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October 20, 2020

## ADVICE LETTER 3634-E (U902-E)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## SUBJECT: QUARTERLY ADVICE LETTER RELATED TO PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE SECTION 8389(e)(7)

Per Public Utilities Code Section 8389(e)(7), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E or the Company) hereby submits to the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) this Tier 1 Advice Letter (AL) that details the implementation of both its approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan and recommendations of the most recent safety culture assessment; a statement of recommendations of the Board of Directors Safety Committee (Safety Committee) meetings that occurred during the quarter;<sup>1</sup> and a summary of the implementation of the Safety Committee recommendations from SDG&E's previous advice letter.<sup>2</sup>

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this AL is to comply with the requirements of Section 8389(e)(7), which were added to the Public Utilities Code by Assembly Bill (AB) 1054 on July 12, 2019. That statutory provision requires that SDG&E file a Tier 1 AL "on a quarterly basis that details the implementation of both its approved wildfire mitigation plan and recommendations of the most recent safety culture assessment, and a statement of recommendations of the board of directors safety committee meetings that occurred during the quarter." Section 8389(e)(7) also requires that the AL "shall summarize the implementation of safety committee recommendations from the electrical corporation's previous advice letter filing."

#### **BACKGROUND**

Governor Newsom signed AB 1054 into law on July 12, 2019. AB 1054 contains numerous statutory provisions and amendments designed to enhance the mitigation and prevention of catastrophic wildfires – including wildfires linked to utility equipment – in California. AB 1054 added Section 8389 to the Public Utilities Code. Section 8389(e) establishes the requirements for annual safety certifications<sup>3</sup> and, *inter alia*, requires electrical corporations to establish a safety committee of its board of directors composed of members with relevant safety experience,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This AL includes information relating to activities and events that occurred in the third quarter of 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> AL 3574-E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> SDG&E received its 2020 safety certification from the Wildfire Safety Division (WSD) via a letter dated September 14, 2020.

establish board-of-director-level reporting to the Commission on safety issues, and file quarterly Tier 1 ALs as described above.

#### **DISCUSSION**

#### Implementation of SDG&E's Approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan

SDG&E continues to track 42 progress metrics on 29 different mitigations proposed in its Wildfire Mitigation Plan. These mitigations involve a wide-array of topic areas such as: inspection and maintenance programs, infrastructure replacement programs, and vegetation management programs which all mitigate the risk of ignitions due to a fault on the electric system. SDG&E has mitigation programs to enhance situational awareness, which informs SDG&E's risk models and helps prioritize infrastructure replacement; and strategies and tools for real time decision making during emergency response or Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. SDG&E also has mitigations that reduce the impact of a wildfire once an ignition has occurred, including high definition cameras, ground and aerial fire suppression resources, and a fuels management program.

In addition, SDG&E has implemented mitigations to the customer impacts associated with PSPS events including the installation of remote switches to limit the customers exposed to PSPS, the establishment of customer resource centers during PSPS events, and SDG&E's customer outreach programs.

In Attachment A hereto, SDG&E provides a detailed breakdown of the progress on all these individual mitigations. In summary, SDG&E has fire hardened 158 miles of its electric system and replaced over 2,325 structures within the high fire threat district from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

#### Implementation of SDG&E's Most Recent Safety Culture Assessment

The WSD is in the process of developing a safety culture assessment process,<sup>4</sup> and thus SDG&E has not yet undergone a safety culture assessment. Accordingly, SDG&E has no information to report regarding implementation. Once SDG&E's safety culture assessment is completed, SDG&E will include implementation information in future advice letters.

#### October 6, 2020 Safety Committee Meeting

The SDG&E Board Safety Committee<sup>5</sup> advises and assists the Board of Directors in the oversight of safely providing electric and natural gas services to the Company's customers. The Safety Committee held a meeting on October 6, 2020 in which it received presentations from SDG&E management and employees. In the course of the meeting, the Safety Committee asked questions and engaged with SDG&E management and employees regarding the subjects of their presentations.

