

February 24, 2023

Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Director Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety California Natural Resources Agency 715 P Street, 20th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted electronically to 2023-2025-WMPs Docket

RE: Data Request, Stakeholder Designation 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plans

Dear Director Thomas Jacobs:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we request Data Request Stakeholder Designation for the 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigations Plan (WMP) docket (#2023-2025-WMPs) for all electrical corporations. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

RCRC has been an active participant in utility WMPs through the California Public Utilities Commission (R. 18-10-007) and its transition to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety. RCRC has a broad interest in minimizing the risks of catastrophic wildfire. Our member counties contain much of California's forested lands, including more than 80 percent of the State's national forest lands. Rural communities are at the epicenter of the "new normal," having historically borne the lion's share of destruction caused by high severity wildfires. Local governments and residents have undergone great financial hardships with recovery efforts after a catastrophic wildfire event and with preventative efforts of home hardening and defensible space, as well as the effects of proactive Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) events as well as fast-trip outages. Wildfire risk is becoming a wider public safety concern as the wildland urban interface spreads over larger areas of the State due to climate change and the lingering impacts of drought.

Please designate RCRC Policy Advocate, Leigh Kammerich, as RCRC's representative responsible for Data Requests:

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> Leigh Kammerich, Policy Advocate Rural County Representatives of California 1215 K Street, Suite 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814 <u>Ikammerich@rcrcnet.org</u> (916) 447-4806

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at lkanmerich@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,

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Leigh Kammerich Policy Advocate