

1           **Fire Prevention Standards for Electrical Utilities, 2004**

2                           **Proposed Rule Language**

3  
4                           **(45 Day Notice Language Published October 22, 2004)**

5  
6   **Amend 14 CCR: § 1251. Definitions**

7  
8           The following definitions apply to this Article unless the  
9 context requires otherwise.

10           *Defined word or phrase*

11           ~~"Agency which has primary responsibility for fire~~  
12 ~~protection" means the public agency which is the primary agency~~  
13 ~~responsible for fire prevention and suppression on mountainous~~  
14 ~~or forest covered land, brush covered land or grass covered land~~  
15 ~~within its respective jurisdiction.~~

16           "Conductor" means connector, a wire, or a combination of  
17 wires, and/or any other appliance designed and manufactured for  
18 use in the transmission and distribution of electrical current.

19           "Connector" means a splice or a splicing device approved for energized  
20 electrical connections.

21           "Duff" means partially decayed leaves, needles, grass or other organic  
22 material accumulated on the ground.

23           "Firebreak" means a natural or artificial barrier usually created by  
24 the removal or modification of vegetation and other flammable materials for  
25 the purpose of preventing the ignition or spread of fire.

          "Hot line tap or clamp connector" means a connector designed to be used  
with a Grip-All Clamp stick (Shotgun) for connecting equipment jumper or tap  
conductors to an energized main line or running connector.

          "Outer Circumference" means the exterior surface of a pole or tree at  
ground level or a series of straight lines tangent to the exterior of the  
legs of a tower at ground level. (See Figure 1, this Article.)

          "Self-supporting aerial cable" means an assembly of abrasion resistant  
insulated conductors supported by a messenger cable which is normally

1 grounded, designed and manufactured to carry electrical current for  
2 installation on overhead pole lines or other similar overhead structures.

3 "Tree wire" means an insulated conductor covered with a high abrasion  
4 resistant, usually non-metallic, outer covering, designed and manufactured to  
5 carry electrical current for installation on overhead pole lines or other  
6 similar overhead structures.

7  
8 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4292-4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
9 Sections 4292-4296, Public Resources Code.

10  
11 **Amend 14 CCR: § 1252. ~~Locations~~ Areas Where PRC 4292, 4293  
12 4296.5 Apply in State Responsibility Areas.**

13 ~~The minimum firebreak and clearance provisions of PRC 4292-~~  
14 ~~4296 are applicable upon~~ The Director will apply PRC 4292-4296.5  
15 in any mountainous land, or forest covered land, brush covered  
16 land or grass covered land within state responsibility area  
17 unless specifically exempted by 14 CAC 1255 and 1257.

18  
19  
20 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4292, 4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
21 Sections 4125-4128, 4292, 4293, Public Resources Code.

22  
23 **Amend 14 CCR: § 1252.1. Official Area Maps.**

24 ~~Areas where the provisions of PPC 4292-4296 apply are~~  
25 ~~delineated on maps for state responsibility areas, as "Official~~  
26 ~~Map State Responsibility Area for Fire Protection," filed in the~~  
27 ~~office of the Director, Fire Protection Section 1416 Ninth~~  
28 ~~Street, Sacramento, California 95814.~~

1       ~~(a) The official maps are available during normal business~~  
2 ~~office hours for viewing and copying.~~

3       ~~(b) When, pursuant to PRC 4125-4128, the Board revises~~  
4 ~~state responsibility area boundaries, the Director will forward~~  
5 ~~a legal description of a boundary change(s) to the respective~~  
6 ~~electric utility(s) serving the area(s).~~

7       The official maps defined in 14 CCR § 1220, are available  
8 for viewing during normal business hours at the California  
9 Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 1416 Ninth Street,  
10 Sacramento, California, 95814, in the Fire Protection Section.

11  
12 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4292, 4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
13 Sections 4125-4128, 4292, 4293, Public Resources Code.

14  
15 **Amend 14 CCR: § 1253. Time When PRC 4292-4296 Apply.**

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17       The minimum firebreak and clearance provisions of PRC 4292-  
18 4296 are applicable when vegetation, whether living or dead, is  
19 flammable and will propagate fire (see Figure 2 this Article):

20       (a) From May 1 through ~~November 15~~ the date the director  
21 declares, by proclamation, that hazardous fire conditions have  
22 abated of each year in the counties of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte,  
23 Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa,  
24 Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano,  
25 Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo and Yuba;

1 (b) From April 15 through ~~November 30~~ the date the director  
2 declares, by proclamation, that hazardous fire conditions have  
3 abated of each year in the counties of Alameda, Alpine, Amador,  
4 Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kings, Madera,  
5 Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Benito, San  
6 Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz,  
7 Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne;

8 (c) From January 1 through ~~December 31~~ the date the  
9 director declares, by proclamation, that hazardous fire  
10 conditions have abated of each year in the counties of Imperial,  
11 Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San  
12 Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and  
13 Ventura.

14  
15 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4292 and 4293, Public Resources Code.

16 Reference: Sections 4125-4128, 4292 4293, and 4423 Public Resources Code.

17  
18 **Amend 14 CCR: §1256. Minimum Clearance Provisions--PRC 4293**

19 Minimum clearance required by PRC 4293 shall be maintained  
20 with the specified distances measured at a right angle to the  
21 conductor axis at any location outward throughout an arc of 360  
22 degrees. (See Figure 4 this Article.)

23 ~~Clearance shall include any position through which the~~  
24 ~~conductor may move considering the size and material of which~~  
25 ~~the conductor is made, span length, foreseeable wind velocities~~  
~~for any location and height, species and flammability of~~

1 ~~adjacent vegetation.~~ Minimum clearance shall take into  
2 consideration any position through which the conductor and  
3 vegetation may move.

4  
5 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
6 Sections 4293 and 4296, Public Resources Code.

7  
8 **Amend 14 CCR: § 1257. Exempt Minimum Clearance Provisions--PRC**  
9 **4293.**

10  
11 (a) The minimum clearance provisions of PRC 4293 applicable  
12 in SRA are not required are exempted:

13 (a1) Where conductors are:

14 (1a.) insulated tree wire, maintained with the  
15 high density, abrasion resistant outer covering  
16 intact, or

17 (2b.) insulated self-supporting aerial cable,  
18 maintained with the insulation intact, or

19 (3c.) supported by sound and living tree trunks  
20 from which all dead or decadent branches have been  
21 removed.

22 (b2) On areas described in 14 CAC 1255(c)

23 (eb) ~~Except:~~ These exemptions do not apply where there  
24 are (1) dead and decadent or rotten trees, trees weakened by  
25 decay or disease, leaning trees and portions thereof that are

1 leaning toward conductor(s) and any other growth which may fall  
2 across the conductor and break it, are removed or trimmed to  
3 remove such hazard. ~~and,~~  
4 ~~(2) the trunk of any tree is not required to be removed when~~  
5 ~~sound and living, and is the supporting structure to which~~  
6 ~~conductor(s) are attached.~~

7 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
8 Sections 4293 and 4296, Public Resources Code.

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