



# Update on the Status of Fire-Related Activities



## ***Safety and Enforcement Division*** **California Public Utilities Commission**

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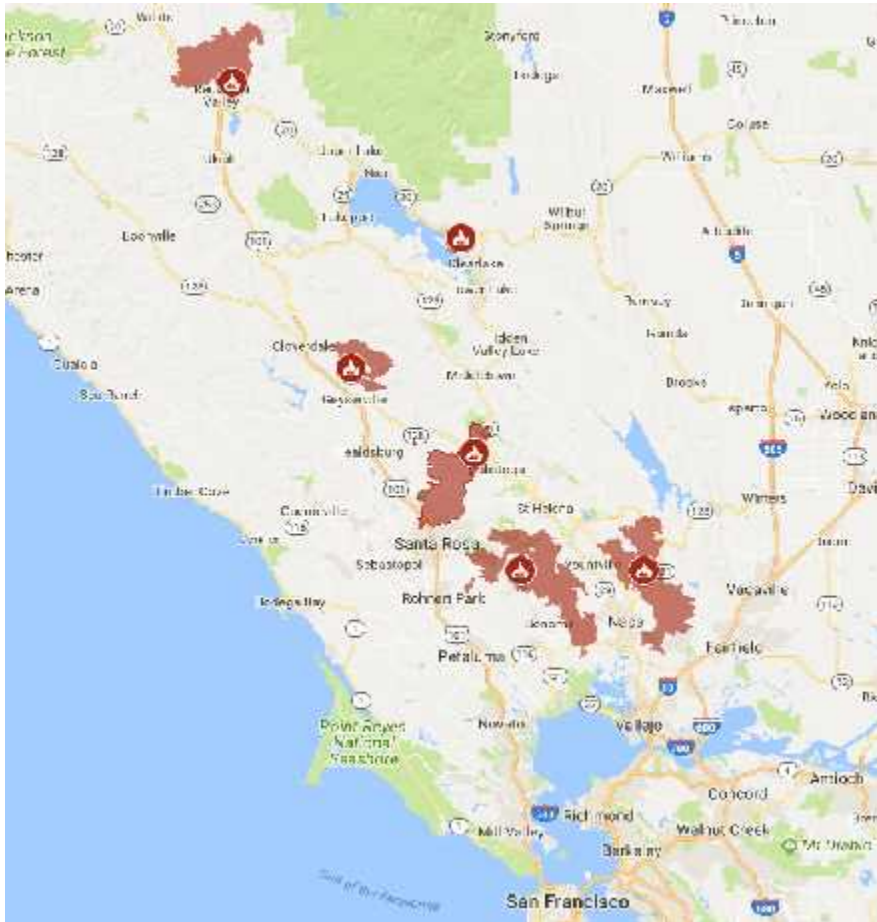
October 26, 2017





# Current Fire Map

(As of: 25 October, 2017)



- Began in October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- 21 major wildfires
- Burned over 245,000 acres
- 11,000 Firefighters
- 100,000 Evacuees
- 8,700 structures Destroyed
- 42 Fatalities
- 3,800 firefighters remain on the frontlines of 9 active wildfires





# SED Mission

***The Safety and Enforcement Division works diligently to ensure that regulated services are delivered in a safe manner.***

## **Before the Fire:**

***-Build working relationships with both state partners and regulated utilities.***

-Review utility mitigation and prevention efforts.

-Remain up to date on wildfire conditions and threats.

## **During the Fire:**

-Maintain awareness of current wildfire operations.

-Participate in CalOES/CAL FIRE working groups as required.

***-Keep in contact with regulated utilities to ensure grid remains stable and reliable.***

## **After the Fire:**

***-Assess utility damage and mitigation efforts effectiveness.***

-Participate in CalOES/CAL FIRE/Utility after action reviews for lessons learned.

