

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Public Safety Power Shut Off in Yolo County October 9

(Woodland, CA) – To help reduce the risk of wildfire and keep communities safe, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has planned a Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS), starting as early as October 9 in parts of western Yolo County.

Due to a potentially widespread, strong and dry wind event starting Wednesday morning, there is a potential for a Public Safety Power Shutoff to affect 5,700 Yolo County customers during the period of October 9 - 10 in the areas of Winters, Madison, Esparto, Guinda, Rumsey, Brooks, and Capay. PG&E will attempt to contact residents of these areas via telephone, text and email.

The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services is working with local cities, rural fire districts and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to plan for contingencies should the shut off last for an extended time.

As part of these preparedness efforts, PG&E is asking customers to:

- Update their contact information at <u>http://pge.com/mywildfirealerts</u> or by calling 1-866-743-6589 during normal business hours. PG&E will use this information to alert customers through automated calls, texts and emails, when possible, prior to, and during, a Public Safety Power Shutoff.
- Plan for medical needs like medications that require refrigeration or devices that need power.
- Identify backup charging methods for phones and keep hard copies of emergency numbers.
- Build or restock your emergency kit with flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies and cash.
- Check on family members and neighbors who are elderly, younger children and pets. Information and tips including a safety plan checklist are available at <u>http://pge.com/wildfiresafety</u>.

After the extreme weather has passed and it is safe to do so, PG&E crews will work to visually inspect each mile of the impacted power lines to ensure they are free from damage and safe to energize. Inspections will take place during daylight hours and, in most cases, PG&E expects to be able to restore power within 24 to 72 hours after extreme weather has passed. However, depending on weather conditions or if any repairs are needed, outages (weather event plus restoration time) could last up to five days for full restoration. For planning purposes, PG&E suggests customers prepare for multiple-day outages.

The following are additional resources available to residents:

- Call 2-1-1 for information on local resources
- Visit <u>http://psps.yolocounty.org</u> to see a map of the affected areas
- Follow Yolo County and local city, fire and police pages on social media for updates

The following tips are for residents who use electricity and battery-operated assistive technology and medical devices, such as breathing machines, power wheelchairs, or oxygen, suction or home dialysis equipment:

- Find ways to charge batteries if they are rechargeable
- Store a manual wheelchair for emergency use
- Operate generators in open areas to ensure good air circulation
- Ask your medical provider where to go if your treatment site is closed
- Let the local fire department know if you are dependent on life-support devices
- Contact your power and water provider about life-support device needs

For more information for assistive technology and medical devices, including a checklist, visit: <u>https://www.yolocounty.org/Power-Outage</u>.

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