



## **ELEVATOR SAFETY DURING POWER OUTAGES**

Most elevators will not work during a power outage. Here are a few simple steps that businesses, building managers and occupants can take to reduce the risk of elevator-related incidents during a power outage:

### **Building Occupants**

- **DO NOT** use an elevator if the possibility of rotating outages exists. Know where the stairways are in your building before an outage occurs.
- Know your rotating outage block number, located in the lower left-hand portion of your bill.
- You may not have any notice before an outage occurs; stay tuned to local news for the latest information. Rotating outages can last up to two hours.
- If you are stuck in an elevator during an outage, stay calm and don't panic. Most elevators have phones that connect directly to building maintenance, security or an elevator company.
- **DO NOT** open the doors to crawl out between floors or climb onto the roof of the elevator. Wait for emergency staff who will use proper rescue procedures.
- Once you get off the elevator, do not get back on until the power has been fully restored.
- In many high-rise buildings, elevators return to the first floor during a power outage and stay there. Elevators generally run on backup power to bring people on the upper floors to the lobby.

### **Building Owners/Managers**

- Check all backup power sources regularly to ensure they will work properly during a power outage.
- Check elevator emergency lights, alarms and phones on a regular basis.
- Make sure elevators that rely on computer systems are programmed to operate safely and correctly during a power outage.
- Make sure elevator maintenance and inspections are up-to-date.
- When outages are likely, post warning signs at each elevator bank to limit use.

*To find out more about preparing for power outages and outage safety, visit Pacific Gas and Electric Company's website at [www.pge.com/outagesafety](http://www.pge.com/outagesafety) or call 1-800-743-5000.*



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***Outage Safety  
Fact Sheet***