

Covered Conductor Deployment Helps Keep Communities Safe

SCE reaches important milestone of covered conductor installations in our Wildfire Mitigation Plan, helping to reduce the impact of Public Safety Power Shutoffs.

A key benefit of covered conductor is the relatively fast speed at which it can be installed to achieve immediate wildfire risk reduction. That's one of the reasons SCE has installed 3,500 miles of overhead wire with a protective coating since we began installations in late 2018.

“Covered conductor is a critical tool to quickly mitigate the threat of wildfires that could be caused by debris blowing into power lines. It helps keep our communities safe,” said SCE President and CEO Steve Powell.

The grid hardening effort is also easing the burden on customers impacted by Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). We are working on completing more than 50 additional circuits this year, including installing more than 150 miles of covered conductor, along with more sectionalizing devices and weather stations. On these 50 circuits, we expect an incremental 60% reduction in PSPS outage time compared to the last two years, assuming the same weather and fuel conditions.

“We know covered conductor does what it is designed to do,” Powell said. “For example, during significant wind events in November 2021, SCE crews discovered tree branches that had fallen on energized power lines that had been replaced with covered conductor. Our customers on that segment of the circuit did not experience a power outage and, most importantly, a potential wildfire was avoided.”

For more information on SCE's wildfire safety efforts, visit [edison.com/wildfire-safety](https://www.edison.com/wildfire-safety).



Covered conductor installation in remote areas can be an intricate process, involving helicopters and dozens of SCE personnel. Photo credit: Casey Wian

2022 Clean Energy Summit: Learn How to Accelerate Your Clean Energy Transition

Join us for SCE's virtual Clean Energy Summit for business customers on Thursday, Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. During this complimentary summit, attendees will hear about California's greenhouse gas reduction goals/regulations, learn from experts about innovative programs and technologies, and gather best practices from customers.

The main sessions will take place from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.:

- Session 1: The Integrated Path to GHG Reduction
- Session 2: Clean Energy Transformation from a Business and Public Sector Perspective

Two breakout sessions will follow from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

- Option 1: Small Business/Economic Development
- Option 2: Water & Agricultural

Learn more and reserve your virtual spot today at on.sce.com/cleanenergysummit.



Helping Small Businesses Find Their Best Rate Options

So far this year, SCE's Business Customer Division has uncovered \$1.1 million in annual savings for customers.

Running a small business can be challenging, and the COVID-19 pandemic is making the business environment more difficult for many. SCE is actively helping businesses in our service area save money by finding opportunities to switch to more beneficial rate plans.

So far this year, our Business Customer Division has helped more than 210 accounts find rate plan options that are projected to save those customers more than \$1.1 million on their electric bills each year.

Fiesta Martin: Potential Savings of \$13,000+ Annually

One of those customers is Fiesta Martin, a family-run business that opened its first restaurant in December 2009 with parents Gloria and Esaul in the kitchen and their five children helping out after their day jobs. Today, there are five Fiesta Martin restaurants, all in Inglewood.



Christian Martin, one of the Martins' grown children, credits the local community for its support during the height of the pandemic. "The community really stepped up and continued coming in to get away from it all," he said. Christian still works at the restaurants, along with his siblings and their extended families.

Veronica Diaz, an Account Manager on SCE's Small Business and Economic Development team, recently reached out to Christian when SCE determined through data analysis that Fiesta Martin could benefit from changes to their rate plans. "They are such a hard-working family," said Diaz, who met the Martins at an event hosted by the city of Inglewood. "I thought they may not know about the opportunities to save on their electric bills."

After consulting with Christian, Diaz switched all five locations to more suitable rate plans that (based on previous usage) could save the business more than \$13,000 each year. "We're going to reinvest the savings into the business and the community," said Christian.

GAFE Pizza: Estimated Savings of Almost \$40,000 Per Year

Diaz provided similar help to GAFE Pizza, a company that manages Domino's Pizza franchise businesses, with 37 locations in SCE's service area, each with its own SCE account.

Working closely with controller Luciano Lassalle, Diaz walked him through SCE's online rate plan comparison tool, which provides a custom comparison between SCE rate options based on the account's usage data from the previous 12 months, to show what that account would have been charged for the same usage on different rate options. "I didn't know it was possible to have rates evaluated," said Lassalle, adding that Diaz walked him "step by step through the results" of the comparisons. Ultimately, he used the online tool to switch rate plans for 31 of the 37 accounts – processing some with Diaz's help but mostly on his own. "The big difference is being able to do this online," he said.

Lassalle estimates the rate plan switches will save almost \$40,000 in total each year. "It was vastly different for each store (location)," he said. "One store (will save about) \$4,100 each year, another store only \$30. But even if you add up only those stores that will save a lot, it still totals well over \$30,000 (annually).

"Any franchise business that's been around for more than a year should take advantage of this," Lassalle said.

Diaz advises business customers to try SCE's online rate comparison tool to learn about options among SCE rate plans. Make sure you're signed up for My Account on [SCE.com](https://www.sce.com) and confirm that your contact information is accurate and up to date. This way, our Business Customer Division can provide you with information about programs and tools to help you save energy and money and stay competitive.

For more information about rate changes, contact your Account Manager or email bcd.acctmgt.solutions@sce.com.