

**BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine  
Electric Utility De-Energization of Power  
Lines in Dangerous Conditions

Rulemaking 18-12-005  
(File December 13, 2018).

**BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC. (U 913 E)  
PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF POST-SEASON REPORT**

Jeff Linam  
Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.  
630 E. Foothill Blvd.  
San Dimas, CA 91773  
Telephone: (909) 394-3600  
Email: jeff.linam@gswater.com

March 5, 2024

**BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine  
Electric Utility De-Energization of Power  
Lines in Dangerous Conditions

Rulemaking 18-12-005  
(File December 13, 2018).

**BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC. (U 913 E)  
PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF POST-SEASON REPORT**

In accordance with California Public Utilities Commission Decision (D.) 21-06-034 Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. (“BVES”) respectfully submits the following Post-Season report of PSPS activities over calendar year 2023 based on the templates developed by the Commission’s Safety and Enforcement Division.

Respectfully submitted,

BY:     /s/ Jeff Linam    

Jeff Linam  
Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.  
630 East Foothill Boulevard  
San Dimas, California 91773  
Telephone: (909) 394-3600  
E-mail: Jeff.Linam@gswater.com

March 5, 2024

# **ATTACHMENT A**

**BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC.**

**Public Safety Power Shutoff 2023 Post-Season Report  
(01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023)**

## Section I. Background: Overarching Regulation

1. Each electric investor-owned utility must file a comprehensive 2023 Post-Season Report, no later than March 1 of each year, in R.18-12-005 or its successor proceeding. The report must follow a template provided by SED no later than 60 days after SED posts a 2022 Post-Season Report template on the Commission's website. Parties may file comments on these reports within 20 days after they are filed, and reply comments within 10 days after the final date to file comments.

[Authority: Decision (D.) 21-06-034; Guidelines at p. A15, Section K-3]

2. The 2023 Post-Season Report must include, but will not be limited to:
  - f. Annual report, as applicable, required by Ordering Paragraph 66 of D.21-06-014.

[Authority: D.21-06-034; Guidelines at p. A15, Section K-3.f]

3. To the extent a required item of information is also required to be included in the electric investor-owned utility's Wildfire Mitigation Plan, the 2022 Post-Season Report may refer to the electric investor-owned utility's Wildfire Mitigation Plan rather than repeat the same information; such reference must specify, at minimum, the page and line number(s) for where the required information is contained within the electric investor-owned utility's Wildfire Mitigation Plan. In cases where this reference is to data, a summary table of the data shall be provided in the report.

[Authority: D.21-06-034; Guidelines at p. A17, Section K-3]

## Section II: Amendments to Post-Event Reports

### A. Regulatory Requirements

1. *Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric Company must provide aggregate data, as identified above [D.21-06-014, Ordering Paragraph (OP) 65], in an annual report, including aggregate data that may not have been available at the time the utility filed the 10-day post-event report and must contact the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division if the utility requires additional guidance to ensure adequate reporting on the requirement to provide information on affected customers in the 10-day post-event reports.*

[Authority: D.21-06-014; OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES

2. *Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) must address, among other things, each element of Resolution ESRB-8 reporting requirements, as clarified herein, in the 10-day post-event reports, including the below [OP 65] and, if no information is available, PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E must respond to these Resolution ESRB-8 reporting requirements by indicating the reason this information is not available.*

[Authority: D.21-06-014; OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES

## B. Direction

1. *Provide any information missing [including, but not limited to the specific topics listed below] from any Post-Event Report for Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) in 2023 by:*
  - a. *Identify the date name of the PSPS.*
  - b. *Identify the Section of the Post-Event Report template for which the missing information will be added.*
  - c. *Provide the missing information under that heading.*

[Authority: D.21-06-014; OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES; BVES did not activate a PSPS event within 2023.

2. *Community Resource Centers:*

*Provide aggregate data, including aggregate data that may not have been available at the time the utility filed the 10-day post-event report:*

- a. *Address and describe each Community Resource Center during a de-energization event.*

[Authority: D.21-06-014, OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES; BVES did not activate a PSPS event within 2023.

3. *Notification:*

*Provide aggregate data that may not have been available at the time the utility filed the 10-day post-event report:*

- a. *Identify who the utility contacted in the community prior to de-energization and whether the affected areas are classified as High Fire Threat District Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 (as defined in General Order 95, Rule 21.2-D22);*
- b. *Explain why notice could not be provided at least two hours prior to a de-energization, if such notice was not provided;*

[Authority: D.21-06-014, OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES; BVES did not activate a PSPS event within 2023.

