

Exhibit to Agenda Item #2

Brief the Board regarding impacts of recent unprecedented storms and mitigation efforts to improve storm response and restoration.

Board Strategic Development Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 2023, scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.

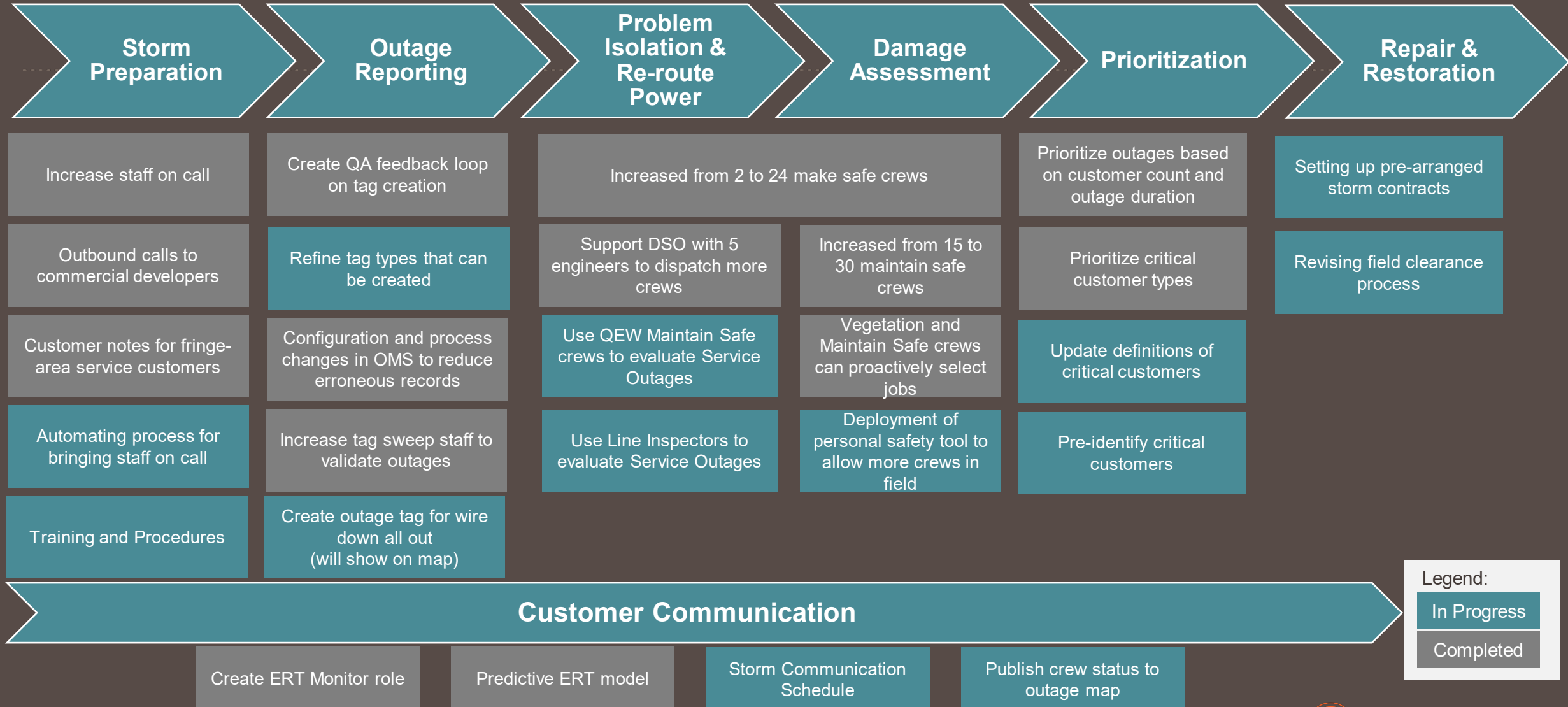
SMUD Headquarters Building, Auditorium

Storm Update

Agenda

- Emergency Operations Process Overview
- January 2023 Storms
 - Challenges
 - Overview
 - Response highlights
- Next Steps
- Resiliency

Current Improvements



Emergency Operations Process

Purpose

- Ensure a coordinated response across SMUD during a significant event

Goal

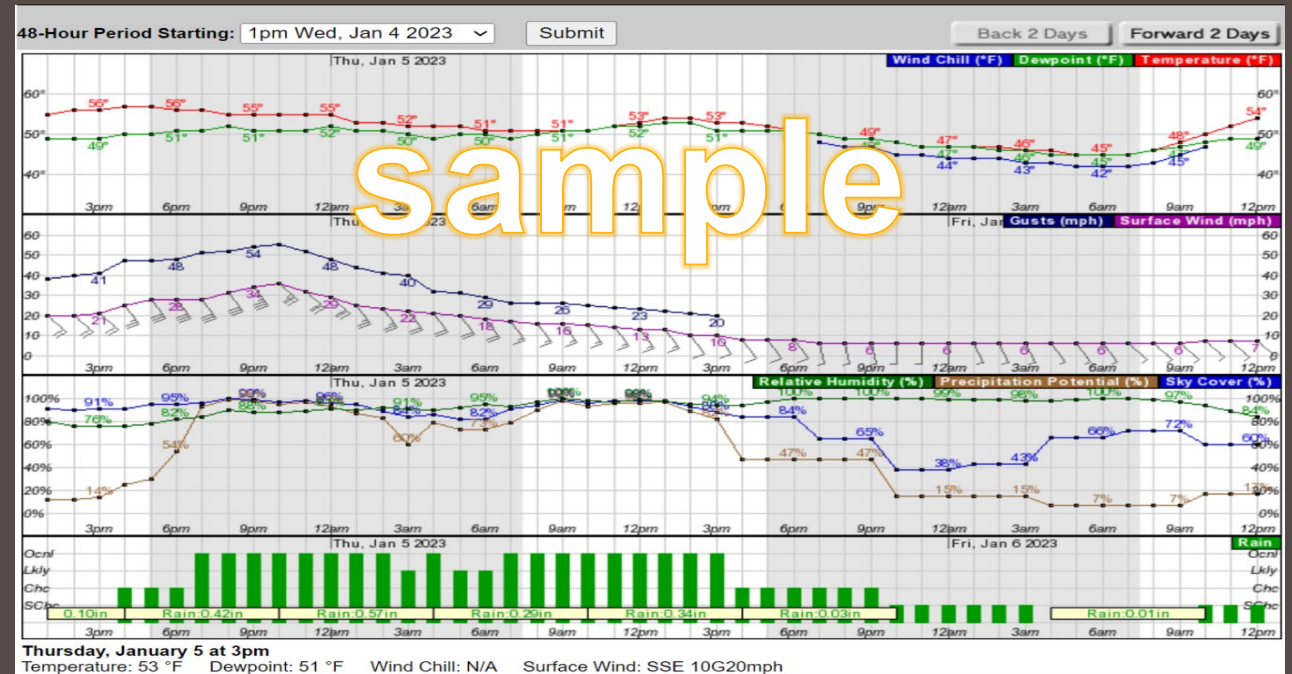
- Maximize utilization of resources to safely and efficiently restore power
- Provide coordinated, timely and accurate information to drive decision-making
- Provide timely and accurate estimated restoration times to our customers

