



*Cal* OES

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

# The State's Response to PSPS

**Eric Lamoureux**

Acting Deputy Director, Response Operations



# Public Safety Power Shutoffs – Why?

## TOP 20 MOST DEADLY FIRES

Rank	Fire	Cause	Year	Acres	Deaths
1	Camp	Powerlines	2018	153,336	85
4	Tubbs	Electrical	2017	36,807	22
11	Redwood Valley	Powerline	2017	36,523	9
15	Atlas	Powerlines	2017	51,624	6
20	Laguna	Powerlines	1970	175,425	5

## TOP 20 MOST DESTRUCTIVE FIRES

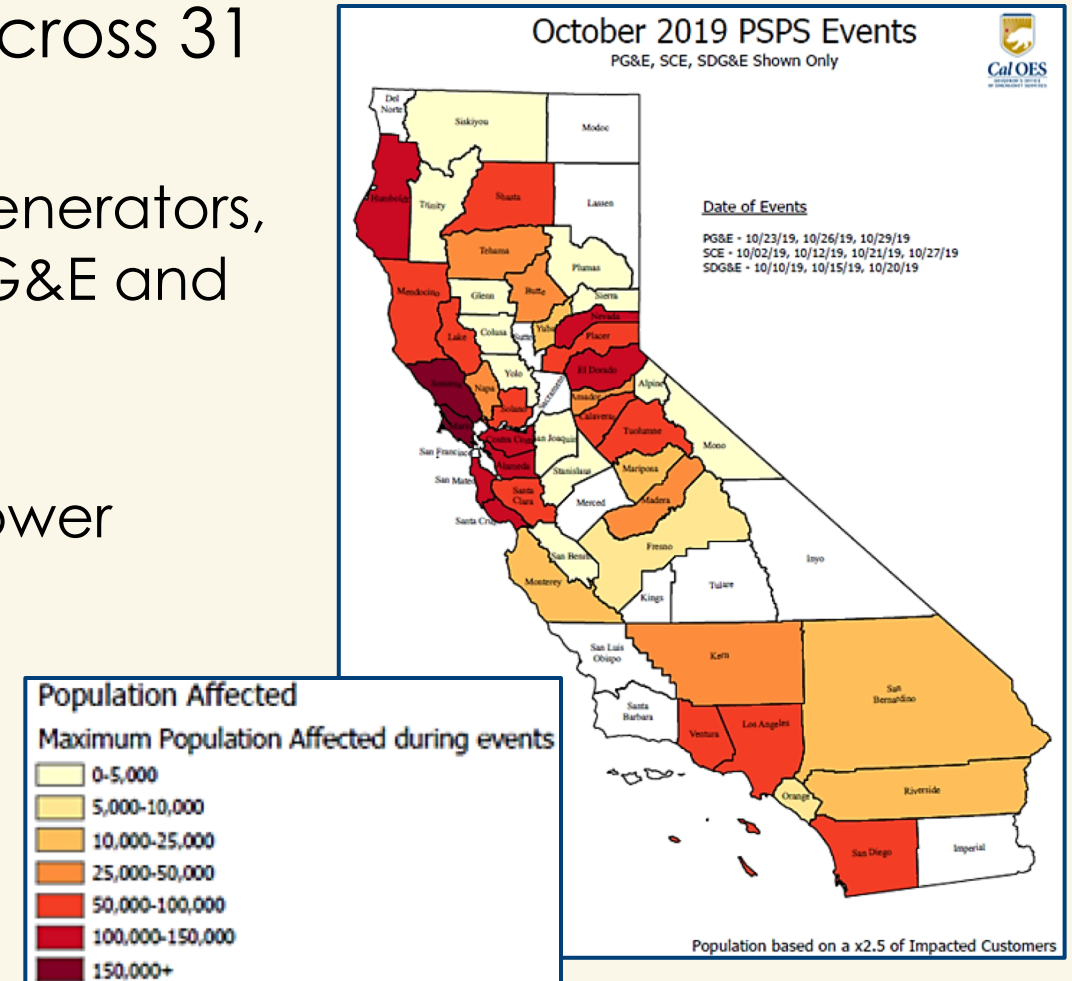
Rank	Fire	Cause	Year	Acres	Structures
1	Camp	Powerlines	2018	153,336	18,804
2	Tubbs	Electrical	2017	36,807	5,636
5	Valley	Electrical	2015	76,067	1,955
6	Witch	Powerlines	2007	197,990	1,650
9	Nuns	Powerlines	2017	54,382	1,355
10	Thomas	Powerlines	2017	281,893	1,063
13	Butte	Powerlines	2015	70,868	921
14	Atlas	Powerlines	2017	51,624	783
18	City of Berkeley	Powerlines	1923	130	584
20	Redwood Valley	Powerline	2017	36,523	546

**25% of California's most deadly and 50% of the most destructive fires caused by electrical equipment**



# October 2019 PSPS Impacts

- 940,000 customers (connections) across 31 counties impacted
  - Cal OES facilitated the delivery of 47 generators, including 17 generators provided by PG&E and 12 generators provided by FEMA
- Approx. 1,670 cell sites impacted
  - 700 sites operational due to backup power generation
  - 970 sites went down
- 564 schools closed due to PSPS outage
  - 171,955 students affected

