

**Horizon West Transmission, LLC
WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE 2025**

for Submittal to:

**OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY
WILDFIRE SAFETY DIVISION
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ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A (Confidential): HWT-20-03-02-WMP: Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure
- Attachment B (Confidential): HWT-41-01-01-A: Underground System Operation and Maintenance Manual for H Solid Dielectric (XLPE)
- Attachment C (Confidential): HWT-20-03-02-WMP: Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure Form
- Attachment D (Confidential): HWT-42-01-21-A: Wildlife and Vegetation Procedure
- Attachment E (Confidential): Substation Condition Assessment Program
- Attachment F (Confidential): Suncrest SVC Condition Assessment Form

1 UPDATES TO RISK MODELS

Instructions: *The electrical corporation must report on updates to its risk models. The collective updates to risk models are categorized as either “significant” or “non-significant.” The electrical corporation must categorize the collective changes to its risk models as either significant updates or non-significant updates, not both. The proceeding subsections outline the thresholds to determine if updates to risk models are “significant” or “non-significant.”*

When determining if updates to risk models are “significant” (Section 1.1.1) or “non-significant” (Section 1.1.2), the electrical corporation’s analysis must be independent of risk reduction resulting from deployed mitigations described in the approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. For example, if a circuit was undergrounded in late 2023, the analysis would not take that risk reduction into account and would evaluate the risk for that circuit consistent with the point in time represented by WMP Table 6-5¹ in the approved 2023-2025 Base WMP.

An electrical corporation must analyze its top 5 percent of highest risk circuits, segments, or spans² to determine whether updates to its risk models are significant. An electrical corporation’s top ignition risk circuits, segments, or spans are the top 5 percent of highest ignition risk circuits, segments, or spans when the circuits, segments or spans are ranked individually from highest to lowest circuit-mile-weighted ignition risk. An electrical corporation’s top Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) risk circuits, segments or spans are the top 5 percent of highest PSPS risk circuits, segments, or spans when the circuits, segments or spans are ranked individually from highest to lowest circuit-mile-weighted PSPS risk.³

1.1 Significant Updates

Instructions: *If an electrical corporation’s updates to its risk models are significant, it must:*

- *Discuss its updated methodology and models (e.g., using a new machine learning algorithm, changing how wildfire consequences are calculated, or changes to assumptions);*
- *Provide justification for the updates;*
- *Show how risk has shifted as a result of the updates; and*

¹ In accordance with the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Table 6-5 “Summary of Top-Risk Circuits, Segments, or Spans.”

² Electrical corporations must use the granularity – circuit, segment, or span – it used to report its “Top Risk-Contribution Circuits/Segments/Spans” in accordance with the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Section 6.4.2.

³ “Ignition risk” and “PSPS risk” are defined in the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Appendix A.

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- *Report any resulting changes to prioritization of mitigation initiatives and scheduling and workplans for the implementation of mitigation initiatives resulting from these updates.*

The electrical corporation must use the format established by Tables 1-1 and 1-2 of these 2025 WMP Update Guidelines to summarize the updated top 5 percent of highest-risk circuits, segments, or spans.⁴ If one or both tables are more than 20 lines, then an electrical corporation may submit a spreadsheet as an attachment to the 2025 WMP Update rather than a table to provide the information. Discussions of significant updates to risk models must be limited to 20 pages total. Figures and tables are excluded from the 20-page limit.

1.1.1 Top Risk-Contributing Circuit, Segments, or Spans

Instructions: *Significant updates to risk models are defined as:*

- *Any change or combination of changes to a risk model that moves 10 percent or more of ignition risk into or out of the top ignition risk circuits, segments, or spans,⁵ and/or*
- *Any change or combination of changes to a risk model that moves 10 percent or more of PSPS risk into or out of the top PSPS risk circuits, segments, or spans.⁶*

The electrical corporation must use the format established by Tables 1-1 and 1-2 of these 2025 WMP Update Guidelines to summarize the updated top 5 percent of highest risk circuits, segments, or spans. If one or both tables are more than 20 lines, then an electrical corporation may submit a spreadsheet as an attachment to the 2025 WMP Update rather than a table to provide the information. Discussions of significant updates to risk models must be limited to 20 pages. Figures and tables are excluded from the 20-page limit.

This section of the 2025 WMP Update is not applicable to Horizon West (HWT) as HWT did not make significant updates to its risk model.

