## **PG&E Wildfire Safety Webinar** All Customers

July 24, 2024



# Accessibility

To receive this presentation in **American Sign Language**, please see the link provided in the meeting chat.

We are hosting **translated presentations** in Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Tagalog and Hmong. To view an updated schedule, visit: **pge.com/webinars**.

To view **real-time captioning** in English, Spanish and Chinese, click:



# Safety

## **Preparedness Tips**

- Always be prepared in case of a natural disaster or an emergency.
- Build a disaster supply kit for you, your family or your business.
- Be sure to include food, water, medication, flashlights, first aid kits, a list of emergency contacts and more.
- **Update contact information** to stay informed and receive alerts.
- $\overline{\mathbf{S}}$
- Visit <u>SafetyActionCenter.pge.com</u> to help prepare for an emergency.





## Agenda

1 Wildfire Risk in Your Community

- **2** Progress in Your Community
- **3** Keeping You Safe
- 4 Resources for You

## Questions

5



## Introductions

### **Aaron Johnson**

Senior Vice President Local Customer Engagement

### **Brian Ambrosini** Senior Manager – Planning and Operations Customer Emergency Operations (EPSS)

Tom Smith Senior Manager Customer Engagement Strategy

### Natasha Beehner

**Customer Outreach Strategist** Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)

### Pamela Perdue Supervisor Emergency Management and Public Safety

## **Community Wildfire Safety Program**



## Wildfire Risk Across Our Service Area

			PG&E SYSTEMWIDE	HIGH FIRE-THREAT DISTRICTS (HFTD)
	More than 50%   of our service area is in high fire-risk areas	Electric customers served	5.2M	494,000
		Distribution line miles	108,500	28,100
		Transmission line miles	19,100	5,900
		i <u>ia.cpuc.ca.gov/FireMap</u>		

Source: California Public Utilities Commission

PGSE

Some of the measures included in this presentation are contemplated as additional precautionary measures intended to further reduce the risk of wildfires.

# PG<mark>&</mark>E

## **Layers of Wildfire Protection**



#### **Situational Awareness**

**New Tools and Technology:** Installed over 2,000 weather stations and high-definition cameras with AI to better predict, monitor and respond to wildfires and severe weather



#### B Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings: Installed on 44,000+ line miles in high fire-risk areas to automatically shut off power within one-tenth of a second if a hazard is detected

Public Safety Power Shutoff: Turning off power for safety as a last resort during severe weather

### **Resiliency Work**





**Undergrounding Powerlines:** Completing 10,000 miles of undergrounding in the highest wildfire-risk areas

Vegetation Management: Removing or pruning 1 million+ trees per year to ensure they are a safe distance from powerlines



# Wildfire Safety: What's New In Your Community



## Keeping Trees a Safe Distance From Powerlines

PG<mark>&</mark>E





## Strengthening the Electric Grid

PG<mark>&</mark>E





## Undergrounding Powerlines

PG<mark>s</mark>e





## **Improving Situational Awareness**

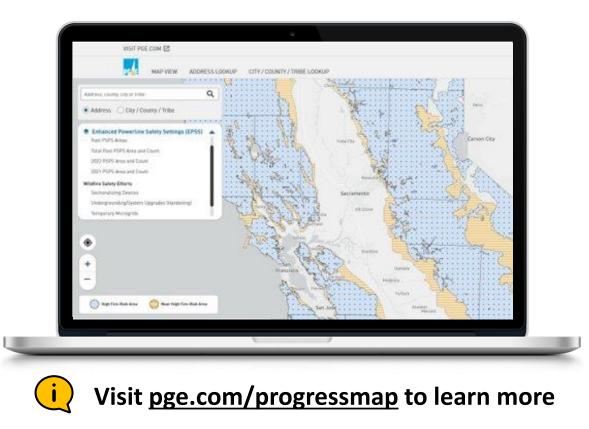
PG<mark>&</mark>E





## Wildfire Safety Progress Map

The Wildfire Safety Progress Map is a comprehensive, interactive map of PG&E wildfire safety work and progress for customers.



### The map includes data related to:

- System Upgrades (Hardening)
  - Installing Strong Poles and Covered Powerlines
  - Undergrounding
  - Line Removal
- Sectionalizing Devices
- Temporary Microgrids
- Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)
- Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)
- Customer Assistance Programs
  - Self-Generation Incentive Program
  - Permanent Battery Storage Rebate



If you have a question, click the Q&A button and type it in.

