Pacific Gas and Electric Company

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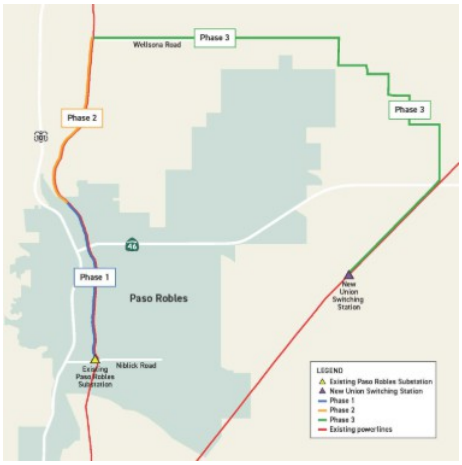
PG&E Mobilizes Grid Modernization Project to Power Northern San Luis Obispo County's Energy Future

Project will replace wood poles with steel and add new powerlines to improve reliability, resiliency and safety for more than 50,000 customers

PASO ROBLES, Calif. – Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) crews are working on the Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project, a major effort to strengthen the power grid against extreme weather, improve reliability and reduce wildfire risk for more than 50,000 customers in Paso Robles.

The project includes upgrades to a 6-mile section of powerlines east of Highway 101, from Niblick Road to Wellsona Road. Crews will replace wood poles with more durable, fire-resistant steel poles that require less maintenance. Crews will also construct 10.5 miles of new powerlines, along with a 70 kV switching station, known as the Union Switching Station.

The new Union Switching Station will deliver electricity into the local transmission grid. It will also help improve reliability by rerouting and isolating problems, making the system more flexible and dependable, further strengthening the regional electric grid.



Map showing an overview of the project area, including the location of the new Union Switching Station, an existing substation, and construction phases 1, 2 and 3 along Highway 101, Wellsona Road and intersecting State Route 46 (SR 46) in the east.

PG&E crews recently completed Phase 1 of this project, which included upgrades to three miles of powerlines east of Highway 101 between Niblick Road and north of SR 46. Phase 2 will include upgrading the other three miles of powerlines continuing northward to Wellsona Road between fall 2026 and spring 2027. Phase 3 of the project is projected to begin in summer 2027 and will include construction of new powerlines and the switching station. Please note that construction schedules are subject to change.

Switching from wood to galvanized steel poles increases durability and halves maintenance and replacement costs. Galvanized steel poles last twice as long and have half the failure rate of wood poles, saving an average of 50% on maintenance costs. With California facing stronger storms and increased fire risks, durable electric equipment not only saves our customers money, but also strengthens our power system, increasing reliability and safety.

PG&E has been engaging with the community, city and county leaders to ensure that they are aware of the project through emails, mailers and community meetings. PG&E will proactively communicate with the surrounding communities about possible impacts to traffic, planned temporary outages and planned helicopter or crane work.

PG&E is making strategic investments like this across its service area to strengthen the power grid, improve resilience during extreme weather events and prepare for future energy demand.

For more information about the project and current construction activities, please visit pge.com/pasoroblesrp.

About PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE:PCG), is one of the largest combined natural gas and electric energy companies in the United States. Based in San Francisco, with more than 24,000 employees, the company delivers some of the nation's cleanest energy to nearly 16 million people in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit www.pge.com/ and www.pge.com/en/about/newsroom/index.page.

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