⁴ The updated list must be independent of risk reduction resulting from deployed mitigations described in the approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. For an updated list that is inclusive of all deployed mitigation, refer to electrical corporation submissions pursuant to Energy Safety’s Data Guidelines, Section 4.3.15.

⁵ Electrical corporations must use the granularity – circuit, segment, or span – it used to report its “Top Risk-Contribution Circuits/Segments/Spans” in accordance with the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Section 6.4.2.

⁶ Electrical corporations must use the granularity – circuit, segment, or span – it used to report its “Top Risk-Contribution Circuits/Segments/Spans” in accordance with the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Section 6.4.2.

1.1.2 Qualitative Updates

Instructions: Updates to risk models are also considered significant if any of the following qualitative updates are made:

- Introduction of a new model.
- Discontinuation of an existing model.
- Any change in existing model application or use-case. For example, newly applying an existing vegetation risk model to PSPS decision-making.
- Introduction of new data types. For example, incorporating additional risk drivers into newer versions of a model.
- Changes to data sources. For example, using a new source of data to measure vegetation moisture content.
- Changes to third-party vendors for risk modeling or inputs to risk modeling.

Examples of qualitative updates that are not considered significant updates to risk models include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Updating an existing dataset (e.g., augmenting ignition and outage datasets with 2023 data).
- Fixing code errors.
- Cleaning input data.

This section of the 2025 WMP Update is not applicable to HWT as HWT did not make qualitative updates to its risk model.

1.2 Non-Significant Updates

Instructions: If an electrical corporation's updates to its risk models do not meet the "significant" criteria of Section 1.1.1, the electrical corporation must provide a tabulated summary of changes in risk ranking of the top 5 percent ignition risk and PSPS risk circuits, segments, or spans.

The electrical corporation must use the format established by Tables 1-1 and 1-2 of these 2025 WMP Update Guidelines to summarize the updated top 5 percent of highest risk circuits,

segments, or spans.⁷ If one or both tables are more than 20 lines, then an electrical corporation may submit a spreadsheet as an attachment to the 2025 WMP Update rather than a table to provide the information.

Energy Safety defines a non-significant update as:

- Any change or combination of changes to the risk model that moves less than 10 percent of ignition risk into or out of the top ignition risk circuits, segments, or spans and less than 10 percent PSPS risk into or out of the top PSPS risk circuits, segments, or spans; or*
- Any change that only moves ignition and PSPS risk within the top risk segments.*

This section of the 2025 WMP Update is not applicable to HWT as HWT did not make non-significant updates to its risk model.

⁷ The updated list must be independent of risk reduction resulting from deployed mitigations described in the approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. For an updated list that is inclusive of all deployed mitigation, refer to electrical corporation submissions pursuant to Energy Safety's Data Guidelines, Section 4.3.15.

2 CHANGES TO APPROVED TARGETS, OBJECTIVES, AND EXPENDITURES

Instructions: The electrical corporation must report qualifying changes to targets, objectives, and expenditures from its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. Each change must be justified by lessons learned,⁸ internal policy changes, new laws or regulations, corrective actions resulting from Energy Safety's compliance process,⁹ or other explanations for the change. Thresholds for qualifying changes to targets, objectives, and expenditures are set forth below.

2.1 2025 Targets or Target Completion Dates

Instructions: For large volume work (equal to or greater than 100 units), the electrical corporation must report changes of 10 percent or greater to a 2025 target from the electrical corporation's approved 2023-2025 Base WMP.

For small volume work (less than 100 units), the electrical corporation must report changes of 20 percent or greater to a 2025 target from the electrical corporation's approved 2023-2025 Base WMP.

This section of the 2025 WMP Update is not applicable to HWT as HWT did not make any reportable changes to any 2025 targets.

2.2 Initiative Objectives

Instructions: The electrical corporation must report any changes to forecasted initiative objective completion dates in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP that shift an objective's completion to a different compliance period.¹⁰

⁸ "Lessons learned" should be interpreted broadly and is not limited by any definitions, categorizations, or examples presented in the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Section 10: Lessons Learned.

⁹ Including, but not limited to, any compliance assessment, audit, determination, evaluation, investigation, notice, or report pursuant to Government Code sections 15475.1 et seq., Public Utilities Code section 8386.3, or other applicable law, regulation, or guidelines.

¹⁰ "Compliance period" is defined as January 1 to December 31 of each calendar year. Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety Compliance Guidelines, page 3 (<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=55586&shareable=true>, accessed September 28, 2023).

