. That's my guess.

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1 Q. Okay. And are you aware of what happens when that
2 occurs?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What -- and you talked about the --

5 A. The regulators fail open. The monitors take over.

6 Q. Okay. So there's -- it's not an emergency situation.
7 It's abnormal, but it's not --

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Yeah, okay. All righty.

10 You mentioned that you or someone talked to SCADA
11 control to get the -- because you had -- you thought they had lost
12 visual or telemetry to the station and all of that. Could you
13 explain that a little more?

14 A. I knew that Oscar Martinez, which is his job rather than
15 mine -- we had talked to Gas Control earlier in the day before we
16 started. We had informed them of our procedure, each circuit that
17 we were going to kill and re-feed with the temporary UPS systems.
18 They were aware all along. Oscar had made arrangements. He had
19 gone in the yard and he had checked some things and I wasn't privy
20 to exactly what he was doing. My impression was -- and --

21 Q. That's okay. We're going to talk to him later. You
22 don't have to --

23 A. Okay. Anyway, he was the liaison with Gas Control and I
24 knew for a fact that he was, in fact, doing that, because that
25 gets into -- somewhat into my job. I'm responsible to make sure

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1 that these things are getting done, even though I'm not doing
2 them. It's like, okay, Oscar's got that. That's handled; it's
3 not a concern.

4 Q. Okay. So there's a hierarchy and where are you in the
5 hierarchy of the four people that were out there that day?

6 A. As a PG&E rep, I would say Oscar and I were both gas
7 techs. We have different duties, but as a construction foreman, I
8 don't know if it's official, but I feel an obligation to oversee,
9 to some extent, to make sure that what other people are doing is
10 making sense.

11 Q. Okay. But you didn't yourself pick up a cell phone,
12 pick up a telephone, pick up a radio or anything?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. That wasn't in my job scope.

16 Q. Okay. And then you were, again, talking about them
17 losing visual -- losing the telemetry to the station. Can you
18 discuss a little bit about what you think happened to make it to
19 where they couldn't see the station?

20 A. When we lost the displays of the pressures, that was due
21 to this voltage drop, I believe. And I don't have the prints with
22 me, but I believe it was due to the voltage drop on the power
23 supplies, the 24-volt power supply.

24 Q. Okay. But -- and I'm just trying to clarify here, and
25 I'll be very, very quick. But you said when that occurred, the

1 mimic board went down?

2 A. No, the mimic board was previous to this.

3 Q. Oh, oh. So where did you lose the displays? How did
4 you know you lost the displays? What displays did you lose?

5 A. Okay. When you look at that big board, you have the
6 mimic board on top.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. Then beneath those, there are some displays that display
9 pressures.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And then beneath that, I believe is the way it's set up,
12 is the controller. And the controllers have their own little
13 display.

14 Q. I saw that yesterday. Okay, now I know what you're
15 talking about. Okay.

16 A. So if we lose those displays, then I believe it's a safe
17 assumption that that's the same thing that Gas Control is looking
18 at. It doesn't mean that we lost the controllers, but it does
19 mean that Gas Control is blind.

20 Q. Okay. That's great. Thank you very much.

21 A. Okay.

22 MR. KATCHMAR: And -- well, we're going to go around
23 again, right?

24 MR. GUNTHER: All right. PG&E? Bob Fassett?

25 MR. FASSETT: No questions. Thank you.

1 MR. GUNTHER: City of San Bruno? IBEW?

2 MS. MAZZANTI: One clarifying question.

3 BY MS. MAZZANTI:

4 Q. Ravi asked about -- you stated that there was a -- it
5 was difficult to get to the diode and Ravi asked had you brought
6 that to anyone's attention. Would there have been a reason prior
7 to working on this that you would know where that diode -- that
8 there might be difficulty getting to that diode?

9 A. No, I mean, it wasn't within the scope of our work.

10 Q. Okay.

11 MR. GUNTHER: Okay. Any more operational questions?

12 Ravi, do you have any operational questions?

13 MR. CHHATRE: I guess one follow-up question that I
14 have.

15 BY MR. CHHATRE:

16 Q. Have you -- during the course of your work, have you
17 worked anywhere else besides Milpitas Station?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And on similar duties?

