

To the Mendocino Board of Supervisors

I was just made aware of the discussion regarding the use of the PG&E settlement funds. I was surprised that there was no mention of either Potter Valley or Redwood Valley, two communities that were directly impacted by the fire.

Additionally, I did not see any documents posted to the site pertaining to previous discussions (either by staff or the Supervisors themselves) as to how they arrived with the proposed list on how to spend these funds.

First and most importantly, have you reached out to the affected communities and stakeholders to identify potential hazards as it relates to fires and other disasters?

Have you contacted property owners to assist in navigating vegetation and perhaps forming partnerships with the County and Cal Fire?

What input has the Potter Valley and Redwood Valley Fire Departments had in the discussion and use of the one time funds by PG&E?

Has there been any evaluation of the fire damaged roads in the communities directly affected by the fire? Several years after the fire the roads of PV are still being impacted by the necessary logging and clearing of the lands that were burned during the fire.

Has there been a study regarding the availability of water should there be another fire? Look at Lake Mendocino. In the settlement perhaps the Pillsbury watershed and dam should have been factored in.

I respectfully request that before you move ahead with finalizing any settlement and the projects where the funds are directed to, you have some community meetings in order to have input by the people most adversely affected.

The pandemic cannot be an excuse for not engaging and being accountable to the public. With a reduction in Covid numbers and vaccines being given out, now is the time to have those discussions with your constituents.

Respectfully,

Debbie Long