Fifty-seventh Legislature First Regular Session Finance H.B. 2201

PROPOSED SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2201 (Reference to House engrossed bill)

Amendment instruction key: [<u>GREEN UNDERLINING IN BRACKETS</u>] indicates text added to statute or previously enacted session law. [<u>Green underlining in brackets</u>] indicates text added to new session law or text restoring existing law. [<u>GREEN STRIKEOUT IN BRACKETS</u>] indicates new text removed from statute or previously enacted session law. [<u>Green strikeout in brackets</u>] indicates text removed from existing statute, previously enacted session law or new session law. </Green carets>> indicate a section added to the bill. </Green strikeout in carets>> indicates a section removed from the bill.

1 The bill as proposed to be amended is reprinted as follows: Section 1. Title 30, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding 2 3 chapter 7. to read: CHAPTER 7 4 5 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANNING 6 ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS 7 30-901. Definitions IN THIS CHAPTER, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES: 8 "ATTACHOR" MEANS ANY CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM OR PROVIDER OF 9 1. 10 TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR BROADBAND COMMUNICATION SERVICES THAT OWNS OR 11 OPERATES EQUIPMENT THAT IS ATTACHED TO A POLE, DUCT OR CONDUIT OR THAT IS 12 OTHERWISE LOCATED WITHIN A RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT IS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY A 13 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY, PROVIDED THAT THE ATTACHING ENTITY IS A CURRENT PARTY 14 TO AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH AN ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC POWER 15 ENTITY. 16 2. "ELECTRIC UTILITY" HAS THE SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 17 40-1301. 18 3. "GOVERNING BODY" MEANS THE GOVERNING BODY OF A PUBLIC POWER 19 ENTITY. 20 "PUBLIC POWER ENTITY" MEANS ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR 4. 21 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT OWNS AND OPERATES FACILITIES THAT GENERATE, 22 TRANSMIT OR DISTRIBUTE ELECTRIC ENERGY FOR SALE TO RETAIL CUSTOMERS IN 23 THIS STATE. 24 5. "PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF" MEANS THE INTENTIONAL TEMPORARY 25 SHUT OFF OF POWER DURING CERTAIN WEATHER OR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS TO 26 REDUCE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES. 27 6. "WILDFIRE" MEANS ANY UNWANTED, UNPLANNED OR UNCONTROLLED FIRE 28 THAT IGNITES VEGETATION WITHIN A WILDLAND OR NATURAL AREA, INCLUDING:

1 (a) FORESTS. 2 (b) GRASSLANDS. 3 (c) PRAIRIES. 4 (d) ANY AREAS THAT INTERFACE BETWEEN WILDLAND OR NATURAL AND URBAN 5 AREAS. 6 7. "WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN" MEANS A PLAN THAT IS SUBMITTED TO THE 7 GOVERNING BODY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CHAPTER. 30-902. Cause of action; exclusive means of recovery; legal 8 9 duty 10 A. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH A NEW CAUSE OF ACTION. IF THERE 11 IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS CHAPTER AND ANY OTHER STATE LAW, THIS CHAPTER 12 CONTROLS. 13 B. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE AGREED TO IN WRITING OR ESTABLISHED BY 14 FEDERAL LAW, THIS CHAPTER ESTABLISHES THE EXCLUSIVE MEANS OF RECOVERY FROM 15 A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY FOR CLAIMS OR DAMAGES THAT RESULT FROM WILDFIRES. 16 C. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH ANY ADDITIONAL LEGAL DUTY THAT 17 SUPPORTS ANY CLAIM THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE ALREADY EXIST. 18 D. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER 19 CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT IS RELATED TO A 20 WILDFIRE, THAT PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF THE 21 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL BE TREATED THE SAME AS AND CONSIDERED EQUIVALENT 22 TO A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 30-904. E. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT IS 23 24 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, AN ATTACHOR SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE A PUBLIC 25 POWER ENTITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 30-904 WITH RESPECT TO ANY 26 LIABILITY THAT MAY BE ALLEGED TO HAVE ARISEN OUT OF THE ATTACHOR'S 27 EQUIPMENT. 28 30-903. <u>Wildfire mitigation plan</u> A. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT A WILDFIRE 29 30 MITIGATION PLAN TO THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S GOVERNING BODY FOR REVIEW AND 31 APPROVAL. THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY MAY USE THE SUBMISSION AS AN UPDATE TO 32 THE LAST APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL 33 SUBMIT THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S GOVERNING 34 BODY ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026 AND EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR THEREAFTER 35 UNLESS THE GOVERNING BODY ORDERS OTHERWISE. BEFORE A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY 36 SUBMITS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE GOVERNING BODY, THE PUBLIC POWER 37 ENTITY SHALL CONSULT WITH A STATE OR FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT OR FIRE 38 PROTECTION AGENCY THAT HAS AUTHORITY IN THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S SERVICE 39 TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION 40 PLAN. 41 B. THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL REVIEW THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE 42 MITIGATION PLAN TO ENSURE THAT THE PLAN: 43 1. COMPLIES WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ALL APPLICABLE RULES AND 44 REGULATIONS. 45 2. IS REASONABLE.