4. *Restoration:*

*Provide aggregate data, as identified in OP 65, in an annual report, including aggregate data that may not have been available at the time the utility filed the 10-day post-event report:*

- a. *Provide a detailed description of the steps the utility used to restore power.*

[Authority: D.21-06-014, OPs 65 and 66]

**Response:** N/A to BVES; BVES did not activate a PSPS event within 2023.

## Section III: Decision-Specified

### A. Education and Outreach

2. Include the results of the most recent education and outreach surveys not yet previously reported on, as an attachment to the Post-Season Report. See D.21-06-034, Sections E-1.1. – E.1.4. for specific requirements on the surveys.

[Authority: D.21-06-034, Guidelines at p. A7, Section E-1]p

**Response:** BVES’s 2023 survey was recently completed on June 22, 2023 (as documented in the Public Safety Power Shutoff 2023 Pre-Season Report filed on July 1, 2023); refer to attachments: “Attachment 1” and “Attachment 2.” The survey was conducted to measure the public’s awareness of messaging related to wildfire preparedness and safety and was targeted to residential, business, and critical customers. BVES remains the primary source for wildfire preparedness information, with email being the top cited communication channel. BVES plans to continue communicating through the current effective channels as well as evaluating new channels or channels that could improve. BVES also plans to emphasize outreach about personal preparedness, specifically about preparing an emergency kit or emergency readiness plan.

BVES also completed a survey in December 2023 to evaluate the effectiveness of its outreach efforts (as documented in BVES Access and Functional Needs Plan Quarterly Report for Q4 2023). Findings show that BVES remains the primary source for information about wildfire preparedness, including PSPS notifications. BVES plans to take action based on survey findings to continuously improve their education and outreach, including bolstering community awareness, conducting outreach events in 2024, continuing the methods of communication that work and evaluating methods that could be improved or newly incorporated, and other actions as reported in the AFN Q4 2023 report.

BVES’ overall community education and outreach program for PSPS includes educating the public as well as listening and responding to the public’s needs. As described in the BVES 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plan, BVES’ communication plan includes a two-pronged approach (1) proactive preparation before emergencies occur and (2) notifications during and after emergency events. BVES tailors communications protocols and languages to the relevant audience or stakeholder group, ensuring most effective communications to all in the service territory. BVES collaborates with other community organizations to assure that a local community resource center is available to customers during emergencies. BVES aligns its communication with other organizations, so it is clear and consistent among the local and state organizations.<sup>1</sup> The following figure overviews the progress update for community outreach and engagement initiatives from Q3 2023.

---

<sup>1</sup> Bear Valley Electric Service, 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plan.  
<https://www.bvesinc.com/assets/documents/wildfire-mitigation-plan/392023wmp/bves-2023-2025-wildfire-mitigation-plan-revision-2.pdf>.

Figure from BVES - Wildfire Mitigation Plan - Quarterly Notification Letter 2023 Q3 - Initiatives Update<sup>2</sup>:

Community Outreach & Engagement	
Public Outreach and Education Awareness Program COE_1 <b>Exceeded Target</b>	<b>Public Outreach and Education Awareness Program:</b> <b>Volume vs Q3 2023 Goal:</b> BVES had planned to conduct at a minimum of 270 outreach activities by the close of Q3. BVES recorded 606 outreach activities, 224% of target for Q3. <b>Key Actions:</b> Grizzly Newspaper advertisements are posted during the week (M-F) for either WMP or PSPS and BVES will have 1 advertisement broadcasted each month.
Engagement with Access and Functional Needs Populations COE_2 <b>On Track</b>	<b>Engagement with Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Populations:</b> <b>Volume vs 2023 Goal:</b> BVES has an established program in place to identify AFN customers and provide assistance during PSPS. <b>Key Actions:</b> BVES continues to evaluate the functionality of its AFN program as it relates to PSPS and wildfire events. BVES verified the AFN list, and associated needs twice per month for additional verifications in Q3.
Collaboration on Local Wildfire Mitigation Planning COE_3 <b>On Track</b>	<b>Collaboration on Local Wildfire Mitigation Planning:</b> <b>Volume vs 2023 Goal:</b> BVES plans to engage with Local Support (Fire Department & Forest Service) on a regular basis to discuss project statuses as well as general needs and gaps for the upcoming fire season <b>Key Actions:</b> BVES established plans to engage in coordination efforts based on PSPS activations, which will include suppression agencies.
Best Practice Sharing with Other Utilities COE_4 <b>On Track</b>	<b>Best Practice Sharing with Other Utilities:</b> <b>Volume vs 2023 Goal:</b> BVES plans to evaluate the available working groups and conferences and make determinations on which groups/conferences add the most value to their wildfire program. <b>Key Actions:</b> BVES has begun to review available working groups and conferences. BVES was able to attend 24 working groups in Q1, 29 in Q2 and an additional 37 in Q3.

