



Public Advocates Office
California Public Utilities Commission

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PUBLIC ADVOCATES OFFICE DATA REQUEST

No. CalAdvocates-BVES-NonCase-AAR-08122021

Date: August 12, 2021

Response requested: August 26, 2021

To: **Paul Marconi**

Bear Valley Electric Service

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INSTRUCTIONS

You are instructed to answer the following Data Requests in the above-captioned proceeding, with written, verified responses per Public Utilities Code §§ 309.5(e) and 314, and Rules 1.1 and 10.1 of the California Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Restate the text of each request prior to providing the response. Identify the person providing the answer to each Data Request and their contact information.

Please send your response to the Originator and e-copies to the following Public Advocates Office representatives:

Matthew.Karle@cpuc.ca.gov

Provide your response as it becomes available, but no later than the due date noted above. If you are unable to provide a response by this date, notify the Originator before the response to the Data Requests is due and provide a written explanation as to why the response date cannot be met and a best estimate of when the information can be provided. Please identify the person who will be providing the response and their phone number and email address.

Responses should be provided in the original electronic format, if available, and if not, in hard copy. (If available in Word format, send the Word document and do not send the information as a PDF file.) All electronic documents submitted in response to these Data Request should be in readable, downloadable, printable, and searchable formats, unless use of such formats is infeasible. Each page should be numbered. If any of your answers refer to or reflect calculations, provide a copy of the supporting electronic files that were used to derive such calculations, such as Excel-compatible spreadsheets or computer programs, with data and formulas intact and functioning. Documents produced in response to the Data Requests should be Bates-numbered and, if voluminous, indexed. Responses to Data Requests that refer to or incorporate documents should identify the particular documents referenced by Bates-numbers or Bates-range.

For any questions, email the Public Advocates Office contact(s) above with a copy to the Public Advocates Office attorney. If you are unable to answer a question completely, accurately, and with the specificity requested, notify the Public Advocates Office as soon as possible. In your written response to the question, explain why you are unable to answer in full and describe the limitations of your response.

DEFINITIONS

- A. As used herein, the terms "you," "your(s)," "Company," and "BVES" mean Bear Valley Electric Service and any and all of its respective present and former employees, agents, consultants, attorneys, and officials, and any and all other persons acting on its behalf.
- B. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively whenever appropriate in order to bring within the scope of these Data Requests any information or documents which might otherwise be considered to be beyond their scope.
- C. Date ranges shall be construed to include the beginning and end dates named. For example, the phrases "from January 1 to January 31," "January 1-31," "January 1 to 31," and "January 1 through January 31" should be understood to include both the 1st of January and the 31st

of January. Likewise, phrases such as “since January 1” and “from January 1 to the present” should be understood to include January 1st, and phrases such as “until January 31,” “through January 31,” and “up to January 31” should also be understood to include the 31st.

- D. The singular form of a word shall be interpreted as plural, and the plural form of a word shall be interpreted as singular whenever appropriate in order to bring within the scope of these Data Requests any information or documents which might otherwise be considered to be beyond their scope.
- E. The term “communications” includes all verbal and written communications of every kind, including but not limited to telephone calls, conferences, notes, correspondence, and all memoranda concerning the requested communications. Where communications are not in writing, provide copies of all memoranda and documents made relating to the requested communication and describe in full the substance of the communication to the extent that the substance is not reflected in the memoranda and documents provided.
- F. The terms “document,” “documents,” or “documentary material” include, without limitation, the following items, whether in electronic form, printed, recorded, or written or reproduced by hand: reports, studies, statistics, projections, forecasts, decisions, orders, intra-office and interoffice communications, correspondence, memoranda, financial data, summaries or records of conversations or interviews, statements, returns, diaries, calendars, work papers, graphs, notebooks, notes, charts, computations, plans, drawings, sketches, computer printouts, summaries or records of meetings or conferences, summaries or reports of investigations or negotiations, opinions or reports of consultants, photographs, bulletins, records or representations or publications of any kind (including microfilm, videotape, and records however produced or reproduced), electronic or mechanical or electrical records of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, tape cassettes, discs, emails, and records), other data compilations (including, without limitation, input/output files, source codes, object codes, program documentation, computer programs, computer printouts, cards, tapes, and discs and recordings used in automated data processing, together with the programming instructions and other material necessary to translate, understand, or use the same), and other documents or tangible things of whatever description which constitute or contain information within the scope of these data requests
- G. “Relate to,” “concern,” and similar terms and phrases shall mean to consist of, refer to, reflect, comprise, discuss, underlie, comment upon, form the basis for, analyze, mention, or be connected with, in any way, the subject of these Data Requests.
- H. “Identify”:
 - i. When used in reference to a person, includes stating their full name, most recent known business address and telephone number, and present title or position;
 - ii. When used in reference to documents, includes stating the nature of the document (e.g., letter, memorandum), the date (if any), the title of the document, the identity of the author and/or the document, the location of the document, the identity of the person having possession, control, or custody of the document, and the general subject matter of the document.

