

even more expensive considering time, labor, transportation, disposal and tree resources wasted. This effort should be redirected to the installation of Covered Conductors. It is insane to repeat the same mistakes and expect different results. How can they claim commitment to SAFETY when bare wire is ubiquitous throughout their system?

Southern California Edison (SCE) presented a study of Covered Conductors to the CPUC following their Wildfire Mitigation Plan presentation. Covered Conductors reduce the risk of arcing to near zero at a cost per mile just slightly higher than bare wire and much lower than undergrounding. To install bare wire costs \$300,000/mile, Covered Conductor \$430,000/mile and undergrounding costs \$3,000,000/mile. SCE used Risk/Spend Efficiency (RSE) to compare each option. Covered Conductor's RSE is 3.4x greater than bare wire and 4x greater than under- grounding.

https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC_Public_Website/Content/News_Room/Feb.%2027th%20Workshop%20SCE%20Covered%20Conductor%20Presentation.pdf

SCE and San Diego Gas and Electric (SDGE) have begun hardening their electric infrastructure using insulated wire and High Impedance Arc Fault Interrupters which can cut power before a broken line hits the ground. No longer will first responders have to wait while arcing lines are shut off. SCE has committed to installing 3400 miles of insulated wire, though all distribution should be insulated. Arc fault interrupters are commonly used in large buildings and industrial facilities and are available now, as are durable Covered Conductors. It is time for rate payers and forest resources to be protected.

Please use your authority to protect the forest from hazardous bare wire.

Thanks,

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Wildland Firefighter (35 years)
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