

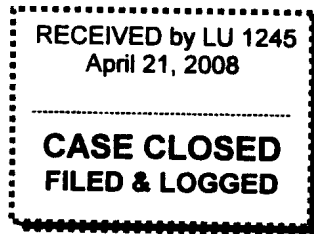
7.1: A WR given to a GC-Gas Welder in Manteca for a work performance error resulting in another ee. being injured is closed without adjustment and without prejudice to either party.



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
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MARGARET A. SHORT, CHAIRMAN  
 DECISION  
 LETTER DECISION  
 PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

## REVIEW COMMITTEE



IBEW



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF  
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO  
LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W.  
P.O. BOX 2547  
VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95696  
(707) 452-2700  
BOB CHOATE, SECRETARY

### Pre-Review Committee No. 17330 General Construction – Gas - Manteca

Deborah Sargent  
Company Member  
Local Investigating Committee

John Mendoza  
Union Member  
Local Investigating Committee

#### Subject of the Grievance

This case concerns a Written Reminder given to a Welder for a work performance error resulting in another employee being injured.

#### Facts of the Case

The grievant was on a crew assigned to relocate a 2" gas main. In order to accomplish this, a Mueller machine was used so the work could be performed without shutting down supply to the customer. The first pass was made around the 2' pipe. There was no leakage where the weld was going to be made. The grievant was in the bell hole welding and noticed a small fire coming from the pipe. He asked the Backhoe Operator to get a fire extinguisher to put the fire out. About this same time, the Welder "inadvertently" opened the bypass valve releasing and igniting the gas causing flames to rise 20 – 25' in the air. The Welder was able to get out of the bell hole. Both employees were taken the hospital. The Backhoe Operator had facial burns.

#### Discussion

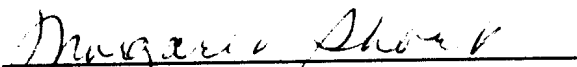
Union argued that the grievant was not responsible for the setting up of the Mueller machine, that it should never have been set up with full ported plugs and that the grievant was not properly trained on use of the equipment. Additionally, the grievant assisted in evacuating residents and making the area safe.

Company responded that the Welder has been fully trained on the equipment and how to respond to emergency situations. The grievant's use of a wrench exacerbated the fire and

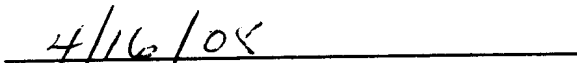
was not the appropriate response. The PRC noted that the Written Reminder had deactivated while this grievance was being processed making the decision moot.

Decision

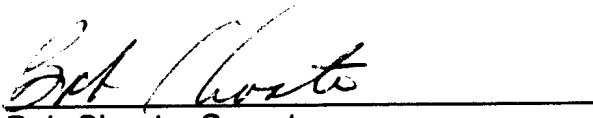
This case is closed without adjustment and without prejudice to the position of either party.



Margaret A. Short, Chairman  
Review Committee



Date



Bob Choate, Secretary  
Review Committee



Date