



CITY OF CORONA

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER

ELECTRIC UTILITY WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

VERSION 1.0

December 18, 2019

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I. OVERVIEW

A. POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Corona Department of Water and Power's (CDWP) overarching goal is to provide safe, reliable, and economic electric service to its local community. In order to meet this goal, CDWP constructs, maintains, and operates its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that minimizes the risk of catastrophic wildfire posed by its electrical lines and equipment.

B. PURPOSE OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

CDPW's entire electric supply system is located underground in conduit and vaults. Historically, undergrounded electric lines have not been associated with catastrophic wildfires. The undergrounding of electric lines serves as an effective mitigation measure to reduce the potential of power-line ignited wildfires. Based on a review of local conditions and historical fires, CDWP has determined that its electrical lines and equipment do not pose a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire.

Despite this low risk, CDWP takes appropriate actions to help its region prevent and respond to the increasing risk of devastating wildfires. In its role as a public agency, CDWP closely coordinates with other local safety and emergency officials to help protect against fires and respond to emergencies. In its role as a utility, CDWP follows all applicable design, construction, operation, and maintenance requirements that reduce safety risks associated with its system. This Wildfire Mitigation Plan describes the safety-related measures that CDWP follows to reduce its risk of causing wildfires.

C. ORGANIZATION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

This Wildfire Mitigation Plan included the following elements:

- Objectives of the plan;
- Roles and responsibilities for carrying out the plan;
- Identification of key wildfire risks and risk drivers;
- Description of wildfire prevention, mitigation, and response strategies and programs;
- Metrics for evaluating the performance of the plan and identifying areas for improvement;
- Review and validation of the plan; and
- Timelines.

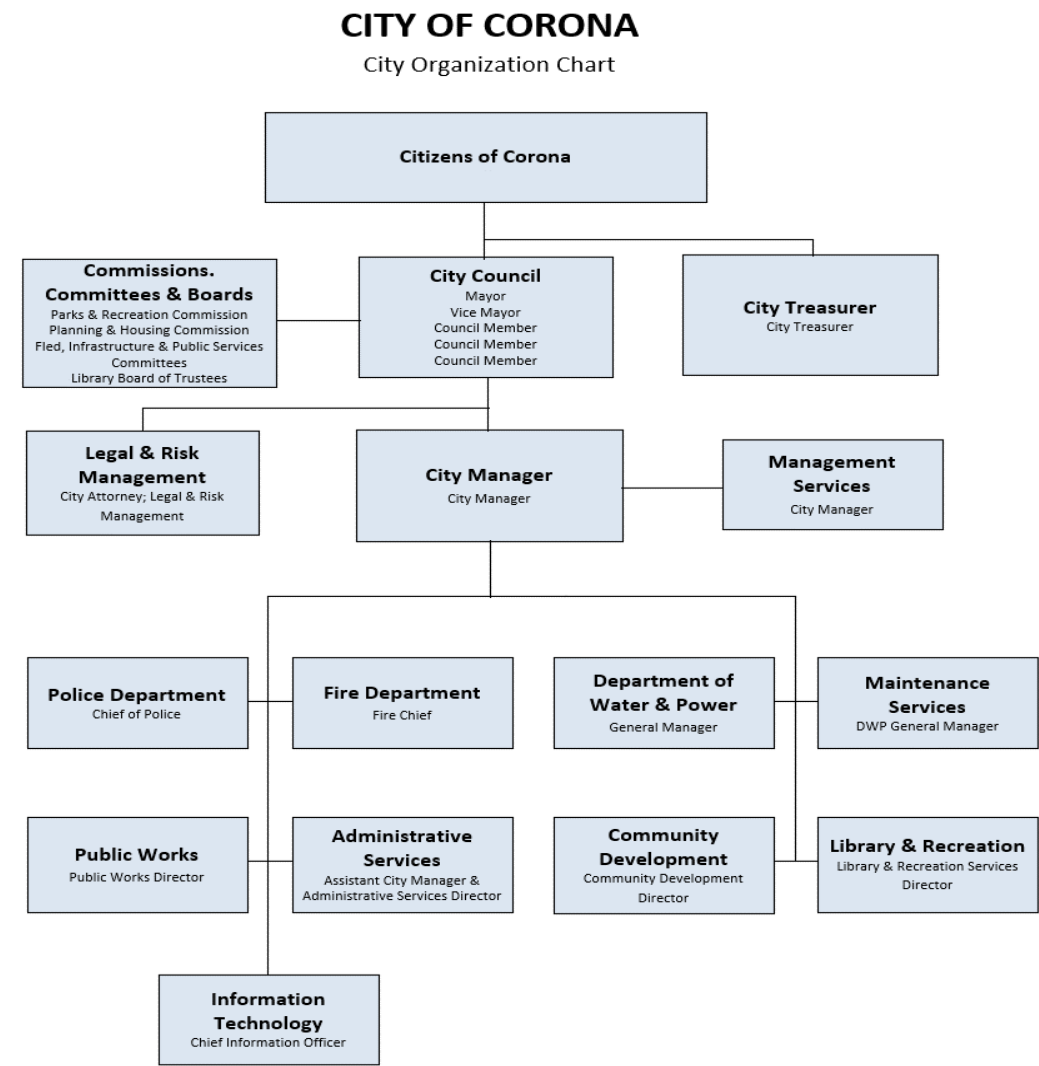
II. OBJECTIVES OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

The primary goal of this Wildfire Mitigation Plan is to describe CDWP's existing programs, practices, and measures that effectively reduce the probability that CDWP electric supply system could be the origin or contributing source for the ignition of a wildfire. To support this goal, CDWP regularly evaluates the prudent and cost-effective improvements to its physical assets, operations, and training that can help reduce the risk of equipment-related fires.

The secondary goal of this Wildfire Mitigation Plan is to improve the resiliency of the electric grid. As part of the development of this plan, CDWP assesses new industry practices and technologies that will reduce the likelihood of an interruption (frequency) in service and improve the restoration (duration of outage) of service.

III. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. UTILITY GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



The City of Corona is a general law city that operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City is governed by a five-member City Council. The Five Council Members (3 Council Members, a Vice Mayor and the Mayor) are elected by district to four-year terms. The Mayor and/or Vice Mayor are not directly elected to the position rather, Council members are appointed the positions for a one-year term, the Vice Mayor progresses to the position of Mayor. Volunteer Commissions and Boards, as well as Citizen Advisory Committees help guide the Council in its decisions. Commissioners are citizen volunteers, appointed by the City Council. The Council appoints the City Manager, who oversees the daily operations of the City. The General Manager manages the Electric Utilities under the general direction of the City Manager.

B. WILDFIRE PREVENTION

CDWP staff, in partnership with its maintenance and operations provider (Contracted Services) and Engineering Provider (Contracted Services) is responsible for electric facility design, maintenance, and inspection, including vegetation management. The City facilities are nearly 100% underground with only 3 poles spanning 78 Linear Feet of Cable in the entire system (Exhibit A). These poles are where the City transitions power from SCE to one of our WDATs. This site is located in one of the City's Treatment Plant facilities outside of any wild fire threat areas. Although CDWP's electrical distribution system is nearly 100% underground, CDWP follows best practices to prevent ignition of wildfires from its equipment. These items include:

- Performs routine maintenance of all distribution facilities.
- Conducts seasonal weed abatement to maintain standard clearances at at-risk sites.
- Operate system in a manner that will minimize potential wildfire risks.
- Take all reasonable and practicable actions to minimize the risk of a catastrophic wildfire caused by CDWP electric facilities.
- Coordinate with federal, state, and local fire management personnel as necessary or appropriate to implement CDWP's Wildfire Mitigation Plan.
- Coordinate with City Emergency Operations Center to disseminate safety warnings, emergency public information, and evacuation notices to local residents.
- Immediately report fires, pursuant to existing CDWP practices and the requirements of this Wildfire Mitigation Plan.
- Take corrective action when the staff witnesses or is notified that fire protection measures have not been properly installed or maintained.
- Comply with relevant federal, state, and industry standard requirements, including the industry standards established by the California Public Utilities Commission.

