

On Friday, December 2nd, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), California State Association of Counties (CSAC) hosted PG&E for an in-depth discussion on the utility's vegetation management activities.

At the meeting, County Supervisors (including Supervisor Oneto and myself) and staff from fourteen counties detailed their shared experiences and problems with PG&E's vegetation management operations, contractors, and the impact that failure to remove felled wood is having on public safety, fuel load, and the creation and maintenance of defensible space. Locals were joined by a dozen state representatives from CalFire, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

In attendance from PG&E were Peter Kenny, Senior Vice President for Vegetation Management and Electric System Inspections, Mike Seitz, Vice President of Vegetation Management, and Ron Richardson, Vice President for the North Coast Region. PG&E indicated they are trying to improve consistency and meet expectations among their various vegetation management programs.

In response to RCRC and CSAC's letters to PG&E and the CPUC, Individual customer/constituent issues that are raised to County leaders or RCRC. PG&E has identified a team of 15 PG&E employees that are their in-house customer experts in wildfire safety, system inspection and repairs, Vegetation Management, and other customer service-related programs. This team manages a specialized inbox and phone number that is available for county leaders to give to their constituents should they experience issues related to vegetation/wildfire safety/wood management.

Phone – 877-295-4949

Email: wildfiresafety@pge.com

RCRC, CSAC, County Supervisors and PG&E will reconvene in January to discuss progress PG&E has made on felled wood removal.

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P.S. Please forward this information to friends and family in Amador County that are having problems with wood management. If you have called/emailed these single points of contact with no satisfaction, please email me at jeffbrown@amadorgov.org. If PG&E contractors correct any problems please also contact me. Pictures are always welcome.