Triggers/Key Considerations

- Weather forecast - primary driver to mobilize resources and communicate to stakeholders ahead of weather event
- Distribution system status
- Other considerations

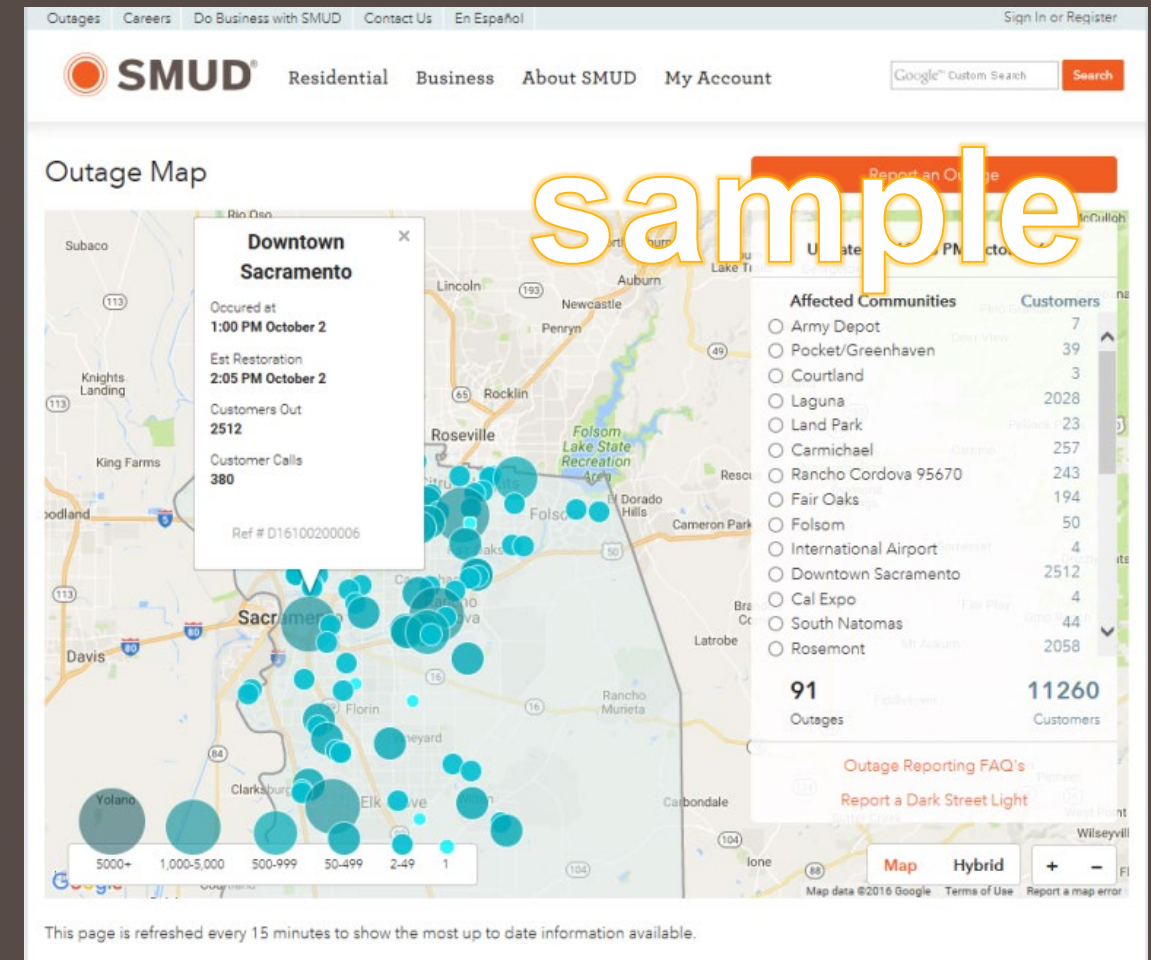
Trigger for Emergency Operations - Weather Forecast

- Sustained wind speeds forecasted to exceed 30 mph
- Wind gusts forecasted to be at least 35 mph
- Ground saturation levels, expected rainfall



Trigger for Emergency Operations - Distribution System Status & Other Considerations

- When existing resources are not sufficient to respond to the size of emergency
 - *Need to mobilize additional resources*
- Duration of event is anticipated to go beyond 12 hours
- Extensive inquiries expected from customers, media and/or governmental agencies



Pre-Storm Communication

Typically a day ahead, SMUD provides

- Update to the Board about expected conditions, staffing and resources to respond to event
- Communications to customers
 - News release
 - Social media
 - Smud.org alerts
 - Internal speaking points
 - Commercial account outreach
 - Automated calls, texts and emails
 - Interactive Voice Response (IVR)

Before a storm

In addition to these tips, become familiar with your service panel location and how to operate the main circuit breaker.

