

*Southern California Edison*  
*2026-WMPs – 2026-WMPs*

**DATA REQUEST SET O E I S - P - W M P \_ 2 0 2 5 - S C E - 0 1 8**

**To: OEIS**  
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**Job Title: Senior Advisor**  
**Received Date: 9/30/2025**

**Response Date: 10/3/2025**

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**Question 01.a-b:**

Regarding Inspections for Vegetation Clearances from Distribution Lines (VM-7) Targets:

a. In its 2026-2028 Base WMP R1, Section 9.2.1.5, SCE added “environmental conditions” as a constraint that may cause SCE to fail to meet its VM-7 target commitments listed in Table 9-2.

i. Describe environmental conditions that may constrain SCE’s VM-7 target commitments, including how that condition would prevent inspections.

ii. For each year from 2020 to 2024, provide the percentage of circuit miles of scheduled inspections of vegetation clearance from distribution lines that were constrained due to environmental conditions. Provide separate percentages for inspector-based and LiDAR-based inspections.

iii. Describe how SCE will identify and mitigate vegetation clearance compliance issues on distribution lines constrained by environmental conditions.

b. In its 2026-2028 Base WMP R1, Section 9.2.1.5, SCE added “risk prioritization” as a constraint that may cause SCE to fail to meet its VM-7 target commitments listed in Table 9-2.

i. Describe how risk prioritization may constrain SCE’s VM-7 target commitments, including how risk prioritization would prevent inspections.

ii. For each year from 2020 to 2024, provide the percentage of circuit miles of scheduled inspections of vegetation clearance from distribution lines that were constrained due to risk prioritization. Provide separate percentages for inspector-based and LiDAR-based inspections.

iii. Describe how SCE will identify and mitigate vegetation clearance compliance issues on distribution lines constrained by risk prioritization.

**Response to Question 01.a-b:**

*a. In its 2026-2028 Base WMP R1, Section 9.2.1.5, SCE added “environmental conditions” as a constraint that may cause SCE to fail to meet its VM-7 target commitments listed in Table 9-2*

*i. Describe environmental conditions that may constrain SCE’s VM-7 target commitments, including how that condition would prevent inspections.*

Typically, environmental conditions that can affect the inspections are related to weather (e.g., snow, high winds). When using remote sensing technology such as LiDAR, snow on trees and assets prevents accurate data capture, and high winds may impact capture flights. Additionally, snow covered roads can limit access to trees and impact the ability of ground crews and “boots on the ground” to validate remote sensing findings.

As another example, environmentally sensitive regions may restrict access to certain areas or during certain time periods and limit SCE’s ability to complete a scheduled inspection

(e.g., Yosemite toads, white bark pine).

*ii. For each year from 2020 to 2024, provide the percentage of circuit miles of scheduled inspections of vegetation clearance from distribution lines that were constrained due to environmental conditions. Provide separate percentages for inspector-based and LiDAR-based inspections.*

SCE does not formally track inspection delays due to environmental conditions or risk prioritization; however, work is monitored to ensure completion. When inspections are delayed and cannot be completed as scheduled, these instances are monitored in accordance with SCE's internal requirements. VM inspection schedulers are responsible for monitoring completion of inspection and verifying that all assigned work for the period is completed. If not, they must follow up with the inspection contractor to determine the cause of the delay. While the timing of inspection work may not always adhere to the original planned schedule, it is ultimately completed.

For 2020 -2024 LiDAR-based inspections, SCE used the technology as a supplemental tool for ground inspections. As with ground-based inspections, SCE does not formally track delays from the inspection schedule due to specific reasons since work is monitored and is ultimately completed.

SCE also clarifies that in SCE's WMP for 2023-2025, inspections for VM-7 and VM-8 were tracked by grid/circuit counts and not by circuit miles. Prior to 2022, VM-7 and VM-8 were not included as part of the WMP target objectives. Since SCE introduced VM-7 and VM-8 as WMP targets in 2022, it has consistently met these WMP goals. In 2022, the goal was measured by the volume of trees inspected. In 2023 and 2024, the goal shifted to being measured by grid/circuit count.

*iii. Describe how SCE will identify and mitigate vegetation clearance compliance issues on distribution lines constrained by environmental conditions.*

For inspections, in accordance with SCE's internal guidelines, VM schedulers monitor delays and follow up as necessary to verify that inspections are completed. See SCE's response in item (ii) above.

For mitigations, in accordance with SCE's internal guidelines, if a mitigation is delayed the VM scheduling team will monitor and provide reports indicating locations where visits are required to provide reasonable assurance that the prescribed mitigation does not become a P1 condition.

*b. In its 2026-2028 Base WMP R1, Section 9.2.1.5, SCE added "risk prioritization" as a constraint that may cause SCE to fail to meet its VM-7 target commitments listed in Table 9-2.*

*i. Describe how risk prioritization may constrain SCE's VM-7 target commitments, including how risk prioritization would prevent inspections.*

For example, inspections during PSPS, fire response, and other emergent inspections (e.g., newly identified Areas of Concern) may take precedence over other inspections outside of Severe Risk Areas in HFRA on an annual basis. This could result in delays to those areas,

though SCE will complete the planned inspections after addressing emergent needs.

*ii. For each year from 2020 to 2024, provide the percentage of circuit miles of scheduled inspections of vegetation clearance from distribution lines that were constrained due to risk prioritization. Provide separate percentages for inspector-based and LiDAR-based inspections.*

Risk prioritization may influence inspection timing and scheduling but does not typically prevent inspections from occurring. Unplanned or unexpected constraints—such as an increase in emergent inspections—are typically not tracked but may require schedule adjustments. However, all inspections are ultimately completed.

Additionally, increased inspection activity, such as during wildfire season, may impact resource availability and affect adherence to the original schedule.

For more information on inspection delays, see SCE's response in Question 1, item a (ii) above.

*iii. Describe how SCE will identify and mitigate vegetation clearance compliance issues on distribution lines constrained by risk prioritization.*

See SCE's response to Question 1, item a (iii) above.