1 3. IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

2 C. THE GOVERNING BODY MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A 3 MODIFICATION TO THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN WITHIN ONE HUNDRED 4 TWENTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN BY PROVIDING 5 WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY. IF THE GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT 6 REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE 7 MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY 8 APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS.

9 D. WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE PRESCRIBED IN 10 SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL REVISE THE 11 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE GOVERNING 12 BODY'S REQUEST. THE GOVERNING BODY HAS SIXTY DAYS TO CONSIDER THE PUBLIC 13 POWER ENTITY'S RESPONSE AND ANY PROPOSED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR 14 MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION 15 PLAN IS DEEMED APPROVED DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY JUDICIAL ACTION THAT 16 SEEKS REVIEW OF THE GOVERNING BODY'S APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE WILDFIRE 17 MITIGATION PLAN OR ANY PORTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. IF THE 18 GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION 19 TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED 20 ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF SIXTY DAYS.

21 E. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

22 1. A DESCRIPTION OF AREAS WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHIC REGION WHERE THE 23 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S FACILITIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO A HEIGHTENED RISK OF 24 WILDFIRE.

25 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS THAT THE PUBLIC 26 POWER ENTITY WILL USE TO INSPECT AND OPERATE THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S 27 INFRASTRUCTURE TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES.

3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE KEY INDIVIDUALS OR POSITION TITLES OF THOSE
PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
4. A DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES FOR DEENERGIZING POWER LINES AND
DISABLING RECLOSERS TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL WILDFIRES OR PROVIDE A PUBLIC
SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF PLAN.

33 5. A PLAN FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.

34 6. A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURES THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY INTENDS TO 35 USE TO RESTORE THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN THE EVENT OF 36 A WILDFIRE.

37 7. A DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS 38 EFFORTS.

39 8. A DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION, IF APPLICABLE, WITH40 STATE OR LOCAL WILDFIRE PROTECTION EFFORTS.

41 9. A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY WILL MONITOR 42 COMPLIANCE WITH THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.

43F. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY MAY REFERENCE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS44THAT ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY ENUMERATED IN THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IN45LIEU OF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION. REFERENCED