Check your storm kit

Prepare a basic emergency kit and store it in an accessible place. The kit should contain:

- Portable cell phone charger
- Flashlight
- Fresh drinking water
- Extra batteries
- Manual can opener
- Battery-operated radio

Preparing year round

Our crews perform maintenance activities such as tree trimming and equipment replacement year-round to help prevent outages.

We have also increased our efforts to replace old underground cable, which will significantly lower the number of cable-related outages.

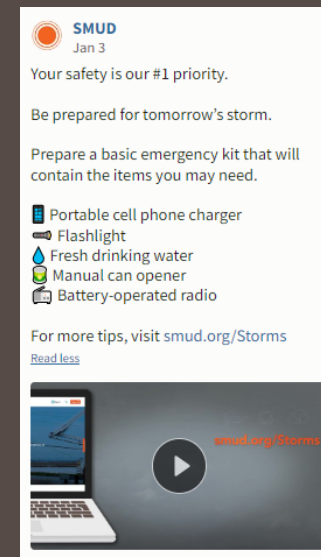
Get more information about how we prepare and restore power during an outage.

Storm tips brochure

The information on this page is also available in brochure form in several different languages.

- English
- English Commercial
- Spanish
- Chinese
- Vietnamese
- Hmong
- Russian

If you would like a brochure mailed to you, please call SMUD Customer Service at 1-888-742-7683.



SMUD
Jan 3

Your safety is our #1 priority.

Be prepared for tomorrow's storm.

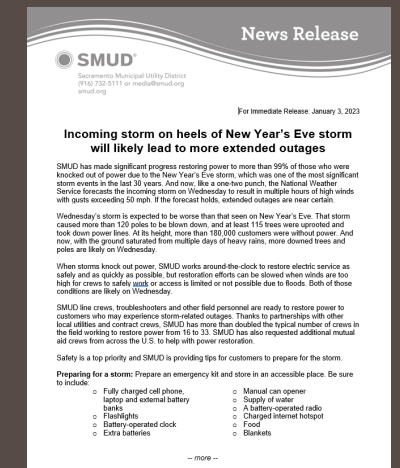
Prepare a basic emergency kit that will contain the items you may need.

- Portable cell phone charger
- Flashlight
- Fresh drinking water
- Manual can opener
- Battery-operated radio

For more tips, visit smud.org/Storms

[Read less](#)

smud.org/Storms



SMUD
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
(916) 733-5111 or media@smud.org
smud.org

For Immediate Release: January 3, 2023

Incoming storm on heels of New Year's Eve storm will likely lead to more extended outages

SMUD has made significant progress restoring power to more than 99% of those who were knocked out of power due to the New Year's Eve storm, which was one of the most significant storm events in the last 30 years. And now, like a one-two punch, the National Weather Service forecasts the incoming storm on Wednesday to result in multiple hours of high winds with gusts exceeding 50 mph. If the forecast holds, extended outages are near certain.

Wednesday's storm is expected to be worse than that seen on New Year's Eve. That storm caused more than 120 poles to be blown down, and at least 115 trees were uprooted and took down power lines. At its height, more than 180,000 customers were without power. And now, with the ground saturated from multiple days of heavy rains, more downed trees and poles are likely on Wednesday.

When storms knock out power, SMUD works around the clock to restore electric service as safely and as quickly as possible, but restoration efforts can be slowed when winds are too high for crews to safely work or access is limited or not possible due to floods. Both of those conditions are likely on Wednesday.

SMUD line crews, troubleshooters and other field personnel are ready to restore power to customers who may experience storm-related outages. Thanks to partnerships with other local utilities and contract crews, SMUD has more than doubled the typical number of crews in the field working to restore power from 16 to 33. SMUD has also requested additional mutual aid crews from across the U.S. to help with power restoration.

Safety is a top priority and SMUD is providing tips for customers to prepare for the storm.

Preparing for a storm: Prepare an emergency kit and store in an accessible place. Be sure to include:

- Fully charged cell phone, laptop and external battery
- Flashlights
- Battery-operated clock
- Extra batteries
- Manual can opener
- Supply of water
- A battery-operated radio
- Charged internet hotspot
- Food
- Blankets

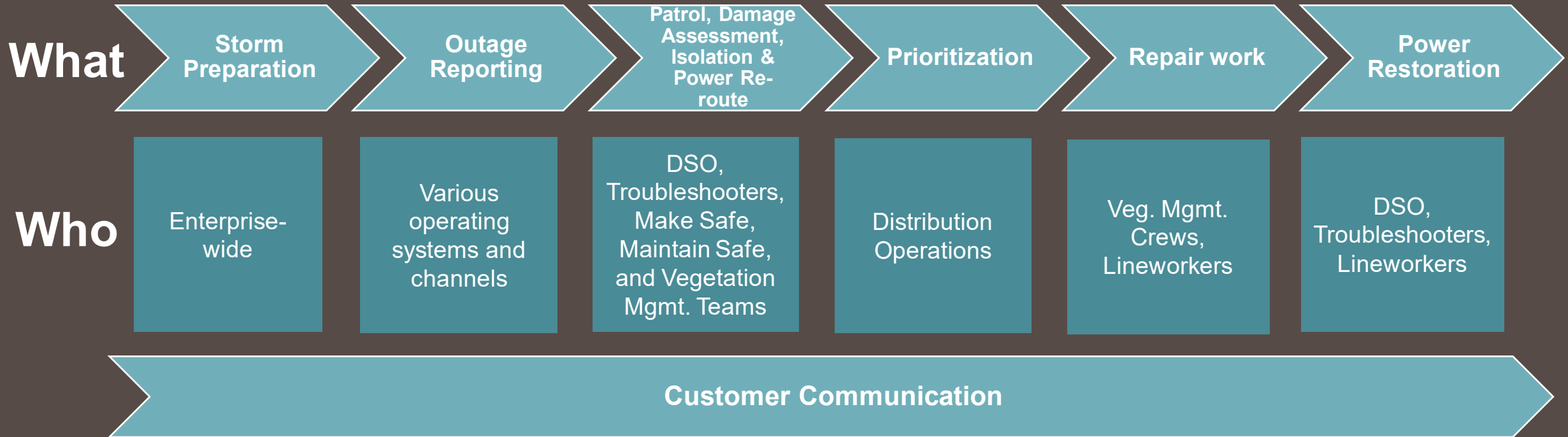
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Transition to Emergency Operations

