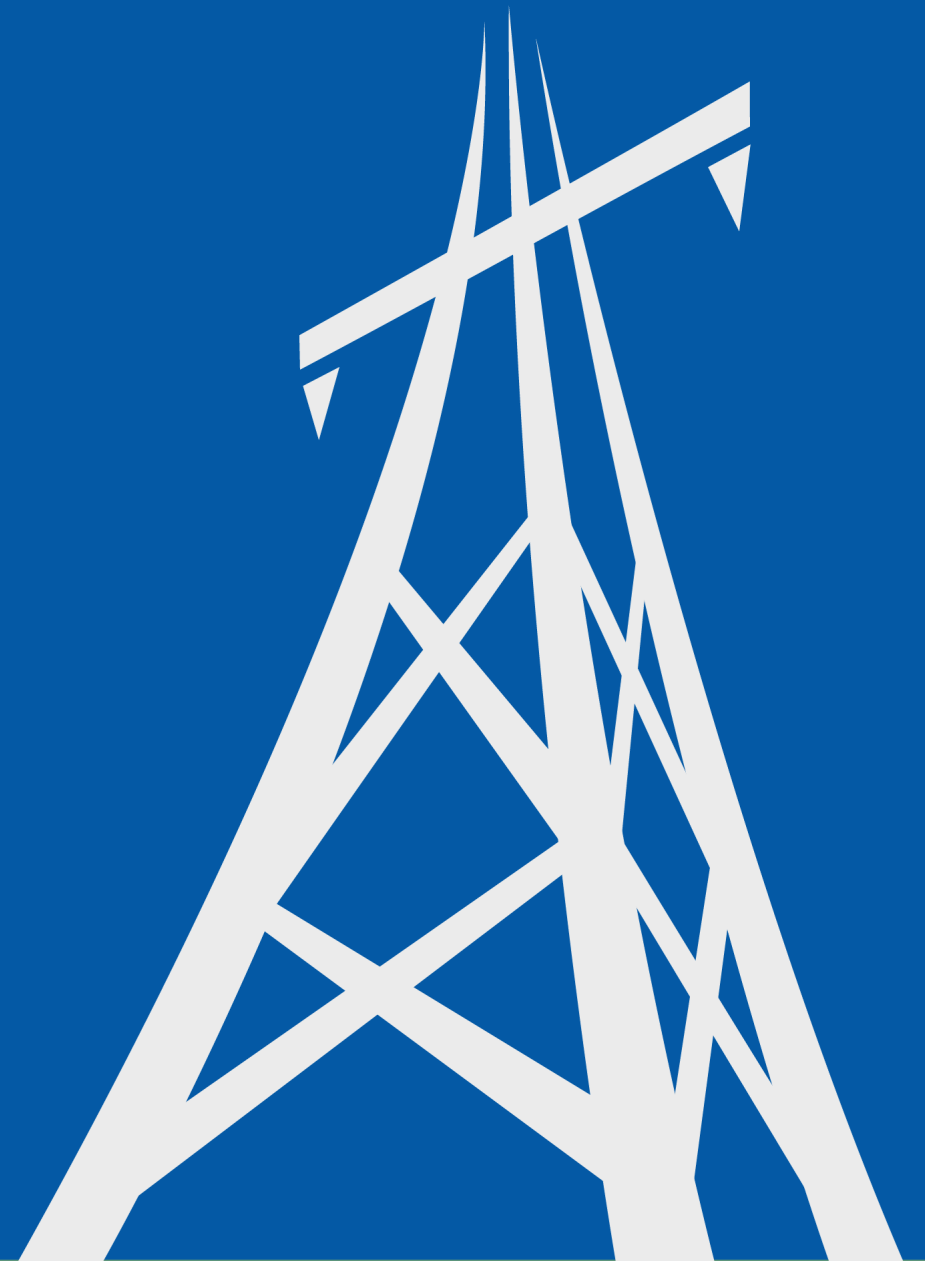


# Adoption of the 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Update Guidelines



# Adoption of the 2022 WMP Guidelines

**AGENDA:** Tuesday December 14, 2021 | 9:00am - 10:30am PST

9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	Introduction from Energy Safety Staff
9:10 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Public Comment*
10:10 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.	Presentation of Significant Changes to the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Guidelines
10:25 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Adoption of 2022 Guidelines and Closing Statement

\*Public comment will end after all comment is exhausted




# Public Comment

If you wish to comment:

- Press the “raise hand” button on Zoom, participants will be unmuted in order of hands raised
- Dial-in participants need to press #2 to raise hand





A landscape photograph showing a rocky hillside. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by large, grey, angular rocks. Sparse vegetation, including small green shrubs and some tall, thin evergreen trees, grows between the rocks. In the background, a dense forest of taller evergreen trees covers the upper part of the hill. The sky is filled with heavy, grey clouds, with a bright patch of light breaking through near the top left. The overall scene suggests a high-altitude or mountainous environment.

