

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hawaiian Electric monitoring brush fire on Wa'ahila Ridge

Customers in Mānoa area should prepare for possibility of extended outage

HONOLULU, Sept. 24, 2020 – Hawaiian Electric is closely monitoring the path of a brush fire on Wa'ahila Ridge above Mānoa Valley. The fire was first reported near the East-West Center about 11:30 a.m.

Power to about 600 customers was initially turned off on circuits where poles and equipment were in the path of the fire. By 4 p.m., service was restored to all except about 100 customers.

As the fire moves past the University of Hawai'i campus and toward Mānoa Valley, there is a possibility that Hawaiian Electric would need to deenergize its Woodlawn substation, which would affect about 3,000 residential customers but not the UH campus.

As a precaution, customers in Manoa should prepare for the possibility of an extended outage.

Several utility poles above the company's East-West substation have burned, and inspectors will need to determine the extent of damage once the fire is out.

Check Hawaiian Electric's Twitter feed for updates.

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