C. WILDFIRE RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

CDWP's distribution system is monitored remotely through a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system networked to all substations and circuits. CDWP field staff utilize hard line telephones, cellular telephones, and portable radios to communicate with internal and external stakeholders during an outage or emergency. CDWP's SCADA system auto-generate notifications to field, office, and administrative staff. CDWP has On-Call contractual service as

well City staff to respond in Emergency situations to facilities to expedited field response times and recovery from severe storms, natural disasters, or mass outages.

The City of Corona maintains a two-way (LF, HF, VHF, and UHF) mobile and base stations for communications enhanced by repeater system to extend the coverage area. This includes three Full Simulcast repeater sites and two receive only sites in the 700/800 MHz Public Safety band. The Fire Department uses the City owned VHF Conventional Simulcast radio system. The Police Department operates on the Riverside County wide PSEC system, 700/800 P-25 Phase II TDMA. The PSEC system has one site within the city limits with three other sites that contribute to the City's coverage. The Fire Battalion Chief vehicles are also equipped with PSEC radios on the PD talk groups. As a fail-over the PD can also revert to the City's VHF system. The City VHF system has four simulcast channels, two dedicated for Fire's use and two for the Police and other's use. The PSEC system is a trunked system and Corona PD has ten Talk Groups assigned to it.

The City of Corona owns one satellite phone kept in the EOC. Corona PD Does have an Amateur Radio user group they work with under Civil Emergency circumstances, which operates on ham radio frequencies in support of governmental emergency communications. The Frequencies can augment existing systems and establish communication links with otherwise inaccessible areas. They are also capable of sending live video and audio from an incident site to our City's emergency operations center via the ham radio.

At the county level, a Riverside County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) talk group is programmed into the Omniquest radio and is used to communicate with EOCs within Riverside County during a disaster or emergency. The City of Corona is currently in the purchasing phase to regain the connectivity to access the Low Band Western Riverside County Disaster Net radios to communicate with all EOCs within Riverside County during a disaster or emergency. This system uses low frequency bands and access to several back up channels in case of an outage.

CDWP adheres to California Public Utility Commission GO 95, 165, and 174 for all system infrastructure inspection, maintenance, and reporting.

City of Corona Fire Department's Emergency Management Division maintains a Local (City-wide) Hazard Mitigation Plan identifying potential wildland fire hazards and mitigation strategies and is in the beginning stages of developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan that will also address fire hazards and potential mitigation strategies.

All City staff are trained to report to the appropriate City Department any code violations, hazards and/or safety concerns they come across within the City Limits.

D. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

As a local governmental agency,¹ CDWP adheres to the National Incident Management System (NIMS). CDWP has planning, communication, and coordination obligations pursuant to the California Office of Emergency Services' Standardized Emergency Management System

¹ As defined in Cal. Gov. Code § 8680.2.

("SEMS") Regulations,² adopted in accordance with Government Code section 8607. The SEMS Regulations specify roles, responsibilities, and structures of communications at five different levels: field response, local government, operational area, regional, and state.³ Pursuant to this structure, CDWP annually coordinates and communicates with the relevant safety agencies as well as other relevant local and state agencies. When activated, CDWP serves as the Infrastructure & Utilities Branch under the Operations Section Chief as part of the City of Corona's Emergency Operations Center. In the event the incident centered on CDWP facilities, CDWP would serve as the Operations Section Chief

The Emergency Operation Center activation procedures, levels, section and position specific roles and responsibilities are outlined in the City of Corona's Emergency Operation Plan. CDWP participates in training and exercising to the plan.

As a member of the Riverside County Operational Area a significant amount of preparation is done through advanced planning at the local county level, including the coordination of effort of public, private, and nonprofit organizations. Riverside serves as the Operational Area and is guided by the California Office of Emergency Services, Southern Region. The Operational Area includes local and regional organizations that bring relevant expertise to the wildfire prevention, active situation and recovery planning processes. These participants include:

Agency/ Dept.	Mailing Address	Contact	Phone	Fax
AMR American Medical Response	879 Marlborough Ave. Riverside, CA. 92507		951.782.5234	951.782.5617
AMR American Medical Response	879 Marlborough Ave. Riverside, CA. 92507	Dispatch	877.267.6622	951.782.5605
Communications Providers in Corona				

² 19 CCR § 2407.

³ Cal. Gov. Code § 2403(b):

- (1) "Field response level" commands emergency response personnel and resources to carry out tactical decisions and activities in direct response to an incident or threat.
- (2) "Local government level" manages and coordinates the overall emergency response and recovery activities within their jurisdiction.
- (3) "Operational area level" manages and/or coordinates information, resources, and priorities among local governments within the operational area and serves as the coordination and communication link between the local government level and the regional level.
- (4) "Regional level" manages and coordinates information and resources among operational areas within the mutual aid region designated pursuant to Government Code §8600 and between the operational areas and the state level. This level along with the state level coordinates overall state agency support for emergency response activities.
- (5) "State level" manages state resources in response to the emergency needs of the other levels, manages and coordinates mutual aid among the mutual aid regions and between the regional level and state level, and serves as the coordination and communication link with the federal disaster response system.

Internet		AT&T- Managed Internet Service	888.613.6330, prompts 3 & 2	
		Impulse Advanced Communications	800.456.5800	
Land Lines		AT&T- Larry Lafferty	562.618.1221	
Internet Phone Service		Impulse Advanced Communications	800.456.5800	
Cable Service in Corona	1777 Center Court Dr, Suite 800 Cerritos, CA 90703	Spectrum Cable	Office: 562.677.0310 Cell: 714.715.3581	
Cell Service		Verizon - Michael Ross	951.473.7551	
		AT&T- Larry Lafferty	562.618.1221	
City of Corona: Fire/Office of Emergency Management	735 Public Safety Way, Corona, CA 92880	Emergency Management Program Manager - Gina Moran-McGough	951.415.8071	951.736.2497
City of Corona: Utility	755 Public Safety Way, Corona, CA 92880	General Manager, Tom Moody	951.736.2477	951.736.2455
City of Corona: Special Districts	400 S. Vicentia Ave., Corona, CA 92882	Division Manager- Public Works- Nelson Nelson	951.817.5765	951.279.3627
City of Corona: Fire Dept.	735 Public Safety Way, Corona, CA 92880	Fire Chief - Brian Young	951.279.3536	951.736.2497
City of Corona: Police Dept.	730 Public Safety Way, Corona, CA 92880	Police Chief - George Johnstone	951.817.5787	
City of Corona: Traffic & Transportation	400 S. Vicentia Ave., Corona, CA 92882	Public Works	951.736.2266	951.279.3627
City of Corona: Facilities Management	755 Public Safety Way, Corona, CA 92880	Division Manager - Aftab Hussain	951.736.2443	
US Forest Service: Cleveland National Forest Corona Fire Station	1148 E 6th St, Corona, CA 92879		951.371.1004	
Caltrans Corona Yard	842 El Sobrante Rd., Corona, CA 92879	Facility Supervisor- Lorenzo Perez	Office: 951.272.0628 Cell: 951.314.3630	
Corona Norco Unified School District	2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860	Maintenance Supervisor - Timothy Russell	951.736.5000	
Corona Regional Hospital	800 S. Main St., Corona, CA 92882	Facilities	951.737.4343	
Riverside County: Dept. of Environmental Health	4065 County Circle Riverside, CA.	Deputy Director	951.358.5172	951.358.5017
Riverside County: Dept. of Environmental Health	4065 County Circle Riverside, CA.	Supervising Environmental Health Specialist	951.358.5172	951.358.5017
Riverside County: Dept. of Environmental Health	800 S. Sanderson Ave. #200, Hemet, CA. 92545	Supervising Environmental Health Specialist	951.766.2824	
Riverside County: Emergency Management Department	4210 Riverwalk Pkwy Riverside, CA 92505	Duty Officer	951.312-5167	
Riverside County: Fire Department	210 W. San Jacinto Ave. Perris, CA 92570	Dispatch	951-940-6948	

Pursuant to the SEMS structure, CDPW participates in training exercises. Training exercises include workshops, tabletop exercises, and field drills. A sample of topics covered include; earthquake safety, disaster response & management, active shooter, and NIMS/SEMS/ICS compliance.

