TARGETED UNDERGROUNDING IN HIGH FIRE RISK AREAS

UNDERSTANDING THE FACTS

As part of ongoing wildfire mitigation efforts, Southern California Edison is undergrounding overhead distribution lines in high fire risk areas to continue to reduce the threat of wildfires, particularly in communities where power lines have not been replaced with covered conductor. Undergrounding electrical systems enhances reliability during high winds and storms by shielding infrastructure from hazardous weather conditions. By placing power lines underground, the risk of outages and ignitions caused by vegetation, debris, or metallic balloons coming into contact with overhead lines is virtually eliminated. Additionally, underground systems reduce the likelihood of electrical faults that can lead to wire-down incidents. This approach is especially critical in areas where rapid evacuation during wildfires is challenging, providing an added layer of safety and resilience.

TARGETED UNDERGROUNDING AS A WILDFIRE MITIGATION MEASURE

Underground systems can help reduce the risk of wildfires and increase reliability during high winds and storms by reducing the exposure of electrical infrastructure to extreme weather conditions. We are identifying the highest risk power lines to underground. Customers will continue to see other equipment overhead, including telephone, cable and internet lines. Even though you have undergrounded powerlines, PSPS is still possible due to where your power's transmission lines start. If the lines start in a high-fire-risk area, then power could be turned off even though you may not be experiencing the same weather event.

SCE has identified a subset of high fire risk areas as "Severe Risk Areas" where we have determined that for public safety reasons it is prudent to significantly reduce ignition risk by undergrounding, if not already hardened with covered conductor.

Targeted undergounding criteria include:

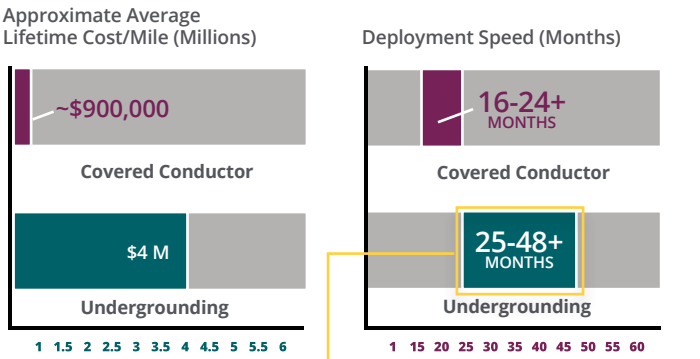
- Limited exit and entry points to communities
- High burn frequency
- High wind speeds exceeding covered conductor Public Safety Power Shutoff thresholds
- Exceptionally high potential consequence (could burn more than 10,000 acres within 8 hours)
- Communities of elevated concern
- Operational feasibility – can this be done safely, easily and without extensive disruptions

TARGETED UNDERGROUNDING REQUIRES EXTENSIVE PLANNING AND EARLY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

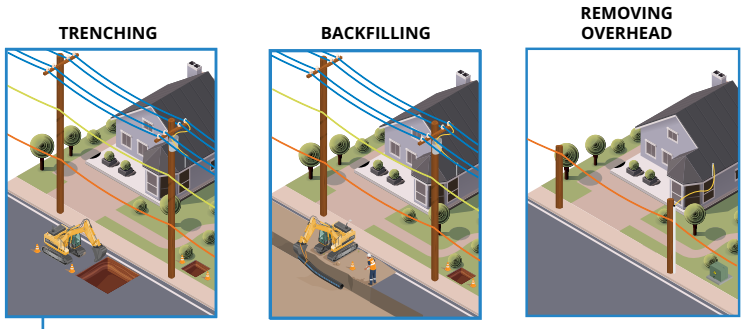
Undergrounding power lines take much longer to construct, are more costly, and are more difficult to maintain and repair than overhead infrastructure, particularly in mountainous and rocky terrain.

Typically, targeted undergrounding can take two to four years, and possibly longer, whereas covered conductor can be installed in less than two years. SCE will work closely with local cities and counties and engage impacted customers early in the process, especially concerning easement acquisition.

Mitigation Comparison



Construction Process During Execution



*For illustrative purposes only

Undergrounding Timeline

INITIATE
~2-3 MONTHS

- Determine scope based on risk model
- Finalize project timelines
- Develop detailed scope

PLAN
~9-15 MONTHS

- Initiate early permit application(City/County CalTrans)
- Initiate Government Lands
- Initiate Environmental

SCHEDULE
~9-15 MONTHS

- Perform standard permitting and easement processes
- Perform environmental clearance process
- Obtain Additional Agency Permits

EXECUTE
~5-15 MONTHS

- Excavation, trenching, and paving
- Installation/removal of equipment

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit sce.com/tug, email SCEprojects@sce.com, or leave a voicemail for the project team on its dedicated phone voicemail box at 1-888-331-0010.