20 A. We have a variety of duties that fall within my job
21 description. I mean, we do everything from pour the concrete for
22 the racks that we build. We have to be able to work from one end
23 of the job to the other.

24 Q. It's a broad experience?

25 A. Right. So we install pressure -- you know, racks for

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1 pressure transmitters, for Becker controllers. We install Becker
2 controllers, the actuators. Usually, there will be a heavier crew
3 will come in and put the valves in themselves, and then we'll do
4 all of the wiring, the pneumatics, to make the system functional,
5 SCADA.

6 Q. So, have you worked at any other SCADA? I don't know
7 how many different SCADAs you have. Have you worked on any
8 others, besides Milpitas, SCADA-wise?

9 A. Yeah. Yeah, gosh.

10 Q. I'm glad for your answer.

11 This spark that you mentioned while you were doing the
12 diagnostics and you saw the problem?

13 A. Um-hum.

14 Q. What would cause a spark?

15 A. It was just loose to begin with.

16 Q. So you saw this spark and it was disturbed --

17 A. Oh, it may have been. If there was an intermittent draw
18 on it, then, yes, it could spark without being moved.

19 Q. I understand. If I see a spark, being a non-electrical
20 engineer, I might report it. I just need your input on that, as
21 to why it was not an event for you?

22 A. Well, at the time I was pretty busy with other things.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. This was not good news for me to see that. It's not
25 normal, but it existed. It was something to deal with. We dealt

1 with it as quickly as we could, so we could get back to the --

2 Q. What you were already doing.

3 A. Right.

4 Q. Now, are there any other reasons that the spark you
5 observed could happen? I mean, obviously, it looks like maybe it
6 was the wire and you took care of it. But are there any other
7 possibilities to create this spark?

8 A. I'm sure there is. What those would be, I don't -- I'm
9 not an electrical engineer.

10 Q. That's fine. No more questions.

11 A. Okay.

12 MR. GUNTHER: Peter?

13 MR. KATCHMAR: All right. Thank you again.

14 BY MR. KATCHMAR:

15 Q. We need to make sure that we get your OQ records --

16 A. Sure.

17 Q. -- before you leave the building, obviously.

18 And I always ask this question, and that is: Is there
19 anything that we haven't asked you here today that you think we
20 should know?

21 A. No, sir.

22 Q. Okay. If there is, tomorrow, the next day, the next
23 week, you will have, through your attorney, our names and numbers.
24 Please feel free to give any one of us at any time and say, "Hey,
25 you know, I really need to tell you about this."

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. If something comes to your mind, I would appreciate
3 that.

4 A. Yeah, thank you.

5 MR. CHHATRE: I think that's a very good point. I think
6 that's important. We may not -- we are humans and we may not
7 remember everything.

8 MR. BECK: Well, believe me, I would like to find out --

9 MR. CHHATRE: Anything you can do to help us.

10 MR. BECK: Absolutely.

11 MR. GUNTHER: Sunil?

12 MR. SHORI: Yeah, I understand, and I apologize to the
13 witness. We've got another incident kind of process going on, so
14 we're dealing with a couple of things at the same time. I
15 apologize for the disturbance, that's not the way it should be.

16 We'll go ahead and look at the questions later, and if
17 there's any need whatsoever, we'll have to go ahead and reschedule
18 the witness. But at this stage, we'll defer to what's been
19 provided.

20 MR. GUNTHER: All right. Bob for PG&E?

21 MR. FASSETT: No questions.

22 MR. GUNTHER: City? IBEW?

23 MS. MAZZANTI: No questions.

24 MR. GUNTHER: All right. Now, we're going to go into
25 Rick's section, which is -- well, go ahead.

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1 MR. NARVELL: Thank you.

2 BY MR. NARVELL:

3 Q. Mr. Beck, again, I'd like to echo some sentiments that
4 were expressed. We appreciate you coming in today and providing
5 your testimony.

6 A. Sure.

7 Q. We talked a little bit prior to your presenting today
8 about some of the areas that the human performance group routinely
9 looks at.

10 A. Um-hum.

11 Q. And, for the record, we were able to obtain a requested,
12 96-hour, four-day history for Mr. Beck. But I just have a few
13 other ones.

