

# Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)



## What is a PSPS?

- A PSPS (Public Safety Power Shutoff) is an acronym that utility companies use to describe turning off utilities to large numbers of customers to reduce the potential threat of natural disasters.

## How do PSPS events work?

- When weather forecasts indicate elevated weather conditions, Southern California Edison will begin assessing the potential impact to affected areas. They will analyze historical data to help predict the likelihood of a wildfire occurring, closely monitor weather watch alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS), and place incident responders on alert, if needed.

## Notifications and Timelines

- When weather patterns are predictable, Edison will provide notifications to customers who may be affected. The first notification will be sent 2 days prior to the event, a second notification will be sent approximately 1 day before the event. The final notification will be sent when the power is being shut off. *Erratic or sudden onset of conditions may impact their ability to provide advanced notice to customers including Pacifica Graduate Institute.*
- The power will remain off until it is deemed safe to turn it back on. The outage has potential to remain off for unspecified amounts of time.
- Pacifica's Campus Safety Team or Program Chairs will communicate with students about important information, primarily via Pacifica email. In the event of an emergency, a text alert will be sent.

## How are we affected?

- Pacifica's campuses are located in beautiful natural environments. However, as a result of the natural beauty surrounding us, we are also in a potentially "high risk area."
- In the event of a PSPS affecting either of Pacifica's campuses, the institution will make every effort to continue your program as effectively as possible.
  - o In the classroom, this may require faculty to use alternative teaching methods and/or may require academic programs to relocate class locations and/or times.
  - o On the property, Pacifica is working to continually improve the resources available to make your stay as comfortable as possible. Please note that you may find battery powered equipment, backup generators, and emergency lighting limited to prominent locations on campus. In some cases, it may be necessary to relocate classes or accommodations to off campus locations.
- In the event of an on-campus power outage, Pacifica email, D2L, and off-campus library research accounts will still be fully operational. The My Pacifica Self-Service portal, phone systems, and other Pacifica databases may be affected.

For more information on PSPS events and how to prepare please visit: <https://www.sce.com/safety/wildfire/pssp>