

York, R. 2006. Report to PIER Energy-Related Environmental Research, 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814-5512. [www.energy.ca.gov/reports/2002-01-10\\_600-00-030.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/reports/2002-01-10_600-00-030.PDF).

Abstract: The purpose of this project was to analyze products that reduce or prevent wildlife interactions, and resulting electrocutions and power outages, with powerlines and power facilities. Distribution line add-on insulation and perch deterrent products that were added to distribution line power poles were analyzed to evaluate their durability and effectiveness. This research project also evaluated the applicability and effectiveness of a geographic information system (GIS) model that would allow Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) to plan future electrical facility upgrades to reduce wildlife electrocutions and associated power outages. The GIS model is designed so it can also help predict “high risk” areas, so that new distribution lines and existing distribution line upgrades can be designed to minimize wildlife electrocution related power outages. The GIS model was also developed in response to a 1994 settlement agreement between PG&E and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service that arose after citations were issued to PG&E for the electrocutions of several Swainson’s hawks—a State-protected species. Birds and other animals are the fourth leading cause of electric distribution outages in the PG&E system.