January 2019

As part of our enhanced wildfire safety efforts, implemented following the recent wildfires as additional precautionary measures intended to further reduce wildfire risk, we are conducting accelerated inspections of electric towers and poles in areas at higher risk of wildfire.

What We Are Doing

We are performing both visual and aerial inspections, including using technology such as drones to further enhance and complement the visual inspections. We will evaluate inspection results to determine repair needs and associated timing.

If any issues are found during the accelerated inspections that pose an immediate risk to public safety, we will take action right away to address the issue. When inspections determine that repairs are needed, but there is not an immediate safety risk, we apply California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) guidelines for high fire-threat areas to determine timing.

Frequently Asked Questions

How is this different from your routine maintenance program?

We regularly inspect and maintain all our electric infrastructure, and we take action right away to address any immediate risk to public safety identified through our inspections. In light of the growing wildfire threat, we have enhanced the review criteria we are using for inspections based on a risk-based approach to identify components on electric towers and poles that have an increased risk of potential wildfire ignition.

What type of repairs are you making and how are you determining the timing of necessary repairs?

Repairs will depend on what we observe in the field but could range from installing new signs or electric components to replacing poles or towers. For conditions that do not require immediate action, we will complete the repairs in a timeframe consistent with state standards for high fire-threat areas, which range from 3 to 12 months depending on the nature of the condition and the location.

How will you notify customers if outages are required for repairs?

In many cases, we anticipate being able to plan our work in a way that minimizes customer impacts. This includes performing repair work without de-energizing lines when it is safe to do so, and bundling work that does require maintenance outages. If we need to turn off a line to safely complete the work, we will notify customers via letter seven days prior to any maintenance outages. In some instances, we may need to complete expedited repairs in a shorter timeframe. In these cases, we will aim to notify customers with as much advance warning as possible, through an automated phone call or doorhanger.



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If any issues pose an immediate risk to public safety, we will take action right away to address it. When there is not an immediate safety risk, we will follow state standards for high fire-threat areas, which range from 3 to 12 months.



We will aim to notify customers with as much advance warning as possible through letter, automated phone call or doorhanger.

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