The electrical corporation may not add or delete 3- and 10-year objectives set forth in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMPs.

HWT does not propose any changes to forecasted initiative objective completion dates in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP that would shift an objective's completion to a different compliance period.

2.3 Expenditure Changes

Instructions: The electrical corporation must report any changes to 2025 projected expenditures in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP that result in an increase or decrease of more than \$10 million or constitute a greater than 20 percent change in an initiative's planned total expenditure in the 2025 compliance period.

HWT does not propose any changes to 2025 projected expenditures in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP that result in an increase or decrease of more than \$10 million. However, HWT does propose a new initiative for Community Outreach and Engagement specifically under the WMP Initiative Activity of "Best Practices Sharing with Other Utilities" to be effective in the 2025 calendar year. This initiative addresses a required improvement identified by Energy Safety which HWT must report on in its 2026-2028 Base WMP (See Section 5 below). HWT anticipates joining two industry groups focused on wildfire mitigation in 2025. The industry groups are identified as follows:

- International Wildfire Risk Mitigation Consortium: International consortium, which is designed to facilitate the sharing of wildfire risk mitigation insights and the discovery of innovative and unique practices from across the global utility industry.
- Wildfire Interdisciplinary Research Center: California industry group with high-impact interdisciplinary wildfire research to help California and the world manage a growing crisis of increasing wildfire frequency and intensity.

HWT forecasts the total expenditure for participation in the industry groups to be approximately \$80,000. Since this is a new expenditure for 2025 it constitutes a greater than 20 percent change in an initiative's planned total expenditure in the 2025 compliance period. The change is reflected on pages 30 and 213 of HWT's 2023-2025 WMP updated as of July 8, 2024.

3 QUARTERLY INSPECTION TARGETS FOR 2025

Instructions: The electrical corporation must define quarterly targets (end of Q2 and end of Q3) for 2025 asset and vegetation inspection targets established as end-of-year targets in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. The electrical corporation must use the format established by Table 3-1 to report these quarterly targets. Changes to end-of-year 2025 targets must be reported and explained pursuant to Section 2: Changes to Targets, Objectives, and Expenditures, above.

For its redlined and clean 2023-2025 Base WMP, the electrical corporation must add columns for end of Q2 2025 and end of Q3 2025 targets to its asset inspection and vegetation inspection target tables.¹¹

Table 3-1. Example of Asset Inspections and Vegetation Management Targets for 2025

<i>Initiative Activity</i>	<i>Tracking ID</i>	<i>Target End of Q2 2025 & Unit</i>	<i>Target End of Q3 2025 & Unit</i>	<i>End of Year Target 2025 & Unit</i>	<i>x% Risk Impact 2025</i>
<i>Discretionary patrols in High Fire Threat District</i>	<i>AI-02</i>	<i>300 circuit miles</i>	<i>500 circuit miles</i>	<i>700 circuit miles</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>Hazard tree inspections</i>	<i>VM-04</i>	<i>100 circuit miles inspected</i>	<i>130 circuit miles inspected</i>	<i>200 circuit miles inspected</i>	<i>3%</i>

Table 3- 1. Asset Inspections and Vegetation Management Targets for 2025

Initiative Activity	Tracking ID	Target End of Q2 2025 & Unit	Target End of Q3 2025 & Unit	End of Year Target 2025 & Unit	x% Risk Impact 2025
Asset Inspections	001	6 site inspections completed	9 site inspections completed	12 site inspections completed	N/A

¹¹ The tables populated in accordance with the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Tables 8-4 and 8-15.

Vegetation Management	002	3	4	6 inspections	N/A
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HWT does not anticipate any changes to its end-of-year 2025 targets.

4 NEW OR DISCONTINUED PROGRAMS

***Instructions:** The electrical corporation must report on the creation of a new program or the discontinuance of a program described in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP. Each change must be justified by lessons learned,¹² internal policy changes, new laws or regulations, corrective actions resulting from Energy Safety’s compliance process,¹³ or other explanations for the change.*

An electrical corporation’s discussion on new or discontinued programs must be limited to 20 pages total. Figures and tables are excluded from the 20-page limit.

HWT did not create or discontinue any program described in its approved 2023-2025 Base WMP within the reporting time period.

¹² “Lessons learned” should be interpreted broadly and is not limited by any definitions, categorizations, or examples presented in the 2023-2025 WMP Technical Guidelines, Section 10: Lessons Learned.

