

To: Honorable Public Utilities Board

Submitted by:           /IS/            
Andre Basler  
AGM – Engineering and Operations

From: Andre Basler  
AGM – Engineering and Operations

Approved by:           /IS/            
Nicolas Procos  
General Manager

Subject: By Resolution, Determine that Alameda Municipal Power’s Overhead Electrical Lines and Equipment are Located Within a Geographical Area that Does Not Have a Significant Risk of Catastrophic Wildfire Resulting from Alameda Municipal Power’s Electrical Lines and Equipment and That Development of a Wildfire Mitigation Plan is Not Necessary.

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#### RECOMMENDATION

*By resolution*, determine that Alameda Municipal Power’s overhead electrical lines and equipment are located within a geographical area that does not have a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire resulting from Alameda Municipal Power’s electrical lines and equipment and that development of a wildfire mitigation plan is not necessary.

#### BACKGROUND

In September 2016, the Governor signed Senate Bill No. 1028, which added Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 8385) to Division 4.1 of the Public Utilities Code (PUC) that requires each local publicly owned utility (POU) to construct, maintain, and operate its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire posed by those electrical lines and equipment.

Pursuant to PUC 8387(b), the governing board of a POU shall determine whether any portion of the geographical area where the POU’s overhead electrical lines and equipment are located has a significant risk of a catastrophic wildfire resulting from those electrical lines and equipment.

Development of a wildfire mitigation plan is not necessary for POU’s determined to not have a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire resulting from the utility’s electrical lines and equipment.

## DISCUSSION

In 2012, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ordered the development of a statewide map designed specifically for the purpose of identifying areas where there is an increased risk for utility-associated wildfires.

The CPUC Fire-Threat Map was developed by a group of utility mapping experts, with oversight from a team of independent experts selected by The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). CAL FIRE served as the Chair of the CPUC Fire-Threat Map development team and input was included from many stakeholders, including investor-owned and publicly owned electric utilities, communications infrastructure providers, public interest groups, and local public safety agencies.

On January 19, 2018, the CPUC adopted the final CPUC Fire-Threat Map. Geographical areas in the state of California were classified by “tiers” which correspond with locations where enhanced utility regulations may be necessary to reduce the risk of utility-caused wildland fire.

The CPUC Fire-Threat Map used the following guidelines for evaluating the likelihood of utility-associated wildfire threat across California:

- Hazard due to Fuel
- Hazard due to Weather
- Hazard due to Topography
- Fire Suppression Response
- Fire History
- Spatial isolation/Fire Breaks

The CPUC Fire-Threat Map classified fire-threat areas by Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 as defined below:

- Tier 1: State areas not in Tiers 2 or 3
- Tier 2: Elevated risk from utility-associated wildfires
- Tier 3: Extreme risk (including likelihood and potential impacts on people and property) from utility-associated wildfires

Alameda is located in a geographical area classified as a Tier 1 by the CPUC Fire-Threat Map. Alameda is an urban island city which has no urban wildland interface resulting in an extremely low likelihood of utility associated wildfire threat. In addition, Alameda is not adjacent to wilderness or a rural area and therefore, AMP’s overhead electrical lines and equipment do not have a significant risk of coming in contact with combustible vegetation.

Outside of the boundaries of AMP’s service territory, the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and associated organizations are addressing requirements for power resources and related infrastructure which AMP is associated with.

Staff recommends that the Public Utilities Board determine that Alameda Municipal Power’s

overhead electrical lines and equipment are located in a geographical area that does not have a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire and that development of a wildfire mitigation plan is not necessary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

LINKS TO KEY RESULT AREAS AND GOALS

KRA 3: System Resiliency

EXHIBITS

- A. Resolution
- B. California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map (Alameda and surrounding areas only)

CITY OF ALAMEDA  
ALAMEDA MUNICIPAL POWER

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**DETERMINE THAT ALAMEDA MUNICIPAL POWER'S OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL LINES AND EQUIPMENT ARE LOCATED WITHIN A GEOGRAPHICAL AREA THAT DOES NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT RISK OF CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE RESULTING FROM ALAMEDA MUNICIPAL POWER'S ELECTRICAL LINES AND EQUIPMENT AND THAT DEVELOPMENT OF A WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN IS NOT NECESSARY**

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WHEREAS, In September 2016, the Governor signed Senate Bill No. 1028 that requires each local publicly owned utility (POU) to construct, maintain, and operate its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire posed by those electrical lines and equipment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PUC 8387(b), the governing board of a POU shall determine whether any portion of the geographical area where the POU's overhead electrical lines and equipment are located has a significant risk of a catastrophic wildfire resulting from those electrical lines and equipment; and

WHEREAS, development of a wildfire mitigation plan is not necessary for POU's determined to not have a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire resulting from the utility's electrical lines and equipment; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ordered the development of a statewide map designed specifically for the purpose of identifying areas where there is an increased risk for utility-associated wildfires; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2018, the CPUC adopted the final CPUC Fire-Threat Map. Geographical areas in the state of California were classified by "tiers" which correspond with locations where enhanced utility regulations might be necessary to reduce the risk of utility-caused wildland fires; and

WHEREAS, the CPUC Fire-Threat Map classified fire-threat areas by Tier 1 (State areas not in Tiers 2 or 3), Tier 2 (Elevated risk from utility-associated wildfires), or Tier 3 (Extreme risk (including likelihood and potential impacts on people and property) from utility-associated wildfires); and

WHEREAS, Alameda is located in a geographical area classified as a Tier 1 by the CPUC Fire-Threat Map; and

WHEREAS, Alameda is an urban island city which has no urban wildland interface resulting in an extremely low likelihood of utility-associated wildfire threat; and




WHEREAS, Alameda is not adjacent to wilderness or a rural area and therefore, AMP's overhead electrical lines and equipment do not have a significant risk of coming in contact with combustible vegetation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Board of the City of Alameda hereby determines that Alameda Municipal Power's overhead electrical lines and equipment are located within a geographical area that does not have a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire resulting from Alameda Municipal Power's electrical lines and equipment and that development of a wildfire mitigation plan is not necessary.

Approved as to Form

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Alan Cohen  
Assistant City Attorney

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Fire-Threat Areas |   |
| Tier 2 - Elevated |    |
| Tier 3 - Extreme  |   |
| Counties          |  |

**CPUC Fire-Threat Map**  
**Adopted by CPUC January 19, 2018**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 4.H**  
**MEETING DATE: 09/17/2018**  
**EXHIBIT B**

