



# Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings

Protecting your community from wildfires

MAY 2023

To help prevent wildfires, we have evolved our safety efforts. This includes installing safety settings on powerlines in and around high fire-risk areas. These are known as Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS), and they help prevent falling tree branches, animals and other hazards from starting a wildfire.

## Safety technology on our powerlines is preventing wildfires

- 1** When an **object strikes the line** or a fault occurs...
- 2** ...safety settings **shut off power within one-tenth of a second.**
- 3** We check the lines for damage before safely restoring power.  
Patrols are done by helicopter, truck or on foot, typically during daylight hours.

For illustrative purposes only. Graphic is not to scale.

## A proven wildfire prevention tool

↓ **68%**

**fewer ignitions in 2022\***

on EPSS-enabled powerlines in High Fire-Threat Districts

\*This measures reportable ignitions to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on distribution powerlines compared to the weather-normalized 2018-2020 average.

SCAN CODE



Learn more about EPSS and support resources at [pge.com/epss](https://pge.com/epss).

## What does this mean for you?

While these enhanced safety settings help keep our hometowns safe from wildfires, you may lose power unexpectedly. We are working hard to reduce the impact of outages.



**Safety settings in action** | When a tree fell on a powerline in Napa County, safety settings helped prevent an ignition.

## How are we improving reliability and safety?

**Our long-term plans will make our system safer and more reliable by:**

- Moving powerlines underground
- Installing stronger powerlines and poles
- Using new technologies to prevent and respond to wildfire risk
- Partnering with top innovators on new safety tools through [XPRIZE.org](https://www.xprize.org)



**We are improving safety technology and reducing outages by:**

- Adjusting the sensitivity of settings
- Installing technology to quickly identify power outage locations
- Improving our patrols to turn power back on faster
- Trimming trees and installing animal guards to help prevent hazards



## How can you stay informed and prepared?

- ✓ Update your contact information for outage notifications at [pge.com/myalerts](https://www.pge.com/myalerts).
- ✓ Find information during an outage at [pge.com/outages](https://www.pge.com/outages).
- ✓ Create an emergency plan for you and your family at [safetyactioncenter.com](https://www.safetyactioncenter.com).
- ✓ Learn more about our wildfire prevention work at [pge.com/cwsp](https://www.pge.com/cwsp).



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