



NEWS RELEASE 073

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LIBERTY UTILITIES TO SHARE DE-ENERGIZATION PLAN AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Lake Tahoe, CA. September 26, 2018. Liberty Utilities is in the process of developing a new de-energization plan as required by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). In October, the utility will host two public workshops to share information and answer questions about the plan. There are two opportunities to attend this workshop:

Monday, October 8 @ 10 a.m.

South Lake Tahoe Parks & Recreation Bldg.

1180 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA

Friday, October 12 @ 10 a.m.

North Tahoe Events Center

8318 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA

California Public Utilities Code (PU Code) Sections 451 and 399.2(a) give electric utilities authority to shut off electric power in order to protect public safety. The CPUC passed Resolution ESRB-8 in July 2018 requiring utilities to develop a plan to shut off power only as a last resort and for a good reason. They further ordered that the utility, "...must reasonably believe that there is an imminent and significant risk that strong winds will topple its power lines onto tinder dry vegetation or will cause major vegetation-related impacts on its facilities during periods of extreme fire hazard."

“Our customers are aware of the devastating wildfires in the past couple years that have been traced to issues with other utilities’ electric infrastructure during extreme wind conditions,” notes Todd Gee, Liberty Utilities’ Manager of GIS and Mapping. “Since winds can reach 100+ mph on some of the ridges around Lake Tahoe, it is prudent for Liberty Utilities to develop such a plan as well as meeting this regulatory requirement.”

Gee also noted that first responders and local emergency management personnel have been invited to these workshops to ensure coordinated efforts in the event de-energization of power lines is required due to extreme weather.

“While we certainly hope we never have to implement such a plan, we are working to identify high-risk circuits within our service territory where we may shut off power when extreme weather conditions threaten infrastructure,” Gee added. “The overall goal is to protect our customers and communities and to provide them with as much advance notice as possible.”

For more information about the workshops or the De-Energization Plan, please visit our website at www.libertyutilities.com and click on the “Emergencies & Outages” link at the top.

About Liberty Utilities

Liberty Utilities Co. owns and operates regulated water, wastewater, natural gas and electric transmission and distribution utilities in 12 states, delivering responsive and reliable essential services to approximately 783,000 customers across the United States. With a local approach to management, service and support, we deliver efficient, dependable services to meet the needs of our customers. Liberty Utilities provides a superior customer experience through walk-in customer centers, locally focused conservation and energy efficiency initiatives, and programs for businesses and residential customers. We measure our performance in terms of service reliability, an enjoyable customer experience, and an unwavering dedication to public and workplace safety. Liberty Utilities currently operates in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma and Texas. For more information, please visit www.LibertyUtilities.com.