

*In accordance with City Council Resolution No. 1995-21, the minutes of meetings of the City Council and the Boards, Commissions, and Committees of the City shall be prepared as Action Minutes.*

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
BANNING, CALIFORNIA

12/10/2019  
SPECIAL MEETING - WORKSHOP

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Andrade  
Councilmember Happe  
Councilmember Wallace

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilmember Peterson  
Mayor Welch

OTHERS PRESENT: Douglas Schulze, City Manager  
Kevin G. Ennis, City Attorney  
Sonja De La Fuente, Deputy City Clerk  
Tom Miller, Electric Utility Director  
Brandon Robinson, Electrical Engineering Supervisor  
Jason Smith, Electric Operations Manager  
Carla Young, Business Support Manager

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A special meeting of the Banning City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Andrade on December 10, 2019 at 4:40 P.M. at the Banning City Council Chamber, 99 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, California.

**II. WORKSHOP**

1. Electric Utility Fire Mitigation Plan

Brandon Robinson, Electrical Engineering Supervisor, provided a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment 1).

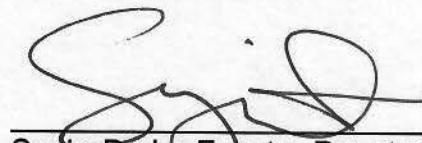
**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:



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Sonja De La Fuente, Deputy City Clerk

**The entire discussion of this meeting may be viewed here:  
<https://banninglive.viebit.com/player.php?hash=EeMvYUrOgfNt> and related  
documents may be viewed here:  
<http://www.banning.ca.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2209> or by requesting a CD or  
DVD in the amount of \$7.00 each at Banning City Hall located at 99 E. Ramsey Street.**

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

## **(Presentation)**

# BANNING ELECTRIC UTILITY WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN



## VERSION 1.0

### California Wildfires

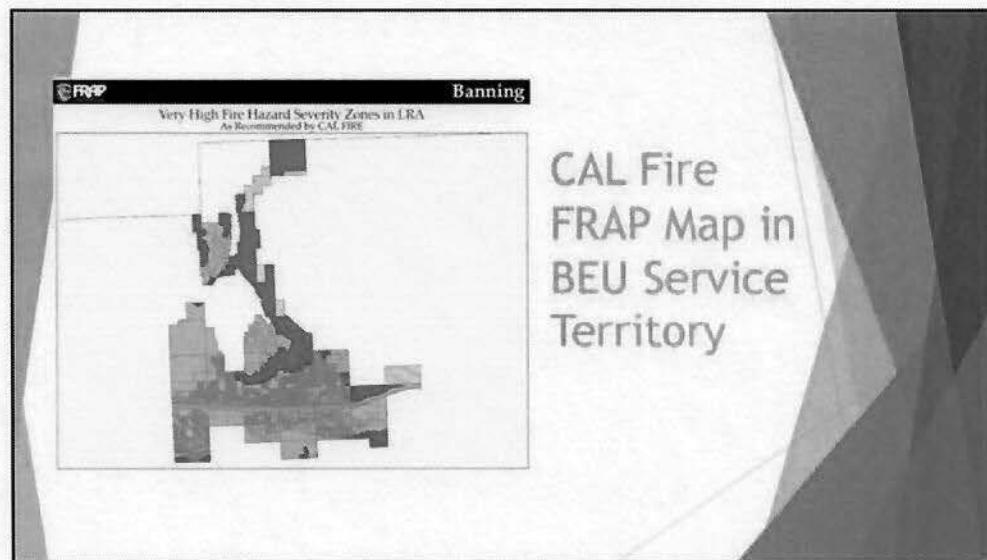
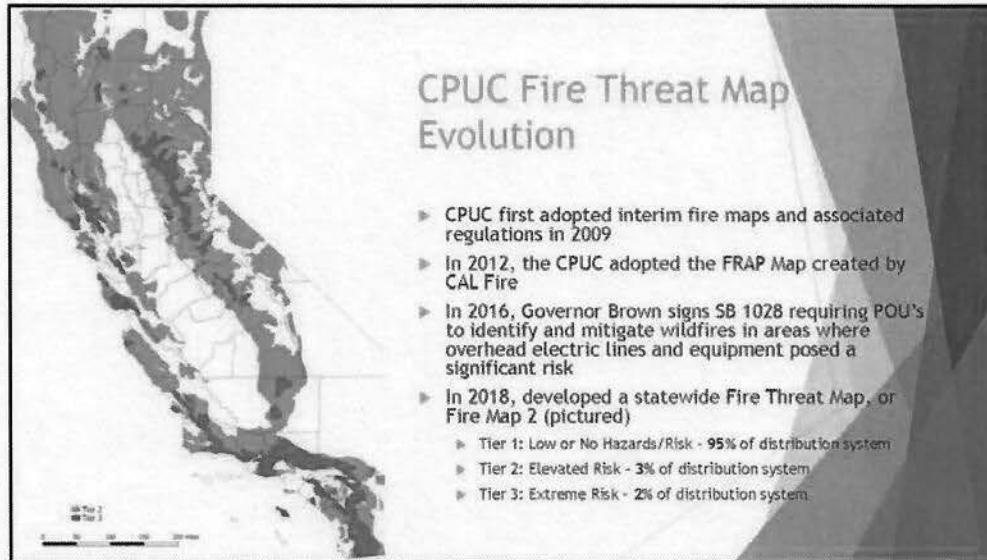
Top 20 Largest California Wildfires

