

Community Wildfire Safety Program

Nevada County

September 24, 2019



Community Wildfire Safety Program



REAL-TIME MONITORING AND INTELLIGENCE

- Coordinating prevention and response efforts by monitoring wildfire risks in real time from our **Wildfire Safety Operations Center**
- **Expanding our network of PG&E weather stations** to enhance weather forecasting and modeling
- Supporting the **installation of new high-definition cameras** in high fire-threat areas



NEW AND ENHANCED SAFETY MEASURES

- Further enhancing vegetation management efforts to **increase focus on vegetation that poses a higher potential for wildfire risk**
- **Conducting accelerated safety inspections** of electric infrastructure in high fire-threat areas
- **Disabling automatic reclosing of circuit breakers and reclosers** in high fire-risk areas during wildfire season
- **Proactively turning off electric power for safety (Public Safety Power Shutoff)** when gusty winds and dry conditions combine with a heightened fire risk



SYSTEM HARDENING AND RESILIENCY

- Installing **stronger and more resilient poles and covered power lines**, along with **targeted undergrounding**
- **Upgrading and replacing electric equipment and infrastructure** to further reduce wildfire risks
- **Working with communities to develop new resilience zones** to provide electricity to central community resources during a Public Safety Power Shutoff event

Real-Time Monitoring and Intelligence

MONITORING wildfire risks in real time from our
24/7 Wildfire Safety
 Operations Center
 and coordinating **prevention and response efforts**



INSTALLING

~1,300 new weather
 stations by **2022**

Data available at mesowest.utah.edu



SUPPORTING the installation of

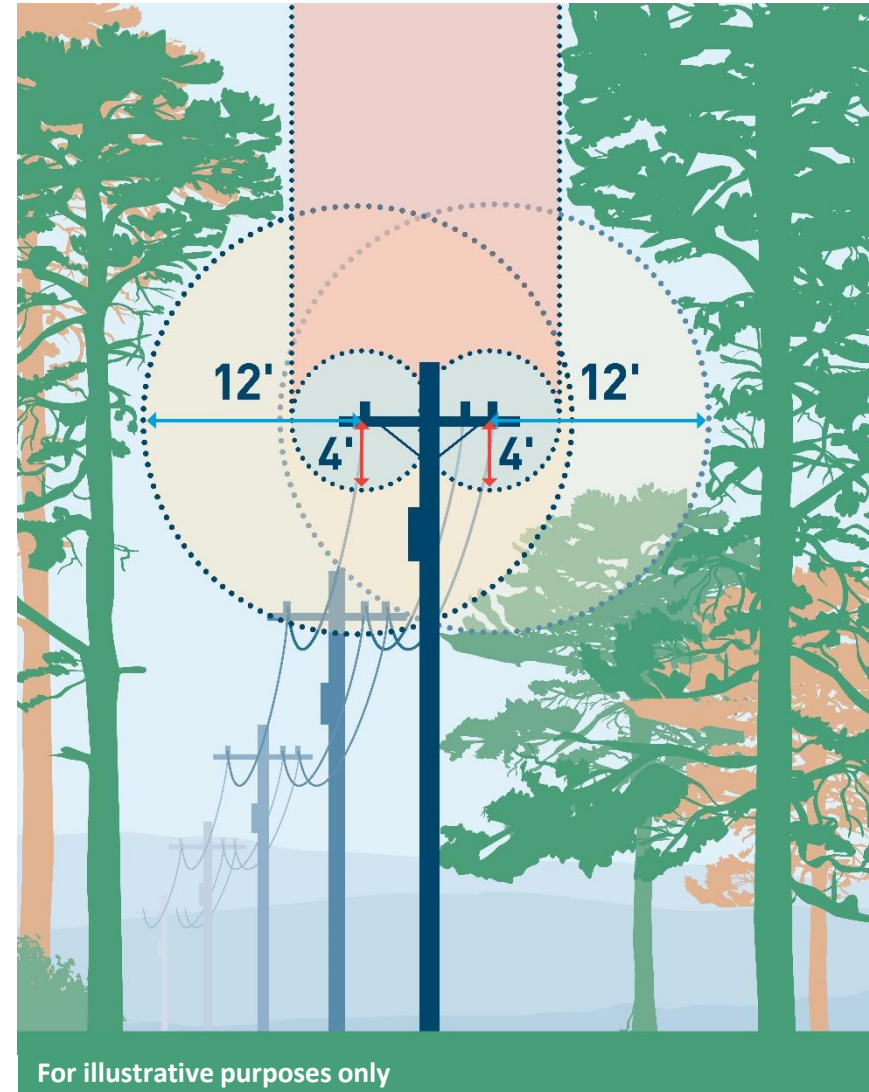
~600 high-definition
 cameras by **2022**

