

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PG&E SERVICE INTERRUPTION AT MARE ISLAND FOR TOWER REPAIR

VALLEJO – A footing on a tower that supplies electricity to Mare Island in Vallejo failed over the weekend, leading the utility on Monday to temporarily shut off power to the former naval base.

At approximately 9:30 a.m. PG&E officials notified Island Energy, a subsidiary of Pittsburg Power that supplies power to the island, that electricity would be shut off around noon while repairs took place. PG&E officials have said repairs should be completed by 7 p.m. this evening. During the repairs the main gate to Mare Island is closed, while the gate off Highway 37 will remain open for as long as needed.

Island Energy is placing two 2-megawatt generators at Berth 10 on Mare Island to provide electricity to the entire island until repairs are completed.

The Napa River was shut down for two hours while work crews determined the level of damage and if there were any safety concerns. As a result, the Vallejo Baylink Ferry 7:30 a.m. return from San Francisco and the 8 a.m. run into San Francisco were cancelled. However, the river was reopened in time for the 10:30 a.m. ferry sailing.

Because of the interruption, the bridge at the main gate to Mare Island off Tennessee Street will remain in the down position while the generators are connected. Boating traffic up and down the Napa River will be affected, and the Coast Guard is sending out notification of the closure.

The last time a main tower failure led to the loss of power on Mare Island was in 1992, when the base was still being used as a naval shipyard. Lennar Mare Island is now the master developer of the base, which closed in 1996 as part of the federal government's Base Realignment and Closure program.

Since then countless businesses have relocated to Mare Island, including Touro University, an osteopathic medical school. More than 1,500 people work on Mare Island.

The City of Vallejo, Lennar Mare Island, Island Energy and Mare Island businesses are working together to ensure the safety of everyone on the island and a quick resolution to the service interruption. Critical service issues, such as police and fire protection, are also being addressed.

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