



Public Comment: Input via Email

Friday, October 18, at 1:19pm, Tina Scott, Chair of the Lake County Board of Supervisors, formally invited Public Comment on the effects of the October 9 PSPS Event that affected all of Lake County. As subsequent PSPS Events unfolded, emails continued to be received by the Board. This document collects those messages.

Mike McGuire (California State Senator)

Submitted by staff on behalf of the Senator, statement also read aloud during October 31's Joint Meeting.

From: Wachsberg, Rebecca [mailto:Rebecca.Wachsberg@sen.ca.gov]

Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 2:41 PM

Subject: Statement from Senator McGuire

Good Morning.

My name is Taylor Morrison and I am a District Representative for State Senator Mike McGuire.

Senator McGuire was grateful to be with many of you last night at the Middletown CalFire Town Hall and regrets not being with you here this morning.

He wanted me to say a few words on his behalf.

Bottom line is this: Senator McGuire believes PG&E has proven - time and time again - it lacks the basic fundamentals to successfully execute such large and complex planned outages. It's outrageous and their customers deserve so much better.

There are many communities - including right here in the County of Lake - who have been without power for 7 of the last 8 days and have suffered through FOUR PG&E power outages over the last 30 days.

As we are all painfully aware, Lake County has experienced multiple massive wildland fires and over 60% of your land mass has burned since 2015. Now to experience these ongoing and massive power shutoffs is unacceptable.

The Senator believes there are three main reasons why we're here:

1. PG&E's decades of mismanagement and lack of investment in their electrical system: They haven't invested in grid modernization, grid hardening or vegetation management like they should have.
2. Lack of supervision and enforcement at the California Public Utilities Commission who are responsible of overseeing PG&E's safety plans.
3. We are facing a new climate reality, which has caught up with this woefully unprepared utility corporation:

In 2012 - 15% of PG&E's electrical lines existed in an elevated fire risk zone.

Today - 50% of all their lines now exist in an elevated fire risk zone.

McGuire believes PG&E has become too big and has failed Lake County and California too many times.

They are on their third strike... **The first** was the deadly San Bruno gas explosion and cover-up of it.

The second was the massive wildfires of 2017 and 2018.

AND strike three is the debacle of a response to these power shutoffs.

All options need to be on the table at this time – including breaking up the utility. PG&E's customers deserve better.

The State moved on critical reforms this year including linking PG&E executive compensation to safety improvements, establishing a new safety committee in the Dept of Natural Resources whose whole mission is to hold this utility and all other state utilities accountable.

The State is forcing PG&E and other utilities to spend \$5 billion for safety improvements and they are making critical changes at the Public Utilities Commission - appointing a new chairwoman and commissioner.

That said - there's a lot more to do to keep the lights and gas on and ensure PG&E's customers are safe.

This is an all-hands on deck effort...

Senator McGuire has been appointed co-chair of a policy working group of nine senators to develop fixes to hold PG&E accountable for power shutoffs and grid modernization, insurance stability and fire response and resiliency.

We agree that the rollout of these power shutoff events is completely unacceptable. Californians deserve better from this utility.

We stand with Lake County residents today - You all deserve better and we look forward to working with you - and Governor Newsom - to hold PG&E accountable.

[John Arslanian \(owner, Fresh and Bangin' and C&E Corner Creamery\)](#)

Originally submitted to the City of Lakeport.

From: john arslanian [mailto:freshandbanginfood@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 11:12 AM

Subject: Letter

I want to thank you for doing this for all local businesses.

John Arslanian (owner, Fresh and Bangin' and C&E Corner Creamery, continued)

Dear PG&E

I own and operate 2 store fronts here in Lakeport, I also teach at the local High School. I employ 25 individuals who have families of their own, 4 with babies at home. During the 1st outage we lost 8000 plus in food and in ice cream. Not including daily sales. As a small business owner I'm All in we count on daily sales to survive. As of today 10/30 it's now 8 days this month will no power. I will have to shut my doors as I have no capital to buy new food and restock. Or even pay my employees to clean the mess from no power. There is no extra money for a generator.

Sincerely
Chef John Arslanian

Polly Bauer-Falco (Clearlake)

From: bf [mailto:bf@mchsi.com]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:38 PM
Subject: PG&E

It appears Lake Co will not be affected by the upcoming power outage. During the last outage there was only a few times that we had any wind in Clearlake Park. There was not one reason for them to have cut our electricity. During that time I never saw one PG&E truck, no helicopters, their website crashed & the information about what was going on was non-existent. A woman I check in on in Clearlake Oaks lost all her food. I made sure she had extra water and LED lanterns. She is on a fixed income, a stroke survivor and turns 99 years old in January.

Had PG&E taken better care of their equipment during the past 50+ years we would not be in this position today. While burying power lines in the back country is not an option it certainly is one for towns & cities. They are too big, have too large an area to maintain, too much power & should be divided into smaller manageable service area's. Lake County has so many low income families. Losing even 3 or 4 days of wages is devastating. Small business owners were hit hard as well.

We have lived in Lake County since the late 1970's. this has been my home for so long but we are considering moving. We were affected by the Sulpher Fire. Our home survived but most of our friends & neighbors did not.

