

## Customer Service Policy A.6e 2020 Glass Incident (Shady Fire) Emergency Consumer Protection Policy

### **Purpose:**

Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) directives and advice letters, residential and non-residential customers in areas where a state of emergency proclamation is issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster that affects utility service are eligible for consumer protection measure(s) under PG&E's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan<sup>1</sup>. Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA) provides additional emergency consumer protections to its customers as described below.

### **Emergency Incident:**

#### Glass Incident

Proclamation of a State of Emergency: September 28, 2020

The Glass fire broke out at 3:50 a.m. Sunday, September 27, 2020 on the eastern rim of the Napa Valley, east of Silverado Trail between Calistoga and St. Helena. Firefighters believe gusty winds drove embers from that blaze across the vineyards on the valley floor and into the trees on the slopes of Spring Mountain, on the west side of the Napa Valley above St. Helena, where it began burning into Sonoma County.

The secondary blaze, initially called the Shady fire, ignited about 7 p.m. Sunday near the 3100 block of Spring Mountain Road. The fire was first spotted by an engine company stationed outside St. Helena for the Glass fire. Another spot fire – initially called the Boyson fire – was reported 20 minutes later on St. Helena Road.

The two fires merged into the Glass fire, and collectively have consumed 36,236 acres as of 5 p.m. Monday (9/28/2020) and remains wholly uncontained. Cal Fire said 28 homes in Sonoma County have been lost.

More than 68,000 people had been forced to flee homes in east Santa Rosa and unincorporated Sonoma County, city and county officials said. Another 30,000 or more were under warning to be ready to leave if fire conditions and activity warranted it, officials said.

In Sonoma County, the Glass fire destroyed homes in the Skyhawk and Oakmont subdivisions, and along Calistoga and Los Alamos roads, all on the eastern side of Santa Rosa, although the scale of the losses within the city had not been calculated by Monday night.

Extreme conditions allowed embers to leap across Napa Valley and over the Mayacamas range along the one remaining path of unburned forest with no modern history of wildfire. It wove a path between the burn scars of the Tubbs and Nuns fires, which almost exactly three years ago blackened a combined 93,371 acres and

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<sup>1</sup> PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018. [www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC\\_5378-E.pdf](http://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5378-E.pdf).

destroyed nearly 7,000 structures in Sonoma and Napa counties during the 2017 North Bay firestorm. Those fires killed 24 people.

SCPA implemented its "Emergency Consumer Protection Plan and Emergency and Disaster Response Internal Procedures & Policy I.12".

### **Applicability:**

This Policy applies to SCPA Residential Customers and Non-Residential Customers when a state of emergency proclamation is issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory that:

- a. Results in the loss or disruption of the delivery or receipt of electric utility service; and/or
- b. Results in the degradation of the quality of electric utility service.

### **Eligibility for Emergency Consumer Protection Plan:**

A customer will be eligible for SCPA's Emergency Consumer Protection Policy if the following criteria have been met:

- a. A state of emergency proclamation has been issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory;
- b. The customer is a Residential Customer or Non-Residential Customer of SCPA; and
- c. The customer's premise was or is Red Tagged and/or coded by PG&E as DSNT/DSST/DSBR/DSOV, as defined at the end of this Policy.

### **Emergency Consumer Protection Plan:**

SCPA's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan goes into effect the day a state of emergency proclamation has been issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory and includes the measures and parameters outlined below:

- a. **Late Payment Notice:** SCPA will stop sending Late Payment Notices to eligible customers until October 31, 2021.
- b. **Pre-Collection Notice for Non-Payment:** SCPA will stop sending Pre-Collection Notices for non-payment of SCPA charges to eligible customers until October 31, 2021.
- c. **Transfer for Non-Payment:** SCPA will not transfer eligible customers to PG&E service for non-payment of SCPA charges until October 31, 2021.
- d. **Collections:** SCPA will halt collection activity for eligible customers until September October 31, 2021.

SCPA's Board of Directors may change or extend these measures at its sole discretion.