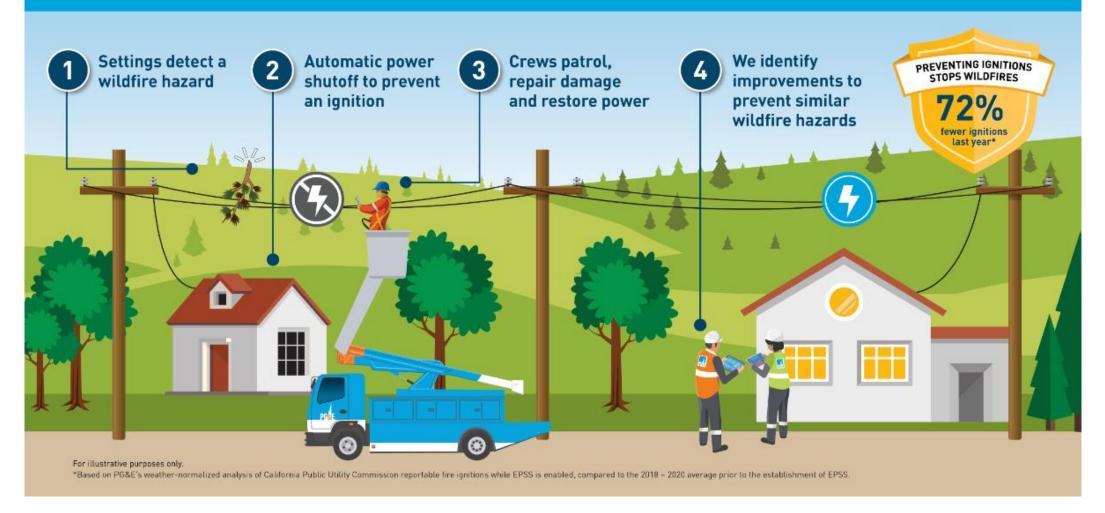


# Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings and Public Safety Power Shutoffs





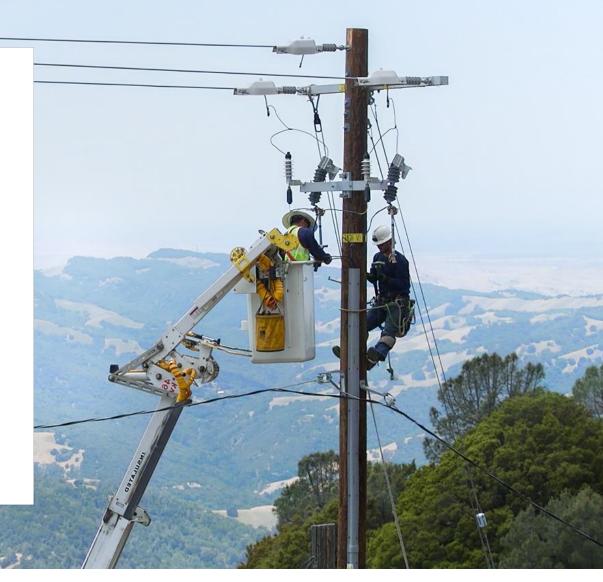
## Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings help keep you safe from wildfires



## What is a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)?

High winds can cause tree branches and debris to contact energized electric lines and potentially lead to a winddriven wildfire.

To prevent such fires, we may need to proactively turn off power as a last resort.



**Differences Between Safety Settings and PSPS** 

## Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)

## Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)

WHY	Automatically turning off power within one- tenth of a second <u>if</u> a wildfire hazard is detected on the line	Proactively turning off power to prevent tree branches and debris from contacting energized lines
WHEN	Elevated wildfire risk is present, most likely from May to November, but can occur year-round	During times of high winds, low humidity and dry vegetation
NOTIFICATIONS	Regular updates after the outage occurs; advance notice cannot be provided because these are reactive and automatic settings	Ahead of potential power shutoff through automated calls, texts, and emails with updates provided until power is restored

VS.

i Updates and information for both planned and unplanned outages: **pge.com/outages** 



Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings and Public Safety Power Shutoffs -Questions

> If you have a question, click the Q&A button and type it in.



# Supporting Our Customers and Communities



## **Community Resource Centers**

During Public Safety Power Shutoffs, Community Resource Centers provide resources and up-to-date information.

