

INFRASTRUCTURE HARDENING

Infrastructure hardening is an ongoing system infrastructure improvement and replacement process aimed at lowering the potential of fires sparked by electric infrastructure. These improvements will require several years to implement and will include some of the following projects:

COVERED CONDUCTORS

Covered conductors, or wires, are encased in layers of insulation to protect them when energized. Although bare wires have traditionally been used in California as a reliable, cost-effective solution, Liberty Utilities will be replacing bare conductors with covered conductors in high fire risk areas to reduce wildfire risk.

POLE LOAD TESTING & REPLACEMENT

Liberty Utilities understands that failing poles pose safety, reliability and fire risks. To prevent pole failure, Liberty Utilities is accelerating the testing and replacement of poles systemwide.

FUSE REPLACEMENT

Conventional fuses, when operated, expel hot particles and gases, which can start fires. In contrast, current limiting fuses, traditionally used for protecting "equipment," expel no materials and provide for a high level of reliability. In order to mitigate the risk of wildfire, Liberty Utilities proposes to replace conventional fuses with current limiting fuses on much of its system over the coming years.

REPLACEMENT OF BROCKWAY SUBSTATION

The Brockway Substation in Kings Beach is a 60-year-old facility that was constructed with wooden poles and cross arms and obsolete oil-circuit breakers. This facility has been deemed a fire hazard and is scheduled to be decommissioned and replaced.

UNDERGROUNDING

Liberty Utilities continues to underground sections of the power grid and will do so for the next few years.



Liberty Utilities®

WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Liberty Utilities is taking precautionary steps to protect the community from wildfires by implementing a robust wildfire mitigation plan. The best way to stay informed about power shutoffs, vegetation management and system upgrades is to ensure your personal contact information Liberty Utilities has on file is up-to-date.

To update your contact information, customers can:



1-800-782-2506:



LibertyUtilities.com

Catastrophic wildfires have become all too common in California. To mitigate the risk of wildfires in the communities we serve, Liberty Utilities is taking aggressive steps to keep you and your family safe.

As seen in Paradise, Calif., a single spark can quickly turn into a fire capable of wiping an entire community off the map.

Liberty Utilities is acutely aware of the significant fire risk in the Lake Tahoe Basin and surrounding forested areas that make up its service territory. Drought and bark beetle infestation have devastated portions of our local forest, slowly suffocating the life out of the trees that dot our landscape. These dying trees now serve as ideal fuel for the wildfires that threaten our community's safety.

There are measures we can take to protect the local community from the threat of wildfire, which is why Liberty Utilities recently implemented a wildfire mitigation plan that was developed to address local factors that could put our region at risk.

LOCAL AND RESPONSIVE. WE CARE.

The spark of a wildfire can come from a cigarette butt, a campfire or even electric infrastructure. It is impossible to predict when or where a wildfire may start, but certain factors such as an evolving climate, dry forests and high wind conditions have most of the Golden State on high alert.

Here are a few steps Liberty Utilities is taking to protect you and your family:

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

INSPECTION

Liberty Utilities' crews are deployed year-round throughout the region to inspect trees and vegetation in the vicinity of power lines. In order to comply with state law and safety best practices, any trees or branches that have grown too close to power lines will be trimmed or removed to mitigate any wildfire risk.

The majority of the tree and vegetation management work is executed from May through October, but work continues through the winter months and can include the daunting task of removing vegetation debris after snow storms.

Liberty Utilities has increased its vegetation management program investment from

\$2.3 M TO \$4 M

ANNUALLY

to ensure all trees and vegetation near power lines are trimmed or removed within the appropriate time frame.

REMOVAL & NOTIFICATION

When trees are identified for trimming, crews are instructed to prune branches and vegetation back to a minimum of 12 feet from the high voltage power lines to ensure adequate clearance is maintained over the maintenance cycle period. Crews will additionally identify any trees for removal that are dead, diseased or structurally unsound, despite being within the acceptable clearance zone, if they have the potential to fall on power lines.

When trees need to be removed, Liberty Utilities and its contractors will notify the property owner prior to starting work via a doorhanger.

Customers should never attempt to conduct the tree trimming activities themselves, due to the risk of coming in contact with power lines during the process.

Liberty Utilities offers complimentary tree-trimming services to customers who believe a tree or branch may be hazardous to nearby electric infrastructure. If you spot a tree or branch you feel may be a hazard, submit a tree trimming request at LibertyUtilities.com or



Call 530-546-1787



PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF

A Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is the process by which an electric utility may proactively turn off power in certain areas when and where weather conditions create a high wildfire risk. The implementation of a PSPS, which is becoming more and more frequent, is supported by the State of California as a safety best practice.

WEATHER & ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Liberty Utilities has deployed weather stations throughout the local service area, and will collaborate with fire experts at Reax Engineering and the National Weather Service in Reno, Nevada, and local fire officials to monitor local weather conditions.



PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF CRITERIA

While no single factor will drive a Public Safety Power Shutoff, some factors include:

- ✓ RED FLAG WARNING
- ✓ LOW HUMIDITY
- ✓ DRY FUEL CONDITIONS
- ✓ FORECAST SUSTAINED WINDS & GUSTS
- ✓ HEAT/TEMPERATURE

NOTIFICATION

In the event that a PSPS is a possibility, Liberty Utilities will alert customers, local government and safety agencies of the potential need to shut off power and keep the community apprised as weather conditions evolve. Customers are encouraged to follow the utility on Twitter (@LibertyUtil_CA) and Facebook (@LibertyUtilitiesLT) to receive timely updates on power outages, planned or unplanned.