

Sacramento Municipal Utility District Summary of Changes 2020 to 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Submittals

This document is in response to your August 27, 2021, request for a summary of changes in the 2021 WMP update compared to the prior year's WMP document. We provide a summary of the key changes between SMUD's 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) submitted June 30, 2021, and SMUD's prior Wildfire Mitigation Plan submitted April 3, 2020. As part of its 2021 submission to the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB), SMUD provided a separate Informational Response document, which responded to each of the recommendations made by the WSAB in the *Guidance Advisory Opinion for the 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plans of Electric Publicly Owned Utilities and Cooperatives*, as well as Wildfire Mitigation Plan Recommended Metrics. We also provided a link to the 2021 WMP posted on SMUD's focused webpage, www.smud.org/wildfiresafety, which reflects the most current updates. The 2021 WMP can be found at https://www.smud.org/-/media/Documents/In-Our-Community/Safety/0864-20_2021SMUDWildfireMitigationPlan.ashx.

The following summary is offered for the sole purpose of simplifying WSAB's review of SMUD's 2021 WMP. It does not represent a comprehensive identification of every update to the WMP from the prior WMP, and is not (and should not be treated as) part of or a supplement to SMUD's 2021 WMP.

A full understanding of SMUD's wildfire risk profile and its wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts should be based on a holistic review of the complete 2021 WMP together with the supplemental Informational Response and Recommended Metrics.

1. WMP Metrics and Performance

Section 9 of SMUD's WMP describes the metrics used to measure the performance of the WMP and the programs outlined in the WMP, by tracking the following: (1) fire ignitions; and (2) wires down events caused by SMUD equipment failure. Although SMUD made no changes to the metrics identified in Section 9, in June 2021 the SMUD Board of Directors adopted the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Recommended Metrics as a supplement to the 2021 WMP.

The discussion of metrics in Section 9 was updated to reflect data collection and tracking efforts initiated after the adoption of the initial WMP.

In addition, Section 9 identifies 11 programmatic targets and a system enhancement capital project target. The latter was updated to reflect an extended project period and increased completion target.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

Section 9 of the WMP also identifies SMUD's management responsibility for overseeing the WMP and includes the operating departments and teams responsible for carrying

out the various program activities described in the WMP. Section 9 was updated to reflect an organizational realignment implemented by SMUD in 2021. SMUD's Chief Operating Officer has overall responsibility for the WMP. In addition to the Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Zero Carbon Officer and Chief Customer Officer are responsible for executing the various components of the WMP.

Table 6 was updated to list the Director's with responsibility for the departments or workgroups that are accountable for the various components of SMUD's WMP under the realignment. The updated table can be found on page 47 of the 2021 WMP. Conforming changes were made throughout the 2021 WMP.

3. Community Outreach and Customer Communication

Section 7.2 of the WMP includes a description of SMUD's public and agency communications related to potential wildfire. This section was updated to recognize several new efforts by SMUD, including the roll out of an opt in program for all customers that allows participants to receive additional information or notifications in the unlikely event of a wildfire in SMUD's service territory.

The description of communications provided to customers in advance of peak fire season was also expanded, clarifying that the Communications include:

- Letters to Medical Equipment Discount Rate program (MED Rate) and Senior ID customers,
- Outdoor billboards, and
- Articles in Customer newsletters (print and email).

The revisions also clarify that communications are provided to public safety partners, including potentially affected federal, state and local elected officials, City and County executive staff, tribe representatives and first responders.

Additional information available on www.smud.org/wildfiresafety has been listed, including a video on SMUD's wildfire mitigation efforts. Clarification was provided that emergency preparedness tips are currently available in six languages.

Section 4.5 of the WMP describes the tabletop exercises SMUD conducts to test, analyze and enhance the current level of SMUD's coordination and expertise in responding to potential wildfire threats related to SMUD's utility system facilities. This section was updated to reflect that the tabletop exercises are conducted on a regular basis and may include external partners to invite collaboration with our public safety and community partners.

4. Wildfire Preventative Strategy and Program

Section 6 of the WMP describes SMUD's current wildfire prevention strategy and programs. This section was updated to reflect current program objectives and

completion dates. The updates include the addition of new programs and program work that were completed since the initial plan was adopted. These initiatives include:

- Noting of projects to underground 4kV distribution lines in the UARP, as well a study of alternative on-site generation sources to eliminate the distribution lines
- Extension of period during which reclosing remains disabled during the dry summer season
- Addition of new awareness tool for monitoring wildfire conditions
- Addition of fire mitigation project to pilot the installation of covered conductor installed on ductile iron poles in the UARP
- Addition of fire mitigation project to target SMUD's Pole Clearing Area for replacement of #6 copper conductors with heavier gauge aluminum, including reframing of approximately 185 poles to increase conductor spacing
- Addition of pilot project to capture high resolution images of transmission structures in the UARP using unmanned aerial vehicles
- Addition of pilot project to incorporate remote sensors and Ai4 devices to allow daily inspections of power lines

5. Other Areas

The following changes are also reflected in the updated 2021 WMP:

- Section 2.4 updated to reflect mission and vision directives adopted by SMUD's governing board in April 2021
- Figure 4 updated to include weather as a key risk driver
- Section 5.1 updated to reflect CAL FIRE FRAP map and information published in December 2019
- Section 6.9 updated to elaborate on SMUD's lineworker training programs, including hands-on Fire Safety training
- Section 7 updated to clarify SEMS communication protocols and SMUD's EOC and OES staffing
- Section 10 updated to reflect regular WMP public comment and board presentation processes and independent evaluator reporting
- Graphics were updated
- Updates were made to ensure internal consistency within the WMP and make non-substantive editorial corrections