Images available at alertwildfire.org

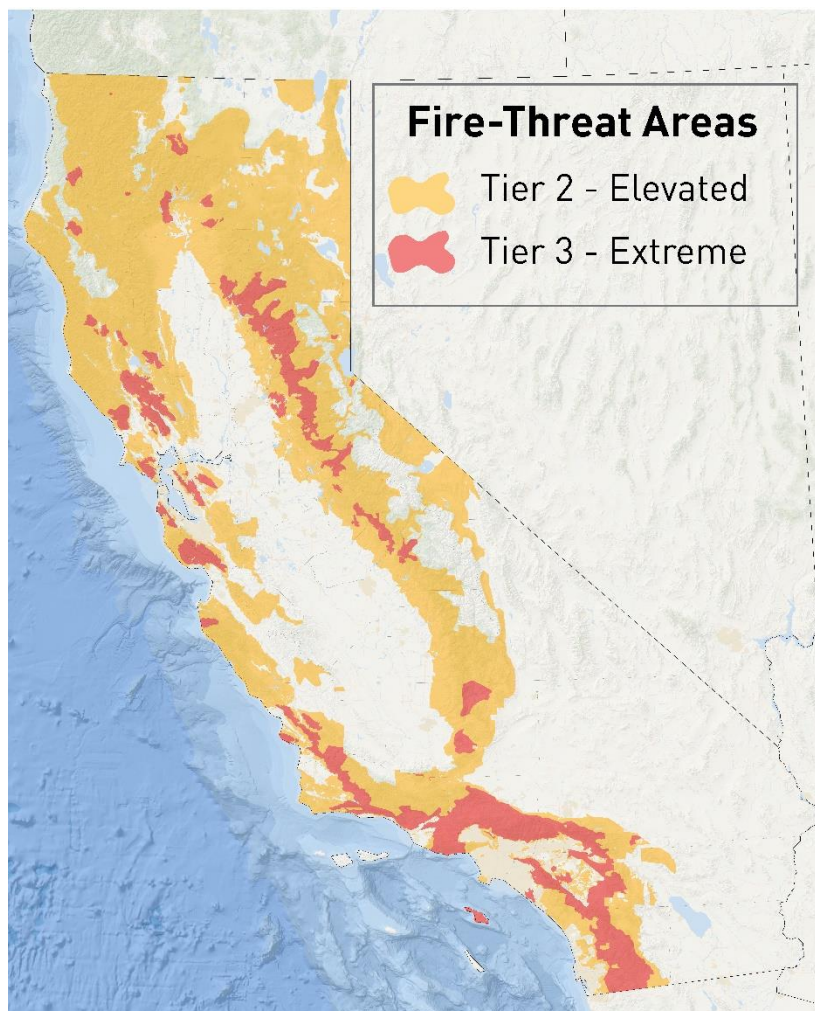
Enhanced Vegetation Management

We are **expanding and enhancing our Vegetation Management program** to further reduce wildfire risk

- Our enhanced vegetation management work includes the following:
 - ✓ **Meeting state standards** for minimum clearances around the power line
 - ✓ **Addressing overhanging limbs and branches** directly above and around the lines
 - ✓ **Removing hazardous vegetation such as dead or dying trees** that pose a potential risk to the lines
 - ✓ **Evaluating the condition of trees that may need to be addressed** if they are tall enough to strike the lines
- We are working to complete this important safety work **in high fire-threat areas** over the next several years



Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)



Source: California Public Utilities Commission

- Beginning with the 2019 wildfire season, we are expanding our Public Safety Power Shutoff program to include **all electric lines that pass through high fire-threat areas – both distribution and transmission.**
- The most likely electric lines to be considered for shutting off for safety will be those that pass through **areas that have been designated by the CPUC as at elevated (Tier 2) or extreme (Tier 3) risk for wildfire.**
- Because the energy system **relies on power lines working together** to provide electricity, **any of PG&E's more than 5 million electric customers could have their power shut off.**

Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

We **monitor conditions** across our system and evaluate whether to proactively turn off electric lines for safety **when gusty winds and dry conditions combine with a heightened fire risk.**

While no single factor will drive a Public Safety Power Shutoff, some factors include:



A RED FLAG WARNING

declared by the National Weather Service



LOW HUMIDITY LEVELS

generally 20% and below



FORECASTED SUSTAINED WINDS GENERALLY ABOVE 25 MPH AND WIND GUSTS IN EXCESS OF APPROXIMATELY 45 MPH, depending on location and site-specific conditions such as temperature, terrain and local climate



CONDITION OF DRY FUEL

on the ground and live vegetation (moisture content)



ON-THE-GROUND, REAL-TIME OBSERVATIONS

from PG&E's Wildfire Safety Operations Center and field observations from PG&E crews

PSPS Event Notifications

Extreme weather threats can change quickly. **Our goal, dependent on weather, is to provide customers with advance notice prior to turning off power.** We will also provide updates until power is restored.

