

## Joint IOU Wood Management Discussion Notes

### August 11, 2023

*Following are high-level notes from the joint IOU wood management discussion on Friday, August 11. Please edit or clarify as appropriate if any of the notes are inaccurate or misrepresented.*

- **Attendees:**
  - SCE:
  - SDG&E
    - Michael Daleo
  - PG&E
- **Questions to Guide Discussion:**
  1. Does your utility have a safety standard or official list of controls in place for wood management operations?
    - a. Is there an operational standard or any specific governance documents related to wood management?
  2. Discuss your respective program(s) for the management and/or hauling of large-diameter wood from private property and agency lands, including size of wood, distance from road or structure, etc.
    - a. Is large-diameter wood management limited to specific vegetation management programs, locations/zones/regions (i.e., HFTD?) or land ownership?
    - b. Is your wood management work conducted by the same team who conducts your pre-inspection and tree work, or a different team?
  3. Specific to large-diameter wood, how is your utility's wood management offering communicated to customers and other stakeholders? (i.e., proactive, upon request, etc.)
  4. Is wood management work performed on T&M or at unit cost?
  5. Can you share any details around cost recovery strategies for wood management?

### SDG&E

- Remove all wood offsite if it's generally about 6" diameter or smaller; anything larger, we cut into manageable lengths (roughly about 4-5'/50 lbs.) and leave on site as it's the property of the customer.
- Anything tree crews leave on site is left where it's removed, but not in a watercourse.
- No major timber operations in the service territory, so lop and scatter is preferred with forests.
- State parks, for example, will review the site and decide on a case-by-case basis what the agency requires for wood removal.
- Agencies often want the tree felled and cut into specific lengths for habitat.
- Private property: If customer requests chips, they sign a liability release with the contractors because we leave it in a pile (we don't broadcast in that case). Larger wood is left with two specific activities:
  - Tree felling:
    - Signed authorization has verbiage that states that wood will be left onsite and we talk about the general size of that wood being left
    - If smaller material is removed, it's an agreement with the tree crew and customer.

- Reliability abatement:
  - Cutting larger diameter trees/canopy -- cut wood and leave onsite where cut unless within a watercourse
  - Primarily WM in this case is done by tree crews.
  - Don't require written authorization, but it can be impactful. If customer is there, crews will engage in person and talk about the likely disposal or what's being left.
  - Where tree removal is not happening, PI leaves a door hanger with info that wood will be generated.
- T&M or unit cost: For SDG&E it's almost exclusively unit cost. There may be some T&M with prior approval.
- Cost recovery: goal by 2030 to divert 100% of wood related to tree trimming/removal away from landfill to a recycling facility to generate compost or some other renewable product. We're currently at about 52%.
- No local co-generation opportunities, so we're limited to landfill or recycling. Looking to diversify and make wood available to customers at staging yards, but there are issues with that to be investigated. Also reengaging cogeneration plant outside service territory (Mecca). Transportation costs become a limitation.