PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
SmartMeter™ Opt-Out Program Phase 2 Proceeding
Application 11-03-014
Data Response

PG&E Data Request No.:	DRA_003-07		
PG&E File Name:	SmartMeterOOPh2_DR_DRA_003-Q07		
Request Date:	August 22, 2012	Requester DR No.:	003
Date Sent:	September 6, 2012	Requesting Party:	DRA
PG&E Witness:	Steve Phillips	Requester:	Lee-Whei Tan

QUESTION 7

Please provide documentation to show how PG&E disposed of its analog meters. Provide an explanation of when the disposal started, where and how the meters disposed of and/or sold. If some of the meters were sold, what percentage were sold, to whom they were sold, and for how much were they sold.

ANSWER 7

Since the inception of the SmartMeter™ Project, PG&E has disposed of its analog meters by selling them to recycling companies for the value of the metal. PG&E did not attempt to sell these meters based on the results of an analysis conducted when the Project began. In this informal analysis, PG&E contacted potential interested purchasers of the removed analog meters to determine a possible selling price; the resulting estimated price was approximately $1 per meter. However, all potential purchasers required that the meters be sorted, boxed, and palletized. Because PG&E estimated this cost to be more than $1, selling the meters was not a cost-effective option. The chosen recyclers were able to pick up the meters at no cost to PG&E and the decision was therefore made to use the cost-free recycling approach to dispose of removed meters.

PG&E's recycler is Alco Iron and Metals (AIM). In the past, PG&E also worked with Resource Recycling Technologies. PG&E's Investment Recovery (IR) group manages the process for recycling both electric and gas meters. IR's recycling record maintenance process tracks monthly proceeds at an aggregate level, so there are no readily available data on meters processed. In 2009, the last time PG&E performed a study to determine the proceeds from the recycling process, the average gross salvage from retired meters was $0.24 per meter.