



March 1, 2025

Jessica Block  
Chair, Wildfire Safety Advisory Board

**Subject: Request for Advice and Recommendations**

Energy Safety recognizes the Board’s extensive expertise in fire ecology and behavior, risk modeling, utility operations and infrastructure, utility regulation, and workforce planning and development. We would like to call on this expertise and request your advice and recommendations on the following issues:

1. **Risk Model Adequacy in Light of Los Angeles Fires.** January fires in Los Angeles occurred in conditions of extreme wind and extremely high vapor pressure deficit after a wet two years that allowed for much vegetation growth. We request your expertise to advise us as to whether the risk models used by electric utilities adequately consider the circumstances Southern California faced in January and other realistic extreme scenarios. If the risk models do not adequately consider these realistic extreme scenarios, we request your recommendations on how electrical utilities should modify their risk models to provide more useful outputs for informing electric utility planning and operations.
2. **Best Management Practices for Vegetation Management Workforce Training and Retention.** Energy Safety aims to establish best management practices (BMPs) for electric utility vegetation management for wildfire safety. These BMPs will be established with the objective of reducing electrical outage occurrence, preventing ignitions, and generally mitigating wildfire risk in high fire risk areas, while considering California’s diverse biological and cultural resources. To this end, we have identified BMPs we plan to develop and will present in a notice in April 2025. We request your expertise to advise us on the below questions as it relates to the BMP topics the notice will identify.
  - What are the key factors to consider for these BMP topics?
  - What emerging trends or innovations could shape development of these BMPs?
  - What are the gaps or uncertainties in research related to these BMP topics?

We are happy to further discuss and assist as you find appropriate.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tony Marino

Tony Marino  
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Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety