

# Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

### WHAT IS A PSPS?

A Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is an operational practice an electric utility may use to preemptively shut off power in high-risk areas to help prevent wildfires during extreme and potentially dangerous weather conditions. A PSPS means EWEB will proactively shut off power and it is considered an action of last resort to help protect public safety. The risk of wildfires has changed in the Pacific Northwest and a PSPS is one way we can mitigate those risks. We recognize that it is a very serious decision to turn off the power and there are many factors we consider when determining if a PSPS is a necessary action to mitigate the risk of wildfires. A PSPS is just one tool in our wildfire mitigation toolbox.

# **HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED OF A PSPS EVENT?**

We know advance notification is critical to help you prepare for an outage. Whenever possible, EWEB will announce a PSPS 48 hours in advance and again approximately 24 hours before the power is scheduled to be turned off. We will use multiple communication channels including email, autodial, social media, our website, and local news media. Color coded graphics will be used to signify the status of a PSPS. Weather events and wildfire situations can be dynamic, so while we will strive for at least a 24-48 hours advance warning, this may not always be possible. For email alerts about a PSPS, sign up at eweb.org/emergencyprep.

#### HOW DOES EWEB DECIDE TO TURN OFF THE POWER?

EWEB considers several variables when deciding to proactively turn off the power in response to imminent fire danger and risk to public safety. While each situation is unique, some variables include:

- Impending dangerous fire weather conditions
- · Active wildfire in service area
- Mandatory evacuation in effect
- · Coordinated response with other area utilities

# **HOW LONG BEFORE POWER IS RESTORED?**

Once the immediate threat of wildfire has passed, our crews will visually inspect the power lines to check for any damage or safety concerns before restoring power. As these inspections can only occur during daylight hours, customers should be prepared to be without power for an extended time during a PSPS.

# WHERE CAN I FIND UPDATES OFFLINE?

The McKenzie Fire & Rescue station (42870 Mckenzie Hwy, Leaburg, OR 97489) will have updates posted during a PSPS. This is a resource you can use if you do not have access to the internet or phone service while the power is turned off.

# **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

For EWEB's Wildfire Mitigation Plan: eweb.org/wildfire

For emergency preparedness: eweb.org/emergencyprep

For Outage updates: eweb.org/outagemap

To update your contact information and receive PSPS alerts call 541-685-7000 or email eweb.answers@eweb.org

If you have, or care for someone with, significant health needs that require electricity, please let us know by calling 541-685-7000.