***-Investigate utility compliance with CPUC regulatory and PU Code requirements.***





# Current Actions

- The CPUC has initiated an investigation into the 2017 October Fire Siege.
  - CPUC staff investigation focus is on utility compliance with CPUC general orders and other regulatory requirements, including the companies' facility maintenance, vegetation management and emergency response.
  
- Staff is conducting site inspections at all suspected ignition locations in accordance with CAL FIRE initial findings, and may inspect additional locations as warranted.
  
- PG&E has reported and continues to report infrastructure incidents, such as trees falling on electric lines, in the areas impacted by the 2017 October Fire Siege.
  - The CPUC is investigating each of these reports as part of the overall 2017 October Fire Siege investigation.
  
- The CPUC has established a public website to promote information related to the fires and on-going activities: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/October2017Fires/>





## October 2017 Wildfires

Beginning on October 8, 2017, several major wildfires spread through Napa, Sonoma, Butte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties, as well as in the areas surrounding Grass Valley and Yuba City.

CAL FIRE is the first responder and determines the sources of ignition of the fires and the way that the fires spread. The CPUC is working closely with CAL FIRE in this investigation and will continue to do so. Further, our Safety and Enforcement Division is conducting investigations to assess the compliance of electric and communication facilities with applicable rules and regulations in fire impacted areas. Investigation topics include, but are not limited to, maintenance of facilities, vegetation management, and emergency preparedness and response.

On this webpage you will find CPUC information related to the fires.

- [CPUC letter to PG&E reminding of the obligation to preserve evidence](#)
- [CPUC letter to communication companies reminding of the obligation to preserve evidence](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between the CPUC and CAL FIRE that deals with how the agencies coordinate on response to fires and investigations](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between the CPUC and Cal OES that deals with coordinating emergency planning, response recovery and mitigation functions between agencies](#)
- [Electric and Fire Related Fines](#)
- [Spending on Vegetation Management approved in recent PG&E General Rate Cases \(see page 1\)](#)
- [Direction to PG&E to Take Increased Efforts to Reduce Fire Risk due to Drought Emergency \(see page 2\)](#)

### Regulations and Information

- [Fire-Threat Maps and Fire-Safety Regulations Proceedings](#)





# Moving Forward

- CPUC staff will do further investigation to determine if there were any related violations of Public Utilities Code or Commission General Orders.
- CPUC staff will continue to coordinate closely with CAL FIRE investigators through the working group.
- Throughout the investigation, SED (in conjunction with CAL FIRE) will also be looking for lessons learned and for opportunities to put additional fire mitigation measures in place.





# Fire Mitigation Efforts

- **GO 95**
  - Removal diseased/dead trees.
  - Vegetation clearance in fire threat zones.
  - Utilities may apply additional clearances based on location of vegetation local climate, elevation, fire risk.
- **GO 166**
  - Electric utilities to provide Fire-Prevention Plans.
- **SB 1028**
  - Electric utilities submit annual wildfire mitigation plans.
  - CPUC reviews and comments on mitigation plans.
- **Rulemaking 15-05-006**
  - Adopts Fire Threat Maps and establishes Fire-Safety Regulations.
- **CPUC/CalOES/CAL FIRE MOU**
  - Provides the foundation for emergency planning and response.
  - Created a working group for information sharing and communication.





# North Bay Fire Impacts – Water / Sewer IOUs

	<u>Connections</u>	<u>Homes Lost in Service Area</u>	<u>Facilities Damaged</u>	<u>Service Interrupted</u>	<u>Service Restored</u>
Sonoma Springs	22	0	No	Yes	Full
Kenwood Village	307	11	No	No	Full
Golden State - Clearlake	2,171	107	No	Yes	Full
Cal-Am Larkfield	2,379	≈600	Yes	Yes	Partial
Mayacama Golf Course Sewer	39	1	Yes	No	Full*

\*Effluent being trucked offsite due to destruction of the wastewater treatment plant.

