

Southern California Edison
2023-WMPs – 2023-WMPs

DATA REQUEST SET Cal Advocates - SCE - 2023 WMP - 06

To: Cal Advocates
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Job Title: Senior Advisor
Received Date: 2/10/2023

Response Date: 3/29/2023

Question 10:

Regarding your PSPS circuit modeling capabilities:

- a) Please describe your present circuit modeling capabilities with regard to PSPS decision-making (“PSPS circuit modeling capabilities”), including with what level of granularity they are able to determine how circuit hardening efforts or other changes to a line segment will affect PSPS thresholds.
- b) Please describe any improvements to the present PSPS circuit modeling capabilities that you expect to implement in 2023.
- c) Please describe any improvements to the present PSPS circuit modeling capabilities that you expect to implement in 2024.
- d) Please describe the expected state of your PSPS circuit modeling capabilities at the conclusion of the 2023-2025 WMP cycle.

Response to Question 10:

- a) SCE interprets “circuit modeling capabilities with regard to PSPS decision-making” to refer to the granularity of PSPS thresholds used in de-energization decision-making.

PSPS decisions are based on quantitative analyses while accounting for qualitative factors, such as societal and emergency management impacts. PSPS thresholds are set for each circuit in SCE’s HFRA. *See, e.g.,* SCE 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plan, p. 623. SCE’s Quantitative and Qualitative Factors for PSPS Decision-Making paper provides in-depth information and analysis regarding PSPS decision-making factors and their implementation during dangerous wildfire conditions.¹ Additional responsive information on SCE’s existing PSPS thresholds can also be found in SCE’s Post-Event Reports for 2022 de-energization events.²

- b) SCE has submitted an RFP to expert engineering firms to help refine its wind speed threshold methodology using advanced predictive modeling techniques. The goal is to develop circuit segment-level wind speed thresholds to inform PSPS decision-making. Through this engagement, SCE will evaluate the viability of developing wind speed thresholds that are based on the estimated probability of wind-caused damage at the circuit-segment level. Model inputs are likely to include,

¹ SCE’s technical paper titled “Quantitative and Qualitative Factors for PSPS Decision-Making” is available at https://download.newsroom.edison.com/create_memory_file/?f_id=609d61cbb3aed37d0f3d5f6a&content_verified=True.

² See Section 2.2: Decision-Making Process – Decision criteria and detailed thresholds leading to de-energization. SCE’s 2022 PSPS post-event reports are available at on.sce.com/PSPSposteventreports.

but are not limited to: circuit-specific characteristics such as installation of covered conductor, circuit design and engineering standards, wind loading ratings, and wind-related outage history.

c) Depending on the outcome of the 2023 effort to refine its wind speed threshold methodology described in subpart (b) above, SCE plans to target implementation of the updated thresholds in 2024.

d) As discussed in the preceding response, SCE expects that enhancements to its wind speed threshold methodology (if any result from the 2023 engagement) will be implemented in 2024. SCE plans to continually evaluate and refine its PSPS thresholds based on lessons learned in 2024 and 2025.