At the October 6 meeting, the Safety Committee received the following presentations from SDG&E management and employees regarding safety issues.

Dave Geier, SDG&E's Chief Safety Officer, reported on several topics. First, Mr. Geier provided an update on SDG&E's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including actions taken to reduce

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Draft Resolution WSD-011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Safety Committee members include Erbin B. Keith, Chairman; Robert J. Borthwick; Trevor I. Mihalik; and Caroline A. Winn. Ms. Winn, formerly Chief Operating Officer and Chief Safety Officer, is now Chief Executive Officer of SDG&E and was appointed to the Safety Committee on August 19, 2020.

risks and mitigate impacts on employees and the community. Second, Mr. Geier discussed the measures taken by SDG&E to prepare for the 2020 wildfire season and potential PSPS events. Relatedly, Mr. Geier discussed Emergency Operations Center activations for Red Flag events to date in 2020. Mr. Geier also discussed the recent Valley Fire in Eastern San Diego County and its impact on SDG&E's service territory. Third, Mr. Geier briefed the Committee on the August 25, 2020 Wildfire Community Safety Advisory Council Meeting, noting the addition of four external advisors. Lastly, Mr. Geier provided an update on the status of prior Safety Committee Recommendations, as discussed further below.

Kendall Helm, SDG&E's Vice President of People & Culture, summarized new proposed safety elements within SDG&E's 2021 executive incentive compensation plan. Ms. Helm noted that the safety elements, which include new metrics intended to reflect the WSD's guidance regarding SDG&E's 2020 executive incentive compensation plan, would likely be reviewed by the WSD prior to finalization.

Mike Schneider, Vice President of Risk Management and Chief Compliance Officer – along with Ron Kiralla, Director of Safety and Elizabeth Peters, Manager of Safety Management System – provided an update on the Safety Management System Implementation Plan, per the Safety Committee's July 8, 2020 Recommendation. The Safety Management System establishes a systematic enterprise-wide framework to manage and reduce risk by promoting continuous improvement in safety performance through processes that can be consistently applied throughout the organization. Ms. Peters provided an overview of process development, progress to date and employee communications. Mr. Kiralla next provided an example of process implementation related to near miss reporting. Mr. Schneider then summarized Operational Unit Risk Registry development efforts and outlined the next steps to achieve full implementation.

Tom Fries, SDG&E's Aviation Services Manager, provided a briefing on SDG&E's Aviation Services Department. Mr. Fries discussed the safety oversight of this department, which ensures safe operations of all helicopter and unmanned aerial systems. Additionally, Mr. Fries discussed the various support functions performed for the Company by the Aviation Services Department. He also reviewed the Aviation Safety Management System with the Committee.

Miguel Romero, Vice President of Energy Supply, gave an update on battery storage safety at SDG&E. Mr. Romero discussed the Arizona Public Service Company battery storage incident, which took place in April 2019, and he identified key takeaways from that incident. Mr. Romero compared technical design elements from SDG&E's portfolio of energy storage assets and reviewed SDG&E's energy storage safety efforts.

John Jenkins, Vice President of Electric System Operations, provided an update on SDG&E's Wildfire Mitigation Plan. Mr. Jenkins discussed the Company's progress in implementing the plan to date, noting that it is on track to meet all goals for 2020. Mr. Jenkins then summarized the Wildfire Mitigation Plan first quarterly compliance report and specific Class A deficiencies identified by the WSD. Mr. Jenkins also reported on various presentations to the Commission or its staff, including public presentations regarding PSPS readiness. Chris Lyons, Managing Attorney, also briefed the Committee on the WSD's proposed safety culture assessment process and related workshops and proposals.

Lastly, Mr. Keith provided the following Safety Committee recommendation to SDG&E:

 SDG&E should make a presentation at the next Safety Committee meeting on the fall 2020 wildfire season and its efforts to ensure employee, contractor and customer safety during PSPS events, including any safety lessons learned.

