



### **Our Commitment to California**

Keeping our communities safe from wildfires



Community Meeting for Chatsworth May 19, 2021

## How to Submit a Question

- You can submit a question using the Q&A window throughout the session
- If there is a similar question already being asked that you would like answered, you can click on the heart icon next to the question to "like" it
- Please only submit questions that are relevant to the presentation and topics being presented

# **SCE PRESENTERS**



David Ford
Government Relations Manager
Local Public Affairs



Greg Ferree
Vice President
Distribution

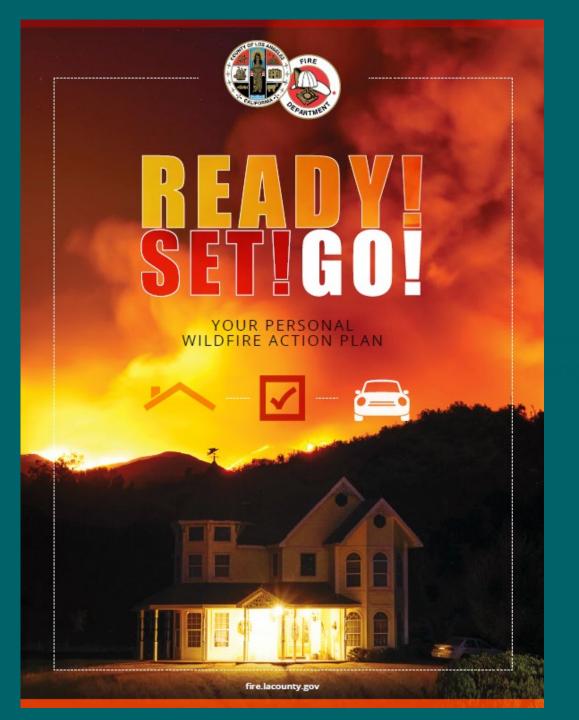


Rob Tucker
Principal Manager
Transmission & Distribution



Mike Bushey
Director
Customer Service





### **READY!**

Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.

### SET!

Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate.

### GO!

Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

For more information: <a href="mailto:fire.lacounty.gov/rsg">fire.lacounty.gov/rsg</a> Alert LA County: <a href="mailto:alert.lacounty.gov">alert.lacounty.gov</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

#### August Complex (2020) 1,032,649 acres 5 OF THE 6 SCU Lightning Complex (2020) Mendocino Complex (2018) 396.624 acres 459,123 acres Creek (2020) 377,693 acres LARGEST CALIFORNIA Carr (2018) LNU Lightning Complex (2020) 229,651 acres **WILDFIRES** 363,220 acres Thomas (2017) 281,893 acres North Complex (2020) Rim (2013) HAVE HAPPENED IN 257.314 acres 318,930 acres 2020\* Rush (2012) SQF Complex (2020) 271,911 acres 2010 2020

### 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 tool 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



### OUR WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN



# **Grid Hardening**

Improving the electrical system to make the grid more resilient in high fire risk areas, improving reliability and reducing wildfire risk



### Situational Awareness

Using a dense network of weather stations and wildfire cameras to monitor location-specific, real-time conditions that help inform operational decision-making



**High Risk Fire Inspections** 

Annually inspect equipment in high fire risk areas for any needed maintenance, repair or replacement, prioritizing the highest-risk structures



# **Vegetation Management**

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

safetrees@sce.com



# **Public Safety Power Shutoffs**

Tool of last resort to protect our communities from the threat of wildfire, where we temporarily shut off power to prevent our electric system from becoming the source of an ignition



# PSPS DECISION POINTS sce.com/pspsdecisionmaking

Decision points include, but are not limited to:



- National Weather Service Red Flag Warnings
- SCE meteorologists forecast **strong wind** conditions in service area
- SCE fire scientist assessment of fire potential to include consideration of weather and **fuels**



Real-time observations from qualified electrical workers monitoring for **hazardous** conditions in the field



Impact of de-energizing circuits on first responders and essential services

# 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

Expediting grid hardening and other measures

Executing PSPS More Effectively

Making
decision-making
process
transparent,
improving
communications
and notifications

