5/23/2020: PG&E Temporary Micro Grid Generation Site – Reed's Market, Shingletown.

PG&E is installing (May, 2020) a site at Reeds in Shingletown. In the event of a Public Safety Power Shutoff event, a mobile generator will be transported to the site to provide electricity to about 80 PG&E customers (e.g., Reeds, and various other customers between Shingle Glenn Trail and Alpine Meadows.). Further, I was informed that in the event of other Power Outages, a mobile generator is to likewise be transported to the site to provide electricity (per owner of Reeds). Please refer to the PG&E article at end of this page.

It is important to note that during these power outage events (planed or otherwise), the generator must be transported to the site at Reeds. Accordingly, it would appear that if we had an unplanned event, for example, a forest fire, winter storm damage (like February, 2019), etc..., it will take time for the mobile generator to arrive. Potentially, even a planned event may result in the power not being available due to delays in delivery of the mobile generator. Additionally, adverse road conditions, heavy snow, downed trees, equipment breakdowns, downed power lines, auto accidents, etc…, may delay arrival of the mobile generator.

Accordingly, the 165 repeater needs to be able to run independently of the power grid (and planned arrival of a mobile generator) in order to handle emergency radio traffic. There is one back up battery at present for the repeater. If there were fire evacuations, the 165 repeater may be subject to substantial demand. I understand that the Shingletown Amateur Radio Club is considering plans to have 2 back up batteries plus the ability to provide portable generator power for the repeater. Joining the Shingletown Amateur Radio Club is one way to help out.

Moreover, Individual Station Operators should have back up power for their individual emergency communication equipment. Simplex operations may be required. K6PDS 73

## ARTICLE FROM PG&E WEBSITE IS BELOW:

## START OF PG&E ARTICLE:

Source: https://www.pgecurrents.com/2020/05/08/ahead-of-wildfire-season-pge-begins-construction-on-temporary-microgrids/Posted on May 8, 2020

# Ahead of Wildfire Season, PG&E Begins Construction on Temporary Microgrids

By Paul Doherty

PG&E is building microgrids in Shasta, El Dorado and Napa counties, all designed to provide electricity to certain customers and shared community resources using temporary generation during future Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events..

The temporary microgrid generation sites were identified and selected through an extensive process involving the analysis of prior and expected future PSPS events, along with overall feasibility and other utility work in the region that could reduce PSPS impacts.

“PG&E is developing several microgrids across our service area in 2020 as a part of the company’s comprehensive actions to reduce wildfire risks across our system and minimize the impact of public safety outages on our customers and communities,” said Debbie Powell, vice president, Asset & Risk Management, Community Wildfire Safety Program, PG&E. “Our specific objective with the development of temporary microgrids is to provide electricity to resources such as medical facilities and pharmacies, police and fire stations, gas stations, banks, markets and other shared community services when weather conditions make it unsafe to operate the grid.”

- The new microgrid generation site in Shingletown (Shasta County) is located in the parking lot adjacent to Reed’s Market on Highway 44. PG&E will be able to rapidly connect mobile generators to the site, allowing a medical facility, fire station, gas stations, markets, and restaurants among other businesses, facilities and community services to remain energized during future PSPS events impacting the area. The Shingletown temporary microgrid energization zone includes nearly 80 PG&E customers in the general vicinity of Highway 44, extending between Shingle Glen Trail and Alpine Meadows Road.
- The new microgrid backup generation site in Georgetown (El Dorado County) is located near the South Street/Orleans Street intersection. PG&E will be able to rapidly connect mobile generators to the site, allowing the downtown district (including a fire station, gas station, radio station, post office, bank, community center, markets, hotels, and restaurants among other businesses, facilities and community services) to remain energized

during future PSPS events impacting the area. The Georgetown temporary microgrid energization zone includes approximately 50 PG&E customers in the general vicinity of Main Street, extending between Harkness Street and Georgetown Road.

- The new microgrid backup generation site in Pollock Pines (El Dorado County) is located at the First Baptist Church of Pollock Pines on the corner of North Street and Pony Express Trail. It will allow the downtown district (including a fire station, pharmacy, bank, markets, hardware store, electric vehicle charging stations, and restaurants among other businesses, facilities and community services) to remain energized during future PSPS events impacting the area. The Pollock Pines temporary microgrid energization zone includes more than 50 customers along Pony Express Trail, extending between North Street and Center View Drive.
- The new microgrid backup generation site in Calistoga (Napa County) is located on Washington Street near Tedeschi Field. This is a different site than the site that was used to energize Calistoga during 2019 PSPS events. Utilizing this new site, PG&E will be able to rapidly connect mobile generators to the grid, allowing much of the downtown area (including a medical facility, fire and police station, fairgrounds, post office, banks, schools, markets, hotels, and restaurants among other businesses, facilities and community services) to remain energized during future PSPS events impacting the area. The Calistoga temporary microgrid energization zone includes approximately 800 PG&E customers in the general vicinity of downtown Calistoga.

Weather conditions and other operational considerations prevent PG&E from guaranteeing electricity to all customers potentially served by these temporary microgrids during all PSPS conditions or scenarios.

PG&E anticipates construction on these microgrid backup generation sites to be completed with fully operational microgrid islanding capabilities in July 2020. Islanding refers to the ability of a microgrid to disconnect from the larger power grid: when the power is turned off during a broader grid outage, the area supported by the microgrid may still remain energized and can operate autonomously.

While performing this critical safety work during the COVID-19 pandemic, crews will maintain proper social distance recommendations and wear protective equipment when necessary to help safeguard the health and safety of themselves and the general public.

PG&E customers in the vicinity of the construction sites will receive an automated, courtesy phone call from PG&E notifying them of the work taking place.

Customers who are within the temporary microgrid energization zones will receive a separate communication from PG&E, notifying them of their inclusion in the microgrid and informing them of how it will operate during a PSPS event.

One microgrid backup generation site, in Angwin, was completed in late 2019 and is currently operational. Several other microgrid backup generation sites are under consideration for development in 2020.

In addition to deploying temporary microgrids, which are primarily designed to keep shared community services energized, PG&E is working towards a number of improvements to make PSPS events less impactful for customers, these include:

- **Sectionalizing and reconfiguration**: Installing more than 600 sectionalizing devices this year capable of re-directing power and limiting the size of outages. PG&E is also analyzing its grid configuration to ensure as few customers as possible are impacted by future PSPS events.
- **Substation microgrids**: Establishing temporary microgrids starting from substations and other pre-determined locations that will allow PG&E to safely provide electricity using temporary generation during a PSPS event. These microgrids are designed to serve shared community resources and/or benefit a large number of customers in the portions of communities that are safe to energize during PSPS events.
- **Community Resource Centers**: Providing customers impacted by PSPS events with a climate-controlled environment and a space to charge electronic devices and receive refreshments.

Learn more about PG&E's wildfire safety efforts by visiting pge.com/wildfiresafety

*Email Currents at Currents@pge.com.*

END OF PG&E ARTICLE.