NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Washington, D.C.

Survival Factors Group – Additional Documents
Transcript of Fire Department Radio Communications
Beginning at 2115:47

(37 Pages)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

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PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 ACCIDENT SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA

* Docket No.: DCA-10-MP-008

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Radio Communications Command 31 C Channel San Mateo County Public Safety Communications San Mateo County, California

Thursday, September 9, 2010

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- 2 (TALKING CLOCK: Starting date Thursday, September 9,
- 3 2010, at 21 hours 15 minutes and 47 seconds.)
- 4 IC: Operations, IC.
- 5 OPERATIONS: IC, go ahead to Ops.
- 6 IC: I just had a conversation with PG&E. They're
- 7 putting a major plan together to come in and start working on the
- 8 power lines. Continue to assume all the power lines are live
- 9 because they haven't been able to guarantee us that they've been
- 10 secured. I've got a representative from PG&E that's going to come
- 11 to your location to work with you and keep you up-to-date on the
- 12 transmission piece as well as the gas piece and then if he needs
- 13 some assistance in moving resources or help, he'll go directly
- 14 with you, and then if you need something, contact me.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Copy that. They just pulled up here down
- 16 to where we're running operations here. I still want to have them
- 17 an escort in there. They're not ready to go anywhere yet.
- 18 IC: I copy, and so you'll have a rep there with you and
- 19 you guys can coordinate the movement, the needs that they may have
- 20 or that you may have, and then they'll get to you and identify for
- 21 you what areas you can count on as being secured from electrical
- 22 as well as a gas standpoint.
- OPERATIONS: I copy that. We'll have somebody assigned
- 24 to PG&E right now.
- 25 IC: Copy, IC.

- 1 OPERATIONS: All units, all branches. All branches.
- 2 Assume all power lines are still hot. We don't have confirmation
- 3 the power lines are off. We're working on the gas but assume all
- 4 power lines are hot.
- 5 SOUTH BRANCH: Copy that.
- 6 OPERATIONS: North Branch copy?
- 7 NORTH BRANCH: North Branch copies, assume all power
- 8 lines are hot. I'm going to relay to all units in the North
- 9 Branch.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Thanks. West Branch, copy?
- 11 SOUTH BRANCH: South Branch copies. I don't know if you
- 12 heard, we have a DOA in front of 1670 Claremont which has been
- 13 covered.
- OPERATIONS: West Branch, go ahead to Operations.
- 15 WEST BRANCH: Operations, copy. West Branch copies. Do
- 16 you have Earl Branch working under you?
- 17 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Medical Group.
- 19 MEDICAL GROUP: We're getting reports of a medical need.
- 20 Do you have a location for us?
- OPERATIONS: San Bruno and Glenview by the command post.
- 22 MEDICAL GROUP: Copy.
- OPERATIONS: South Branch from Operations on 31.
- 24 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications.
- 25 OPERATIONS: Communications, go to Ops.

- 1 COMMUNICATIONS: Can you provide the location for the
- 2 water shuttle drop location?
- 3 OPERATIONS: Yeah, I'm trying to get a hold of West
- 4 Branch.
- West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 6 WEST BRANCH: Operations, this is West Branch.
- 7 OPERATIONS: West Branch, I have a water tender
- 8 available for you. I need the location you want them to go to?
- 9 WEST BRANCH: I don't need them. I've got Water Tender
- 10 8.
- 11 OPERATIONS: Wildland Branch from Operations on 31.
- 12 IC: Operations, IC.
- OPERATIONS: IC, go.
- 14 IC: Do you have a deputy officer or operations chief
- 15 that's going to be here at 9:30 for the meeting?
- OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. Chief Lavezzo will be
- 17 out there.
- 18 IC: Copy. Just advise him come over to the command
- 19 post about 10 minutes away.
- 20 OPERATIONS: Copy, 10 minutes at command post.
- 21 Wildland Branch from Operations on 31.
- 22 WILDLAND BRANCH: Operations, go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: Wildland Branch, I need to get a location
- 24 for your water tender. If you let me know where you want a water
- 25 tender, I have one available.

- 1 IC: Operations, IC. Ops, additionally, can you give me
- 2 an update on your fire as well as any update on injuries?
- 3 OPERATIONS: No injuries. We're still making progress.
- 4 We did tie in with PG&E and they did state that they cannot
- 5 confirm that the power lines are dead. So all the crews have been
- 6 advised.
- 7 IC: All right. Copy. How about an update on your
- 8 fire?
- 9 OPERATIONS: Standby. Wildland Branch to traffic for
- 10 Operations, standby.
- 11 Operations, IC.
- 12 IC: IC, go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead and disregard that. We're going
- 14 right now. We're getting runners out to find out from our
- 15 branches what the conditions are right now. We still don't have
- 16 it. Hopefully we have it by your briefing.
- 17 IC: Copy, and I also copied no additional injuries.
- 18 SAFETY 8B: Ops, Safety 8B, Flinders (ph.).
- 19 WILDLAND BRANCH: Ops, Wildland Branch. So you don't
- 20 need anything else from me. Additionally, we have no further
- 21 spread into any additional structures.
- 22 OPERATIONS: Okay, copy that. And do you still want a
- 23 water tender in your location? That's for the Wildland Branch.
- 24 WILDLAND BRANCH: Yeah, we could use a total of four.
- 25 We're currently doing a water shuttle, but the water tenders would

