



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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October 31, 2019

Bill Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Michael Lewis, Senior Vice President, Electric Operations
Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
77 Beal Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear CEO Johnson and Senior VP Lewis:

We are writing to express grave concerns over PG&E's handling of recent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events in Humboldt County. Over the past three weeks, we have experienced three PSPS events that have severely impacted the elderly, the disabled, some of our most vulnerable and needy residents, those with critical medical needs, along with small businesses (many of which are the backbone of our community), hospitals and medical providers who provide critical and emergency care along with needed cancer treatments and diagnostic services.

Humboldt County has always had a good working relationship/partnership with PG&E. We supported PG&E's decommissioning of the local PG&E Nuclear Power Plant and the rebuilding of the current plant, which still has onsite nuclear storage.

One of the biggest questions this county has is why PG&E didn't put a plan in place to develop a dedicated grid for Humboldt County when the new power plant was being constructed. Now, when these PSPS events occur, Humboldt is subject to the weather events happening in neighboring counties. The PSPS event in the Central Valley shuts the transmission lines to Humboldt County, and forces our local power plant, and two bio mass plants from energizing the grid. PG&E needs to come up with an immediate plan to utilize our local power generation plants to energize the local grid minimize the impact of future PSPS events.

We strongly urge PG&E to hold a Public Forum in Humboldt County or at the very least, come to a Board of Supervisors meeting to explain why in the planning and construction of the new PG&E power plant, there was no allowance for a dedicated grid that would allow for the switching of power from the existing power plant during these events.

Sincerely,

Rex Bohn, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

William Honsal, Sheriff
County of Humboldt