

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

2                           **Adopted Rule Language**

3  
4           **(Final Rule Language Approved by OAL on October 24, 2005)**

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

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

9           *Defined word or phrase*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 "Self-supporting aerial cable" means an assembly of abrasion  
10 resistant insulated conductors supported by a messenger cable which is  
11 normally  
12 grounded, designed and manufactured to carry electrical current for  
13 installation on overhead pole lines or other similar overhead  
14 structures.

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

19 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4292-4293, Public Resources Code.  
20 Reference: Sections 4292-4296, Public Resources Code.

21 **Amend 14 CCR: § 1252. ~~Locations~~ Areas Where PRC 4292, ~~4293~~ 4296 Apply**  
22 **in State Responsibility Areas.**

23 ~~The minimum firebreak and clearance provisions of PRC 4292-4296~~  
24 ~~are applicable upon~~ The Director will apply PRC 4292-4296 in any  
25 mountainous land, ~~or~~ forest covered land, brush covered land or grass  
covered land within ~~State~~ Responsibility ~~Areas~~ unless specifically  
exempted by 14 ~~CACCCR~~ 1255 and 1257.

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

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

~~Areas where the provisions of PPC 4292-4296 apply are delineated~~  
~~on maps for state responsibility areas, as "Official Map State~~  
~~Responsibility Area for Fire Protection," filed in the office of the~~

1 ~~Director, Fire Protection Section 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento,~~  
2 ~~California 95814.~~

3 ~~(a) The official maps are available during normal business office~~  
4 ~~hours for viewing and copying. The official maps of State~~  
5 ~~Responsibility Areas defined in 14 CCR § 1220 are available for~~  
6 ~~viewing and copying during normal business hours at the California~~  
7 ~~Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 1416 Ninth Street,~~  
8 ~~Sacramento, California, 95814, in the Fire Protection Section.~~

9 ~~(b) When, pursuant to PRC 4125-4128, the Board revises sState~~  
10 ~~rResponsibility aArea boundaries, the Director will forward a legal~~  
11 ~~description of a boundary change(s) to the respective electric~~  
12 ~~utility(s) serving the area(s).~~

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

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

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

19 ~~(a) From May 1 through November 15 of each year in the counties~~  
20 ~~of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin,~~  
21 ~~Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra,~~  
22 ~~Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo and Yuba;~~

23 ~~(b) From April 15 through November 30 of each year in the~~  
24 ~~counties of Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El~~  
25 ~~Dorado, Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento,~~

1 ~~San Benito, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa~~  
2 ~~Cruz, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne;~~

3 ~~(c) From January 1 through December 31 of each year in the~~  
4 ~~counties of Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Orange,~~  
5 ~~Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara~~  
6 ~~and Ventura.~~

7 The minimum firebreak and clearance provisions of PRC 4292-4296  
8 are applicable during the declared California Department of Forestry  
9 and Fire Protection fire season for a respective county. The Director  
10 shall post the declaration on the official Department web site.

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

13 **Amend 14 CCR: §1254. Minimum Clearance Provisions--PRC 4292**

14 The firebreak clearances required by PRC 4292 are applicable  
15 within an imaginary cylindroidal space surrounding each pole or tower  
16 on which a switch, fuse, transformer or lightning arrester is attached  
17 and surrounding each dead end or corner pole unless such pole or tower  
18 is exempt from minimum clearance requirements by provisions of 14  
19 ~~CACCR~~ 1255 or PRC 4296. The radius of the cylindroid is 3.1 m (10  
20 feet) measured horizontally from the outer circumference of the  
21 specified pole or tower with height equal to the distance from the  
22 intersection of the imaginary vertical exterior surface of the  
23 cylindroid with the ground to an intersection with a horizontal plane  
24 passing through the highest point at which a conductor is attached to  
25 such pole or tower.

1 (See Figure 3~~2~~ this Article.) Flammable vegetation and materials  
2 located wholly or partially within the firebreak space shall be  
3 treated as follows:

4 (a) At ground level--remove flammable materials, including but  
5 not limited to, ground litter, duff and dead or desiccated vegetation  
6 that will ~~propagate fire~~allow fire to spread, and;

7 (b) From 0-2.4 m (0-8 feet) above ground level--remove flammable  
8 trash, debris or other materials, grass, herbacious and brush  
9 vegetation. All limbs and foliage of living trees shall be removed up  
10 to a height of 2.4 m (8 feet).

11 (c) From 2.4 m (8 feet) to horizontal plane of highest point of  
12 conductor attachment--remove dead, diseased or dying limbs and foliage  
13 from living sound trees and any dead, diseased or dying trees in their  
14 entirety.

15 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 4292, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
16 Section 4292, Public Resources Code.

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

18 Minimum clearance required by PRC 4293 shall be maintained with  
19 the specified distances measured at a right angle to the conductor  
20 axis at any location outward throughout an arc of 360 degrees. (See  
21 Figure 4~~3~~ this Article.)

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

Minimum clearance shall include:

26 (1) any position through which the conductor may move,  
27 considering, among other things, the size and material of the  
28 conductor and its span length;

1           (2) any position through which the vegetation may sway,  
2           considering, among other things, the climatic conditions, including  
3           such things as foreseeable wind velocities and temperature, and  
4           location, height and species of the vegetation.

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 4293.**

9           (a) The minimum clearance provisions of PRC 4293 applicable in  
10 State Responsibility Areas are not required are exempted:

11           (a~~1~~) Where conductors are:

12                   (1~~A~~) insulated tree wire, maintained with the high  
13 density, abrasion resistant outer covering intact, or

14                   (2~~B~~) insulated self-supporting aerial cable,  
15 maintained with the insulation intact, or

16                   (C) supported by sound and living tree trunks from  
17 which all dead or decadent branches have been removed.

18           (b~~2~~) On areas described in 14 ~~CAC~~CCR 1255(c).

19           (e~~b~~) ~~Except:~~ These exemptions do not apply to (1) dead and  
20 decadent or rotten trees, trees weakened by decay or disease, leaning  
21 trees and portions thereof that are leaning toward conductor(s) and  
22 any other growth which may fall across the conductor and break it, 7.

23 ~~are removed or trimmed to remove such hazard, and,~~

24 ~~(2) the trunk of any tree is not required to be removed when sound and~~  
25 ~~living, and is the supporting structure to which conductor(s) are~~  
~~attached.~~

1 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 4293, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
2 Sections 4293 and 4296, Public Resources Code.

3 **Instruction on Figure revisions:**

4 **Figures 2, 3, and 4 immediately following regulation section 1250-1258**  
5 **are revised as follows:**

6 Figure 2 - repealed (delete from published regulation)

7 Figure 3 - Amend "Figure 3" to read "Figure 2"

8 Figure 4 - Amend "Figure 4" to read "Figure 3"

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11  
12 Final Fire Prevention plead 10\_7\_05  
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