## Implementation of Recommendations of the Board of Directors Safety Committee in the Prior Quarter

As noted in AL 3574-E, SDG&E's Safety Committee provided the following recommendations to the company at the July 8, 2020 meeting:

1. SDG&E should make a presentation at an upcoming Safety Committee meeting on the implementation of its Safety Management System.

At the October 6 meeting, Mike Schneider, Ron Kiralla, and Elizabeth Peters provided the Committee with an update on SDG&E's progress implementing the Safety Management System, as noted above.

## <u>UPDATE ON SDG&E'S WILDFIRE SAFETY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL</u> MEETINGS

Per the requirement established in D.20-05-051 that SDG&E report on advisory council activities on a quarterly basis, SDG&E provides the following. SDG&E convened a meeting of its Wildfire Safety Community Advisory Council on August 25, 2020. Ms. Winn chaired the meeting, which took place virtually in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the meeting, Council members asked questions and provided comments.

Ms. Winn introduced four new members added to the Council:

- Christine Moore Vice President for Government and Public Affairs at Cox Communications
- Chanelle Hawken Executive Director of External Affairs for San Diego & Imperial Counties at AT&T
- Judith Shaplin Vice President of Social Resources and Rural Health Services for Mountain Health in Alpine
- Music Watson Chief-of-Staff to the San Diego County Office of Education

In her remarks, Ms. Winn highlighted active fires and the first rotating outages in California in almost 20 years, which began on August 14, 2020. Ms. Winn noted that SDG&E sought to reduce impacts on communities in the High Fire Threat District who are prone to PSPS events. Ms. Winn also expressed gratitude for the significant efforts by customers to conserve energy, reducing the extent of the rotating outages.

Augie Ghio, SDG&E's Director of Emergency Management, discussed SDG&E's virtual Emergency Operations Center, for which SDG&E began preparations in early 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic began to strike. Mr. Ghio noted that the virtual Emergency Operations Center has been activated for a number of events in 2020, including the COVID-19 pandemic, civil unrest, a gas leak, the CAISO rotating outages, and the August 20 Lake Fire.

Fernando Valero, Director of Advanced Clean Technology, updated the Council on SDG&E's microgrid projects, including four under development. Council members had thoughts and suggestions about future microgrid projects.

Andrea Smith, Director of Marketing and Communications, and Zoraya Griffin, Senior Communications Manager, then provided an overview of SDG&E's wildfire communications to vulnerable populations, following up on earlier Council suggestions that the Company enhance such communications. Ms. Smith and Ms. Griffin discussed access and functional needs customer

outreach and preparedness. They also briefed the Council on the ongoing media campaign to inform customers regarding wildfire and PSPS events and thereby enhance customer safety.

Lastly, Brian D'Agostino, Director of Fire Science & Climate Adaptation, updated the Council on SDG&E's expectations for the 2020 wildfire season and the technology the Company is using to enhance its situational awareness. Mr. D'Agostino reported that he expects that the remainder of 2020 will be an above average season in terms of fire weather events, as reflected by events in August and September.

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for December 4, 2020.

Following these presentations, Council members and SDG&E engaged in a roundtable discussion.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

SDG&E believes this submittal is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 1 (effective pending disposition) pursuant to GO 96-B. SDG&E respectfully requests that this AL become effective on October 20, 2020, which is the date of submittal.

#### **PROTEST**

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. The protest must be made in writing and must be received no later than November 9, 2020, which is within 20 days of the date this Advice Letter was filed with the Commission. There is no restriction on who may file a protest. The address for mailing or delivering a protest to the Commission is:

CPUC Energy Division Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the attention of Energy Division at <a href="mailto:EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov">EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov</a> of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission.