# Notable Changes to the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Guidelines from 2021 to 2022



There are no notable changes to the following sections:

- SECTION 1: PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXECUTING THE WMP
- SECTION 3: ACTUALS AND PLANNED SPENDING FOR MITIGATION PLAN
- SECTION 6: PERFORMANCE METRICS AND UNDERLYING DATA

# INTRODUCTION & GLOSSARY

- Introduction:
  - New standard naming convention
  - New requirement for utilities to include visual aids
- Modified or added glossary terms:
  - “At-risk species”
  - Invasive species
  - “Slash” (Public Resources Code Section 4525.7)
  - Fire Season
  - “Frequently de-energized circuit” per Senate Bill 533 (2021)
  - “Utility-related ignition” (formerly “utility-ignited wildfire”)

# WMP SECTION 2: ADHERENCE TO STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- Utility's WMPs must newly provide:
  - Section and page number referencing the location of where each statutory requirement is addressed, and
  - A link to the appropriate location(s) in the document.
- Pursuant to SB 533, Section 8 of the WMP newly requires utilities to:
  - Identify circuits with frequent wildfire mitigation-related de-energizations, and
  - Identify the measures the utility plans to take to reduce the need for and impact of such de-energizations.

# WMP SECTION 4: LESSONS LEARNED AND RISK TRENDS

- Utilities are newly required to provide the following visual aids:
  - Maps of service territory and CPUC's high-fire threat districts (HFTD)
  - Red Flag Warning (RFW) frequency and High Wind Warning (HWW) frequency
  - Distribution of Access Functional Need (AFN) customers
  - Distribution of urban/rural/highly rural customers
  - Identification of disadvantaged communities in service territory.



# WMP SECTION 5: INPUTS TO THE PLAN & DIRECTIONAL VISION

- Table 5.3-1 “List and description of program targets, last 5 years” newly requires utilities to include:
  - Target and performance reporting
  - Vegetation management targets, which will be audited by Energy Safety pursuant to Public Utilities Code 8386.3(c)(5)
  - “Target%/Top-Risk%” – the percentage of the target that will occur in the highest risk areas

# WMP SECTION 7: MITIGATION INITIATIVES

- Utilities are newly required to discuss how risk modeling outcomes are used to:
  - Inform decision-making processes, and
  - Prioritize mitigation activities
- Utilities are newly required to provide mapping of:
  - GIS layer showing wildfire risk
  - GIS layers showing 2022-2024 plans for: covered conductor installation, undergrounding, and electrical line removal
  - GIS layer for planned Asset Management and Inspections in 2022
  - GIS layer illustrating where enhanced clearances (12 feet or more) were achieved in 2020 and 2021, and where the utility plans to achieve enhanced clearances in 2022
  - Static maps showing where the utility will be prioritizing Grid Design and System Hardening initiatives for 2022, 2023, and by 2032.

# WMP SECTION 7: MITIGATION INITIATIVES... cont'd

- Utilities are newly required to:
  - Provide maps demonstrating medium and long-term climate trends,
  - Describe how the utility incorporates these climate trends into risk-informed analyses and decision-making processes, and
  - Provide additional details regarding the use of risk-informed methods to identify and prioritize mitigation initiatives
- Utilities are required to report on the following new initiatives:
  - Vegetation management activities post-fire, and
  - Protective equipment and device settings

# WMP SECTION 8: PSPS

- Pursuant to SB 533, Section 8 of the WMP newly requires utilities to:
  - Identify circuits with frequent wildfire mitigation related de-energizations, and
  - Identify the measures to be taken to reduce the need for and impact of such de-energizations.
- Utilities are newly required to discuss how the relative consequences of PSPS and wildfires are compared and evaluated



# WMP SECTION 9: Initiative Definitions

- The following initiatives definitions have been modified:
  - Detailed inspections **and management practices** for vegetation clearances around distribution electrical lines and equipment
  - Detailed inspections **and management practices** for vegetation clearances around transmission electrical lines and equipment
  - Fuel management – now includes all types of wood (not just “slash”)
  - Recruiting and training of vegetation management personnel – requires discussion of continuous improvement of training programs

# WMP SECTION 9: Covered Conductor & Undergrounding

- Utilities must report on covered conductor and undergrounding implementation, such as the methodology, key assumptions, decision-making processes, design, implementation, long-term operations, and other relevant program activities.

# Changes From Initial Draft (11/9/21)

## Changes to Attachment 2 from stakeholder comments:

- Removed forecasting/projections for 2023 from Tables 3.2-1 and 5.3-1
- Clarified the requests for spatial data and maps in Section 7.1
- Removed Initiative 7.3.1.6, “weather-driven risk map and modelling based on various relevant weather scenarios”
- Defined Initiative 7.3.6.8 “protective equipment and device settings”
- Reverted Initiative 7.3.5.20 to the title and definition used in the 2021 WMP Guidelines
- Defined the term "Enterprise System" added this term to the glossary
- Clarified expectations for GIS layers and mapping in Section 7.1

## Changes to Attachment 3 from stakeholder comments:

- Modified Table 2 by removing “wind warning status” where inappropriate
- Removed forecasting/ projections for 2023 in Tables 9 and 10

# Changes From Initial Draft... cont'd

## **Changes to Attachment 2 that did not specifically result from stakeholder comments:**


- Replaced the phrase “Utility-related wildfire” with "Utility-related ignitions" in the glossary.
- In Table 5.3-1: Added a column for Target%/Top-risk%, deleted columns “underlying assumptions” and “update frequency”, and changed the "Third-party validation" column to "Audited by third-party? (Y/N).“
- Added guidance for Table 5.3-1 to Section 5.3.

## **Changes to Attachment 5 as a result of stakeholder comments:**

- Extended the public comment period for the WMPs.
- Clarified the Quarterly Data Report submission schedule.
- Changed the utility WMP submission dates, workshop dates, stakeholder comment deadlines, and other associated dates and deadlines.

**Corresponding changes were made to Attachment 1. No changes were made to Attachment 4.**





# Adoption of the 2022 WMP Update Guidelines & Closing Remarks





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