Polly Bauer-Falco
bf@mchsi.com
Clearlake, CA

Terry Cara (Kelseyville, Clearlake Riviera)

From: TC [mailto:1charliehotel@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:59 AM
Subject: Public Safety Power Shutoff: Public Comment

It is time to cut the PG&E extension cord in Lake County. The County needs to create its own electrical agency. PG&E is not a trustworthy partner or stakeholder. They will do what is best for their

[Terry Cara \(Kelseyville, Clearlake Riviera, continued\)](#)

shareholders, minimize their liabilities, with feigned concern for the residents, businesses and guests of Lake County. PG&E requests rate hikes to pay for its mismanagement (which will continue), shareholder dividends, company parties, executive incentives, and increased “hardening” of their electrical system.

Do not believe that PG&E will change the way in operates or that the California Public Utility Commission can reel in PG&E. The PUC has failed time and time again to control PG&E. PG&E’s talking points are nothing more than a marketing campaign. At best it is PSYOP. The PUC has failed and has allowed PG&E to continue its terrible track record.

A Lake County power agency can tap into The Geysers, the new Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians power regeneration plant, residents that have solar panels, and other sources to provide electrical energy to its residents, businesses, & guests. It can develop its own power system.

A Lake County power agency will have benefits to all in the county. It will understand the needs of its residents and business, to include seniors, economically disadvantage, the disabled, school districts, water districts, medical facilities, government entities (especially law enforcement and fire resources). It will increase employment by creating new jobs. Businesses will increase as individual income rises giving them greater buying power. Property value will increase. The agency will listen to and support the needs of those that live, work, and play here. The agency and the power that it supplies will be tailored to Lake County and work at cost, not to earn a profit, or bend to the will of shareholders. Those that live and work in Lake County cannot lose with this. Their lives and livelihood will be better.

And, if a safety shutoff is required, it will be based upon local weather, have local oversight, local transparency, and be held accountable locally.

Cut PG&E’s power cord.

Respectfully,

Terry Cara
Kelseyville (Clearlake Riviera)

[Helen Danina \(Lakeport\)](#)

From: Helen Danina [mailto:hdanina@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 20, 2019 10:02 AM

Subject: Comments regarding PG&E shutoff

The shutoff was an inconvenience for me. Since I live in an all electric apartment for seniors, I was unable to have a hot cup of tea in the morning and was cold for hours until I finally went under the covers to warm up. I now have the necessary one burner camping stove and LED lantern for the next shutoff.

I had to throw out all the thawed food from the freezer. Next time I will leave enough space to put frozen water bottles in the freezer to save the food.

It was most frustrating because there was no wind in Lakeport, yet the stores and schools were shut down. Surely, there must be a way to selectively shutoff the windy areas. Also, PG&E were checking the

[Helen Danina \(Lakeport, continued\)](#)

transformer lines which is a good thing, but how about letting us know this. Maybe they need to shut off the electricity to do the maintenance, but be transparent.

Helen Danina

[David DeLuca \(co-owner, Skylark Shores Resort\)](#)

From: David DeLuca

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 10:26 AM

Subject: Loss revenue

To whom it may concern,

I am the co-owner of the Skylark Shores Resort, 1120 N. Main St., Lakeport, CA 95453. With all the power outage. I have lost thousands of dollars in guest rooms cancellations. We have lost customers for good because of the power outage. I cannot make my mortgage payment or pay any bills this month due to no income. Honestly, we have been put in a situation of losing our property. If you have any question feel free to call me at 760-685-3223.

Sincerely,

David DeLuca

[Jennifer Dorman \(Cobb\)](#)

From: Jennifer Dorman [mailto:jen_rocks48@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:51 PM

Subject: Comments re: power outage

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding the recent power shutoff. I live in Cobb, and have been preparing for a PSPS for some time. We absorbed the cost of a generator set-up this summer. One of the primary things I planned to use the generator for was to keep my Mediacom equipment powered, so that I could continue to have internet and be informed in the event of a fire or other emergency during the event. Unfortunately, when the power went out so did Mediacom service. I was later told this was because the repeaters required power, and would be offline until power was restored. Additionally, a cell tower was down as well, which left me with no cell service for the first day of the outage. Without internet or phone service, I had no way to communicate should I need to. I eventually got minimal cell service back, but had no Mediacom internet for the duration of my 70 hour outage.

In summary, I felt like we were as prepared as possible for the outage. I did not anticipate losing all of my communication methods. If PG&E is indeed conducting these outages to protect the safety of the public, keeping communication methods online is a critical piece to staying informed of and get help during emergencies. I don't know what could be done about it, but I would respectfully request the local utility/phone/internet service parties involved coordinate to ensure cell towers and Mediacom or other internet equipment are kept powered during an outage.

Thank you for your time, and for your service to our county.

Jennifer Dorman (Cobb, continued)

Respectfully,

Jennifer Dorman
Cobb, CA

Marian Franklin (Clearlake)

From: Marian Franklin [mailto:mfranklin7273@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:14 AM

Subject: POWER SHUT OFF PROBLEMS

I broke both bones in my ankle and received a temporary cast in the Clearlake ER on Oct 8, 2019. During that night the power went off leaving me unable to communicate with anybody. The iPhone I had was not working and the landline went off with the power. It was very difficult to move around the house. When the power came back on 48 hrs. later I was unable to contact my provider as the power outage had disrupted the phone system at the Adventist Clinic in Clearlake. I needed to see a provider before getting a referral to a specialist to put on a permanent cast. I finally saw a provider at the Clinic on Oct. 15. I am 83.

I do not think that large area power outages are the best response to times of increased wildfire occurrence. Very few wildfires can be directly attributed to electric power systems. There are other factors involved when a wildfire is set off. Immediate appropriate response is necessary. Landowners must keep the fuel loads on their properties controlled. Punishing PG&E for the severity of a wildfire is not the best way to deal with power equipment failures when the company has done its best to provide electric service unless their is negligence.