- 1 be helpful.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that. Right now we have five ordered
- 3 but we have one ready for you right now, if you can give me a
- 4 location.
- 5 WILDLAND BRANCH: Very end of Earl off of Sneath.
- 6 OPERATIONS: Confirming, that's Earl off of Sneath.
- 7 WILDLAND BRANCH: Affirmative.
- 8 SAFETY 8B: Ops, Safety 8B.
- 9 OPERATIONS: Safety 8B, go.
- 10 SAFETY 8B: Yeah, Kevin, down here 1600 block of
- 11 Claremont, we have a lot of resources. I want -- we have Engine
- 12 24, Engine 71, Engine 94, and a strike team from Alameda, Cal
- 13 Fire, with Strike Team 9160 Charlie, Engine 1664, 1660, 1684, 1672
- 14 and 1663. They should be able to handle 1600 block of Claremont
- 15 down.
- 16 OPERATIONS: Okay. Confirm, you are in the South
- 17 Branch. You're working in the South Branch or the North Branch.
- 18 I just need to know that so I know who we can put you in with?
- 19 SAFETY 8B: Well, we're east of the South Branch on
- 20 Claremont. I don't know what branch it would be. The North
- 21 Branch is to the north of us and the South is actually to the
- 22 south of us, and we're on the other side of Fairmont or east of
- 23 Fairmont.
- 24 OPERATIONS: North Branch from Operations on 31.
- 25 NORTH BRANCH: This is North Branch. Go ahead.

- 1 OPERATIONS: It sounds like they've tied this thing up
- 2 around on the bottom on the east side, and it sounds like they
- 3 have some more units working on the bottom of you to the east
- 4 which is Battalion 8-8. Can I tie them in with you or how are you
- 5 doing over there?
- 6 NORTH BRANCH: Yeah, that will be fine. Right now we've
- 7 got sufficient resources, quick status report. We have two Type 3
- 8 strike teams, two Type 1 strike teams, all are assigned and we are
- 9 rotating a water shuttle to Sneath and El Camino. We have a
- 10 fairly good stop northbound on Fairmont and we're working on
- 11 Concord Avenue now. I'll have a status report there shortly.
- 12 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Can I have Battalion 8B contact
- 13 you and figure out what you want, how you want to split up that
- 14 division over there, at that branch and make a new (indiscernible)
- 15 division below you?
- 16 NORTH BRANCH: Yeah, that's affirmative. Is that the
- 17 East Branch for Battalion 18?
- OPERATIONS: That's correct. They've gone all the way
- 19 around. They started in the south and they got around to the east
- and now they're over on the north.
- 21 NORTH BRANCH: Copy that. Have them give me a call and
- 22 I'll check on the map where he's at. It looks like we've got it
- 23 tied in.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that. Operations to Battalion 18.
- 25 SAFETY 8B: Traffic for 8B.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Can you go ahead and it sounds like you're
- 2 going to make yourself a division and maybe work off the North
- 3 Branch, contact Trapp up there on the North Branch so we can just
- 4 keep -- know what you need and he's got resources up there that he
- 5 may be able to help you with.
- 6 SAFETY 8B: Copy that. I have a (indiscernible) that I
- 7 gave all those resources to, and you've got a good idea what's
- 8 going on. So me and Dave keep walking in recon, and I'll check in
- 9 with them.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Copy that. I just want whoever's working
- 11 that area because it's confusing for us over here, who's working
- 12 that area and what branch they're working for.
- SAFETY 8B: Okay, copy that. Do you want those
- 14 resources to go to the North Branch?
- 15 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. I need them to have
- 16 someone to contact. If you've got a chief that can contract Trapp
- 17 on 35 and figure out how you're going to break that branch up.
- 18 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, North Branch, we're working
- 19 on Tac 37.
- 20 OPERATIONS: Confirming you're on Tac 37. Battalion 8B
- 21 from Operations, they're going to be on Tac 3-7, Tac 3-7.
- 22 BATTALION 8B: Copy that. I'll pass it on.
- 23 BATTALION 5B: Battalion 8B from Battalion 5B. What's
- 24 your location?
- 25 BATTALION 8B: This is Battalion 8B. Standby, I've got

- 1 a unit going.
- 2 WILDLAND BRANCH: Wildland Branch.
- 3 OPERATIONS: Wildland Branch, go ahead to Operations.
- 4 WILDLAND BRANCH: We're redeploying to, I guess they
- 5 were grabbed by Battalion 8B, Strike Team 9160 Charlie.
- 6 Additionally, the strike team leader has located a deceased
- 7 civilian in that location.
- 8 OPERATIONS: Copy that. So we're going to tie that
- 9 branch together. You're still Wildland Branch. We're going to
- 10 tie them into -- you're going to maintain Wildland Branch and let
- 11 them go with the North Branch.
- 12 WILDLAND BRANCH: Yeah, those resources don't have the
- 13 tactical frequencies that you have. So let me go tie in with
- 14 them, make sure we're all on the same page and I'll go from there.
- 15 I know they're working for Bob right now.
- 16 OPERATIONS: Copy that. As long as we know who they're
- 17 with.
- 18 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Comm.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Division, and
- 20 I'll report to Trapp on the North Branch.
- 21 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Comm.
- 22 OPERATIONS: Communications from Operations on 31.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. Just to confirm, the Command 8B
- 24 and his resources are moving to the North Branch and I need the
- 25 rundown on those units.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Copy that. They're going to make
- 2 communication right now, and they're going to decide if they're
- 3 going to division that up over there, and then we'll let you know.
- 4 For information for that water tender, for the San Bruno
- 5 water tender, they can go in at Sneath and Earl, Sneath and Earl,
- 6 and tie up with the Wildland Branch.
- 7 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. We're sending two water tenders
- 8 to that location, Sneath and Earl, two water tenders, and I still
- 9 have several apparatus that need to be accounted for if you're
- 10 clear to copy.
- OPERATIONS: Standby, 1.
- 12 Communications from Operations, go ahead with your list.
- COMMUNICATIONS: Engine 64, Engine 52, Engine 81,
- 14 Breathing Support 17, Engine 24 and Engine 91. I believe 24 and
- 15 91 were in that last assignment to the North.
- 16 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. 24 was with Battalion
- 17 5B. So let me get the rundown on these other ones.
- 18 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy.
- 19 OPERATIONS: North Branch from Operations on 31.
- NORTH BRANCH: North Branch, go.
- 21 OPERATIONS: North Branch from Operations on 31.
- 22 NORTH BRANCH: This is North Branch on 31, go.
- 23 OPERATIONS: I'm sorry to bother you with this. I'm
- 24 just trying to account for a couple of companies here. I'm
- 25 looking for Engine 64, Engine 52, Engine 81, Breathing Support 17,

