





### **Our Commitment to California**

**Keeping our communities safe from wildfires** 





Community Meeting for Simi Valley and Moorpark March 23, 2021



### **SCE PRESENTERS**



Rudy Gonzales Government Relations Manager Local Public Affairs



Erik Takayesu Vice President PSPS Readiness



**Terry Ohanian** Director Expedited Grid Hardening

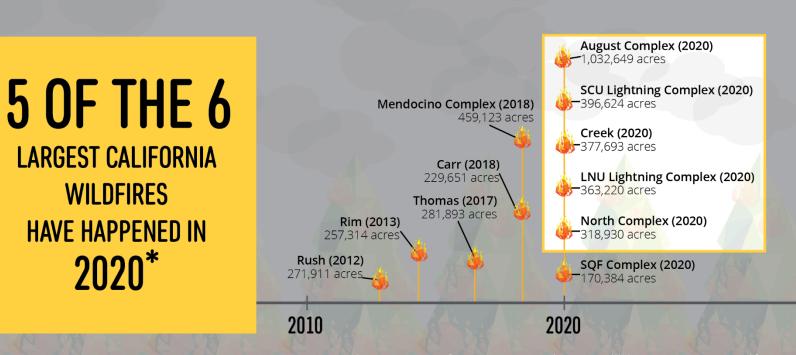
**David Kaintz** Senior Manager Customer Service

# Agenda

- 2020 Wildfire Season
- SCE's Wildfire Mitigation and PSPS Action Plans
- Reducing the Need for PSPS
- PSPS Notifications
- Customer Care Programs
- Engaging Our Communities
- Resources
- Q&A

# **2020 WILDFIRE SEASON**

California's wildfires in 2020 were the worst on record, with dry vegetation and strong winds threatening our communities during an unprecedented fire season



Source: https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/4jandlhh/top20\_acres.pdf

# **SCE's PSPS Execution**

- To reduce the threat of wildfires, SCE implemented Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) that impacted about 138,000 customers, with some customers experiencing multiple PSPS outages
- We understand the significant impact that PSPS has on communities, especially during a pandemic when many people are working and learning from home
- PSPS is used as a measure of last resort to protect public safety under dangerous fire weather conditions
- We are working to reduce the impact of PSPS and are continuing to strengthen the electric grid to become more resilient in the face of extreme weather events

### **Wildfire Mitigation Activities**



2020 Year-End Progress Report – Data as of 12/31/20

# **OUR PSPS ACTION PLAN**

We are implementing a plan to reduce the impact of PSPS to our customers and communities

Reducing the Need for PSPS	Executing PSPS More Effectively	Reducing the Impacts of PSPS	Keeping Partners and Customers Informed	Enhancing Post-Event Reporting
Expediting grid hardening and other measures	Making decision-making process transparent, improving communications and notifications	Increasing customer and community resiliency	Educating and engaging our communities and stakeholders	Improving our post-event reports to make them more transparent and clearer

# **REDUCING THE NEED FOR PSPS**

- We are putting specific emphasis on those circuits most frequently impacted by PSPS while continuing work on other circuits subject to PSPS
- Grid hardening make circuits more resilient in the face of extreme weather events and reduce the scope, frequency and duration of future PSPS events



Above photos: SCE crew installing insulated wire

# **TOOLS TO REDUCE NEED FOR PSPS**

Targeted replacement of bare wire with insulated wires (covered conductor) to be able to safely raise windspeed thresholds for PSPS

**Insulated Wires** 

Installing additional automated devices to further isolate and reduce the number of customers that have to be deenergized per circuit

**Segmentation** 

Adding new weather stations to improve situational awareness and increase accuracy of PSPS operations - so only those circuits facing danger are in scope