The City of Corona has specific Mutual Aid Agreements with local cities and agencies such as Riverside County, Riverside City, Orange County, Chino and the US Forest Service. The City of Corona is a participant in the California Disaster and Civil Defense Mutual Aid Agreement which allocates state resources to cope with any type of disaster.

IV. WILDFIRE RISKS AND DRIVERS ASSOCIATED WITH DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE

A. PARTICULAR RISKS AND RISK DRIVERS ASSOCIATED WITH TOPOGRAPHIC AND CLIMATOLOGICAL RISK FACTORS

With all but 3 poles spanning 78 Linear Feet of Cable and located outside of any identified high Fire area maps (Exhibit B), CDWP's service territory is located underground, the primary risk drivers for wildfire are the following:

- Water Inundation
- Earthquake Weather
- Electrical Storms

B. ENTERPRISEWIDE SAFETY RISKS

Water Inundation - There are three types Water Inundation can occur in the Corona Service area: watercourses, ponding and sheet flow. Inundation within defined watercourses occurs within drainage channels and natural Water shed areas. Ponding occurs when water flow is obstructed from following its natural or intended course. Sheet flow occurs when capacities of defined watercourses are exceeded, and water flows over broad areas.

Known flood-prone area as noted in the City's maintenance files, include the Bedford Canyon Wash crossing at Temescal Canyon Road between Cajalco Road and Breezy Meadow Lane. The Bedford Wash is an extensive combination of natural water course and manmade containment channels that extends from a point west in the Cleveland National Forest flowing in an easterly direction into the Temescal Wash. Debris flows resulting from excessive water inundation overwhelms the Channel at the Temescal Canyon Road Bridge crossing, resulting in the water and debris flows breaching the bridge and flooding the area, including a critical reach of the electrical system.

Earthquake profile - There are three major faults/fault zones that directly affect the City of Corona. They are the southern section of the San Andreas Fault, the Elsinore Fault Zone, and the San Jacinto Fault Zone. The Elsinore Fault Zone is the closest fault to City of Corona, as it runs

adjacent to the City boundaries approx. 10 miles from the southernmost section to the Western most point of the City Boundaries. The San Jacinto Fault Zone which is the next closet located approximately 25 miles northeast of the City of Corona. The San Andreas Fault Zone is located approximately 35 miles northeast of the City and was the fault that had the largest earthquake to occur within 100 miles of Corona was the 7.3 magnitude Landers earthquake in 1992. The City of Corona could be affected by large earthquakes occurring in many parts of Southern California. However, the degree to which the earthquakes are felt, and the damages associated with them may vary. At risk from earthquake damage are critical facilities, buildings, bridges, highways and roads; Electric Distribution Lines; sewer, water, and natural gas pipelines; earth dams; petroleum pipelines; and private property located in the city. The relative or secondary earthquake hazards, which are liquefaction, ground shaking, amplification, and earthquake-induced landslides, can be just as destructive as the earthquake.

Electrical Storms – the City location has shown to be susceptible to Micro-Climate Storms consisting of high winds and frequent lightning activity, particularly in the Canyon area located in the vicinity of Temescal Canyon Road and Cajalco Road. The high winds in this area do not impact the City's Service area as the CDWP system is 100% underground there but, it does impact the SCE Distribution Lines feeding the area. The lightning is always a concern with transformer and switchgear being housed in the steel enclosures.

V. WILDFIRE PREVENTATIVE STRATEGIES

A. HIGH FIRE THREAT DISTRICT

CDWP directly participated in the development of the CPUC's Fire-Threat Map,⁴ which designates a High-Fire Threat District. In the map development process, CDWP coordinated with Southern California Edison Company (SCE) and determined that because CDWP's system is entirely undergrounded, that SCE would serve as territory lead for the region served by CDWP. CDWP has incorporated the High Fire Threat District into its construction, inspection, maintenance, repair, and clearance practices, where applicable.

B. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

CDWP's electric facilities are designed and constructed to meet or exceed the relevant federal, state, or industry standard. CDWP treats CPUC General Orders (GO) 95 and 128 as a key industry standard for design and construction standards for overhead and underground electrical facilities. CDWP meets or exceeds all standards in GO 95 and GO 128. Additionally, CDWP monitors and follows, as appropriate, the National Electric Safety Code. CDWP constructs, maintains, and operates its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risk of wildfire posed by those electrical lines and equipment.

C. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

CDWP meets or exceeds the minimum industry standard vegetation management practices. For distribution-level facilities, CDWP complies with NERC FAC-003-4, where applicable. For distribution level facilities, CDWP meets: (1) California Public Resources Code section - PRC §4292; (2) California Public Resources Code section - PRC §4293; (3) GO 95.

D. INSPECTIONS

CDWP meets or exceeds the minimum inspection requirements provided in CPUC GO 165 and CPUC GO 95, Rule 18. Pursuant to these rules, utilities inspect electric facilities in the High Fire Threat District more frequently than the other areas of its service territory. As described above, CDWP currently does not have any overhead powerlines located within or near the High-Fire Threat District within the CPUC's Fire Threat Map. However, CDWP staff uses their knowledge of the specific environmental and geographical conditions of CDWP's service territory to determine if any particular areas require more frequent inspections.

⁴ Adopted by CPUC Decision 17-12-024.

If CDWP staff discovers a facility in need of repair that is owned by an entity other than CDWP, CDWP will issue a notice to repair to the facility owner and work to ensure that necessary repairs are completed promptly.

E. RECLOSING POLICY

CDWP has no Reclosers deployed in its electrical system as the system is nearly 100% underground.

F. DEENERGIZATION

CDWP has the authority to preemptively shut off power due to fire-threat conditions, however, this option will only be used in extraordinary circumstances. Due to the extreme minimal risk of CDWP's electrical supply facilities causing a power-line ignited wildfire, CDWP is not adopting specific protocols for de-energizing and customer notification for any portions of its electric distribution system. CDWP will re-evaluate this determination in future updates to this Wildfire Mitigation Plan

VI. RESTORATION OF SERVICE

As expressed previously, the CDWP's electric distribution system is nearly entirely underground. However, the City system is interconnected with SCE's transmission and distribution systems, much of which is overhead and exposed to wind, rain and lightning. This is our primary source of vulnerability to potential electrical service interruptions during rain and wind storms such as the ones that can be triggered by El Nino and Micro Climate conditions. The City's underground electric distribution systems have not been constructed with redundant sources of feeds. This makes the City system highly susceptible outages in these conditions and dependent upon SCE for restoration of those lines.

Preparation in advance of predicted storms: Since, as discussed in the introduction, our primary trouble source during storms is outages on SCE's transmission and distribution lines, many of which are overhead, we will patrol, to the extent practical, SCE's primary interconnect lines for any potential trouble spots including but, not limited to broken tree limbs or other vulnerabilities. We will also double check the loading conditions of our underground lines to satisfy ourselves that System is capable of serving the electric load of our customers in an event.