1. Distribution System Operations (DSO) declares emergency operations
2. Call for additional support areas as needed
 - Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - Line & Substation Assets (including contractors)
 - Make Safe
 - Maintain Safe
 - Vegetation Management
 - Engineering support
 - Customer Care
 - IT
 - Corporate Communications
 - Government Affairs
3. Change standard Estimated Restoration Times (ERT)
4. Communications with customers and other stakeholders in real time based on field and operational conditions



Current Response & Restoration Steps



** As many customers as possible are restored during power re-route*



January Storms

January 2023 Storms – Unprecedented Challenges

Number one challenge was **communicating timely and accurate estimated restoration times (ERT)** to our customers

- *Delays in providing ERT's*
- *ERT's changing*

Customers could not rely on the ERT's



January 2023 Storms – Unprecedented Challenges

Weather Forecast missed New Years Eve storm

Extent of damage

- Over 2,300 outages across our service area
- 941 outages (40%) impacted single customers
- 1,000+ tree-related incidents, 1,250+ wire down incidents

Resources

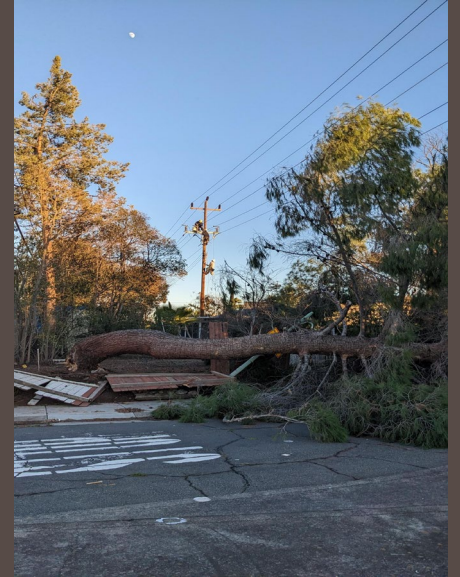
- Needed significantly more damage assessors, repair crews and support staff

Technology

- Outage Management System (OMS)
 - System limitations
 - Data discrepancies
- Automated outbound customer communication platform down

Process

- Management of outages
- ERT's
- Work prioritization



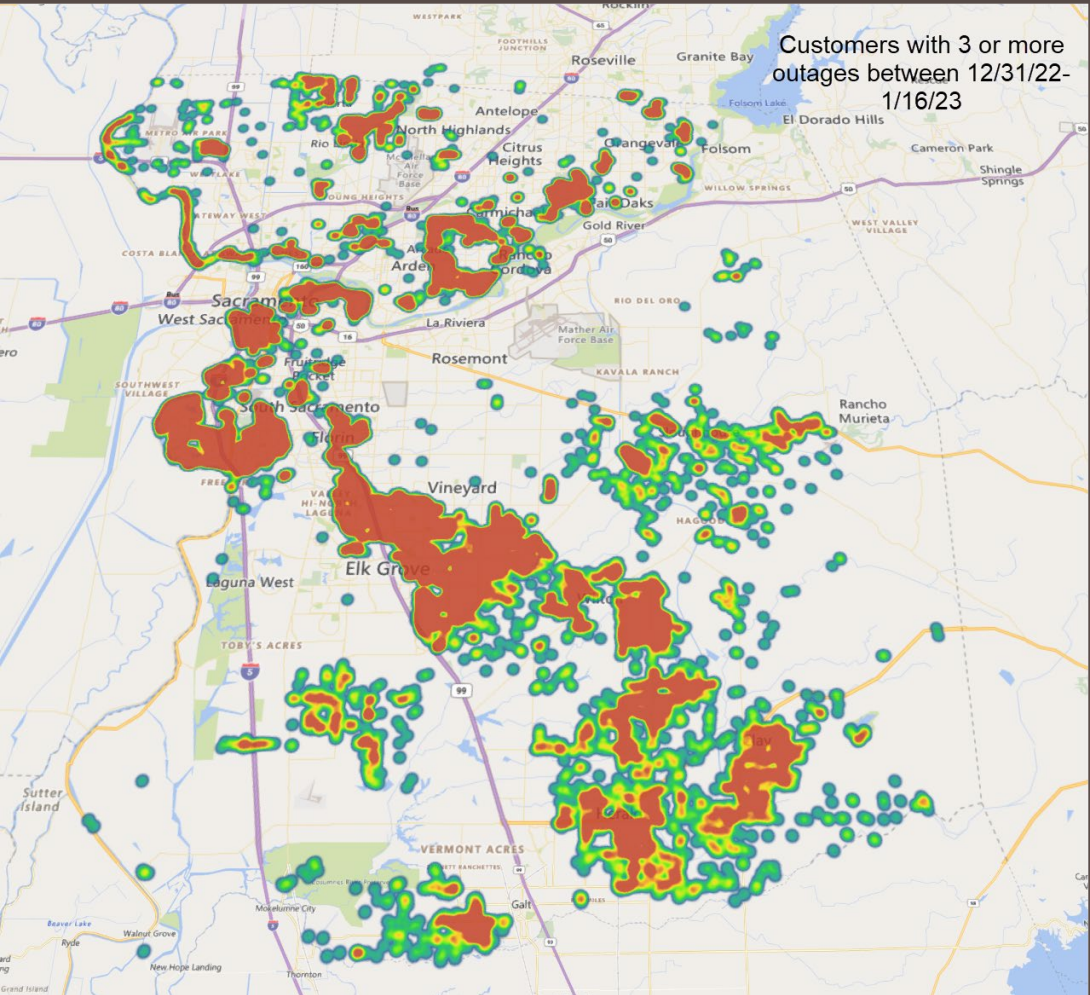
January 2023 Storms – Overview

	Dec. 31, 2022 – Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 4, 2023	Jan. 7 – Jan. 8, 2023	Jan. 14, 2023
Sustained Wind (mph)	46	37	49	37
Wind Gust (mph)	59	51	64	56
Customers Impacted	257,459	37,947	287,999	43,834
% Customers Restored within 24 hours	94	99	89	100

