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May 24, 2022

DATA REQUEST RESPONSE

LIBERTY UTILITIES (CALPECO ELECTRIC) LLC 2022 WMP

Data Request No.: CalAdvocates-Liberty-2022WMP-06
Subject Matter: 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan
Originator: Aaron Louie
Due Date: May 24, 2022

REQUEST NO. 1:

On page (p.) 111 of Liberty's 2022 WMP, Table 7.3.3-2: Liberty 2022 Covered Conductor provides details on Liberty's plans for future covered conductor projects. With this context:

- a) Does Liberty rank covered conductor projects by the expected amount of risk reduction?
- b) If the answer to part (a) is yes, state the methods and criteria that Liberty uses to determine which projects will provide the greatest amount of risk reduction.

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 1:

a) Liberty is installing covered conductor for the purpose of risk reduction with respect to ignition potential and forced outage potential. Covered conductor mitigates much of the wildfire potential for the section of line being replaced and improves system reliability. While the risk reduction for each section of line is not specifically quantified for the purpose of ranking projects, the ignition and outage data for each circuit is used as a key factor for determining which projects to prioritize. Because of this method, and the fact that cover conductor is assumed to have the same effectiveness wherever it is used, Liberty indirectly ranks projects based on risk reduction.

b) As noted in Response 1a, Liberty looks at ignition and outage data along with items such as asset age, asset condition, reliability needs, transmission needs and location related to fire threat areas.

REQUEST NO. 2:

Regarding Table 7.3.3-2 on page 111 of your WMP:

- a) Does Liberty sequence covered conductor projects or work on multiple projects simultaneously?

b) Does Liberty use estimates of expected risk reduction to determine the sequence of its covered conductor projects?

c) If the answer to part (b) is no, why not?

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 2:

a) Liberty works on multiple projects simultaneously.

b) Liberty sequences projects on a long-term basis using the methodology discussed in Response 1. With respect to the sequencing of projects within a given year, scheduling is done based on the timeline of the expected readiness for construction. The readiness for construction is based on such things as design completion, obtaining permits and easements, completion of vegetation work, and obtaining materials. While Liberty attempts to schedule the top priority projects first, variations in timelines to get projects shovel-ready often require schedule adjustments to get all planned projects complete in a given year

c) N/A

REQUEST NO. 3:

For each project listed in Table 7.3.3-2 on page 111, please provide:

a) The month and year when Liberty began project planning,

b) The month and year when Liberty began construction or plans to begin construction, and

c) The month and year when Liberty currently plans to complete the project.

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 3

a) Refer to the following table:

Project Name	Month & Year Planning Began	Month & Year Construction Began	Month & Year for Completion
Brockway 4202 Resiliency	03/20	11/21	03/22
Cathedral Park A	07/19	09/21	06/22
Cathedral Park B	07/20	08/22	10/22
3400 Cascade	04/20	08/22	10/22
Hobart 7700	03/21	05/22	07/22
Topaz Ph 6	02/21	05/22	06/22
Fallen Leaf A	10/20	05/22	08/22

b) Refer to Response 3a.

c) Refer to Response 3a.

REQUEST NO. 4:

On page (p.) 113 of Liberty's 2022 WMP, Liberty states "The Angora Ridge Covered Conductor Project is a project where a microgrid has been preliminarily determined to be a cost-effective alternative." With this context:

- a) Please state the total number of covered conductor projects besides the Angora Ridge Covered Conductor Project, where installing a microgrid has been determined to be the more cost-effective alternative.
- b) Please identify each project addressed in part (a).
- c) What is Liberty's current estimate of the cost of a microgrid for each project identified in part (b)?
- d) Please provide any workpapers that Liberty used to develop the cost estimates addressed in part (c) of this question.

