



Public Comment: Input via Facebook

The County of Lake Facebook page was an important informational resource for many in our communities just prior to and during the 10/9, 10/23, 10/26 and 10/29 PSPS Events. The following comments were culled by County of Lake Staff, and provide a sense of public concern and frustration as of Wednesday, 10/23, at 10:16am. Lake County was affected by three separate PSPS Events in the time since.

October 17, 9:01am, County-Shared PG&E Post: Electric Service is Fundamental
<https://www.facebook.com/lakecountycagov/posts/2683514478377962>

Steve Schmidt

Removing a basic need of our elderly, and blanket total area shut-offs are NOT keeping your customers safe. You either: 1. knew how devastating this would be and chose to punish your customers or, 2. you have inadequate management and skills to perform the tasks needed to help reduce the chance of power line caused fires. Here is some FREE advice. Put boots on the ground and ONLY shut off the lines affected by the "actual wind "for the "actual time" it is considered hazardous, not just predictions. (70 miles an hour wind on Mt Saint Helena is not justification for shutting power off for over 48 hours to Lake County, let alone over 800,000 homes and businesses).

Mike McBride

so with even being forewarned of the "psps" we did lose a portion of frozen foods that we DEPEND on to eat, PG&E decided that they would not compensate us for losses even tho we did take precautions, but still the BONUSES for MILLIONS keep rolling out to the ceo's and other higher ups in this company, SICKENING that they get bonuses like that instead of fixing the infrastructure they have IGNORED for 70 years, this action is CRIMINAL and should not be tolerated by US the CUSTOMERS..... I have addressed the needs of having power for next time and I will not lose my needed foods but you all should be ASHAMED of yourselves for taking a giant bonus while others suffer thru with no power.....

Ramona d'Viola

So, County of Lake, California when will our board of supervisors convene to begin taking steps to create a regional micro-grid? Yay proclamations - now, let's do something concrete for our community.

October 18, 1:46pm, County of Lake: Board of Supervisors Invites Comment on PSPS
<https://www.facebook.com/lakecountycagov/posts/2686691818060228>

Lisa Pavlov

I would like to thank Lake Co peeps for the communication. New here and I thought it was pretty good.

Laura May

It was clear that many businesses did their best to help the community. It was clear after 24 hours that those without generators were not able to keep up with the demands of the community through no fault of their own. Long gas lines and no ice available after 24 hours were definitely problems. Going out of Lake County is not an option for many. I was able to travel through Mendocino, Sonoma and Marin counties during the outage and many did not have ice available and many gas stations were closed where the power was out. If this had happened during much warmer temperatures I believe there would be more consequences especially to our elderly population. We were able to check in our neighbors and help those that needed assistance but I'm not sure if this had gone on longer how this would have affected them?

Kim O'Brien White

I live in a Senior Apartment Complex where we have no propane gas, and aren't allowed BBQ's or open flames on our porches so no food prep. Also, 98% of the residents here don't use the internet or social media and have no idea about PGE's PSPS. We have an elevator that goes out with no electricity, so most 2nd story handicapped residents are trapped. Some say it reduces fire danger, but what if a fire broke out with limited or no water available for firefighting because we are 3, 4 or 5 days or more out of power? I think we may be in more danger of a fire with generators, candles and careless cooking. We were lucky this last PSPS. Thank you Tina Scott!

Manager, Toles Family Haunted House

I agree theres still a huge risk for fire with candles bbqing and generators and what if a fire happens and you dont have PHONE SERVICE!! Or ypur phone has died becuz u hace no way to charge it and something was to happen no cobtact with any one.... Hmm seems like its not really public safety

I had no phone service was unable to get gas becuz lines were too long and my car was so low i could wait hours with ot running!

Linda J. Jaurigue

This "outtage" did not give people enough time to prepare. Most can not afford a generator and we need our breathing devices- CPAP, nebulizers, oxygen, and other life saving devices. PGE is not suppose to turn our power off. They have failed us. They have had plenty of time from the last fire to check their lines. We need a more reliable energy source.

Tom N Martha O'Brien

I would look at our Board of Supervisors and the Chamber of Commerce for the financial condition of our county. I have lived in the Southern end of Lake County for 20yrs haven't seen any type of growth in commerce, small business or even the upkeep of roads. Where is all our tax money going small government to large government tax us but we get nothing in return.

Yolanda Chavez

I prepared with solar lights a yeti cooler and back-up power bank for my phone. Also a propane camping stove. Battery powered radio and flashlights.

