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October 30, 2018

Ms. Elizaveta Malashenko  
Director, Safety and Enforcement Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**SUBJECT: SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (SDG&E) DE-ENERGIZATION  
REPORT**

Dear Ms. Malashenko:

In accordance with Ordering Paragraph (OP) 2 of Decision 12-04-024 and Section II.A of CPUC Resolution ESRB-8, SDG&E is submitting this report in response to the De-Energization Events that occurred in SDG&E's service territory on October 15–16, 2018. As noted in the reporting requirements, this report has been verified by an SDG&E officer in accordance with Rule 1.11 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Tim Lyons at 858-654-6403, or at [TLyons@semprautilities.com](mailto:TLyons@semprautilities.com).

Sincerely,

/s/ Clay Faber  
Clay Faber  
Director — Regulatory Affairs

## **SDG&E Report on De-Energization Events: October 15–16, 2018**

The following report is submitted in response to the De-Energization Events that occurred in SDG&E's service territory on October 15–16, 2018. SDG&E hereby submits this report to the Director of Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) and includes the following information pursuant to Decision (D.)12-04-024 and Section II.A of CPUC Resolution ESRB-8.

### **1. Explanation of SDG&E's decision to de-energize**

#### **Response:**

The decisions to de-energize for public safety were made at SDG&E's Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which was fully staffed by a cross-functional team of electric operations, customer service, safety, engineering, external affairs, communications and other personnel, as well as a designated Officer-In-Charge (OIC). The EOC was activated at 0600 Monday, October 15, 2018 in response to a Red Flag Warning (RFW) weather event effective at 0300, on Monday, October 15, 2018 declared by the National Weather Service (NWS). SDG&E activates the EOC to provide response coordination, ensure there is informed decision-making, coordinate customer, agency and elected official notifications, and coordinate as-needed logistical support.

Official NWS forecasts indicated gusty winds up to 55 mph in wind-prone areas of San Diego County. SDG&E's meteorologists' forecasts were similar, predicting wind gusts of 45 to 55 mph across the backcountry with isolated higher gusts to near 70 mph at Sill Hill. The RFW, in combination with available data and real-time observations of vegetation moisture levels and weather conditions, indicated an elevated threat of large and destructive wildfires with rapid rates of spread and long-range spotting should an ignition occur. SDG&E determined that conditions warranted de-energizing certain facilities which might otherwise provide a source of ignition of a fire.

### **2. All factors considered by SDG&E in its decision to de-energize, including wind speed, temperature, humidity, and vegetation moisture content in the vicinity of the de-energized circuits.**

#### **Response:**

The decisions for SDG&E to de-energize circuits and tie lines were made due to extremely high winds and associated fire danger given the extremely low humidity and dry fuel conditions at the time, among other factors. In each of these events, SDG&E carefully reviewed the situation and ultimately decided to de-energize to protect public safety and longer-term system reliability. Key bases for these decisions included:

- The RFW issued by the NWS indicated that the combination of strong winds and low relative humidity would result in critical fire weather conditions with the potential for extreme fire behavior;
- The Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index (SAWTI) was rated Marginal ("Upon ignition, fires may grow rapidly.");

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- The Storm Prediction Center’s Fire Weather Outlook indicated critical fire weather conditions for portions of the SDG&E service territory;
- The Fire Potential Index (FPI) was Extreme, indicating the potential for large fires should an ignition occur;
- Live Fuel Moisture values were critically dry (~55%) and Dead Fuel Moisture values were low;
- Recorded wind gusts along the de-energized circuits were in the 40s, 50s, and/or 60s. A peak wind gust of 67 mph was measured along one of the de-energized circuits;
- Real-time observer reports confirming wind-based conductor movement and at least one fallen tree branch;
- Fire-suppression-air resources could be unavailable due to high winds and time of day;
- Accessibility could be constrained should an ignition occur;
- The outages could be targeted to minimize impacts to customers;
- A review of active outages on SDG&E’s system; and
- Infrastructure in temporary configurations due to construction activities.

