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Gavin Newsom, Governor
Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Director

TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

DATA REQUEST

Request Date: June 3, 2022

Response Due: June 8, 2022

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Bear Valley Electric Service Inc. (BVES)
42020 Garstin Dr., Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

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Data Request Number: OEIS-BVES-22-003

Subjects:

- Q01. Fault Indicators
- Q02. Weather Stations
- Q03. Fire Potential Index (FPI)
- Q04. End Projections Maturity Survey
- Q05. Decreases in Maturity
- Q06. Updating of Vegetation Management Plan
- Q07. Qualifications of Vegetation Management Quality Control Personnel

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Provide all information in your possession, custody, or control, or the possession, custody, and/or control of your affiliates or agents, that is responsive to these data requests by the due date identified above.
- b. Responses and documents may be produced and served electronically, but they must be fully machine-readable and searchable.
- c. If you have any questions about the meaning or scope of the data requests herein, direct such questions to the Energy Safety staff identified as the “Originator” of this request at your earliest opportunity.
 - i. Lack of clarity on meaning or scope of requests without prior request for clarification from the “Originator” will not be a permissible reason for incomplete responses and will be regarded as non-compliance with the request.
- d. Identify the personnel (e.g., employees, consultants, agents, etc.) who provided information responsive to each of the data requests below. As used in this context herein, “identify” means to provide the full name, business address, and title of each employee, consultant, or agent who provided such information.
- e. If you do not know the exact answer to any of the requests below, please so indicate and provide your best estimate.
- f. Provide data in its original format (e.g., PDF, Excel, GIS shapefile, etc.), unless otherwise specified in the request.
- g. Send your response to Colin Lang (Colin.Lang@energysafety.ca.gov), sending a copy to:
 - i. Nicole Dunlap (Nicole.Dunlap@energysafety.ca.gov)
 - ii. Jeff Fuentes (Jeff.Fuentes@fire.ca.gov)
 - iii. Jessica McHale (Jessica.McHale@energysafety.ca.gov)

REQUEST

Q01. Fault Indicators

- a. In Section 7.3.2.3, Bear Valley (BVES) writes that it plans to increase the number of fault indicators in 2022 and 2023 with the installation of 129.
 - i. As of January 1, 2022, how many fault indicators had BVES already installed?
 - (1) How many of those fault Indicators were installed in 2021?
 - ii. Is BVES planning to install additional fault indicators past 2023 in its territory?
 - (1) If so, provide the total number of fault indicators BVES plans to install in its territory.

Q02. Weather Stations

- a. In Section 7.3.2.1 (pg. 141), BVES describes integrating weather station outputs with SCADA to be able to display and set alarms and notifications based on weather conditions.
 - i. When does BVES expect to integrate weather stations with SCADA?

Q03. Fire Potential Index (FPI)

- a. Is BVES planning on developing an FPI or metric serving as an FPI?
 - i. If not, please describe why.
 - ii. If so, please provide timeline for completion.

Q04. End Projections of Maturity Survey

- a. In BVES's Maturity Survey, its capability levels for the current year (2022) are lower than its projected end (2023) levels for 25 capabilities; in some cases the current levels are 2-4 levels lower than end projections. Does BVES still expect to meet its end projection maturity levels?
 - i. If so, how will BVES meet its end projections?
 - ii. If not, explain why BVES will not meet its end projections, including a narrative as to why there is such disconnect between current maturity levels and end projections.

Q05. Decreases in Maturity

- a. Question F.II.a of the Maturity Survey reads "Does the utility have a clearly explained process for determining whether to operate the grid beyond current of voltage designs?" In 2020 and 2021, BVES responded "Yes;" however, in 2022, BVES changed its answer to "No." Why does BVES no longer have a process for determining whether to operate the grid beyond current or voltage designs?

- b. Question F.IV.b of the Maturity Survey reads “Which of the following does the utility take into account when making PSPS decisions?” In 2021, BVES selected “a partially automated system in which recommends circuits for which PSPS should be activated and is validated by SMEs;” however, in 2022, BVES selected “SME opinion.” Why does BVES no longer use a partially automated system which recommends circuits for which PSPS should be activated?
- c. Question J.II.b of the Maturity Survey reads “Are there communities in HFTD areas where meaningful resistance is expected in response to efforts to mitigate fire risk?” In 2020 and 2021, BVES responded “No;” however, in 2022, BVES responded “Yes.” Please describe the reasons for the response changing to “Yes” and any actions BVES is taking to ameliorate meaningful resistance in response to efforts to mitigate fire risk.
- d. Question J.IV.a of the Maturity Survey reads “What is the cooperative model between the utility and suppression agencies?” In 2020 and 2021, BVES responded “Utility cooperates with suppression agencies by working cooperatively with them to detect ignitions, in addition to notifying them of ignitions as needed.” However, in 2022, BVES responded “Utility cooperates with suppression agencies by notifying them of ignitions.” Why does BVES no longer work cooperatively with suppression agencies to detect ignitions?

Q06. Updating of Vegetation Management Plan

- a. On page 193, BVES mentions that its Vegetation Management Plan is updated on an as-needed basis not to exceed three years. In a footnote on the same page, BVES states that BVES met with stakeholders in the previous year to gather feedback and input into its vegetation maintenance program.
 - i. What came out of those meetings? What were the suggestions?
 - ii. Has and/or will BVES change its vegetation maintenance program, emergency planning, and/or wildfire mitigation strategy in response to these meetings?
 - (1) If so, how?
 - (2) If not, why?

Q07. Qualifications of Vegetation Management Quality Control Personnel

- a. In Appendix E “BVES Vegetation management and Vegetation QA/QC/ Programs” Table 5-2, BVES lists the designated staff that are assigned vegetation management quality control (QC) checks. Describe and/or list the qualifications (e.g., education, training, experience, certifications, licenses) for each designated staff that qualifies them to perform vegetation management QC checks.

END OF REQUEST