

# Wildfire Mitigation Plan Compliance with WA HB 1032

Presenter:

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Wildfire Working Group

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#### Why we are here today

- Review statutory requirements applying to Washington State utilities' wildfire mitigation plans
- Overview of PUD's wildfire mitigation plan and the current process for managing the plan
- 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Plan available for Board review since 9/27/24
- Motion to approve the PUD's 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Plan
- Option to consider motion today or on October 21st





#### House Bill 1032

- Requires WA power utilities to submit board-reviewed wildfire mitigation plans to DNR by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Required every 3 years thereafter
- PUD's plan updated annually through current planning process involving internal team and SMT oversight



#### **Timeline of Wildfire Actions**

April 2023

April 2024

May-June-July 2024

August - Sept 2024

October 2024

- HB 1032 passed state legislature
- State mandated plan template released
- FSOM/PSPS expansion planning, execution and community outreach
- Internal wildfire planning meeting
- Drafting and leadership review of 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Plan
- Seek Board adoption of plan, submit to State by October 31st

#### **HB 1032**

- Title: Mitigating the risk of wildfires through electric utility planning and identification of best management practices appropriate to each electric utility's circumstances.
- 1032 does not mandate specific mitigation practices; no penalties
- Intended to encourage utilities to adopt industry best practices
- Requires Dept. of Commerce to provide recommended elements to be included in plans



## **Wildfire Mitigation Plan: State Template**



#### **Recommended elements**

- Weather monitoring
- De-energization
- Restoration of service
- Design/construction standards
- Fuel and vegetation management



## Wildfire Mitigation Plan: State Template

#### **Recommended elements**

- Inspections and corrective responses
- Workforce training
- Relay and recloser policy
- Community outreach & public awareness
- Evaluating plan effectiveness



# How are we doing?

#### **PUD Plan**

- Internal wildfire working group established in 2017
- Multiple wildfire mitigations implemented
- Formal Wildfire Mitigation Plan created in 2022
- Progress on wildfire mitigation plan presented in June 3<sup>rd</sup> study session

Result: PUD well positioned to respond to state recommended best practices



# PUD plan highlights

## Wildfire mitigations

- FSOM/PSPS program; weather monitoring; restoration of service
- Community outreach & fire agency engagement
- Advanced vegetation management program
- Recloser disabling procedure during peak fire season
- Risk modeling of service territory
- Equipment upgrades, system hardening & inspections



# **Looking forward**

### 5-year planning process

- Established in 2023, documents progression of mitigations
- Oversight by Senior Team Sponsors: GM, Chiefs and Managing Directors of business units involved in wildfire mitigation
- Semi-annual Planning Meetings:
  - Working group proposes new mitigations
  - Reports on progress with existing mitigations
  - Senior Team Sponsors determine which mitigations are added to Wildfire Mitigation Plan
- Working group supports wildfire mitigation work throughout year

# Mitigation Planning Cycle

Sponsors Approve or Reject Developed Mitigations for Wildfire Mitigation Plan

WG Reports
Progress to
Sponsors

Q4

WG Develops and/or Implements New Mitigations

Q3

WG Identifies Mitigations

Q1

WG = Working Group

WG Presents
Draft 5-year Plan
to SMT Sponsors



Q2

Sponsors
Approve/Reject
Mitigations for
Development or
Implementation

Annual 5-Year Plan Adopted



# Wildfire Mitigation Working Group



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# **Key Takeaways**

- PUD on track to meet HB 1032 obligations
- While work remains, PUD has made significant progress advancing wildfire mitigations
- Planning process supports continuous improvement

# Proposed Motion for 10/7 or 10/21

To *approve* Chelan County PUD's adoption of the 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Plan under the direction of the General Manager.

Questions?

