



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Board of Supervisors

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Brad Wagenknecht
Chair

October 23, 2018

Richard C. Kelly, Chairman of the Board
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
245 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Fire danger power outages

Dear Chairman Kelly,

This letter is to voice Napa County's concern with respect to PG&E's new policy to cut utility supplied power to communities in Napa County during periods of high fire danger weather. While we can understand the utility's concern for its infrastructure being the potential source of ignition of wildfires, the cutting of power to large areas of the County for an extended period of time is very concerning. The event of last weekend caused the entire City of Calistoga and large portions of the community of Angwin to be without power. It is critical that PG&E partners with government agencies as well as your customers to ensure everyone's safety. While we appreciate your efforts to keep the community safe, as the local governments, we are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of all of our residents and visitors, some of whom need electricity for life support types of equipment. While PG&E provided some information in advance it was not sufficient time nor did it provide the details necessary to assist those who lost power, especially the most vulnerable. Providing the baseline criteria that PG&E applies as a trigger for deploying outages is critical. County representatives have been asking for this information for quite some time but it has not been provided to date. It would also be very helpful to have PG&E provide the County's Public Health Official with as much notice as possible to ensure the safety of our residents. Finally, it is very important that efforts to re-energize the system be timely to avoid economic losses and further traumatize our citizens.

We would appreciate learning of any changes in PG&E's policy and look forward to working with you keep Napa County's communities and residents safe.

Sincerely,

Brad Wagenknecht
Chair, Napa County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Hon. Brian Dahle, California State Assembly
Hon. Ted Gaines, California State Senate
California State Association of Counties
Rural County Representatives of California
California Public Utilities Commission

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