- Emergency operations from New Year’s Eve through January 16, 2023
- EOC activated for the full duration and worked in partnership with the County and State OES

January 2023 Storms – Widespread Impacts

New Year's Eve – Jan. 16, 2023



Number of customers with 3 or more outages

Legend:



January 2023 Storms – Historical Comparison

Unprecedented string of storms caused the most significant damage to SMUD's system, ever.

	Jan. 4-7, 2008	Jan. 26-30 2021	Dec. 31, 2022 – Jan. 16, 2023
Sustained Wind (mph)	58	50	49
Wind Gust (mph)	70	67	64
Customers Impacted	492,156	254,579	632,227
% Customers Restored within 24 hours	95%	93%	93%
# of Single Customer Outages	378	146	941
# of Wire-Down Events	320	501	1,262

January 2023 Storms - Response

- Largest response effort in SMUD's history
- 24/7 emergency operations for 17 days
- Mobilized additional Make Safe, Maintain Safe, and Vegetation Management crews to conduct damage assessments
- Mobilized additional staff to support DSO and field operations
- Over 100 crews worked around the clock including 39 contract crews & mutual aid from other utilities—the most ever in SMUD's history



Mutual Assistance - Thank You!



Customer Care and Communications

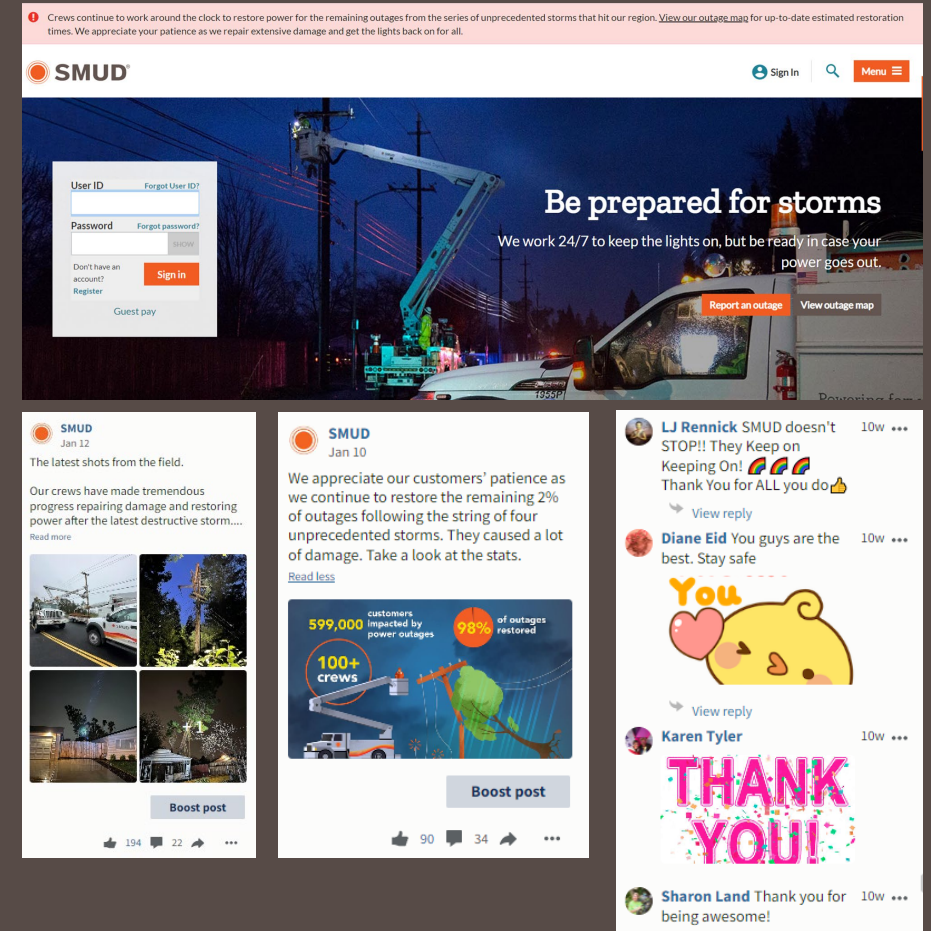
- Around the clock Contact Center support
- Commercial customer outreach
- Support provided to our most vulnerable customers
 - Partnered with Raley's and the Salvation Army to deliver essentials



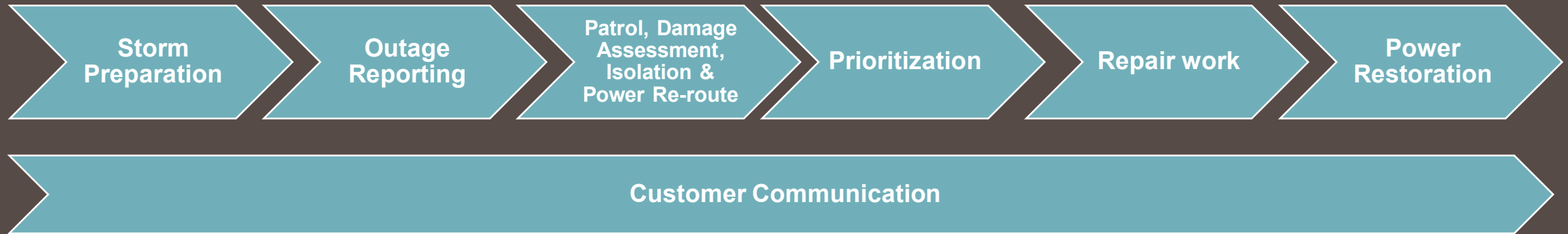
Customer Care and Communications

Frequent messages were sent based upon field conditions:

