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California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

November 4, 2019

AFL 19-30.1

**TO:** All Facilities

**SUBJECT:** Public Safety Power Shutoff Power Outage Reporting  
(Rescinds AFL 19-30)

**All Facilities Letter (AFL) Summary**

- This AFL rescinds AFL 19-30 to clarify which facility types must report unusual occurrences as required by Title 22 California Code of Regulations.
- California energy companies may proactively turn off electric power to any electric customer in California as a part of a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event.
- Facilities should ensure their local energy company is provided with the most up-to-date contact information to receive outage alerts.
- PSPS events, when used, are regarded as an unusual occurrence. Facilities must report the unusual occurrence of a PSPS event to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Licensing and Certification (L&C) Program.
- Facilities must report PSPS power outages, generator and fuel status, any impact to patients, and any resource needs to the local L&C district office (DO), local public health officer, and Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHAOC).

**Background**

In an effort to keep communities safe from wildfire and extreme weather events, your local energy company may need to turn off electric power if there are gusty winds and dry conditions creating a heightened fire risk. The power will remain out for as long as the weather conditions pose a potential fire risk. After a PSPS event, your energy company will inspect and repair power lines and equipment so that power can be safely restored.

Depending on the severity of the weather and other factors, power outages could last several hours or multiple days. It is important that your facility has an emergency plan in place.

Center for Health Care Quality, MS 0512  
P.O. Box 997377 • Sacramento, CA 95899-7377  
(916) 324-6630 • (916) 324-4820 FAX  
[Department Website](http://www.cdph.ca.gov) (www.cdph.ca.gov)



### Notifications of PSPS

CDPH strongly recommends facilities ensure their local energy company is provided with the most up-to-date contact information so they receive outage alerts. Please use the links and numbers below for instructions on how to update your contact information for your local energy company.

- [Southern California Edison \(SCE\)](#) or call 1-800-990-7788 or your assigned SCE Account Manager
- [Pacific Gas and Electric Company](#) or call 1-866-743-6589
- [San Diego Gas and Electric](#) or call 1-800-411-7343

### Unusual Occurrence Reporting

CDPH considers any power outage related to a planned PSPS event as an unusual occurrence, reportable as required in Title 22 California Code of Regulations. Please report such occurrences according to the following guidelines:

If...	Then...
During normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)	Contact the local L&C DO you customarily work with for your geographic location.
After-hours or if the local L&C DO is non-operational due to an emergency and/or disaster	For facilities outside Los Angeles County, contact the CDPH duty officer at 1-916-328-3605
	For facilities in Los Angeles County, contact the Los Angeles County Operator at 1-213-974-1234. Ask that they notify the on-call Health Facilities Inspector Division supervisor.

In addition to contacting the DO, please notify your local Medical Health Operational Area Coordination (MHOAC) per the local notification protocols. Refer to the [MHOAC Program Contact Information](#) (PDF) for a listing of coordinators.

### Who is Required to Report

The following facility types must report unusual occurrences:

- Acute Psychiatric Hospitals
- Adult Day Health Centers
- Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospitals
- Congregate Living Health Facilities
- Correctional Treatment Centers
- Intermediate Care Facilities
- Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled
- Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled - Habilitative
- General Acute Care Hospitals
- Pediatric Day Health and Respite Care Facilities
- Primary Care Clinics
- Psychology Clinics
- Skilled Nursing Facilities

### **What to Report**

Facilities must have contingency plans in place to deal with the loss of power. Please report the following details:

- Power is out due to a PSPS
- Generator is functioning and the number of days/supply of fuel currently available, and/or plans for obtaining more fuel or evacuating if necessary
- Any impact on patients
- Any resource needs

### **Updating Emergency Contact Information**

To improve emergency communication, CDPH plans to collect emergency contact information from all facilities. Please anticipate an upcoming AFL with directions on how to provide emergency contact information to CDPH.

### **Helpful links and Resources**

- [California Energy Commission](#)
- [CPUC Fire Safety Rulemaking Background](#)
- [California Emergency Medical Services Authority MHOAC](#)
- [Southern California Edison](#)
- [Pacific Gas and Electric Company](#)
- [San Diego Gas & Electric](#)
- [The Power of Being Prepared](#)

If you have any questions about this AFL, please contact your respective [L&C DO](#).

Sincerely,

**Original signed by Heidi W. Steinecker**

Heidi W. Steinecker  
Deputy Director