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PG&E RESPONDS TO SEVERE STORMS



During the week of January 9th, PG&E experienced severe weather. This weather event brought more than 4 feet of snow to the mountains, wind gusts of up to 70 mph, and heavy rains producing floods mudslides. The storms caused widespread power outages from the Central Coast to the Valley floor to the highest peaks of the Sierra – over 680,000 sustained customer interruptions. The heavy snow, significant flooding and road closures challenged the restoration effort.

PG&E Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Evermary Hickey stated, “Overall, we were able to safely and effectively restore approximately 97% of customers within 24 hours of their outage, in part due to the assistance of our mutual assistance partners.” During one of the severest storms to hit our service area in a long time, we are thankful for CUEA leadership and members for their response to our need for crews throughout our service territory. “We are very pleased to not have had any major safety incidents from both home and assisting crews. Thank you again for your assistance; we stand ready and willing to assist you when the need arises.”, stated Evermary Hickey in closing.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Winter Storms	1
SCE Functional Exercise	2-3
Blue Cut Fire	4-5
CESA Conference	5
CEC Fuel Meeting	6
CUEA Board Officers	6
OES Prep Day	7
CUEA Committees	8

Are you ready for the next storm?

Here are some easy ways to prepare and tips to keep in mind before the next big storm.

- Prepare an emergency kit with a flashlight, batteries, bottled water, non-perishable food, blankets, warm clothing, first aid kit and other items you might need for several days.
- Monitor local news and weather stations for updates.
- Pay attention to alerts and warnings from authorities.
- If you don't have to go out, stay home.
- Use extreme caution around downed trees and slow down for debris in the street.
- Treat all non-working traffic signal lights at intersections as stop signs.
- Avoid all downed power lines and objects touching them. Report downed lines to your local authorities.
- Keep pets inside and ensure they have shelter from the elements.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON FULL-EXERCISE—NOVEMBER 2, 2016

Contributed by Daniel Stevens, SCE Training & Exercise Program Manager



Introduction to Resilient Grid III

Southern California Edison's (SCE's) *Resilient Grid III Exercise Series* was comprised of five exercises, culminating in a Full-Scale Exercise (FSE) that tested SCE's prevention, protection, response, and recovery capabilities, both internal to SCE and with respect to SCE's coordination with external partners. The exercise addressed notification, incident escalation, and activation plans as they relate to contending with the cascading effects of changing environmental conditions. The FSE simulated wildfires, landslides, and extreme heat that threatened facilities, personnel, and continuity of business operations. Simulated impacts included disruptions to transmission and service, damage to infrastructure (e.g., hydroelectric dams), and evacuation of SCE personnel and the public.



Climate Change Focus

SCE recognizes the risks that climate change—including prolonged droughts, mudslides and landslides, tree mortality and wildfires, and rising sea levels—poses to critical infrastructure and the electrical grid. These factors drove the design of the FSE, as SCE seeks to understand and mitigate the environmental impacts on SCE's service territory. The FSE also included long-term climate change discussions, with a particular focus on enhancing coordination between government and private sector stakeholders.

Resilient Grid Exercise Series Background

The *Resilient Grid Exercise Series* is an annual exercise program that supports SCE's emergency preparedness and business resiliency goals. *Resilient Grid* enables SCE to measure the effectiveness of its training and preparedness efforts as well as identify gaps and opportunities for improvement in preparation for real-world events. The exercise series assesses gaps and shortfalls within plans, policies, and procedures prior to a real-world incident, helping SCE address areas for improvement before a real-world incident occurs.

Participant Roles

Stakeholders participated in various roles at different levels across their organizations.

Role	Description
Player	Participate in exercise conduct. Perform regular duties and function without prior knowledge about the exercise scenario.
SimCell	Represent non-playing organizations from the Simulation Cell at SCE during exercise conduct. Take actions and make decisions on behalf of simulated organizations in accordance with SCE and stakeholder emergency plans and policies.
Evaluator	Measure and assess player performance during exercise conduct and assist with identification of player strengths and areas for improvement.
Observer	View the exercise during conduct from designated observation areas.
Senior Leader Roundtable	Facilitated executive-level discussion among federal, state, local and private sector officials during the exercise. Focuses on broader policy issues around changing environmental conditions impacting the electrical grid.

Continued on page 3

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON FULL-EXERCISE—NOVEMBER 2, 2016

Continued from page 2

Exercise Objectives

The FSE examined the following exercise objectives:

Communications Coordination: Assess the ability of SCE response teams and departments to (1) develop and share internal messaging information about known threats, incidents, cascading impacts, and SCE activities, and (2) identify, prioritize, and coordinate with appropriate external partners and stakeholders—including key messaging—in accordance with the SCE response plans. Ensure the ability to develop and distribute targeted messages to tailored stakeholders in specific areas.