- I. When requested to “state the basis” for any analysis (including studies and workpapers), proposal, assertion, assumption, description, quantification, or conclusion, please describe every fact, statistic, inference, supposition, estimate, consideration, conclusion, study, and analysis known to you which you believe to support the analysis, proposal, assertion, assumption, description, quantification, or conclusion, or which you contend to be evidence of the truth or accuracy thereof.

DATA REQUESTS

The following questions relate to Advice Letter No. 424-E that was filed as a part of BVES’s Q2 2021 Quarterly Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Safety Report Update.

Question 1

Page 16 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES’ installation of weather stations. BVES states, that it “planned to install 2 weather stations in Q2 of 2021. All aspects of project are on track, however, BVES was unable to install the second unit due to external factors. One weather station was installed in Q2.”

Please describe the external factors that BVES faced that caused the delay in the installation of the second weather station and BVES’ plans for remaining on track for the Q3 weather monitoring and weather stations program goals.

Question 2

Page 16 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES’ installation of HD cameras. BVES states that it “planned to install 2 HD Cameras in Q2 of 2021. All aspects of project are on track for these cameras, however, BVES was not able to secure access in Q2 to install the devices. Zero HD cameras were installed in Q2 due to access issues.”

Please describe the access issues that BVES faced that resulted in zero cameras being installed in Q2 and BVES’s plans for remaining on track for the Q3 goals set for the installation of continuous monitoring sensors.

Question 3

Page 18 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES’ Grid Automation Program. BVES states that it “has reached 2.5% of the milestone for this Installation of System Automation Equipment initiative in Q2.”

Please explain how BVES plans on reaching the 10% annual target for grid automation. Please explain how BVES plans on exceeding its’ previous quarterly outputs in Q3 and Q4 to achieve completion of this initiative.

Question 4

Page 21 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES' Pole Loading and Replacement Program. BVES states that "Due to resourcing issues, BVES was not able to meet its goal of 500 poles by the end of Q2 2021." BVES reports inspecting 73 poles in Q2, bringing the total for 2021 to date to 352.

Please describe the resourcing issues that BVES faced that caused the delay in the pole loading assessment program and how BVES plans to inspect the outstanding 148 poles in Q3 and Q4 to stay on track to meet the pole loading assessment program goals.

Question 5

Page 23 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES' Quality Control for Electrical Inspections Program. BVES states that it "conducted 15 of the 18 scheduled reviews, BVES will work to meet future quarterly goals for reviewing contractor vegetation management activities"

- a) Please provide and describe (if any) BVES's Quality Assurance/ Quality Control processes in place to verify the quality of work done by contractors working on vegetation management mitigation measures (past and current)?
- b) Please explain whether and how BVES plans to make up for this shortfall in the remainder of the year.

Question 6

At pages 20-23 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021, BVES describes several initiatives as "On Track for Mid-Year Inspection" and states that program inspection will begin in Q3. These programs include 5.3.4.1 *detailed inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment*, 5.3.4.7 *LiDAR inspections of distribution electric lines and equipment*, 5.3.4.9 *Other discretionary inspection of distribution electric lines and equipment, beyond inspections mandated by rules and regulations*, 5.3.5.2 *Detailed inspections of vegetation around distribution electric lines and equipment*, and 5.3.5.7 *LiDAR inspections of vegetation around distribution electric lines and equipment*.

Please describe BVES' reasoning for scheduling the start of inspections for these programs in Q3.

Question 7

Page 21 of Advice Letter No. 424-E, Attachment A: Wildfire Mitigation Plan Quarterly Advice Letter Initiative Report for Q2 2021 describes BVES' Quality Control for Electrical Inspections Program. BVES states that it "has not yet established quantitative or qualitative targets for the planned quality control program." Please confirm whether BVES intends to establish quantitative or qualitative targets for its QA/QC programs, and if so, whether those targets will be included in BVES' 2022 WMP update.

END OF REQUEST