Our underground system will be patrolled in advance of storms for any open trenches or excavations at construction sites to minimize water intrusion into the underground system. Although the underground system is designed to operate under such conditions, small pinholes in splices or cable can cause problems, including possible electrical shorts/faults, that can interrupt service to customers. Likewise, after the storm, each underground vault, manhole or other structure will be inspected for water intrusion and pumped, when necessary, in accordance proper utility practice and environmental guidelines.

All vehicular equipment, man-lifts, tools and appurtenances will be thoroughly inspected for proper operation. All operating personnel are on standby to address any issue resulting from weather related events.

The CDWP Operations and the Call Center will be appropriately staffed for handling of trouble calls from customers and dispatching to field personnel.

Outage support includes:

- City Out Map Management
- Field Dispatching
- Customer Callbacks

Response Prioritization:

- First Priority: Response to imminent threats to life and/or public property
- Second Priority: Removals of immediate hazards (fallen trees, power poles, etc.)
- Third Priority: Clearing of arterial roadways

- Fourth Priority: Maintenance of traffic control/closures to prevent potential accidents
- Fifth Priority (Post Storm Activity): Follow-up work such as addressing storm-related potholes and residual clean-up of all streets that have remained in a "passable and drivable" state

Referral Protocol:

- Flooding of structures on private property-

IF flows are from City owned facilities - Maintenance and Operations will be dispatched to address

If private property - Residents will be advised to call 911 for Fire Department assistance

Facilities associated with other government agencies (RCFCD) or private utilities will be referred to appropriate agencies/company

- All storm related issues involving streets, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, residential trees in the right of way, catch basins, and miscellaneous drainage facilities will be referred to the City's Maintenance and Operations Division.

During EOC activation period, all routine maintenance programs and requests will be suspended and deferred.

VII. EVALUATING OF THE PLAN

A. METRICS AND ASSUMPTIONS FOR MEASURING PLAN PERFORMANCE

CDWP will track two metrics to measure the performance of this Wildfire Mitigation Plan: (1) number of fire ignitions; and (2) wires down within the service territory.

METRIC 1: FIRE IGNITIONS

For purposes of this metric, a fire ignition is defined as follows:

- CDWP facility was associated with the fire;
- The fire was self-propagating and of a material other than electrical and/or communication facilities;
- The resulting fire traveled greater than one linear meter from the ignition point; and
- CDWP as knowledge that the fire occurred.

In future Wildfire Mitigation Plans, CDWP will provide the number of fires that occurred that were less than 10 acres in size. Any fires greater than 10 acres will be individually described.

METRIC 2: WIRES DOWN

The second metric is the number of distribution and transmission wires downed within CDWP's service territory. For purposes of this metric, a wire(s) down event includes any instance where an electric transmission or primary distribution conductor falls to the ground or on to a foreign object. CDWP will divide the wires down metric between wires down inside and outside of the High Fire Threat District.

CDWP will not normalize this metric by excluding unusual events, such as severe storms. Instead, CDWP will supplement this metric with a qualitative description of any such unusual events.

B. IMPACT OF METRICS ON PLAN

In the initial years, CDWP anticipates that there will be relatively limited data gathered through these metrics. However, as the data collection history becomes more robust, CDWP will be able to identify areas of its operations and service territory that are disproportionately impacted. CDWP will then evaluate potential improvements to the plan.

C. MONITORING AND AUDITING THE PLAN

This Wildfire Mitigation Plan will be presented to CDWP's City Council and will present updates to this plan to the City Council on an annual basis. Additionally, a qualified independent evaluator will present a report on this plan to the City Council.

D. IDENTIFYING AND CORRECTING DEFICIENCIES IN THE PLAN

Based on the recommendations of its City Council, CDWP will correct any identified deficiencies.

E. MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INSPECTIONS

CDWP reviews and evaluates its system reliability indices to monitor inspection and maintenance efforts. SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI, and MAIFI systems statistics are recorded, tracked and evaluated with respect to SCE transmission interruptions vs. City distribution interruptions to its customers for internal reliability.

CDWP's utility maintenance management system (NexGen Asset Management System) is used to collect all data subject to GO165. All maintenance and inspection efforts are recorded and tracked in NexGen for the City electric distribution facilities. Maintenance history for each piece of equipment is being archived in NexGen. Additionally, CDPW's substation inspections and maintenance program complies with GO174 guidelines as well as manufacturer specifications, standards, and recommendations. CDWP performs inspections of all substation and systems components including recording and analysis of all alarms, heat signatures, fluid levels, meters, fuses, contacts, cable connections, breaker settings, etc.

VIII. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Public Utilities Code section 8387(c) requires CDWP to contract with a qualified independent evaluator with experience in assessing the safe operation of electrical infrastructure to review and assess the comprehensiveness of this Wildfire Mitigation Plan. The independent evaluator must issue a report that is posted to CDWP website. This report must also be presented to CDWP's City Council at a public meeting.

The City of Corona Fire Department will conduct the qualified independent evaluator review and will present their findings to the City Council as a separate action from the CDWP Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

IX. EXHIBITS

Exhibit A

City of Corona DWP Owned Overhead Electrical Lines and Equipment Locations

The only Corona owned overhead lines and equipment in the system are located within the fence line of the Corona Department of Water and Power's Waste Water Treatment Plant #2 at 652 Harrison Street, consisting of 3 poles spanning 78 linear Feet of Cable.

