

Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) Enablement Criteria

SUMMARY

This utility procedure describes the process for using risk-informed criteria to enable Enhanced Powerline Safety Setting (EPSS) protection settings on EPSS-capable devices in High Fire Risk Areas (HFRAs) and the EPSS Buffer Zone. EPSS protection settings may include protection settings for Fast Trip Settings (FTSs) or Hot Line Tag (HLT) trip settings, reclose blocking, and Sensitive Ground Fault (SGF) detection.

This process excludes Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), Local Electrical Emergency Plan (LEEP), and Electrical Emergency Plan (EEP) events. The device enablement process involves asset strategy and planning, meteorology, engineering, system protection, test and automation, planning, operational processes, restoration, communications, data and strategy, regulatory, and customer support.

Level of Use: Informational Use

TARGET AUDIENCE

This procedure is intended for the following personnel:

- PG&E transmission and distribution (T&D) field personnel and contractors
- PG&E electric T&D Control Center
- Distribution engineers
- Substation Test
- System Protection
- System Automation
- Transmission engineers
- Personnel directly or indirectly supporting the EPSS Program

SAFETY

This procedure describes administrative procedures which do not expose personnel to any safety hazards.

BEFORE YOU START

READ AND COMPLY with [Utility Standard TD-1470S, "Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings \(EPSS\)."](#)

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PROCEDURE STEPS

1 Criteria Development

- 1.1 The EPSS Program director COORDINATES the development and implementation of EPSS enablement criteria to enable EPSS protection settings and the return-to-normal settings of EPSS-capable devices.
- 1.2 To develop EPSS enablement criteria, CONSIDER the following historical and forecast performance data:
- Wildfire risk reduction.
 - Public safety impact of unplanned outages.
 - Operational considerations, including variances for differing asset families (e.g., transmission versus distribution), operational capabilities (e.g., switching, availability of Meteorological [MET] forecast data), and communication with field and support teams.
 - Asset capability to provide EPSS protection (e.g., the ability for existing or planned protection devices to provide EPSS protection).

2 Criteria Review and Approval

- 2.1 Before approving criteria reviews, CONSULT personnel from the following organizations regarding EPSS enablement criteria, as appropriate:
- Wildfire Emergency and Operations (WEO)
 - Customer and Communications
 - T&D System Operations
 - Meteorology Operations
 - T&D Engineering

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2.1 (continued)

- Electric Incident Investigations (EIs)
- Ignition Investigation team

2.2 The Wildfire Risk Governance Steering Committee (WRGSC) PERFORMS the following tasks:

1. PROVIDE strategic guidance and oversight.
2. REVIEW AND APPROVE the risk-informed EPSS enablement criteria for implementation by the EPSS Program.

2.3 EPSS Program Management Office (PMO) personnel PERFORM the following tasks:

1. COMMUNICATE to internal stakeholders and matrix partners on the WRGSC's decision following an EPSS criteria review and approval, when applicable.
2. DOCUMENT records generated from WRGSC reviews and approvals in accordance with the Information and Records Governance (IRG) program, policy, standards, and Enterprise Records Retention Schedule (ERRS).
 - a. REFER to [Corporation Standard GOV-7101S, "Enterprise Information and Records Management Standard,"](#) and related standards.

3 Criteria Implementation

3.1 The EPSS Program director IMPLEMENTS AND COMMUNICATES the approved EPSS enablement criteria.

1. REFER to [Utility Procedure TD-1470P-03, "Wildfire Risk Seasonal Transition Process – Electric System Operations,"](#) for the Peak and Non-Peak Season Criteria processes.

3.2 Meteorology Operations personnel APPLY the EPSS enablement criteria to EPSS-capable circuits and circuit segments based on PG&E's Fire Potential Index (FPI) and the most recently approved WRGSC modeling approach.

3.3 EPSS Program personnel COMMUNICATE EPSS enablement and the return-to-normal setting instructions to the T&D Control Centers, when applicable.

3.4 REFER to [Utility Procedure TD-2700P-26, "Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings \(EPSS\) and Patrol Process,"](#) for the distribution enablement process.

1. To change relay settings, REFER to [Attachment 1, "Application Guide Device Profile Settings."](#)

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3.5 Alternative Method/Exceptions

1. HLTs used for energized work, equipment, and lines are reserved for use in the following conditions:
 - Abnormal operation conditions
 - Temporary use
 - Special-use scope change
2. For more information, REFER to [Utility Procedure TD-2700P-26, “Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings \(EPSS\) and Patrol Process.”](#) Subsection 6.4, “Patrol and Restoration Process.”

- 3.6 REFER to [Utility Procedure TD-1400P-07, “System Emergencies and Responding to Alarms,” Attachment 2, “Transmission Line Switching, Non-Reclose, and EPSS,”](#) for the transmission enablement process.

END of Instructions

DEFINITIONS

NA

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Superintendents, managers, and supervisors in charge of electric T&D work personnel are responsible for ensuring that work personnel are aware of and comply with this procedure.

Work personnel involved with the operation of the electric grid T&D systems and associated PG&E equipment must comply with this procedure.

Work personnel are responsible for executing only the work for which they have been trained. When necessary, personnel must notify their supervisor of any additional training, equipment, or resources they need to perform their assigned duties and/or job assignments.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

[Utility Standard TD-1470S, “Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings \(EPSS\)”](#)

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COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT / REGULATORY COMMITMENT

Information and Records Management:

PG&E Data, Information, and Records are company assets that must be traceable, verifiable, accurate, and complete and can be retrieved upon request. Functional Areas are responsible for complying with the Information & Records Governance Policy, Standards, and the Information and Records Retention Schedule. Refer to [GOV-7101S, "Enterprise Information and Records Management Standard,"](#) for further guidance or contact Information & Records Governance at Information&RecordsGovernance@pge.com.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Developmental References:

[Utility Standard EMER-4102S, "Preventing and Mitigating Fires While Performing PG&E Work"](#)

Supplemental References:

Utility Procedures:

- [TD-1400P-07, "System Emergencies and Responding to Alarms"](#)
 - [Attachment 2, "Transmission Line Switching, Non-Reclose, and EPSS"](#)
- [TD-1470P-03, "Wildfire Risk Seasonal Transition Process – Electric System Operations"](#)
- [TD-2700P-26, "Enhanced Power Line Safety Settings \(EPSS\) and Patrol Process"](#)

APPENDICES

NA

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment 1, "Application Guide Device Profile Settings"](#)

DOCUMENT REVISION

This utility procedure supersedes Utility Procedure TD-1470P-01, "Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) Enablement Criteria," Rev. 2, dated 05/02/2024.

DOCUMENT APPROVER

, Director, EPSS

Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) Enablement Criteria

DOCUMENT OWNER

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REVISION NOTES

Where?	What Changed?
Target Audience	Added "Personnel directly or indirectly supporting the EPSS Program."
Section 2	2.1: Updated "Wildfire Risk" to "Wildfire Emergency and Operations (WEO)." 2.3: Updated "Community Wildfire Safety Program" to "EPSS Program Management Office (PMO)." 2.3.1: Added "to internal stakeholders and matrix partners on." 2.3.2.a: Updated title of GOV-7101S.
Section 3	3.5.1: Updated subsection number of TD-2700P-26 "Patrol and Restoration Process" from 6.3 to 6.4.
Compliance Requirement / Regulatory Commitment	Updated title of GOV-7101S.