Incident Escalation and Activation Process: Assess SCE's ability to recognize the appropriate thresholds and undertake the necessary actions to transition from a prevention/protection posture to an integrated response/recovery structure during severe weather incidents.

Prevention and Protection Activities: Assess the ability of SCE response teams, departments, and districts/regions to undertake prevention and protection activities to safeguard SCE's infrastructure and personnel.

Response and Recovery Coordination: Assess SCE's ability to use the response structures and emergency management procedures, including relevant plans and policies, to coordinate among SCE response teams and departments to conduct enterprise-wide response and recovery activities during severe weather incidents.

Senior Leader Decision Making: Assess the Crisis Management Council's ability to obtain and process situational awareness from internal and external sources to conduct timely corporate-wide policy decisions to enable SCE's emergency management activities.

Exercise Scenario Threads

The FSE scenario contained multiple threats and hazards:

Large Wildfire in Sequoia National Park

Wildfire threatens and damages SCE infrastructure

Series of Small Wildfires within SCE Service Territory

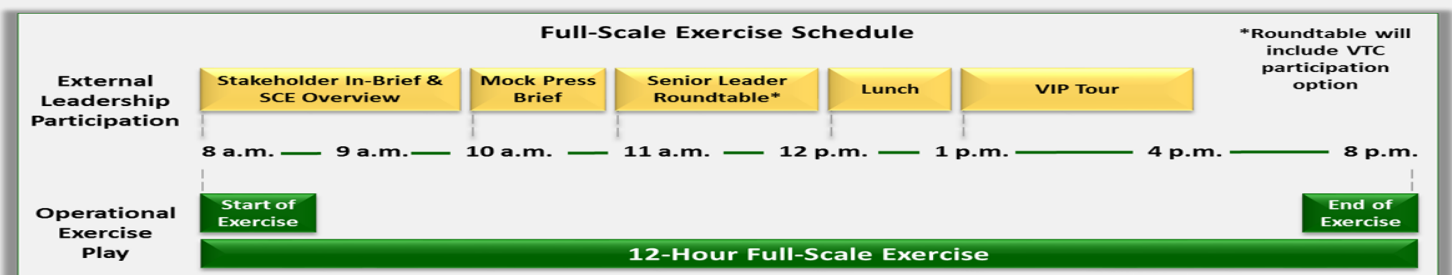
Small wildfires threaten and/or damage SCE hydroelectric infrastructure, customer service call centers, and transmission and distribution lines

Landslide and Cascading Effects

Landslides disrupt transportation routes and/or damage SCE infrastructure

Transmission and Service Disruption

Combined scenario effects threaten the bulk electric system, with potential regional and national impacts



CUEA UTILITIES MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE BLUE CUT CAJON PASS FIRE

The **Blue Cut Fire** was a wildfire in the Cajon Pass, northeastern San Gabriel Mountains, and Mojave Desert in San Bernardino County, California. The fire, which began on the Blue Cut hiking trail, was first reported on August 16, 2016 at 10:36 a.m., just west of Interstate 15. A red flag warning was in effect in the area of the fire, with temperatures near 100 °F and winds gusting up to 30 miles per hour.

CUEA activated the Utility Operations Center (UOC) to provide a multi-utility response comprised of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Southern California Edison (SCE), California Department of Water Resources (DWR), Verizon Wireless, AT&T, Golden State Water (GSW), Southwest Gas (SWG) and Kinder Morgan Pipeline. Our CUEA members were supported directly by San Bernardino County Office Emergency Services; San Bernardino County Department of Public Health; American Red Cross; Cal Fire; California Highway Patrol; San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department; Caltrans and CalOES.

CUEA member infrastructure sustained significant damage during this fire, SCE had 550 poles, 76 transformers, 4 overhead switches and 200,000' of primary wire lost. Verizon Wireless had 5 cell sites impacted along with 6 AT&T sites; LADWP substantial conductor damage to both of the Victorville Century 287.5 kV transmission lines that run through the area. These are very important transmission lines that serve the City of Los Angeles and run from the Victorville Switching Station to Receiving Station "B" known as the Century Station. These two (2)



transmission lines were constructed during the building of the Hoover Dam and were placed in service in 1936. LADWP is replacing more than 120,000 feet of conductor and over 250 insulators at an estimated cost of at least \$4.3 million.

Other CUEA members stood up to support our utilities, fire suppression and life safety missions, GSW manned their Wrightwood Facility, in the City of Wrightwood, provided Fire Suppression support to local fire fighters in that community. SWG site (Wagon Wheel Tap) located on Wagon Train Road near the northeast intersection of Interstate 15 and U.S. Highway 138 was proactively turned off due to the speed and direction of the flames which posed a significant threat to surrounding infrastructure.

