On May 4, 2021, the Wildfire Safety Division (WSD) issued Revision Notices to the investor-owned utilities (IOUs) Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. (BVES). These Revision Notices outline critical issues that must be addressed by PG&E, SCE, and BVES before the WSD can issue a determination on their respective 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Updates. For each identified critical issue, the WSD set forth the remedy that must be employed. PG&E, SCE, and BVES must each submit a Revision Notice Response resolving the identified critical issues by June 3, 2021. The WSD requests party comments on these Revision Notice Responses by June 10, 2021, and reply comments by June 16, 2021.

On May 21, 2021, the Public Advocates Office at the California Public Utilities Commission (Cal Advocates) requested an extension of time for parties to provide comments and reply comments on Revision Notice Responses from PG&E, SCE, and BVES. Cal Advocates requested two additional business days for comments and three additional business days for reply comments. Cal Advocates justifies this extension request by citing the WSD’s request for detailed Revision Notice Responses from the IOUs, the potentially lengthy Revision Notice Responses the IOUs will provide, and the time and effort it will take to analyze the IOUs’ Revision Notice Responses.

The WSD has carefully considered the extension request from Cal Advocates, and in particular, the impact that this delay would have on the timeline for PG&E’s and SCE’s Safety Certification submissions. It is for this reason that the WSD denies, in part, Cal Advocates extension request.

The original dates for comments and reply comments on the Revision Notice Responses of PG&E and SCE are upheld: Thursday, June 10, 2021, for comments and Wednesday, June 16, 2021, for reply comments.

The BVES’s Safety Certification submission does not have an associated Safety Certification timeline. As such, considering the scope of BVES’s Revision Notice and Cal Advocate’s concerns, the WSD grants an extension to public comments and reply comments on BVES’s Revision Notice Response.

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1 Pursuant to Resolution WSD-011, adopted by the Commission on November 19, 2020, the WSD may modify the 2021 WMP schedule as deemed necessary via written notice to stakeholders, subject to the statutory parameters outlined in Public Utilities Code Section 8386(b).
Stakeholders may now submit comments on BVES’s Revision Notice Response by Wednesday, June 23, 2021, and reply comments by Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Sincerely,

Lucy Morgans
Acting Program Manager, Wildfire Safety Division
California Public Utilities Commission