



## CASE STUDY

*“Gridworks brought multiple capabilities to the table to help us address our challenges. They are balanced and capable facilitators. They possess the experience needed to understand the problem and potential solutions. And they have a strong understanding of the stakeholder landscape along with the associated relationships that were key to building a coalition behind proposed policy solutions.”*

— FONG WAN, Senior Vice President, PG&E

# HOW PG&E BUILT CONSENSUS FOR DECARBONIZING CALIFORNIA’S GAS SYSTEM

## OVERVIEW

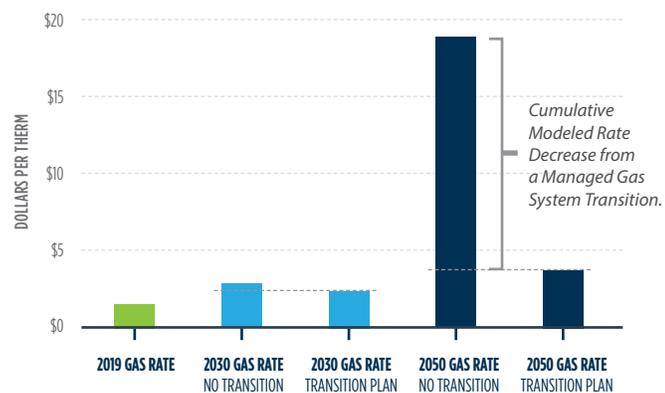
In 2019, PG&E partnered with Gridworks to facilitate discussion and collaboration among diverse stakeholders, including gas workers and environmental and consumer advocates. This assembly—the Gas Transition Group—worked together to achieve a common goal: a just, measured transition of the gas system that would protect customers from unreasonable cost increases, advance social equity, and ensure the safety of utility workers and the general public.

## LANDSCAPE

California’s commitment to the decarbonization of its economy by 2045 raises fundamental questions about the future of its utility gas systems, which are the source of at least 50 percent of the state’s annual greenhouse gas emissions. A 2019 analysis performed on behalf of the California Energy Commission warned that without a transition plan for a low carbon future, rates for customers remaining on the gas system could rise from about \$1.50 per therm today to as much as \$19 per therm by 2050. Compounding the potential for unacceptable rate increases, the lack of a transition plan for the gas system puts the security of low-income customers and critical utility workers at risk.

*2050 Gas Rate Reductions Resulting from Proposed Solutions*

Source: E3



## APPROACH

Prompted by these circumstances, PG&E, California's largest gas utility, organized the Gas Transition Group and contracted Gridworks to facilitate discussion, collaboration and the development and distribution of policy recommendations.

Over a six-month period, Gridworks and the Gas Transition Group worked together to:

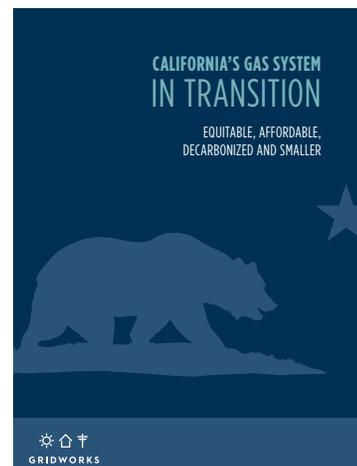


## OUTCOMES

This initiative led to a number of achievements towards a more equitable, affordable, decarbonized and smaller gas system transition, including:

- Reaching consensus among 14 diverse organizations previously at odds to jointly promote gas transition policies.
- Engaging more than 250 thought leaders and policymakers to promote the ***California's Gas System in Transition*** report.
- The California Public Utilities Commission adopting the primary recommendation of our report, the initiation of long-term gas system planning, through policy action in just 4 months.

With ongoing support from Gridworks, PG&E's Gas Transition Group continues its collaboration and development of regulatory frameworks for long-term integrated gas system planning and targeted electrification, promising continued progress toward its goals.



## ABOUT GRIDWORKS

*Gridworks facilitates difficult discussions and collaboration between policymakers, decarbonization advocates, energy providers and utility operators. We work with these groups to determine the best approach to meet decarbonization goals. Our work has eased the shift toward clean energy in the Western U.S. We're expanding to further our mission and invite you to work with us to navigate your clean energy challenges.*

*Learn more at [gridworks.org](https://gridworks.org).*