

Southern California Edison
2022-WMPs – 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Updates

DATA REQUEST SET O E I S - S C E - 2 2 - 0 0 4

To: Energy Safety
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Response Date: 3/29/2022

Question 02:

Regarding “add-on” tree rate training:

a. In Section 7.3.5.6, page 409-410, SCE states it “‘Add-on’ tree rate training was and will continue to be provided to all vegetation management inspection contractors.”

Further describe the elements of “add-on” tree rate training, including objectives and any requirements for minimum competency levels. Provide a syllabus or course description(s).

Response to Question 02:

In Q2 2021, SCE’s Vegetation Management Department (VM) made a comprehensive revision to UVM-09, “Inspection Manual,” which provides guidance to SCE’s Pre-Inspection (PI) crews for performing PI work. The intent of the document revision was to provide more guidance and clarity to PI crews so tree prescriptions would be more accurate, thereby reducing the add on tree rate. An internal VM analysis had identified the need for more accurate prescriptions to reduce the amount of add-ons or scope changes identified by VM’s tree trimming contractors. While the different access and vantage points available to tree trimming contractors may cause a difference between the work scope prescribed and that actually performed, more accurate prescriptions support more efficient work planning and execution.

Training was provided to all PI personnel on August 31, 2021 and is expected to be provided on an annual basis. The primary objective of the training was to provide the details needed to assist field personnel in writing accurate prescriptions, so as to ultimately reduce the amount of add-ons and scope changes identified by the tree trimmers. The training also included other related areas that contribute to accuracy of the pre-inspectors’ prescriptions.

The topics covered in the training included:

- Regulations
- How to identify Primary, Secondary, Communication, and Service Drop Conductors
- Transmission and Distribution clearances
- Record quality
- Identifying and prescribing vegetation work
- Species specific instructions
- Environmental information
- Managing customer refusals
- How to report issues identified in the field

The training was provided virtually on August 31, 2021. There were no specific competency requirements related to the training. However, on a monthly basis, VM produces monthly reports identifying add-on/scope changes performed by the tree trimmers, which is intended to show the effectiveness of the training performed and/or the need for additional training.

Attached to this data request response is the Inspection Manual ***UVM-09 - V4.pdf***