

PSPS Weather Monitoring

NARRATOR: We are continuing to evolve our Community Wildfire Safety program in order to strengthen and improve our electric system for the safety of our customers and communities. High winds can cause tree branches and debris to contact energized electric lines, damage our equipment and cause a wildfire. As a result, we may need to turn off power during severe weather to help prevent wildfires, this is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff. For the safety of our customers and communities, Public Safety Power Shutoff continues to be a necessary tool as a last resort. We know that losing power, however, can be disruptive, that is why we are listening to our customers and finding ways to reduce the impact of Public Safety Power Shutoff events without compromising safety. PG&E has a team of experienced meteorologists who continually monitor the weather for issues that may impact the electric system. This includes monitoring extreme temperatures, storms, and severe weather that can include a wildfire risk. We initiate Public Safety Power Shutoff events when the weather forecast is so severe that peoples safety, lives, homes and businesses may be in danger of wildfires. As each weather situation is unique, we carefully review a combination of factors when deciding if power must be turned off. These criteria generally include low humidity levels, generally 30% and below, a forecast of high winds, particularly sustained winds above 19 miles per hour and wind gusts above 30-40 miles per hour, often occurring during sustained 19 mile per hour winds, condition of dry material on the ground and low moisture content of vegetation, red flag warning declared by the National Weather Service, real-time observations from our Wildfire Safety Operation Center and crews working across the service territory. Our decision-making process also accounts for the presence of trees tall enough to strike power lines when determining if a Public Safety Power Shutoff event is necessary. This set of criteria is a first step which may lead to further analysis from our meteorology team to determine if a Public Safety Power Shutoff event is necessary. To pinpoint how to best prevent and respond to wildfires, we are testing and using new tools and technologies. We are utilizing enhanced risk modeling to better prioritize our wildfire safety efforts and target preventative efforts in the areas and communities at the highest risk. This advanced wildfire risk model allows us to more precisely pinpoint the areas where we should focus our system hardening and wildfire risk reduction efforts. We are also installing additional weather stations and high definition cameras to improve extreme weather forecasting. By the end of 2021, we plan to have 1,300 weather stations total, throughout our service territory, to help us predict and respond to severe weather threats for customer safety. By end of 2022, we plan to have 600 total high definition cameras in our service territory to help improve our ability to respond proactively to severe weather threats. PG&E has a dedicated website with around the clock data streamed in real time from our network of advanced weather stations. The website also includes a seven day forecast for severe weather that might cause a Public Safety Power Shutoff. Visit [pge.com/weather](https://www.pge.com/weather) to see the weather stations in your area. PG&E is also encouraging our customers to go to the Safety Action Center to learn valuable information about wildfire risks and what customers can and should do to keep their home, family or business safe. For the latest on PG&E's wildfire safety efforts and the ways we are improving Public Safety Power Shutoffs, visit [pge.com/psps](https://www.pge.com/psps).