



February 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Independent Evaluator List for 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plans

Following the review of applications received and in consultation with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection’s (CAL FIRE) Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) hereby establishes the list of qualified Independent Evaluators (IEs) for the 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) reviews. The listed individuals and firms have the requisite experience assessing the safe operation of electrical infrastructure necessary to complete the independent reviews.

Please be advised, prior to the publication of this IE list, and after the expiration of the RFQ 22-132565 posting, Energy Safety became aware of an additional firm interested in applying for consideration to be included in the list of qualified IEs. To permit as many eligible firms as possible to serve as IEs for the 2022 wildfire mitigation plan (WMP) reviews, Energy Safety plans to repost the RFQ this week, with an expedited timeframe for submittal of applications from interested firms. All applications received in response to the RFQ reposting will be evaluated by Energy Safety in consultation with OSFM. Following this review, Energy Safety may issue a revised IE list in the coming weeks based on the applications received in response to the reposting.

Background

In accordance with Public Utilities Code section 8386.3(c)(2)(A), by March 1 annually, Energy Safety, in consultation with CAL FIRE, shall make available a list of qualified IEs with experience in assessing the safe operation of electrical infrastructure. Each electrical corporation shall engage a listed IE listed to review and assess the electrical corporation’s compliance with its WMP. The engaged IE shall consult with, and operate under the direction of, Energy Safety. Costs incurred for hiring listed IEs shall be the sole responsibility of the electrical corporation and not Energy Safety or CAL FIRE.

IE Responsibilities

Public Utilities Code section 8386.3(c)(5)(C) **requires the IE to perform the following tasks:**

- Task 1 – Consult with Energy Safety on compliance assurance auditing that will be performed,
- Task 2 – Perform compliance assurance auditing, including field inspections,
- Task 3 – Draft and provide to Energy Safety a report on audit findings, including deficiencies of underfunded WMP activities,
- Task 4 – Draft and provide to Energy Safety a report on deficiencies of electrical corporations, and

- Task 5 – Track and report deficiencies of audit findings.

Independent Evaluator List for 2022 WMPs

Below is the list of Independent Evaluators. Each IE team has been assessed and approved based on the criteria found within the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 22-132565 that was posted to www.CaleProcure.ca.gov from December 23, 2022, through January 20, 2023. This IE list for the 2022 WMP reviews has been filed to the respective docket in the Energy Safety e-Filing System.¹

Primary: AerialZeus, LLC

Team Members:

Magna Consulting and Design, Inc. // Mountain G Enterprises, Inc. // Select Power Systems, Inc.

Primary: Anser Advisory Management, LLC

Team Members:

Kendall Vegetation Services // Xylem Tree Experts

Primary: Bureau Veritas North America, Inc.

Team Members:

C2 Group // Insignia Environmental

Primary: Sargent & Lundy

Team Members:

ICON Utility Services

¹ The 2023-IE docket can be access through the Energy Safety e-Filing System here: [Docket #2023-IE \(ca.gov\)](#).

Conditions for Hire

All IEs, unless otherwise stated, are approved to perform the work as stipulated in PU Code 8386.3(c)(5)(C) and as outlined in the scope of work in RFQ 22-132565.

For questions regarding the information contained within this letter, please contact **Koko Tomassian, Program Manager** in Energy Safety, at Koko.Tomassian@energysafety.ca.gov, with a copy to Compliance@energysafety.ca.gov.

We look forward to any questions or comments.

Respectfully,



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In partnership with