Attn: Gregory S. Anderson Regulatory Tariff Manager

E-mail: GAnderson@sdge.com and SDGETariffs@sdge.com

#### **NOTICE**

A copy of this filing has been served on the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, and interested parties to service lists R.18-10-007 and R.18-12-005, by either providing them a copy electronically or by mailing them a copy hereof, properly stamped and addressed.

Address changes should be directed to SDG&E Tariffs by e-mail at SDGETariffs@sdge.com.

/s/ Clay Faber

CLAY FABER Director – Regulatory Affairs





## California Public Utilities Commission

## ADVICE LETTER UMMARY



LIVEROT OTHERT	
MUST BE COMPLETED BY UT	ILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)
Company name/CPUC Utility No.:	
Utility type:  ELC GAS WATER  PLC HEAT	Contact Person: Phone #: E-mail: E-mail Disposition Notice to:
EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE  ELC = Electric GAS = Gas WATER = Water  PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat WATER = Water	(Date Submitted / Received Stamp by CPUC)
Advice Letter (AL) #:	Tier Designation:
Subject of AL:	
Keywords (choose from CPUC listing):	
AL Type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other:	
If AL submitted in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:	
Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL:	
Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL:	
Confidential treatment requested? Yes No	
If yes, specification of confidential information: Confidential information will be made available to appropriate parties who execute a nondisclosure agreement. Name and contact information to request nondisclosure agreement/ access to confidential information:	
Resolution required? Yes No	
Requested effective date:	No. of tariff sheets:
Estimated system annual revenue effect (%):	
Estimated system average rate effect (%):	
When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).	
Tariff schedules affected:	
Service affected and changes proposed <sup>1:</sup>	
Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets:	

## Protests and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this submittal, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

CPUC, Energy Division Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Email: <a href="mailto:EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov">EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov</a>

Name:

Title:

Utility Name: Address:

City: State:

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx: Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:

Email:

Name:

Title:

Utility Name:

Address:

City: State:

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx: Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:

Email:

#### General Order No. 96-B ADVICE LETTER SUBMITTAL MAILING LIST

cc: (w/enclosures)

Public Utilities Commission
CA. Public Avocates (CalPA)

R. Pocta

**Energy Division** 

M. Ghadessi

M. Salinas

L. Tan

R. Ciupagea

Tariff Unit

**CA Energy Commission** 

B. Penning

B. Helft

Advantage Energy

C. Farrell

Alcantar & Kahl LLP

M. Cade

K. Harteloo

<u> AT&T</u>

Regulatory

Barkovich & Yap, Inc.

B. Barkovich

Biofuels Energy, LLC

K. Frisbie

Braun & Blaising, P.C.

S. Blaising

D. Griffiths

**Buchalter** 

K. Cameron

M. Alcantar

CA Dept. of General Services

H. Nanio

California Energy Markets

General

California Farm Bureau Federation

K. Mills

California Wind Energy

N. Rader

Cameron-Daniel, P.C.

General

City of Poway

Poway City Hall

City of San Diego

L. Azar

J. Cha

D. Heard

F. Ortlieb

H. Werner

M. Rahman

Clean Energy Renewable Fuels, LLC

P. DeVille

Clean Power Research

T. Schmid

G. Novotny

**Davis Wright Tremaine LLP** 

J. Pau

**Douglass & Liddell** 

D. Douglass

D. Liddell

Ellison Schneider Harris & Donlan LLP

E. Janssen

C. Kappel

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S. Anders

**Energy Regulatory Solutions Consultants** 

L. Medina

Energy Strategies, Inc.

K. Campbell

**EQ** Research

General

Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, & Day LLP

B. Cragg

J. Squeri

Green Charge

K. Lucas

Hanna and Morton LLP

N. Pedersen

JBS Energy

J. Nahigian

Keyes & Fox, LLP

B. Elder

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP

D. Huard

R. Keen

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J. Leslie

Morrison & Foerster LLP

P. Hanschen

MRW & Associates LLC

General

NLine Energy

M. Swindle

NRG Energy

D. Fellman

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

M. Lawson

M. Huffman

Tariff Unit

**RTO Advisors** 

S. Mara

**SCD Energy Solutions** 

P. Muller

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP

O. Armi

Solar Turbines

C. Frank

**SPURR** 

M. Rochman

Southern California Edison Co.