Marian Franklin
Clearlake

Steve Harness (Bachelor Valley)

From: Steve Harness [mailto:stevh12@hotmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 8:32 AM

Subject: An Unprecedented and Unnecessary Assault the People of Lake County

1 - There were no "diablo winds" during the week of the PG&E power shutdown. I don't think there has been a time of calmer weather in the month of October in all my 40 years of living in Lake County. The assertion that there would be high velocity winds during those few days seems to have been a fiction invented by PG&E to predispose the public to accept the significant inconveniences and expenses imposed on their customers during the shutdown. This kind of fake science, figuratively "crying wolf", is bound to undermine the credibility of PG&E should there be an occasion in the future when a real emergency exists.

2 - Not only was the shutdown conducted under patently false pretenses, it imposed real burdens on PG&E's customers, especially those already in straitened financial circumstances. I am a retired public school teacher who must support a spouse disabled with Alzheimer's disease and living in a residential care home, costing \$240/day. This expense alone exceeds my State Teacher's Retirement income. To help make ends meet I do substituting in the Upper Lake, Lakeport, and Kelseyville Unified School Districts. I lost 2 and half days of potential income as the schools were closed, resulting in loss of about \$312.50 gross income.

[Steve Harness \(Bachelor Valley, continued\)](#)

3 - People living on marginal incomes were especially hard hit. I don't have the resources to properly maintain and repair my century-old house in Bachelor Valley, much less acquire a generator to run my electrical appliances during the shutdown. I had no running water, no lights, no refrigeration, and no access to the Internet during the shutdown. I had to drive to Upper Lake on the Wednesday of the shutdown to find out if the afternoon substitute teaching job at the high school was still available, as my land line phone would not ring to announce incoming calls. No one was at the school, anyway, though the automated answering mechanism still worked. I then drove on to Nice to get batteries for my transistor radio at the Dollar General store. Back home, I found that the only station I could pick up was KZYX in Mendocino County, which was in the middle of a pledge drive and probably wouldn't have announcements pertaining to Lake County anyway. My cell phone has no service in Bachelor Valley. So, it was a pretty bleak and lonely time for me, to no useful purpose that I could ascertain. Please don't allow PG&E to run roughshod over those who already have their backs to the wall again.

4 - About 6 weeks ago a crew of tree trimmers contracted by PG&E came into my yard to cut back branches on a big oak tree adjacent to the power lines crossing the property. This has been done many times in the past and the crews always chipped and removed the yard waste generated. However, this time no such chipping or removal occurred. I kept waiting for something to be done, then, on the advice of an acquaintance who is a PG&E line inspector, I called PG&E to inquire as to the status of this now tinder-dry pile of branches and leaves. Of course I could not get through on the utility's Lakeport number due to call volume, but eventually discovered an emergency contact number on the Internet (this was during the week following the shutdown). My call was answered by a robot, but when I announced the presence of a fire hazard on my property caused by PG&E I was put through immediately to real person. When I explained the situation I was told that PG&E does not have the resources to do the chipping and disposal of waste generated by their trimming operation and that it was my responsibility to abate this hazard. Now I question whether or not PG&E is sincere about improving fire safety conditions in Lake County.

Steve Harness

[Michael Herman \(President, Clear Lake Keys Property Owners Association\)](#)

From: Michael Herman <michael_l_herman@msn.com>

Date: October 19, 2019 at 3:12:39 PM PDT

Subject: Public Safety Power Shutoff

E.J,

I saw on Lake County News that the Board of Supervisors is requesting public comment on the recent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). I am not able to attend the meeting, but as the President of the Clear Lake Keys Property Owners Association (POA) with 829 Properties, I wanted to give you my observations. In this recent PSPS, our power was off for less than 48 hours.

We have a high percentage of residents that are 65 years old or above and some require electricity for medical devices. Many residents had purchased generators and where possible helped out neighbors that did not have them. A small generator costs about \$500, a larger one that is connected to the electrical panel through a transfer switch costs between \$1,000 and \$1,500 installed. Many of our residents are on a fixed income and cannot afford that expense. Another issue of concern is people storing fuel in an unsafe manner.

Michael Herman (President, Clear Lake Keys Property Owners Association, continued)

I have Verizon Cell Service, and mine worked great through the entire PSPS. Several people that I talked to that had other companies for cell service, had no service at all during the PSPS. With most land lines not working without power and no cell service, how does a person get in touch with 911 in an emergency?

We were only out less than 2 full days this time, but had this gone on for 5 or more days, as PG&E says to plan for, how are people that cannot afford a generator or have no place to put one going to survive with medical conditions? There will also be the cost of loss of food.

PG&E's many years of lack of maintenance are costing residences, businesses and the county lots of money and will lead to a loss of life at some point. If PG&E cannot provide electricity, they need to provide places with power open 24 hours a day for people with medical needs. They need to reimburse residence, businesses and the county for cost related to the PSPS, including the cost of generators.

The Clearlake Oaks Water District was able to provide good water and sewer services during the PSPS, I hear that some others had some problems. What happens if we have a fire during a PSPS and the water company cannot provide enough water?