¹³ Including, but not limited to, any compliance assessment, audit, determination, evaluation, investigation, notice, or report pursuant to Government Code sections 15475.1 et seq., Public Utilities Code section 8386.3, or other applicable law, regulation, or guidelines.

5 PROGRESS ON AREAS FOR CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT

The electrical corporation must report on progress required by the areas for continued improvement identified in Energy Safety’s Decision on the electrical corporation’s 2023-2025 WMP.¹⁴ The electrical corporation must provide narrative responses to each required progress that specified reporting in the 2025 WMP Update. This narrative response must include:

- Code and title of the area for continued improvement,
- Description of the area for continued improvement,
- Required progress, and
- The electrical corporation’s response to the required progress.

The electrical corporation may refer to other sections of its 2025 WMP Update when reporting on areas for continued improvement if there is a duplication of reporting.

HWT-23-01. QA/QC Process Description

- **Description:** HWT states that it has procedures and checklists that provide additional detail about its QA/QC process and is evaluating changes to its QA/QC program as its operational experience grows. HWT does not provide the documents related to QA/QC or provide details on the QA/QC evaluation process.
- **Required Progress:** In its 2025 Update, HWT must provide:
 - All QA/QC “procedures and checklists” referenced in response to Data Request P-WMP_2023-HWT-002.¹⁵
 - An analysis demonstrating the current QA/QC process effectively mitigates wildfire risk.

Required Progress Item No. 1: All QA/QC “procedures and checklists” referenced in response to Data Request P-WMP_2023-HWT-002

HWT identifies the following procedures and checklists which are provided as confidential attachments to this Plan Update.

- HWT-20-03-02-WMP: Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure
- HWT-41-01-01-A: Underground System Operation and Maintenance Manual for H Solid Dielectric (XLPE)

¹⁴ See 2023 – 2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Process and Evaluation Guidelines, Section 4.7: Decision.

¹⁵ Data Request OEIS-P-WMP_2023-HWT-002 (Question 2) (<https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=55635&shareable=true>), accessed November 13, 2023).

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- HWT-20-03-02-WMP: Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure Form
 - HWT-42-01-21-A: Wildlife and Vegetation Procedure
 - HWT-20-023-02: Substation Condition Assessment Program
 - HWT-20-023-02: Suncrest SVC Condition Assessment Form

Required Progress Item No. 2: An analysis demonstrating the current QA/QC process effectively mitigates wildfire risk.

Due to the limited scale and scope of HWT's operation, QA/QC activities are not as extensive as those utilities with large footprints. HWT has a small staff of two (2) field engineers overseeing HWT operations, performing asset inspection and maintenance work. Both engineers are subject matter experts on HWT's Suncrest Substation's equipment and operations. The engineers are trained to abide by all relevant procedures, including the (i) Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure, (ii) Underground System Operation and Maintenance Manual, (iii) Wildlife and Vegetation Procedure, and (iv) Substation Condition Assessment Program to conduct site and vegetation inspections on a monthly basis and to complete the Wildfire Mitigation Condition Assessment Procedure Form and Suncrest SVC Condition Assessment Form which document site conditions. The aforementioned procedures provide thorough guidelines for assessing equipment condition and performance, and assessment of contractor compliance with vegetation management requirements. The assessment forms are utilized to document observed conditions and identify conditions that are off normal which require correction.

Generally, the engineers perform the monthly inspections on an alternating basis and either address identified issues during the inspection or input them as work orders to be addressed utilizing the appropriate corporate or contracted resources, as specified in the procedures. The frequency of the inspections, subject matter expertise of those conducting the inspections, and rigor of the procedures and forms, serve to identify issues early helping to ensure that equipment is in optimal operation condition which inherently reduces the risk of potential ignition. To ensure the procedures and processes are being followed, HWT has added a task item to formalize the process of its field engineers annually conducting a QA/QC review of at least one month's inspections report, that they did not originate, to confirm accuracy in completion in accordance with HWT's applicable operations procedures. This addition is reflected on page 87 of HWT's 2023-2025 WMP updated as of July 8, 2024.

HWT-23-02. Documentation of Sharing Best Practices

- Description: HWT does not document instances of sharing best practices.
- Required Progress: In its 2026-2028 Base WMP, HWT must provide documented examples of its sharing of best practices to date (as of the 2026-2028 submission).

Required Progress Item:

Not required until 2026-2028 Base WMP submission and therefore no information is submitted pursuant to 2025 WMP Update requirement to only update information relevant to 2025 calendar year.