K. Gansecki

TerraVerde Renewable Partners LLC

F. Lee

**TURN** 

M. Hawiger

UCAN

D. Kelly

US Dept. of the Navy

K. Davoodi

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# SDG&E's 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Progress Update

(All data as of September 30, 2020)

## 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Activities Q3 Summary







### 5.3.2 – Situational Awareness and Forecasting

5.3.2.1

30
Weather stations installed
Cameras installed

5.3.2.4.1

Fire Science & Innovation Lab

**125%** Camera network and advanced weather station integration

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 30 of 20 weather stations installed (150%), 4 of 4 cameras installed (100%)

**Key Actions:** 2 additional weather stations are planned to be installed before the end of 2020. All cameras installed as of March 2020.

100% Fire science and climate adaptation department

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 1 of 1 fire science and innovation lab **Key Actions:** Continued expansion and development of key academic collaborators to include Scripps Institution of Oceanography in addition to SDSC and SJSU. A virtual lab was established via Microsoft Teams and has already been leveraged for wildfire incident coordination this season.

5.3.2.3

**O** WEIs installed **0%** Wireless fault indicators

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 0 of 500 WFIs installed (0%)

**Key Actions:** Project expected to be complete in October 2020.



## 5.3.3 – Grid Design and System Hardening (1 of 2)

5.3.3.1 SCADA capacitors installed

#### **40%** SCADA Capacitors

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 12 of 30 SCADA capacitors installed (40%) **Key Actions:** 28 SCADA Capacitors issued for construction.

5.3.3.2 Cir. Subs.

#### **54%** Advanced protection

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 2 of 8 circuits enabled (25%), 5 of 6 substations enabled (83%)

**Key Actions:** Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020.

5.3.3.3 52.4 0

OH

#### 51% Distribution overhead system hardening

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 0 of 1 mile hardened with covered conductor (0%), 52.4 of 102 miles OH hardened (51%)

**Key Actions:** Covered conductor project is on target to be constructed before end of 2020. To date, 1,056 OH distribution poles have been hardened.

5.3.3.6 412 Poles replaced

#### 61% Pole replacement and reinforcement

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 412 of 670 poles replaced (61%)

**Key Actions:** Program is on time and on target

for completion before end of 2020.

5.3.3.7 Fuses replaced

#### 97% Expulsion fuse replacement

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 2,920 of 3,000 fuses replaced (97%) **Key Actions:** Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020.

5.3.3.8.1 Switches installed

#### **129%** PSPS sectionalizing enhancements

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 9 of 7 sectionalizing devices installed (129%)

**Key Actions:** 2020 program target complete.

5.3.3.8.2

Microgrids installed

#### 133% Microgrids

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 4 of 3 microgrids installed (133%)

**Key Actions:** Ramona Air Attack Base (RAAB) has temporary generation installed and is expected to be complete by the end of the year. Cameron Corners, Aqua Caliente, and Desert Circuit 221 all had temporary generation installed by 9/2020 and will be completed in 2021.

5.3.3.10 853 HLC's replaced

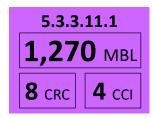
#### **52%** Hotline clamps

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 853 of 1,650 hotline clamps replaced (52%) **Key Actions:** Hotline clamps issued for construction. Construction start was delayed to free up resources to support other high priority WMP project work.





## 5.3.3 – Grid Design and System Hardening (2 of 2)



#### **100%** Customer resiliency programs

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 1,270 of 1,250 medical baseline generators (102%), 8 of 8 Community Resource Centers (100%), and 4 of 4 community and critical infrastructure generators leased (100%) **Key Actions:** Program on track with daily scheduling and delivery.



