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

Amendment instruction key:

[GREEN UNDERLINING IN BRACKETS] indicates text added to statute or previously enacted session law.

 $[\underline{Green\ underlining\ in\ brackets}]$ indicates text added to new session law or text restoring existing law.

[GREEN STRIKEOUT IN BRACKETS] indicates new text removed from statute or previously enacted session law.

[Green strikeout in brackets] indicates text removed from existing statute, previously enacted session law or new session law.

<<Green carets>> indicate a section added to the bill.

<<a>Green strikeout in carets>> indicates a section removed from the bill.

1 The bill as proposed to be amended is reprinted as follows:

2 Section 1. Title 30, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding 3 chapter 7. to read:

CHAPTER 7

WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANNING ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

30-901. <u>Definitions</u>

IN THIS CHAPTER, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

- 9 1. "ATTACHOR" MEANS ANY CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM OR PROVIDER OF 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 4. "PUBLIC POWER ENTITY" MEANS ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR 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.
- 5. "PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF" MEANS THE INTENTIONAL TEMPORARY SHUT OFF OF POWER DURING CERTAIN WEATHER OR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS TO 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:

(a) FORESTS.

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- (b) GRASSLANDS.
 - (c) PRAIRIES.
- 4 (d) ANY AREAS THAT INTERFACE BETWEEN WILDLAND OR NATURAL AND URBAN 5 AREAS.
- 7. "WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN" MEANS A PLAN THAT IS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNING BODY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CHAPTER.
- 8 30-902. <u>Cause of action; exclusive means of recovery; legal</u>
 9 <u>duty</u>
- 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.
- 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 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 EOUIPMENT.
 - 30-903. Wildfire mitigation plan
- A. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S GOVERNING BODY FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY MAY USE THE SUBMISSION AS AN UPDATE TO THE LAST APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S GOVERNING HODY ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026 AND EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR THEREAFTER UNLESS THE GOVERNING BODY ORDERS OTHERWISE. BEFORE A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SUBMITS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE GOVERNING BODY, THE PUBLIC POWER TOWER STATE OR FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT OR FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY THAT HAS AUTHORITY IN THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
- 41 B. THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL REVIEW THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE 42 MITIGATION PLAN TO ENSURE THAT THE PLAN:
- 1. COMPLIES WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ALL APPLICABLE RULES AND 44 REGULATIONS.
- 45 2. IS REASONABLE.

- 3. IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.
- C. THE GOVERNING BODY 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 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY. IF THE GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS.
- D. WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL REVISE THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE GOVERNING BODY'S REQUEST. THE GOVERNING BODY HAS SIXTY DAYS TO CONSIDER THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S RESPONSE AND ANY PROPOSED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED APPROVED DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY JUDICIAL ACTION THAT SEEKS REVIEW OF THE GOVERNING BODY'S APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. IF THE GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF SIXTY DAYS.
 - E. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
- 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. IDENTIFY PREVENTIVE ACTIONS, PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND MONITORING 26 PROGRAMS THAT THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY WILL CARRY OUT, INSTALL OR IMPLEMENT 27 TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF WILDFIRE.]
- 28 [2.][3.] A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES[. TIMEFRAMES] AND 29 STANDARDS THAT THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY WILL USE TO INSPECT AND OPERATE THE 30 PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES.
- 31 [3.][4.] A DESCRIPTION OF THE KEY INDIVIDUALS OR POSITION TITLES OF 32 THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION 33 PLAN.
- 34 [4.][5.] A DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES FOR DEENERGIZING POWER LINES 35 AND DISABLING RECLOSERS TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL WILDFIRES OR PROVIDE A 36 PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF PLAN.
- 37 [5.][6. A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES, STANDARDS AND TIMEFRAMES
 38 THAT THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY WILL USE TO CARRY OUT][A PLAN FOR] VEGETATION
 39 MANAGEMENT.
- 40 [6.][7.] A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURES THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY 41 INTENDS TO USE TO RESTORE THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN 42 THE EVENT OF A WILDFIRE.
- 43 [7.][8.] A DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS 44 EFFORTS.

