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Sheriff - Coroner
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October 8, 2019

Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Marin County Civic Center, Room 329  
San Rafael, CA  94903

SUBJECT:  Electrical System De-Energization Response Plan Annex to the Marin County Emergency Operations Plan


SUMMARY:  Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation (PG&E) has stated that they plan to de-energize electrical power systems servicing large areas in, or affecting, Marin County in advance of, or during, periods of heightened wildfire danger conditions. PG&E refers to this program as "Public Safety Power Shutoff" (PSPS). During the week of September 23, Marin faced the threat of potential PSPS power shutdowns, and parts of Sonoma and Napa counties experienced shutdowns September 25.

The Electrical System De-Energization Response Plan Annex to the Marin Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan provides information and guidance specific to the electrical de-energization threat. This plan outlines procedures that guide a collaborative response by local governments, special districts, and allied agencies in the Marin County Operational Area to the threat of or actual de-energization of electrical power transmission systems. This includes Office of Emergency Services (OES) focus on impacts, notifications, public education, and coordinating public safety response – with coordination and input from our cities, towns and partner agencies, and identifying logistics, planning and other needs.

As you know, the County is also working on a parallel effort to develop a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), a large commitment focusing on how our departments will continue their minimum essential functions in the event of a disaster or any event that disrupts normal operations. The COOP effort is focused initially on PG&E's PSPS program; however a COOP is applicable to any disaster, emergency or disruption of services.

Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Focus:
One of our most important focuses in the Annex is identifying and preparing for our Access and Functional Needs (AFN) populations in Marin. Loss of power could significantly impact individuals who use electricity and battery-dependent assistive technology and medical devices or who have other access and functional needs (e.g., transportation assistance).  

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Our presentation today will also include a brief update from our Department of Health and Human Services regarding preparations to support those most in need in our community in the event of an electrical power system de-energization.

The Marin Disaster & Citizen Corps Council recommends adoption of the Annex by the Board of Supervisors.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

REVIEWED BY:  
[ ] County Counsel  [X] N/A  
[ ] Human Resources  [X] N/A  
[ ] Auditor-Controller  [X] N/A  
[X] Sheriff  [ ] N/A

Robert T. Doyle  
Sheriff