

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2025



Meeting Information

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB or the Board) meeting was held in person at the Sonoma County Transportation Authority in Santa Rosa, CA, and by teleconference on Microsoft Teams, on December 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 were Vice Chair Chris Porter and Board Members Ralph Armstrong and Tim Haines. Board Members Marybel Batjer, John Mader, and Dr. Alexandra Syphard attended via teleconference.

Agenda

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call
2. Meeting Minutes
3. Board Member Reports on Site Visits
4. Staff Update
5. Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) Update

Action Taken/Discussion Points

- Chair Block opened with a welcome message and Call to Order. WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel called the roll.
- Board Member Armstrong moved to approve the minutes for the September 3, 2025, meeting as distributed.
Vice Chair Porter seconded the motion.
Votes: For – 5 Against – 0 Abstained – 1
- Board Members expressed appreciation for recent site visits to Healdsburg's Electric Department and Ukiah Electric Utility.
- WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel provided a staff update, including a legislative update to Senate Bill 470 and Senate Bill 254, advice and recommendations to Energy Safety, Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) WMP review, and Strategic Planning.
- Energy Safety Electrical Safety Policy Division Manager Nicole Dunlap provided updates on the following:
- a. Energy Safety's responses to WSAB recommendation in 2025
 - b. Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU) WMP evaluations and guidelines

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- c. Risk model working group
- d. Safety culture assessments
- e. Executive compensation
- f. Safety certifications

6. Advisory Opinions to Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives

Board Member Haines recused himself from the discussion and votes on items 6 and 7. Senior Policy Advisor Gifford Wong provided an overview of the Advisory Opinion, including the WMP review process, timeline, and the two areas of focus.

Board Member Armstrong moved to adopt the Advisory Opinions to Publicly Owned Utilities and Electric Cooperatives, as distributed.

Vice Chair Porter seconded the motion.

Votes: For – 6 Against – 0

7. 2026-2029 Schedule for Publicly Owned Utility and Electrical Cooperative Wildfire Mitigation Plan Submissions

WSAB Branch Supervisor Mark Wenzel led a discussion on the 2026–2029 Schedule for Publicly Owned Utility and Electrical Cooperative Wildfire Mitigation Plan Submissions.

Board Member Armstrong moved to adopt the 2026–2029 Schedule for Publicly Owned Utility and Electrical Cooperative Wildfire Mitigation Plan Submissions, as distributed.

Vice Chair Porter seconded the motion.

Votes: For – 6 Against – 0

8. Update on Risk Modeling Workstream

Senior Policy Advisor Shaun Richards provided an update regarding Energy Safety’s request for the Board’s advice on risk modeling for extreme scenarios, operations and planning questions submitted to IOUs, and next steps.

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.

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Approval

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board's December 3, 2025 meeting minutes were adopted at the Board's meeting on March 4, 2026.