- 1 I think I know where 24 is, and Engine 91.
- NORTH BRANCH: Copy that, Ops to North Branch. I have
- 3 Engine 64. I have Engine 81. I do not have Breathing Support 17
- 4 that I know of. I do have Engine 24 and 91 is a question mark.
- 5 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Then you do have 52. Is that
- 6 affirm?
- 7 NORTH BRANCH: I have Engine 1-5-2, 1-5-2, not 52.
- 8 SAFETY 8B: Ops, Safety 8B.
- 9 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Safety 8B.
- 10 SAFETY 8B: Yeah, Kevin. I'm going to stay here on the
- 11 1600 block of Fairmont. I think that's going to be easier for
- 12 communications, and I'll take care of all those resources I told
- 13 you and report in to the North Branch.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that. What division are you?
- 15 SAFETY 8B: If there isn't a Claremont Division, you
- 16 call me 1600 Claremont Division.
- 17 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Advise if you would North
- 18 Branch, you're Claremont Division working in his branch.
- 19 SAFETY 8B: Copy that. Go ahead to North Branch.
- 20 NORTH BRANCH: I copy that traffic. Anybody -- any
- 21 agencies or are they just there by themselves? Operations from
- 22 North Branch, go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: North Branch from Operations on 31.
- NORTH BRANCH: North Branch.
- 25 OPERATIONS: I'm sorry. One more time. I hear traffic

- 1 between 91 and 93. Is there any confirmation that they are
- 2 together? And the second one, is Barringer (ph.) on 152?
- 3 IC: Operations, IC.
- 4 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Operations, IC.
- 5 IC: Has Deputy Ops on his way up to the command post
- 6 here?
- 7 OPERATIONS: ETA 2 minutes.
- 8 IC: Copy. Will he have the information in terms of how
- 9 you got the branches divisioned, situated, as well as your
- 10 resources out there?
- OPERATIONS: Yeah, we're doing our best. We're just
- 12 looking for two units right now.
- 13 IC: Okay. It's not such a big deal on the resources.
- 14 I think we've got those fairly well captured. I just want to make
- 15 sure that we get into the plan how you want the branches and
- 16 divisions. So when he gets up here, we'll coordinate that with
- 17 him. Thanks.
- 18 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Chief Lavezzo and Chief
- 19 (indiscernible) have a pretty good handle on the divisions and
- 20 branches.
- 21 IC: Copy.
- 22 STAGING: Area Communications, (indiscernible) staging.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead. This is Area Communications.
- 24 STAGING: Just giving you an update, we have one Type 2
- 25 strike team, a hose tender, and a fuel tender, in staging.

- 1 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy, one Type 2 strike team, one hose
- 2 tender and one fuel tender.
- 3 STAGING: Correct.
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy.
- 5 EAST BRANCH: Operations, East Branch on Command 31.
- 6 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, West Branch or East Branch.
- 7 EAST BRANCH: Operations, I heard you were looking for
- 8 Breathing Support 17. The information with me, 17, who in the
- 9 heat of the battle was told to park it in Lunardi's parking lot
- 10 and they may still be there. Engine 17 is with me.
- 11 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Confirming you have Engine 17
- 12 who brought the Breathing Support up there.
- 13 EAST BRANCH: Correct, and they were last in Lunardi's
- 14 parking lot.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Thank you.
- 16 COMMUNICATIONS: Communications copies regarding
- 17 Breathing Support 17 at Lunardi's.
- 18 OPERATIONS: Communications from Operations on 31.
- 19 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead, Operations.
- 20 OPERATIONS: Advisory for where those missing units you
- 21 have are located.
- 22 COMMUNICATIONS: Try it again. Operations, go ahead to
- 23 Communications.
- 24 OPERATIONS: Breathing Support is with the West. 24 is
- 25 in the North Branch. 81 is in the North Branch. 64 is in the