14 A. Sure.

15 Q. These will not kind of hue with the operational-type
16 questions, but we talked about a little bit earlier, and to the
17 best of your ability, I'd appreciate if you'd respond. Okay?

18 We'll start off with a general question about your
19 health. How is -- how would you characterize your health?

20 A. Good.

21 Q. Okay. Do you recall the date of your last physical?

22 A. It's within a year. I get a yearly physical.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. So I don't know the exact date.

25 Q. All right. And did the physician note any concerns or

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1 problems at that time at the conclusion of that?

2 A. I think three months ago, [REDACTED]

3 Q. Oh, okay. All right. Other than that, no problems?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. I'm doing good.

7 Q. Are you taking any medications, prescription or over-
8 the-counter?

9 A. One medication.

10 Q. And what would that be?

11 A. [REDACTED]

12 Q. [REDACTED] --

13 A. [REDACTED]

14 Q. And what is that for?

15 A. It's an [REDACTED]

16 Q. Okay. That's prescription?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And about how long have you been on this, Mr. Beck?

19 A. Oh, 15 years. A long time.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. It's a long-term deal.

22 Q. Is this a tablet a day, twice --

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. Once per day?

25 A. Once per day.

1 Q. Okay. All right. Any other medications, prescription,
2 over-the-counter, dietary supplements, et cetera?

3 A. I take a fish oil tablet for health reasons.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. At least I hope it helps.

6 Q. And that's a daily basis, too?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. So you have [REDACTED] once a day for about 15 years, 500
9 milligrams?

10 A. Um-hum.

11 Q. Is that in the morning, evening?

12 A. Evening.

13 Q. Evening. Okay. All right.

14 Your vision, do you know what your vision rating is?

15 A. I know that on my cheaters, those are at 200.

16 Q. All right. So that's basically your reading glasses?

17 A. Right.

18 Q. And how long have you had those?

19 A. Oh, since I was -- let's say 20 years, I've used --

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. -- a variety of intensity reading glasses.

22 Q. Okay. And the same question with respect to your
23 hearing, any difficulty or problem?

24 A. I have no or very little hearing in my left ear.

25 Q. All right. And is this documented at some point with

1 PG&E?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. And about how long has this condition existed?

4 A. Oh, six years, I'd say. That's a guess.

5 Q. And the day-to-day activities, is there any difficulty
6 with respect to that condition?

7 A. No, nothing.

8 Q. Right ear is okay?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. All right.

11 I'd like to get a sense that day -- meaning a week ago
12 today, last Thursday, the 9th, of your characterization of the
13 work load that day. Was it a busy day? Was it a low day? Was it
14 a typical day?

15 A. It was, I believe, a well-planned operation with plenty
16 of time allotted. It became something else.

17 Q. You mean an increase in work load?

18 A. Well, as we had problems -- yeah, we didn't get off work
19 until 5:30 the next morning. So, I mean, that's --

20 Q. All right.

21 A. That was certainly unplanned.

22 Q. Okay. I believe earlier you had said your normal work
23 day concludes at approximately 4:30 p.m.?

24 A. Right.

25 Q. And these various and sundry problems that started to

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1 occur somewhere, maybe -- first, I thought you said 3:30, but it
2 may have even been earlier. Is that accurate?

3 A. When we started?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. Yeah, I believe we started -- because a lot of it starts
6 with a walk-through and a discussion.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. You know, okay, "We're going to do this. We're going to
9 do this. We've got to call Gas Control, let them know the
10 procedure." These things take time.

11 Q. Sure.

12 A. And then we had to pull floorboards, trace wires. And
13 so before we ever killed the first circuit, we're into it a couple
14 of hours.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. Just because we're, you know, hopefully crossing Ts and
17 dotting Is and following procedure.

18 Q. Do you do what would be called a job briefing or a
19 safety briefing?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Is that routine? Okay. Would that consist of a job
22 briefing, what you were just telling me?

23 A. Well, there's --

24 Q. Or is that something that's separate?

25 A. There's a verbal tailboard, which is -- in my

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1 group --

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. -- separate than the job safety analysis. The job
4 safety analysis consists of me sitting down at a laptop. I've got
5 my crew with me. We discuss the job. I ask them if they have any
6 inputs. Do they -- have they seen any hazards that I've missed?
7 We go through that. When it's just Ed and I, it's a short
8 conversation.