Timing of Notifications (when possible)

- **~48 HOURS** before electricity is turned off
- **~24 HOURS** before electricity is turned off
- **JUST BEFORE** electricity is turned off
- **DURING THE PUBLIC SAFETY OUTAGE**
- **ONCE POWER HAS BEEN RESTORED**



City/County/Agency Notifications

We will **make every attempt to provide notice in advance of notifying customers** through:

- **Phone calls/emails** to primary contacts
- **Automated notifications** to send alerts through multiple channels
- **Provide customer alerts** to share via channels, such as city or county website, Nixle, Nextdoor and Reverse 911

Customer Notifications

We will attempt to reach customers through **calls, texts and emails**. We will also use **social media** and keep **local news** and **radio outlets** informed and updated.



PSPS ZIP Code Alerts for Non-Account Holders

PG&E is implementing a new system to allow non-PG&E account holders to select one or more ZIP codes for PSPS notifications.



- Members of the public can **sign up over the phone**.
- **Website and text registration options** will be added soon.
- **Customers still need to update their contact information to sign up for alerts** that are specific to their property.
- **We ask master meter account holders to prepare a plan** that includes notifying tenants with information about their address regardless of whether their tenants sign up for additional notifications.
- **Updates will also be provided** online at pge.com and through local news, radio and social media.
- **Learn more** at pge.com/pspszipcodealerts

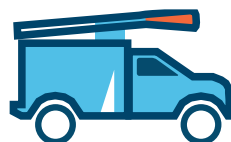
Working to Restore Power

We will only restore power when we are certain it is safe to do so. We expect to be able to visually inspect for damage and restore power to most of our customers within 24 to 48 hours after weather has passed.



WEATHER ALL CLEAR

After the weather has passed and it's safe to do so, our crews begin **patrols and inspections**.



PATROL & INSPECT

Crews **visually inspect for potential weather-related damage to ensure the lines are safe to energize**. This is done by vehicle, foot and air during daylight hours.



ISOLATE & REPAIR DAMAGE

Where damage is found, **crews work to isolate the area** so other parts of the system can be restored. Crews work **safely and as quickly as possible** to make repairs.



RESTORE POWER

Once it is safe to energize, **a call is made to the PG&E Control Center** to complete the energization process. **Power is then restored to customers**.



NOTIFY CUSTOMERS

Customers are **notified that power has been restored**.

Because weather can last several hours or days, for planning purposes, we suggest customers prepare for outages that could last longer than 48 hours.

