

Energy Update

connected *to safety*

For faster disaster recovery, prepare your business now

The better you prepare your business for emergencies today, the sooner you're likely to be back to work after a fire or other disaster.

You'll find useful tools and information online at ready.gov/business, including guidelines for developing an emergency response plan and a business continuity plan. The ready.gov site is part of a year-round public service campaign of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Steps you can take for fire safety

In California, September is also the traditional start of the fire season. Though fires can happen anytime, the risk goes up with the arrival of hot, dry Santa Ana winds in the fall. Here are a few steps you can take to help make sure your business is ready in case of wildfires and other emergencies:

- Have a written emergency response plan that covers what to do in case of fire at your

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facility, including safe evacuation of visitors, and relocation of operations critical to your company's survival.

- Regularly practice emergency procedures with employees to review roles and responsibilities, and improve the plan.
- Test and inspect your fire alarm system regularly as required by law and your insurance carrier.
- Follow state and local fire codes for designing, building and maintaining commercial structures to protect people and property.
- Stock your facility with emergency supplies, including three days' worth of food and water in case you and your employees need to stay put. ■



Developing an emergency response plan is one of the first steps you can take to help prepare your business in case of fires and other disasters.

Fire safety for the community

To help protect people, property and power lines in case of wildfires, we work year-round on our **Community Fire Safety Program**. For example:

- **Our 135 weather stations** form one of the nation's largest weather networks, monitoring fire risks such as wind speed.
- **Steel poles now stand** where more than 2,000 wood poles

used to carry electric lines in fire-prone areas.

- **Up to eight fire engines** and crews are on standby for rapid response to hazardous conditions.
- **New mobile emergency command centers** provide field support.
- **Smart switches** on more than 160 electric circuits – including

remote-controlled switches in high-risk areas – improve safety and reliability.

- **New laser technology** helps us scan overhead power lines to pinpoint and prevent potential problems, such as outages or sparking wires. ■

▶▶▶ For more info, visit us anytime at sdge.com.



Talk about the weather: Meteorologists forecast fire risk

Connect with us on LinkedIn

Now you can connect with SDG&E through LinkedIn, the professional networking site, at sdge.com/linkedin.

LinkedIn gives you a way to see SDG&E job openings, company news, and information about company programs. In addition, our LinkedIn page has information about the latest seminars and workshops where you can learn about energy-efficiency options and best practices for your business, and discover new ways to reduce costs. ■



Upgrade your facility with 0% financing

Don't let cash-flow challenges stop you from improving your facility's energy efficiency. If your upgrades qualify for SDG&E rebates or incentives, you also may qualify for an interest-free loan through On-Bill Financing. This 0% financing appears in monthly installments on your SDG&E bill. For details, visit sdge.com/obf. ■

NOTE: These programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Everyone talks about the weather. Meteorologists put the science of weather into action. At SDG&E®, two meteorologists use the latest high-tech tools to monitor and analyze potentially hazardous weather conditions that can affect your electric service. Their work is an important part of SDG&E's Community Fire Safety Program for preventing or limiting power outages in case of wildfires and keeping the public safe.

"We provide detailed weather forecasts for the many microclimates across our service area. This information helps our electric system operators deliver a reliable product safely," explained Brian DAgostino.

He and Steven Vanderburg spend most of their time in SDG&E's central weather facility. There, a virtual kaleidoscope plays across multiple computer screens in colorful, ever-changing displays of atmospheric conditions, wind speeds, humidity and temperatures throughout our 4,100-square-mile service area and surrounding regions.

"We own and operate one of the largest and most sophisticated weather networks in the United States," noted Vanderburg. This network:



SDG&E senior meteorologists Brian DAgostino, left, and Steven Vanderburg monitor and analyze data on wind speed, temperature and humidity that comes from a network of 135 weather stations such as this one in San Diego's back country.

- **Features 135 fixed weather stations**, eight portable weather stations and six back-country weather cameras that stream live video back to the central control center.
- **Reports weather data every 10 minutes**, producing 130,000 data points daily.
- **Supports better decision-making** for electric grid operations.

"We also work closely with the National Weather Service, several fire agencies and local universities to better understand fire weather behavior in Southern California," said DAgostino. He hopes such gains in knowledge lead to "a safer environment for all of us." ■

Online resources at the ready

In case of regional power emergencies, the state may call for rotating outages. We offer resources at sdge.com to help you be prepared, including:

Generator tips at a glance: An electric generator can help keep essential equipment running during a power outage. For an overview of generator types, sizes, options to

consider and safety tips, visit sdge.com/chooseagenerator.

Outage updates: To find out if your area is subject to an upcoming outage, visit sdge.com/outagestatus and enter your service address in our new look-up tool. ■