Fire Name/Cause	Date	County	Acres	Structures	Deaths
1. WILDFIRE COMPLEX (Human Caused)	July 2018	Colusa County, Lake County, Mendocino County & Shasta County	458,133	386	1
2. THOMAS (Human)	December 2017	Ventura & Santa Barbara	251,893	1,062	2
3. CAMP (Human Related)	October 2018	San Diego	257,246	2,839	11
4. KUH (Lightning)	August 2012	Lassen	251,011 AC	0	0
5. KNP (Human Related)	August 2018	Tulare	257,014	133	0
6. ZACA (Human Related)	July 2007	Santa Barbara	248,197	1	0
7. CARR (Human Related)	July 2018	Shasta County, Trinity County	239,821	1,924	8
8. MATILIA (Undetermined)	September 2012	Yosemite	220,668	0	0
9. MITCH (Natural)	October 2017	San Diego	187,996	1,421	2
10. Klamath Complex (Lightning)	June 2000	Siskiyou	182,230	0	2
11. MARBLE CREEK (Lightning)	July 1997	Mendocino	177,568	0	0
12. LAGUNA (POWERLINES)	September 1978	San Diego	175,425	193	5
13. BAKER COMPLEX (Lightning)	June 2000	Mendocino	162,610	30	0
14. DAY FIRE (Human Related)	September 2006	Yosemite	161,192	11	0
15. STATION (Human Related)	August 2010	Los Angeles	160,591	199	1
16. CAMP FIRE (Human)	November 2018	Butte	151,236	16,304	85
17. BOUGH (Lightning)	July 2010	Placer	137,825	4	0
18. MCNAULY (Human Related)	July 1992	Tulare	130,694	17	0
19. STANISLAUS COMPLEX (Lightning)	August 2007	Tulare	125,558	25	1
20. RED BAR COMPLEX (Lightning)	August 2009	Trinity	120,645	0	0

\*There is no doubt that there were fires with significant acreage burned in years prior to 1983, but their records are less reliable, and this list is meant to give an overview of the large fires in more recent times.

<sup>1</sup>This list does not include fire jurisdiction. These are the Top 20 regardless of whether they were state, federal, or local responsible.

12/18/2019



## Current Regulatory & Mitigation Efforts

- ▶ Increased patrols and vegetation clearance in HFTD since 2017
  - ▶ Worked with CAL Fire to identify 173 utility poles in Tier 2/3 areas
- ▶ Increased inspection frequencies as required by GO 165

Inspection	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Patrol	5 Years	2 Years	1 Year
Detailed - includes pole-butt tests and/or intrusive testing	10 Years	10 Years	5 Years

- ▶ Installing “spark-limiting” fuses (CLFs) on all overhead lines
- ▶ Installing avian protection (polymer equipment covers) in Tier 2/3 areas

## Requirements of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan

### ▶ SB 1028 (modification of earlier bill SB 901)

- (1) An accounting of the responsibilities of persons responsible for executing the plan.
- (2) The objectives of the plan.
- (3) A description of the preventive strategies and programs adopted by the electrical corporation to minimize the risk of its electrical lines and equipment causing catastrophic wildfires.
- (4) A description of the metrics the electrical corporation plans to use to evaluate the plan's performance and the assumptions that underlie the use of those metrics.
- (5) A discussion of how the application of previously identified metrics to previous plan performances has informed the plan.
- (6) A description of the processes and procedures the electrical corporation will use to do the following:
  - (A) How the utility intends to monitor and audit the implementation of the plan.
  - (B) How the utility will identify any deficiencies in the plan or the plan's implementation and correct those deficiencies.
  - (C) How the utility will monitor and audit the effectiveness of electrical line and equipment inspections, including inspections performed by contractors, carried out under the plan and other applicable statutes or commission rules.
- (7) Any other information that the CPUC or CEC may require.

## BEU Safety Risks - Cause of Outages

- ▶ Ranking of Factors causing BEU outages
  1. Equipment deterioration or failure
  2. Vegetation
  3. Vehicle damage
  4. Animal contact
  5. Mylar balloons
  6. Lightning
  7. Vandalism
- ▶ BEU power lines have not caused any wildfires over the past several years as reported by CAL Fire

## BEU Wildfire Mitigation Plan Objectives

- ▶ Protect public safety while continuing to provide reliable and sustainable power to customers
- ▶ Set forth actionable and measurable plan to reduce the risk of potential wildfire-causing ignitions associated with BEU's electrical infrastructure
- ▶ Implement measures to harden the electric system against wildfires and improve system resiliency
- ▶ Enhance wildfire suppression by improving coordination with emergency management personnel
- ▶ Reduce the impact of wildfires on BEU's customers
- ▶ Communicate with customers, community groups, and other stakeholders about how to prevent, prepare for, and mitigate the effects of wildfire