1 MATERIAL MUST BE INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN 2 SUBMISSION. 3 30-904. Liability for causing wildfires; severability [A. FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT IS 4 5 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ALL OF THE ELEMENTS MUST BE PROVEN BY CLEAR AND 6 **CONVINCING EVIDENCE.**] [B.][A. AS TO ANY CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AGAINST A PUBLIC 7 8 POWER ENTITY THAT IS RELATED TO A WILDFIRE,] A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT 9 [SUBSTANTIALLY] ACTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION 10 PLAN IS DEEMED TO MEET THE STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT 11 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY [AND A PARTY ASSERTING THE CAUSE OF ACTION MUST PROVE 12 THAT A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN WAS 13 THE PROXIMATE CAUSE OF ANY LOSS, INJURY, OR OTHER HARM ALLEGED. 14 NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT ENGAGES IN] 15 [UNLESS THERE IS CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF] WILFUL, INTENTIONAL OR 16 RECKLESS MISCONDUCT [THAT CAUSES A WILDFIRE IS NOT DEEMED TO MEET THE 17 STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT PUBLIC POWER ENTITY]. A FAILURE 18 TO COMPLY WITH AN APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE 19 NEGLIGENCE PER SE. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S OR ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE 20 MITIGATION PLAN SHALL NOT BE ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE AGAINST ANOTHER PUBLIC 21 POWER ENTITY OR ELECTRIC UTILITY IN A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE OUT OF A 22 WILDFIRE. [C.][B.] A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT 23 24 FOR THE IGNITION OF A WILDFIRE FROM SOURCES THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE PUBLIC 25 POWER ENTITY'S CONTROL. INCLUDING LIGHTNING STRIKES OR ACTIONS BY THIRD 26 PARTIES. [D.][C.] A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT 27 28 FOR VEGETATION OR OTHER WILDFIRE RISKS OUTSIDE OF THE PUBLIC POWER 29 ENTITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY, LEASE OR OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS OR AREAS IN WHICH 30 THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY HAS BEEN DELAYED IN ACCESSING OR DENIED ACCESS TO 31 FOR PURPOSES OF PERFORMING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT. [E.][D.] A CLAIM FOR CONDEMNATION OR INVERSE CONDEMNATION SHALL NOT 32 33 EXIST AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY RELATED TO WILDFIRES. [F.][E.] IN AN ACTION [AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY] [PURSUANT TO 34 35 THIS SECTION] TO RECOVER ANY DAMAGES THAT RESULT FROM A WILDFIRE, NEITHER 36 [CONSEQUENTIAL PROPERTY DAMAGES NOR] EXEMPLARY [OR][NOR] PUNITIVE [BODILY 37 INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGES [OF ANY KIND] SHALL BE RECOVERED. [G.][F.] IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER OR THE PUBLIC POWER 38 39 ENTITY'S APPLICATION TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE 40 INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS 41 CHAPTER THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR 42 APPLICATION AND TO THIS END THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER ARE SEVERABLE. 43 Sec. 2. Title 40, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding 44 chapter 8, to read: 45 CHAPTER 8

1 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANNING 2 ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS 3 40-1301. Definitions IN THIS CHAPTER, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES: 4 5 1. "ATTACHOR" MEANS ANY CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM OR PROVIDER OF 6 TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR BROADBAND COMMUNICATION SERVICES THAT OWNS OR 7 OPERATES EQUIPMENT THAT IS ATTACHED TO A POLE. DUCT OR CONDUIT OR THAT IS 8 OTHERWISE LOCATED WITHIN A RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT IS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY AN 9 ELECTRIC UTILITY, PROVIDED THAT THE ATTACHING ENTITY IS A CURRENT PARTY TO 10 AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH AN ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE ELECTRIC UTILITY. 11 2. "COMMISSION" MEANS THE CORPORATION COMMISSION. 3. "ELECTED BOARD" MEANS THE GOVERNING BODY OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY 12 13 THAT IS SELECTED BY VOTERS OR MEMBERS OF AN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IN AN 14 ELECTION. 4. "ELECTRIC UTILITY": 15 16 (a) MEANS: 17 (i) ANY PERSON, BUSINESS ORGANIZATION, PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION, 18 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY THAT OWNS AND OPERATES 19 FACILITIES FOR THE GENERATION, TRANSMISSION OR DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC 20 ENERGY FOR SALE TO RETAIL CUSTOMERS IN THIS STATE. 21 (ii) ANY GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE OPERATING IN THIS 22 STATE. (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY. 23 24 5. "PUBLIC POWER ENTITY" MEANS A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY AS DEFINED IN 25 SECTION 30-901. 26 6. "PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF" MEANS THE INTENTIONAL TEMPORARY 27 SHUT OFF OF POWER DURING CERTAIN WEATHER OR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS TO 28 REDUCE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES. 7. "WILDFIRE" MEANS ANY UNWANTED, UNPLANNED OR UNCONTROLLED FIRE 29 30 THAT IGNITES VEGETATION WITHIN A WILDLAND OR NATURAL AREA. INCLUDING: 31 (a) FORESTS. 32 (b) GRASSLANDS. 33 (c) PRAIRIES. (d) ANY AREAS THAT INTERFACE BETWEEN WILDLAND OR NATURAL AND URBAN 34 35 AREAS. 36 8. "WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN" MEANS A PLAN THAT IS SUBMITTED TO THE 37 COMMISSION OR ELECTED BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CHAPTER. 40-1302. Cause of action; exclusive means of recovery; legal 38 39 duty 40 A. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH A NEW CAUSE OF ACTION. IF THERE 41 IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS CHAPTER AND ANY OTHER STATE LAW, THIS CHAPTER 42 CONTROLS. B. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE AGREED TO IN WRITING OR ESTABLISHED BY 43 44 FEDERAL LAW, THIS CHAPTER ESTABLISHES THE EXCLUSIVE MEANS OF RECOVERY FROM 45 AN ELECTRIC UTILITY FOR CLAIMS OR DAMAGES THAT RESULT FROM WILDFIRES.