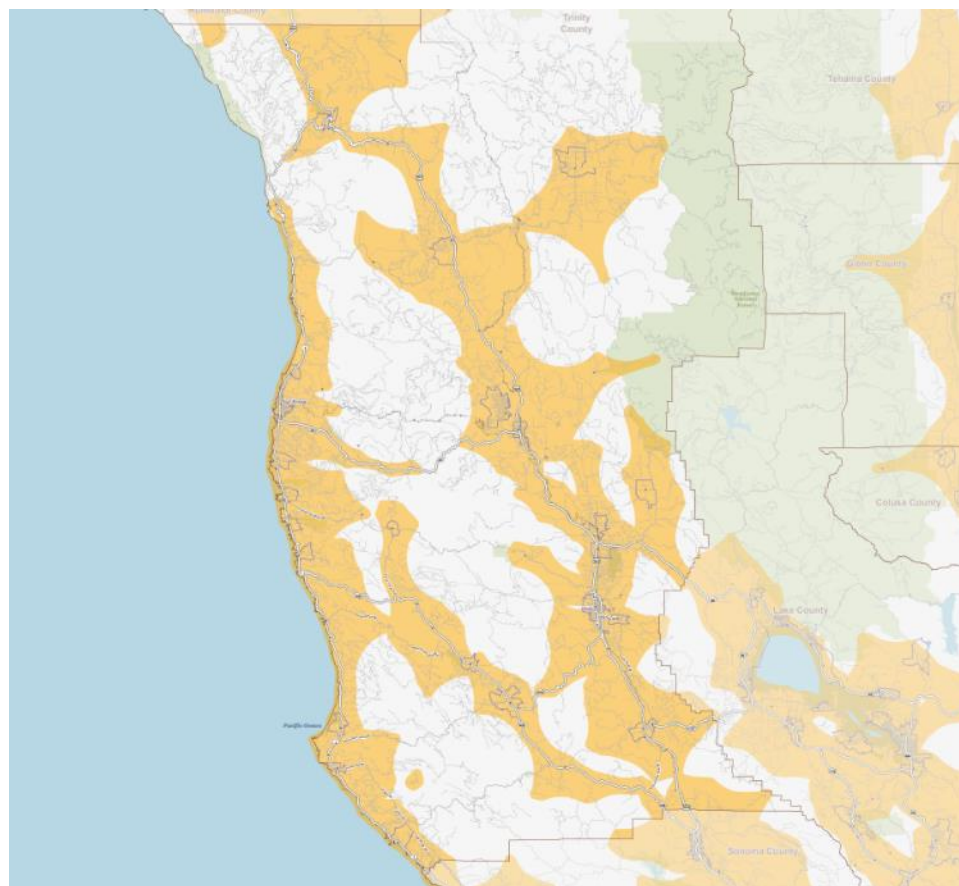
PSPS Planning and Event Maps

Customers in high fire-threat areas are more likely to experience a PSPS event.

- PSPS planning maps currently available on pge.com/pspsseventmaps show the areas that are more likely to be shut off.
- These are for **planning purposes only** and provide a **general estimate regarding potential locations**.
- These maps will be **replaced by event-specific information** when there is a potential PSPS event or a PSPS in progress.
- **Actual outage areas for a PSPS will be based on conditions existing during a particular event.**

Please note, **any of PG&E's more than 5 million electric customers** could have their power shut off.

Example PSPS Planning Map



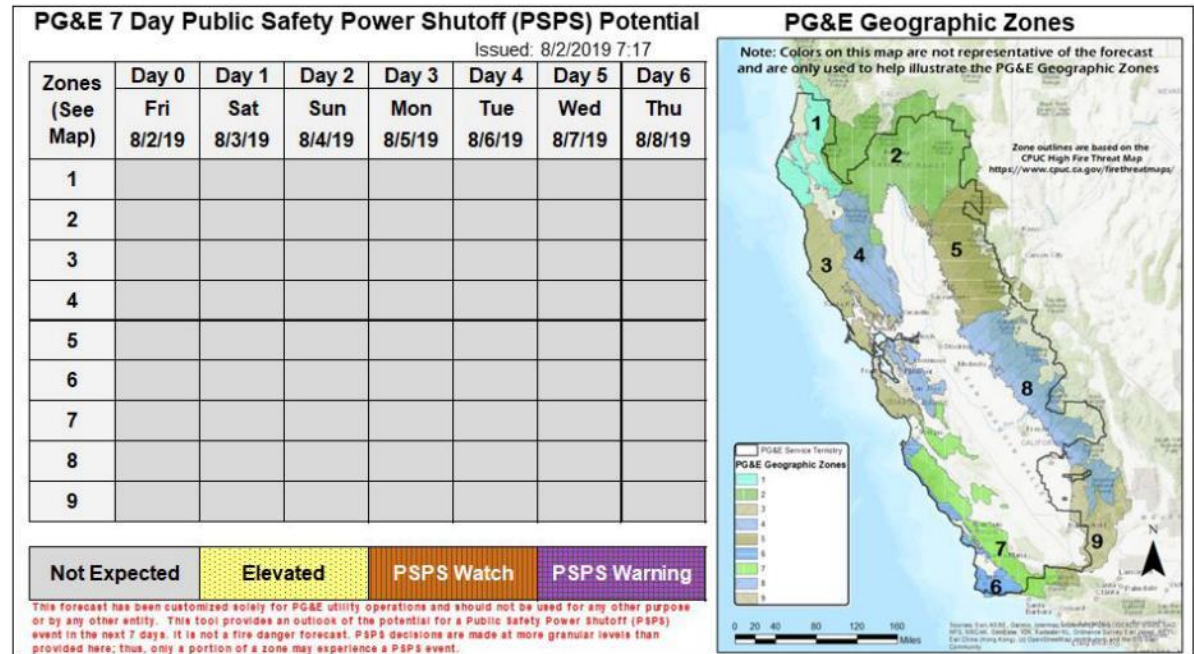
Mendocino County
PSPS Circuits BaseLine 0715 2100 Buffer

Legend:
Affected Areas
County Boundary
US Census Community (2010)
StreetMap Premium
Park, Monument, National Forest
Highway
Major Road
Minor Road
Railroad

Scale: 0 to 8 Miles

Weather and PSPS Forecasting Website

PG&E has launched a **dedicated webpage** (pge.com/weather) with **weather forecasting information and a daily 7-day lookahead**. The site shows when and where PG&E is forecasting the type of conditions that may lead to a PSPS event.



