City of Bandon Electric Wildfire Mitigation Plan

The City of Bandon Electric system is two miles wide east to west, and sixteen miles long north to south. The City of Bandon serves all the homes in the city limits of Bandon and most homes from Fish Hatchery Road south to Denmark, three miles south of Langlois. Eighty percent of the electric system in the city limits is underground. The City of Bandon takes a proactive approach to maintenance for the safety of its citizens and customers inside the city limits as well as outside the city limits. Due to dryer conditions the City of Bandon Electric Department has taken steps to limit the danger of wildfire caused by electric lines and equipment.

1. **Undergrounding electric lines.** All new electric services inside city limits are required to go underground. Whenever possible existing overhead tap lines and service lines are put underground as maintenance is needed and for fire mitigation.

2. **Aggressive tree trimming**. The City of Bandon Electric inspects its lines on a regular basis and whenever possible has a to-the-dirt tree removal practice. The City has provided more funds for contracted tree trimming.

3. **Mowing and spraying**. As weather allows the City of Bandon Electric identifies areas that can be mowed and sprayed in its right of ways and easements. The City of Bandon purchased a mowing machine to assist contracted mowing under power lines and equipment.

4. **Checking fire restrictions**. The City of Bandon follows restrictions pertaining to work related activities set forth by ODF. As fire danger levels increase, work related activities adjust accordingly. Time restrictions go into effect at various levels of fire danger. At level 4 there is a shutdown of work-related activities outdoors. At this level, the City of Bandon Electric Department adjusts its reclosing equipment at its substations to “Hot Line Tag”. What this means is that if there is the slightest electrical short on electric lines or equipment, the circuit will turn off and not reclose. Once the power is off it will not be energized until the line crew visually inspects the entire circuit.

CITY OF BANDON RESPONSES

- Covered conductors within the high fire threat areas. Bandon Power does not have covered primary conductor. I do not think that is a good idea for us to use. Covered conductor has more surface for wind, and lines on the ground could stay energized due to equipment not recognizing a fault.

- Disabling reclosers during high fire risk periods. We put the reclosers that are in forested areas in one shot during high fire risk periods.

- Substation hardening. Our substations were constructed to meet the standards, at the time of construction. The station configuration, along with annual vegetation control, makes a fire incident highly unlikely.

- Enhanced vegetation management program. Our annual vegetation control in the substations and bi-annual line clearance programs would be considered enhanced.

- Enhanced inspection practices with aerial support. We conduct a line patrol on a regular basis to identify areas of potential issues.

- Pole-top cameras and weather stations. We do not currently have cameras, which would be a good idea.

- Infrared imaging. We utilize infrared imaging in our line patrol and preventative maintenance activities.

- Pole inspection and remediation. We perform pole inspections, via contract, every 10 years. OPUC also performs inspections on a 10-year interval.

- Community outreach and educational awareness campaigns. These programs would be posted on our website and/or in our newsletter.

- Customer notification and communication protocols during and post high-risk events. Unaware of any, other than above.