## Definitions:

For purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply. Customers may also wish to review PG&E's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan<sup>2</sup> for additional information.

- a. **Residential Customer<sup>3</sup>:** Class of customers whose dwellings are single-family units, multi-family units, mobile homes or other similar living establishments. A customer who meets the definition of a Residential Customer will be served under a residential rate schedule if 50% or more of the annual energy use on the meter is for residential end-uses. PG&E's tariff eligibility requirements will determine customer eligibility for this rate class.
- b. **Non-Residential Customer<sup>4</sup>:** Small and medium business customers that take service on a commercial, industrial, or agricultural rate. This definition does not include Non-Residential Customers who are on a fixed usage or unmetered usage rate schedule<sup>5</sup>.
- c. **SCPA Service Area:** As defined by SCPA's Joint Powers Agreement<sup>6</sup>.
- d. **Impacted Customers:** Customers that live within 2 miles of the disaster-impacted perimeter as designated by CAL FIRE or another governmental agency. General areas, including by zip code may be used until a disaster-impacted perimeter is established at SCPA's sole discretion<sup>7</sup> and/ or coded DSIR by PG&E.
- e. **Inspection Tags<sup>8</sup>:** The three colored tags (green, red and yellow) match placards posted on inspected structures<sup>9</sup>. Each type of placard is used by inspectors under the following circumstances:
  - i. **Green (Inspected)** - Buildings can be damaged, yet remain safe - the safety of the building was not significantly changed by the disaster.
  - ii. **Red (Unsafe)** - Buildings are damaged and pose an imminent threat to life or safety under expected loads or other unsafe conditions.
  - iii. **Yellow (Restricted Use)** - There is some risk from damage in all or part of the building that does not warrant red-tagging. The extent of damage may be uncertain or cannot be ascertained within the time and resources available.
  - iv. **Orange (No Access)** - Parcels may be labeled as orange, which is not a tag color, but is used only to indicate that an inspection was performed on the property however the inspector was not able to access the structure(s). This could be due to a number of issues including downed power lines, locked gates, and debris blocking the roadway, damaged bridges, or other similar items.

<sup>2</sup> PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018. [www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC\\_5378-E.pdf](http://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5378-E.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> PG&E Electric Rule No. 1: Definitions, Sheet 30

<sup>4</sup> PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018.

<sup>5</sup> PG&E Electric Rule No. 1: Definitions, Sheet 31

<sup>6</sup> Sonoma Clean Power Authority Joint Powers Authority. <https://sonomacleanpower.org/uploads/documents/Third-Amended-JPA-FinalApproved-10-13-16-with-updated-Ex-C.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018. [www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC\\_5378-E.pdf](http://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5378-E.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> County of Sonoma. "Permit Sonoma" <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/PRMD/Eng-and-Constr/Building/RESA-2019-Flooding/>

<sup>9</sup> Important Note: Although a building may be placarded "Inspected" or "Restricted Use", specific areas in and around the building could be further identified as unsafe.

- f. **PG&E REF|TD Codes** - PG&E will use the EDI billing codes outlined below to identify impacted SCPA customers per CalFire and/or County assessment(s). The codes allow for near real-time status of impacted customers.
- i. **Disaster Event Review (DSIR)** - location with close proximity of disaster, but not confirmed if property is damaged/destroyed/Red Tagged.
  - ii. **Disaster Event Cleared (DSCL)** - After review, the location is not deemed damaged/destroyed/Red Tagged.
  - iii. **Disaster Red Tag Notice (DSNT)** - pending bill relief decision. Stops SA and final/closing bill but will not complete bill - temporary status.
  - iv. **Disaster Red Tag Standard (DSST)** - bill relief not applied. Stops SA, final/closing bill, and completes bill (final status).
  - v. **Disaster Red Tag Bill Relief (DSBR)** - bill relief applied. Stops SA, final/closing bill, completes bill and applies debt reversal adjustment for SA balance (final status).
  - vi. **Disaster Red Tag Override (DSOV)** - manual override. Process manually if needed (final status).