

From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 9/8/2011 6:11:52 PM
To: 'pac@cpuc.ca.gov' (pac@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Summary from SDG&E news alter doem SD paper

From: Wan, Fong
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2011 06:00 PM
To: Cherry, Brian K; Conway, John; Bottorff, Thomas E; Williams, Geisha; Johnson, Mark S (ET); Lemler, Gregg
Cc: Kuga, Roy M
Subject: FW: Summary from SDG&E news alter doem SD paper

Additional info.

From: Ballard, Kevin J (Merchant)
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2011 5:44 PM
To: Wan, Fong; Kuga, Roy M
Cc: Andrews, Veronica (Merchant); Tom, William (Merchant); Redacted
Subject: FW: Summary from SDG&E news alter doem SD paper

Fong and Roy,

- 1535 San Diego area blacked out due to suspected 500kv line outage (not confirmed).
- San Onofre Nuclear Power Plants both relayed on the trouble.
- Per a San Diego Radio station, all of San Diego is blacked out. Confirmed by SCE Manager of Realtime Operations
- CAISO load graph indicates a loss of 4500.
- No details on restoration effort at this time.

News summary below.

Will follow-up as conditions change.

Kevin

From: Redacted
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2011 5:30 PM
To: Redacted

Subject: Summary from SDG&E news alter doem SD paper

A massive power outage hit San Diego County around 3:35 p.m. Thursday, and was felt from south Orange County to Arizona and Tijuana

The problem, which extended into Mexico's Baja peninsula, cut electricity to millions of people, including 1.4 million in San Diego.

San Diego Gas & Electric Co. officials said there was a problem with a transmission line between Arizona and California and that two units at the San Onofre nuclear plant north of the city went offline as a result.

An SDG&E spokesman said just before 5 p.m. that the outage could last into Friday after a "large switching station" in Arizona was knocked out.

A "cascading event" overwhelmed the system, leading to "too many outages in too many places," he said. The Escondido and Otay Mesa power plants were to be brought online first, "working from the inside out."

"This was a fairly severe event," SDG&E said at its Kearny Mesa headquarters. This could be an extended outage, the spokesman said.

"Just chill out while the power is out," he said. He urged people to turn their air conditioning off in anticipation of the power being restored.

SDG&E said it would post updates on Twitter at twitter.com/sdge

"We don't know what happened to the line, all we know is that the line is out. We don't know exactly why it went out. We have no indication that there is an act of terrorism at this time."

A ham radio operator told KOGO radio at 4:40 p.m. that the Coachella and Salton Sea power plants have gone down. No confirmation yet from officials.

San Diego Gas & Electric Co. was not answering phone calls, but it planned a press conference about 5 p.m. Officials tweeted that staff is working on finding the source of the problem.

The San Diego Office of Emergency Services told KOGO radio that residents shouldn't use landline phones or cell phones.

Traffic accidents were reported in the Mission Valley area, and major backups were reported on local freeways as offices emptied early.

Many radio stations are out, but KOGO said it was running on a generator. Los Angeles is not affected. All three trolley lines are reported halted. Lindbergh Field halted departures but not arrivals. San Diego State University shut down.

The following was tweeted by @SDG&E:

"We understand power is out, we are working on the cause and solution. We do not have a restoration time yet."

Phones were jammed throughout the county, and KOGO was told that Ensenada and other Baja California cities lost power.

A nurse at Sharp Memorial Hospital advised residents using oxygen tanks to move to police or fire stations with air conditioning because the tanks can explode in the heat, KOGO was told.