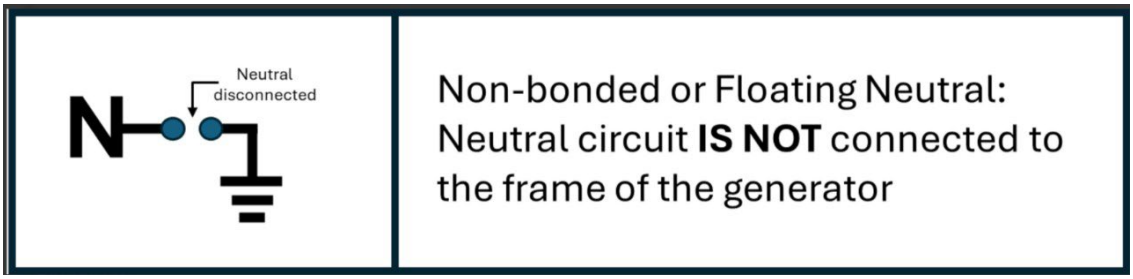
Generator Setup and Operation Guidelines

Grounding

Your generator must be properly connected to an appropriate ground to help prevent electric shock.

⚠ WARNING

- Failure to use the BPTM with a non- bonded or floating neutral generator can result in electric shock.



- PG&E recommends using non-bonded or floating neutral generators when connecting to the Backup Power Transfer Meters (BPTM), for whole home backup.
- Check your owner's manual to ensure your generator is non-bonded (floating neutral) and complies with National Electrical Codes and local city codes when connected to the BPTM.
- To verify compliance, review your generator operational manual or consult with your generator manufacturer.
- To learn more about UL and NEC standards, please see the following URL LINKS.
  - NFPA 70 (NEC) Code Development
  - UL Solutions

Definitions

Floating Neutral**:** A floating neutral generator has a neutral wire that is not connected to the ground. This means that the neutral is isolated from the earth, which can be beneficial in certain applications, such as when connecting to a home electrical system that already has a bonded neutral. In this case, the floating neutral prevents the creation of multiple ground paths, which could lead to electrical hazards.

Bonded Neutral: In a bonded neutral generator, the neutral wire is connected to the ground or earth. This configuration provides a low-resistance path for fault currents, enhancing safety by reducing the risk of electrical shock and fire hazards. The bonding typically occurs at the generator's frame and is required by safety standards, such as the National Electrical Code (NEC).

Operating Guidelines

⚠ WARNING

- NEVER operate the generator inside any building, garage, basement, crawlspace, shed, enclosure or compartment, including a generator compartment of a recreational vehicle.
- NEVER operate or start the generator in the back of an SUV, camper, trailer, truck bed (regular sides, flat or other configuration), under staircases, stairwells, next to walls or buildings or in any other location that will not allow for adequate cooling of the generator or for the proper exit of the exhaust flow from the muffler system.
- DO NOT operate or store the generator in wet weather conditions such as rain or snow. Using a generator in wet conditions could result in serious injury or death due to electrocution.
- In some state's generators may be required to be registered with the local utility company when used at construction sites and may be subject to additional rules and regulations, consult your local municipal authority.
- Generators should always be operated on a flat, level surface (even when not). Generators must have a minimum of 5 feet (1.5 m) of clearance from all combustible material.
- Generators must also have a minimum of 20 Feet of clearance from any windows or doors
- NEVER place the generator near air intake vents or where exhaust fumes could be drawn into occupied or confined spaces. Always carefully consider wind and air currents when positioning generator.
- Always allow generators to properly cool before transport or for storage purposes. Failure to follow proper safety precautions may result in personal injury, damage to the generator and void the manufacturer's warranty