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A.08-12-021  
REG 10-12

November 3, 2017

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, SDG&E is submitting this report in response to the De-Energization Events that occurred in SDG&E's service territory on October 23-25, 2017. 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 of TL 626 and Circuit 79 on October 23, 2017**

The following report is submitted in response to the De-Energization Events that occurred in SDG&E's service territory on October 23-25, 2017. SDG&E submits this report to the Director of Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) and includes the following information pursuant to Decision (D.)12-04-024.

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

#### **Response:**

SDG&E de-energized certain facilities, described below, on October 23, 2017, due to fire risk. Fire conditions at the time were very serious and posed a risk to public safety.

### **2. All factors considered by SDG&E in its decision to de-energize, including visual observations by pre-positioned and mobile field personnel where possible, wind speed, temperature, humidity, and vegetation moisture content in the vicinity of the de-energized circuits.**

#### **Response:**

A significant and long-duration Santa Ana Wind event impacted southern California resulting in the issuance of a Red Flag Warning from 0600 Sunday 10/22 through 1800 Wednesday 10/25. This Red Flag Warning was accompanied by very critical fire weather conditions consisting of record heat, gusty winds, and very low humidity, which peaked in intensity on Monday and Tuesday. Winds at the Sill Hill Weather Station along circuit 79 and TL 626 showed and overall deterioration in fire weather conditions through the day Sunday, and experienced its first peak on Monday morning (10/23), when wind gusts in excess of 50mph were measured between 08:00 and 10:00 with a peak gust of 57mph recorded at 09:20. Winds subsided Monday afternoon, then increased again Monday night into Tuesday with wind gusts in excess of 50mph measured between 22:40 Monday night and 12:20 Tuesday with a peak gust of 59 mph recorded at 02:10 (10/24). Forecasts indicated that winds could reach 70mph. Temperatures during this time fluctuated between 81 and 84 degrees Fahrenheit with relative humidity of 13%-16%. Live fuel moisture measurements last obtained in late August indicated vegetation moistures were a critical 54%.

The US Forest Service warned: that other Santa Ana wind events earlier in the month had left fuels very dry throughout the region; precipitation from the past winter led to an above normal grass crop, posing a risk for fire to easily spread, particularly when hot and windy; the 100 hour dead fuel moisture levels were expected to hit record low levels in coming days; the 10 hour dead fuel moisture was expected to drop down into the 3-5% range by Monday afternoon.

## **SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79 on October 23, 2017**

### **3. The time, place, and duration of the event.**

#### **Response:**

- a. Circuit 79
  - i. Location of Circuit 79: North Descanso – Stallion Oaks North to Boulder Creek; including Cuyamaca Peak.
  - ii. De-energization of Circuit 79: 10/23/17 at 09:20
  - iii. Re-energization of Circuit 79: 10/23/17 at 15:26
  - iv. Duration of de-energization event: 6 hours and 6 minutes
- b. TL 626
  - i. Location of TL 626: Lake Cuyamaca, Boulder Creek, Descanso, Guatay
  - ii. De-energization of TL 626: 10/23/17 at 09:26
  - iii. Re-energization of TL 626: 10/25/17 at 12:15
  - iv. Duration of de-energization event: 50 hours and 49 minutes
- c. Circuit 79
  - i. Location of Circuit 79: North Descanso – Stallion Oaks North to Boulder Creek; including Cuyamaca Peak.
  - ii. De-energization of Circuit 79: 10/23/17 at 22:54
  - iii. Re-energization of Circuit 79: 10/25/17 at 12:23
  - iv. Duration of de-energization event: 37 hours and 29 minutes

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

#### **Response:**

Circuit 79 (both de-energization events):

- a. Residential: 60 customer accounts;
- b. Medical Baseline: 1 medical baseline account customer;
- c. Commercial and Industrial: 31 customer accounts;
- d. Other: 0;
- e. Total: 87 customers with 91 accounts;

TL 626:

- a. Residential: 1 customer account;
- b. Medical Baseline: 0 medical baseline customers;
- c. Commercial and Industrial: 1 customer account;

**SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79  
on October 23, 2017**

- d. Other: 0;
- e. Total: 1 customer with 2 accounts;

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

**Response:**

No wind-related damage was found.

**6. Provide a description of the customer notice and any other mitigation provided by SDG&E.**

**Response:**

The customers in the area were notified about the potential for de-energization during this Red Flag Warning.

SDG&E provided several notifications to the customers as follows:

- October 22nd: A day-ahead notification was made to all of the customers as soon as SDG&E's forecasts showed potential wind gusts to exceed 50 mph.
- October 23rd: A day-of notification was made to customers as soon as it seemed imminent that wind gusts may exceed design criteria.
- October 23rd: Customers were notified when power was restored.

**7. 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:**

SDG&E's response was targeted to areas of concern. The affected customers received prior notice.

