Working Together to Coat Our Towers

For the health and safety of our customers, employees and the environment, Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Tower Coating Program is working to coat all lead-based painted electric transmission towers throughout our service territory with non-lead-based paint.

What is PG&E doing with its towers?

PG&E's transmission towers are critical to our energy infrastructure. To make sure we continue to safely deliver power to customers, our Tower Coating Program proactively protects and maintains transmission towers throughout our service territory. We do this by coating towers with non-lead-based paint to help protect them from corrosion.

We reviewed nearly 46,000 transmission towers across our service territory to determine the coating type. We identified approximately 6,000 towers with lead-based paint and are coating those towers with non-lead-based paint to make them safer and more environmentally responsible for our communities. We are also conducting any minor maintenance or coating work identified during routine inspections on other towers across the service territory.

What does this work involve?

This work involves trained crew members climbing and coating the tower with non-lead-based paint. Crews will use special equipment, hand-held tools and vacuums to complete this work. Each tower typically takes three to five days to coat. Prior to coating the tower, vegetation on or near the tower may need to be trimmed or removed to safely conduct this work.

While work is underway, we will make sure all proper safety measures are in place to protect the health of our customers, workers and the environment. Safety measures include:

- Implementing all necessary COVID-19 measures.
- Removing peeling paint and using vacuums to immediately catch debris as it is removed from the tower.
- Placing tarps under and around the tower to capture any loose paint or debris.
- Ensuring proper disposal of paint debris and plastic tarps.
- Cleaning and inspecting the work area and cloth tarps at the end of each day.

How long will this program take?

We are committed to conducting this work in a safe and timely manner with no interruptions in service and minimal disruption to our customers. Based on our current plan, we anticipate completing the remaining towers in the next few years.

Who will you be using to do this work?

PG&E crews, as well as contractors that have met safety standards required by PG&E, will conduct this important work.