## **Centers may have:**

- Personal and medical device charging
- Mobile battery chargers
- ADA-accessible restroom
- Cooling/heating
- Bottled water/snacks
- Seating
- Ice



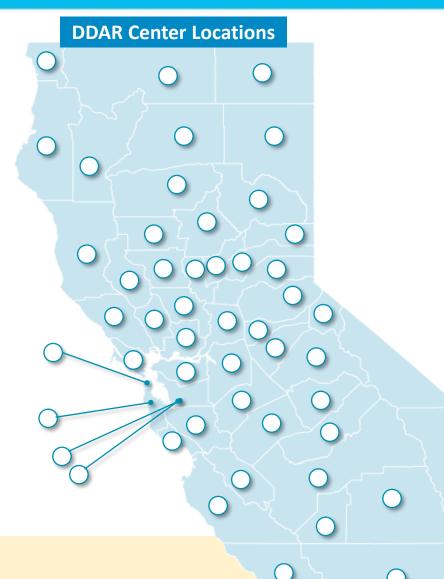


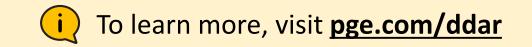
## **Disability Disaster Access and Resources (DDAR)**

Offers support for older adults and people with disabilities. Support is available before, during and after wildfire safety outages.

## **Eligibility requirements:**

- Electricity-dependent individuals who are at an increased risk of harm to their health, safety and independence during a PSPS and other emergency events
- $\overline{\mathbf{S}}$
- Must be located in a Tier 2/3 High Fire-Threat District or have experienced two or more PSPS outages since 2020



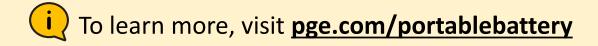


## Providing fully subsidized portable batteries.

## **Eligibility requirements:**

- Must be enrolled in PG&E's Medical Baseline Program or Self-Identified Vulnerable with Assistive Technology or dependent on durable medical equipment
- Must have experienced at least one PSPS event since 2021 OR five or more EPSS outages since 2022





# Helping customers safely connect generator power to their homes during emergency outages.

### How it works:

- Power is delivered directly to the circuit breaker which eliminates any power cords running in the home
- Provides an affordable solution for customers who are unable to afford solar or backup batteries
- Customers should be sure to start the generator at a safe location

### **Benefits:**

- ✓ Free for customers with a compatible generator
- ✓ Saves money on the purchase of a separate transfer switch

To learn more, visit **pge.com/transfermeter** 





## **Generator and Battery Rebate Program**

# Offering a rebate on the purchase of a qualifying generator or battery to prepare for outages.

### **Eligibility requirements:**

- Have an active PG&E account
- Reside in Tier 2 or 3 High Fire-Threat District or be on an EPSS-protected circuit
- ✓ The generator must be on PG&E's Qualified Product List

### **Rebate amounts:**

- ✓ \$300 per qualified customer
- ✓ An additional \$200 for CARE or FERA participants



For more information, visit **pge.com/backuppower** 

Offering a \$5,000 rebate on the purchase and installation of a qualifying permanent battery storage system.

### **Eligibility requirements:**

- Have an active PG&E account
- Be enrolled in a Time-of-Use rate plan
- Experienced eight or more outages on an EPSSprotected circuit since January 1, 2022
- Purchased a permanent residential battery after
   June 30, 2022, that is on PG&E's Qualified Product List



### • For more information, visit **pge.com/permanentbatterystorage**

The Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) offers incentives to help you save on energy storage systems for your home and business and prepare in the event of a power outage.

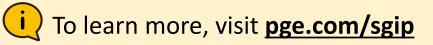
### How it works:

An outage can happen at any time due to weather, an emergency or other factor. With a battery, you can use stored energy to keep your home and business powered.

The incentive can cover at least **15%** of the average battery cost, and any PG&E customer can apply to the program

### **Battery storage enables you to:**

- Have backup power for your home and business
- ✓ Potentially reduce your energy costs





## **Public Safety Partnerships**

PG&E works year-round with public safety partners on emergency preparedness and response to keep you and your community safe.

### We work with:

- Law enforcement
- Fire departments
- Hospitals and first responders
- Emergency management
- Community Emergency Response Teams
- Community members
- Public Works





### **Additional Customer Resources**

## Wildfire Safety



Information on wildfire prevention efforts

pge.com/wildfiresafety

### **Safety Action Center**



Create an emergency safety plan to keep you and your family safe

i safetyactioncenter.pge.com

211



Free and confidential support and resources via calls or texts to 211



Dedicated wildfire safety contacts: Hotline: 1-866-743-6589 | Email: wildfiresafety@pge.com



# If you have a question, click the Q&A button and type it in.



Please take this short survey to provide feedback\* on the information received tonight or suggestions on what you would like to hear about during future webinars.