DWR provided the US Forest Service a helicopter base set up on a hill just south of Devil

CUEA UTILITIES MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE BLUE CUT CAJON PASS FIRE

Continued from page 4



Canyon where they were deploying 8 helicopters in use to fight the fire. CUEA utilities deployed generators for Kinder Morgan to keep them operational, several deployed mobile command centers, and provided direct support to the all the railroads running through the pass. SCE deployed staff (John Chappell) to support the UOC operation.

Fire officials declared the devastating wildfire fully contained Tuesday, August 23. The fire damaged area had grown to 37,020 acres, destroyed an estimated 105 homes and 213 other structures in San Bernardino County and now ranks as the 20th most destructive wildfire in state history.

CUEA is proud of its total commitment by all our members when faced with challenges like the Blue Cut Fire; this demonstrates our value to the community, our stakeholders and the state.



CUEA ATTENDS THE CESA 2016 ANNUAL TRAINING AND CONFERENCE



Don Boland of CUEA attended the California Emergency Services Association (CESA) conference from October 4th – October 7th. The theme for the 2016 conference was *“Surfing the Waves of Emergency Management”*.

Over 220 members attended the 4-day annual event at the beautiful Sheraton Marina Hotel in San Diego. The agenda included 25 different breakout sessions. Speakers presented information on a wide-ranging variety of topics. San Bernardino presented five sessions on different aspects of the Waterman Incident. A panel of Emergency Managers from the Bay Area participated in a lessons-learned discussion about planning for the Super Bowl 50 event in Santa Clara this past February. Several CUEA members attended this event. PG&E was chosen to receive the Gold Award, the highest award presented by CESA. The Director of Cal OES, Mark Ghilarducci, provided his State-of-the-State Address. The 2017 CESA Conference will be held October 9th-12th at Yosemite National Park.

WESTERN REGIONAL EMERGENCY FUEL COORDINATION MEETING

The California Energy Commission has been charged with establishing a “Fuel Task Force” that will undertake the task of developing a matrix of fuels that will be needed to meet the state fuel demand in a catastrophic event. The Petroleum Fuels Set-Aside Program is a formal allocation program used to ensure fuel supplies are available to emergency responders during a widespread or prolonged shortage. This formal program is implemented at the direction of the Governor only after proclamation of a state of emergency. In addition, the Governor must officially sign and announce Emergency Order No. 6 which empowers the Energy Commission to "hold control of petroleum stocks" as needed to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the public. California Utilities Emergency Association is the only non-government member of this task force.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) and National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) hosted an Emergency Fuel Coordination Meeting for Western states and industry partners on September 28 - 30, 2016, at the CEC offices (located at 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814). This meeting was a unique opportunity for state and industry partners in the West to work towards the development of more coordinated, detailed, and effective energy emergency response plans.

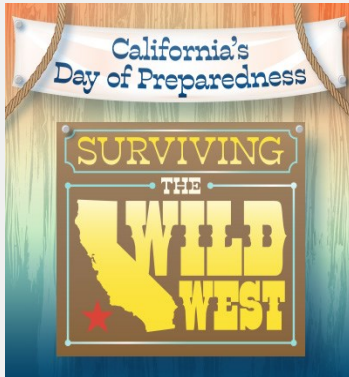
The purpose of this meeting was to explore how states might develop more comprehensive plans to respond to fuel shortages and was intended to help set the stage for the creation of model plans that can be used by states in the Western region to update their energy assurance plans. The meeting also explored how states can make better use of data and analysis through the use of energy market indicators to provide a more consistent picture of the consequences and better situational awareness and built off of the work completed by NASEO over the past two years as part of the DOE's State Energy Risk Assessment Project as well as the state and regional risk assessment profiles and Energy Risk Resources Library which was developed by DOE under this effort. Finally, the meeting provided participants with an opportunity for discussions on the various types of federal, state, and local jurisdiction waivers that can be used to increase fuel supplies and diminish panic-buying in the aftermath of a regional catastrophic event that results in a fuel shortage for the southwestern United States.

CUEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CUEA Board of Directors installed a new Board of Officers at their September 21, 2016 meeting for the 2016/2018 term. Verizon Wireless represented by Lowell Handy was installed as the new Chair, East Bay Municipal Utility District represented by Steve Frew was elected to Vice Chair and Southwest Gas represented by Sam Grandlienard was elected to Secretary/Treasurer. CUEA extends its sincere thanks to Brent Yamasaki, Metropolitan Water District outgoing Chair and Shane Chapman, Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD outgoing Secretary/Treasurer for their support, guidance and service during the last term.

