

Strategic Undergrounding



Did you know?

- SDG&E has invested about \$2 billion in a variety of initiatives and technologies over the past decade to help prevent catastrophic wildfires.
- SDG&E currently owns and operates 190 weather stations measuring up to the minute weather conditions throughout our service territory.
- As part of our enhanced fire safety measures, SDG&E has converted over 24,000 wood poles to steel poles.

Overview

As part of its ongoing efforts to reduce wildfire risk and the impact of Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) during extreme weather conditions, San Diego Gas & Electric® (SDG&E®) will undertake several projects to underground powerlines. Once completed, the undergrounding work will enable community facilities to remain powered during PSPS events.

Strategic undergrounding of overhead power lines is one element of a multipronged approach to reducing wildfire risk. Over the past decade, SDG&E has implemented, and continues to improve, its comprehensive wildfire risk mitigation program. This includes significant investments to replace wood poles with fire-resistant steel poles; building a sophisticated weather monitoring network and fire and weather forecast models; updating operating protocols; and building partnerships to enhance the region's overall ability to respond to wildfires.

SDG&E's 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan outlines a suite of programs and initiatives that the company will undertake to continue to advance wildfire safety. One of those initiatives is strategic undergrounding of overhead power lines. Burying power lines removes the risk of these lines sparking fires during adverse weather events, but more importantly, buried lines can remain energized during Public Safety PSPS events, reducing the impact of power outages to fire prone communities.



Julian Undergrounding Project

About the project

The Strategic Undergrounding Program will provide heightened wildfire resiliency and electric reliability by undergrounding distribution lines near key community facilities.

There will be multiple construction locations and activities taking place simultaneously, with work hours, traffic control, and noise restrictions for each area dictated by the appropriate local jurisdiction. The existing overhead power lines will not be removed, as they will continue to power the remaining customers that are currently served by those overhead lines.

For additional Strategic Undergrounding information visit [sdge.com/undergrounding-overhead-powerlines](https://www.sdge.com/undergrounding-overhead-powerlines).

Project benefits

- Increased resiliency and reliability of the electric system serving key community facilities in and around your area.
- Key community facilities can remain energized during a Public Safety Power Shutoff.

Construction details

While SDG&E's goal is to complete the project as quickly as possible to minimize impact on the community, rainstorms, and other unforeseen weather conditions could affect the construction schedule.

Construction crews will be working Monday through Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Motorists and residents can expect intermittent traffic along the construction routes during construction hours.

We will continue to work closely with local communities to ensure construction activities are as least disruptive as possible. SDG&E anticipates that traffic delays may occur due to occasional lane reductions, temporary restrictions or lane closures required during construction.

For more information

If you have questions or concerns, please contact SDG&E's Project Affairs Manager, Claudia Valenzuela, at cvalenzuela@sdge.com or by telephone at **(844) 765-6388**.