Not Expected

Conditions that generally warrant a PSPS event are not expected at this time.

Elevated

An upcoming event is being monitored for an increased potential of a PSPS event.

PSPS Watch

PG&E's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated for a reasonable chance of executing PSPS due to a combination of adverse weather and dry fuel conditions. This level is typically issued within 72 hours before the anticipated start of an event.

PSPS Warning

PG&E's EOC is activated and customers in areas being considered for PSPS have been or are being notified. PSPS is probable given the latest forecast of weather and fuels and/or observed conditions. PSPS is typically executed in smaller and more targeted areas than the PG&E Geographic Zones. This level does not guarantee a PSPS execution as conditions and forecasts may change.

Working With Our Customers to Prepare



Reaching out to approximately 5 million customers and asking them to update their contact info at **pge.com/mywildfirealerts**



Holding answer centers and open houses (as needed) in advance of and during wildfire season



Mailing postcards to customers that do not have contact information on file



Providing tenant education kits to Master Meter customers



Conducting additional outreach to customers in high fire-threat areas through direct mail, preparedness checklist and email campaign



Placing calls and doing additional outreach to Medical Baseline and Medical Baseline-eligible customers in high fire-threat areas



Launching broad public safety advertising campaign



Continuing to share information through **pge.com/wildfiresafety**



Partnering with community leaders, first responders and public safety authorities around PSPS preparedness and coordination



Engaging with organizations for our customers who have specific needs to explore ways we can partner

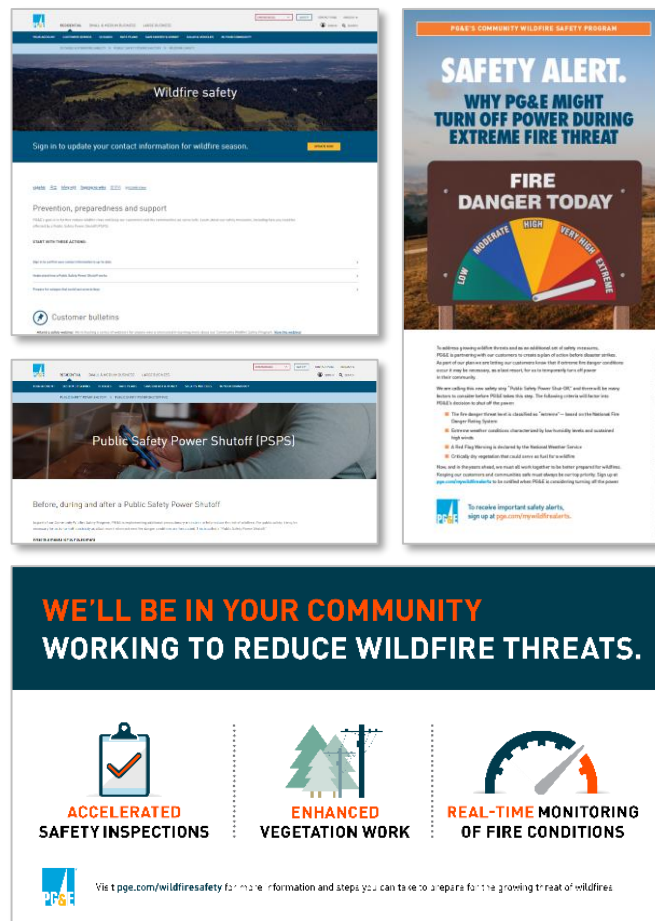
We welcome your feedback and input

For questions regarding PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program, please contact:

- **Brandon Sanders**
 - 916-472-2241
 - Brandon.Sanders@pge.com

Please direct customers with questions to:

- Call us at **1-866-743-6589**
- Email us at **wildfiresafety@pge.com**
- Visit **pge.com/wildfiresafety**



As a critical partner in emergency response, we want to notify you about a potential Public Safety Power Shutoff in your area, when possible. Please provide the best phone numbers and email addresses for your organization.