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a Better California

En español

Bakersfield Power Connect Project Update



PG&E Participates in Latino Food Festival and Menudo Cook-Off to Engage Community about Proposed Project

In June, the Bakersfield Power Connect project team took part in the 18th Annual Latino Food Festival and Menudo Cook-Off at the Kern County Fairgrounds. The Bakersfield Power Connect team was on hand to take part in the local festivities and provide attendees with information on the project.



Put on by the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the festival provided attendees a day full of live musical performances, homemade menudo and jalapeno eating contests, and children's activities. Menudo, a traditional Latino soup made with tripe and red chili, was the focal point of the festival, enticing professional and amateur chefs to test their family recipes in the hopes of being crowned a menudo champion.

The project team provided attendees with informational materials with an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. The PG&E booth attracted an engaged group of festival goers who provided insightful comments on various aspects of the project.

To learn more about the project or provide comments on the project's potential components or locations, please visit our [website](#) and project [comment form](#).

Project Overview

The proposed Bakersfield Power Connect project will provide increased electric reliability for 100,000 electric customers in Bakersfield and the surrounding rural communities of Kern County. The project will include the construction of a new substation, enhancements to existing substations and upgrades to existing transmission lines in the area.

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Kill-A-Watt Devices Help PG&E Customers Save Energy

There is a great way for PG&E customers in Kern County to monitor their household's energy consumption during these hot summer months. Using a Kill-A-Watt meter, an electronic plug-in device, customers can measure their energy consumption and the cost to operate different appliances in their home – from refrigerators and coffee makers to fans and lamps.

"It's a good education tool just to help you understand how much energy these different appliances are using... and then make a wise decision on whether you want to keep them operating," said Dave Christensen, a program manager at PG&E.

Kern County residents can acquire and use the device through a free lending program. PG&E has partnered with the Kern County Library system to provide residents with the opportunity to check out one



of 119 Kill-A-Watt meters in the area for up to three weeks with a valid library card. To learn more about the program or check out the Kill-A-Watt device, please reach out to your local Kern County library and inquire about the Kill-A-Watt lending program.

Emergency Preparedness: Tips and Guidelines

Prepare and practice your plan

Emergencies often occur without warning and it is important your household is prepared for any situation. Use the following guidelines to help you and your household stay safe in the event of an emergency:

-  • Prepare two ways to escape your home. Address accessibility issues when creating escape routes, especially for disabled or elderly household members. Ensure that the children in your household know the safety procedures.
-  • Avoid using on or off switches, appliances, electronics or phones during an evacuation. Electronics can create sparks and ignite in the event of a gas leak.
-  • Keep your pets in mind when planning for emergencies. Include your pets in your practice drills. The practice can help them get used to a leash or carrier during stressful situations.
-  • Establish a location where your family can reunite after evacuating. Decide on a second meeting place, in case the primary location is unusable.
-  • Practice your emergency plan frequently with household members to ensure they become familiar with it.

Evaluate your home

Help ensure that your property and home are prepared for emergencies with the following guidelines:

-  • Know when and how to turn off your electricity and gas at the main switch and valves.
-  • Install smoke alarms throughout your home. Replace your alarms' batteries once a year, at a minimum. Replace the batteries as soon as you hear a beeping warning noise.
-  • Learn how to open your garage door manually. Plan for your door's inability to open automatically during a power outage.
-  • Locate fire extinguishers and learn how to use them before they are needed.

[Learn More »](#)

Learn more at pge.com/bakersfieldpc or by calling 1-888-743-0195 or emailing bakersfieldpc@pge.com.

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