Managing Utility Properties: Fire Risk Awareness and Mitigation

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Project Overview
Southern California Edison manages hundreds of thousands of assets throughout the region in order to supply electricity and needs an easily accessible online application to evaluate the fire risk for those assets.

Application
In order to move away from closed software packages to open source software, ArcGIS Online was leveraged to house a series of tools capable of examining the assets and returning useful information to the user for further evaluation.

Each tool within the application allows the user to choose areas of interest and retrieve back the records of those assets. While each asset is contained within its own table, it’s also all combined into a mega-table for convenience and expediency.

Fire Risk
Within those records, however, new values have been added in order to reveal the threat levels for each asset. Now all important data is stored in the same location for convenient viewing.

Assessment
The user now has information on how dangerous the area is around their assets. This information can lead to any number of actions, including research, action or simply flagging the area as a risk, all of which can make the difference in level of preparedness.

Conclusions
By moving from a closed software package to an open source software package, Southern California Edison drastically increases its potential level of customization. By using JavaScript and HTML 5, their applications can be both powerful and easily accessible, given these languages tendency to be synonymous with web development. By moving forward and using the newest, most powerful technologies, Edison can make protecting their assets easier and keep the lights on, rain, shine or fire.