To help ensure the safety of our communities, SCE makes it a top priority to work with designated critical facilities and critical infrastructure providers to help assess their resiliency and access to backup power, should they experience an electrical outage.

Entities designated as critical facilities and critical infrastructure are essential to public safety and include government and emergency services agencies, healthcare facilities, water service agencies and telecommunications carriers such as wireless carriers and wired network providers.

Ensuring critical infrastructure providers have outage resiliency plans in place is central to providing customers with services during emergency conditions such as earthquakes and wildfires as well as outages related to weather conditions, such as from lightning, high heat or windstorms. High winds and dry conditions in high fire risk areas may also create the need for SCE to implement Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) to protect communities from potential wildfires.

But having resiliency plans in place is not just critical during large-scale emergencies or for PSPS outages. It is also important all year-round to address electrical outages for needed maintenance as well as outages that can occur from equipment damage due to more common issues such as debris or animals in power lines or due to traffic collisions.

**CALIFORNIA RESILIENCY REQUIREMENTS**

In 2021, the California Public Utilities Commission imposed additional resiliency requirements on telecommunications providers. Wireline and wireless carriers are required to have 72-hour backup power to maintain a minimum level of service and coverage during disasters or power outages in the state’s high fire risk areas. This can include using battery technology or generators at key facilities to maintain service to customers in wildfire-prone areas of the state.

In order to assist with the implementation of their resiliency power backup plans, SCE provides advance notice to telecommunications providers of any scheduled maintenance outages and, where possible, provides location and timing information ahead of potential PSPS outages.

**SUPPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS**

Over the last several wildfire seasons, SCE has worked with telecommunications providers to identify circuits and equipment locations that are at risk for PSPS outages to assist carriers in backup power deployment. SCE also provides carriers priority advance notice of PSPS events and access to SCE’s secure Public Safety Partner Portal, which includes updated and detailed PSPS event information during events, when the weather conditions allow. This helps carriers deploy their backup power resources ahead of possible outages.

However, electrical emergencies take many forms and, by definition, can come without warning. SCE cannot guarantee advance notice for all outages. In the case of PSPS conditions, sudden changes in weather conditions may not allow for advance notice in all cases, making carrier advance resiliency planning all the more important.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Information regarding PSPS events is available at sce.com/PSPS. For additional information related to critical facilities and critical infrastructure resiliency support, please visit sce.com/CFCI.

Please visit the CPUC website to learn more regarding telecommunication resiliency requirements cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/service-quality-and-etc/communications-network-resiliency.