- 1 North Branch. We're confirming the 152, we believe 152 is in the
- 2 North Branch. They actually Engine 52, not 152. Can you confirm
- 3 that we do not have 152 on scene?
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. I will work on confirming that
- 5 and confirm status of 91.
- 6 OPERATIONS: Copy that. I believe 91 is in the North
- 7 Branch. I've heard traffic with them talking to 93 who is with
- 8 the North Branch. So we're still working on that.
- 9 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy.
- 10 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, I'll do an all call for
- 11 Engine 91 confirming what division has 91. I'm going to do an all
- 12 call on North Branch and try to find them.
- 13 EARL BRANCH: Unit doing the all call for Engine 91 and
- 14 Engine 93 from Earl Division.
- 15 NORTH BRANCH: 91 and 93, are you on 31?
- 16 EARL DIVISION: No, that's negative. This is Earl
- 17 Division, Earl Division. I'm working under the West Branch,
- 18 Battalion 5. I have Engine 91 and Engine 93 with me in the Earl
- 19 Division under the West Branch.
- 20 NORTH BRANCH: Excellent. Thank you.
- 21 Operations, North Branch, did you copy that?
- 22 OPERATIONS: Operations, copy.
- Communications, did you copy?
- 24 COMMUNICATIONS: Communications copied, Engine 91 and
- 25 Engine 93 in West Branch.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Let me see if that accounts for everybody.
- 2 North Branch, one more time, I think Engine 152 is actually Engine
- 3 52, that you have in reserve?
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS: I believe you're right, and I will
- 5 double check that.
- 6 STAGING: Area Communication, (indiscernible) staging.
- 7 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead.
- 8 STAGING: Are you requesting for a fuel tender to come
- 9 up to Skyline and (indiscernible), correction, Skyline and Sneath?
- 10 COMMUNICATIONS: Affirmative, Sneath and Skyline.
- 11 STAGING: You are requesting?
- 12 COMMUNICATIONS: Affirm. Once you're finished fueling,
- 13 reporting to Sneath and Skyline.
- 14 STAGING: Copy.
- 15 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group?
- NORTH BRANCH: Ops, North Branch.
- 17 OPERATIONS: Go ahead to Ops.
- 18 NORTH BRANCH: I just want to make sure that you copied
- 19 we'll need a coroner to Concord and Fairmont for a deceased
- 20 patient.
- 21 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Be advised, coroner is aware of
- 22 that.
- NORTH BRANCH: Copy that. For the time being, we have
- 24 them or him covered in a fire shelter.
- 25 OPERATIONS: Copy that. When you get a chance, if you

- 1 can advise of any other injuries in your branch and I'm going to
- 2 go ahead and call all the branches for any injuries and
- 3 fatalities.
- 4 NORTH BRANCH: Copy that.
- 5 OPERATIONS: South Branch from Operations on 31.
- 6 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- 7 OPERATIONS: Medical Group, go ahead.
- 8 MEDICAL GROUP: Just an update, FYI, we have no medical
- 9 merit to that medical aid. Also we are receiving the
- 10 (indiscernible) for transport. We're keeping approximately five
- 11 transport units. We are sending the strike teams ambulances back
- 12 home but keeping them on standby. We are keeping fire rehab at
- 13 the Medical Group area.
- 14 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- South Branch from Operations on 31.
- West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 17 WEST BRANCH: This is West Branch, go ahead.
- 18 OPERATIONS: Can you advise if you have any injuries or
- 19 fatalities in your branch?
- 20 WEST BRANCH: None at this time.
- 21 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Not at this time.
- North Branch from Operations on 31.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications. Every
- 24 indication is that Engine 52 is an Engine 52, and that Engine 152
- 25 may be an extra engine.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 2 South Branch from Operations on 31.
- NORTH BRANCH: North Branch, go.
- 4 OPERATIONS: If you could just confirm that Barringer is
- 5 on 52 and he's in your branch. We know that he was working on 52
- 6 today, but that's the only engine we haven't accounted for.
- 7 NORTH BRANCH: That's affirm. We 52 and 152. I want to
- 8 confirm that 52 is on the North. I haven't heard from them in
- 9 quite a while.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Copy that. I know initially they were on
- 11 35. We'll try them on 35 and if you could try them on 37.
- 12 NORTH BRANCH: Copy.
- 13 SOUTH BRANCH: This is South Branch.
- 14 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, this is North Branch. We
- 15 found 52. They're on North Branch on Claremont.
- 16 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Thank you. Communications from
- 17 Operations.
- 18 COMMUNICATIONS: Communications copies. Engine 52,
- 19 Engine 152 on North Branch.
- 20 OPERATIONS: That's affirm.
- 21 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops, this is South Branch. Did you have
- 22 traffic?
- 23 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. South Branch, I need
- 24 to know if you have any fatalities or injuries in your branch and
- 25 any additional resources needed and if you need any relief.

- 1 SOUTH BRANCH: That's negative. No fatalities or
- 2 injuries in our branch yet, and don't expect any. We have enough
- 3 resources. We're fighting an attic fire in a house next to the
- 4 canyon.
- 5 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Have all the needed resources?
- 6 SOUTH BRANCH: Yeah, we're fine for the moment. Thank
- 7 you.
- 8 OPERATIONS: Go ahead to Operations.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (indiscernible).
- 10 OPERATIONS: All branch directors from Operations. When
- 11 you have time in the next five minutes or so, if you can advise
- 12 how many active structures you still have burning in your
- 13 branches.
- 14 Wildland Branch from Operations on 31. Wildland Branch
- 15 from Operations on 31.
- 16 NORTH BRANCH: Traffic for North Branch from Ops.
- 17 OPERATIONS: Negative, that's Wildland Branch.
- 18 Wildland Branch from Operations on 31.
- 19 STAGING: Communications from (indiscernible) staging.
- 20 COMMUNICATIONS: Tanforan staging, go ahead.
- 21 STAGING: We're going to need some port-a-potties down
- 22 here. We have a bunch of crews in here that are going to use it,
- 23 and there's more people coming all the time, if you could see if
- 24 somebody could send some facilities down here for us.
- 25 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy that.

