

Duquesne Light Company

Strengthening Our Communities Through Climate Resilience

Prioritizing customers, Preparing for today and tomorrow

“At Duquesne Light Company, our commitment to climate resilience is rooted in our responsibility to the customers and communities we serve. As our industry advances and the impacts of a changing climate evolve, we must collectively meet this moment with compassion, partnership and innovative solutions that strengthen resilience and ensure reliable service for the Pittsburgh region,” said Kevin Walker, DLC President and CEO.



For more than 100 years, DLC has provided safe and reliable electric service to communities in southwestern Pennsylvania. We recognize climate change as a critical factor shaping the energy industry and plan to invest nearly \$2.7 billion from 2026 through 2030 to build a more climate-resilient grid and enhance long-term reliability. By hardening our system, minimizing disruptions and enhancing our response, these investments will help us better serve our customers.

Building a Climate Resilient Approach

At DLC, we prioritize management of climate change impacts as part of our annual strategic planning process. During this process, we evaluate macroeconomic and industry trends, with climate-related risks and opportunities consistently emerging as top priorities. Our Enterprise Risk Management team works closely with the Strategy and Corporate Responsibility teams to ensure these risks are appropriately monitored and mitigated across the enterprise. This integrated approach ensures climate considerations are embedded into our long-term planning and decision-making. Our Board of Directors plays an active role in guiding our approach, regularly reviewing our environmental, social and governance strategy and enterprise risk efforts, so DLC is prepared for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The DLC service territory is situated in Allegheny and Beaver Counties in southwestern Pennsylvania. The region’s hilly, tree-lined terrain is shaped by the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers. The topography, in addition to changing weather patterns, presents a unique set of risks that DLC must navigate. Today, using state and local climate assessments, DLC plans against five main physical risks that impact our service territory while staying informed on additional hazards including long-term systemic physical effects (e.g., air quality, illness).

Climate Resilience

Building resilience to extreme weather events and conditions including the systemic physical effects of climate change for our region in the long term.

Heat	Change in average and high temperatures, change in precipitation patterns and norms, increase periods of drought due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for wildfire. ¹
Landslides	Landslides are a unique hazard specific to our region based on geology, topography, land development and related weather patterns and events. Changes in temperature and precipitation norms coupled with more extreme weather events present the possibility for landslide events.
Flood	Given proximity of our assets to rivers and significant waterways, changes in precipitation patterns and the potential for more extreme weather events, including thunderstorms and hurricanes with inland impacts, increases the potential for flooding events that could have significant impacts on assets and operations.
Wind	Wind is a component of other identified hazards of climate resilience risk including thunderstorms, tornadoes/windstorms, winter storms, wildfires and hurricanes/tropical storms and can cause significant damage to assets and hinder operations, which are compounded by the region’s landscape.
Extreme Events	Extreme events are acute scenarios that pose a threat to the electrical grid. A key factor of extreme events for the Pittsburgh region is the compounding potential which further intensifies impacts and complicates response efforts.

[1] Based on our current assessment and related climate projections, wildfire risk is not labeled as a standalone hazard. However, DLC continues to assess the risk and prioritize related actions as appropriate for these interrelated hazards through benchmarking and collaboration within the energy industry on best practices to ensure proper preparedness and awareness.

Investing in a Climate Resilient Grid

To build a more climate-resilient system, we aim to continuously improve how we manage and mitigate against these risks. DLC is making investments and adapting our processes to harden our system, minimize disruptions and enhance our response.



System Hardening

Avoid significant impacts of physical hazards through infrastructure hardening.

- Implemented a comprehensive system planning methodology to ensure system needs are more clearly defined and weighted appropriately.
- Constructed a new substation to increase resiliency in downtown Pittsburgh.
- Installed submersible equipment in downtown Pittsburgh, which is located at the confluence of three rivers.
- Focused investment on right of way (ROW) clearing and removal of off-ROW conflict trees.
- Evaluate specific environmental site conditions to design transmission steel structures to reduce the impacts of landslides.
- Include the replacement of certain failure-prone equipment due to excessive heat in our Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plan.
- Investing \$164 million from 2025-2030 to upgrade 4kV distribution lines to 23kV distribution lines.
- Investing \$177 million in upgrades to high-power transmission lines that will be completed by the end of 2027.



Disruption Minimization

Reduce the severity of impacts from outage inducing events.

- Implemented a multi-year comprehensive reliability plan that includes an assessment of historical weather impacts across the DLC service territory.
- Implemented a robust program for periodic testing of IT systems and developed metrics to measure system availability during weather events.
- Aligned pole inspection program with industry best practices.
- Proactive vegetation management of ~1,500 miles of distribution and transmission lines annually.
- Use drone technology to assess difficult to access infrastructure — enhancing safety, operational efficiency and maintenance and inspection practices.
- Holistic replacement of 4kV oil filled reclosers with more environmentally friendly technology that includes optional remote control operation.
- Installing downed wire technology to identify and locate faults on the electric grid in real-time.
- Expanding dynamic line rating technology on transmission system to alleviate congestion.



Enhanced Response

Decrease recovery time of customer impacted outages.

- Renovated operations center in 2023 to provide more real-time views of DLC's grid infrastructure.
- Launched a new Outage Management System in 2024 to improve our outage restoration process and provide higher-quality customer communication.
- Continuously expanding storm roles to restore customer outages as efficiently and safely as possible.
- Review and update established storm plan annually to align with best practices.
- Conduct an annual storm drill training.
- Operate a large fleet of remotely controlled distribution devices to expedite restoration of large load blocks.
- Utilize a weather, outage and forecasting tool.
- Participate in a materials lending program to better source equipment when needed.
- Adhere to industry established best practices for restoration methods.
- Participate in two Edison Electric Institute (EEI) mutual assistance organizations.
- Manage a fleet of mobile substations to be deployed when needed.
- Participate in Association of Edison Illuminating Companies (AEIC) meetings to stay current on industry best practices, and adopted AEIC's "18 Storm Best Practices" as DLC's guiding framework for scalable and effective storm response.
- Developing and implementing a predictive storm damage and restoration model.
- Piloting battery energy storage systems in outage prone areas.
- Providing electric safety training to first responders.
- Developing and implementing a seasonal readiness plan for inventory.

Customer Preparedness

Recognizing that resilience extends beyond infrastructure, we are prioritizing customer preparedness by leveraging partnerships with local governments, emergency service agencies and community organizations to help our customers navigate the challenges that these physical risks present. Beyond our operational efforts, we are helping shape the broader climate resilience landscape through active engagement in public policy — advocating for regulations and collaborating with stakeholders to drive impactful change with safety, reliability, resiliency and affordability at the forefront.

Future Outlook

DLC plays a pivotal role in the region's energy security and transition. Looking forward, we are committed to deepening our analysis of the physical climate risks and opportunities of our operations and assets, unlocking actionable insights and value for our stakeholders. We remain steadfast in enabling a clean energy future for all, supported by our climate strategy, with a strong focus on safety, reliability, resiliency and affordability. To see this work in action, view our annual **Corporate Responsibility Report**.