

It has come to my attention that the budget plan for use of the money from PG&E from the 2017 fire does not include any support of the Redwood Valley Grange, and I encourage you to seriously reconsider that decision.

I live in Boonville and, during and immediately after the fire, I volunteered and donated to support the people of Redwood Valley. I tried many different avenues to figure out how to best offer support, including becoming a volunteer with the American Red Cross and the Mendocino Community Foundation. However, it was through the Redwood Valley Grange that I was able to provide the most direct, immediate, and concrete support. I was incredibly impressed by their ability to quickly and creatively mobilize people to meet all sorts of needs, that the larger organizations were unable to do. I helped with childcare, emotional support, organizing and distributing donations, cooking food, and cleaning. All while I waited on the lists from other organizations for them to reach out to me and offer me some way to help.

The Granges in Mendocino County provide an incredible community service that needs to be acknowledged, supported, and protected.

Sincerely,

Abeja Judy Hummel  
(She/her)  
Director, Emerald Earth Sanctuary