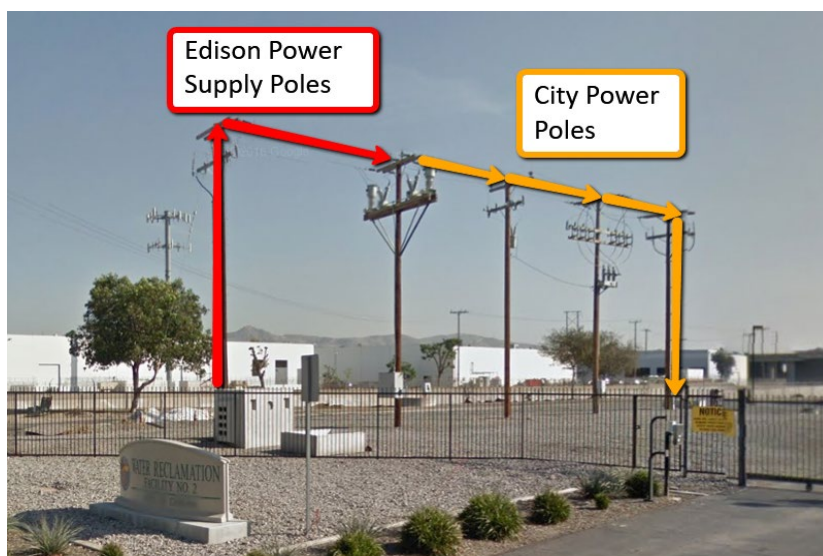
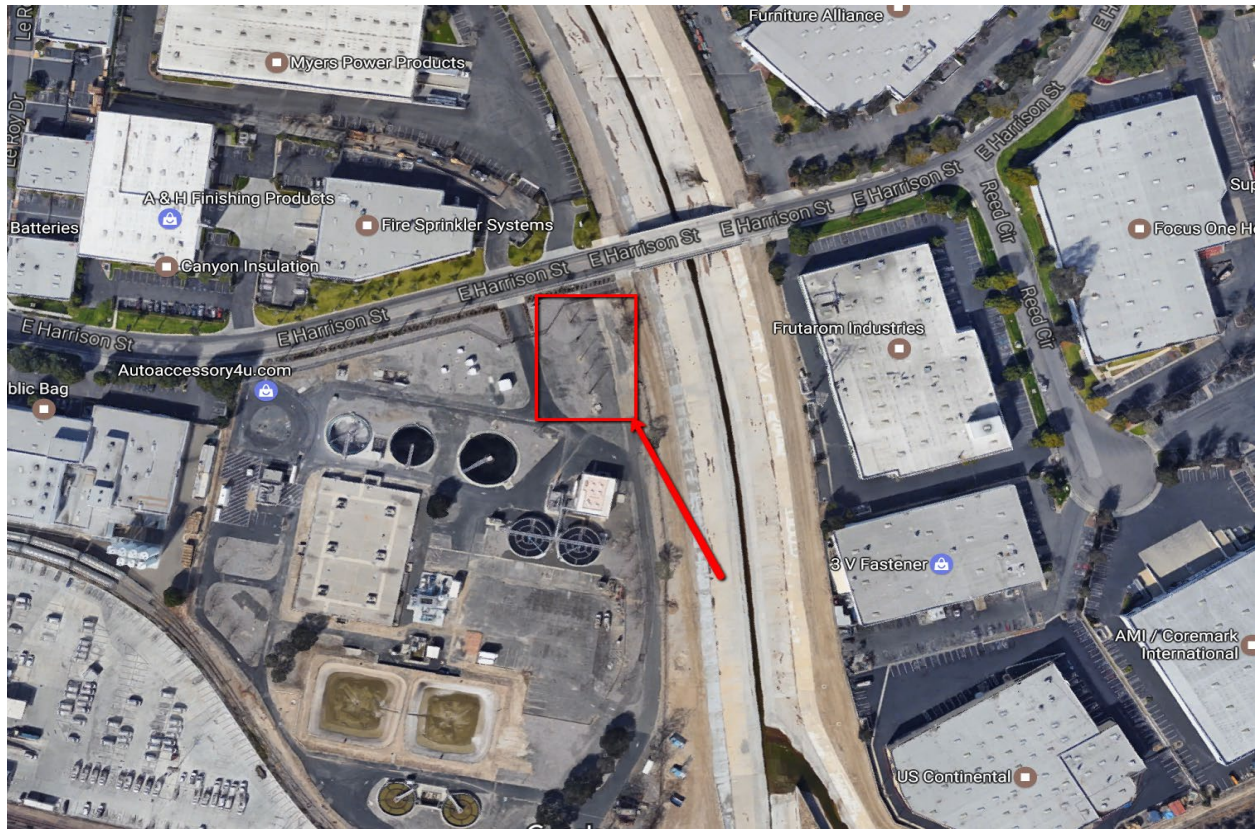


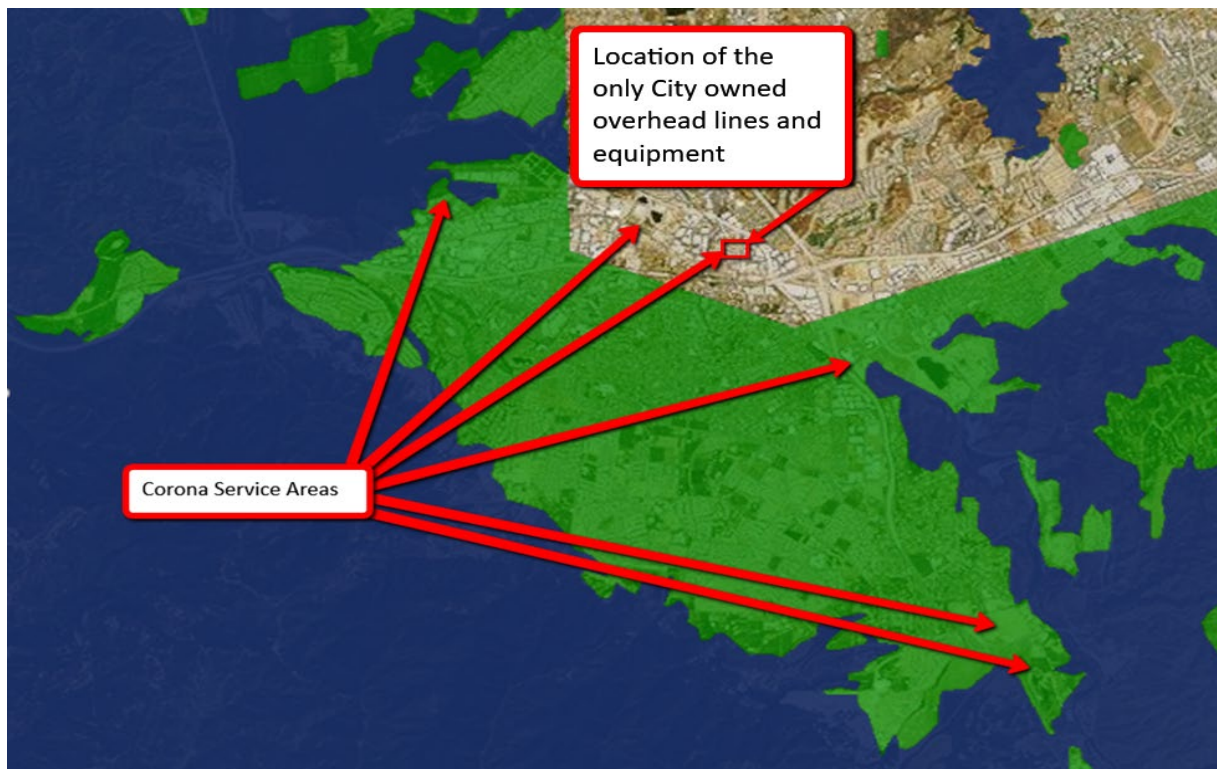
Exhibit B

City of Corona DWP Owned Overhead Electrical Lines and Equipment Locations to Fire Shape Maps

