Partial Prune Palm Procedure

Palms that will not maintain clearance for the cycle pose a significant risk to compliance and have the potential to negatively affect the safe and reliable delivery of power. SDG&E has instructed all contractors to pursue removal on this type of vegetation. If removal by the homeowner is not authorized, severe pruning that will likely compromise the future health of the vegetation will take place. DRG's responsibility when finding this type of situation is to inform the property owner of the violation and the safety risks involved & to educate them on "Right Tree Right Place". Finally, always document the removal attempt in Infra Map.

**"Palm Removal Candidate" - Any palm that will be a memo in its future**

* If removal attempt is unsuccessful and only a "partial prune" can be achieved or the palm will not maintain compliance for 13 months, Pre-Inspectors will apply the canned comment "Palm Removal Candidate" into the Location Info tab found under the "misc tree comments" drop down menu.
* **This comment is required in all memo palms.**

A list of palms containing the "Palm Removal Candidate" comment will be created by running a report and the respective Area Forester, Area Lead, Team Lead or designated Pre-Inspector will follow up with a field visit to more aggressively pursue removal of these palms prior to routine tree prune activities.

**Partial Prune**

* Any palm where trimmers can not achieve 10 feet of clearance to the high voltage power lines (primary voltage) or, once pruned, may be a memo by the next Pre-Inspection cycle.
* For Transmission Voltages, refer to the Post Prune & Memo Clearance charts in the SDG&E Pre-Inspection Manual and on page 2 of this document.

**Post Prune**

* For palms with the majority of frond growth directly under high voltage power lines, the entire green canopy will be removed to just above the heart.
* Palms with the majority of frond canopy to the side, will have all line-side fronds and seed pods removed along with any newly emerging frond stalk.

**Pre-Inspection Responsibility**

Pursue removal

1. Attempt to contact property owner in person

2. If contact is not made, leave door hanger and/or voice mail

3. Document removal request in Infra Map

4. Document "Palm Removal Candidate" in Infra Map (initials & date not needed) Refused removal

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Memo Clearances** | | | |
| **Voltage** | **Clearance** | **Memo Type** | |
| **Primary** | Contact (continuous or intermittent) | Priority | |
|
| **Primary - LRA Only** | 18 inches | Group | |
| **Primary - SRA/HFTD** | 4ft | Group | |
| **69kV** | 2ft | Priority | |
| 4ft | Group | |
| **138kV** | 5ft | Priority | |
| 10ft | Group | |
| **230kV** | 10ft | Priority | |
| 15ft | Group | |
| **500kV** | 15ft | Priority | |
| 20ft | Group | |
| **All Priority Memos require a call to Lead. All Memos on NERC lines (230kV, 500kV) requires an IMMEDIATE call.** | | | |
|
|  |  |  |  |