- 32 separate outbound call campaign scripts
- 12 IVR messages
- 5 News releases
- Dozens of media interviews
- 150 Social media posts
- 21 different Web alerts
- Personal outreach to business customers and government stakeholders



Emergency Operations – Improvement Areas



- Accuracy of outage data
- Accelerating damage assessments
- Method for calculating and communicating estimated restoration times (ERTs)
- Restoration priorities
- Central hub – status of outages and crews, across all assignments
- Customer communications

Best Practices Benchmarking



Research - Technologies and Products & Services

Accelerate Damage Assessments

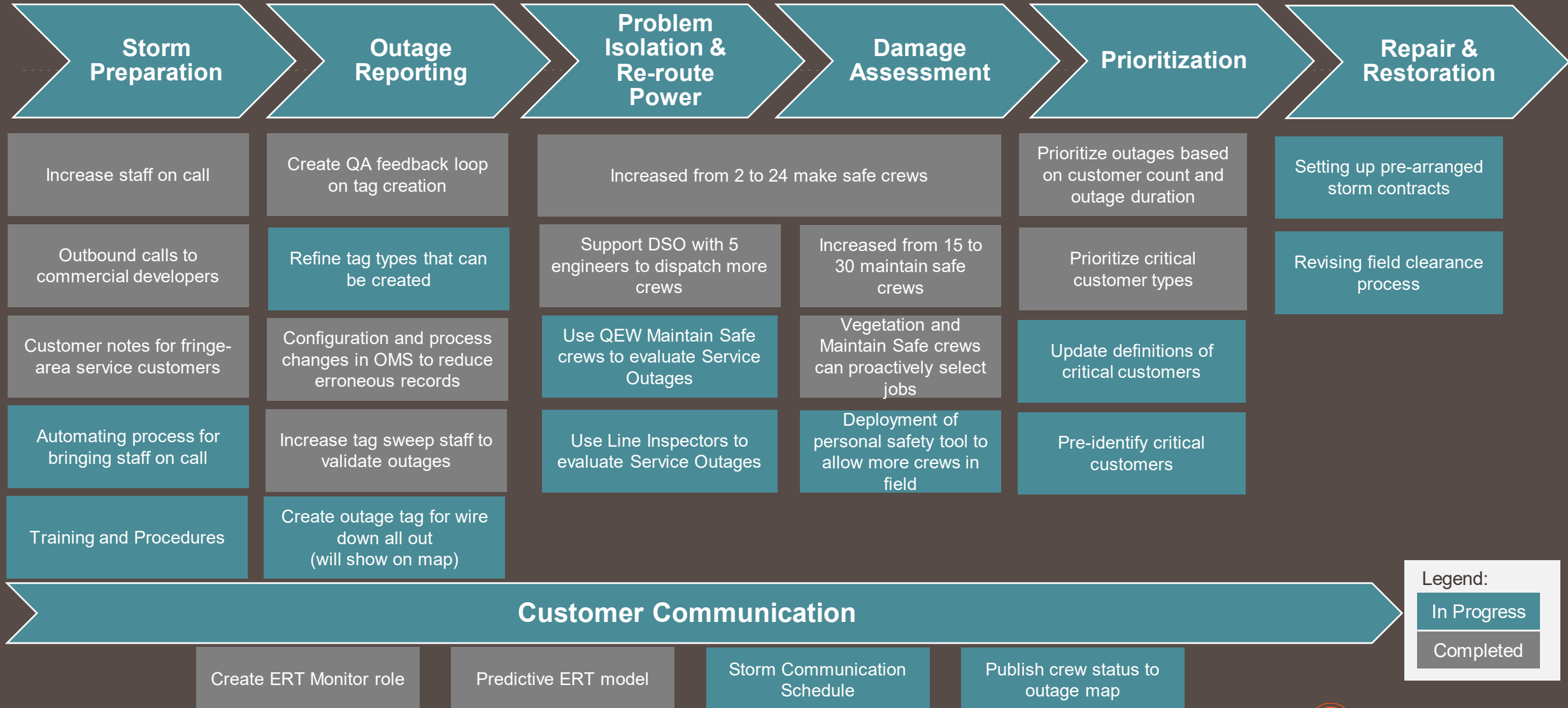
- Automated crew callout solutions
- Personal voltage detector
- Contract crews for damage assessment, vegetation management, and repair work
- Drone technology

Emergency Operations – Current Improvements

Launched Enterprise-wide Team, with three current sub-teams

- Damage Assessments
 - Identified additional resources for Make Safe functions and damage assessments
 - Significantly expanded list of available workers for Maintain Safe functions
 - Streamlined tag creation and management
- Estimated Restoration Times (ERTs)
 - Created method for estimating longer-range ERTs based on workload and crew availability
 - Enhancing storm communications plan
- Restoration Prioritization
 - Defining categories of critical customers
 - Identifying specific customers
 - Designing data flow to manage critical customers during storm

Current Improvements



Legend:

In Progress

Completed

April 11, 2023

24

Board Strategic Development Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting



Current Improvements – Storm Preparation



Completed

- **Increased number of staff on call** – Troubleshooters, Dispatchers, Line Workers, Vegetation Management, Support Staff
- **Outbound calls to commercial customers** – Let them know processes for new services/upgrades may be disrupted
- **Customer Notes for Fringe Service Agreements** – Proactively identify customers whose outages require repair by third parties, to route their calls appropriately

In Progress

- **Use automated tools for on call staff notification** – Automate the calling of 100+ employees
- **Training and Procedures** – Revising training to increase pool of qualified storm workers; increasing scope of work each group can handle
- **Mock Storm** – Planning mock storm event in September/October to ensure staff and management get hands on experience on systems and procedures prior to storm season
- **Activation Levels** – Reviewing response levels for various storm sizes, and how activation level is communicated across the organization.

