

Business Resiliency After Action Report

Event/Exercise Name	Event - 07.22.2022 PSPS Incident	Activation Dates	07.22.22 – 07.23.22
Type / Category	PSPS Activation - Forecasted Elevated Fire Weather Conditions		

Activation Summary, Scenario:

At approximately 7 am on July 22nd, SCE began observing rapidly escalating wind speeds, decreasing humidity levels, and high Fire Potential Index (FPI) values in isolated portions of Kern and Los Angeles counties and made the decision to de-energize portions of the Tejon circuit at 8:13am to ensure public safety. Although SCE was aware of the potential for elevated fire weather prior to that morning, weather models were predicting a low probability (less than 25%) of meeting or exceeding PSPS criteria and below SCE's current threshold for activation of the Dedicated IMT. Therefore, SCE did not activate its Dedicated Incident Management Team (IMT) until the first de-energization on July 22nd. SCE activated its Emergency Operations Center at approximately 9am on July 22nd to manage this event and de-energized additional customers on the Tejon circuit at 10:55am and on the Kinsey circuit at 11:26am in response to rapidly escalating fire weather conditions. SCE was able to reduce customer impacts through mitigation as detailed in Section 10 and ultimately de-energized 209 customers on two circuits in Kern and Los Angeles counties on July 22nd through 23rd.

During this event, SCE's meteorology and fire science experts consulted the Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC)2 for forecast alignment, and the GACC's published forecast was aligned on elevated fire weather potential for Kern and Los Angeles counties. In addition, the National Weather Service issued Red Flag Warnings on the morning of July 22nd, which stayed in effect through 6 am on July 23rd for Southern California, including those portions of Kern and Los Angeles counties where SCE was observing elevated fire weather conditions and had de-energized customers.

On the morning of Saturday, July 23rd, weather conditions began to improve in some areas and SCE was able to restore portions of both the Tejon and Kinsey circuits. However, actual fire weather conditions continued to be observed in de-energized areas, and SCE meteorologists extended the period of concern from 9am to 12pm that morning. As elevated fire weather conditions continued to abate over the course of the

day on July 23rd, SCE was able to patrol circuits and re-energize customers, with all customers restored by 3:06 pm on July 23rd.

Due to the rapidly escalating fire weather conditions that had not been forecasted in advance, SCE was unable to provide all pre-event notifications to some public safety partners, critical infrastructure, or customers prior to de-energization on the Tejon circuit. SCE did provide required in-event notifications to customers at de-energization initiation, before re-energization, and after completion of restoration. SCE also inadvertently notified five customers in Ventura County that were out of scope for this event due to incorrect mapping of these customers to circuits.

Strengths:

1. There were no ignitions, safety concerns, or injuries during this PSPS event
2. Weather Services was able to successfully overcome the weather station reporting outage by utilizing live field observers with handheld kestrels to accurately report out on live field conditions to inform re-energization decisions.
3. In the absence of automation during this event there were no delays in delivering notifications. Once the notifications were produced and transmitted, customers received the notifications within 5 mins.
4. All required notifications were sent, with the exception of 27 customers who were either not enrolled for PSPS notifications or who have not provided contact information

Areas for improvement:

1. SCE was not able to send pre-event notifications for this event due to sudden onset of unexpected weather conditions
2. Some de-energized customers could not be notified during this event because they were not enrolled in PSPS notifications
3. Some de-energized customers could not be notified because they did not have validated contact information on file.
4. The Public Safety Partner Portal was not immediately available for situational awareness at the beginning of this PSPS event.
5. Circuit to customer mapping errors were found in SCE's source system databases.
6. Approximately 50% of all Satellite-based weather stations stopped receiving updated weather reads.

Lessons Learned/Corrective Actions Table

#	Priorit y	Description	Recommended Solution	Category	Owner	Due Date
1	High	The PSPS IMT was not activated because weather models 12 hours ahead of this event showed a relatively low probability (less than 25%) of reaching PSPS criteria.	SCE will examine current protocols for activating the PSPS IMT for marginal weather conditions to determine if changes to activation criteria should be made.	Operations	"employee name removed"	10/31/22
2	High	Some customers in High Fire Risk Areas have not enrolled in or opted out of SCE's PSPS alerts. As a result, they could not be notified during this event.	SCE is in the process of auto-enrolling all customers that live in the High Fire Risk Area not currently enrolled to receive PSPS alerts. In October, SCE will also discontinue the customer opt-out feature for PSPS alerts.	Notifications	"employee name removed"	10/31/22
3	High	Some customers in High Fire Risk Areas have not provided validated contact information to SCE. As result, they could not be notified during this event.	SCE is in the process of enhanced outreach to these customers to confirm their contact information and enroll them in PSPS notifications.	Notifications	"employee name removed"	10/31/22
4	High	There is an inherent lag between PSPS activation and when in-event management and	To the extent possible, SCE is evaluating options to pre-stage event management and situational	Notifications	"employee name removed"	10/31/22

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		situational awareness tools are available for use on the Portal. This lag translated to delays in the availability of event specific information on the Portal during this PSPS event.	awareness tools when marginal (low probability) fire weather conditions are expected to reduce lag time for establishing situational awareness during events.			
5	High	Source data discrepancies (circuit to customer mapping) resulted in erroneous notifications to 5 customers in Ventura County that were not in scope.	SCE has launched an ongoing effort to identify and proactively correct these types of errors on circuits that could be subject to PSPS.	Notifications	"employee name removed"	10/31/22
6	High	There was a satellite network failure that impacted some weather stations being used to monitor real time fire weather conditions and guide reenergization decisions. The team was able to place live field observers in the field to support re-energization decision-making.	SCE is in the process of converting select weather stations to both cellular and satellite coverage to mitigate these issues and has established an escalation process with the vendor for quick resolution of issues.	Operations	"employee name removed"	10/31/22