

Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)

SUMMARY

This standard establishes the guidelines for PG&E's Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) Program. This program is intended to protect public safety by allowing our powerlines to automatically turn off power when a hazard is detected. EPSS will be enabled whenever enablement criteria are met. When wildfire risk falls below EPSS enablement criteria, this equipment is returned to normal settings. The device enablement process involves asset strategy and planning, meteorology, engineering, system protection, test and automation, planning, operations, restoration, communications, data and strategy, regulatory and customer support.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Superintendents, Managers and Supervisors of electric transmission and distribution work personnel
- Field employees responding to outage restoration, performing line work, patrolling or inspection
- PG&E electric transmission and distribution control center employees and support personnel
- Substation Test Group
- System Protection Group
- System Automation Group
- Distribution Engineering

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Public Safety Partners
- Agencies/Tribes/Regulators
- Elected Officials
- Community-Based Organizations
- Media
- Coworkers

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REQUIREMENTS

1 Program Objectives

- 1.1 The purpose of EPSS is to mitigate the risk of utility infrastructure contributing to catastrophic wildfire risk by allowing our powerlines to quickly and automatically turn off power when a hazard is detected.
- 1.2 The EPSS program is based on five guiding principles:
 1. Prevent catastrophic ignitions: Mitigate ignitions from PG&E equipment during periods of heightened wildfire risk while minimizing potential public safety impact.
 2. Execute an Enhanced Power Safety Settings (EPSS) program safely for our customers, coworkers and communities.
 3. Enhance efforts to improve the customer experience by improving reliability, mitigating impacts of outages, and providing transparent and timely outreach, education, and support to all stakeholders.
 4. Centralize the governance of EPSS program data to ensure consistency, accuracy, and quality.
 5. Ensure clear documentation of all program criteria and work procedures.

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2 Program Requirements

- 2.1 The procedures governed by this standard must be followed for all occurrences of the activity for which the procedure is written. Since this is a collection of procedures, not all procedures are required for every job scope. Personnel planning, conducting, or overseeing the work are responsible for familiarity with the attached utility procedures and employment of the appropriate procedure(s) for each job. The utility procedures apply to employees, as well as on-site contractors (unless specific alternative requirements are included in the contract) involved in the covered work.

3 Training

- 3.1 Training (SAFE-1503 WBT, "Fire Danger Precautions") targets work personnel working on any forest, brush, or grass-covered lands. This training is profiled to the target audience as mandatory, generally to be completed annually between January 1 and April 1.
- 3.2 Additionally, Engineering and Operational employees may complete role specific training for EPSS specific protocols and processes where needed.
- 3.3 EPSS training may include functional or full-scale exercises.

4 Communication

- 4.1 Communication is critically important to ensuring our customers and stakeholders are aware of the implications of EPSS. The EPSS Project Management Office (PMO) team is committed to providing a robust and timely communications for our customers and hometowns by:
1. Implementing key learnings from message testing and other feedback channels.
 2. Proactively informing customers, stakeholders and coworkers in advance of key milestones.
 3. Improving notification accuracy so customers stay informed.
 4. Informing customers of new and expanded support resources.
 5. Differentiating EPSS from other types of outages, such as Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).
 6. Integrating communications with other wildfire safety programs to give customers the full picture.

5 Roles and Responsibilities

- 5.1 Program Sponsor – Ensures successful delivery of EPSS program of wildfire and ignition mitigation and reduction by appointing team and defining success criteria.

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- 5.2 Program Management Office (PMO) – Drives and coordinates all EPSS related activities and keeps team focused on program goals and objectives consistent with the principles of the Lean Operating System.
- 5.3 Program Advisor – Provides advisory support to PMO with knowledge sharing of best practices and benchmarking standards within and outside of industry.
- 5.4 Safety Section – Ensures and executes all workplans safely for coworkers and communities.
- 5.5 Planning Section – Provides EPSS scope definition, engineering capability and device enablement criteria.
- 5.6 Operations Section – Implement EPSS settings to prevent fires of consequence while minimizing customer reliability impacts. Coordinate with Electric Distribution Operations to ensure patrols and restoration conducted consistent with established targets, and appropriate follow-up conducted on unknown cause outages.
- 5.7 Communications and External Engagement Section – Proactively communicates and engages with coworkers, customers and key stakeholders.
- 5.8 Systems and Data Management Section – Centralizes and governs EPSS program data to support and optimize operations and streamline data request process.
- 5.9 Process Architecture and Organization Section – Provides program and process governance, documentation and administrative support.

6 Compliance with Government Regulations

- 6.1 NOTIFY the CPUC as required when outage(s) occur on EPSS enabled circuits.

7 Records and Retention Requirements

- 7.1 EPSS event specific records are maintained according to Enterprise Retention Schedule per Enterprise Records and Information Management (ERIM) guidance.
 - Event documents related to decision making
 - Event reports
 - Data sets related to EPSS events

END of Requirements

DEFINITIONS

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The director of EPSS is responsible for approving, revising, and distributing this standard.

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GOVERNING DOCUMENT

NA

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT / REGULATORY COMMITMENT

Records and Information Management:

PG&E records are company assets that must be managed with integrity to ensure authenticity and reliability. Each Line of Business (LOB) must manage Records and Information in accordance with the Enterprise Records and Information (ERIM) Policy, Standards and the Information and Records Retention Schedule (Retention Schedule). Each Line of Business (LOB) is also responsible for ensuring records are complete, accurate, verifiable and can be retrieved upon request. Refer to [GOV-7101S](#), "[Enterprise Records and Information Management Standard](#)" for further records management guidance or contact ERIM at Enterprise_RIM@pge.com."

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Developmental References:

Wildfire Mitigation Plan 2022

Supplemental References:

[TD-1470P-01, "Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings \(EPSS\) Enablement Criteria"](#)

[TD-1470P-01, "Attachment 1 Application Guide Profile Device Settings"](#)

APPENDICES NA

ATTACHMENTS NA

DOCUMENT REVISION

Utility Standard TD-1464P-01 Fire Index Patrol and Non-Reclose Procedure

DOCUMENT APPROVER

██████████ VP, Transmission and Distribution System Operations

DOCUMENT OWNER

██████████ Director, Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)

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REVISION NOTES

Where?	What Changed?
NA	New Standard