I would like to have this email entered into the Board Meeting Records. Thanks for all that you have done,

Mike Herman, President
Clear Lake Keys POA
(707) 486-2717

Mary McMillan (Kelseyville, Business in Lakeport)

From: Mary Mcmillan [mailto:mtmcmillan@me.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:24 AM

Subject: response to power shutoff

I am responding to your invitation to tell you about my experience with the power shutoff. I am a single senior woman living alone. Although I had a generator, my life was totally disrupted. Just running the generator—pulling the generator into place, carrying the heavy gas can, pulling the ignition cord, dealing with overloads—the physical demands alone took a big toll. I had a limited amount of gasoline, so the process of adapting to life without power during the day, when the generator wasn't running, took a great deal of planning and learning by trial and error. As I am a health professional, I had to cancel appointments with my patients, meaning I lost income I depend on, and the patients suffered from not having my care. What made the whole ordeal even more frustrating was that, although the stated purpose of the shutoff was to prevent damage from wind, in my area there was not even a breeze—a small breeze came along just as the power actually went back on. The whole experience felt careless and evidence of total incompetence.

—Mary McMillan

Mary McMillan
Marriage and Family Therapist
Kelseyville (*Business in Lakeport*)

Robert Mingori (Clearlake)

From: Robert Mingori [mailto:btj@shelleygraphics.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:47 AM

Subject: PG&E Power Outages

You requested comments on the recent PG&E power outages and its effect to individuals and businesses. I fall into both categories

My residence and business office are at the same location. Residence upstairs, business downstairs on Lakeshore Drive.

To get ready we purchased sizable generator at a cost of approximately \$1000. Running on propane we also contracted for propane service and installed a tank and plumbing to supply the generator at an additional cost of approximately \$500. Our primary concern was to preserve refrigeration for about \$500 worth of food. In addition I use a couple of medical devices for oxygen and a CPAP machine. Our setup managed to supply our refrigeration needs and to some extent my medical devices on a limited basis. We didn't run the generator on a 24/7 schedule but enough to keep things going over the 2+ days of the outage. I'm guessing maybe a couple hundred dollars worth of propane for the duration. My business depends on computers and the internet. I probably could have run the computer but the internet was down. I just closed for the event.

Not being able to function for 2+ days probably cost me at a minimum \$500. Add it all up and it comes to +/- \$2500. Inconvenient and costly.

Potentially there may be another shutdown this week where I can look forward to a continuing loss. Really unacceptable but I DO NOT BLAME PG&E for the problem.

Think about it. For more than 100 years PG&E has scrambled to extend electrical service to every corner of their service area. Do you think that they would ever have been able to convince the PUC or ratepayers to approve billions of dollars to harden their systems by undergrounding and continuing to clear their lines for the growth of trees. Not likely.

Our bills would be double what they are now not to mention to added cost to extend services in the first place. It comes down to "follow the money". We have floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, and all manner of natural disasters (including windstorms) that qualify as acts of God.

Problem is you can't sue God. He doesn't have any money. The legal profession will have a field day suing the dog crap out of PG&E simply because they are the ones with the money (maybe). PG&E has a right to protect their interests and shutting off the power may be the only way to do it. It would be appropriate if they could make an effort to reasonably harden their systems but I don't think shutting down the entire system at length is a way to treat the problem. By the way. Where do you think the money will come from to settle all of those lawsuits?

PG&E reserves? Not likely, they're bankrupt. Shareholders? Their investment has tanked and worthless. The government? Great!, the insurance company of last resort. The most likely? The ratepayers. We can all look forward to monthly utility bills that will rival your health insurance premiums.

What a country! Get a life!

[Jerry Nicoletti](#)

From: Jerry Ittelocin [mailto:mostlyretired@hotmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 9:30 AM

Subject: Who is really being protected here?

33 counties blacked out, 13 ultimately met PG&E's criteria for shutoff. They sounds like a system that needs a lot more research before using customers as guinea pigs. I was surprised how easily PG&E steamrolled the state, county politicians and the PUC with this scheme. I was disappointed that no one questioned the methodology or basic premise behind the shutoffs. If the main goal is to shield PG&E from liability, which seems the actual intent, then say so and we can all move on. If we ban all cars we would reduce insurance company liability as well according to the logic being used. Would insurance rates go down = hardly. Will PG&E's rates go down – NO. They are already in bankruptcy and sitting on a massively undermaintained system due to poor oversight. Just driving from Lakeport to Kelseyville I see hundreds of trees intermingled with power lines. Imagine how many exist in No. California ! Each county B.O.S. should be required to approve of any shutoff in advance, let them be accountable by the people they represent. That would put a sense of control in a system that now seems totally beholden to PG&E's discretion. Not acceptable.

Jerry Nicoletti

[Judy Nylander](#)

From: Jude Nylander [mailto:nylanderjude@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 10:45 AM

Subject: Comment on PG&E forced power shutoffs

Hi, my name is Judy Nylander, I started the petition on Change.org last week against the forced power shutoffs by PG&E. This petition has received a huge following, facebook, twitter and our local news, with multiple signings.

I feel the forced power shutoffs are a farce. PG&E knows the statistics of wildfires. That 90% of wildfires are started by people and 10% by lightning. They also know that less than 2% of fires are started by power lines and transformers. This ploy on PG&E's part is nothing but a distraction from there own incompetency in their infrastructure.

These power shutoffs have created a toxic environment of financial hardships for citizens and small businesses. It has also become a public health concern because vulnerable citizens, such as elderly, disabled and the general low income families are suffering lack of heat, or cooling, proper food source and financial hardship. Most people in this area can not afford the necessary preparations for these shut downs. Generators are an expense that most can't afford, and even if they could they can't buy gas because our gas stations are closed.