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1 [8.][9.] A DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION, IF APPLICABLE, 2 WITH STATE OR LOCAL WILDFIRE PROTECTION EFFORTS.
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- 3 [9.][10.] A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY WILL MONITOR 4 COMPLIANCE WITH THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
- 5 [11. NOTICE TO AFFECTED JURISDICTIONS WITH INSTRUCTION ON HOW AND 6 WHEN TO PROVIDE COMMENT ON THE PLAN TO THE GOVERNING BODY.
- 7 12. IDENTIFY THE COSTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ELEMENTS OF THE 8 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION E.]
- 9 F. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY MAY REFERENCE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS 10 THAT ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY ENUMERATED IN THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IN 11 LIEU OF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION. REFERENCED 12 MATERIAL MUST BE INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN 13 SUBMISSION.
- 14 [G. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT THE APPROVED WILDFIRE 15 MITIGATION PLAN TO THE STATE FORESTER FOR FURTHER REVIEW AND APPROVAL.
- H. THE STATE FORESTER SHALL CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN EVERY ODD-NUMBERED YEAR FOR THE PURPOSE OF VERIFYING THAT THE ENTITY IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLAN.]
 - 30-904. Liability for causing wildfires; severability
- A. FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT IS 22 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ALL OF THE ELEMENTS MUST BE PROVEN BY CLEAR AND 23 CONVINCING EVIDENCE.
- B. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY THAT SUBSTANTIALLY ACTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED TO MEET THE STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT PUBLIC POWER ENTITY UNLESS THERE IS CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF WILFUL, INTENTIONAL OR RECKLESS MISCONDUCT. A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE NEGLIGENCE PER SE. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S OR ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL NOT BE ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE AGAINST ANOTHER PUBLIC POWER ENTITY OR ELECTRIC UTILITY IN A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE OUT OF A WILDFIRE.
- 33 C. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR THE 34 IGNITION OF A WILDFIRE FROM SOURCES THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE PUBLIC POWER 35 ENTITY'S CONTROL, INCLUDING LIGHTNING STRIKES OR ACTIONS BY THIRD PARTIES.
- D. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR VEGETATION OR OTHER WILDFIRE RISKS OUTSIDE OF THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY, LEASE OR OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS OR AREAS IN WHICH THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY HAS BEEN DELAYED IN ACCESSING OR DENIED ACCESS TO FOR PURPOSES OF PERFORMING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.
- 41 E. A CLAIM FOR CONDEMNATION OR INVERSE CONDEMNATION SHALL NOT EXIST 42 AGAINST A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY RELATED TO WILDFIRES.
- F. IN AN ACTION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO RECOVER ANY DAMAGES 44 THAT RESULT FROM A WILDFIRE, NEITHER CONSEQUENTIAL PROPERTY DAMAGES NOR

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1 EXEMPLARY OR PUNITIVE BODILY INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGES SHALL BE 2 RECOVERED.

G. IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER OR THE PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S APPLICATION TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR APPLICATION AND TO THIS TEND THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER ARE SEVERABLE.

8 Sec. 2. Title 40, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding 9 chapter 8, to read:

10 CHAPTER 8

WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANNING

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

40-1301. <u>Definitions</u>

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IN THIS CHAPTER, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

- 15 1. "ATTACHOR" MEANS ANY CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM OR PROVIDER OF 16 TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR BROADBAND COMMUNICATION SERVICES THAT OWNS OR 17 OPERATES EQUIPMENT THAT IS ATTACHED TO A POLE, DUCT OR CONDUIT OR THAT IS 18 OTHERWISE LOCATED WITHIN A RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT IS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY AN 19 ELECTRIC UTILITY, PROVIDED THAT THE ATTACHING ENTITY IS A CURRENT PARTY TO 20 AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH AN ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE ELECTRIC UTILITY.
 - 2. "COMMISSION" MEANS THE CORPORATION COMMISSION.
- 22 3. "ELECTED BOARD" MEANS THE GOVERNING BODY OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY 23 THAT IS SELECTED BY VOTERS OR MEMBERS OF AN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IN AN 24 ELECTION.
 - 4. "ELECTRIC UTILITY":
 - (a) MEANS:
- 27 (i) ANY PERSON, BUSINESS ORGANIZATION, PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION, 28 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY THAT OWNS AND OPERATES 29 FACILITIES FOR THE GENERATION, TRANSMISSION OR DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC 30 ENERGY FOR SALE TO RETAIL CUSTOMERS IN THIS STATE.
- 31 (ii) ANY GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE OPERATING IN THIS 32 STATE.
 - (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY.
- 34 5. "PUBLIC POWER ENTITY" MEANS A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY AS DEFINED IN 35 SECTION 30-901.
- 36 6. "PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF" MEANS THE INTENTIONAL TEMPORARY 37 SHUT OFF OF POWER DURING CERTAIN WEATHER OR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS TO 38 REDUCE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES.
- 7. "WILDFIRE" MEANS ANY UNWANTED, UNPLANNED OR UNCONTROLLED FIRE THAT IGNITES VEGETATION WITHIN A WILDLAND OR NATURAL AREA, INCLUDING:
 - (a) FORESTS.
- 42 (b) GRASSLANDS.
- 43 (c) PRAIRIES.
- 44 (d) ANY AREAS THAT INTERFACE BETWEEN WILDLAND OR NATURAL AND URBAN 45 AREAS.