- 1 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops from South Branch.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Ops.
- 3 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops, we have two active structure fires
- 4 in our branch.
- 5 OPERATIONS: Copy. Confirming, two active structure
- 6 fires in South Branch.
- 7 SOUTH BRANCH: That's affirmative. We're treating one
- 8 as a loss incurring the exposure, and the other one we're
- 9 distinguishing.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 11 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications.
- 12 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Ops.
- COMMUNICATIONS: We have the water shuttle operator
- 14 standing by at Sneath and Earl. They haven't been able to get
- 15 anyone's attention.
- 16 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 17 Wildland Branch from Operations on 31. Wildland Branch
- 18 from Operations on 31.
- 19 SOUTH BRANCH: Do you have traffic for South Branch?
- 20 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, North Branch.
- 21 OPERATIONS: North Branch, go ahead.
- 22 NORTH BRANCH: We need to report one more fatality in
- 23 front of 1 6 5 0 Claremont, and we have the deceased covered.
- 24 OPERATIONS: Copy that. 1 6 5 0 Claremont for a
- 25 fatality and can you give me your physical location for your North

- 1 Branch?
- NORTH BRANCH: That's affirmative. My location is 1 1 5
- 3 0 Fairmont.
- 4 OPERATIONS: Confirming 1 1 5 0 Fairmont.
- 5 NORTH BRANCH: Affirm.
- 6 OPERATIONS: South Branch from Operations on 31.
- 7 East Branch from Operations on 31.
- 8 West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 9 WEST BRANCH: IC calling West Branch.
- 10 OPERATIONS: West Branch, this is Operations. What's
- 11 your physical location?
- 12 WEST BRANCH: I'm at the intersection of Earl and
- 13 Glenview.
- 14 OPERATIONS: Copy, Earl and Glenview will be West
- 15 Branch.
- 16 East Branch from Operations on 31.
- 17 EAST BRANCH: East Branch, go ahead, Operations on 31.
- 18 OPERATIONS: East Branch from Operations on 31, can you
- 19 give me your physical location?
- 20 EAST BRANCH: That's affirmative. We're on --
- 21 Operations, this is East Branch. Sorry. I broke on you.
- 22 Crestmoor and Hamilton.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that, Crestmoor and Hamilton will be
- 24 the East Branch.
- Wildland Branch from Operations on 31.

- 1 TANFORAN STAGING: Communications, Tanforan staging on
- 2 31.
- 3 COMMUNICATIONS: Tanforan staging, go ahead.
- 4 TANFORAN STAGING: Additional order on the port-a-
- 5 potties and skin hand washing, we're going to need 70, 70, meals
- 6 and I have some additional information for pet evacuations if
- 7 you're ready to copy.
- 8 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead.
- 9 TANFORAN STAGING: The pet call here at Tanforan says
- 10 they're able to take any pets that need to be evacuated. The
- 11 number is 589-3793.
- 12 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy, and can you confirm call signs
- 13 again for the units you have in staging?
- 14 TANFORAN STAGING: Units in staging are San Francisco
- 15 Hose Tender 22, Engine 1763, Engine 1766, Dozer 1744, Strike Team
- 16 9150 Charlie, Ben Lowman (ph.) Crew Number 4 and Ben Lowman Crew
- 17 Number 5.
- 18 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy, Thank you. And I'm working on
- 19 your other original request for the port-a-potties. I'll add the
- 20 70 meals and advise on the pet evacuation.
- 21 TANFORAN STAGING: 10-4, that's per PIO, if anybody
- 22 needs it, that was offered up.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Affirm, thanks.
- 24 BATTALION 17C: Command 31, Battalion 17C. Command 31,
- 25 Battalion 17C.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Command 31 is not on this. Go ahead to
- 2 Operations.
- BATTALION 17C: Operations, you have 20 port-a-potties
- 4 that will be there in about 40 minutes, and 100 lunches will be
- 5 there in about 10 minutes.
- 6 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- 7 OPERATIONS: 17B from Operations on 31.
- 8 BATTALION 17C: Operations, Battalion 17C, did you copy?
- 9 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative, port-a-potties will be
- 10 there in 15 minutes.
- BATTALION 17C: Negative. The port-a-potties will be 40
- 12 minutes. Lunches will be in 10 minutes.
- OPERATIONS: Copy, 40 minutes for port-a-potties,
- 14 lunches in 10.
- 15 BATTALION 17C: Yeah, I'm trying to handle some of the
- 16 logistic stuff from Station 61 here to relieve you. If you need
- 17 anything else, let me know through Comm Center.
- 18 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Thanks.
- 19 (indiscernible) from Operations on 31.
- 20 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications on
- 21 Command 31.
- 22 OPERATIONS: Go ahead to Operations, Communications.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. I have the water shuttle
- 24 personnel at Communications. They're requesting permission to
- 25 access to the area at Earl and Sneath to shut off a leaking area,

