

June 14, 2019

NEWS RELEASE

For Further Information Contact J. Logan General Manager Los Altos Hills County Fire District 650-400-2220 or jlogan@lahcfd.org

On May 29, 2019 PG&E representatives meet with members of the Los Altos Hills (LAH) Town staff and J. Logan, General Manager of the Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD). At the meeting, PG&E presented information about its Community Wildfire Safety Program and the Public Safety Power Shutoff which may occur in communities during times of extreme weather conditions.

PG&E advised that these efforts are initiated to help protect customers and communities during extreme weather events. Electric power may be shut off for public safety in an effort to prevent wildfires. This action is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS).

According to PG&E, communities can expect early warning notification customer alerts, ongoing updates, safety inspections after extreme weather has passed and power restoration. Power outages could last multiple days.

LAHCFD will coordinate efforts with the LAH Town and residents to encourage emergency preparedness in event of PSPS. These emergency preparedness measures are also recommended for preparation in event of evacuations, wildfires, earthquake or other disasters.

To address the effects of a PG&E PSPS or other disaster events, it is important that residents have an **Emergency Preparedness Plan** in place. Such a Plan would:

- 1. Update resident's contact information with PG&E
- 2. Identify backup charging methods for phones and devices. Keep hard copies of emergency numbers
- 3. Plan for medical needs and medications that need refrigeration or devices that require power
- 4. Build or restock emergency kits flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies, cash, identification, important documents
- 5. Stockpile supplies of water and non-perusable foods and necessities
- 6. Plan for the needs of pets and livestock
- 7. Designate an emergency meeting location
- 8. Know how to manually open your garage door
- 9. Ensure any backup generators are ready to safely operate
- 10. Keep all vehicle gas tanks full and no lower than ½ tank of gas
- 11. Identify the unique needs of your family in the area for your emergency plan
- 12. Maintain defensible space around homes and buildings
- 13. Plan and practice evacuation routes

Visit LAHCFD.org and PREPAREFORPOWERDOWN.COM to learn more about the **Power of Being Prepared**.

J Logan

From:

Town of Los Altos Hills < listserv@civicplus.com>

Sent:

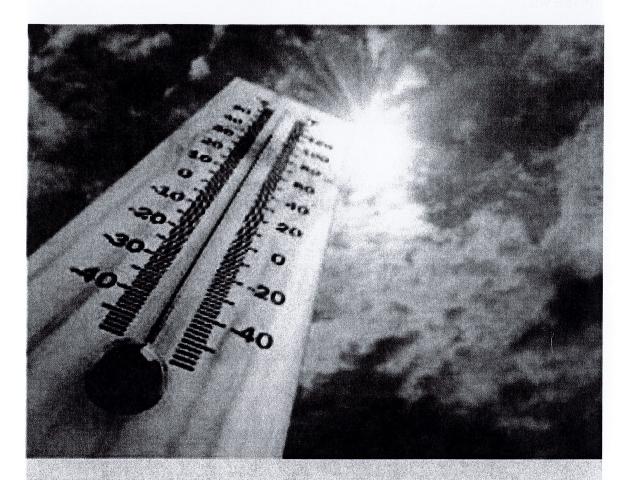
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 3:59 PM

To:

J Logan

Subject:

Public Safety Power Shutoff



Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) have announced that, during certain weather conditions, they will shut down transmission lines that go through areas identified by the CPUC as elevated and extreme fire danger. The transmission lines may also impact areas that are NOT in the fire danger areas.

Once transmission lines are shut down, PG&E must inspect every foot of their lines before turning the power back on. Estimates are that the power could be off between *two to seven days*.

Preparing for extended power outages is not new. We live in earthquake country. Any earthquake could cause an extended power outage. Public Safety Power Shutoffs is just one more reason to prepare a backup power plan TODAY.

Use the resources on this page to prepare your personal response plan.

When will a shutoff occur?

PG&E determines the shutoff in coordination with the National Weather Service to reduce the risk of PG&E lines staring a fire. Criteria is:

- Temperatures over 80 degrees
- Humidity less than 20% and poor overnight recovery from heat
- Winds over 25 mph

PG&E will send an email to all registered customers 48 hours before a planned shutoff and again 24 hours before shutoff. Shutoff involves turning off a transmission line. Transmission lines will shut down the area with a high fire danger and likely the surrounding communities. You may wish to consider following the company's <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> pages.

48 Hours before a shutoff (in the weather changes, notification may be less than 48 hours).

PG&E will:

- Provide a map of the impact area
- Make notifications to
 - Customers in the impacted areas
 - Government and first responders
 - Utilities
- Check on any Medical Baseline customer who does not acknowledge the notification

The Town will:

- · Send out a Nixle message. Sign up here. Or text your zip code to 888777.
- Post information to Social Media (<u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>) and Nextdoor.com
 Additional Resources:
 - Public Safety Power Shutoff: Important Information
 - Prepare for Power Down
 - Los Altos Hills County Fire District Press Release June 14, 2019
 - For more information, please follow this link to the <u>Safety Resources Library</u>

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