This leaves the majority of citizens, left in the dark, no food, no heat or cooling, vulnerable to breakin's or theft or harm because everyone knows that in a blackout, the worst of the worst are out there waiting for the opportunity to prey on more vulnerable. Working families that depend on a weekly salary can't go to work, either there business is closed or there's no gas. Children are lacking adequate food because there are no means of refrigeration or cooking.

Please help us take back our right to have the power we pay for, without fear of these bogus power shutoffs which endanger public health and welfare. Thank you!

[Judy Nylander \(Clearlake Oaks\)](#)

From: Judy Nylander [mailto:pokermom56@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 8:38 PM

Subject: Comment to Lake County Board of Supervisors

My husband and I live in Clearlake Oaks. I, along with many in our community are outraged first of all by these forced power shutoffs. They have created a Public Health, Safety and financial Crisis for people and businesses in Lake County and other places.

My husband and I are retired and with our social security, after these past 3 power shutoffs we have watched our bank account go to zero, and our food supply is gone. We still have several days to go before next SS check. And to tell you the truth, I really don't know how we will make it.

Besides our food and money being gone, we have faced situations during these blackouts that even affected our safety. Last night my husband caught 2 people trying to steal our gas. He was able to chase them off, but being a vulnerable senior, I feared for his safety.

We are now literally living in fear of the next power shutoff. Our home has been here for 50 years, but for the first time, we are both fearful to stay in Lake County. I just pray, these forced power shutoffs come to an end.

[Mike Nylander \(Clearlake Oaks\)](#)

From: Mike Nylander [mailto:hippie308@hotmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 9:12 AM

Subject: Comment on PG&E forced power shutoffs

My name is Mike Nylander and I live in Clearlake Oaks, Ca. I am totally disgusted with the recent power shut off . PG&E not only took our power, but also a little part of our dignity, self worth and sense of security. My wife and I are both senior citizens and not in good health, we live on social security so were not financially able to prepare for a power shutoff. We can't afford a generator (even though if we had one, there was no access to gas for it) but we had to throw away what little food we had cause of spoilage. We were left vulnerable, in the dark, no heat, no food and living in fear for those few days.

We also read a article from the US Dept of Interior that 90% of wildfires are caused by people, the other 10% by lightening. And that less than 2% of wildfires are actually caused by power lines and transformers. PG&E put our lives and the lives of a million other citizens in health and financial danger for nothing, except to cover up there own incompetence in there power infrastructure.

This farce needs to stop. We recently signed the petition on Change.org against the forced power shutoffs by PG&E. Please help us take back our right to have power, without fear of dangerous power shutoffs.
Thank you, Mike Nylander

[Julanne Olvera \(Nice\)](#)

From: Julanne Olvera [mailto:julanneolvera123@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 8:51 AM

Subject: public safety power shutoff

We live in Nice, I have a 10 yr old daughter with disabilities, her diagnosis includes 2 rare syndromes. We can't afford a generator. Having the power out means unable to keep temp in our home at the right temp for her needs (to warm seizures/to cold breathing issues), phone service was an issue- need to be able to call 911 if needed, my daughter's meds have to be mixed in yogurt 3 times a day no open stores means no

[Julanne Olvera \(Nice, continued\)](#)

way to buy fresh yogurt or ice to keep fridge cold. The outage also affected my daughter's therapies and her care providers were unable to work as they had their own power outage issues, this meant I had zero help and lack of therapy is hurtful towards my daughter's well being. I'm fine without the food we lost from the freezer, but NOT when my daughter suffers at the hand of PGE. PGE is aware that we have a medical need we have the medical baseline rate, maybe PGE should have their workers go to the homes of people on medical baseline rate and loan plus install and show how to use, a small generator 500W to keep medical equipment and fridge on.

Julanne Olvera

[Barbara Reber \(Riviera Heights\)](#)

From: Barbara Reber [mailto:breber@pacific.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 7:37 AM

Subject: PSPS Shutoff

Importance: High

I am a 71 year old single retired woman on social security income with a medical need. PG & E recommended you buy a generator to use during the shutoff. I could not afford one as I am sure many others could not either. I have at risk neighbors who could not use their oxygen or C-Pap breathing machines. Many people were unable to charge their cell phones and elderly and/or impaired individuals felt frightened and isolated. How many people with ventilators had to be hospitalized during the event or even died do to the lack of electricity? I don't believe PG & E even set up a shelter in Lake County for people to utilize. Many people lost food, couldn't cook, no heat, and had bad or no running water during the outage. People who had invested in solar panels that fed into PG & E were not able to use their solar power as it was not set up as an alternate energy source with batteries and invertor, etc.

I feel we have a contract with PG & E to provide a service when we pay our bills. It is my belief PG & E should have either purchased enough generators to run their equipment and maintained the utility or loaned us generators during the outage. PG & E top administrators received very substantial bonuses for this outage, lots of overtime was paid to their employees and subcontractors as well.

During the PG & E meeting with the Public Utilities Commission which bay area news channels was aired excerpts of on TV yesterday (10/18/19) evening, they stated we could expect this to continue for the next ten (10) years. They also have asked for a raise in rates of 7% to take effect Jan. 1, 2020, stating the average bill for a residence was \$130/month the raise would only amount to \$9.00. Where is that average? Bills around here run closer to \$240 - \$300 per month and the dollar amount of the raise would be much greater.

PG & E was able to accomplish what terrorist groups could not by isolating and shutting down most of California. Our county and the State of California need to find another utility supplier or become a state owned utility.

Thank you for considering my public comments,

Barbara Reber
Riviera Heights resident

James and Johanna Richards

From: james richards [mailto:jrichar8@att.net]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:36 AM

Subject: PG&E Blackout

So, you want to hear about our experience during the blackout and our opinion on how it was handled...