**3. The time, place, and duration of the event and whether the areas affected by the de-energization are classified as Zone 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 as per the definition in General Order 95, Rule 21.2-D.**

**Response:**

Please see below for each separate De-Energization Event.

Circuit	Communities	Start Date / Time	Final restoration	GO 95, Rule 21.2-D
TL 682	Rincon*	10/15/2018 10:06	10/16/2018 12:30	2 & 3
214	Rincon/La Jolla Indian Reservation/Hellhole Canyon	10/15/2018 10:28	10/15/2018 17:33	3
TL 626	Descanso*	10/15/2018 16:20	10/16/2018 20:02	3
79	Viejas/W Descanso/Boulder Creek	10/15/2018 21:45	10/16/2018 9:09	3

\*SDG&E de-energized TL 682 and TL 626 with no customer impacts. No prior notification was needed regarding these lines because there were no public impacts.

**4. The number of affected customers, broken down by residential, medical baseline, commercial/industrial, and other.**

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### Response:

Summary of SDG&E De-Energized Circuits with Customer types

Circuit	Start Date / Time	Total # Out	Residential	Commercial / Industrial	Medical Baseline	Other
TL 682	10/15/2018 10:06	0	0	0	0	0
214	10/15/2018 10:28	360	288	72	9	0
TL 626	10/15/2018 16:20	0	0	0	0	0
79	10/15/2018 21:45	19	10	9	2	0

SDG&E's De-Energization Events affected approximately 379 customers.

**5. Describe any wind-related damage to SDG&E's overhead power-line facilities in the areas where power is shut off.**

### Response:

SDG&E crews patrolled the de-energized lines to ensure safe operating conditions prior to re-energization. Crews found no wind-related damage.

**6. Provide a description of the customer notice and any other mitigation provided by SDG&E. If SDG&E was unable to provide customers with notice at least 2 hours prior to the event, explain.**

### Response:

- SDG&E proactively reached out to customers who were affected by the event. Outreach was made via outbound dialer, email, mobile email/text messaging and personal phone calls. Helpful information was also shared via social media.
- One custom message and two standard messages were used to communicate with customers impacted by the public safety power shut-off. There was also a standard message sent to all customers located in extreme weather conditions areas with a Red Flag Warning. Please see Attachment 1.

**7. The address of each community assistance location during a de-energization event, describe the location (in a building, a trailer, etc.), describe the assistance available at each location, and give days and hours that it was open.**

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### Response:

SDG&E sent emails to coordinators at its Community Resource Centers (CRC) in anticipation of potential activations but did not activate any of its CRCs during this event.

### 8. The local communities' representatives SDG&E contacted prior to de-energization and the date on which they were contacted.

### Response:

3. The following representatives were notified of the potential de-energization on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:43AM:

Organization	Title
Alpine Chamber of Commerce	Executive Director
Alpine Community Planning Group	Chair
Alpine Fire Protection District	Fire Chief
Barona Fire Department	Fire Chief
Boulevard Community Planning Group	Chair
Cal Fire Monte Vista Emerg. Command Center	Distribution email
Cal Fire	Battalion Chief
Campo Reservation Fire Protection District	Fire Chief
Campo/Lake Morena Community Planning Group	Chair
Cleveland National Forest	Division Chief
County of San Diego	Supervisor - District 2
County of San Diego	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego	Supervisor - District 5
County of San Diego	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego	Chief Administrative Officer
County of San Diego	Public Works Director
County of San Diego	Sheriff
County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services	Distribution email
County of San Diego Sheriff's Communications Center	Distribution email
County of San Diego Sheriff's office	Deputy & Lieutenant
East County Chamber of Commerce	Chief Executive Officer
East County Economic Development Council	Chief Executive Officer
Julian Chamber of Commerce	Office Manager
Julian Community Planning Group	Chair
Julian Cuyamaca Fire Protection District	Battalion Chief
North County Fire Protection District	Fire Chief/CEO
North County Fire Protection District	Division Chief

