

To the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors.

First, thank you for your service. I know it is not easy to juggle the wants and needs of diverse interests, and I trust you are striving to ensure the best outcomes for our county communities.

Second, precisely because of my belief in your good intentions, I am writing this letter to point out a discrepancy. I just read the following article in the Independent Coast Observer,

**Combustible hazardous waste
will cost those responsible
up to \$1,000 per day**

By Susan Wolbarst
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Mendocino County Supervisors took steps Feb. 9 to approve a hazardous waste ordinance created as a fire safety measure following last summer's disastrous wildfires. The ordinance will put owners of properties covered with dried weeds, leaf piles, dead trees and other combustible rubbish on the hook for up to \$1,000 for every day they don't eliminate the hazard.

The measure does not include "rangeland, pastureland, forestland/TPZ and agricultural land, except to the extent that such vegetation impacts the maintenance of defensible space around homes, structures, public and private rights

of way, access to roads and along public utility lines, and shall also not include a commercial agriculture crop that is being actively grown and managed by the property owner or their legal tenant."

The new rule, which won't take effect until after a second reading, requires the county building official or designee to declare an area a fire hazard nuisance. Owners will be required take corrective action to remove "weeds, rubbish, or other obstructions or materials that are a fire hazard" and follow existing rules governing defensible space around buildings and structures.

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and while I agree with the concept of accountability, I wonder if the county also plans to fine PG&E \$1000 per day for the fire danger they have left along our county roads and private properties?

Last spring, PG&E contracted tree workers have come onto my property (unannounced I may add), cut down trees, left willy nilly, brambled piles of slash and limbs and massive trunks & stumps behind — leaving the onus of clean up to me, the land owner — insult to injury, especially since I do not even have pg&e power running to my property!

I have spent hundreds of dollars hiring others to come help me haul & chip, and "clear up" PG&E's so called "line" clearing. I take fire mitigation very seriously, and I wonder at the futility of this when PG&E, a company with a profit & loss statement that far surpasses my own, is allowed to leave behind a metaphorical box of matches!

I would greatly appreciate your addressing this conundrum! I have called PG&E corporate offices and was told quite matter-of-factly (and without irony) that the removal of the debris they created is too expensive. Yet, \$1000 per day is quite steep for those of moderate means like

myself; however, if I say “it is too expensive” nobody listens, especially because I do not have lobbying, corporate clout or lawyers to negotiate a better backroom deal for myself.

Please, let me know what are you planning do about PG&E’s line clearing wake. Where is is their accountability? I urge you to fine them \$2000 per day and use that money to assist the small businesses in our county that have lost their incomes and livelihood during this very challenging time for all.

Sincerely,
Blake More