



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 21-0529, Version: 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Executive Office

Meeting Date: May 11, 2021

Department Contact: Carmel J. Angelo

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Department Contact: Steve Dunncliff

Phone: 463-4441

Item Type: Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 90 Minutes

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Action Including Acceptance of Presentation from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Regarding Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Planning & Preparations in the County of Mendocino (Sponsor: Executive Office)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Accept the presentation from PG&E regarding PSPS planning & preparations in the County of Mendocino.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

The Board first received a PSPS report and presentation from PG&E in July 2019, with additional presentations provided August of 2019, and August 2020.

Summary of Request:

As Mendocino County has experienced in 2019 and 2020, PG&E turns off the electricity in the interest of public safety during severe weather that threatens a portion of the electric system. These power shutoffs are known as Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). Based on a judge's recommendation, the weather criteria PG&E uses to determine when to shut off the power will likely be reduced in 2021. This will increase the likelihood of PSPS events. Additionally, the criteria for evaluating the threat of vegetation ("overstrike trees") to the grid has been increased. This will further increase the likelihood of PSPS events. In 2020, PG&E's message focused on explaining how they were working to make PSPS events smaller in size, shorter in length, and smarter. In 2021, that messaging remains similar. In 2020, infrastructure was installed at substations within Mendocino County to facilitate connection of generators and powering of microgrids, and physically staged generators for this purpose. In 2021, PG&E has not committed to staging generators or powering microgrids in Mendocino County. Additional information, including a portal to share with PG&E to update your contact information and find answers to frequently asked questions can be found online at https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/public-safety-power-shutoff-faq.page

Alternative Action/Motion:

Do not receive the presentation; provide direction to staff.

Supervisory District: All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At:

https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/public-safety-power-shutoff-faq.page

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: N/A

current f/y cost: N/A

annual recurring cost: N/A

budget clarification: N/A

budgeted in current f/y: N/A

if no, please describe:

revenue agreement: N/A

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: N/A

CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

Date: May 11, 2021

Final Status: No Action Taken