Weather

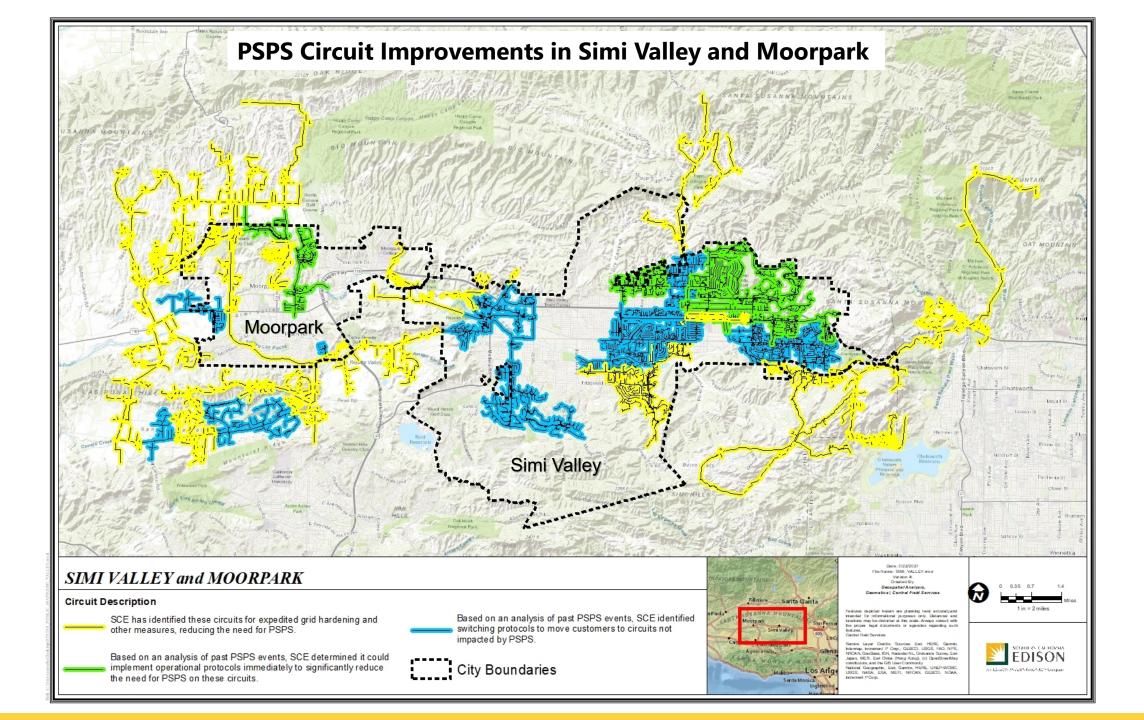
**Stations** 

**Protocols** Continuing to develop circuitspecific protocols to move customers to nearby circuits not impacted by PSPS, to reduce the number of customers remaining on an affected circuit

**Switching** 

#### Operational Protocols

Up-to-date information on ground conditions, such as lack of vegetation, recent burn scars, and location of poles and wires are considered to assess wildfire threat and the need for PSPS



### Why Does My Neighbor Have Power and I Don't?

The location of your home or business on a circuit and the area of severe weather relative to your local substation are important factors in determining whether or not you are impacted by a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

# Neighborhood with power shut off due to PSPS

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UNDERGROUND LINE

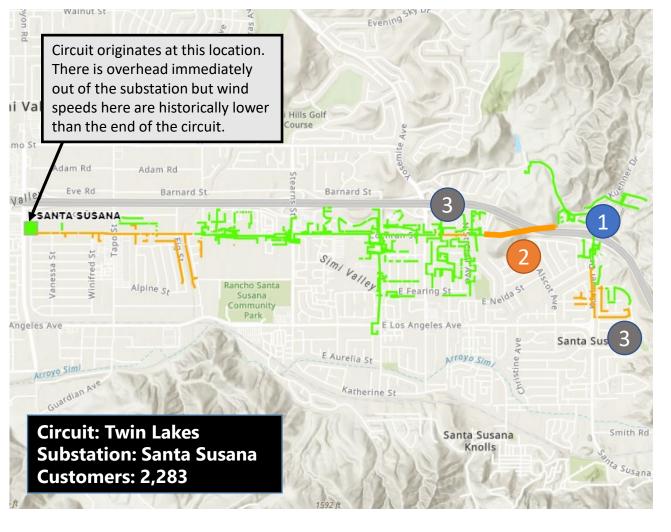
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Wires originate in windy area with high fire risk