#### **0%** Whole house generator program

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 0 of 300 generators (0%)

**Key Actions:** Contract with 3<sup>rd</sup> party administrator was signed, initial customer eligibility letters were sent, follow-up calls were made to commercial and residential customers, and interested customers have been contacted to begin the site visit process. Expect to install ~150 units by year end dependent on permitting delays.



#### 99.5% Overhead transmission fire hardening

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 19.7 of 20 OH miles (99%), 9.4 of 9 miles distribution underbuilt (100%)

**Key Actions:** Pending advice letter approval UG construction will begin in late 2020. (2021 target = 6 mi UG)



#### **24%** Distribution Communications Reliability Improvements

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 6 of 25 base stations installed (24%) **Key Actions:** The ongoing development of Distribution Standards and an integrated LTE/Distribution Build Process has slowed the installation of additional base stations this year. We are currently targeting the completion of 15 base stations by year end.

5.3.3.11.2 200 Generators

**5.3.3.16 2.9**Miles UG

## 5.3.3.17.2 29.7 TOH DOH DOH DOH DUG

## 5.3.3.18.2 Lightning Arrestors removed and replaced

#### **20%** Expanded generator grant program

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 200 of 1000 generators (20%)

**Key Actions:** 1018 customers have reserved a rebate coupon, including 178 CARE customers (\$300 for general customers, \$450 for CARE customers). 184 generators have been purchased by customers with coupons to date. Lowes and Home Depot both have cited nationwide generator shortages on shelves due to West and East coast disasters.

#### **26%** Strategic undergrounding

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 2.9 of 11 miles undergrounded (26%) **Key Actions:** Circuits 221, 357, 754, and 1001 have been energized. Approximately 15 miles currently in design and 11 miles forecast to be completed by year end.

#### **80%** Cleveland National Forest fire hardening

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 29.7 of 26 transmission OH miles (114%), 8.9 of 28 distribution OH miles (29%), 24.5 of 25 distribution OH with associated transmission miles (98%), and 11.6 of 14 distribution UG miles (79%) **Key Actions:** Construction activities on individual segments have started with only C79 & C440 left to construct. Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020.

#### 0% Lightning arrestor removal and replacement

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 0 of 0 lightning arrestors removed and replaced.

**Key Actions:** This program will begin construction in 2021 and will replace approximately 2,772 lightning arrestors by the end of 2022.





### 5.3.4 – Asset Management and Inspections

5.3.4.1

17,490 **Detailed Inspections** 

**100%** Detailed corrective maintenance program inspections

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 17,490 of 17,500 inspections (100%) **Key Actions:** Program has completed the target for 2020.

5.3.4.4

**Infrared Inspections** 

138% Infrared inspections of distribution infrastructure

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 11,769 of 8,500 inspections (138%) **Key Actions:** Program has exceeded the target for 2020.

5.3.4.9.2

36,849

**Drone Inspections** 

93% Drone assessments of distribution infrastructure

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 36,849 of 39,500 inspections (93%) **Key Actions:** Program scope has decreased for 2020 to target 39,500 inspections in Tier 3. Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020.

5.3.4.2 114

Visual 34 Detailed

21 Aerial

Infrared

5.3.4.9.1

11,864

**HFTD Tier 3** Inspections

5.3.4.15

**294** 

Substation Inspections 83% Transmission system inspections

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 114 of 117 visual inspections (97%), 51 of 113 infrared inspections (45%), 38 of 41 detailed inspections (93%), and 21 of 21 aerial inspections (100%)

Key Actions: Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020. Updated aerial target to 21 TLs to only include 69kV circuits.

**103%** HFTD Tier 3 inspections

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 11,864 of 11,500 inspections (103%) **Key Actions:** HFTD Tier 3 inspections were completed prior to the start of fire season.

