

DATA REQUEST RESPONSE

Bear Valley Electric Service (BVES)

Request Date: February 22, 2023

Response Provided by: Paul Marconi
Title: President & Treasurer
Response Date: April 19, 2023

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Data Request No: CalAdvocate-BVES-2023WMP-06

Proceeding: 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plans

DATA REQUEST

The following questions relate to your 2023-2025 WMP submission. If a full response to a given question will be included in your WMP submission, your response to that question of this data request may consist of a citation to the specific page(s) or table(s) of the WMP where the information may be found, a written response to the question, or both.

Vegetation Management

Question 1

Page E-11 of BVES's 2022 WMP Update described the Annual VM Program Audit, which is conducted in January of each year. Please provide all documentation associated with the January 2023 Annual VM Program Audit.

Response: See attached document "2022 Vegetation Management Program Audit"

Question 2

Page E-11 of BVES's 2022 WMP Update described the Quarterly VM Program Assessment. Please provide all documentation associated with the Quarterly VM Program Assessments covering each of the following periods:

a) Q1 of 2022

Response: See attached documents "Vegetation Management Quarterly Update Q1 2022" and "Trim Map 2022 Q1"

b) Q2 of 2022

Response: See attached documents "Vegetation Management Quarterly Update Q2 2022" and "Trim Map 2022 Q2"

c) Q3 of 2022

Response: See attached documents "Vegetation Management Quarterly Update Q3 2022" and "Trim Map 2022 Q3"

d) Q4 of 2022.

Response: See attached documents "Vegetation Management Quarterly Update Q4 2022" and "Trim Map 2022 Q4"

Question 3

Please provide a list of any incidents in 2022 where the actions of a VM contractor posed a safety risk to workers and/or the public. "Safety risk" here is defined as any occurrence on a worksite where the contractor's behavior created a safety hazard for either workers or the general public.

For each instance, please provide:

a) The date you were informed of the safety issue

Response: 11/10/2022

b) The date that the original work that created the safety issue was performed

Response: 11/10/2022

c) The voltage of the circuit(s) associated with the safety issue

Response: 4kV

d) The vegetation management initiative involved in the original work

Response: 7.3.5.20 *Vegetation management to achieve clearances around electric lines and equipment*- Emergency Vegetation Clearance work.

e) A brief description of the safety issue involved.

Response: Vegetation crew was removing a tree that had fallen during a storm. During the work, the crews lost control of the tree and pinned one of the grounds workers against their boom truck. The worker was pronounced deceased at the Bear Valley community Hospital. Detailed information regarding this incident has been reported to the CPUC under BVES Incident No. 221110-15329.

System Hardening

Question 4

Provide your workplan that describes where and when you will perform system hardening in 2023. For projects that you expect to partially complete in 2023 (i.e. projects that started before 2023 and are expected to continue in 2023, or projects that are expected to be completed after 2023), please include the project and report the work that you forecast will actually be performed in calendar year 2023. For each project, include the following information in separate columns, at a minimum:

- a) Order or job number
- b) Program
- c) Circuit ID number
- d) Circuit-segment name or ID number (if the project affects more than one circuit-segment, please identify each one)
- e) Relevant wildfire risk score(s) from the wildfire risk model that you are using to estimate distribution risk in your 2023-2025 WMP filing
- f) The expected or actual start date of the project
- g) The expected completion date of the project
- h) Length (in circuit miles) of covered conductor to be installed in 2023
- i) Length (in circuit miles) of underground conductor to be installed in 2023
- j) Length (in circuit miles) of overhead conductor to be permanently removed in 2023 and replaced by underground conductor (note that this may differ slightly from the previous part due to differing overhead and underground routes).
- k) Length (in circuit miles) of overhead conductor to be permanently removed in 2023 and *not replaced* with covered conductor or underground conductor
- l) Length (in circuit miles) of any other type of system hardening project to be installed in 2023 (if this is greater than zero, please describe the type of system hardening project).

Response: See attached file name "System Hardening 2023"

Question 5

Provide your work plan that describes where and when you will perform system hardening in 2024. For projects that you expect to partially complete in 2024 (i.e. projects that are expected to start before 2024 and are expected to continue in 2024, or projects that are expected to be completed after 2024), please include the project and report the work that you forecast will actually be performed in calendar year 2024.

For each project, include the following information in separate columns, at a minimum:

- a) Order number
- b) Program
- c) Circuit ID number
- d) Circuit-segment name or ID number (if the project affects more than one circuit-segment, please identify each one)
- e) Relevant wildfire risk score(s) from the wildfire risk model that you are using to estimate distribution risk in your 2023-2025 WMP filing
- f) The expected or actual start date of the project
- g) The expected completion date of the project
- h) Length (in circuit miles) of covered conductor to be installed in 2024
- i) Length (in circuit miles) of underground conductor to be installed in 2024
- j) Length (in circuit miles) of overhead conductor to be permanently removed in 2024 and replaced by underground conductor (note that this may differ slightly from the previous part due to differing overhead and underground routes)
- k) Length (in circuit miles) of overhead conductor to be permanently removed in 2024 and *not replaced* with covered conductor or underground conductor
- l) Length (in circuit miles) of any other type of system hardening project to be installed in 2024 (if this is greater than zero, please describe the type of system hardening project).

