



U.S. Department of Energy
Emergency Support Function 12

California Wildfires Situation Report # 9

October 27, 2007 (12:00 PM EDT)

http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/emergency_sit_rpt.aspx

Highlights:

- As of 1:23pm EDT October 27, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has reported 23 total wildfires that have burned over 504,000 acres in Southern California since October 20. Currently, there are 9 active wildfires and 14 fires that have been contained. The fires have destroyed homes, businesses, and property from south of San Diego to north of Los Angeles.
- As of 1:00am EDT (October 27), there are 11,490 customers without power in California due to the fires and earlier high winds. This is a decrease from the 16,290 customers without power reported yesterday (See Situation Report #8) and represents less than 1 percent of the total customers in California. San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) stated that outage numbers may increase as customers return to their homes and notify the utility they are without power.

California Electricity Outages by Utility

Electricity		
Impacted Utility	Electric Customer Outages	% Customers Without Power
San Diego Gas & Electric	10,500	0.8%
Southern California Edison	990	0.0%
CALIFORNIA TOTAL:	11,490	0.1%

Total state and utility customers are based on 2006 EIA Customer Data.

Note: due to a large number of service providers, including investor owned utilities and cooperatives, the number of customer outages reported may not be comprehensive.

Sources:

San Diego Gas and Electric as of 1:00am EDT (Oct 27) <http://sdge.com/fires/utilityUpdate.shtml>

Southern California Edison as of 10:30am EDT (Oct. 25) <http://www.sce.com/safety/events/windstorm.htm>

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as of 1:23am EDT (Oct 27), <http://www.fire.ca.gov/index.php>

- The California Independent System Operator Corporation (CA-ISO) reported at 8:15pm EDT last night (October 27) that the San Onofre nuclear generating unit should synchronize to the electric grid at 8:30pm EDT and the unit will ramp up to full power by this morning (October 27).
- CA-ISO stated at 5:00pm EDT yesterday (October 26) that since the fires began more than two dozen transmission lines have been out of service at one time or another. Over one 24-hour period, several 230kV lines that link Southern California Edison (SCE) and SDG&E at the San Onofre nuclear power plant tripped in and out of service at least 25 times. SDG&E and SCE crews worked in coordination with the ISO control rooms in Folsom and Alhambra to get the transmission system functional again.



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- At 1:00am EDT (October 27), SDG&E estimated that some customers will not have power restored until November 11. A full list of estimated dates for restoration can be found at <http://outages.sdge.com/publicOutageWeb/servlet/OutageList>.
- Yesterday, (October 27) SDG&E provided generators to return power to Ramona's water-treatment facility.
- SDG&E reports that service technicians are relighting and restoring natural gas service door-to-door in neighborhoods where it is safe for residents to return.
- At 11:30am EDT yesterday (October 26), SDG&E stated that multiple lower voltage distribution lines (138 kV and 69 kV) have been damaged and are out of service due to the fires. Some of these lines are on wooden structures and have experienced serious damage.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation (ESF-1) received word from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration that the state of California has begun issuing oversize load permits for movement of power poles yesterday (October 26).

ESF 12 Actions:

- ESF-12 personnel are staffing the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) and the FEMA Region IX Joint Field Office (JFO) in Pasadena, CA.
- DOE continues to work closely with CA-ISO, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and NERC in monitoring the wildfire situation and the impact to the energy infrastructure.