First off, I'd like to give you suggestions for the next time, if there is a next time.

When there is a black out planned, please suggest actions we can do to get ready. As in, freeze water bottles to distribute in your frozen and cold food to keep them frozen and cold. If using ice, put the ice in water tight bags, ziplocks, to protect from water damage. Be liberal with your ice/bottles/bags, ice will keep it's self colder longer when there is ample ice. If you have to use block ice, put it in a plastic dish pan so when it melts it doesn't leak. I found block ice very effective for keeping the refrigerator cold but every shelf needs some sort of ice, water bottles work well. Chest freezer, we put a 20 pound bag on top of our frozen food, it's still there, surprisingly, it never defrosted. Things that you would be opening the fridge door for more often, put in an ice chest, avoid opening the door as much as possible. In our refrigerator freezer, we used a block of ice in a plastic dish pan.

Which water companies will be functional and which ones won't. Water saving tips, (if it's brown, flush it down, if it's yellow, let it mellow." It's handy to have a trash bin next to the toilet to put used tissue in, instead of putting it in the toilet. Fill either bathtub or buckets of water for washing dishes, flushing toilet, (fill a bucket with tub water and pour in the toilet bowl), and personal hygiene. A list of stores that will be open and have ice.

It would be very helpful to have CB radios, or the like, so people that don't have cell phone can keep in touch with the outside world. Yes, there are people that only have land lines, as you know, when the power goes out, so does the land line phone. A reminder for people to check on their neighbors, the old and disabled. An AM radio for news is helpful. And batteries, lots of batteries.

It would also be very helpful if there was a place to rent a generator reasonably, if they don't have the money to buy one.

Now for the complaint portion... The winds in most of Lake County were 7mph with 12mph gusts, does that really come up to the level of a 'wind event'? It was forecast in local weather... they didn't lie. We barely had a gust, of course at 12mph, we may not have noticed. Did PG&E fix any lines while the power was off? I didn't see or hear about any repairs. If you're going to turn off the power for non existent high winds, please fix something, just to make us feel better about it... Who is responsible for cleaning debris from around the power lines, they need to do their job or get a new one. Please think about letting responsible logging take place again, they seemed to do a great job at cleaning up and replanting the forests. Don't worry about that rare spotted grey owl, it has a better chance of living if it has to find a new tree rather than a new forest, if they don't burn up in a fire...

While we all appreciate PG&E's efforts to keep us safe this should have been a little better thought out.

Personal query; We all pay very high electric bills, why is it so much more expensive here?

[James and Johanna Richards \(continued\)](#)

A parting thought; Remember the great Chicago fire in 1871, when Mrs. O'leary's cow kick over the lamp? Well, when you turn off the electricity most people are cooking outside on open flames and have open flame candles and lanterns... Also, remember how many fires were started with the deep fried turkey fad. As the weather gets colder fireplaces and outdoor heaters will be used to create warmth in homes since even a gas heater need electricity to work.

Seems to me, you folks are trading one danger for another, better make sure it's a real emergency.

James & Johanna Richards

[Julie Richardson](#)

From: Julie Richardson [mailto:julierichardson95451@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:43 AM

Subject: PG&E Shutoffs

I am unable to attend the Board of Supervisor's meeting when this issue will be discussed.

We CANNOT allow this utility to do such over broad pre wind event shut offs again. My power was out for 65 1/2 hours and there was little or no wind at my home! I am currently on a wait list to obtain a back up generator. Do to demand, I probably won't receive that to mix November at the earliest.

We need to have these power shut offs only in areas where the wind is actually predicted to be high and it needs to be tailored to the exact lines the present a danger, not an entire County. Plus they shut the power of way to early. My power was shut off Tuesday night around midnight, but the high winds weren't forecast until early Tuesday morning.

I was on the lake Wednesday with our sailboat club in the middle of what PG&E said was supposed to be high winds and the power was shut off. There was very light winds and in some places virtually no wind.

This shutoff caused significant stress to our residents and businesses plus financial losses. Many of our grocery stores had to discard lots of spoiled food.

This can't be the "new normal" unless they can better predict exactly which electric lines are in danger. Make PG&E spend money trimming trees near their power lines instead of bonuses and a fancy dinner at a Napa winery for executives.

Additionally, the County needs to do more to maintain County owned land for fire safety. There is a parcel of land located in Soda Bay Road below the Riviera Heights area that has dead trees that need to be removed. All land owned by the County needs to be maintained for fire safety and have dead trees and brush removed.

[Constance Rystad \(Kelseyville\)](#)

From: Connie Rystad <rystad@pacific.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 10:04 AM

Subject: October 22nd meeting on the abusive PG&E situation....

Constance Rystad (Kelseyville, continued)

TO THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS....

Thank you for calling this meeting. Lake County has a tradition of taking care of its people. When faced with the power that PG&E has amassed to force abusive actions down our throats, we must unite. We do this not only for ourselves, but for all Californians. PG&E has spent millions of dollars on a campaign to brainwash us into believing that shutting off our power (our liberty to live our lives as best we can in already difficult situations) is in our best interests and will keep us “safe.” THIS IS A FALSEHOOD. I have recently read of a current technology in use in Southern California that would “detect and turn off broken power lines before they even hit the ground.” Why is PG&E focusing on power outages rather than power rehabilitation. A former leader of our country Benjamin Franklin once said: “Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.” PG&E uses fear as a very effective tool to keep us in place, so that they can continue holding power over us. We must be strong and united in order to break these chains that bind us. NO MORE PG&E INSTIGATED POWER OUTAGES. We must come together on all levels: neighbors, local and state representatives, whatever it takes to accomplish this humanitarian necessity.

