



Together, Building
a Better California

En español

Bakersfield Power Connect Project Update

Ensuring Future Electric Reliability

The proposed Bakersfield Power Connect project is part of our commitment to enhance safety and reliability for more than 16 million customers in California. In Kern, Bakersfield Power Connect will increase the capacity of Bakersfield's electric system and provide new redundancies to help PG&E respond to the area's growing energy demands. The project includes the construction of a new substation, upgrades to existing transmission lines connected to the new substation and improvements to existing substations in the area. By 2023, it is expected that many of the power lines in the area will be beyond capacity. Without new investments in the local electric grid, Bakersfield could face an overloaded electric system, potentially putting the area at risk of widespread power outages.

Project Study Area



PG&E is investing in our infrastructure to meet the growing needs of Bakersfield and Kern County. We are working closely with the local business and civic community to ensure the electric system can accommodate the area's planned growth. If approved, our enhancements to the region's existing electric system through Bakersfield Power Connect will help ensure future electric reliability for about 100,000 residents and businesses in Bakersfield and the nearby rural farming communities.

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Open Houses Provide Opportunity for Community Review and Input

In October, the Bakersfield Power Connect team held our first series of open houses to introduce the project to the community. These events provided the opportunity for community members to discuss details of the project with team members, ask questions and provide feedback. The meetings were held in communities throughout Bakersfield and attracted an engaged group of attendees who provided insightful comments on various aspects of the project, including siting and routing, aesthetics, safety and security, and community outreach.

"Bakersfield Power Connect is essential in PG&E's efforts to accommodate growth in the region. We appreciate the residents who came out to our open houses to talk with our team and learn more about this project and how it will allow us to continue providing our customers with safe and reliable service," said Denise Newton, senior manager of PG&E's Kern Division.

PG&E is committed to engaging with the community in the development of Bakersfield Power Connect, ensuring that the input we receive shapes the decision making process until the proposed project is completed. These



open houses were part of Phase 1 of PG&E's three-part outreach program. Based on field research and the input received during this phase of outreach, PG&E will refine the project study area and identify potential substation sites, which will then be shared with the community through a second round of briefings, workshops and open houses.

In addition to the open houses, the project team met with an advisory group comprised of regional leaders. PG&E has asked these individuals to use their knowledge of local community dynamics to help guide the project through each phase of processing.

Other outreach conducted to date includes development of an interactive website, numerous meetings and briefings with local organizations, and providing information at local events to provide the community with multiple avenues for engaging in the project.

If you were unable to attend the open houses or are interested in learning more about Bakersfield Power Connect, please visit the project website at pge.com/bakersfieldpc at any time or send us an email with your questions to bakersfieldpc@pge.com.

The Power of the Electric Grid

The electric grid in Kern County and across California must adapt and evolve to meet growing demand. Discover the power of electricity and the system it takes to keep your community running.

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Save the Date for January Open Houses

Please join PG&E for the next round of open houses January 13-15 to learn more about the Bakersfield Power Connect project. Members of our team will share new details regarding possible sites and design options for the project and listen to your feedback.

Project Overview

The proposed Bakersfield Power Connect project will include the construction of a new substation, enhancements to existing substations and upgrades to about 30 miles of transmission lines that serve about 100,000 customers in Bakersfield and the surrounding rural and farming communities.

Contact Us



1-888-743-0195



pge.com/bakersfieldpc



bakersfieldpc@pge.com



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