■ Not Started 
 ■ Completed 
 ■ Ahead of Plan 
 ■ On Track 
 ■ Off Track

## B. Medical Baseline and Access and Functional Needs

### 1. Describe in detail all programs and/or types of assistance, including:

#### a. Free and/or subsidized backup batteries

**Response:** BVES offers a small-scale back up battery assistance program with six batteries and will distribute them on an as needed/requested basis.

#### b. Self-Generation Incentive Program Equity Resiliency Budget

**Response:** BVES does not have a Self-Generation Incentive program.

#### c. Community Microgrid Incentive Program [sic] ["Microgrid Incentive Program" per D.21-01-018]

**Response:** BVES does not have a Microgrid Incentive Program.

#### d. Hotel vouchers

**Response:** BVES collaborates with the local Holiday Inn which has our company information on file to cover hotel expenses for certain customers that are displaced should BVES ever initiate a PSPS event.

#### e. Transportation to CRCs

**Response:** BVES collaborates with a local transportation company (MARTA) to shuttle displaced customers during a PSPS, as available.

#### f. Any other applicable programs or pilots to support resiliency for persons with access and functional needs and vulnerable populations.

<sup>2</sup> Bear Valley Electric Service, Quarterly Notification Letter Initiatives Update, Q3 2023.

[https://www.bvesinc.com/assets/documents/wildfire-mitigation-plan/q3\\_2023\\_qdr/2023-11-01\\_bves\\_2023\\_qnl\\_q3\\_r0.pdf](https://www.bvesinc.com/assets/documents/wildfire-mitigation-plan/q3_2023_qdr/2023-11-01_bves_2023_qnl_q3_r0.pdf).

**Response:** BVES has a list of our access and functional needs customers listed on our PSPS portal in the event first responders need to reach out to our AFN customer base.

- g. Identify and describe the costs and associated funding source(s) for all partnerships, each unique program and form of assistance (e.g., backup batteries as distinct from hotel vouchers), and any other efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts of public safety partners events on persons with access and functional needs and vulnerable populations.*

**Response:** BVES does not have any additional funding or assistance.

- h. Funding source(s) shall specify applicable utility balancing accounts or other accounting mechanisms, and non-utility funding sources, if applicable.*

**Response:** N/A to BVES

- i. Identify any communities or areas not served by utility partnerships with CBOs that provide assistance to persons with access and functional needs or vulnerable populations in preparation for or during a public safety partners event;*

**Response:** BVES does not have any communities or areas that are not served by our utilities partnership with CBOs.

[Authority: D.21-06-034, Guidelines at p. A16, Sections K-3.d]



## Section IV: Safety and Enforcement Division-Specified

### **Brief response no longer than two pages.**

1. Discuss how your meteorology and fire science predictive models performed over the year. What changes will you make to improve performance?

**Response:** BVES continues to collaborate with Technosylva in developing wildfire information tailored to BVES's service territory. Plans for additional modeling and features are set for 2024 and beyond. BVES has advanced its situational awareness technology through its 2022 contract with Technosylva, which acts as a specialized consulting firm in wildfire risk modeling. By establishing maps of predictive fire behavior models through REAX Engineering and integrating simulation-based software capabilities with Technosylva's Wildfire Risk Reduction Model, BVES has made significant improvements. This enhancement allows for consistent observations in coordination with BVES's weather stations and wildland cameras. Furthermore, BVES will persist in monitoring its service territory with the WFA-E FireSim, which provides real-time wildfire behavior analysis, in addition to the described tools above.

2. Explain your communication to customers about the cost/benefit analysis you perform to determine whether to utilize protective equipment and device settings or PSPS during a weather event.

**Response:** BVES details and posts its wildfire mitigation efforts on its website and annually with the Wildfire Mitigation Plan. These are also included in the Quarterly Data Reports (QDRs) submitted to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety. Customers can also find information posted by the CPUC on this subject.

3. Explain how you fully incorporated public safety partners in your exercise planning. How many were invited to, and attended each planning meeting? Describe your communication efforts-dates and methods-to solicit participation.

**Response:** BVES has ample participation in both its table-top and functional exercises. Communication efforts to solicit participation includes advertising through our social media outlets, radio station, website, and email campaigns. Attachment 1 includes the exhaustive table of the outreach activities.

4. Recap the lessons learned from all of your de-energization exercises, the resulting action items, their implementation, and observed consequences.

**Response:** Although BVES has never had a PSPS event, the company continues to plan for one. Due to the company's unique service territory, BVES does activate its EOC on occasion and executes similar requirements during storm events (not related to PSPS). This was most recently conducted in the storms affecting Southern California. BVES plans to expand upon its scenario based PSPS event to which it will conduct its annual exercises. We have also tested data exchanges with CalOES to assure GIS files are current and up to date.