PG&E JOINS CALIFORNIA DAY OF PREPAREDNESS

Reprinted from PG&E Website By Matt Nauman



The 11th annual California Day of Preparedness took place in Old Sacramento on Saturday, August 27th. Staged by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), the event was sponsored by PG&E. With a theme of "Surviving the Wild West," the Day of Preparedness felt like a summer festival or county fair. There were food trucks, a mascot, costumed cowboys and British bobbies and an earthquake simulator. And although the 5,000 or so who attended had a great time, the underlying message was serious: Disasters or emergencies can strike at any time so you need to be prepared.

PG&E offered lots of examples of what preparedness looks like. One of the biggest was its 39-foot-long Mobile Command Vehicle, which functions as an emergency control center with 12 work stations, eight video monitors and high-tech communication and mapping capabilities that can roll to the site of a disaster, such as a wildfire. PG&E offered tours of the vehicle.

Also on display was a huge bucket truck used for major restoration jobs, a Picarro gas-leak detection vehicle and a truck used to locate and mark underground utilities. (PG&E calls this its 811 vehicle as a reminder to customers to call 811 two days before any digging project.)

As usual, gas and electric demo boards that showed how to safely interact around the company's facilities proved very popular with kids of all ages.

Besides vehicles and demo boards, PG&E staffed booths with information about how the company is battling the drought, about its largest-in-the-nation hydropower system and even answered customer questions about bills.



Michael Velasquez, a principal in PG&E's emergency preparedness and response department, joined Mark Ghilarducci, the Cal OES director, on stage to talk about the importance of getting ready before a disaster happens.

"Whether it's an earthquake, storm or wildfire, PG&E wants our customers and all Californians to be safe, and we want to help them get their lives back to normal following a natural disaster," Velasquez said.

And just like PG&E plans, prepares and practices its readiness, Velasquez said customers need to do the same by taking actions like creating a family emergency plan and keeping adequate supplies and emergency kits on hand.



Pam Perdue, a PG&E public safety specialist, staged a demonstration of what to do should a vehicle should it come in contact with a live electric wire.

PG&E was joined at the event by dozens of law enforcement and public safety agencies. The California Day of Preparedness served as a kickoff for National Preparedness Month, which takes place each September.

CUEA STANDING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE'S

ENERGY AND PIPELINE COMMITTEE

Committee members meet quarterly to assess current and potential issues, which could impact the dependability of energy supplies within the operational systems and vulnerabilities within the organizations continuity plans. As a result the committee has shared successes and experiences relating to emergency preparedness issues such as Employee Emergency Preparedness Programs, lessons learned and newly innovative programs such as Nationwide Security Identification for First Responders and Credentialing of First Responders. Through invaluable information sharing and implementation of updated notification protocols, the Energy Committee is dedicated to ensuring that California is able to meet energy demands and protect its most critical infrastructure. Rod Wheeler from CAISO is the Chair of the committee. Danny Zaragoza of SDG&E serves as the Co-Chair. If you are interested in being a part of the energy committee, please contact Jenny Regino at jenny.regino@caloes.ca.gov or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518.

TRAINING & EXERCISE COMMITTEE

The Training and Exercise Committee was formed to research, review and develop courses to heighten awareness of and offer education relating to the emergency management field. Karla Tejada of Golden State Water has volunteered to Chair this committee. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Jenny Regino at jenny.regino@caloes.ca.gov or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518.

Also, if you have any upcoming exercises or training that you would like to have posted on the CUEA website, send them to jenny.regino@caloes.ca.gov.

WATER & WASTEWATER COMMITTEE

This committee has been diligent in its efforts to strengthen the water/waste water emergency response community. The ongoing information sharing between member organizations has proved to be of great value. Exchanging best practices, lessons learned, and emergency related templates between organizations have led to improved processes within the water/waste water arena.

Steve Frew of East Bay Municipal Utility District serves as the Chair of this committee and holds quarterly conference calls to focus on Water security, preparedness, and response. Committee members exchange information on how their companies are dealing with theft, protection of sensitive information, as well as upgrades to security policies and technology. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Steve Frew at steven.frew@ebmud.com or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518.

ALERT



REPRESENTING:
POWER-GAS-TELECOM
WATER/WASTEWATER

WWW.CUEA.ORG

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES AND/OR PICTURES FOR OUR NEXT
SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER BY 6/15/17:
JENNY.REGINO@CALOES.CA.GOV

BOARD MEMBERS ONLY
NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MARCH 16, 2017
10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
CAL OES HEADQUARTERS, MATHER

**CUEA WELCOMED ONE NEW
MEMBER
IN THE THIRD QUARTER**

AMERICAN WATER

SAVE THE DATE
CUEA 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
CAL OES, MATHER

JUNE 22, 2017