



Transmission Agency of Northern California
P.O. Box 15129 Sacramento, CA 95851-0129 (916) 852-1673

June 25, 2021

To: California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board
Submitted via email to: WildfireSafetyAdvisoryBoard@cpuc.ca.gov

Subject: Transmission Agency of Northern California 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan for the California-Oregon Transmission Project

Dear California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB):

Please accept the attached 2021 update to the Wildfire Mitigation Plan (Plan) for the California-Oregon Transmission Project (COTP) as prepared by the Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC). TANC is a joint power agency (JPA) comprised of 15 publicly-owned utilities (POUs) located throughout northern and central California. It has been our intent to prepare and update a Plan that is clear, concise, and easy to read and navigate.

We understand that the WSAB has been working with the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) and individual POUs in an effort to clearly describe and differentiate the characteristics of over 50 POUs from one another to support clearer, more informed and therefore more structured POU Plan reviews. Although TANC is a JPA of POUs, we are clearly differentiated in very substantive and meaningful ways from individual POUs. We hope this transmittal letter helps clarify the characteristics of **TANC as a transmission agency** that owns, operates, and maintains one singular transmission line and right of way traversing northern California.

TANC constructed, maintains, and operates the COTP, a 339-mile 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and related facilities, that extends from the California-Oregon border to central California. The attached Plan provides more detailed overviews of TANC's mission and organization, the importance of the COTP to the bulk electric grid, and TANC's relationship with the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), which provides operations and maintenance services for the COTP under contract with TANC.

During your review of this plan, it is important to understand the **limited electric and geographic contexts of the COTP as entirely distinct and different from individual POUs**, as follows:

A Public Entity whose Members include:
Alameda, Biggs, Gridley, Healdsburg, Lodi, Lompoc, Modesto Irrigation District,
Palo Alto, Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Redding, Roseville,
Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Santa Clara, Turlock Irrigation District, Ukiah

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- The COTP consists of only one 339-mile 500kV right of way (ROW) that ranges from 125 to 200-feet wide;
- There are no additional transmission facilities within the COTP ROW;
- **The COTP includes no distribution facilities;**
- TANC has no direct residential, commercial, or industrial customers; the COTP provides wholesale power for TANC's Members and the other COTP Participants;
- All COTP transmission and communication towers are comprised of steel; only five miles of COTP transmission towers lie within or adjacent to High Fire Threat District (HFTD) Tier 3;
- All switching (i.e. reclosing) equipment is located within the COTP substations; and
- The transmission substations and compensation station are surrounded by managed agricultural land uses with low-growing vegetation.

The COTP crosses several miles of remote, variable, and often rugged topography and terrain. COTP towers are located at elevations ranging from sea level or slightly below near the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to over 6,000 feet in Shasta County. TANC and WAPA therefore designed and constantly maintain the COTP to preventatively minimize risks to reliability that included extremes in climatic conditions and the potential for wildfires. Because of its importance to the electric grid, the COTP has always been operated and maintained to ensure its full availability and reliability since construction in the early 1990s.

The attached Plan was developed in coordination with, and under the guidance of an Ad Hoc Wildfire Planning Committee comprised of staff representing TANC, its JPA members, and WAPA. It was approved and adopted by the TANC Commission and COTP Management Committee in May 2021. To assist in supporting your review, please note that **we have updated our Table I-1 (page 3) to assist your reviewers in locating PUC § 8387 statutory requirements by section and page number in our Plan.**

Please do not hesitate to call either me at (408) 621-5875, or TANC's Environmental and Land Manager, Don Wagenet at (916) 798-3899 if you have any questions regarding our Plan and Independent Evaluation.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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John Roukema
TANC Interim General Manager

Enclosure