



STATE OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATIE HOBBS  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

July 21, 2023

VIA EMAIL

Re: Heat Wave Preparedness Plans

To Whom It May Concern:

This summer, Arizona has experienced a record-breaking heat wave with temperatures reaching over 110° for 21 consecutive days and Phoenix setting a new all-time record daily average of 108°. The city has hit temperatures as high as 119°. Nighttime heat is especially concerning, with nightly lows frequently in the mid-90's.

The threat this heat poses to Arizonans cannot be understated. Despite a mild start to the summer, the Phoenix metro area has seen 18 confirmed heat-related deaths, with 69 additional suspected as of July 15. As this devastating heat wave continues, the risk of heat-related deaths, illness and injury will only increase.

The State is taking action to protect Arizonans. This week, ADOSH announced a State of Emphasis Program to combat heat-related illness and injury in the workplace. This program recognizes the need for safe working environments, instructing safety and health inspectors to focus on the availability of water, rest and shade in at-risk workplaces. Additionally, ADOSH will review written plans from employers to reduce the risk for heat-related illnesses and injuries.

I am now writing to request your action plans for protecting Arizonans during this unprecedented heat wave. The plans should focus on the following areas:

- **Disconnects:** How is your company protecting Arizonans from power disconnection during this historic heat wave?

- **Grid Security:** What are your plans for grid outages, including mitigation, rapid response repairs, and customer communications?
- **Emergency Response:** In the event of an emergency outage, what plans are in place to assist impacted customers?
- **Customers in Arrears:** What services are available for customers who fall in arrears during the heat wave?
- **Community Service:** Is your company providing additional community services to mitigate the impact of this historic heat wave?

Finally, I would like to invite you to a roundtable meeting to discuss how Arizona can better prepare for future heat waves by improving grid resiliency, home weatherization, and energy efficiency. My staff will reach out to organize the meeting. I look forward to your quick response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KH', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Katie Hobbs  
Governor  
State of Arizona