



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074

Brad Little, Governor

Edward Lodge, President

John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

Dayn Hardie, Commissioner

Case No. CO7-E-25-01

Order No. 36939

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NEWS RELEASE: Commission is accepting written comments on northern Idaho electric utility's application seeking approval of wildfire mitigation plan.

BOISE (Feb. 19, 2026) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is accepting written comments until mid-May on an application Kootenai Electric Cooperative, Inc. submitted that seeks approval of its 2026-2028 wildfire mitigation plan (WMP).

Electric utilities file the plans with the Commission pursuant to the Wildfire Standard of Care Act (WSCA). The WSCA requires the Commission to annually approve the plans for investor-owned utilities. Municipal and cooperative electric utilities, which are not regulated by the Commission, may also submit plans for the Commission's review.

Under the WSCA, if a wildfire results in a lawsuit against an electric utility, there is a presumption the utility acted without negligence if it reasonably implemented a Commission-approved WMP.

Each utility's WMP includes identifying areas where the utility has infrastructure or equipment that it considers may be subject to heightened wildfire risk at the time the WMP is finalized by the utility, actions and programs the utility will take to reduce wildfire risk, community outreach and public awareness efforts the utility will use before, during and after wildfire season to inform the public of relevant wildfire risk as well as efforts to notify the public of wildfire-related outages, among other items.

Kootenai Electric Cooperative's WMP utilizes a three-year planning horizon. The plan includes information on vegetation management, efforts to reduce wildfire risk and operational protocols during elevated fire risk conditions, among other items.

The Commission is accepting written comments until May 14, 2026. Comments are required to be submitted through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To submit comments through the website, visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the "Case Comment Form" link on the upper left side of the page. Please use case number CO7-E-25-01 when filling out the form. Comments submitted through e-mail should be sent to the e-mail addresses listed below. Commenters are required to include their name, address and case number CO7-E-25-01. If computer access is not available, comments can be mailed to the Commission

and Kootenai Electric Cooperative at the addresses listed below. Commenters are required to include their name, address and case number CO7-E-25-01 in correspondence.

For the Idaho Public Utilities Commission:

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For Kootenai Electric Cooperative:

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Additional information on Kootenai Electric Cooperative's application is available at:
puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7682.