

Southern California Edison
2022-WMPs – 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Updates

DATA REQUEST SET CalAdvocates - SCE - 2022 WMP - 04

To: Cal Advocates
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Response Date: 2/24/2022

Question 002:

For each WMP initiative listed below, please state how the modeled Wildfire Risk Scores for each circuit or circuit-segment influenced where you performed work in 2021.

- a) EVM
- b) Hazard Tree Mitigation Program
- c) Dead and Dying Tree Removal
- d) Covered conductor installation
- e) Undergrounding
- f) Pole replacement
- g) Grid sectionalization
- h) Detailed inspections of distribution assets
- i) Detailed inspections of transmission assets
- j) Aerial inspections of transmission assets
- k) Aerial inspections of distribution assets
- l) LiDAR inspections of distribution assets
- m) LiDAR inspections of transmission asset

Response to Question 002:

Please see below for information on how modeled Wildfire Risk Scores for each circuit or circuit-segment influenced where work was performed / sequenced in 2021:

a) EVM: Vegetation management activities to maintain clearance distances from transmission and distribution lines and equipment are conducted throughout SCE's entire service area on an annual basis. Because inspections are performed annually, region prioritization is only performed to help ensure inspections and required trimming can be performed in consideration of certain access conditions (e.g., snow).

b) Hazard Tree Mitigation Program: Hazard Tree Mitigation Program is focused in HFRA. SCE prioritizes locations within HFRA based on HFRA tier and density of vegetation surrounding SCE's facilities.

c) Dead and Dying Tree Removal: SCE patrols HFRA's several times a year as conditions warrant to identify and remove compromised trees. For example, insect infestation can move quickly, and trees within strike distance of SCE overhead facilities that are dead or expected to die within a year are

removed. SCE selects the scope of work for the Dead and Dying Tree Program to focus on areas historically impacted by bark beetle infestations and drought.

d) Covered conductor installation: The underlying POI and consequence score models have undergone several refinements, and SCE continues to incorporate these enhanced risk scores into its deployment strategy to the extent practicable. Given that the general lead time for progressing from scoping to construction takes approximately 16 to 24+ months, the scope completed in 2021 necessarily relied on the risk-prioritized scope selection that was performed and released to the execution team in 2020 based on the best available information and modeling at that time. For the purpose of future scope release, SCE's practice is to incorporate the results of its most up-to-date risk model. To the extent that previously less risky miles now present as relatively riskier, they are prioritized for scoping. For details on future scope prioritization, please refer to the integrated grid hardening strategy in Section 7.1.2.1 of SCE's 2022 WMP Update.

While SCE's POI and consequence models are a critical component in dictating which miles of distribution HFRA to address first, there are other operational factors to consider when deploying covered conductor. These include extending the construction to the next structure with appropriate guying, or to a natural dead-end structure that the covered conductor can transition to bare wire, or to a structure with an isolatable sectionalizing device that can provide PSPS mitigation benefits.

e) Undergrounding: SCE evaluated circuit segments based on multiple criteria including wildfire risk scoring from WRRM, PSPS impacts (including circuits that have experienced multiple PSPS events), terrain, grid topography, construction complexity associated with undergrounding, and cost. SCE also consulted with its local districts and reviewed egress in areas where poles and overhead facilities may make it challenging to evacuate should a fire occur. In addition, SCE worked with communities to assess areas where customers may require electric service to provide essential public health and safety services. SCE continues to refine its evaluation methodology and work with local communities to pursue undergrounding in HFRA.

f) Pole replacement: Poles replaced in conjunction with the installation of covered conductor followed the method described above for CC. Poles replaced through inspection programs are prioritized and sequenced to meet compliance requirements set forth in our inspection and maintenance programs.

g) Grid sectionalization: For sectionalizing work targeting PSPS, SCE prioritized using the estimated probability of PSPS de-energization and customer impact.

h) Detailed inspections of distribution assets: In 2021, through its distribution ODI program, SCE inspected each structure within HFRA pursuant to the GO 165 requirements of once every five years.

SCE also supplements its GO 165 compliance inspections of the overhead distribution system with high fire risk-informed inspections (HFRI) in its HFRA. For HFRI inspections, structures are prioritized for inspection based on POI and consequence. SCE used a 4 x 4 matrix, with one dimension of the matrix representing four levels of POI risk and the other dimension representing four levels of consequence. Each structure was scored and mapped to a box in the matrix based on its POI and consequence.

i) Detailed inspections of transmission assets: SCE inspects its entire service area over the span of three years. Resource allocation and work prioritization is driven by GO 165 compliance requirements. Circuits are selected for inspection when they are due based on the last inspection date.

SCE also conducts HFRI inspections for its overhead transmission system in HFRA. Structures are prioritized for inspection based on POI and consequence. SCE created a 4 x 4 matrix with one dimension of the matrix representing four levels of POI risk and the other dimension representing four levels of consequence. Each structure was scored and mapped to a box in the matrix based on its POI and consequence.

j) Aerial inspections of transmission assets: Same as the method used for transmission detailed inspections.

k) Aerial inspections of distribution assets: Same as the method used for distribution detailed inspections.

l) LiDAR inspections of distribution assets: At this time, SCE does not directly collect LiDAR for the purpose of inspecting distribution lines and equipment.

m) LiDAR inspections of transmission asset: At this time, SCE does not directly collect LiDAR for the purpose of inspecting transmission lines and equipment.