1 C. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH ANY ADDITIONAL LEGAL DUTY THAT 2 SUPPORTS ANY CLAIM THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE ALREADY EXIST.

3 D. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER 4 CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, 5 THAT PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF THE ELECTRIC 6 UTILITY SHALL BE TREATED THE SAME AS AND CONSIDERED EQUIVALENT TO AN 7 ELECTRIC UTILITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 40-1304.

8 E. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS 9 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ANY ATTACHOR SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE AN ELECTRIC 10 UTILITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 40-1304 WITH RESPECT TO ANY LIABILITY 11 THAT MAY BE ALLEGED TO HAVE ARISEN OUT OF THE ATTACHOR'S EQUIPMENT.

12 [F. ANY ACTION BY THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER IS THE 13 EXERCISE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION INVOLVING THE DETERMINATION OF 14 FUNDAMENTAL GOVERNMENTAL POLICY PURSUANT TO ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES 15 SECTION 12-820.01.]

16

40–1303. <u>Wildfire mitigation plan</u>

A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION, AN ELECTRIC NUTILITY SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE COMMISSION FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE ELECTRIC UTILITY MAY USE THE SUBMISSION AS AN UPDATE TO THE LAST APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL SUBMIT THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE COMMISSION ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026 AND EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR THEREAFTER. BEFORE AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SUBMITS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE COMMISSION, THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL CONSULT WITH A STATE OR FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT OR FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY THAT HAS AUTHORITY IN CHE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.

28 B. THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE MITIGATION 29 PLAN TO ENSURE THAT THE PLAN:

30 1. COMPLIES WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ALL APPLICABLE RULES AND 31 REGULATIONS.

32 2. IS REASONABLE.

33 3. IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

C. THE COMMISSION MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN WITHIN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN BY PROVIDING WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE ELECTRIC UTILITY. IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY A APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS.

41 D. WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE PRESCRIBED IN 42 SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL REVISE THE 43 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION'S 44 REQUEST. THE COMMISSION HAS SIXTY DAYS TO CONSIDER THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S 45 RESPONSE AND ANY PROPOSED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR MODIFICATION TO THE

1 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED APPROVED 2 DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY JUDICIAL ACTION THAT SEEKS REVIEW OF THE 3 COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN OR ANY 4 PORTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT 5 REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE 6 MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY 7 APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF SIXTY DAYS. E. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: 8 1. A DESCRIPTION OF AREAS WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHIC REGION WHERE THE 9 10 UTILITIES FACILITIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO A HEIGHTENED RISK OF WILDFIRE. 11 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS THAT THE ELECTRIC 12 UTILITY WILL USE TO INSPECT AND OPERATE THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S 13 INFRASTRUCTURE TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES. 3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE KEY INDIVIDUALS OR POSITION TITLES OF THOSE 14 15 PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. 4. A DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES FOR DEENERGIZING POWER LINES AND 16 17 DISABLING RECLOSERS TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL WILDFIRES OR PROVIDE A PUBLIC 18 SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF PLAN. 5. A PLAN FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT. 19 20 6. A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURES THE ELECTRIC UTILITY INTENDS TO USE 21 TO RESTORE THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN THE EVENT OF A 22 WILDFIRE. 7. A DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS 23 24 EFFORTS. 8. A DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION. IF APPLICABLE. WITH 25 26 STATE OR LOCAL WILDFIRE PROTECTION EFFORTS. 9. A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE ELECTRIC UTILITY WILL MONITOR 27 28 COMPLIANCE WITH THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. F. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY MAY REFERENCE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS THAT 29 30 ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY ENUMERATED IN THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IN LIEU OF 31 THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION. REFERENCED MATERIAL 32 MUST BE INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN 33 SUBMISSION. G. ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026 AND EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR THEREAFTER 34 35 UNLESS AN ELECTRIC UTILITY'S GOVERNING BOARD ORDERS OTHERWISE, AN ELECTRIC 36 UTILITY THAT IS GOVERNED BY AN ELECTED BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE 37 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE ELECTED BOARD, INSTEAD 38 OF THE COMMISSION, FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE ELECTED BOARD SHALL 39 REPLACE THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. 40 BEFORE AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SUBMITS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE 41 ELECTED BOARD, THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL CONSULT WITH A STATE OR FEDERAL 42 LAND MANAGEMENT OR FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY THAT HAS AUTHORITY IN THE 43 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT OF 44 THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.

