

Southern California Edison
***WSD-001 – Resolution WSD-001 to Establish Procedures for the Wildfire Safety Division's
Review of 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plans Pursuant to PUC Sections 8386 and 8386.3***

DATA REQUEST SET Cal Advocates - SCE - 2020 WMP - 04

To: Cal Advocates
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Response Date: 9/23/2020

Question 001:

As part of SCE's First Quarterly Report, SCE provided its risk spend efficiency (RSE) model as "Guidance-01 Appendix_D.xlsx." In the "M01" worksheet in this model, SCE lists the predicted effectiveness of its Wildfire Covered Conductor Program (SH-1) in addressing different ignition drivers ("Mitigation Effectiveness"). These Mitigation Effectiveness values are primarily based on SME judgement.

- a) As SCE deploys more covered conductor and gathers actual data on the number of incidents and ignitions, does SCE have a plan to supplement or replace "SME Judgement" as the justification for Mitigation Effectiveness in future iterations of the WMP?
- b) SCE's response to Guidance-2 on p. 16 states, in part, "Additionally, SCE benchmarked with other utilities that have deployed covered conductor. These utilities indicated that covered conductor reduced contact-from-object faults in their system." Why is this benchmarking with other utilities not considered in the justification for the Mitigation Effectiveness of SH-1?

Response to Question 001:

- a) As SCE achieves larger installed quantities of covered conductor, event analysis, incident counts and historical ignition data may be able to be used to supplement or replace SME judgement. That said, near term plans for mitigation effectiveness will continue to rely on SME judgement and expertise as SCE is not able to readily determine and track the count of prevented ignitions as a result of covered conductor deployment. SCE intends to collect and assess trend data over a longer period of time, as well as assembling larger data sets for higher levels of confidence.
- b) Although benchmarking is not explicitly listed as a consideration for justification for the Mitigation Effectiveness of SH-1, SME judgement inherently includes information learned through benchmarking. The benchmarking details provided directional support of covered conductor application for mitigation of contact related faults, among other fault situations. However, the benchmarking data could be too particular to location, climatology, topography and vegetation specifics, so SCE has developed its own mitigation effectiveness based on knowledge of the SCE HFRA characteristics and the SCE system properties. This aligns with SCE's approach for determining mitigation effectiveness which targets fault events that may lead to ignition.