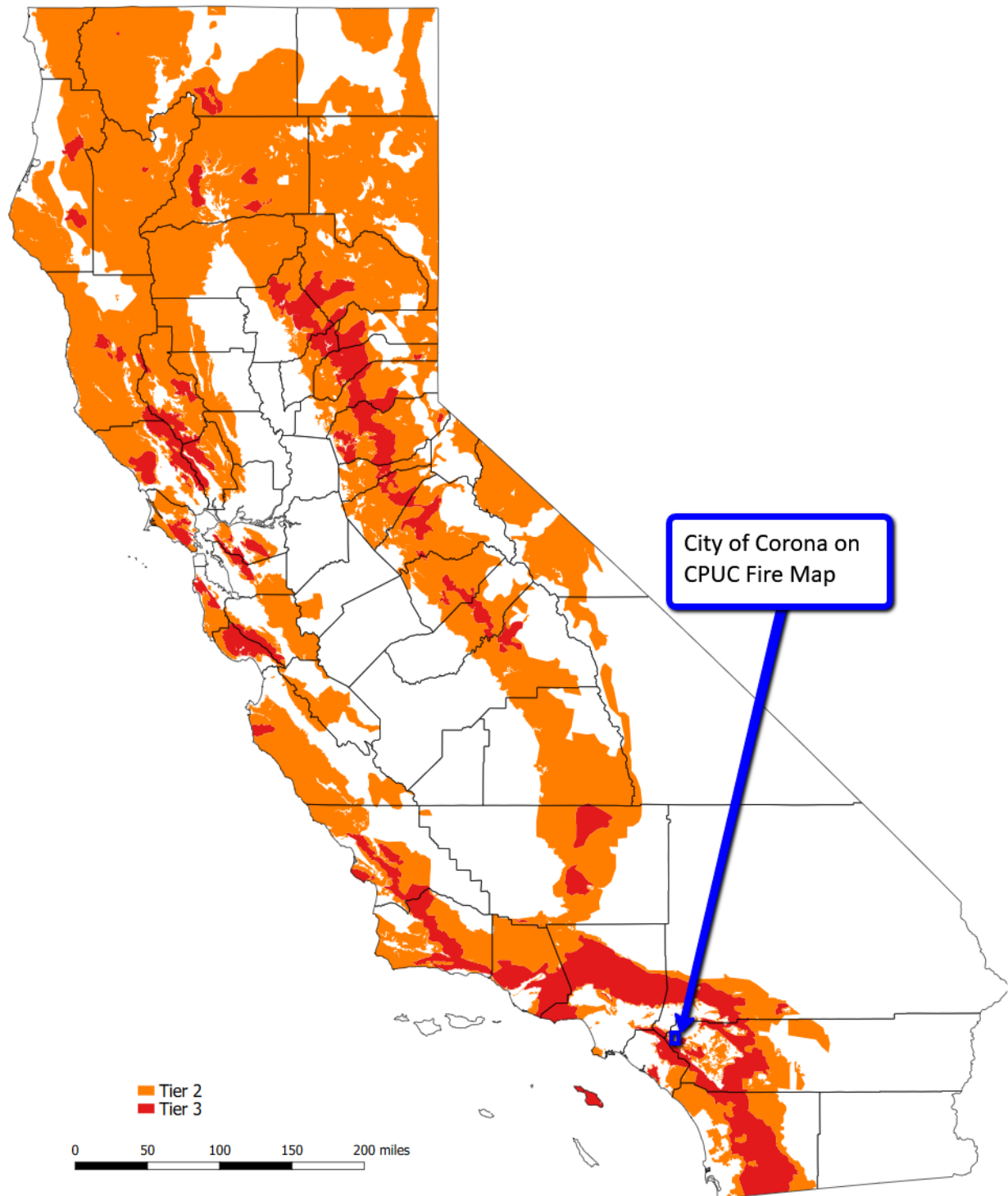




Located outside the Shape A (Green) and B (Blue) Map - Final – Corona Coverage



CPUC Statewide Fire Threat Map





Agenda Report

File #: 19-1003

**AGENDA REPORT
REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

DATE: 12/18/2019

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Department of Water and Power

SUBJECT:

City Council consideration of Resolution No. 2019-098, adopting the City of Corona Department of Water and Power Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2019-098, adopting the City of Corona Department of Water and Power Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

ANALYSIS:

In 2008, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") initiated a proceeding to address fires related to utility infrastructure, following a series of wildfires that occurred in 2007 and 2008. The goal of this proceeding was to establish new industry standards that would reduce the risk of electric line-ignited wildfires, with a focus on areas of the state where wildfire risks are elevated. In 2012, the CPUC adopted three interim fire maps that designated areas of the state where stricter inspection and vegetation clearance requirements would apply to overhead utility poles and equipment.¹ These interim maps were based on generalized wildfire threat, rather than the areas that were at a unique risk of electric line-ignited fires. The CPUC acknowledged the need for a better map and, in the same 2012 Decision, the CPUC directed parties to develop a more precise statewide fire map that identified areas of the state at an elevated risk of electric line-ignited wildfires.²

In 2016, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill ("SB") 1028 (stats. 2016), which required publicly owned utilities ("POUs") to identify additional wildfire mitigation measures that the POU could take if the POU governing board first found that its overhead electric lines and equipment posed a significant risk of causing a catastrophic wildfire. SB 1028 required that the POU governing board must base

¹ D.12-01-032.

² D.12-01-032 at 146-147.

this determination on “historical fires and local conditions,” and must consult with local fire departments and other entities with responsibilities for the control of wildfires within the relevant area.³ These requirements were specified in the newly added Public Utilities Code Section 8387.

In 2018, the CPUC completed the development of the statewide Fire Threat Map that designates areas of the state at an elevated risk of electric line-ignited wildfires.⁴ This updated map incorporated historical fire data, fire-behavior modeling, assessments of fuel, weather modeling, and a host of other factors. The map development and approval process involved detailed review by the relevant utility staff and local fire officials, a peer review process, and ultimate approval by a team of technical experts led by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (“CAL FIRE”). The CPUC’s Fire Threat Map includes three Tiers/Levels of fire threat risk. Tier 1 consists of areas that have the lowest hazards and risks. Tier 2 consists of areas where there is an elevated risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires. Finally, Tier 3 consists of areas where there is an extreme risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires.

The Department of Water and Power (DWP) staff reviewed the CPUC’s Fire Threat Map and determined that no Department of Water and Power overhead electric lines or equipment, consisting of 3 poles spanning roughly 78’, are located in an area designated as either Tier 2 (elevated risk) or Tier 3 (extreme risk). Staff also reviewed historical fire data and local conditions. Based on this review, staff concluded the DWP’s overhead electric lines and equipment did not pose a significant wildfire risk. On September 19, 2018, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-099, which adopted staff’s recommendation and found that the DWP’s overhead electric lines and equipment did not pose a significant risk of causing a catastrophic wildfire. Pursuant to SB 1028, the DWP was not required to identify any additional wildfire mitigation measures.

In 2018, Governor Brown signed SB 901 (stats. 2018), which addressed a wide range of issues relating to wildfire prevention, response, and recovery. SB 901 substantially revised Public Utilities Code Section 8387, eliminating the prior process established by SB 1028 and instead making it mandatory for all POU’s (regardless of size or wildfire risk) to develop a wildfire mitigation plan. Pursuant to the amended Section 8387, all POU’s must present a wildfire mitigation plan to its governing board prior to January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter. Section 8387(b)(2) specifies the topics that must be addressed in the POU wildfire mitigation plans, which includes: (a) the responsibilities of the persons tasked with executing the plan; (b) a description of the POU’s wildfire mitigation preventative strategies and programs; (c) a description of the metrics the POU will use to evaluate the wildfire mitigation plan’s performance and discussion of how those metrics informed the current wildfire mitigation plan; (d) protocols for disabling reclosers and deenergizing portions of the electrical system; and (e) identification, description, and prioritization of all wildfire risks within the POU’s service territory.

³ Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 8387(b).

⁴ PG&E Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, “Joint Filing - Adoption of Final California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map,” Jan. 5, 2018, *available at* https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf; SED Disposition Letter Approving Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, January 19, 2018, *available at* https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf.

SB 901 requires that POU's must present their wildfire mitigation plan at an appropriately noticed public meeting and receive public comment. The POU must also verify that the wildfire mitigation plan complies with all applicable rules, regulations, and standards. POU's must also have their plan reviewed by a qualified independent evaluator to assess the comprehensiveness of the plan. The independent evaluator must then issue a report that the POU must make available on the POU's website, and the POU must present the report at a public meeting of the POU's governing board.

In 2019, two new bills (SB 1054 and SB 111) resulted in additional major reforms relating to wildfires. As part of these reforms, SB 111 created a new state agency called the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board ("Board"). The Board will be made up of seven members, five appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, and one appointed by the Senate Rules Committee. The members of the board must be selected from industry experts, academics, and people with labor and workforce safety experience. At least three members must be experienced in the safe operation, design, and engineering of electrical infrastructure. SB 1054 requires that all POU's must submit their wildfire mitigation plans to the Board by July 1 of each year, starting in 2020. The Board will then review the POU plans and will provide comments and advisory opinions on the content and sufficiency of the plans.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code, Section 8387, DWP has prepared the required wildfire mitigation plan. Staff has reviewed the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan and concluded that the plan meets all the required criteria as provided in Section 8387. The Department of Water and Power is presenting the plan at this noticed public meeting and is open for receipt of public comment. The Department of Water and Power has received a report from an independent evaluator (the Corona Fire Department), made the report available on the City's Department of Water and Power website, and the Fire Department is presenting the report in a separate action at this public meeting of the Department of Water and Power's governing body. Staff's recommendation is for Council to adopt the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan as required by California state law pursuant SB 901.

