

Moss Landing Fire Information 10:30 pm Update County of Monterey Emergency Operations Center

We will update information as it becomes available.

Fire

Fire at the Vistra Power Plant began about 3:00.

Units arrived to find a structure which contains batteries on fire.

At this point, it appears 40% of the building containing batteries has burned. For context: battery buildings in this location can be approximately 50,000 square feet.

All Vistra employees, law and fire personnel are safe and accounted for.

It is unknown how long this incident may last.

Fire crews have a visual of the entire site with drones, doing surveillance, monitoring the fire to see extent of the fire and intensity. Also, the atmosphere around the plant is being monitored.

No active fire suppression is taking place, the batteries must burn themselves out. No water can be used. This is standard action for battery fires.

Evacuations

Evacuation orders for specific areas:

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office has issued Evacuation Orders for areas of Moss Landing South of the Elkhorn Slough, North of Molera Rd and Monterey Dunes Way, and West of Castroville Blvd and Elkhorn Rd. to the ocean for the following zones: MRY-B037, MRY-B047, MRY-B050, MRY-B051, MRY-B053, MRY-B058, MRY-B060.

Temporary Evacuation Point: Castroville Rec Center is being transitioned to an overnight shelter managed by the American Red Cross

1214 people are in the evacuation zones.

7676 acres under evacuation

Because of the type of fire, air quality in the evacuation zones can be considered serious for people which is why they were asked to leave.

Health Concerns

If people who are not in the evacuation zones but have medical conditions or are concerned about smoke, they can stay indoors, close windows and use air purifiers.

The County is coordinating with the National Weather Service and Vistra Energy regarding weather which might impact movement of smoke from the fire.

Vistra will be doing air quality monitoring tonight. That information will be reviewed by public health officials in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties.

Road Closures:

County of Monterey Road Closures:

Dolan Rd @ Castroville Blvd.
Elkhorn @ Castroville Blvd.
Paradise @ Walker Valley Rd.
Elkhorn @ Bayview Rd.
Elkhorn @ Walker Valley Rd.
Elkhorn @ Strawberry Rd.
Elkhorn @ Hidden Valley Rd.
Elkhorn Rd between Kirby Rd and Wauh Rd.

Elkhorn at the intersection of Hall Rd @ the fire station.
Russo Rd @ Dolan Rd
Trafton Road to Bluff Rd

Highway 1:

Both directions of Hwy. 1 are closed due to the Moss Landing Power Plant. fire Travelers on northbound Hwy. 1 are being directed off at Molera Rd. with southbound Hwy. 1 directed off at Struve Road. Estimate for reopening is unknown. Traffic info at: <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>

Schools

The County is working with the Office of Education to determine if any impacts to schools in the area.