

Wildfire Encroachment Policy

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Wildfire Encroachment Policy

1. PURPOSE

This policy establishes requirements for the timely de-energization and re-energization of transmission and distribution facilities threatened by wildfires to protect public safety, support firefighting operations, and reduce risk to and from an energized electric system. Detailed procedures governing PacifiCorp's Encroachment Policy are established in the company's Wildfire Encroachment System Operations Procedure, SOP-203.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to wildfires encroaching on PacifiCorp transmission and distribution facilities, including jointly owned or third party-owned facilities under PacifiCorp control. This policy does not apply to:

- Planned, controlled, or prescribed burns unless they become uncontrolled and exceed the boundaries prescribed by the burn permit.
- De-energization requests initiated solely by external agencies.

3. COMMON ACRONYMS

BES	Bulk Electric System
DENR	De-energization Not Required
SOP	System Operations Procedure

4. DEFINITIONS

Wildland Fire – Any non-structure fire that occurs in vegetation or natural fuels, either unplanned (a wildfire) or prescribed (a prescribed burn).

Wildfire – An unplanned, uncontrolled, and unpredictable wildland fire. Wildfires can affect both rural and urban areas.

Wildfire Encroachment – Occurs when an uncontrolled wildfire is within or projected to reach defined safety boundary distances, established in Table 1, from transmission or distribution facilities.

Credible Report – Confirmation that an uncontrolled wildfire exists, based on verification through detection systems, internal tools, or a fire response agency. Reports received directly from responding fire agencies are considered credible upon receipt.

IMMEDIATE de-energization – Requires initiation of de-energization actions within 15 minutes of notification.

IMMINENT de-energization – Requires initiation of de-energization actions within 60 minutes of wildfire credibility verification.

5. DE-ENERGIZATION

Upon receiving credible report of wildfire, the following actions shall take place in accordance with Table 1:

For **IMMEDIATE** conditions (Table 1), de-energization actions shall be initiated within 15 minutes.

For **IMMINENT** conditions (Table 1), de-energization actions shall be initiated within 60 minutes.

Table 1: Wildfire Risk, Sustained Wind Speed and Encroachment Distances

Wildfire Risk	Sustained Wind Speed (mph)		
	< 15	15 to 30	> 30
	Distance (miles)	Distance (miles)	Distance (miles)
Non-Wildfire Operations	De-energization not required (DENR)		
Low	DENR	2	2
Elevated	2	3	4
Significant	2	4	6
Extreme	6		
<i>IMMINENT</i> de-energization <i>IMMEDIATE</i> de-energization			

6. RE-ENERGIZATION

Re-energization shall be permitted when conditions no longer meet the definition of wildfire, as referenced in Section 4.