

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2025



Meeting Information

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB or the Board) meeting was held in person at the Junipero Serra Building in Los Angeles, CA, and by teleconference on Microsoft Teams, on September 3, 2025.

Actions Taken or Discussion Points

The relevant documents discussed or approved during the meeting are posted on the Board's webpage at <https://energysafety.ca.gov/who-we-are/wildfire-safety-advisory-board/>.

Board Member Attendance

The meeting was led by Chair Jessica Block. Also in attendance in person was Board Member Marybel Batjer. Board Members Ralph Armstrong, Tim Haines, John Mader, and Alexandra Syphard attended via teleconference.

Agenda

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Action Taken/Discussion Points

Chair Block opened with a welcome message and Call to Order. WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel called the roll.

2. Meeting Minutes

Board Member Haines moved to approve the minutes for the June 4, 2025, meeting as distributed.

Board Member Batjer seconded the motion.

Votes: For – 6 Against – 0

3. Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) Update

Energy Safety Electrical Safety Policy Division Supervisor Dakota Smith provided an update on the following:

- a. IOU Wildfire Mitigation Plans (WMPs)
- b. Risk Model Working Group (RMWG)
- c. Safety Culture Assessments (SCA)
- d. Executive Compensation Structures
- e. Safety Certifications

4. Vegetation Management Best Management Practices

Energy Safety Environmental Science Division Supervisor Colin Lang presented best management practice topics, plans, timeline, and Board engagement.

5. Presentation on Extreme Weather and the January 2025 Southern California Wildfires

Dr. Alex Hall, Director, Institute of the Environment and Stability, and Professor, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Department, University of California, Los Angeles, presented

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research on the January 2025 Southern California wildfires and ignition prevention during wind events.

6. Update on Risk Modeling Work

Senior Advisor Shaun Richards and the Risk Modeling Committee led a discussion on work regarding Energy Safety's request for the Board's advice on risk modeling for extreme scenarios.

7. Update on Wildfire Mitigation Plan Review

Senior Advisor Gifford Wong and the POU Committee provided an update on their review of POU WMPs, including risk identification and preemptive de-energization criteria for review.

8. Staff Update

WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel provided a staff update, including the results of Strategic Planning surveys issued to staff, Energy Safety, and the Board.

9. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

No Board Members proposed agenda items for future meetings.

10. Public Comment on Matters Not Included on the Agenda

No members of the public commented.

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Approval

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board's September 3, 2025 meeting minutes were adopted at the Board's meeting on December 3, 2025.