The Department of Water and Power will submit the adopted wildfire mitigation plan to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board prior to July 1, 2020.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Not applicable

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This action is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action approves a plan for the implementation of preventive strategies and mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment. This

mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment. This action does not approve or authorize any construction activity or any disturbance of an environmental resource. There is no possibility that adopting the Wildfire Mitigation Plan will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, the City Council finds that no further environmental review of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan is required pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

PREPARED BY: CURTIS SHOWALTER, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER IV

REVIEWED BY: TOM MOODY, GENERAL MANAGER

REVIEWED BY: DEAN DERLETH, CITY ATTORNEY

SUBMITTED BY: JACOB ELLIS, CITY MANAGER

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 2019-098

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-098

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF CORONA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER ELECTRIC
UTILITY WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the City of Corona (“City”), a municipal corporation, is authorized under various provisions of the California Constitution and the general laws of California (including, specifically, Article XI, section 9(a) of the California Constitution, Public Utilities Code Section 10004, and Government Code section 39732(a) to establish, purchase, and operate a public utility to furnish its inhabitants with, among other things, electricity; and

WHEREAS, the City operates a municipal electric utility through its Department of Water and Power (“DWP”); and

WHEREAS, as a municipal electric utility, DWP is generally subject to the legislative and regulatory requirements applicable to local publicly owned electric utilities (POUs); and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (“SB”) 1028 (stats. 2016), adding California Public Utilities Code, Section 8387, requires each POU to construct, maintain, and operate its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risk of wildfire posed by those electrical lines and equipment; and

WHEREAS, SB 901 (stats. 2018), amending California Public Utilities Code Section 8387, requires all POUs to prepare a wildfire mitigation plan before January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter; and

WHEREAS, California Public Utilities Code Section 8387(b)(2) specifies the content that must be included in each POU’s wildfire mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, California Public Utilities Code Section 8387(c) requires each POU to have a qualified independent evaluator review its wildfire mitigation plan to assess the comprehensiveness of its plan and to issue a report that is made available on the POU’s website and presented at a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, California Public Utilities Code Section 8387(b)(3) requires each POU to present its wildfire mitigation plan at an appropriately noticed public meeting and to verify that its plan complies with all applicable rules, regulations, and standards, as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, SB 111 (stats. 2019), adding California Public Utilities Code Section 326.1, established the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, SB 1054 (stats. 2019), amending California Public Utilities Code Section 8387, requires each POU to submit its wildfire mitigation plan to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board by July 1 of each year, starting in the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 326.2, the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board will review each POU's wildfire mitigation plan and will provide comments and advisory opinions on the content and sufficiency of each plan; and

WHEREAS, DWP staff prepared a wildfire mitigation plan for calendar year 2020, addressing all statutory criteria; and

WHEREAS, DWP staff verified that the wildfire mitigation plan complies with all applicable rules, regulations, and standards; and

WHEREAS, the City of Corona Fire Department is a qualified independent evaluator and, after reviewing the Wildfire Mitigation Plan attached to this Resolution, has determined that the plan meets the requirements of California Public Utilities Code Section 8387; and

WHEREAS, the City of Corona Fire Department has prepared a report concerning its review of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan, which has or will be presented at a public meeting of the City Council, as DWP's governing board, and is or will be posted to the City of Corona's website; and

WHEREAS, DWP staff will submit the Wildfire Mitigation Plan, adopted pursuant to this Resolution, to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board before July 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Corona, California, as follows:

SECTION 1. CEQA Findings. Based upon the facts and information contained in the administrative record, including all written and oral evidence presented to the City Council, the City Council finds this action exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action approves a plan for the implementation of preventive strategies and mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment. This action does not approve or authorize any construction activity or any disturbance of an environmental resource. There is no possibility that adopting the Wildfire Mitigation Plan will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, the City Council finds that no further environmental review of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan is required pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

SECTION 2. Adoption of Plan. The City Council hereby adopts the City of Corona Department of Water and Power Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan, dated December 18, 2019, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 8387.

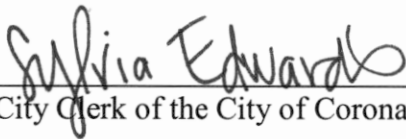
SECTION 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of December 2019.



Mayor of the City of Corona, California

ATTEST:



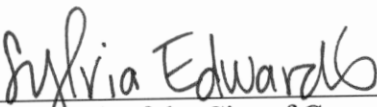
City Clerk of the City of Corona, California

CERTIFICATION

I, Sylvia Edwards, City Clerk of the City of Corona, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Corona, California, at an adjourned meeting thereof held on the 18th day of December 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:	CARRILLO , CASILLAS, SCOTT, STEINER, SPEAKE
NOES:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE
ABSTAINED:	NONE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of Corona, California, this 18th day of December 2019.



City Clerk of the City of Corona, California

(SEAL)



City of Corona

400 S. Vicentia Ave.
Corona, CA 92882

Certified Copy

Resolution: 19-1003

File Number: 19-1003

City Council consideration of Resolution No. 2019-098, adopting the City of Corona Department of Water and Power Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

ANALYSIS:

In 2008, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") initiated a proceeding to address fires related to utility infrastructure, following a series of wildfires that occurred in 2007 and 2008. The goal of this proceeding was to establish new industry standards that would reduce the risk of electric line-ignited wildfires, with a focus on areas of the state where wildfire risks are elevated. In 2012, the CPUC adopted three interim fire maps that designated areas of the state where stricter inspection and vegetation clearance requirements would apply to overhead utility poles and equipment.¹ These interim maps were based on generalized wildfire threat, rather than the areas that were at a unique risk of electric line-ignited fires. The CPUC acknowledged the need for a better map and, in the same 2012 Decision, the CPUC directed parties to develop a more precise statewide fire map that identified areas of the state at an elevated risk of electric line-ignited wildfires.²

In 2016, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill ("SB") 1028 (stats. 2016), which required publicly owned utilities ("POUs") to identify additional wildfire mitigation measures that the POU could take if the POU governing board first found that its overhead electric lines and equipment posed a significant risk of causing a catastrophic wildfire. SB 1028 required that the POU governing board must base

¹ D.12-01-032.

² D.12-01-032 at 146-147.

this determination on "historical fires and local conditions," and must consult with local fire departments and other entities with responsibilities for the control of wildfires within the relevant area.³ These requirements were specified in the newly added Public Utilities Code Section 8387.

In 2018, the CPUC completed the development of the statewide Fire Threat Map that designates areas of the state at an elevated risk of electric line-ignited wildfires.⁴ This updated map incorporated historical fire data, fire-behavior modeling, assessments of fuel, weather modeling, and a host of other factors. The map development and approval process involved detailed review by the relevant utility staff and local fire officials, a peer review process, and ultimate approval by a team of technical experts led by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("CAL FIRE"). The CPUC's Fire Threat Map includes three Tiers/Levels of fire threat risk. Tier 1 consists of areas that have the lowest hazards and risks.

Tier 2 consists of areas where there is an elevated risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires. Finally, Tier 3 consists of areas where there is an extreme risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires.

The Department of Water and Power (DWP) staff reviewed the CPUC's Fire Threat Map and determined that no Department of Water and Power overhead electric lines or equipment, consisting of 3 poles spanning roughly 78', are located in an area designated as either Tier 2 (elevated risk) or Tier 3 (extreme risk). Staff also reviewed historical fire data and local conditions. Based on this review, staff concluded the DWP's overhead electric lines and equipment did not pose a significant wildfire risk. On September 19, 2018, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-099, which adopted staff's recommendation and found that the DWP's overhead electric lines and equipment did not pose a significant risk of causing a catastrophic wildfire. Pursuant to SB 1028, the DWP was not required to identify any additional wildfire mitigation measures.