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Organization	Title
San Diego North Economic Development Council	Chief Executive Officer
Santa Ysabel Reservation Fire Department	Fire Chief
State Legislator	Assemblymember - District 75
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
State Legislator	Communications Director
State Legislator	Senator - 38th District
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
State Legislator	Deputy Chief of Staff
State of California	Assemblymember - District 71
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
Valley Center Chamber of Commerce	Executive Director
Valley Center Fire Protection District	Chief
Valley Center Fire Protection District	Division Chief, Emergency Operations
Viejas Reservation Fire Department	Fire Chief

A notice was provided on 10/15 at 11:33 am to the following representatives. Our team is modifying the distribution procedures to provide such notices with more lead time.

Organization	Title
Alpine Community Planning Group	Chair
American Red Cross	Regional Disaster Officer
American Red Cross	Disaster Program Manager
American Red Cross	Regional Planning & Recovery Manager
Borrego Spring Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Boulevard Community Planning Group	Chair
Bonsall Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Campo/Lake Morena Community Planning Group	Chair
Camp Pendleton Fire Department	Operations Chief
Camp Pendleton Fire Department	Fire Chief
CAL FIRE Monte Vista Emerg. Command Center	Distribution email
CAL FIRE Monte Vista Emerg. Command Center	Battalion Chief
CAL FIRE	Deputy Chief North Operations
CAL FIRE	Division Chief
CAL FIRE	Fire Protection
City of Escondido Fire	Distribution email
City of San Diego	Fire Chief
City of San Diego	Deputy Fire Chief
City of San Diego Fire Department	Distribution email
City of San Diego	Police Chief
Cleveland National Forest	Division Chief
Cleveland National Forest Emergency Command Center	Distribution email

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Organization	Title
County of Orange Office of Emergency Management	Distribution email
County of San Diego - District 1	Supervisor
County of San Diego - District 1	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego - District 2	Supervisor
County of San Diego - District 2	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego - District 3	Supervisor
County of San Diego - District 3	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego - District 4	Supervisor
County of San Diego - District 4	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego - District 5	Supervisor
County of San Diego - District 5	Chief of Staff
County of San Diego	Chief Administrative Officer
County of San Diego	Media & Public Relations
County of San Diego	Public Works Director
County of San Diego	County Surveyor
County of San Diego	Sr. Civil Engineer
County of San Diego	Sheriff
County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services	Distribution email
County of San Diego Sheriff's Communications Center	Distribution email
County of San Diego Sheriff's office	Deputy & Lieutenant
Crest, Dehesa, Granite Hills, Harbison Canyon Community Planning Group	Chair
Cuyamaca Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Fallbrook Community Planning Group	Chair
Hidden Meadow CSG	Chair
Heartland Fire	Distribution email
Heartland Fire	
Jacumba Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Jamul Dulzura Community Planning Group	Chair
Julian Community Planning Group	Chair
Lakeside Community Planning Group	Chair
North County Distch JPA (North Comm)	Group distribution email
North County Distch JPA (North Comm)	Administrator
North County Distch JPA (North Comm)	Administrative Manager
North County Fire Protection District	Fire Chief/CEO
North County Fire Protection District	Division Chief - Operations
Pala-Pauma Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Pine Valley Community Planning Group	Chair
Potrero Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Rancho Santa Fe Assn.	Manager
San Dieguito Community Planning Group	Chair
State Legislator	Assemblymember - District 76

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Organization	Title
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
State Legislator	Senator - 38th District
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
State of California	Assemblymember - District 75
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
State Legislator	Communications Director
State of California	Assemblymember - District 71
State Legislator	Chief of Staff
Sweetwater Community Planning Group	Chair
Tecate Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Twin Oaks Valley Community Sponsor Group	Chair
Valle De Oro Community Planning Group	Chair
Valley Center Community Planning Group	Chair

**9. Summarize the number and nature of complaints received as the result of the de-energization event and include claims that are filed against SDG&E because of the de-energization.**

**Response:**

SDG&E has received two food-only claims for this event. The customers did not report the amounts.