## 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 3rd day of November 2017, at San Diego, California.

/s/ Katherine M. 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 of TL 626 and Circuit 79  
on October 23, 2017**

**Attachment 1**

**De-Energization Documentation – Circuit 79 at 09:20**

## SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79 on October 23, 2017

### Safety De-Energization Document

**Date and Time:** October 23, 2017/0936

**Circuit \_79\_** Sectionalizing Device \_\_\_673R\_\_\_ – De-energized at 0926 hrs \_87\_ customers affected.

**Communities Affected:** Lake Cuyamaca, Boulder Creek, Descanso and Guatay

**Anemometer:** Sill Hill

**Wind Speed:** 57 mph at time of de-energization

**Humidity:** 11%

**LFM:** 55%

**FPI:** 16

**Area fuels**

Type: Grasses and brush

Quantity: Light to Moderate

**Observer report**

**Debris:**

Have you observed any debris being carried by the wind? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**Vegetation:**

Have you observed any damage or significant impacts to the vegetation? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**System:**

Have you observed significant conductor/system movement? ☒ No ☐ Yes  
if so, where

**Active fires?** ☒ No ☐ Yes - If so, where:

**Active Outages?** ☐ No ☒ Yes if so, where: 1 non-weather related outages in Oceanside, San Lius Rey and Ocean Hills. 1 non-weather related outage in Rancho Del Rey, Eastlake, Otay Reservoir, Otay Lake, Otay Mesa

**Air resources available:** ☐ No ☒ Yes

**Comments: Other considerations:**

Church Fire is currently contained at 100 acres and is in mop-up stages. The Church Fire had been an active fire days prior to the current event and during the current event, SDG&E Fire Coordination, in consultation with responding fire agencies, did not determine it to be an active fire due to containment categorization and it was in the final stages of mop-up.

**Contributors:** Clark Oliver and John Sowers (Officer In Charge)

**SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79  
on October 23, 2017**

**Attachment 2**

**De-Energization Documentation – TL 626**

## SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79 on October 23, 2017

### Safety De-Energization Document

**Date and Time:** October 23, 2017/0926

**Tie Line \_\_626\_\_ and Circuit 238** – De-energized at \_0926\_ hrs \_1\_ customer (2 meters) affected.

**Communities Affected:** Lake Cuyamaca, Boulder Creek, Descanso and Guatay

**Anemometer:** Sill Hill

**Wind Speed:** 57 mph at time of de-energization

**Humidity:** 11%

**LFM:** 55%

**FPI:** 16

**Area fuels**

Type: Grasses and brush

Quantity: Light to Moderate

**Observer report**

**Debris:**

Have you observed any debris being carried by the wind? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**Vegetation:**

Have you observed any damage or significant impacts to the vegetation? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**System:**

Have you observed significant conductor/system movement? ☒ No ☐ Yes  
if so, where

**Active fires?** ☒ No ☐ Yes - If so, where:

**Active Outages?** ☐ No ☒ Yes if so, where: 1 non-weather related outages in Oceanside, San Lius Rey and Ocean Hills. 1 non-weather related outage in Rancho Del Rey, Eastlake, Otay Reservoir, Otay Lake, Otay Mesa

**Air resources available:** ☐ No ☒ Yes

**Comments: Other considerations:**

Church Fire is currently contained at 100 acres and is in mop-up stages. The Church Fire had been an active fire days prior to the current event and during the current event, SDG&E Fire Coordination, in consultation with responding fire agencies, did not determine it to be an active fire due to containment categorization and it was in the final stages of mop-up.

**Contributors:** Clark Oliver and John Sowers (Officer In Charge)

**SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79  
on October 23, 2017**

**Attachment 3**

**De-Energization Documentation – Circuit 79 at 22:54**

## SDG&E Report on De-Energization of TL 626 and Circuit 79 on October 23, 2017

### Safety De-Energization Document

**Date and Time:** October 23, 2017/2259hrs

**Circuit \_79\_** Sectionalizing Device **\_673R\_** – De-energized at 2254hrs 87 customers affected.

**Communities Affected:** Lake Cuyamaca, Boulder Creek, Descanso and Guatay

**Anemometer:** Sill Hill

**Wind Speed:** 56 mph at time of de-energization

**Humidity:** 12%

**LFM:** 55%

**FPI:** 15

**Area fuels**

Type: Grasses and brush

Quantity: Light to Moderate

**Observer report**

**Debris:**

Have you observed any debris being carried by the wind? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**Vegetation:**

Have you observed any damage or significant impacts to the vegetation? ☒ No ☐ Yes - if so, where

**System:**

Have you observed significant conductor/system movement? ☒ No ☐ Yes  
if so, where

**Active fires?** ☒ No ☐ Yes - If so, where:

**Active Outages?** ☐ No ☒ Yes if so, where: 1 weather related outage impacting 1 customer in the community of Santa Ysabel/Wynona/Pine Hills. Tie Line 626 was de-energized for safety at 0926 this morning and remain de-energized.

**Air resources available:** ☐ No ☒ Yes

**Comments: Other considerations:**

Fuel moisture is low (55%); sustained winds gusts have been increasing over the past 2+ hours at Sill Hill weather stations and other locations with forecasts to increase overnight (potentially to 70mph); humidity dropping; fire potential index is at 15. A Red Flag Warning declaration remains in effect until 1800hrs on 10/25/17.

**Contributors:** Zoraya Griffin and Katie Speirs (Officer In Charge)