89% Substation system inspection

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 294 of 330 inspections (89%) **Key Actions:** Program is on time and on target for completion before end of 2020.



### 5.3.5 – Vegetation Management and Inspections

5.3.5.2

355,914

**Trees Inspected** 

5.3.5.9

15,433

Trees trimmed or removed

**78%** Detailed inspections of vegetation around distribution

infrastructure – Inventory Tree Inspections

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 355,914 of ~455,000 tree inspections (78%) **Key Actions:** This goal is specific to Inventory Tree Inspections.

Program on target for 2020.

91% Other discretionary inspection of vegetation around distribution infrastructure – Enhanced inspections, patrols, and trims Volume vs 2020 Goal: 15,443 of 17,000 trees trimmed or removed (91%)

Key Actions: Enhanced Vegetation Management HFTD (trim or remove) - on time and on target for 2020

5.3.5.5

286

Pole vegetation thinned

5.3.5.20

34,526

Poles brushed

**57%** Fuels Management

Volume vs 2020 Goal: 291 of 515 pole vegetation thinned (57%) **Key Actions:** Program target decreased to 515 landowner poles due to 30 target poles identified were on Federal, State, County or City Land. Notification postcards were mailed out in mid-June to all landowners and customers potentially affected by work around targeted poles. Work began in September and program is on target for 2020.

97% Vegetation management to achieve clearances around electric

infrastructure - Pole brushing

**Volume vs 2020 Goal:** 34,526 of 35,500 poles brushed (97%)

Key Actions: Program is on time and on target for

completion before end of 2020.



## Appendix

Off Track Activity Details

## 2020 WMP Off Track Activities – Details



**Off Track** 

Generators

**5.3.3.11.3** – Whole House Generator program

**Summary:** The Whole House Generator program seeks to support SDG&E's long-term vision to reduce or minimize the impacts of PSPS to customers. In rural areas with lots of circuit miles but very low customer density, the cost of hardening programs can be very high relative to the cost of providing generators. In these specific cases, SDG&E plans to continue utilizing PSPS as a last resort measure to protect public safety but will seek to help reduce the PSPS customer impacts by installing whole house generators with automatic transfer switches.

**Progress/Challenges:** The following progress has been made so far in 2020: contract with 3<sup>rd</sup> party administrator was signed, initial customer eligibility letters were sent, follow-up calls were made to commercial and residential customers, and interested customers have been contacted to begin the site visit process. Due to a two-month delay in extensive contract negotiations and preliminary electrical permitting delay estimates, the actual number of units installed in 2020 may fluctuate. We are currently forecasting all 300 sites to be in the pipeline for installation and submitted for permitting review this year, and approximately 150 units installed by year end. The remaining sites not complete in Q4 2020 are expected to be completed by Q1 2021.

**Off Track** 

Base Stations installed

**5.3.3.18.1** – Distribution Communications Reliability Improvements

**Summary:** The DCRI program is deploying a privately-owned LTE network using a licensed radio frequency (RF) spectrum. This will enhance the overall reliability of SDG&E's communication network, which is critical for enabling fire prevention and public safety programs. SDG&E's communication network is foundational to the wildfire mitigation enhancements proposed in the Advanced Protection program.

Progress/Challenges: The DCRI program has purchased a spectrum license and installed 6 base stations to date in 2020. The active development of distribution standards and as well as the associated integrated LTE/Distribution build process has delayed the installation of additional base stations this year. The integrated LTE/Distribution build process is a new unique process that integrates numerous departments and various safety and regulatory requirements into new distribution standards that drive design. Site specific designs must be fully completed prior to initiating procurement of the engineered steel poles used in the designs. The procurement process for an engineered steel pole is estimated at one year, delaying mass deployment until 2022. Once we have established a standardized process, we will be able to generate a predictable build-out schedule to meet forecasted goals. Based on current installation timelines, we are targeting the completion of 15 base stations by year end.