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 4

- a) Liberty considers practical alternatives for covered conductor projects. Based on load configuration, five of Liberty's potential covered conductor projects warranted a closer look at the microgrid option. Of those five projects, two of them were determined to be a more cost-effective solutions. One project, the Sagehen Microgrid, has been constructed. It allows for a long section of line to be de-energized during fire session which avoided the need for replacement of that line with covered conductor. The other project that was determined to be a more cost-effective solution is the Angora Ridge Microgrid. This project is currently in the preliminary design and permitting phase.
- b) The Sagehen Microgrid project is located in the north portion of Liberty's system approximately eight miles north of Truckee. It serves a UC Berkley research center at the end of a long line. The Angora Ridge Microgrid Project is located in the southern portion of Liberty's service territory along the ridge just southeast of Fallen Leaf Lake. It will serve a vacation resort and a number of private cabins.
- c) The cost for the Sagehen Microgrid was \$778,203. The preliminary estimated cost for the Angora Ridge Microgrid is \$1,385,783. This project eliminates the need to construct most, but not all, of the planned Angora Ridge Covered Conductor Project. The original study predicted a savings of \$752,278 by constructing the microgrid project rather than constructing the covered conductor project as originally planned
- d) Refer to Attachment: Sagehen Cost Document for a cost summary of the Sagehen Microgrid Project. Refer to Attachment: Angora Ridge – Feasibility Study for the feasibility report for the Angora Ridge Microgrid Project.

REQUEST NO. 5:

Page 117 of Liberty's 2022 WMP ("Installation of system automation equipment") states, "Liberty has focused on installing line reclosers that have communication for SCADA control and the intelligent controllers to handle a Distribution Automation (DA) scheme.". With this context:

- a) Describe the system-level, proactive steps that Liberty takes to ensure and verify that its SCADA switches remain functional year-round.
- b) What is Liberty's expected inspection cycle for SCADA switches in HFTD 3 areas?
- c) What is Liberty's expected inspection cycle for SCADA switches in HFTD 2 areas?

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 5

- a) Liberty monitors its reclosers via SCADA for certain issues. Most reclosers are monitored for loss of AC power, battery problems, general control system failure, and recloser lockout. If issues are encountered, a technician is sent to the location immediately to troubleshoot.
- b) Reclosers are inspected every five years pursuant to G.O. 165 requirements.
- c) See Response 5b.

REQUEST NO. 6:

Page 118 of Liberty's 2022 WMP states:

Tree attachment removals are prioritized by focusing on the Tier 3 HFTD area, customer requests, and known dead and dying trees. A survey was conducted in the Tier 3 HFTD area and 316 tree attachments were found. Liberty intends to target those trees starting on the few trees that appear dead or dying.

- a) Does Liberty have a complete inventory of tree attachments on its system in HFTD areas?
- b) How many tree attachments currently exist in Tier 2 areas on Liberty's system?
- c) Please explain how Liberty arrived at its goal of replacing 45 tree attachments per year.
- d) Has Liberty set a target date for eliminating all tree attachments on its system in HFTD areas? If so, what is it?
- e) How will Liberty prioritize tree attachment removals as more tree attachments are identified in future years?
- f) If Liberty continues to identify more tree attachments, will Liberty focus first on removing the 316 tree attachments that have already been identified or will it prioritize removing newly identified ones on trees that appear dead or dying?

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 6

- a) Based on data collected in the 2020 full system survey, 3682 poles were identified as having nearby tree attachments. While most of the poles have one nearby tree attachment, many of them have multiple tree attachments.
- b) Because the vast majority of Liberty's service territory is either HFTD 3 or HFTD 2, practically all of the poles that are not in the HFTD 3 area are located in an HFTD 2 area.
- c) Liberty chose a realistic target as a minimum amount to complete each year so that high risk tree attachments can be addressed.
- d) Liberty has not set a target date for eliminating all tree attachments.
- e) Liberty will continue to focus on high-risk trees, high risk zones and customer requests.
- f) Liberty will continue to collect data on tree attachments to inform the prioritization of high-risk tree attachments. Liberty also identifies tree attachments along hardening projects and address them when practical.

REQUEST NO. 7:

On page 121 of Liberty's 2022 WMP, Liberty states "In 2022 Liberty implemented a QA/QC program for asset inspections and plans to pilot the use of infrared technology in 2023 to improve asset inspections."

To illustrate the QA/QC processes for asset inspections that Liberty implemented in 2022:

- a) Please provide a sample of 5 completed "Appendix A – Program Manager Quarterly Review Acknowledgment" forms.
- b) Please provide a sample of 5 completed "Appendix B – Senior Manager Annual Review Acknowledgment" forms.
- c) Please provide a sample of 5 completed "Appendix C – Third Party Inspection Form" that were completed by 3rd party contractors.

RESPONSE TO REQUEST NO. 7

- a) Liberty's QA/QC processes for asset inspections were developed for implementation in 2022. The QA/QC processes will be conducted in Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 of 2022 after Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 detailed inspections are completed.
- b) See Response 7a.
- c) See Response 7a.

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If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at:

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