Heatwave and Rotating Outages May Continue: Consumers Urged to Conserve Energy

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO), which runs the electric grid in California, has issued a Flex Alert, a call for voluntary electricity conservation. This weekend’s heat wave has caused a continued strain on supplies and capacity and may require PG&E to continue conducting rolling power outages in the region.

The rolling outages are associated with the supply of electricity in California - this is a supply-and-demand challenge only, driven by extreme hot weather. These rolling outages are not Public Safety Power Shutoff events. PG&E does not anticipate initiating any PSPS events this week. PG&E restoration and repair crews are prepared to respond to potential outages.

The call to conserve energy is in effect between 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. through Wednesday. PG&E meteorologists are currently forecasting generally high temperatures through at least the middle of the week.

CAISO and PG&E are forecasting even higher energy demand than experienced over the weekend as the work week begins, increasing the likelihood of ordered shutoffs in the coming days, including today. Read PG&E's August 17 press release here.

Even a small effort by consumers to reduce energy demand over the next several days can help prevent an ordered outage.

Tips to Save Energy

- Set the thermostat to 78 degrees, health permitting. Turn it up to 85 degrees when not at home.
- Use a ceiling fan and raise your thermostat a few degrees.
- Defer use of major appliances. Avoid using the oven or limit opening the

Statewide Flex Alert issued for Sunday, Aug. 16 - Wednesday, Aug. 19 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. read the news release >>
refrigerator. The average refrigerator is opened 33 times per day.
- Turn off unnecessary lights and unplug unused electrical devices.
- Close blinds and drapes.
- Charge cars after 10 p.m.

For more information about CAISO Flex Alerts, visit the Flex Alert website or monitor the grid conditions in real time at ISO's Today's Outlook.

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**It's Time to Prepare for Fire Season**

This weekend's hot and unusual weather, and a brief Red Flag Warning, were another reminder that fire season is just around the corner. Are you ready? The best thing you can do to be prepared for wildfire or the loss of power for several days is to get ready now.

Sign up for direct emergency alerts from Alert Marin for the latest emergency updates impacting Marin County.

More tips on preparing for wildfire or Public Safety Power Shutoffs are available here.

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**FACE COVERINGS are now mandatory for EVERYONE IN PUBLIC SETTINGS.**

MarinHHS.org/coronavirus

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