San jos 233 energy storage

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In Fall 2019, PG&E"s planned power shutoffs left tens of thousands of San Jos? residents and businesses without power for multiple days. PG&E estimates that its shutoffs will continue to occur over the next five years.

San Jos? Clean Energy is focused on sharing resources and helping residents and businesses understand how they can prepare for future PG&E power shutoffs.

To power your home during a PG&E power shutoff, lithium-ion batteries are the primary clean energy storage solution on the market at this time. When paired with rooftop solar, excess solar energy produced by your panels can be stored for later use in batteries for backup of critical loads in your house. Visit Energy Sage or see this presentation from Redwood Coast Energy Authority, a fellow Community Choice Energy provider, to learn how battery backup can work for you.

Unless you have battery storage and special inverter designed to "island" during a PG&E power shutoff, your rooftop solar system will not power your home. The main reason is to protect utility workers from solar power flowing back onto the grid during power outages.

A well-designed backup power system will power the essential loads in your house overnight, and will recharge from solar every morning when the sun comes up. These essential loads include appliances such as your refrigerator, lights, internet, TV and convenience outlets. However, since there is limited battery storage capacity, these systems cannot power large appliances such as air conditioning, electric stoves and EVs. Check out this GreenTech Media article on how much of your home a battery system can really power.

Yes, but the main disadvantage is that during a PG&E power shutoff, you would not be able to recharge the battery from the grid while the grid connection to your home is shut off.

Keep in mind that adding a battery storage system could require electrical upgrades to your home. Adding a battery storage system would not require the existing solar system to be re-permitted or re- inspected unless there are additional solar panels being installed.

Portable power stations, also known as battery-powered inverter generators or portable batteries, are an additional backup power option that is clean with no direct emissions from the battery. They typically have enough capacity to power only a few small appliances for a short time (see table below).

Charging can be done by plugging the portable power station into the wall before a planned PG&E power shutoff or for some products, by connecting to a compatible portable solar panel.

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Current models of battery electric vehicles (BEV) typically have a battery capacity of 40 to 66 kilowatt hour (kWh). Some models have a capacity up to 100 kWh, making them four to seven times larger than a residential home battery. Using BEVs as a backup power source is currently not market-ready but is expected to be a solution as State regulators work on the protocols for vehicle-to-grid integration. Many industry experts see the potential for BEVs to provide backup power and they may do so in the future.

To prepare for a PG&E power shutoff when the lights go out and you do not have disposable batteries, consider a hand crank lantern which will mechanically charge a battery. Costs range typically from $20 to $80. Many lanterns will include a USB port to charge small electronic devices like cell phones.

Diesel generators have been the traditional solution for backup power for homes and buildings and typically cost between $6,000 to $8,000 for a system similar in size to a battery system paired with solar. A smaller sized generator (typically gasoline powered), similar in power capacity to a portable power station, can cost between $200 to $600.

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