#### Neighborhood keeps power during PSPS

Wires originate in area with lower fire risk

### **EXAMPLE OF REDUCING THE NEED FOR PSPS**



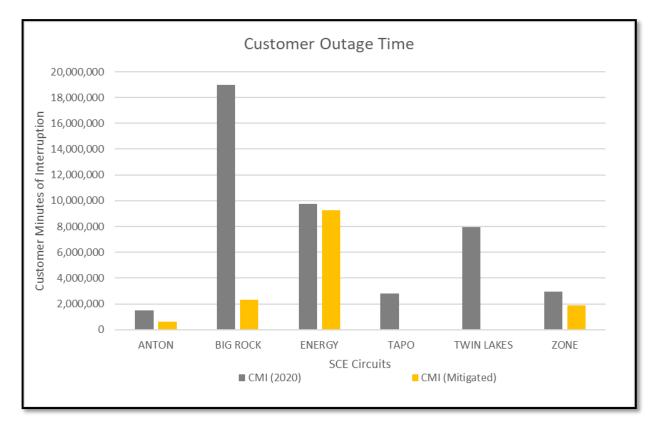
Existing Overhead

**Existing Underground** 

- SCE has identified this circuit for expediting grid hardening due to being impacted by multiple PSPS events
- In 2021, SCE plans to:
  - **1. Switching Protocols:** transfer portions of the circuit to adjacent circuits
  - **2. Switching Protocols:** de-energization of specific overhead portions of the circuit
  - **3. Operational Protocols:** Conduct live field observations for overhead portions of circuit still energized
- If these improvements are successfully implemented:
  - Of the five 2020 PSPS outages, no customers would have been impacted by PSPS assuming the same weather and operating conditions

# **EXPECTED IMPROVEMENTS**

With the implementation of our plans, we expect to see a **68% reduction in customer outage time** across these frequently impacted circuits in the Simi Valley and Moorpark communities compared to 2020, assuming the same weather conditions



- 1) Frequently impacted circuits are circuits that have experienced four or more PSPS related outages in 2019-2021.
- 2) Customer outage time is measured as total PSPS-related Customer Minutes of Interruption (CMI).
- 3) The Energy circuit is still under review for additional benefit opportunities, beyond the benefits shown here.

# VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

We continue to inspect, trim and remove trees to prevent vegetation from coming into contact with electrical equipment and potentially sparking a fire

#### Inspect

- 1.4 million trees inspected annually; 700,000+ trees in high risk fire areas
- 900,000 trees trimmed or removed annually

Vegetation Questions? 1-800-655-4555

#### **Prune or Remove**

- Tall trees beyond our standard pruning zones that could potentially fall into power lines are also assessed and pruned or removed
  - Removed more than 12,200 hazard trees in 2020 (double the number from 2019)
  - 2021: Plan to assess approximately 150,000 to 200,000 hazard trees in high risk fire areas and remove them if deemed unsafe

SCE will begin removing palm trees that may come in contact with power lines and pose risks to public safety; customers who have palm trees affected by this program will be contacted by SCE representatives to discuss options

