

# **Pre-Workshop Material**

## **Development of the 2023 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Guidelines**

The purpose of this document is to provide parties with a high-level overview of Energy Safety's 2023 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Guidelines (Guidelines) preliminary proposals in advance of the Workshop on April 22, 2022. There will be a presentation providing further details on each of the items below during the Workshop, along with opportunities for discussion. Energy Safety is looking forward to a productive and informative session.

### **Proposals for the 2023 WMP Guidelines**

#### I. Restructuring of the Guidelines

- a. WMP Restructure
  - i. Create a logical flow-down of information in the plans, beginning with the most general, territory-wide information and narrowing into individual mitigations.
    - 1. Utility service territory overview
    - 2. Risk assessment
    - 3. Overall wildfire mitigation strategy
    - 4. Individual wildfire mitigation initiatives (e.g., system hardening, vegetation management)
  - ii. Slim down main body of the WMP to key narratives and metrics. Supporting explanations and substantiations to be included as appendices.
  - iii. Require the use of a WMP submission template
- b. WMP Submission Timelines
  - i. Proposed WMP (a proposed submission before final submission of WMP)
  - ii. Beginning in 2024 or 2025: WMP to cover subsequent year (i.e., submit 2025 WMP in 2024)
  - iii. Stagger large IOU submissions within the year
  - iv. Stagger large IOU and SMJU/ITO comprehensive WMPs to different years
- c. WMP Update Submissions
  - i. Freeze risk models and high-level mitigation strategies
  - ii. Allow only the following "permissible" changes to WMPs in update years:
    - 1. Progress reporting
    - 2. Identified areas for improvement from prior evaluation







- 3. Errata from prior year
- 4. Approved Change Order requests
- 5. Additional changes pre-approved by Energy Safety
  - a. Petition process for utilities to request additional changes

#### II. Risk Assessment

- a. Risk Assessment and Modeling
  - i. Transparency of risk calculation methodology
    - 1. Reporting of individual risk components and outputs
    - 2. Reporting of approach to combine risk components
  - ii. Model substantiation requirements
    - 1. Reference standards on model substantiation
    - 2. Reporting of each aspect of model substantiation
  - iii. Detailed model documentation
    - 1. Technical documents describing the model
    - 2. Verification and validation documents
  - iv. Expand data governance requirements
    - Require reporting of local conditions and model forecasts of risk events and outcomes
    - 2. Require version control for models
    - 3. Emphasis on modular approach to models
    - 4. Alignment of models
- b. Wildfire Mitigation Strategy
  - i. Transparency in risk-informed prioritization process
    - 1. Reporting of methods used to identify areas prioritized for mitigation
    - 2. Reporting of methods used to select mitigation types
    - 3. Mapping and narrative justifying prioritization and mitigation selection
  - ii. Reporting of schedule and implementation for planned mitigations
  - iii. Mapping of plan and forecasted risk reduction
    - 1. Geo-spatial maps of the implementation plan
    - 2. Forecasted annual risk maps based on successful implementation of the plan



### **III. Maturity Model**

- a. Reorganize Maturity Model into Eight Categories Covering 39 Capabilities.
  - i. Merge "Grid Design and System Hardening" and "Asset Management and Inspections" categories
  - ii. Addition of "Safety Culture" category
  - iii. Reorganize existing capabilities to better align with updated scoring approach
  - iv. Replace some existing categories with cross-category theme scores (see c. below)
- b. Expand maturity capability definitions
  - i. Expand scoring philosophies to include other key maturity themes
  - ii. Link each maturity capability to related risk and risk components
  - iii. Link each maturity capability to related outcomes
- c. Cross-category theme scores
  - i. Risk and risk component scores
  - ii. Critical cross-cutting themes (e.g., risk prioritization, QA/QC)
- d. Increase transparency of maturity scoring
  - i. Include scoring approach in WMP Guideline attachment
  - ii. Increase granularity of each maturity capability
- e. Link maturity assessment to utility WMP discussion
  - i. Section within each WMP initiative chapter on how the initiatives are expected to advance maturity and reach the levels projected for future years
  - ii. Space for utilities to describe efforts that are not captured in the maturity level definitions for potential future inclusion

The Public Meeting Announcement for this workshop was published and distributed to stakeholders on April 8, 2022. For additional information regarding this workshop, contact Nathan Poon at <a href="mailto:nathan.poon@energysafety.ca.gov">nathan.poon@energysafety.ca.gov</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=52256&shareable=true