Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Workshop Minutes

November 7, 2024

Meeting Information

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB or the Board) Workshop was held in-person at the Redding Library, in Redding, CA, on Thursday, November 7, 2024.

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/, including the presentations referenced below.

Board Member Attendance

The in-person meeting was led by Chair Jessica Block. Also in attendance were Vice Chair Chris Porter, Board Member Tim Haines, and Board Member John Mader (by teleconference).

Agenda	Action Taken/Discussion Points
1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call	The Chair acknowledged the appointment of Board Member Marybel Batjer and welcomed her. The Chair expressed her thanks to Paul Hauser and the Trinity Public Utilities District for hosting a site visit for Board Members the day before the Board workshop.
2. Vegetation Management for Northern California Publicly Owned Utilities	
a. Redding Electric Utility	Nicholas Zettel, Utility Director, presented the four programs of Redding Electric Utility's (REU's) wildfire mitigation plan, and ongoing improvements to mitigate fire risk and support their community. REU's operational changes focus on risk within the high fire threat district.
b. Trinity Public Utilities District	Paul Hauser, General Manager, presented Trinity's Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection Project and their approach to challenges faced in vegetation management.
c. Sacramento Municipal Utility District	Eric Brown, Manager of Vegetation Management, presented the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's goal to reduce risk, and the phases of the Upper American River

		Project Categorical Exemption Shaded Fuel Break Project.
3.	Agenda Items for Future Meetings	Board Member Mader noted that there had been no major utility-caused fires in the last couple of years, and proposed discussion on how much of that was weather versus fast trip and other techniques. Vice Chair Porter proposed discussion on collaboration among federal agencies and utilities and building these relationships throughout the state.
4.	Public Comment for Matters Not on Agenda	No members of the public commented.
5.	Adjournment	The Chair adjourned the meeting.