- 1 8. "WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN" MEANS A PLAN THAT IS SUBMITTED TO THE 2 COMMISSION OR ELECTED BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CHAPTER.
- 3 40-1302. <u>Cause of action; exclusive means of recovery; legal</u>
 4 duty
- 5 A. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH A NEW CAUSE OF ACTION. IF THERE 6 IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS CHAPTER AND ANY OTHER STATE LAW, THIS CHAPTER 7 CONTROLS.
- 8 B. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE AGREED TO IN WRITING OR ESTABLISHED BY 9 FEDERAL LAW, THIS CHAPTER ESTABLISHES THE EXCLUSIVE MEANS OF RECOVERY FROM 10 AN ELECTRIC UTILITY FOR CLAIMS OR DAMAGES THAT RESULT FROM WILDFIRES.
- 11 C. THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT ESTABLISH ANY ADDITIONAL LEGAL DUTY THAT 12 SUPPORTS ANY CLAIM THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE ALREADY EXIST.
- D. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, THAT PARENT, SUBSIDIARY OR OTHER CORPORATE AFFILIATE OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL BE TREATED THE SAME AS AND CONSIDERED EQUIVALENT TO AN ELECTRIC UTILITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 40-1304.
- 18 E. IN ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS
 19 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ANY ATTACHOR SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE AN ELECTRIC
 20 UTILITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 40-1304 WITH RESPECT TO ANY LIABILITY
 21 THAT MAY BE ALLEGED TO HAVE ARISEN OUT OF THE ATTACHOR'S EQUIPMENT.
 - 40-1303. Wildfire mitigation plan
- A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION, AN ELECTRIC UTILITY 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 THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
- 34 B. THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE MITIGATION 35 PLAN TO ENSURE THAT THE PLAN:
- 36 1. COMPLIES WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ALL APPLICABLE RULES AND 37 REGULATIONS.
 - 2. IS REASONABLE.

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- 3. IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.
- 40 C. THE COMMISSION MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A 41 MODIFICATION TO THE SUBMITTED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN WITHIN ONE HUNDRED 42 TWENTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN BY PROVIDING 43 WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE ELECTRIC UTILITY. IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT 44 REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE

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1 MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY 2 APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS.

- D. WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE PRESCRIBED IN 4 SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL REVISE THE 5 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION'S 6 REQUEST. THE COMMISSION HAS SIXTY DAYS TO CONSIDER THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S 7 RESPONSE AND ANY PROPOSED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR MODIFICATION TO THE 8 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED APPROVED 9 DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY JUDICIAL ACTION THAT SEEKS REVIEW OF THE 10 COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN OR ANY 11 PORTION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN. IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT 12 REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A MODIFICATION TO THE WILDFIRE 13 MITIGATION PLAN, THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED ADMINISTRATIVELY 14 APPROVED AT THE EXPIRATION OF SIXTY DAYS.
 - E. THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
- 1. A DESCRIPTION OF AREAS WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHIC REGION WHERE THE 17 UTILITIES FACILITIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO A HEIGHTENED RISK OF WILDFIRE.
- 18 [2. IDENTIFY PREVENTIVE ACTIONS. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND MONITORING
 19 PROGRAMS THAT THE ELECTRIC UTILITY WILL CARRY OUT. INSTALL OR IMPLEMENT TO
 20 MINIMIZE THE RISK OF A WILDFIRE.]
- 21 [2.][3.] A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES[, TIMEFRAMES] AND 22 STANDARDS THAT THE ELECTRIC UTILITY WILL USE TO INSPECT AND OPERATE THE 23 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF WILDFIRES.
- 24 [3.][4.] A DESCRIPTION OF THE KEY INDIVIDUALS OR POSITION TITLES OF 25 THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION 26 PLAN.
- 27 [4.][5.] A DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES FOR DEENERGIZING POWER LINES 28 AND DISABLING RECLOSERS TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL WILDFIRES OR PROVIDE A 29 PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT OFF PLAN.
- 30 [<u>6. A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURES, STANDRDS AND TIMEFRAMES THAT</u>
 31 <u>THE ELECTRIC UTILITY WILL USE TO CARRY OUT</u>] [A PLAN FOR] VEGETATION
 32 MANAGEMENT.
- 33 [6.][7.] A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURES THE ELECTRIC UTILITY INTENDS 34 TO USE TO RESTORE THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN THE EVENT OF 35 A WILDFIRE.
- 36 [7.][8.] A DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS 37 EFFORTS.
- 38 [8.][9.] A DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION, IF APPLICABLE, 39 WITH STATE OR LOCAL WILDFIRE PROTECTION EFFORTS.
- 40 [9.][10.] A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE ELECTRIC UTILITY WILL MONITOR 41 COMPLIANCE WITH THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
- 42 [11. NOTICE TO AFFECTED JURISDICTIONS WITH INSTRUCTION ON HOW AND 43 WHEN TO PROVIDE COMMENT ON THE PLAN TO THE COMMISSION OR ELECTED BOARD AS 44 APPLICABLE.