- 1 and I need fire personnel to meet them to establish the water
- 2 shuttle.
- 3 OPERATIONS: Copy that. I'm still trying to raise the
- 4 Wildland Division. I'm not having much luck. It's been a while.
- 5 Standby.
- 6 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations, Communications back.
- 7 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Communications.
- 8 COMMUNICATIONS: The water personnel need access at
- 9 Glenview and Earl to shut a leak down, and they need to know if
- 10 it's safe for them to go down there to do that.
- OPERATIONS: Standby on that leak. I'm not sure what
- 12 they're going in to shut down, but I'll try to get somebody there
- 13 as soon as I can.
- 14 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. They want to shut down the water
- 15 main to give you more volume.
- 16 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. Okay. I'll get
- 17 somebody over there.
- North Branch from Operations on 31.
- 19 NORTH BRANCH: This is North Command, go.
- 20 OPERATIONS: Sorry, Bob. I think I need another branch
- 21 for that.
- NORTH BRANCH: Copy.
- OPERATIONS: South Branch from Operations on 31.
- 24 SOUTH BRANCH: Go ahead, Ops, this is South Branch on
- 25 31.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Do you have the Water Department there with
- 2 you, and if you do, can you escort them to where they need to go?
- 3 They're going to shut down a valve to give us more pressure.
- 4 SOUTH BRANCH: I'll see if I can find them but I haven't
- 5 seen them yet.
- 6 OPERATIONS: West Branch from IC on, I mean from
- 7 Operations on 31.
- 8 NORTH BRANCH: Was that traffic for North Branch?
- 9 OPERATIONS: West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 10 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, this is North Branch, go
- 11 ahead.
- 12 OPERATIONS: I'm sorry. I was looking for West Branch,
- 13 Bob.
- 14 WEST BRANCH: West Branch, go ahead.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Yeah, do you have the Water Department over
- 16 there? They're apparently somewhere near your area. They want to
- 17 shut a valve down. If you see them anywhere, can advise me and
- 18 escort them to where that valve is?
- 19 WEST BRANCH: I'll keep an eye out for them. I thought
- 20 PG&E handled the water.
- 21 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- Communications from Operations on Command 31.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead, Communications.
- 24 OPERATIONS: I know they're doing a briefing at the
- 25 command post, but we need to get some light units down here. I'd

- 1 like to order 10 light units, if you can find somebody that can
- 2 get that out, from logistics for us.
- 3 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy, requesting 10 light units, and
- 4 please clarify if I have a clearance to send the water personnel
- 5 down to Glenview and Earl to secure the shutoff.
- 6 OPERATIONS: Okay. I think I understand now. They are
- 7 not at Glenview and Earl. That's affirmative. They'll go to
- 8 Glenview and Earl and meet up with the West Branch.
- 9 COMMUNICATIONS: Okay. So you're telling me they should
- 10 meet with West Branch at Glenview and Earl.
- 11 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative.
- 12 COMMUNICATIONS: Got it, message relayed.
- 13 OPERATIONS: West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 14 WEST BRANCH: West Branch copies.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Thank you.
- 16 WEST BRANCH: All right. Bye.
- 17 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops from South Branch on 31.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead to Operations.
- 19 SOUTH BRANCH: Yeah, Operations from South Branch. It
- 20 looks like to me the press has figured out where a hole is.
- 21 They're at the bottom of Glenview. You might want to get a PIO
- 22 down here.
- OPERATIONS: Confirming, you've got the press down
- 24 there.
- 25 SOUTH BRANCH: That's affirmative. I see a lot of

- 1 people with cameras down there.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 3 BATTALION 17C: Operations, Battalion Chief 17C.
- 4 OPERATIONS: Battalion 17C, go ahead.
- 5 BATTALION 17C: We can have our USAir (ph.) with its
- 6 light unit there in five minutes if you want.
- 7 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. You can sent them up.
- 8 Standby, I'll give you a location.
- 9 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, this is North Branch.
- 10 OPERATIONS: North Branch, go ahead.
- 11 NORTH BRANCH: Can we have law enforcement, PD unit,
- 12 respond to the 1000 block of Fairmont? We have a tow truck that's
- 13 going to remove two vehicles for access for us, and the tow driver
- 14 needs a signature from law enforcement.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Confirming, 1000 block of Fairmont.
- 16 NORTH BRANCH: Disregard. Standby. Ops from North
- 17 Branch. You can cancel the last. We've got law enforcement here.
- 18 Thanks.
- 19 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications on
- 20 Command 31.
- 21 OPERATIONS: Go ahead to Operations.
- 22 COMMUNICATIONS: Can you advise if you need the crash
- 23 truck back in under your division and also the location for the
- 24 lighting units?
- 25 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Med Group, go.
- 2 MEDICAL GROUP: FYI, (indiscernible) unit's on the north
- 3 end of the incident. We have another additional rehab and Medical
- 4 Group at 2600 Plymouth (indiscernible) people on that side.
- 5 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 6 North Branch from Operations on 31. North Branch from
- 7 Operations on 31.
- 8 NORTH BRANCH: This is North Branch. Go ahead.
- 9 OPERATIONS: Do you have the need for or access for the
- 10 crash truck from FFO?
- 11 NORTH BRANCH: I'll get back to you in just a few
- 12 seconds on that.
- OPERATIONS: Copy.
- 14 Staging from Operations on 31.
- 15 STAGING: Go ahead to staging.
- 16 OPERATIONS: Staging, can you tell me what you have in
- 17 staging?
- 18 STAGING: We have Hose Tender 22, Engine 1763, Engine
- 19 1766, Dozer 1744, Strike Team 9150 Charlie and Ben Lowman Crew
- 20 Number 5. Correction. That was it.
- 21 OPERATIONS: Copy that, staging. Thank you.
- 22 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, North Branch.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead, North Branch.
- 24 NORTH BRANCH: That is negative, negative, on the crash
- 25 truck at this time. When we get better access, we'll have a use

- 1 for them.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that. So we'll keep them on scene.
- 3 It looks like most of the active fire is in your branch. Do you
- 4 need any more resources right there?
- 5 NORTH BRANCH: That's negative. We have plenty of
- 6 resources. From my vantage point, the fire has stopped northbound
- 7 on Fairmont, eastbound on Concord. We have several spot fires
- 8 burning in homes. I'm assuming that's coming from gas lines.
- 9 Those haven't been secured yet. Our operation is spot fires and
- 10 exposure at this time.
- 11 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Confirming you have two
- 12 divisions, Division 1 and Division 2 in your branch?
- NORTH BRANCH: That's affirmative, two divisions.
- 14 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 15 BATTALION 17C: Operations, Battalion 17C.
- OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Battalion 17C.
- 17 BATTALION 17C: I'm going to send our USAir to San Bruno
- 18 Avenue and Glenview. Is that where you're located?
- 19 OPERATIONS: Battalion 17C, standby for one second.
- 20 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications. Any
- 21 update on the light unit location?
- 22 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Communications.
- 23 COMMUNICATIONS: Any update on where you want those
- 24 light units dispatched to?
- 25 OPERATIONS: Standby. We're working that out right now.

