



Rio Dell City Hall
675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562
(707) 764-3532
cityofriodell.ca.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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Eureka and Rio Dell Mayors Team Up on Public Safety Power Shutoffs

Rio Dell Mayor Debra Garnes and Eureka Mayor Susan Seaman have produced a video advisory on Pacific Gas & Electric's (PG&E) Public Safety Power Shutoff program. The video follows an August 20th Rio Dell City Council meeting where representatives from Pacific Gas and Electric provided a presentation on the new program and its potentially wide reaching impacts.

"I have been worried for some time that word (on this issue) is not getting out to the public and I hope this video helps." Stated Rio Dell Mayor Debra Garnes on the topic of PG&E's new wildfire mitigation program called Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). The program could shut off electrical services to entire cities or regions during specific weather conditions in order to prevent wildfires that could result from downed power lines. "Too many of the people I run into have no knowledge about PSPS and I'm concerned that those same people have no real idea about consequences of what PG&E is doing and how to prepare."

Depending upon weather conditions, PSPS events could result in power outages lasting multiple days.

"The average electricity consumer understands a 12-24 hour power outage happens every now and then. But the potential timeline here is much longer and the scope is potentially regional. This is a big deal." Garnes concluded by stating that the recent rains don't diminish the importance of the message in the video. "Weather events outside of Humboldt County (in areas where it has not rained) can impact us. It's best to be prepared."

Link: <https://youtu.be/kBC8tWXUFUc>

Those interested in learning more are encouraged to call 1-866-743-6589 or to visit pge.com/mywildfirealerts

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CPUC High Fire-Threat District Map - Rio Dell