Response: See attached file name "System Hardening 2024"

Question 6

For each of your 2023-2025 WMP system hardening initiatives, please provide disaggregated information related to expenditures and circuit miles treated in the attached table, CalAdvocates-BVES-2023WMP-06 Attachment 1. Add columns as needed. **Note:** for the purposes of this question, "line removal" refers to conductors that are permanently removed without replacement – for instance, as part of a remote grid project. This should be understood as identical to part (k) of questions 4 and 5 above.

Response: None

Question 7

For the Radford Line Covered Conductor Project, please state the month and year that BVES *completed or currently plans to complete*:

a) Project planning

Response: Completed in September 2019

b) Design and engineering

Response: Completed in November 2019

c) Permitting

Response: Currently plans to complete June of 2023

d) Construction

Response: Currently plans to complete October of 2023

Question 8

If the Radford Line Covered Conductor Project was not completed in 2022, please answer the following:

a) Please list all factors that have contributed to the deferral of the Radford Line Covered Conductor Project from completion in 2022.

Response: The permitting process with the US Forest Service (USFS) was the only reason the deferral of the Radford Line Covered Conductor Project from completion in 2022.

b) For each factor listed in response to part (a), please describe the actions BVES has taken to mitigate these factors and prevent the project from being deferred later than 2023.

Response: BVES has been in consistent communication with the USFS. The USFS stated that due to personnel changes, the permitting process slowed down last year. A new District Ranger started in November 2022 and he needed additional time be updated on the permit status and conduct his due diligence on the project and the impact to the USFS land. In March 2023 BVES held a meeting with the new District Ranger and was informed that Radford project was #1 on the USFS District's list to be completed. The project is also listed as the #3 priority in the USFS overall.

c) Please list any factors that BVES anticipates may cause the *completion* of the Radford Line Covered Project to be deferred until later than 2023.

Response: While BVES anticipates receiving an approved permit from the USFS in time to complete the project 2023; BVES does not control the USFS's agenda. If the USFS significantly delays the permitting of the project, the project could be deferred beyond 2023.

- d) For each factor listed in response to part (c), please list the actions BVES has taken to mitigate these factors and prevent the project's completion from being deferred beyond 2023.

Response: This question implies BVES is able to "prevent" the project's completion from being deferred beyond 2023. As clearly stated in many communications to CalAdvocates, the Radford Project is awaiting approval of the permit from the USFS. BVES does not control the USFS permitting agenda and timeline. BVES is working closely with the USFS and will continue to be in consistent communication with the USFS. However, BVES cannot nor will not guarantee what the USFS does regarding permits.

PSPS

Question 9

Table 4-4 (pp. B-19 and B-20) of BVES's 2022 WMP Update lists the PSPS-related operations BVES will take under various conditions. **Please provide the following information (1-4) for each question part below (a-i), if applicable. (If there were no days that fit the description, please state "none" for that question part.)**

1. the date
2. the maximum wind speed observed on that day
3. The National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) rating
4. whether any damage to BVES assets was found following the high wind conditions.

- a) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES deployed Wildfire Risk Teams to "high risk" areas

Response: None

- b) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES forwarded to Field Operations an updated list of medical baseline customers and access and functional needs population

Response: None

- c) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES activated the Emergency Operations Center

Response: None

- d) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES prepared the Bear Valley Power Plant for sustained operations

Response: None

- e) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES conducted switching operations to minimize the impact of potential PSPS activity

Response: None

- f) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES activated first responder, local government and agency, customer and community, or stakeholder PSPS communications plans

Response: None

- g) Days in 2022 when, in accordance with Table 4-4, BVES activated Community Resource Centers

Response: None

- h) Days in 2022 when BVES considered itself on “PSPS Watch” because it would be necessary for BVES to initiate a PSPS event if conditions worsened

Response: None

- i) Days in 2022 when BVES considered itself on “PSPS Watch” because Southern California Edison would need to initiate a PSPS event on one or more BVES supply lines if conditions worsened.

Response:

Date= 9/9/2022 Max wind speed = 22 NFDRS Rating= 3 or Brown No Damage to BVES asset

Date= 9/10/2022 Max wind speed = 10 NFDRS Rating= 2 or Green No Damage to BVES asset

Date= 11/1/2022 Max wind speed = 23 NFDRS Rating= 2 or Green No Damage to BVES asset

Question 10

Regarding your PSPS circuit modeling capabilities:

- a) Please describe your present circuit modeling capabilities with regard to PSPS decision-making (“PSPS circuit modeling capabilities”), including with what level of granularity they are able to determine how circuit hardening efforts or other changes to a line segment will affect PSPS thresholds.

Response: No changes currently.

- b) Please describe any improvements to the present PSPS circuit modeling capabilities that you expect to implement in 2023.

Response: No changes for 2023.

c) Please describe any improvements to the present PSPS circuit modeling capabilities that you expect to implement in 2024.

Response: BVES is evaluating wildfire risk model provided by Technosylvia. BVES may incorporate finding from this model to evaluate PSPS conditions for circuits in the future.

d) Please describe the expected state of your PSPS circuit modeling capabilities at the conclusion of the 2023-2025 WMP cycle.

Response: BVES is evaluating wildfire risk model provided by Technosylvia. BVES may incorporate finding from this model to evaluate PSPS conditions for circuits in the future.

END OF REQUEST