

CalAdvocates Data Request 4.5

The following questions relate to your 2023-2025 WMP submission.

If a full response to a given question will be included in your 2023-2025 WMP submission, your response to that question of this data request may consist of a citation to the specific page(s) or table(s) of the 2023-2025 WMP where the information may be found, a written response to the question, or both.

On p. 142 of PacifiCorp's 2022 WMP update, PacifiCorp states:

PacifiCorp has encountered challenges related to limited field resources, particularly as it related to construction activities. The business plans to address these challenges through the hiring on [sic] additional contractors, as described in Section 9.3 starting on page 255.

- (a) Which specific wildfire mitigation initiatives do you expect to be adversely impacted in 2023-2024 by the resource challenges referenced in the above quote?
- (b) If any, identify any efficiency gains or technology that PacifiCorp will deploy in 2023-2024 to lessen the adverse impact of resource constraints.
- (c) Please describe what progress PacifiCorp made at hiring additional contractors (to address the challenges noted in the quote above) in May through December 2022.
- (d) If your response to the previous part indicates that PacifiCorp has hired additional contractors, please explain which WMP initiatives these contractors will support.
- (e) In May through December 2022, did PacifiCorp hire additional in-house personnel to alleviate the resource constraints described in the quote above?
- (f) If your response to the previous part indicates that PacifiCorp has hired additional personnel, please explain which WMP initiatives these contractors will support.

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The Company assumes that the reference in subpart (d) "response to the previous part" is intended to be a reference to the Company's response to subpart (c), and that the reference in subpart (f) "response to the previous part" is intended to be a reference to the Company's response to subpart (e). Based on the foregoing assumptions, the Company responds as follows:

- (a) PacifiCorp continues to have challenges obtaining resources for the following grid hardening initiatives:

1. Distribution pole replacement and reinforcement, including with composite poles,
2. Installation of system automation equipment,
3. Covered conductor installation, and
4. Expulsion fuse replacement.

To address these challenges, PacifiCorp initiated a request for proposals (RFP) in 2022 to bring on a contracted partner (Section 9.3 of the 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP)). In 2023, PacifiCorp plans to finalize this RFP and continues to work toward bringing on new contracted resources to support the following initiatives: distribution pole replacement and reinforcement, including with composite poles; installation of system automation equipment; and covered conductor installation.

- (b) PacifiCorp has gained efficiencies by leveraging light detection and ranging (LiDAR) instead of field staff to gather existing line configuration information. This approach provides more information on the existing location of the line to be rebuilt and better identification of ground and clearance to other objects that can be difficult to capture with field personnel. PacifiCorp has also recognized that it does not have the internal resources to complete relay replacement designs. To resolve the issue, PacifiCorp immediately contracts relay design work out, as opposed to following the standard internal resource allocation processes. Finally, PacifiCorp has added tree wire to its construction standards for the Line Rebuild Program. Experience to date indicates that tree wire requires fewer design resources and, potentially, fewer construction resources to complete.
- (c) Between May 2022 and December 2022, PacifiCorp successfully increased its contracted resources for project management, inspection, construction, and controls by three project managers, three field inspectors, one project controls specialist, five designers, and one engineer full-time equivalents (FTE).
- (d) The contract resources PacifiCorp onboarded provided support for all 2022 WMP grid hardening initiatives including:
1. Distribution pole replacement and reinforcement, including with composite poles
 2. Installation of system automation equipment
 3. Covered conductor installation and
 4. Expulsion fuse replacement
- (e) PacifiCorp did not hire additional in-house personnel dedicated to grid-hardening activities from May 2022 to December 2022.
- (f) Not applicable.