- 1 COMMUNICATIONS: Copy.
- 2 OPERATIONS: Back from Operations to Communications. Do
- 3 you have an ETA on those light units?
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS: Negative. I'm trying to provide a
- 5 location so I can send it to logistics.
- 6 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- 7 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Medical Group.
- 8 MEDICAL GROUP: (indiscernible) light units. If you get
- 9 some lights, we could use one here, but not a priority.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 11 North Branch from Operations on 31. North Branch from
- 12 Operations on 31.
- WEST BRANCH: West Branch, Sean (ph.), 31, go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: I have 10 light units orders. Can I send
- 15 two light units over to your branch and do you have use for them?
- 16 WEST BRANCH: Standby. I'm making my way over to
- 17 command.
- 18 Operations, West Branch.
- 19 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications.
- 20 WEST BRANCH: Operations, West Branch.
- 21 NORTH BRANCH: Operations, North Branch.
- 22 OPERATIONS: North Branch.
- 23 NORTH BRANCH: Do we have a plan or strategy yet for gas
- 24 shut off with PG&E and any of our crews on some of these houses?
- 25 OPERATIONS: We have PG&E at our location now. We'll

- 1 try to get an update as far as gas.
- 2 NORTH BRANCH: Copy that. I'll try to get a few engines
- 3 available. If we can get in and get some of these shut down,
- 4 we'll solve some of our problems.
- 5 OPERATIONS: West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 6 WEST BRANCH: Go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: Okay. We're coming up with a plan now to
- 8 confirm the gas shut off everywhere. What I need from you, and I
- 9 know you're swamped up there, so if you need a resource, if you
- 10 need another BC up there, let me know. I need the number of
- 11 structures lost. I need injuries and I need fatalities in your
- 12 branch. I need to have the best idea. We have a good idea what
- 13 the branch is in your geographical area, but I need a good
- 14 geographical area from you from address to address. If you need
- 15 help up there, I'll send you help, and I need that within a half
- 16 hour.
- 17 WEST BRANCH: Copy that.
- 18 NORTH BRANCH: Ops from North Branch. Was that for
- 19 North Branch?
- 20 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. That was for North
- 21 Branch.
- 22 NORTH BRANCH: Copy that. We'll get on it right away.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 24 SOUTH BRANCH: This is South Branch. Ops from South
- 25 Branch.

- 1 WEST BRANCH: Ops from West Branch, go ahead.
- 2 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops from South Branch.
- 3 OPERATIONS: South Branch, go ahead to Operations.
- 4 SOUTH BRANCH: Ops from South Branch. I can give you a
- 5 par. All our companies are accounted for. Engine 95 had to send
- 6 one of their people home. We have two now.
- 7 OPERATIONS: Copy that. South Branch from Operations on
- 8 31, I need to get the number of structures burned in your branch,
- 9 the number of injuries, the number of fatalities, within 30
- 10 minutes.
- 11 SOUTH BRANCH: Copy that.
- 12 OPERATIONS: West Branch from Operations.
- WEST BRANCH: Go ahead.
- 14 OPERATIONS: West Branch, I need the same traffic for
- 15 you. I need the number of structures in your branch, your
- 16 geographical location, number of injuries, number of fatalities,
- 17 as best you can in your branch within 30 minutes.
- 18 WEST BRANCH: Copy.
- 19 OPERATIONS: East Branch from Operations on 31.
- 20 EAST BRANCH: This is East Branch, go ahead, to
- 21 Operations.
- 22 OPERATIONS: I need the same traffic from you. I need
- 23 the number of structures burned in your area, number of injuries,
- 24 number of fatalities and your geographical area.
- 25 EAST BRANCH: Okay, Operations. I can give you that

- 1 right now. We have 0 structures, 0 injuries, 0 fatalities.
- 2 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 3 COMMUNICATIONS: Tanforan staging from Communications.
- 4 TANFORAN STAGING: Go ahead, staging.
- 5 COMMUNICATIONS: Per the command post, any evacuees
- 6 should be directed to Bayhill Shopping Center.
- 7 TANFORAN STAGING: Copy, Bayhill Shopping Center.
- 8 OPERATIONS: South Branch from Operations on 31.
- 9 SOUTH BRANCH: Go ahead, Ops, this is South Branch on
- 10 31.
- OPERATIONS: Can you give your, give the responsibility
- 12 to a company officer up there and have them come up to the -- have
- 13 you come up to the command post and give us an idea of what's
- 14 going on?
- 15 SOUTH BRANCH: Copy that.
- 16 OPERATIONS: West Branch from Operations on 31.
- 17 WEST BRANCH: Go ahead.
- 18 OPERATIONS: If you could do the same, if you could give
- 19 the command to one of your company officers up there and come to
- 20 command post, and give us a good idea of what you have.
- 21 WEST BRANCH: Copy.
- 22 OPERATIONS: All branches working on the fire, be
- 23 advised, 20 minutes ETA, 20 minutes ETA for gas station ops in the
- 24 area.
- 25 LOGISTICS: Operations, Logistics.