# **PSPS NOTIFICATIONS**

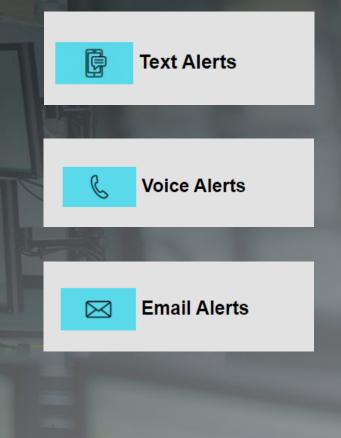
### **Planned Improvements**

- Clarify language and information to provide more transparency to customers
- Reduce notification confusion
- Partner with the County Offices of Emergency Management to explore the use of Emergency Radio Broadcast for areas with poor cell service

 SCE provides PSPS notifications through various communication channels

**How to Stay Informed** 

- Sign up to stay informed before, during and after a PSPS event
- Outage status look up is also available on our website



# **CUSTOMER CARE PROGRAMS**

#### **Rebates & Programs**

- Fully subsidized Critical Care Battery Backup Program
  - Expanded to include all eligible Medical Baseline customers\*
- \$50 rebate for small appliance & device battery backup
- \$300-\$500 generator rebate for well water dependent customers
- Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)

#### **Care During Outages**

- Community Crew Vehicles and Community Resource Centers
  - Information & Customer Support
  - Resiliency Kits
- Hotel discounts

### **Community Resiliency**

- Resiliency zones under construction for back-up generation during PSPS
- Microgrids

# **ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES**

- Customer education and community outreach
  - Use of digital, social media, media and radio channels
  - Community meetings for impacted communities
  - Annual PSPS newsletter to all customers
  - Engage our most vulnerable customers
  - Partner with community-based organizations to support resiliency and emergency preparedness
- Ongoing engagement with government officials, public safety partners, essential service providers and other stakeholders



Website: <u>sce.com/wildfire</u> Email: <u>wildfireoutreach@sce.com</u> Social Media: @SCE on Twitter & Facebook SCE Customer Support/Vegetation Management: 1-800-655-4555

### **LEARN MORE**



- Visit our website to learn more about our wildfire safety efforts and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)
- Provide feedback through the survey

# SIGN UP

- PSPS alerts
- SCE's Medical Baseline
  program
- SCE programs and rebates

### **BE PREPARED**



- Be prepared with a safety preparedness plan, some basic supplies and advance planning
- Power outage tips

### Additional Resources

Energy for What's Ahead<sup>™</sup>



### **HELPFUL INFORMATION & RESOURCES**

#### SCE Wildfire Webpage – <u>sce.com/wildfire</u>

#### **SCE** Notifications

- Sign up for PSPS alerts <u>sce.com/pspsalerts</u>
- Sign up for the Energized by Edison Wildfire Mitigation Newsletter – <u>energized.edison.com/newsletter</u>

#### Situational Awareness

- PSPS maps and information <u>sce.com/psps</u>
- Role of weather in PSPS <u>sce.com/fireweather</u>
- CPUC wildfire maps cpuc.ca.gov/wildfiresinfo
- Fire cameras <u>alertwildfire.org</u>

#### Preparedness

- SCE outage tips <u>sce.com/outagetips</u>
- SCE emergency preparedness <u>sce.com/beprepared</u>
- SCE Medical Baseline Program <u>sce.com/medicalbaseline</u>
- CAL FIRE fire-preparedness <u>readyforwildfire.org</u>
- Red Cross emergency preparedness <u>redcross.org/prepare</u>
- FEMA emergency preparedness <u>ready.gov</u>

#### Vegetation Management

 Vegetation Management – <u>sce.com/safety/power-lines</u>; contact 1-800-655-4555 or <u>safetrees@sce.com</u>

#### Customer Programs & Rebates

- SCE Customer Programs & Resources sce.com/customerresources
- SCE Marketplace (rebates and programs) marketplace.sce.com
- Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) <u>sce.com/sgip</u> or <u>selfgenca.com</u>

#### **Community Meetings**

 Join SCE's wildfire safety community meetings – sce.com/wildfiresafetymeetings

#### Social Media

• Follow **@SCE** on Twitter and Facebook