

Southern California Edison

Drought Relief Efforts

As California endures its third consecutive year of drought, Southern California Edison (SCE) continues to take measures to conserve precious water and support drought-impacted customers while delivering on SCE's commitment to safe, affordable and reliable energy.

Support for Farmers and Water Agencies

- SCE offers a wide range of agricultural rates to meet individual operational needs and works closely with agriculture customers who request assistance to find the most affordable rates available. To increase the efficiency of irrigation systems, SCE offers free testing of pumps and offers financial incentives to upgrade pumps that are found to be inefficient.
- SCE account representatives are working with regulated water utilities and local governments to identify projects and incentives that will reduce the use of water and energy. SCE is also working with local jurisdictions and agricultural users in the San Joaquin Valley to expedite service connections and pump-testing requests and to identify energy-saving solutions that help during the drought.
- SCE personnel are focused on meeting customers' needs, participating in county emergency drought task forces in both Tulare and Kings counties. SCE's partnership with both city and county participants has allowed the utility to work with local governments in developing innovative solutions to chronic water shortages.
- In partnership with five municipalities, SCE conducted a pilot program to detect water leaks across 583 miles of pipes owned and operated by municipal water agencies. Water savings and associated energy savings achieved through the pilot program will be quantified by evaluating municipal usage data. When the pilot is completed at the end of 2014, SCE will seek to enroll additional participants in leak-loss detection and repair programs.

Did You Know

- SCE offers a wide range of agricultural rates to meet individual operational needs.
- SCE is working with local governments in developing innovative solutions to chronic water shortages.
- Landscaping around SCE's General Office buildings in Rosemead has been irrigated with recycled/reclaimed water since 2010.

Support for Drought-Impacted Communities

- SCE agreed to help supplement water supply to the city of Bakersfield. Instead of using all the water SCE was entitled to use for power generation last spring, the utility stored 1.5 billion gallons in order to ensure that the city would have adequate supply during the dry summer months of July, August and September.
- SCE convened an informational meeting for Big Creek-area businesses last spring to educate business and community stakeholders on what SCE anticipated lake levels to be throughout the tourist season so they could plan based on the best information available.
- Because lower-than-usual lake levels impacted water-related recreation in the area, SCE awarded a \$15,000 grant to Huntington Lake Big Creek Historical Conservancy to help fund a number of events designed to promote tourism in the region.
- This summer, as part of its federal hydropower license, SCE also stocked 3,500 rainbow trout at popular Bishop Creek and Rush Creek fishing spots, which was a boon to business owners in the Eastern Sierra suffering from the economic impacts of the drought.

Water Efficiency at SCE Facilities

- SCE has been reducing water reliance through appropriate facility management and is reducing its water usage across its service territory. Landscaping surrounding SCE's General Office buildings in Rosemead has been irrigated with recycled/reclaimed water since 2010. Over the past several years, SCE has also installed drought-tolerant landscapes at various company sites. Each of these sites had a minimum of 60 percent water reduction.
- SCE performed facilities upgrades to ensure new water-saving construction standards are met, and new construction projects are targeted to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.
- About 50 percent of the water needed to operate the Mountainview power plant in Redlands is recycled/reclaimed wastewater from the city of Redlands. The rest is groundwater from a previously contaminated underground aquifer, the use of which helps speed the aquifer's decontamination.

by the NUMBERS

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