Again, thank you for supporting the people of Lake County.
Best wishes.

Constance Rystad
Kelseyville

Kris Sundquist

From: Kris Sundquist [mailto:ksund@saber.net]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:37 AM

Subject: Power shutoff

I was on vacation, so could not prepare for the shutoff which lasted 4 days according to my neighbor. As occurred last year, I had to empty my refrigerator and destroy all the food.

Last year it was out 5 days, this year 4 days for the emergency shut off. Wish there was a quicker way to restore power to save food.

Kris Sundquist

Ashely Tillman (Clearlake Riviera)

From: Ashley Tillman [mailto:ashley@ravishingaf.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 5:27 PM

Subject: Repeated PSPS Events

To Whom It May Concern,

I am currently living in the Clearlake Riviera. Our water source is solely dependent on power. It can withstand a few days of no power but we must conserve. Due to the lack of communication from the water company on this issue- we see people repeatedly washing their cars, watering their lawns or lack there of a lawn and wasting water. Once our tanks run out we are then handed boil notices long after we've already made coffee with said water, or used it for cooking. It then takes 3 days for them to figure out if the water is safe for us to consume. This is just one of the hardships we face during these events. We've replaced food

[Ashely Tillman \(Clearlake Riviera, continued\)](#)

from the 10/9/2019 event to only be told another was happening. Again more money down the drain. I have not been able to work due to no power and am not quite sure how I am paying all of my bills, mortgage, and putting food in my children's stomachs with a short paycheck. It's financially stressful on a house of 5 to try to deal with these events. I have to choose between paying a bill or feeding my children. How can I choose? It's beyond frustrating, this is the decision that pge came to when they have neglected their due diligence by not fixing or maintaining their lines and we the people, my family, my children and I have to suffer the consequences for.

Thank you for listening,
Ashley Tillman

[Steve Tucker](#)

From: Steve Tucker [mailto:st06291979@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:55 AM
Subject:

Hi I believe that pg&e needs to think of a better way to fix this issue other than shutting off power I think there's other solutions so in my eyes a power shut off isn't the way to handle this

From: Steve Tucker [mailto:st06291979@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:31 PM
Subject:

Hi I wrote an email earlier I'm just adding I believe pg&e should give generators to the customers due to these shutoffs my mom's 77 and she got cold last time I believe pg&e needs to help more than they are

[Courtney Van Leuven](#)

From: Courtney Van Leuven [mailto:courtneyvanleuven@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 1:35 PM
Subject: Today's community meeting 10/31

Hello,

I am attaching the post that was read at the supervisors meeting this morning;

This is our glorious America. Our elders who have worked their entire life to fulfill that American dream sit cold tonight. Our younger generations have been so spoiled and have never been taught survival skills to endure this third world country audacity we are calling reality.

Lake County is the poorest county in the state, tonight we face freezing temperatures, many families sit in the dark with no source of heat except whatever blankets they have found, and our schools that provide many students with the only constant they know and the two meals per day so many rely on, remain closed.

Many cannot work, many have no way to cook, our public water facilities have no way to treat the water for safe consumption, amateurs are running generators and handling gasoline in a way they never have

[Courtney Van Leuven \(continued\)](#)

before, our streets are dark, our routines are halted, our anxieties are at record high levels, our nerves are raw, landlines are down, internet services do not work, and there is no real end in sight.

Our small businesses will face the decision of severe debt or having to choose to close their doors. Our mortgage companies still expect payment, the grocery stores that found a way to remain open will require payment for the food we put in our carts, that generator won't run without the doubly priced gasoline, and the unregulated monopoly known as PGE who is holding us hostage won't bat an eye at the disaster they have created.

We have no other company to choose from. There are no simple or quick or inexpensive ways to help ourselves so we no longer need PGE services.

This is not the world I want to live in, this is not the country or the state I have always stood proudly to be from, and this is not a reality I will willingly accept.

Courtney Van Leuven

[Sam Webb](#)

From: Sam Webb [mailto:rainbeaupuppy@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 20, 2019 12:50 PM

Subject: psp

I have emailed pg&e my displeasure with their psp. I'm hoping everyone who suffered a loss due to the "public service" will make an effort to do the same. It went on entirely too long. I'm a 70 yr. old widow trying to live on my hard earned social security (not ss disability). It's already a struggle to make ends meet. Losing the food I budgeted for, prepared and froze for meals for the month is a real hardship. Albeit small in the scheme of things, not everyone can afford such an unnecessary loss, much less a home generator. Somehow it seems that a company who advertises how much they care then pulls this without thinking it through, doesn't really. Oh, and we had no wind here on the east side of the lake during the shutoff. Nor did my friends in Sacramento who were shut down. Hmm...

[Christine Williams \(North Lakeport\)](#)

From: Christine Williams [mailto:chrizzlyjw@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:13 AM

Subject: PG&E Public Safety Shut Offs

There must be a way to isolate shut offs to the specific area experiencing wind, humidity and temperature extremes.

And there needs to be a way to restore power faster and more efficiently.

Today, Monday at 9:45 am, I have received nothing by phone or text from PG&E about a possible shut off on Wednesday or Thursday. I have read about it on Facebook from other sources. But PG&E is not communicating with me.