My issue is we cannot accept this as the norm. We must push for PG&E to begin the electric underground construction for public safety. Instead of PG&E working on buying the largest generator company they should begin the underground construction.

Also correct me if I'm wrong but I understand there was only 1 resource center in Lake County. If these shutdowns happen for more than 3 days thousands of folks will have some real problems considering that thousands don't have an extra \$400-700 dollars to buy a generator, gas and everything it takes to hook it up. Also you need several resource centers in Lake County. I also heard that the hospitals were overwhelmed. Not good. Perhaps what's needed is a meeting with county leaders, the community and hospital administration so they can figure out the needs of the community for everyone especially the elderly and ill. Certainly we need to all work together so we don't have any tragedies.

Brooke Robb

While my family and I were fine and it seemed like a minor inconvenience (despite our clear screen addictions) I worry about the effect it will have on our business and local economy if it continues. Also the medically fragile on limited incomes. I can't stand all the people I've seen who basically said "oh well I'll survive, this is nothing, stop complaining" and can't take a moment to realize how this event affects other people.

I personally made a post in a local scanner page about PG&E buying Grocery Outlets entire supply of bottled water and saw people basically say "its just a power outage, why is everyone rushing to buy water?" And chalk us up to being dumb, then Konocti mutual water company put out a boil water notice!

If these power shut offs become more frequent, I worry more basic needs like access to food and water will be at risk as well. I can only hope that more people see the consequences of these shut offs and the effects they have on their neighbors and community rather than just think of themselves.

Vivian Stankiewicz

We had time we were prepared we lost nothing. Thank you

Fae Moonsong

First off there was no wind for the four days it was nice and calm here second I only got a 6 hour notice we are all electric I can't afford a generator maybe if PG&E does this in the future perhaps they should let us borrow generators they come to the house they hook it all up secure it then when the power is back on they come and get them I don't know its just a thought

Cassandra Carnes

We lost all our food. I couldn't work. I work from home. I had to work all weekend to make up hours and was still short. My boss was about to fire me. We spend all the money we had for supplies and water, not knowing how long the power would be out. Very stressful time.

Jewelianna Devereaux

Having our power turned off for so long was another disaster. My 94 year old mom uses nebulizer couldn't get to the "only" [Community Resource Center] in LC pge had in Clearlake, she had no phone access what so ever in case of emergency because house phone was shut off which made her device she has for in case she falls not work either. I suffer from anxiety and panic disorders like so many others, mine is due to a childhood trauma. looking outside where it is completely dark not 1 light and knowing I've lost control over my lights put me into a panic attack!! Not to mention all the food that I just bought and had to throw out. pge has to do something else instead of shutting off our power.

Thomas Strother

The problem, is your expected to be ready to evac but there's those of us who have to work during these power shut offs. It would be extremely beneficial for these gas stations to have back up power. I could really [care less] about the court house being operational during the power outage.

Greg Scott

SHAME ON YOU PG&E, C.U.C. & our elected leaders for letting PG&E do this cruel thing to your citizens, your tax payers, and your voters. Suggestion, go to your other county and city leaders in Nor. Cal. review California PRC 4291 and take your collective leadership to the State Elected leaders and tell them to STOP the waster effort of PSPS and hold PG&E to comply now to the law. It is a year with normal rain fall and fires in Nor Cal if you noticed have not burned outside the first burning period. We don't need another PSPS this year and it hurts.

Enforce California's Public Resource Code 4291 to the letter to MAKE PG&E clear lines, poles, and ground of flammable vegetation and keep it clean. Put more teeth into the law by adding to it more prevention effort. Use correctional inmate camps and burns to make this happen. Even bury the lines. All this will stop the cruel results on the citizen, taxpayer, and VOTER by putting pressure on state elected folks to finally after more the 40 years of PG&E closing it's eyes and coming up with [PSPS].

California PRC 4291 is for REQUIRING to clear of FLAMMABLE VEGETATION around power poles and the power lines. This will make PSPS not needed if our elected leaders will make PG&E comply. This code has been on the law books for over 40 years I know of. This last shut off was a disaster without a disaster with no way to prove it prevented any fires, in a year that fire are not burning rapidly, it has been cool in the areas turned off, and many have had to go to the ER and paid for power repairs after. Many seniors have filled the ER from falls with broken bones, many have thrown out \$\$\$ in food.

Aylene Front

It'd be nice if the county could have it's own independent energy company. We have lots of potential to generate our own energy with solar, wind, and geothermal.