Reducing the Impacts of PSPS

Increasing customer and community resiliency

Keeping
Partners and
Customers
Informed

Educating and engaging our communities and stakeholders

**Enhancing Post-Event Reporting** 

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





### TOOLS TO REDUCE NEED FOR PSPS

#### **Insulated Wires**

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

#### **Segmentation**

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

# **Weather Stations**

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

# **Switching 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

# **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

Wires originate in windy area with high fire risk

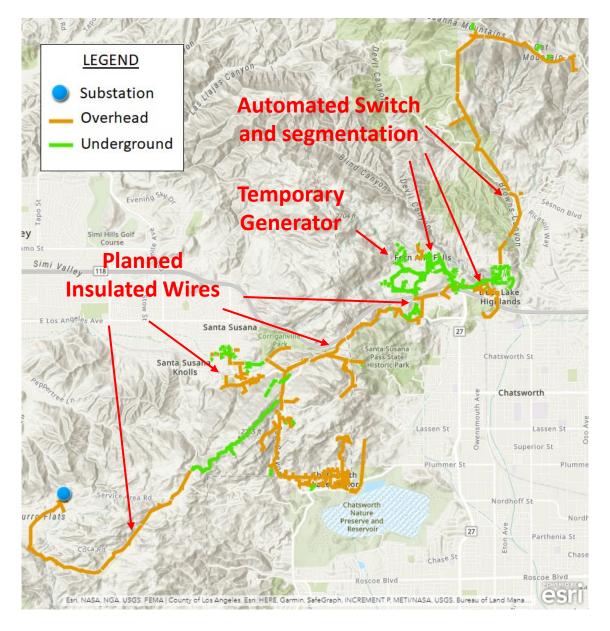
UNDERGROUND LINE

# Neighborhood keeps power during PSPS

Wires originate in area with lower fire risk



### **ENERGY CIRCUIT PLAN**



#### **Planned Work:**

- Replace 15.2 miles of existing overhead wire with new insulated wire
- Install 3 automated switches and implement additional segmentation
- Add temporary generator to serve approx. 120 customers during a PSPS event with minimal outages

#### **Expected Improvements:**

• 77% reduction in customer outage time, assuming the same weather conditions in 2020

#### **Construction Photos (5/17/21)**



Insulated wires



On-site generation and sound walls

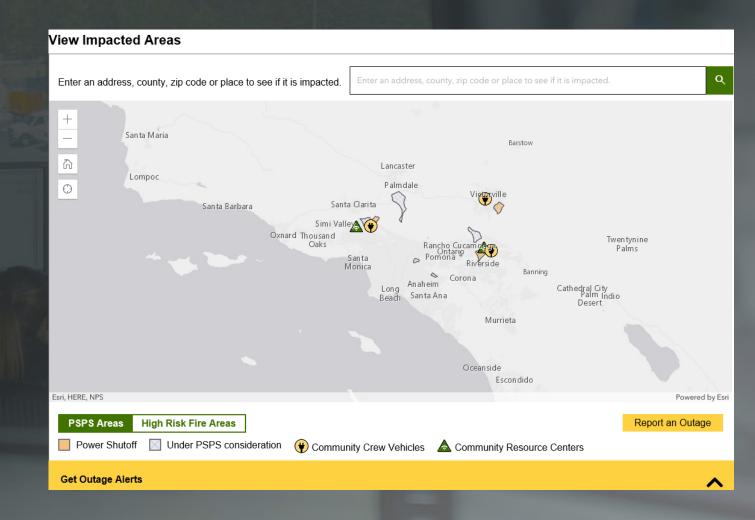
### PSPS COMMUNICATIONS

### **Notifications**

- SCE provides PSPS notifications through various communication channels
  - SCE Account Holders (email, text, and voice call)
  - Zip Code
  - NextDoor
- Sign up to stay informed before, during and after a PSPS event

### **PSPS Outage Map**

Outage status look up is also available on our website



### **CUSTOMER CARE PROGRAMS**

### **Rebates & Programs**

- Fully subsidized Critical Care Backup Battery Program
  - Eligible Medical Baseline customers\*
- \$50 rebate for portable batteries (small device battery backup)
- \$300 & \$500 portable generator rebates 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 targeting essential services in rural communities providing back-up generation during PSPS
- Community partnerships

<sup>\*</sup>Income-qualified Medical Baseline customers living in high-risk fire areas

### HELPING PROTECT COMMUNITIES

- SCE supports the readiness of fire agencies
- SCE's partnership with the LA
   County Fire Department, Orange
   County Fire Authority, and Ventura
   County Fire Department, will bring
   three fire-suppression helicopters
   to help combat wildfires across
   SCE's service area



### **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: sce.com/wildfire

**Email: wildfireoutreach@sce.com** 

Social Media: @SCE on Twitter & Facebook

**SCE Customer Support: 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



### **HELPFUL INFORMATION & RESOURCES**

### SCE Wildfire Webpage – sce.com/wildfire

#### **SCE Notifications**

- Sign up for PSPS alerts <u>sce.com/pspsalerts</u>
- Sign up for the Energized by Edison Wildfire Mitigation Newsletter <a href="mailto:energized.edison.com/newsletter">energized.edison.com/newsletter</a>

#### Situational Awareness

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

#### Preparedness

- SCE emergency preparedness <u>sce.com/beprepared</u>
- CAL FIRE fire preparedness readyforwildfire.org
- Red Cross emergency preparedness <a href="redcross.org/prepare">redcross.org/prepare</a>
- Listos California <u>listoscalifornia.org</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
- SCE Medical Baseline Program <u>sce.com/medicalbaseline</u>
- 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