

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

June 3, 2026



Meeting Information

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB or the Board) meeting was held in person on June 3, 2026, at the KIXE PBS Station in Redding, CA, and by teleconference on Microsoft Teams.

Actions Taken or Discussion Points

The relevant documents discussed or approved during the meeting are posted on the Board's webpage at <https://energysafety.ca.gov/who-we-are/wildfire-safety-advisory-board/>.

Board Member Attendance

The meeting was led by Chair Jessica Block. Also in attendance were Vice Chair Chris Porter and Board Members Ralph Armstrong, Tim Haines, and John Mader who appeared in person. Board Member Marybel Batjer attended via teleconference.

Agenda

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

2. Meeting Minutes

3. Board Member Reports on Site Visits

4. Presentation: Senate Bill 254 Natural Catastrophe Resiliency Study

5. Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) Update

Action Taken/Discussion Points

Chair Block opened with a welcome message and Call to Order. WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel performed the roll call.

Board Member Armstrong moved to approve the minutes for the March 4, 2026 meeting as distributed.

Vice Chair Porter seconded the motion.
Votes: For – 6, Against – 0, Abstained – 0

Board Members discussed and expressed appreciation for the recent site visits to City of Shasta Lake Electric Department and Redding Electric Utility.

Tom Welsh, the Chief Executive Officer at the California Earthquake Authority presented on the Senate Bill 254 Study Report, Enhancing California's Resiliency to Natural Catastrophes, which included an overview on the report's three policy pathways.

Energy Safety Performance Assessment Division Program Manager Patrick Doherty provided an overview of the work performed by Energy Safety's Performance Assessment Division including:

- a. Annual performance reports

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

June 3, 2026



- b. Field inspections
- c. Independent evaluators
- d. Challenges faced by the Division

6. Risk Modeling Committee Update and Response to Energy Safety Request for Recommendations

The Risk Modeling Committee presented its process in developing recommendations to Energy Safety in response to Energy Safety's request for advice on utility risk modeling of extreme conditions. A final staff draft was published on May 21, 2026. Board Member Haines commented that it was difficult in the recommendations section to find a link to WSAB's previous recommendations.

Vice Chair Porter moved to adopt the document titled "Consideration of Extremes in Utility Risk Models" with an amendment to include a citation to WSAB's previous recommendations.

Board Member Armstrong seconded the motion.

Votes: For – 6, Against – 0, Abstained – 0

7. Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives Committee Update

Vice Chair Porter presented an update from the Publicly Owned Utilities (POUs) and Electrical Cooperatives (co-ops) Committee on its recent work including topics discussed during POU working group meetings and focus areas for future WMPs. The Committee proposed that the "alternative letter" approach in WSAB's Advisory Opinion adopted in 2024 was superseded with the enactment of Senate Bill 254. The Committee also proposed that the Board should expect independent evaluators' reports once every four years.

8. Discussion of Focus Areas

WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel provided an overview of past and current focus areas and invited Board discussion on potential focus areas for reviewing upcoming WMPs. Board Member Haines expressed a lack of confidence in the approach of using focus areas and suggested bringing the topic back to the next meeting and engaging POUs and co-

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

June 3, 2026



ops in this discussion. The POU Committee agreed to work with staff to do this.

9. Staff Update

WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel provided a staff update, including workstreams for WMP review, focus areas, Energy Safety requests, utility risk tools workshop, and strategic planning.

10. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

In addition to the proposal from Board Member Haines to bring back a discussion on focus areas to the next meeting, Chair Block proposed a future agenda item on risk modeling among investor-owned utilities, POUs, and co-ops.

11. Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda

No members of the public commented.

12. Adjournment

Chair Block adjourned the meeting.