5. Discuss how you fully implemented the whole community approach into your de-energization exercises.

**Response:** BVES had several community leaders attend last year's meetings and exercises including local safety partners, schools, media, critical facilities and CBOs. Although most were in listen only mode, the feedback from the community was very positive and the community is confident BVES is ready to respond to various types of emergencies.

6. Discuss the complaints you received (as documented in POSTSR4) and any lessons learned and implementation of changed business practices.

**Response:** In general, BVES has not received complaints that would necessitate any changes in its business practices. However, BVES encourages the submission of suggestions and best practices during PSPS meetings and exercises. To date, BVES has not experienced a PSPS event but prepares thoughtfully each year in anticipation of potential deviations from the PSPS metrics indicated in the QDR (Quarterly Data Report) within the WMP (Wildfire Mitigation Plan) filings. These filings forecast zero activated events year over year. BVES acknowledges that cascading impacts may occur, such as Southern California Edison issuing a PSPS that impacts BVES's main supply line. Apart from this scenario, BVES has not received any formal complaints. Our observations indicate that high winds in our service territory often coincide with weather events (snow and/or rain), resulting in low fire danger at those times, which does not necessitate a PSPS.

7. What changes will you make to improve notifications of PSPS to customers and public safety partners?

**Response:** BVES will continue to assess our PSPS portal and will work to encourage feedback from its Public Safety Partners and community. And we are expanding the responsibility of our after hour's service provider for additional support during emergencies.

# **ATTACHMENT B**

**BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC.**

**PSPS Meetings  
(01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023)**

<b>PSPS Meeting Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
1/30/2023	Annual PSPS Concept and Initial Meeting - for tabletop and functional exercise
1/31/2023	PSPS discussion with Technosylva
2/7/2023	Post-season report review
2/9/2023	SCE PSPS Working Group Q1 2023 - Inland Empire & Northern Region
2/14/2024	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
3/1/2023	BVES Midterm PSPS Exercise Planning Meeting
3/4/2023	PSPS Process
3/22/2024	Discuss PSPS Status
3/23/2023	2023 Final BVES PSPS Exercise Planning Meeting, Quarterly and Workshop
3/27/2023	PSPS Preparedness
3/20/2023	PSPS Preparedness
4/10/2023	PSPS Preparedness
4/10/2023	2023 PSPS Table-Top and Full-Scale Exercise Internal Pre-meeting
4/11/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
4/13/2023	2023 BVES Table-top PSPS Exercise
5/8/2023	SCE PSPS Tabletop Exercise
5/9/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
5/11/2023	SCE PSPS Working Group Q2 2023 - All Regions Meeting - In Person/Call-In Option
5/3/2023	SCE - 2023 PSPS Full Scale Exercise - Observers (Day 1)
6/5/2023	2023 PSPS Full-Scale Exercise pre-meeting
6/6/2023	Fire Season Monthly Meeting (State Agencies/IOUs/Telcos)
6/8/2023	PSPS Preparedness
6/12/2023	2023 BVES PSPS Full-Scale Exercise
6/13/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
6/27/2023	PSPS Preparedness
6/27/2023	PSPS Exercise Follow-up Meeting
7/11/2023	Fire Season Monthly Meeting (State Agencies/IOUs/Telcos)
8/8/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
3/5/2023	SCE PSPS Working Group Q3 2023 Meeting - Inland Empire & Northern Region
8/16/2023	Q3 Statewide Access and Functional Needs/Joint IOU Meeting
3/5/2023	Fire Season Monthly Meeting (State Agencies/IOUs/Telcos)
3/5/2023	Q3 Collaborative Council/Joint IOU Access and Functional Needs Meeting
9/12/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
10/3/2023	Fire Season Monthly Meeting (State Agencies/IOUs/Telcos)
10/10/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
11/7/2023	Fire Season Monthly Meeting (State Agencies/IOUs/Telcos)
11/13/2023	In-Person Q4 Access and Functional Needs/Joint IOU Collaborative Council Meeting
11/14/2023	SCE PSPS Public Safety Partner Portal Office Hours
12/4/2023	Q4 Statewide Access and Functional Needs/Joint IOU Meeting
12/28/2023	BVES 2023 Q4 PSPS Meeting

Number Invited	Number Attended
7	5
10	9
2	2
	4
	1
64	24
3	3
2	2
67	20
3	3
3	3
3	3
46	18
108	38
	4
	1
	4
	3
50	16
	3
3	3
108	34
	4
3	3
5	5
	3
	1
	4
	4
	3
	2
	2
	3
	3
	3
	1
	1
	2
69	19