

SCE is preparing for El Niño in the Santa Barbara Area

Weather forecasters are predicting record El Niño storms. Severe weather could impact Southern California Edison's (SCE) entire service territory. There are unique circumstances in Santa Barbara that, when coupled with a strong El Niño season, could present heightened risks for an outage. SCE is planning and preparing for the storms, and becoming ready to respond to any potential impacts to our electric system.

Our planning and preparation efforts to address the unique circumstances in the Santa Barbara area include:

Physical Preparations:

- Completing a hazard analysis of the entire Santa Barbara area and identifying specific areas where we are taking steps to mitigate the impact of potential outages.
- Pre-positioning multiple mobile generators at certain key substations to provide temporary, emergency power. SCE will install these generators starting in mid-December, in time for potential 2016 storms, and they will remain in place only through the storm season.
- Securing additional generation in Goleta with NRG, owner and operator, of the Ellwood Generating Station. The Ellwood Generating Station would only produce power when needed and could play a valuable role if a loss of transmission capacity occurs.
- Assessing the landslide risk for various locations along the lines, and performing ongoing inspections and monitoring of our towers that will continue throughout the rainy season, as well as conducting pre-storm preventative maintenance.
- Adhering to a robust maintenance and inspection schedule for SCE's facilities and equipment throughout the area.

Preparing to Respond:

- Outreaching to the Santa Barbara Emergency Response Organization and the California Office of Emergency Services to review our planning efforts.
- Interacting with local emergency responders, including the Santa Barbara Emergency Response Organization to share our preparedness efforts.
- Participation in a June 12, multi-jurisdictional Coastal Trident drill with the county of Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Management. This drill allowed us to test emergency response efforts in partnership with several government agencies and private companies.
- Implementing the Incident Command System — a standard, widely used emergency response system — to respond to and manage business disruptions and to improve our integration with first responders. In the Santa Barbara area, we have set up specialized response teams familiar with the technical challenges we face in that area and have those teams "on call" to ensure we can support sustained operations around the clock if needed.

To Report Downed Wires Call 911
To Report an Outage Call 1-800-611-1911

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Our planning and preparation efforts include:

Physical Preparations:

- Completing a hazard analysis across our service territory. The analysis identified specific areas where we are taking steps to mitigate the impact of potential outages.
- Evaluating alternate operating locations and assessing inventory levels of equipment, materials and personnel. This includes the inventory of towers, poles, transformers and batteries that run key systems in our substations.
- Conducting frequent inspections of our equipment and facilities that may be susceptible to expected hazards. This will include post-storm inspections that will help us prepare for repeated weather events and quickly correct any new concerns.
- Increasing our tree trimming and brush clearance activities over the past two years in response to the state's drought condition. This activity will continue throughout the storm season.
- Clearing storm drains in and around our substations and service centers and testing sump pumps.

Preparing to Respond:

- Creating a plan that outlines how we will organize and respond to severe weather events such as El Niño.
- Implementing the Incident Command System — a standard, widely used emergency response system — to respond to and manage business disruptions and to improve our integration with first responders.
- Meeting and working with representatives from emergency response organizations across our service territory and the California Office of Emergency Services to review our planning efforts.

- Having SCE meteorologists provide real-time weather conditions to the company to help with resource planning and personnel deployment.
- Conducting additional severe weather training for appropriate personnel.

Educating Our Customers:

- Utilizing SCE.com to provide customers with severe weather preparedness information, safety tips and actions they should take to prepare for severe weather and the possibility of service outages.
- Using social media — [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SCE), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SCE) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/SCE) — to educate customers on severe weather preparedness and provide them with safety tips.
- Educating customers on downed wire safety through an ongoing advertising campaign.
- Running a series of El Niño stories on our external [Inside Edison](http://InsideEdison.com) website. Customers can learn about SCE's preparedness efforts and actions they can take to prepare for severe weather and the possibility of weather-related service outages.
- Creating an outage alert system (email, voice and text) that gives customers current outage information, including status updates and restoration times. In early 2016, all customers should be able to enroll to receive alerts by logging onto their account at SCE.com.
- Including severe weather preparation information on customers' bills.
- Working with the American Red Cross in partnership on preparedness efforts to educate seniors, the medically sensitive and the disabled about safety during outages and emergency backup plans.