[H. THE COMMISSION MAY DEVELOP RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING 1 2 THE COMMISSION PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF WILDFIRE MITIGATION 3 PLANS. I. COMMISSION OR ELECTED BOARD ACTION APPROVING A WILDFIRE 4 5 MITIGATION PLAN SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED APPROVAL FOR RECOVERY OF THE 6 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S COSTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION 7 PLAN THROUGH RATES FOR SERVICE CHARGED TO THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S 8 <u>CUSTOMERS.</u>] 40-1304. <u>Liability for causing wildfires; severability</u> 9 [A. FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS 10 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ALL OF THE ELEMENTS MUST BE PROVEN BY CLEAR AND 11 CONVINCING EVIDENCE.] [8.] [A. FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AGAINST AN ELECTRIC 12 13 UTILITY THAT IS RELATED TO A WILDFIRE,] AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT 14 [SUBSTANTIALLY] ACTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION 15 PLAN IS DEEMED TO MEET THE STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT 16 ELECTRIC UTILITY [AND A PARTY ASSERTING THE CAUSE OF ACTION MUST PROVE 17 THAT A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN WAS 18 THE PROXIMATE CAUSE OF ANY LOSS, INJURY, OR OTHER HARM ALLEGED. 19 NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT ENGAGES IN] 20 [UNLESS THERE IS CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF] WILFUL, INTENTIONAL OR 21 RECKLESS MISCONDUCT [THAT CAUSES A WILDFIRE IS NOT DEEMED TO MEET THE 22 STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT ELECTRIC UTILITY]. A FAILURE TO 23 COMPLY WITH AN APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE 24 NEGLIGENCE PER SE. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S OR ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE 25 MITIGATION PLAN SHALL NOT BE ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE AGAINST ANOTHER PUBLIC 26 POWER ENTITY OR ELECTRIC UTILITY IN A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE OUT OF A 27 WILDFIRE. [C.][B.] AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR 28 29 THE IGNITION OF A WILDFIRE FROM SOURCES THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE ELECTRIC 30 UTILITY'S CONTROL, INCLUDING LIGHTNING STRIKES OR ACTIONS BY THIRD 31 PARTIES. [D.] [C.] AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR 32 33 VEGETATION OR OTHER WILDFIRE RISKS OUTSIDE OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S 34 RIGHT-OF-WAY, LEASE OR OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS OR AREAS IN WHICH THE 35 ELECTRIC UTILITY HAS BEEN DELAYED IN ACCESSING OR DENIED ACCESS TO FOR 36 PURPOSES OF PERFORMING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT. [E.][D.] A CLAIM FOR CONDEMNATION OR INVERSE CONDEMNATION SHALL NOT 37 38 EXIST AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY RELATED TO WILDFIRES. [F.][E.] IN AN ACTION [AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY][PURSUANT TO 39 40 THIS SECTION] TO RECOVER ANY DAMAGES THAT RESULT FROM A WILDFIRE, NEITHER 41 [CONSEQUENTIAL PROPERTY DAMAGES NOR] EXEMPLARY [OR][NOR] PUNITIVE [BODILY 42 INJURY OR PROPERTY] DAMAGES [OF ANY KIND] SHALL BE RECOVERED. 43 [G.] IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER OR ITS APPLICATION TO ANY 44 PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT 45 OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT 1 WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR APPLICATION AND TO THIS END THE 2 PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER ARE SEVERABLE.

- 3 Enroll and engross to conform
- 4 Amend title to conform

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