

January 4, 2024

VIA E-MAIL

OEIS Docket # 2023-SVM

Caroline Thomas Jacobs

Director, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

715 P Street, 20th Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. Notification of Completion of Substantial Vegetation Management in accordance with California Public Utilities Code Section 8386.3(c)(5)(A)**

Dear Director Thomas Jacobs:

In accordance with California Public Utilities Code Section 8386.3(c)(5)(A), Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. (BVES) is providing notification to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety that it completed a substantial portion of its 2023 Wildfire Mitigation Plan vegetation management initiatives.

BVES’ 2023 WMP Initiatives with respect to Vegetation Management (VM) activities were completed as originally targeted and scheduled. Highlights of the VM activities include:

* Completed detailed inspections of overhead facilities that covered 135 circuit miles.
* Inspected 205 circuit miles of overhead facilities utilizing unmanned aerial inspection techniques (HD photography, videography, and thermography), ground patrols, and LiDAR surveys.
* Completed 131 quality control checks on contracted vegetation management work and 5 vegetation management quality assurance audits.

In 2020, the density of vegetation within a 24-foot corridor along overhead lines was 25.4 percent as determined by LiDAR surveys. In 2023, the vegetation density was 15.4 percent indicating that the overall density of vegetation along BVES’ lines has been significantly reduced. This decrease in vegetation density along overhead line reduces the likelihood of vegetation contacting the lines and, therefore, reduces the overall risk of ignitions.

In 2023, over 72 circuit miles received cleared to BVES’s enhanced vegetation management standards, 3,897 trees were trimmed and 168 trees, which could potentially strike overhead lines and equipment were removed.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_/s/\_\_Paul Marconi\_\_\_\_\_\_

Paul Marconi

President, Treasurer & Secretary