Customer Communication

Current Improvements – Outage Reporting



Completed

- **QA Feedback Loop** – Improve quality and accuracy of outage event creation through continuous improvement and targeted training, with same-day feedback to respond to changing error types.
- **OMS Configuration and Process Changes** – changes resulted in fewer duplicate and erroneous records being created and increased system performance.
- **Increase Tag Sweep Staff** – Tag sweep staff validate outage information and help remotely detect the scope of an outage, allowing for faster damage assessment.

In Progress

- **Refine tag types** – Will reduce data entry errors and allow faster sorting and dispatching of tags to appropriate work groups.
- **Wire down outage tags** – Creating outage tags for these events will increase visibility in the outage map.

Customer Communication

Current Improvements – Problem Isolation & Damage Assessment



Completed

- **Increase Make Safe Crews** – augment troubleshooter resources to isolate problems and re-route power, to minimize number of impacted customers. Breaking up line crews allows an increase from 2 crews to 24 Make Safe crews available at the start of storm.
- **Increase from 15 to 30 Maintain Safe Crews** – Increasing the dispatch and crew capacity allows for more rapid collection of data on damaged equipment, accelerating ERTs.
- **Support DSO with engineers** – Additional support offloads some task from DSO and allows DSO to direct more crews to isolate problems and re-route power.
- **Proactive job selection** – crews self-assigning their own work allows DSO to dispatch more crews.

In Progress

- **Service Outage Assessment** – Electrically trained maintain safe crews and line inspectors can be used to assess service outages, reducing workload for troubleshooters and make safe crews.
- **Deploy new safety tool** – Using additional safety technology that can detect presence of live wires increases safety of damage assessors who are not regularly deployed to the field.

Customer Communication

Current Improvements - Prioritization



Restoration Priorities

1. Public and Employee Safety
2. Reliability of the SMUD's Transmission and Distribution System
3. Repair/replacement of system components that allows restoration to the largest number of customers, including essential and critical customers
4. Single customer outages

Customer Communication

Current Improvements - Prioritization



Completed

- **Prioritize based on customer count and outage duration** – Developed algorithm that automatically sorts outages based on number of customers are out and how long they have been out. This replaces manual prioritization and job selection.
- **Prioritize critical customers** – Algorithm takes into account critical customer types (pumps, hospitals, schools, etc.) to ensure timely repairs and restoration.

In Progress

- **Pre-identify critical customers** – Collecting information on critical customers and storing it in our customer systems allows for automatic prioritization of critical customers, rather than relying on manual escalation. Manual escalation can still be used as needed during a storm.
- **Review and update critical customer categories** - A comprehensive review of critical customer categories ensures key services are maintained during a storm. New prioritization algorithm allows more precise prioritization.

Customer Communication

Current Improvements – Repair & Restoration



Completed

- Improvements in other areas will improve crew readiness and data accuracy, improving restoration.

In Progress

- **Pre-arranged storm contracts** – Having pre-arranged contracts allows for faster response from contract crews at the time of a storm, and increases total pool of available resources.
- **Revising field clearance processes** – Allowing field crews to perform certain work with modified clearance procedures will increase speed of work and allow DSO to manage more crews.

Customer Communication

Current Improvements – Customer Communication

Storm Preparation

Outage Reporting

Problem Isolation & Re-route Power

Damage Assessment

Prioritization

Repair & Restoration

Completed

- **ERT Monitor** – Putting dedicated staff to monitor ERTs helps ensure ERTs are accurate and not missed.
- **Predictive Model for ERTs** – Prior ERT model was based primarily on outage type. New ERT model takes into account customer prioritization, crew availability, and damage assessment information from field.

In Progress

- **Storm Communication Schedule** – Improving internal coordination will ensure customers have access to the best information SMUD has about their outage.
- **Crew Status on Outage Map** – Publishing the status of job assessment and crew assignment will provide customers with a better sense of the progress made, and the factors that could move the ERT.