In 2018, Governor Brown signed SB 901 (stats. 2018), which addressed a wide range of issues relating to wildfire prevention, response, and recovery. SB 901 substantially revised Public Utilities Code Section 8387, eliminating the prior process established by SB 1028 and instead making it mandatory for all POU's (regardless of size or wildfire risk) to develop a wildfire mitigation plan. Pursuant to the amended Section 8387, all POU's must present a wildfire mitigation plan to its governing board prior to January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter. Section 8387(b)(2) specifies the topics that must be addressed in the POU wildfire mitigation plans, which includes: (a) the responsibilities of the persons tasked with executing the plan; (b) a description of the POU's wildfire mitigation preventative strategies and programs; (c) a description of the metrics the POU will use to evaluate the wildfire mitigation plan's performance and discussion of how those metrics informed the current wildfire mitigation plan; (d) protocols for disabling reclosers and deenergizing portions of the electrical system; and (e) identification, description, and prioritization of all wildfire risks within the POU's service territory.

3 Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 8387(b).

4 PG&E Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, "Joint Filing - Adoption of Final California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map," Jan. 5, 2018, *available at*

https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf; SED Disposition Letter Approving Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, January 19, 2018, *available at*

https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf.

SB 901 requires that POU's must present their wildfire mitigation plan at an appropriately noticed public meeting and receive public comment. The POU must also verify that the wildfire mitigation plan complies with all applicable rules, regulations, and standards. POU's must also have their plan reviewed by a qualified independent evaluator to assess the comprehensiveness of the plan. The independent evaluator must then issue a report that the POU must make available on the POU's website, and the POU must present the report at a public meeting of the POU's governing board.

In 2019, two new bills (SB 1054 and SB 111) resulted in additional major reforms relating to wildfires. As part of these reforms, SB 111 created a new state agency called the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board ("Board"). The Board will be made up of seven members, five appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, and one appointed by the Senate Rules Committee. The members of the board must be selected from industry experts, academics, and people with labor and workforce safety experience. At least three members must be experienced in the safe operation, design, and engineering of electrical infrastructure. SB 1054 requires that all POUs must submit their wildfire mitigation plans to the Board by July 1 of each year, starting in 2020. The Board will then review the POU plans and will provide comments and advisory opinions on the content and sufficiency of the plans.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code, Section 8387, DWP has prepared the required wildfire mitigation plan. Staff has reviewed the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan and concluded that the plan meets all the required criteria as provided in Section 8387. The Department of Water and Power is presenting the plan at this noticed public meeting and is open for receipt of public comment. The Department of Water and Power has received a report from an independent evaluator (the Corona Fire Department), made the report available on the City's Department of Water and Power website, and the Fire Department is presenting the report in a separate action at this public meeting of the Department of Water and Power's governing body. Staff's recommendation is for Council to adopt the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan as required by California state law pursuant SB 901.

The Department of Water and Power will submit the adopted wildfire mitigation plan to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board prior to July 1, 2020.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Not applicable

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This action is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action approves a plan for the implementation of preventive strategies and mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment. This action does not approve or authorize any construction activity or any disturbance of an environmental resource. There is no possibility that adopting the Wildfire Mitigation Plan will have a significant effect on the

environment. Therefore, the City Council finds that no further environmental review of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan is required pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

PREPARED BY: CURTIS SHOWALTER, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER iV

REVIEWED BY: TOM MOODY, GENERAL MANAGER

REVIEWED BY: DEAN DERLETH, CITY ATTORNEY

SUBMITTED BY: JACOB ELLIS, CITY MANAGER

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 2019-098

I, Sylvia Edwards, certify that this is a true copy of Resolution No. 19-1003, passed by the City Council on 12/18/2019.

Attest:

Kurtia Duarte for

1/02/2020
Date Certified



City of Corona

400 S. Vicentia Ave.
Corona, CA 92882

Certified Copy

Reports: 19-1042

File Number: 19-1042

City Council consideration of the Corona Fire Department's Qualified Independent Evaluator Report of the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan for Compliance under Senate Bill (SB) 901.

ANALYSIS:

In 2016, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill ("SB") 1028 (stats. 2016), which required publicly owned utilities ("POUs") to identify additional wildfire mitigation measures that the POU could take with regards to its overhead electric lines and equipment posed a significant risk of causing a catastrophic wildfire.

In 2018, the CPUC completed the development of the statewide Fire Threat Map that designates areas of the state at an elevated risk of electric line-ignited wildfires.¹ This updated map incorporated historical fire data, fire-behavior modeling, assessments of fuel, weather modeling, and host of other factors. The map development and approval process involved detailed review by the relevant utility staff and local fire officials, a peer review process, and ultimate approval by a team of technical experts led by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The CPUC's Fire Threat Map includes three Tiers/Levels of fire threat risk. Tier 1 consists of areas that have the lowest hazards and risks. Tier 2 consists of areas where there is an elevated risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires. Finally, Tier 3 consists of areas where there is an extreme risk for destructive electric line-ignited wildfires.

¹ PG&E Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, "Joint Filing - Adoption of Final California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map," Jan. 5, 2018, *available at*

https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf;

SED Disposition Letter Approving Advice Letter 5211-E/3172-E, January 19, 2018, *available at*

https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5211-E.pdf.

The Corona Fire Department has reviewed the Department of Water and Power (DWP) electric system in relation to the CPUC's Fire Threat Map and determined that no Department of Water and Power overhead electric lines or equipment are located in any areas designated as either Tier 2 (elevated risk) or Tier 3 (extreme risk). Fire staff has also reviewed historical fire data and local conditions. Based on this review, Fire staff concluded the DWP's overhead electric lines and equipment do not pose a significant wildfire risk.

SB 901 requires that POUs must verify that the wildfire mitigation plan complies with all applicable rules, regulations, and standards. POUs must also have their plan reviewed by a qualified independent evaluator to assess the comprehensiveness of the plan. The independent evaluator must then issue a report, present that report at a public meeting of the POU's governing board and make the report available on the POU's website.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code, Section 8387, the City of Corona Fire Department has prepared the required qualified independent evaluator report, which is attached to this agenda report. Staff has reviewed the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan and concluded that the plan meets all the required criteria as provided in Section 8387. The Fire Department is presenting this report of the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan as a separate action at this noticed public meeting for consideration and acceptance by the City Council, which is the Department of Water and Power's governing body, after receipt of public comment. The qualified independent evaluator report has been made available on the City's website, as required.

Staff recommends that the City Council accept the qualified independent evaluator report of the Department of Water and Power Wildfire Mitigation Plan as required by California state law pursuant SB 901.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This action is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action merely accepts the independent evaluator report for a plan that will implement preventive strategies and mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment. This action does not approve or authorize any construction activity or any disturbance of an environmental resource. There is no possibility that accepting the independent evaluator report will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, the City Council finds that no further environmental review is required pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

PREPARED BY: CINDI SCHMITZ, FIRE MARSHAL

REVIEWED BY: CHRIS COX, DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

REVIEWED BY: BRIAN YOUNG, FIRE CHIEF

REVIEWED BY: TOM MOODY, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBMITTED BY: JACOB ELLIS, CITY MANAGER

Attachments:

1. City of Corona Fire Department Independent Evaluator Report

I, Sylvia Edwards, certify that this is a true copy of Reports No. 19-1042, passed by the City Council on 12/18/2019.

Attest:

Sylvia Edwards

1/9/2020

Date Certified