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- 1 12. IDENTIFY THE COSTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ELEMENTS OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION E.]
- F. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY MAY REFERENCE PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS THAT ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY ENUMERATED IN THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IN LIEU OF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION. REFERENCED MATERIAL MUST BE INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS TO THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN 7 SUBMISSION.
- G. ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026 AND EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR THEREAFTER 9 UNLESS AN ELECTRIC UTILITY'S GOVERNING BOARD ORDERS OTHERWISE, AN ELECTRIC 10 UTILITY THAT IS GOVERNED BY AN ELECTED BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE 11 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE ELECTED BOARD, INSTEAD 12 OF THE COMMISSION, FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE ELECTED BOARD SHALL 13 REPLACE THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. 14 BEFORE AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SUBMITS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN TO THE 15 ELECTED BOARD, THE ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL CONSULT WITH A STATE OR FEDERAL 16 LAND MANAGEMENT OR FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY THAT HAS AUTHORITY IN THE 17 ELECTRIC UTILITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY, AS APPLICABLE, AS TO THE CONTENT OF 18 THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.
 - 40-1304. Liability for causing wildfires: severability
- 20 A. FOR ANY CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT IS 21 RELATED TO A WILDFIRE, ALL OF THE ELEMENTS MUST BE PROVEN BY CLEAR AND 22 CONVINCING EVIDENCE.
- B. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY THAT SUBSTANTIALLY ACTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS DEEMED TO MEET THE STANDARD OF CARE FOR A REASONABLY PRUDENT ELECTRIC UTILITY UNLESS THERE IS CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF WILFUL, INTENTIONAL OR RECKLESS MISCONDUCT. A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN APPROVED WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE NEGLIGENCE PER SE. A PUBLIC POWER ENTITY'S OR ELECTRIC UTILITY'S WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN SHALL NOT BE ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE AGAINST ANOTHER PUBLIC POWER ENTITY OR ELECTRIC UTILITY IN A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE OUT OF A WILDFIRE.
- 32 C. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR THE 33 IGNITION OF A WILDFIRE FROM SOURCES THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE ELECTRIC 34 UTILITY'S CONTROL, INCLUDING LIGHTNING STRIKES OR ACTIONS BY THIRD 35 PARTIES.
- D. AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SHALL NOT BE APPORTIONED ANY FAULT FOR VEGETATION OR OTHER WILDFIRE RISKS OUTSIDE OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY, LEASE OR OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS OR AREAS IN WHICH THE ELECTRIC UTILITY HAS BEEN DELAYED IN ACCESSING OR DENIED ACCESS TO FOR PURPOSES OF PERFORMING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.
- 41 E. A CLAIM FOR CONDEMNATION OR INVERSE CONDEMNATION SHALL NOT EXIST 42 AGAINST AN ELECTRIC UTILITY RELATED TO WILDFIRES.

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- 1 F. IN AN ACTION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO RECOVER ANY DAMAGES 2 THAT RESULT FROM A WILDFIRE, NEITHER CONSEQUENTIAL PROPERTY DAMAGES NOR 3 EXEMPLARY OR PUNITIVE BODILY INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGES SHALL BE 4 RECOVERED.
- G. IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER OR ITS APPLICATION TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR APPLICATION AND TO THIS END THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER ARE SEVERABLE.
- 10 Enroll and engross to conform
- 11 Amend title to conform

BRIAN FERNANDEZ

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