If we keep having shut offs every few weeks, all year long, it will break Lake County financially. Businesses cannot operate with continuous losses and employees cannot go without work due to closures and people

Christine Williams (North Lakeport, continued)

cannot survive on less than their usual salaries. And the public in general cannot go without food and other necessities.

We understand the fire safety issues and we are appreciative that PG&E is doing something, but the way it is being handled needs a lot of work.

There must be better notification systems. There must be ways to isolate shutoffs to the specific areas with extreme wind, humidity and temperatures.

And for low income people of all ages, but especially for seniors, the now constant fear and isolation during these events is just plain cruel.

One PG&E station at one end of this county is not even close to enough. Every city should have phone charging capabilities and water and current info. PG&E should utilize our senior centers and equip them with generators.

For low income people the burden of cost for special provisions during these shutoffs and the losses incurred is unforgivable.

Thank you for asking for input.

Christine J. Williams
North Lakeport, CA

Diana Wolf (Mugshots Espresso)

From: Diana Wolf <dianawolf11@ymail.com>

Date: October 21, 2019 at 6:31:59 PM PDT

Subject: Mugshots espresso PSPS impact

Good evening,

As a small business owner in Lake County I am severely impacted by the safety power shut offs that PG & E has been conducting. The last shut off cost me around \$6000 and if this goes on, it will come to a breaking point where I will not be able to pay my bills and/or my tax obligations which are very high in the month of October.

I had to skip my weekly business credit card payment last week already due to the last shut off and I will start to really get into the weeds if I skip another payment this coming week.

I don't have a side job, my business is all I have that supports me and my family. My employees also did not get paid for time lost during the energy shut off, all of them live paycheck to paycheck. The power shut offs by PG&E are destroying small businesses and sinking people deeply into debt from which they might never recover. No insurance covers any of the loss incurred by the shut offs.

This is entirely unacceptable, a private power company cannot be allowed to ruin our entire state of California which it looks like they are well on their way of doing.

We must get back to regulated power, we must be allowed to vote out PG& E and implement regulated power like for example in Nevada. There are never power outages in Nevada even though wind storms are a daily occurrence.

THANK YOU, supervisor Moke Simon and all county and state officials who are listening!

Respectfully,
Diana Wolf, owner,
Mugshots Espresso

[Anonymous \(Clearlake Riviera\)](#)

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 3:15 PM

Subject: LCBS 10/22/19: Anonymous Public Comment

My **#1 issue** with PG&E is that I had to scramble to install and pay upwards of \$11K for a **new generator*** (\$10.5K) and two (2) propane tanks (\$650 initial fueling and annual rental fees):

I live in Clearlake Riviera. Earlier this year, I had a **family emergency** in southern California; I was gone from **February 11 to May 11**. During that time, I had been reading about the new Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) program that was going to be implemented during this year's fire season. When I returned home, I had three (3) months of catching up to do with paperwork, bills, mail/email, emergency-related emails/paperwork and filing my 2018 tax returns the day before the power shutoff (I had to file an extension, due to the family emergency)...

Like I needed one more thing on my plate, now, I needed to prepare for the fire season by adding an expensive propane generator! Living mostly alone (because my husband is a lineman who is away working on statewide projects), I decided to buy a permanent Generac generator. On **July 24**, I went into contract with **Jonas Energy Solutions**. The installation was completed on **September 16**. Just in time for the **2.5 day shutdown** starting on **Wednesday, October 9 at 12:32 a.m.** and ending on **Friday, October 11 at 2:22 p.m.**

And here's a shoutout for **everyone at Jonas Energy** who handled everything remarkably well and smooth. They were under extreme pressure with all of the various new generator orders (my next door neighbor got one installed after mine was, because of me) and while taking care of their regular customers. Yes, they're making a good profit, but still there were/are the **changing county ordinances** to comply with; securing **building permits** (check writing/bookkeeping) and **HOA approvals**; coordinating the **building inspections**; **troubleshooting** and making things right to completion.

#2 issue with PG&E: Did I feel any **safer**, because of the PSPS? **No**.

#3 issue with PG&E: Did I experience the gusts/sustained high winds that were forecasted? **No**. It felt NORMAL here.

#4 issue with PG&E: Will I see a new **PSPS Credit** on my next bill? **No**.

#5 issue with PG&E: Will I feel any **safer**, because PG&E is removing/trimming trees? **Only if it's happening in my area**.

Anonymous (Clearlake Riviera, continued)

Will PG&E do future maintenance of these areas? **Unknown.**

#6 issue with PG&E: Will they continue to increase their rates? **Yes.**

#7 issue with PG&E: Can I get a new **Homeowner's Insurance Safety Credit** for having a permanent generator? **No.** I checked.

#8 issue with PG&E: Will installing a permanent Generac generator (and **tankless hot water heater** to bring down the generator's kilowatts from 16 to 11) **increase my home's value?** **Unknown.**

MISC issues with PG&E: NO WAY TO COMMUNICATE!

My ATT **landline** died, immediately, with the shutdown.

My ATT High Speed Internet **DSL line** petered out the first day around 5:00 p.m.

My **T-Mobile phone** stopped working because it uses the ATT DSL line; enabling Wi-Fi Calling didn't work either. Thank goodness I was able to borrow a friend's work cell phone that uses Verizon. I'm thinking of switching back to them.

So, THANK YOU PG&E for adding a lot of unnecessary STRESS to my already stressful life; adding a LARGE EXPENSE to my bank account (looking into a tax deduction); making me USE MORE FOSSIL FUEL and adding to the NOISE POLLUTION in my quiet neighborhood.

Thank you for this opportunity to kvetch to the public anonymously.