Kathryn Waters

[There were] never ever ever these fire problems until the greedy State of California stopped the Department of Forestry from cleaning underbrush of the forest areas. The Navajo in Arizona never have fires because they do this. In fact they lecture other on fire management I already contacted Gavin Newsom's office repeatedly and President Trump's office. Trimming the underbrush around us is the main thing that has led to these fire spreading so rapidly and out of control why don't we address that!

Debbie Hamner

Hi Tina, me and my grandson lost all of our refrigerator food and freezer food. We had no way of cooking so we spent what money we had going to fast food so we could have something to eat and we had no hot water. It would be nice to have a generator but we barely make ends meet and it is. But we are very thankful for what we have. Thank you!! Debbie Figueroa.

S. Donella Jones Gilmore

I lost food, power to my phone for several days, money to my business, and more. If temperatures had been any higher, there would have been health consequences as well. We need a different choice for energy.

Roberta Stricklin

Lost about 150 to 200.00 worth of food used what money we had for water and food flash lights batteries etc. My son's new born twins we used propane to keep them warm but still thankfully they and other kids only have a cold and not worse and my fridge is still empty because unable to buy at this minute but one day at a time dear lord.

Susan Robb

The shut off was hard because of my age and disabilities. The only chair I can sit (and sleep) in is electric, so when the electricity went out it was stuck in one position. This made it hard to get in and out of. I also have sleep apnea and was unable to breathe during the night. Like everyone else I lost food and replace it. I can't afford to replace it again.

Kathleen Kelly

I can't afford to replace all the food that I lost due to power being shut off. I had already purchased groceries at the beginning of the month before learning about the power outage.

Losing both my AT&T phone and cell phone, I had no way to call for help or 911. I was very scared being helpless. I'm angry at PG&E.

Mari Louise Roth

My family incurred having to purchase a small portable generator at a higher price than we would have with more time (\$650.00) although our food loss was minimal it was definately a huge disadvantage not having enough gas to fill the generator or to travel to stores to get food and supplies as well as the feel of living like "on Waltons mountain"!

Sue Whelchel Chisam

While I agree that we all need to do what we can to gather resources for these types of circumstances, wasn't a year also enough time for PGE to take that exec bonus money and bring their equipment up to a higher standard? The Beaufort wind scale predicts possible utility line problems at 65 mph or higher, much higher than all but one place during the Oct 9-12 event.

Carolyn Erfurth

I just went grocery shopping, I had to throw everything away. My concern is if they do it again this month, I'll be tossing my refrigerator food out again. Can't afford to do that

Jane Hines

How about PG&E fixing problem areas should a real problem occur instead of blindly shutting off power unnecessarily to everyone. I can't imagine all the economic loss that happened due to this fiasco.

Joe Waterman

Thank you Mrs. Scott! 🍀 For me I lost 2 days of work, and my cell phone didn't work for 2 1/2 days. Spent a few dollars on fuel for our generator. Not a huge hit for me, but thankfully we have a generator.

October 21, 7:08am, County of Lake: PSPS WATCH

<https://www.facebook.com/lakecountycagov/posts/2693303407399069>

Lesla Kramer

I live in the Riv and have gotten nothing. I really wish that Nixle would be added in local Communications. I appreciate you sending out this message. The last shutdown was terrible.

Chyna Diego

Is it happening or not I've been getting notification emails but it's not being specific about if it's a for sure thing or not.

October 21, 7:16am, County of Lake: PG&E activated its Emergency Operations Center...

<https://www.facebook.com/lakecountycagov/posts/2693316884064388>

Maryerlene Huffman

So let's be clear, PGE wanted to modernize by providing "Smart meters, saving costs...within a short amount of time did your PGE costs go down....ours did not, instead they increased. Now, these black outs are costing much more than "The cost of a new generator, and gas to run it. Most especially since the gas stations are not open and no gas is available, gas storage is dangerous, and discouraged. Yet here we are, but having said that the worst is phone service is non functional, so emergencies, which we had, equated to disaster.

October 21, 8:14am, Sheriff Brian Martin: Potential PSPS This Week

<https://www.facebook.com/brian.martin.5817300/videos/2542149199184096/>

Maryjane Blackshear

Thank you for the information, Brian Martin. Its time for Lake County to invest in our own sustainable green energy. For our community to become self-sufficient because we have the means, power and energy of a wonderful location on Earth, time to upgrade.

John Siegel

We know how many [customers will be out of power], but not where? Ridiculous!