

# HAZARDS AND THREATS

## Power Outages Information

### What Causes Power Outages?

- **Storms**
- **Trees**
- **Vehicles**
- **Earthquakes**
- **Animals**
- **Lightning**
- **Excavation Digging**
- **High Power Demand**

#### **Power Outage – Storms**

Wind, heat, ice and snow are the most common causes of widespread power outages.

#### **Power Outage – Trees**

During high winds, or trimming by an untrained professional, limbs can come into contact with power lines, causing power interruptions.

**NOTE:** Planting trees near power lines is not recommended.

#### **Power Outage – Vehicles**

A vehicle accident with a utility pole can cause a power outage.

#### **Power Outage – Earthquakes**

Earthquakes of all sizes can damage electrical facilities and power lines.

#### **Power Outage - Animals**

Squirrels, birds, and other small animals may cause power lines to short circuit.

#### **Power Outage – Lightning**

When lightning strikes electrical equipment, transmission towers, wires, and poles, outages occur.

## **Excavation Digging**

Sometimes underground cable is disturbed by either digging, people gardening or placing fence posts.

## **Power Outage - High Power Demand**

During heat waves and other times of unusually high power demand, overburdened electric cables, transformers, and other electrical equipment can melt and fail.

(Source: Southern California Edison)

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