

CARMEL J. ANGELO
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**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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August 20, 2019

Alison Talbott
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
2555 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

RE: Request Regarding Vegetation Management and Public Safety Power Shut Off

Dear Ms. Talbott:

On behalf of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, we ask that PG&E consider the following requests regarding vegetation management activities and local assistance in Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS) preparedness.

The County received numerous complaints from residents regarding the spraying of herbicides as part of PG&E's vegetation management and tree trimming projects. While the County appreciates the efforts of PG&E to reduce the potential wildfire risk with additional vegetation management, we respectfully ask that PG&E stop any use of synthetic herbicides on roadsides within Mendocino County. This request is in alignment with the agreement Mendocino County has with CalTrans to not use herbicides for vegetation management. In addition, we ask that herbicides only be used on public or private property when there is permission given by the landowner. The current opt-out system in place by PG&E to use the designated 1-800 number is flawed and residents are unable to reach the right personnel to opt-out. The County requests PG&E transition to an opt-in system to gain permission by landowners prior to spraying herbicides. The County would also like confirmation from PG&E that brush and tree limbs from the vegetation management projects will be removed.

Additionally, the County is preparing for continuity of operations during a PG&E PSPS event and must rent/purchase generators and have electrical work completed to use the generators in order to maintain basic core County functions at the main Administration Center. Mendocino County estimates that it will cost \$50,000 for capital improvement projects for the installation of electrical intersects at the Administration Center, longer term planning efforts to provide additional backup power will cost \$26,000 and rental of 5 standby generators for 3 months will cost an estimated \$46,000. Mendocino County requests reimbursement from PG&E for the generators and electrical work or a temporary loan of generators from PG&E to the County to offset some of the PSPS costs.

The County of Mendocino respectfully asks PG&E to consider our request regarding vegetation management and reimbursement of costs associated with generator power needed for a PSPS event. Please contact Nash Gonzales at gonzalezn@mendocinocounty.org or (707) 463-4441 with your response.

Sincerely,

Carre Brown, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

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