SDG&E received one complaint related to this event and it can be summarized as follows: unhappy about the de-energization because of safety concerns due to lack of power and lack of information. SDG&E also received positive feedback from at least one agency for the pre-notification email they received.

**10. Provide detailed description of the steps taken to restore power.**

**Response:**

- 1) Meteorology forecasted wind gusts had peaked and were trending downward;
- 2) Full patrol of the de-energized distribution circuit or transmission tie-line to inspect for damages;
- 3) Electric Troubleshooter, observer, and/or line crew on-site during re-energization process;
- 4) Contract Fire-Fighting Resources (CFR) on-site during re-energization process;
- 5) Checked and ensured all personnel were in the clear before re-energization;
- 6) Approval by OIC to restore device/circuit/tie-line; and
- 7) Electric Distribution Operations/Electric Grid Operations notified EOC of time re-energization was completed.



## **SDG&E Report on De-Energization Events: October 15–16, 2018**

### **11. Include any other matters that SDG&E believes are relevant to the Commission's assessment of the reasonableness of SDG&E's decision to de-energize.**

#### **Response:**

Prior to and during the Red Flag events the week of 10/15, SDG&E identified various electric facilities that were considered to be under a temporary construction configuration as part of the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) project. One 69kV transmission line (TL682) and portions of one 12kV distribution circuit (214) were two such facilities that were in a temporary configuration and de-energized during the Red Flag events. The temporary configuration of these facilities contributed to the decision to de-energize during the Red Flag. Below is a brief description of the locations of the temporary configuration:

#### **TL682 CNF Work:**

- Portions of TL682 were reconfigured for construction from Rincon Substation to Warners Substation.
- Distribution Circuit 214 was reconfigured for construction from Rincon Substation to structure Z118084.

Field advisors, who were overseeing the construction work which resulted in the temporary configurations, collaborated with our Transmission Construction and Maintenance group ahead of the Red Flag Event consider the risk based on the condition of the infrastructure. Based on the information regarding the locations of temporary construction configurations and the wind-speed concerns by our field experts, SDG&E Emergency Services was able to determine which circuits had the highest risk for potential fire ignitions due to damage caused by wind. The EOC was able to overlay real time meteorological data in relation to these temporary construction configurations in order to increase situational awareness and decision-making power when considering de-energizing facilities.

**SDG&E Report on De-Energization Events: October 15-16, 2018**

**VERIFICATION**

I am an officer of the applicant corporation herein, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. I am informed and believe that the matters stated in the foregoing document are true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018, at San Diego, California.

/s/ Katherine Speirs  
Katherine M. Speirs  
Vice President, Electric System Operations  
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

8330 Century Park Court  
San Diego, CA 92123

**SDG&E Report on De-Energization Events: October 15-16, 2018**

**Attachment 1**

**Communication Dates, Times, and Type**

## SDG&E Report on De-Energization Events: October 15-16, 2018

Date/Time	Sectionalizing Device	No. Customers	No. MBL	Message/Reason
10/15/2018 10:30	214-581R	360	13	PSPS
10/15/2018 12:00	79-799R	19	2	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	358-682F	185	6	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	441-23R	88	5	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	217-983	78	2	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	220-294R	301	5	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	441-25R	109	5	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	79-685R	94	0	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	445-23R	347	20	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	79-673R	94	4	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	1030-987	33	3	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	440-13R	266	3	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	212	620	17	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	214	875	13	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	217	1216	30	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	442	855	48	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	1215-12R	148	6	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 12:00	TM1-10R	31	2	Red Flag Warning
10/15/2018 18:00	214-581R	360	13	PSPS Restore
10/16/2018 8:00	79-799R	19	2	PSPS Patrols Start
10/16/2018 9:15	79-799R	19	2	PSPS Restore