- 1 OPERATIONS: Logistics, go ahead, to Ops.
- 2 LOGISTICS: The San Francisco fuel vehicle is at Skyline
- 3 and Sneath and ready to fuel if you want to start rotating people
- 4 up there.
- 5 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Have them standby there until
- 6 we figure it out. A lot of these rigs can't get out.
- 7 LOGISTICS: Copy that. Also the packed lunches are now
- 8 going out to people.
- 9 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 10 East Branch from Operations on 31.
- 11 EAST BRANCH: This is East Branch. Go ahead,
- 12 Operations.
- OPERATIONS: Just checking on your resources, and if
- 14 there's a need to keep you in your location.
- 15 EAST BRANCH: Kevin, at this point, I think we can
- 16 probably break it down up here. If the fire's not going to get
- 17 into the wild land and come up the ravine, we're pretty good.
- 18 OPERATIONS: Copy. And do you still have Wildland
- 19 Branch advising you on what they're doing?
- 20 EAST BRANCH: I have not been in contact with them at
- 21 all. They must be down in the bottom of the ravine down there.
- 22 WILDLAND BRANCH: Traffic for Wildland Branch, go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: Wildland Branch from Operations. Can you
- 24 advise your conditions, your resources, your needs?
- 25 WILDLAND BRANCH: I'm trying to get with Chief Flinders

- 1 (ph.) and make sure we're coordinating from both angles with our
- 2 operations. So let me get back to you.
- 3 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- 4 OPERATIONS: Medical Group.
- 5 MEDICAL GROUP: Do you have a confirmation on the Red
- 6 Cross refuge area? We got initial word that it was going to be at
- 7 the San Bruno Park and Ride.
- 8 OPERATIONS: Let me see if I can find that out.
- 9 Communications from Operations on 31.
- 10 COMMUNICATIONS: Go ahead.
- OPERATIONS: Do we have a location for Red Cross?
- 12 COMMUNICATIONS: Is that for general public evacuees?
- 13 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative.
- 14 COMMUNICATIONS: Bayhill Shopping Center.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Copy that. Medical Group, copy.
- 16 MEDICAL GROUP: Copy. Thank you.
- 17 OPERATIONS: Medical Group from Operations on 31.
- 18 MEDICAL GROUP: Go ahead, Medical Group.
- 19 OPERATIONS: Are you taking care of rehab in your
- 20 Medical Group?
- 21 MEDICAL GROUP: That's affirmative. We have the main
- 22 operational rehab here. We have sandwiches, packed meals for the
- 23 crews. We do have a secondary site which is at 2600 Plymouth but
- 24 I believe that's primarily water and (indiscernible).
- OPERATIONS: Copy that. Confirm, any crews that have

- 1 rotated out, are they going back into staging?
- 2 MEDICAL GROUP: We've had minimal, minimal rehab traffic
- 3 up here.
- 4 OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 5 COMMUNICATIONS: Operations from Communications.
- 6 OPERATIONS: Go ahead, Communications.
- 7 COMMUNICATIONS: I just want to make sure you're aware,
- 8 2600 Plymouth across from Claremont, is set up for full rehab,
- 9 food, shelter, for fire.
- 10 OPERATIONS: Confirming, 2600 Plymouth is set up for
- 11 full rehab.
- 12 COMMUNICATIONS: Affirmative.
- OPERATIONS: Copy that.
- 14 IC: Operations, IC on Command.
- 15 OPERATIONS: Go ahead.
- 16 IC: Just checking in, to get a status update. I don't
- 17 need complete details. Are you doing okay?
- 18 OPERATIONS: IC from Operations.
- 19 IC: Operations, IC. I'm just checking in. I don't
- 20 need any real details, just looking to see if there's anything you
- 21 need immediately and things are going as you've got planned.
- OPERATIONS: Negative. We still have a lot of active
- 23 fire in North Branch. It looks like it's a lot of gas problems.
- 24 So we have about an hour to get the gas shut off in the area, and
- 25 we should get a pretty good handle on it. The West Branch, the

- 1 South Branch and the East Branch are doing pretty good. Most of
- 2 the active fire is in the North Branch.
- 3 IC: I copy. You've got PG&E there with you?
- 4 OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. They're actually
- 5 working right in our area. They're going to pinch off the gas
- 6 lines to the entire fire, geographical area.
- 7 IC: Copy. So they'll keep coordinating with you in
- 8 terms of the power and the gas. So they'll be your direct link
- 9 there. And if you need anything, let me know, but I think the
- 10 resources you have, it sounds like you're pretty good with that
- and when we put in the other plan, which I know you're getting all
- 12 the resource needs for the next operational period.
- OPERATIONS: That's affirmative. We anticipating
- 14 getting that out in the next 10 or 15 minutes.
- 15 IC: That's great. Thank you. IC.
- 16 MEDICAL GROUP: Ops from Medical Group.
- 17 OPERATIONS: Medical Group.
- 18 MEDICAL GROUP: Hey, Kevin. I just wanted to run down.
- 19 We're getting requests from CASSH (ph.) just to release life
- 20 flight. I'm actually not comfortable with that yet as long as
- 21 they've got active fire crews going down there. I'd like to keep
- 22 life flight on scene and I just wanted to first confirm that with
- 23 you.
- 24 (TALKING CLOCK: Ending date Thursday, September 9,
- 25 2010, at 22 hours 32 minutes and 30 seconds.)

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

DOCKET NUMBER: DCA-10-MP-008

PLACE: San Mateo County, California

DATE: September 9, 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.

To the server of Mine fire

Kathryn A. Mirfin Transcriber