

## **PSPS: System Hardening**

**NARRATOR:** As part of our efforts to prevent wildfires, we are strengthening our electric system throughout our service territory. This work, known as system hardening, is how we describe our efforts to install equipment designed and built to be more resistant to severe weather and wildfire risks. In our efforts, we are strengthening the electric system with stronger poles and covered power lines, in addition to undergrounding 10,000 miles of distribution power lines in high fire threat areas. This work will occur over several years, across thousands of distribution lines, in the highest fire threat areas. This will help reduce the risk of wildfires, enhance long-term safety, especially during times of high fire threat, and significantly improve reliability during winter weather. There is no single solution to reducing the risk of wildfires. As the wildfire conditions continue to evolve across the state, we are constantly assessing our technology and risk modeling to improve our wildfire safety work. This work specifically will include: replacing bare lines with covered lines to reduce the risk of outages from items, including vegetation, birds or animals, contacting or hitting the line. Widening and separating the lines to ensure lines don't make contact during high winds. Covering all energized components on the poles and towers to protect against animal and bird contact. Mounting stronger poles and additional equipment to provide support, and wrapping wooden poles in fire resistant material to improve resilience of our structures. Undergrounding 10,000 miles of distribution power lines in high fire threat areas, as part of an unprecedented multi-year effort. And installing remote grids. We all rely on electricity every day, and we will continue to work with our customers on solutions that minimize risks during times of high fire threat. For more info about our wildfire safety efforts, visit [pge.com/wildfiresafety](http://pge.com/wildfiresafety).