

Safety



Bulletin

October 28, 2019

Information About Air Quality and Public Safety Power Shutoffs Update #3

UCSF Emergency Management teams continue to closely monitor the unfolding situation and impacts related to regional wildfires and PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), which are affecting much of the state.

This update includes the following guidance for the UCSF community:

- 1. UCSF's Protocol for Wildfire Smoke**
- 2. Kincade Fire Expands in Scope**
- 3. PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoffs to Continue**
- 4. Resources for UCSF Employees and Learners**

1. UCSF's Protocol for Wildfire Smoke

Since last year's significant wildfires, UCSF has convened a multidisciplinary task force to establish a standard protocol for responses to wildfire smoke events. This task force, which included medical experts in respiratory health, established a number of actions which will be implemented based on Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Air Quality Index or AQI.

When smoke from a wildfire results in an AQI of 101 or higher, teams at the campus Emergency Operations Center and Hospital Incident Command System will activate and coordinate response actions. In addition, indoor air quality monitoring will begin and windows and exterior doors should be kept closed whenever possible.

At AQI level of 151 or higher, N-95 masks will be made available to UCSF employees and learners who request them. At this AQI level, outdoor workers are encouraged to wear these masks, which will be provided through their own department.

Should AQI levels reach 201 or higher, classes that do not directly support clinical operations or research activities may be cancelled. Individual schools and programs will be involved in this decision. When these levels are reached, additional protective measures will be implemented and communicated.

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**Mike Denson
Chief of Police**

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Please note that due to a limited supply of N-95 masks, only one mask will be given per person, per event. It is important to note that masks are not appropriate for children and that anyone who uses an N-95 mask should follow the guidelines, which are posted on the UCSF Police Department website.

https://police.ucsf.edu/sites/police.ucsf.edu/files/media/wildfire_smoke_handout.pdf

Given the fluctuating weather and wind conditions seen in the region, UCSF is actively monitoring outdoor air quality via the EPA's AirNow website at <https://airnow.gov/>. The EPA website includes a search box to check air quality by zip code, as well as maps identifying the air quality index using a color-coded system.

2. Kincade Fire Expands in Scope

The Kincade Fire has now grown to more than 60,000 acres and is only 5 percent contained. As reported Oct. 27, UCSF is aware of approximately 345 faculty and staff who live in and around the evacuation areas.

The safety and security of the UCSF community is our top priority. The University understands that employees and students may not be able to come to UCSF during these challenging circumstances. Guidelines for employees impacted by the wildfires is posted on the Human Resource website.

<https://hr.ucsf.edu/hr.php?&A=5901&org=c> Students and trainees are asked to please be in touch with their faculty advisor, program director, or program administrator if they have questions.

3. PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoffs to Continue

PG&E crews have begun inspecting power lines and restoring power to some areas. No restoration times have been given. However, PG&E expects to begin another PSPS on a smaller scale on Tuesday morning as a proactive measure, in response to another high wind event that is forecasted. While winds are not expected to be as strong as the past weekend, some areas may not have power restored until the winds have ceased.

To prepare for these recurring power outages, please check PG&E's PSPS website for details on what to do before and during power outages:

https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/outage-readiness.page

UCSF employees and learners, or those whose family members may be impacted by closures or power outages, should consult with their manager or advisors to request special accommodations.

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4. Additional Resources for UCSF Employees and Learners

More resources can be found on the following websites:

- PG&E map of outages: https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/pmps-event-maps.page
- Google map of outages: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=11OZXAhqf-NnZHzCSz-4puYSjangbG4e&ll=37.78961840853223%2C-122.02310933614916&z=10>
- PG&E resource centers: <https://abc7news.com/society/list-bay-area-resource-centers-opened-for-those-impacted-by-pg-e-shutoff/5604832/>

Any concerns after-hours can be directed to UCSF PD by calling (415) 476-1414 and request the HSEM Duty Officer.

Help fight crime by reporting suspicious persons and/or suspicious activity to UCSF PD immediately—race, gender, and religious affiliation are NOT considered suspicious. For emergency or in-progress events, dial 9-911 when using on-campus land lines and 415.476-6911 when using cell phones. For non-emergency calls, please dial 415.476-1414.

19-10-12 CP/mdh



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