



LETTER AGREEMENT NO. 01-49-PGE



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
2850 SHADELANDS DRIVE, SUITE 100
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94598
(925) 974-4104

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO
LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W.
P.O. BOX 4790
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
925-933-6060

STEPHEN A. RAYBURN, DIRECTOR
AND CHIEF NEGOTIATOR

PERRY ZIMMERMAN, BUSINESS MANAGER

September 25, 2001

Local Union No. 1245
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO
P. O. Box 4790
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Attention: Mr. Perry Zimmerman, Business Manager

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

The Company proposes to pilot a joint Company-Union Alcohol and Drug Peer Assistance Program in Area 1. Details regarding this program are in the attached document. The Company or Union may cancel this agreement with 30 days written notice.

If you are in accord with the foregoing and agree thereto, please so indicate in the space provided and return one executed copy of this letter to the Company.

Very truly yours,

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

By: 

Stephen A. Rayburn
Director and Chief Negotiator

The Union is in accord with the foregoing and agrees thereto as of the date hereof.

LOCAL UNION NO. 1245, INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO

Oct 19, 2001

By: 

Perry Zimmerman
Business Manager

Joint Company-Union Alcohol and Drug Peer Assistance Program

Committee Members

Company
Bob Haywood, Consultant (Retired Officer)
Vanita Kunert, EAP Supervisor
Kathy Price, Prin. Neg., Industrial Relations

Union
John Kent, IBEW Business Representative
Tom Newell, ESC Shop Steward
Roger Stalcup, IBEW Assistant Business Manager

What

A program of trained volunteers in alcohol/drug recovery who would be available to other PG&E employees with alcohol or drug problems. This program provides another resource for an employee to seek help before the problem negatively affects his/her employment. This program does not supersede any of the Company's current policies, programs or procedures.

The role of the Peer Assistance Volunteers includes:

- Providing assistance to self-identified employees who wish to admit themselves into a chemical dependency treatment facility.
- Referring self-identified employees to EAP.
- Serving as a resource to EAP on a voluntary basis.
- Serving as a resource to peers as requested by an employee.
- Holding conversations with employees as "confidential" unless the employee is suicidal or poses a threat to himself/herself or others. This includes an employee who appears to be unfit for duty due to being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. In those instances, the volunteer will inform Vanita Kunert or Ken Collins or call the 1-888-445-4436 EAP Hotline. The determination as to whether an employee is unfit for duty is a subjective one, and the Peer Assistance Volunteer will not be held liable by the Company if an error in judgment occurs provided s/he has made the determination consistent with the training provided.

Why

To assist employees in obtaining alcohol and/or drug treatment and to provide peer support to employees who have had recent alcohol and/or drug treatment after they return to work. Provides another avenue for employees who may be uncomfortable approaching EAP or their supervisor regarding their alcohol and/or drug problem.

When

To be determined once the necessary pieces are in place. Pilot will be six months. The Committee may change the length of the pilot. Volunteers will be selected and fully trained prior to the program start date.

Where

Phase One: PG&E locations in Area 1 (excluding G.O.)

How Many

Number of volunteers to be determined.

Selection Process

Volunteers will be interviewed and selected by Roger Stalcup (or designee) and Vanita Kunert (or designee) and meet the requirements listed below.

COSTS

- A pager and cell phone will be required for each volunteer. Many employees already have these. For those who don't, the Committee will provide a recommendation.
- Time away from normal work duties to perform the following functions:
 - * Six hours of training provided by EAP.
 - * Two hours a month for a meeting/phone conference with EAP, Unions and other volunteers.
 - * Attendance at some tailboards/meetings to provide information related to the program.
 - * Transfer of employees to local chemical dependency facilities when necessary.

Wish List

A fund for round trip, same-day airfares for volunteers to escort employees into an approved treatment facility, such as: Betty Ford Center, Rancho Mirage.

Hours

The Peer Assistance Volunteers will primarily assist employees during:

- Lunch time
- Non-work hours
- On the volunteers' own time
- Exceptions: Training and meetings will be held during normal work hours.
During work hours as approved by EAP and supervisor.
Driving employees home or to a treatment facility.

Evaluation

By the end of the six month pilot, an assessment will be made by the Joint EAP Peer Assistance Committee as listed above with input from the Peer Assistance volunteers and supervisors from the pilot location, Area 1, who were involved with the program. This Committee will make a recommendation whether or not this Program should be continued and/or expanded to other locations in the Company. The Program may need to be modified after the six month pilot. The Company has the exclusive right to cancel the Program at any time.

Peer Assistance Volunteer Requirements (*Any PG&E Employee—IBEW, ESC, A&T, Management*)

1. Two or more years recovery from alcohol and/or drug additions.
2. Current involvement in 12-step meetings—AA and/or NA.
3. A one-year commitment to the Program is desired. The EAP Supervisor has discretion to release a Peer Assistance Volunteer prior to the expiration of one year.
4. Break personal anonymity regarding the individual's disease, which qualifies him/her to be a Peer Assistance Volunteer.
5. Approval from supervisor to use cell phones and to receive Peer Assistance Volunteer related phone calls on the job.
6. Continued good performance in his/her position at PG&E.
7. Ability to give and receive honest feedback.
8. Provide references from the following sources: Union, Supervisor, 12-step Program.
9. A current, valid California driver's license.