## Mitigation Strategies

### Inspections

- ▶ Enhanced overhead inspections on delivery and distribution structures in HFTD
- ▶ Continue various existing inspections (poles, switches, circuits, relays, etc.)
- ▶ Continue vegetation management at utility poles and power lines as required and implement a strategy for removal of hazard (dead/dying) trees
- ▶ Investigate use of infrared or high definition (HD) Imagery
- ▶ Effective communications and engagement with emergency services, customers and other utilities
- ▶ Weather stations within HFTD

### Operations

- ▶ Investigate and implement various system hardening activities (e.g., composite poles, current limiting fuses (CLFs), remote automatic reclosers (RARs), Fast Curve settings)
- ▶ Evaluate feasibility of covered conductor in HFTD
- ▶ Evaluation of targeted undergrounding in HFTD
- ▶ Perform other evaluations and pilots of alternative technologies.

## Action Plan for Tier 3 Areas

Location	Fire Threat Tier	Electric Assets	Risk Description	Targeted Action/s	Timeframe
Banning Canyon	3	12.47kv OH distribution + 2 miles	Overhead line feeds B water distribution wells needed for fresh water and fire protection	Evaluate line for hardening solutions  Increase monitoring and limit fuels	Complete evaluation in Q2 2020  Install temporary in-line stick operated disconnects.
Mias Canyon	3	BEU provides OH 12.47kv and 7.2kv through Mias Canyon to 14 SCE customers	No disconnect device (recloser) exists to disconnect power to SCE customers in case of fire emergency.  Operating procedures with SCE have not been established	Install temporary in-line stick operated disconnects.  Develop engineering estimate for line upgrade and recloser  Increase monitoring and limit fuels	Install temporary in-lines by Q2 2020  Complete engineering estimate by end of Q1 2020

De-Energization  
Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

### Justifications for de-energization

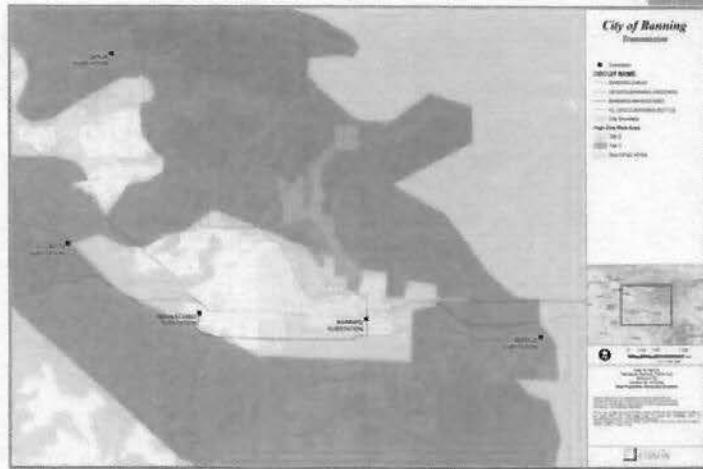
- Local fire or request by safety officers for a specific circuit to be de-energized as a result of an ongoing event
- Pre-emptive de-energization to reduce fire risk (Red Flag Warnings)

#### Typical but not required response to weather-related Red Flag Warnings

- During Extreme weather events where wind gusts exceed 25 mph, activate the appropriate operations requirements in response to the weather which may include public advisory through various communication channels
- During Red Flag weather events where wind gusts exceed 50 mph, activate the appropriate operations requirements in response to the weather, which will include public notice to customers of a potential PSPS event

Notification should occur 72 hours prior to an event

SCE PSPS Map



## Community Outreach

- ▶ Banning Electric on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram
- ▶ City of Banning at Nixle
- ▶ Develop Key Accounts Notification Protocol
- ▶ 2020 Community Outreach Meetings
  - ▶ Climate change impacts on wildfires
  - ▶ Grid hardening and other engineering practices
  - ▶ Vegetation management
  - ▶ Weather monitoring as it relates to elevated/extreme threat and red flag events
  - ▶ PSPS protocol if defined
  - ▶ Safety during outages

## Evaluation of the Plan

### Metrics

- ▶ Reportable Ignitions
  - ▶ Utility asset provides heat source for ignition
  - ▶ Self-propagating of material other than utility facility
  - ▶ Travels > 1m from ignition point
  - ▶ Utility has knowledge of fire occurrence
  - ▶ Describe fires greater than 10 acres within service territory
- ▶ Wires Down

### Monitoring

- ▶ Monitor the progression of the plan annually
- ▶ Independent Evaluator to report on the evolution of the plan prior in or before June 2020

## Next Steps

- ▶ Community Outreach Events
- ▶ Coordinate with SCE, CAL Fire and other safety personnel
- ▶ Qualified Independent Evaluation
- ▶ Report to City Council on WMP's comprehensiveness
- ▶ Submit final version of WMP to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board for review and approval by July 1, 2020