



December 5, 2025

To: California Earthquake Authority
SB 254 Natural Catastrophe Resilience Study Working Group

Subject: Studying the Systematic Inclusion of the California Conservation Corps for Greater Wildfire Resiliency, utilizing the Edison International partnership as proof of concept for Statewide Expansion

Dear Members of the SB 254 Study Working Group,

The [California Conservation Corps](#) (CCC) works regularly with CAL FIRE, Cal OES, state conservancies, cities, counties, utilities, tribal governments, and nonprofit partners. For decades, CCC crews have carried out wildfire-mitigation, landscape resilience, and post-fire recovery work. This includes a “whole-of-agency” response to some of the state’s largest disasters, most recently with the Palisades Fire. These activities directly mirror the types of ignition-prevention and damage-limitation measures that SB 254 directs the Study to assess. CCC crews represent a trained, scalable, and immediately deployable workforce that strengthens statewide wildfire resilience.

For the last six years, the [California Conservation Corps Foundation](#) (CCC Foundation), the CCC, and Edison International have been working in concert to increase the capacity through training of emergency first responders throughout the Edison International footprint, and through project work to reduce the fuel load, create defensible spaces, and have boots on the ground for emergency response statewide.

On behalf of the CCC Foundation, I am writing to express strong support for the inclusion of the role of the CCC and studying the expansion of critical partnerships like the Edison International, CCC, and CCC Foundation wildfire mitigation work in the Natural Catastrophe Resilience Study required under SB 254.

The CCC Foundation is a non-profit public benefit organization that supports the corpsmembers of the CCC.

Approaching its 50th Anniversary, the CCC is a youth workforce development program dedicated to preparing young adults for meaningful careers and educational opportunities. A state department within the California Natural Resources Agency, the CCC delivers a trained, mission-driven workforce that performs some of the most essential wildfire-resilience work in the state. This includes fuel-load reduction, defensible-space creation, forest-health projects, and post-fire recovery. By providing young adults with the skills and structure to complete these high-impact projects, the CCC has become



one of California's most effective and reliable partners in wildfire prevention and community protection.

Edison International is one of the major utility companies operating in California, and is committed to supporting efforts within its footprint to reduce wildfire damage to homes, businesses, and infrastructure.

The CCC Foundation-CCC-Edison International combination of Corpsmember training and on-the-ground project work directly reflects the types of affordable wildfire-mitigation and resilience activities that the SB 254 study is intended to evaluate and prioritize, both now and into the future.

[Why the CCC?](#)

The CCC provides unmatched wildfire mitigation workforce development and technical expertise.

For decades, CCC crews have carried out wildfire-mitigation, landscape resilience, and post-fire recovery work. CCC crews represent a trained, scalable, and immediately deployable workforce that strengthens statewide wildfire resilience.

The CCC has the capacity to scale resilience work equitably across regions. The CCC operates 24 Centers throughout the state, and these Centers are an integral part of communities large and small, urban and rural. Corpsmembers complete thousands of hours of field work annually, providing a cost-effective mitigation resource that the State can mobilize wherever the need is greatest. This supports SB 254's charge to evaluate programs that expedite community recovery and broaden resilience benefits.

The CCC's mission and work are in alignment with SB 254's focus on community protection and statewide resilience. Corpsmembers do more than reduce wildfire risk; they help restore watersheds, stabilize burned landscapes, support community emergency response, and create safer conditions for residents and critical infrastructure. Integrating CCC capacity into the Study will help California build a comprehensive resilience strategy that protects communities before, during, and after catastrophic events.

The CCC has a proven track record of supporting the state and local agencies focused on implementing the SB 254 Study. The CCC works regularly with partners across all sectors and levels. The infrastructure and partnerships already exist. What is now needed is recognition and strategic integration into the broader catastrophe-resilience planning framework that SB 254 is designed to establish.



All these fit squarely within the SB 254 Report's topics of interest to the study relating to those required by **Public Utilities Code § 917 (c)(3) & (8)** and **Public Utilities Code § 917 (c)(5)** relating to mitigation measures that reduce risk and benefit ratepayers through reducing costs.

To support a comprehensive and realistic assessment of California's resilience capacity, the CCC Foundation respectfully requests that the Study Working Group:

- **Formally identify the California Conservation Corps and CCC Foundation as key operational partners** in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities relevant to the Study.
- **Evaluate the potential for enhanced funding, contracting tools, and programmatic support** that would enable CCC crews to expand wildfire-risk reduction and post-fire recovery projects across the state.
- **Include CCC and CCC Foundation representation or consultation** as the Study examines future regional, statewide, or utility-supported resilience programs.
- **Recognize the CCC as a proven workforce solution** that can help the State meet near-term resilience needs, long-term adaptation goals, and the workforce development required to accomplish both.

California will continue to face increasing wildfire risk and other natural hazards. The SB 254 Study is an opportunity to align the State's resilience strategies with proven, reliable partners. We at the CCC Foundation are confident that the CCC Foundation and CCC stand ready to contribute to this effort.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to building a safer and more resilient California. We would welcome the opportunity to provide additional information or participate in any stakeholder discussions as needed.

Sincerely,

Executive Director
CCC Foundation