Customer Communication

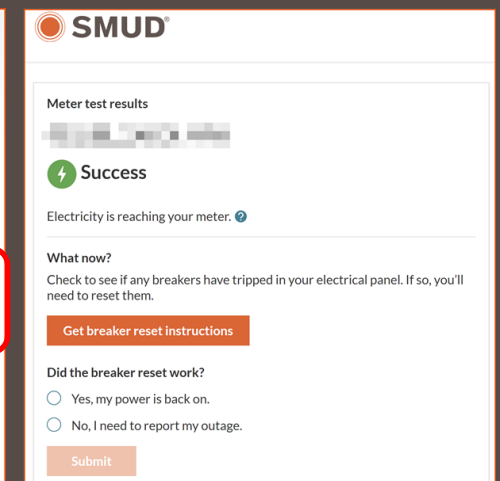
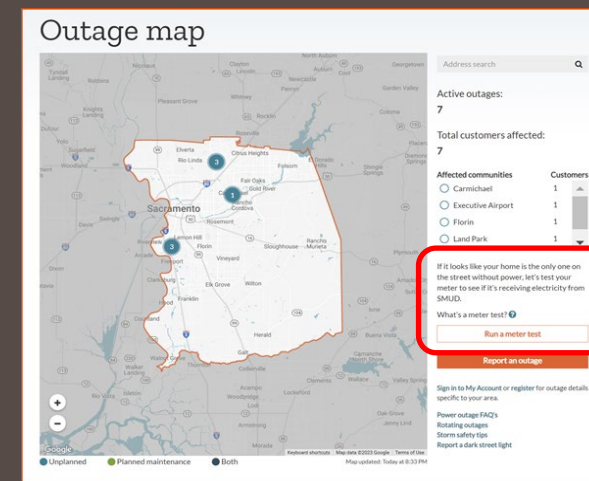
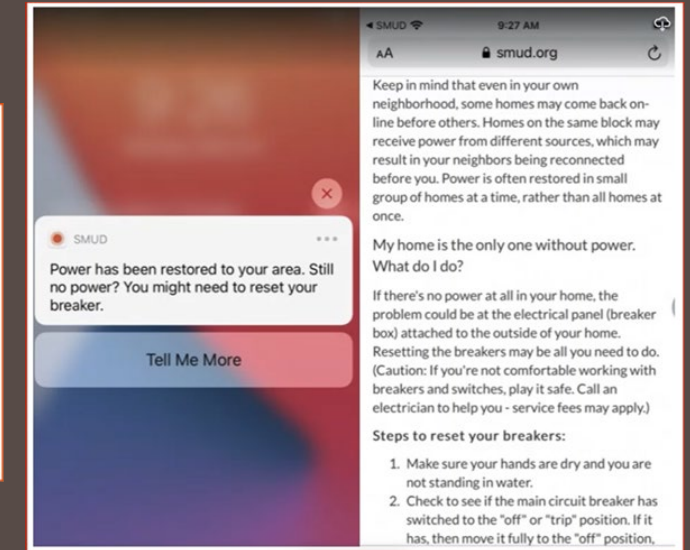
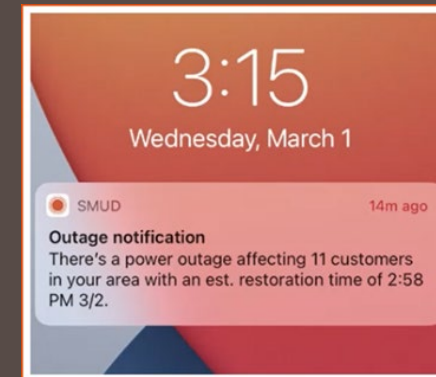
Emergency Operations - Work to Date

Customer Care & Communications

Continued implementation of the Customer Outage Communications Roadmap.

Enhancements completed since the January storms:

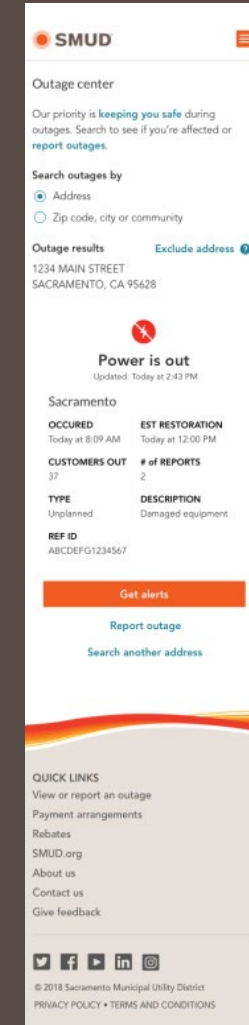
- Mobile app push notifications
- Digital Emergency Operations – notifies customers we are prioritizing outage related inquiries
- Outage text and e-mail alerts now sent 24 hours a day
- Outage details now shared in Interactive Voice Response (IVR) to mirror MyAccount experience (outage cause as an example)



Emergency Operations – In Progress

Customer Care & Communications

- Make it easier for customers to sign-up for and maintain outage communication preferences
- Two-way texting for outage reporting and updates
- Unauthenticated address search on outage map – to see if power is out at a particular address
- Outage map user experience design improvements
- Improve claims process
- Crew status



SMUD

Outage center

Our priority is **keeping you safe** during outages. Search to see if you're affected or [report outages](#).

Search outages by

☒ Address
☐ Zip code, city or community

Exclude address [?](#)

Outage results

1234 MAIN STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95628

Power is out
Updated: Today at 2:43 PM

Sacramento

OCCURED Today at 8:09 AM	EST RESTORATION Today at 12:00 PM
CUSTOMERS OUT 37	# of REPORTS 2
TYPE Unplanned	DESCRIPTION Damaged equipment

REF ID
ABCDEFG1234567

[Get alerts](#)

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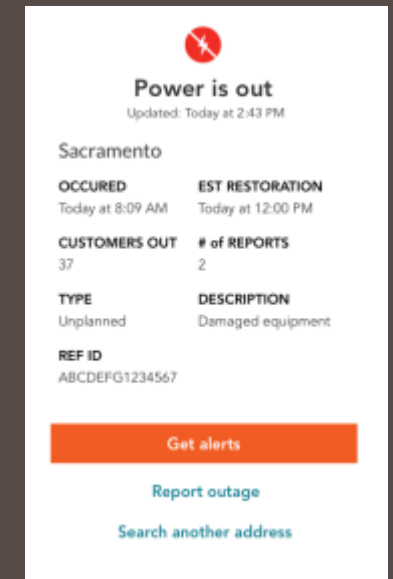
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New Outage Management System (OMS)



Improved Customer Experience:

- Advanced Estimated Restoration Time (ERT) features and functionality
- Availability of meaningful data for better job and crew status visibility and customer communications
- Deliver dashboards and improved reporting
- Transparency & collaboration



Operational Excellence & Efficiencies:

- Attachments via mobile app (e.g. photos of storm damage)
- Enhanced Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) integration for verifying customer restoration
- Ability to assign multiple jobs to the same multiple set of crews
- Support planned outages to allow for pro-active communications

Resiliency Considerations

Continue Robust Vegetation Management

- Pruning
- Targeted Tree removals
- Targeted Tree replacement

Distributed Energy Resources – Batteries

Targeted Undergrounding

- ~ 10,700 miles of lines: ~ 6,900 miles (64%) underground, ~3,800 miles overhead
- ~ 144,000 poles
- > \$7.6 billion to underground 3,800 miles of overhead lines (> \$2 million/mile)
- Impacts to affected property owners (e.g: convert existing electrical panel to take underground service; provide space on property for above ground equipment)
- Does not eliminate all outages (e.g. flooding, damage from excavations)

Questions?