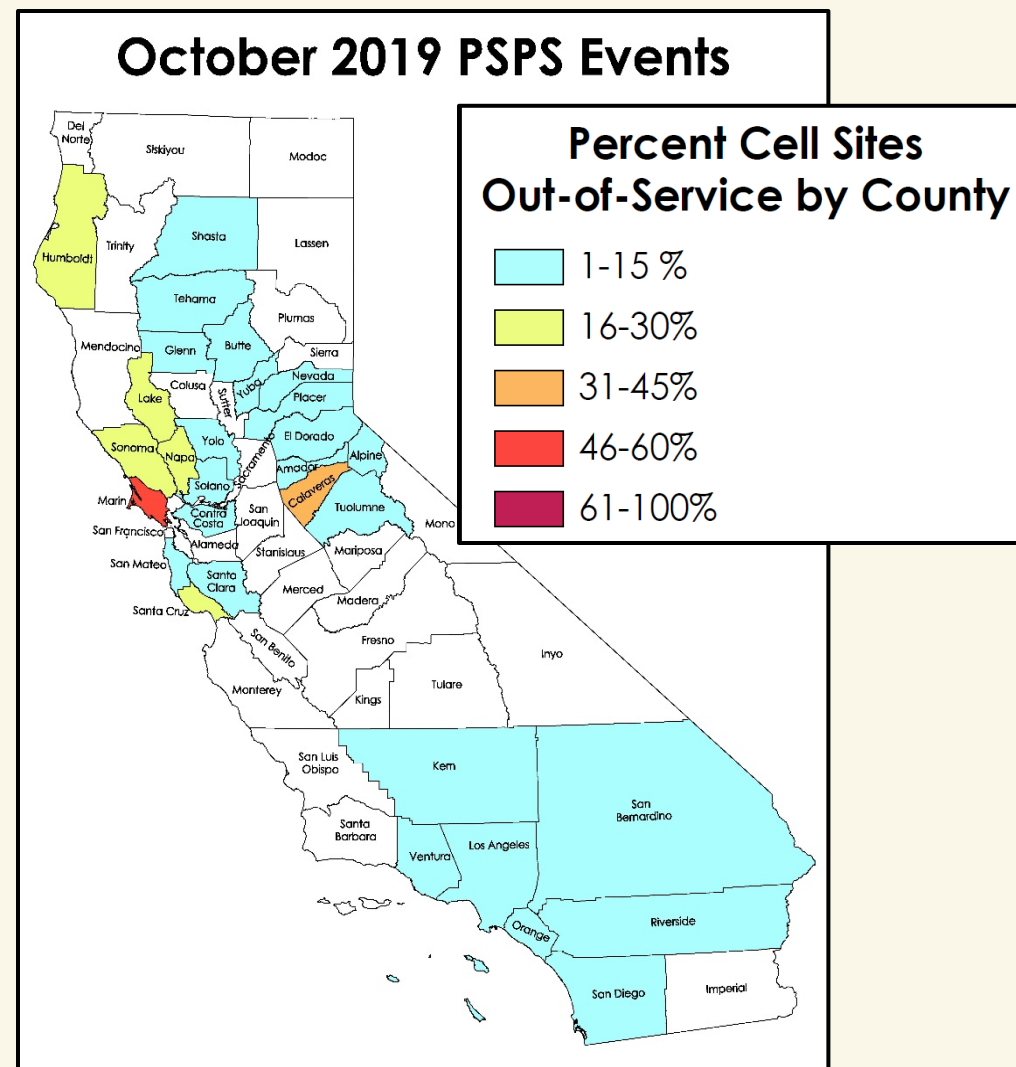




# October 2019 PSPS and Telecommunications

## NO POWER AFFECTS PHONE SERVICE

- In October 2019 PSPS events, the prolonged power outages caused cell towers to go down.
- State operations were impacted.
  - Challenges receiving information from the field and telecommunication service providers.
- Without access to a working cell phone, many Californians are limited in their ability to access life saving assistance and information.





# Cal OES - Notification & Coordination

- Utilities make the PSPS notifications to the California State Warning Center (CSWC)
- CSWC makes internal notifications as well as notifies key agency partners
- Cal OES staff coordinates with utilities to prepare for de-energization and re-energization
  - If the event is large in scope and impact, this may lead to a State Operations Center (SOC) activation



# What Are Utilities Doing to Make PSPS Better?

- Community Resource Centers and Vehicles
- Exercises
- New grid technology
- Improved communication processes
- Hardening of the electric system
- Accelerated inspections of electric infrastructure
- Enhanced vegetation management around power lines
- Real-time monitoring and situational awareness tools



**Cal OES participates in Utilities' PSPS planning and response processes to ensure they work for California**



# What Is Cal OES Doing to Make PSPS Better?

- Engaging with Utilities to address:
  - Public education
  - Their decision-making
  - State and local government notification
  - Execution of PSPS events
- Creating new standards and policies for Utilities and telecommunication service providers
- Working with CSAC and the League to ensure local elected officials are informed
- Implementing new technologies (infrared)



# 2019 and 2020 Resiliency Grants

- FY 2019-20 - \$75 M
  - Counties \$26M (58 recipients) for EOC continuity of operations, mobile generators, subgrants to political jurisdictions, and more.
  - Cities \$10M (39 recipients) for power back-up solutions—including solar-powered and energy-efficient mobile generators—for wastewater treatment plants, freshwater pumping stations, shelters, cooling centers, senior care facilities, Veteran's halls, public transit facilities, etc.
  - Tribes \$1.5M (18 recipients) for power back-up solutions for tribal community centers, freshwater and wastewater treatment plants, EOCs, emergency planning, etc.
  - State Agencies \$37.5M (8 recipients) for portable solar/battery back-up power units, resources to support mass care and shelter, resiliency planning for schools, communications tower back-up power, etc.
- FY 2020-21 - \$50 M - TBD



# Questions?



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Acting Deputy Director, Response  
Operations

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

[LegislativeAffairs@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:LegislativeAffairs@caloes.ca.gov)