**SCAN FOR SURVEY** 

Some of the measures included in this presentation are contemplated as additional precautionary measures intended to further reduce the risk of wildfires.

## **Thank You**



# Appendix



## **Savings Programs for Income-Qualified Customers**

## Helping eligible customers pay their energy bills.



## Relief For Energy Assistance Through Community Help (REACH)

### <u>One-time</u> energy credit for up to \$1,000.

Must have a past due balance of no more than \$2,000, a disconnection notice and meet qualifying income guidelines.

### **California Alternate Rates For Energy Program (CARE)**

### **Provides a** <u>monthly</u> discount of 20% or more on gas and electricity. Participants qualify through income guidelines or if enrolled in certain public assistance programs.

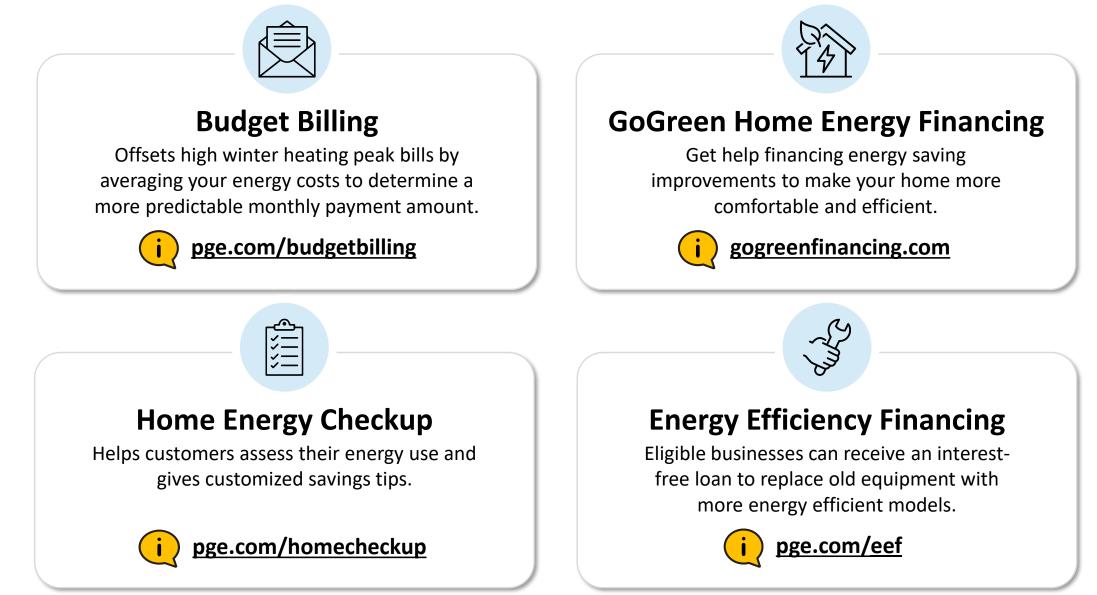
Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA)

Provides a monthly discount of 18% on electricity only.

Must be a household with three or more people that meets qualifying income guidelines.

For REACH, customers can learn more and apply by visiting <u>pge.com/reach</u>.
For CARE and FERA, customers can verify if they are eligible and enroll at: <u>pge.com/care</u>.

## **Savings Support for All Customers**



## **Improving System Resiliency**

In November 2023, the California Public Utilities Commission approved PG&E's **2023-2026** General Rate Case, funding significant system investments



## **Permanent Wildfire Risk Reduction**

Undergrounding **1,230** miles of powerlines and hardening 778 miles of overhead lines



**Improved Gas Safety** and Reliability

Replacing **163** miles of gas pipelines and conducting additional inspections



## Upgraded **Electric Capacity**

Supporting new business connections and Electric Vehicle usage



(i) You can read more about the 2023 General Rate Case by visiting: pge.com/grc

## How to Build an Emergency Kit

Stock up on enough supplies to last a week. Remember to store them in an easy-toreach place. Items you may need include:

- Nonperishable food, water and utensils
- Baby and pet food, as needed
- Equipment such as flashlights, batteries, a battery powered radio and a portable charger for cell phones
- Health and personal supplies such as first aid kits, blankets and clothing, important documents, toiletries and medications

## Remember to refresh your emergency kit at least once a year!