9 Q. Right.

10 A. Because there's only two of us on this crew.

11 Q. Sure.

12 A. We go through this deal.

13 Typically, on an exercise like this, we've talked about
14 this two or three times over the previous two or three days
15 because we know we're working towards this. This is like a hurdle
16 we have to get over on the job. It's a focal point.

17 Q. And this would be a routine component of your job during
18 the day?

19 A. The walk-through?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. Yeah. Whenever we change modes, whenever we get to a
22 different facet of the job, then we'll have that discussion and
23 we'll have a discussion of possibles, safety issues. Like when we
24 pull the floorboards up, we have to either put a cone down or put
25 some kind of marking. We've got to make sure that somebody

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1 doesn't step in the darn hole.

2 Q. Got you.

3 A. You know, it's just basically common-sense stuff.

4 Q. Sure.

5 A. If we pull the cover off a panel, we have to put yellow
6 and black tape on it. We have to tailboard that before we do
7 that, so that everybody is aware that there's going to be an open
8 panel here for a minute.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. Let's not have somebody trip in the darn hole and put
11 their hand in the panel.

12 Q. Sure.

13 On this day -- and, again, I don't want to be redundant
14 here -- but on Thursday, last Thursday, the day of the incident,
15 was there anything that you can recall that may have been the
16 basis for a distraction in your world? And just let me give you a
17 couple of examples. For example, a recent death in the family,
18 you know, adverse financial news, bad medical news for you or a
19 loved one or a family member or a friend? Anything that may have
20 been a basis for a preoccupation or a distraction?

21 A. No. I mean, life -- I'll just leave it at no.

22 Q. Okay. And I'll kind of extend that, if you know of
23 anything with your crew that day? Anything that you might have
24 been aware of that might have been a basis for a preoccupation or
25 a distraction for them?

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1 A. No.

2 Q. Okay. Very good.

3 You've gone on and discussed the problems with the UPS
4 and the spark and those kind of things. Other than that, were
5 there any problems with any of your equipment, either mechanical,
6 electrical, pneumatic -- any other problems other than what's
7 already been discussed?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Okay, very good.

10 And the last area here: toxicological, drug and alcohol
11 testing. Were you -- did you submit specimens?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Okay. Can you give me a little bit of information about
14 what the specimens were and the times, to the best of your memory?

15 A. There was a breathalyzer for the alcohol, which I saw
16 that result was zero. And then there was a urine sample that was
17 sent, that I believe, you know, it's been returned and I was
18 clear.

19 Q. Okay. Do you know about what time those specimens were
20 provided, approximately?

21 A. I'd say 2:00 a.m. on Friday.

22 Q. It would have been the following day --

23 A. The 10th.

24 Q. -- the 10th. Okay. Okay.

25 And so the breathalyzer reads out right there. That

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1 was .000; is that right?

2 A. Right.

3 Q. Is that -- I don't want to put words in your mouth.

4 The drug testing component of this, you were informed,
5 what?

6 A. On Monday. I wasn't allowed to come back to work until
7 they had that result. My supervisor called me Monday morning --

8 Q. Right.

9 A. -- mid-morning and said, "Okay, you're clear. You can
10 come back to work."

11 Q. Okay. And just for the record here, on the day of the
12 incident, any alcohol or illicit drug use?

13 A. Absolutely no.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you, Karl. Thank you, Mr. Beck.

15 MR. GUNTHER: Okay. Does anybody have any further
16 questions?

17 MR. CHHATRE: I don't.

18 MR. GUNTHER: All right. I'd like to thank you for
19 coming in.

20 Also, would you like to make a statement for the record?

21 MR. BECK: No. Thanks for your work.

22 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

23

24

25

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

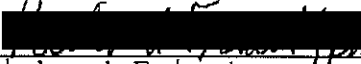
IN THE MATTER OF: PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 ACCIDENT
SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA
Interview of Peter Beck

DOCKET NUMBER: DCA-10-MP-008

PLACE: Burlingame, California

DATE: September 16, 2010

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to
the recording accomplished at the hearing.


Richard Friant
Official Reporter

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