



"Small Town Atmosphere
Outstanding Quality of Life"

August 15, 2023

Patricia K. Poppe, CEO
Jeffrey Deal, Vice President, Electrical Distribution Operations
Barry Bentley – Senior Vice President, Electric Engineering
Pacific Gas and Electric
77 Beale Street
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Poppe, Mr. Deal and Mr. Bentley:

By way of introduction, my name is Joseph Calabrigo. For the past thirty years I have served as Town Manager for the Town of Danville in Contra Costa County. In that capacity I've had many opportunities to reach out to, and work with PG&E in the interest of making sure that we are making life better for those we serve. Today, I am reaching out to each of you - "the powers that be" at PG&E to express both concerns and frustration regarding increased incidents of power outages attributable to PG&Es "Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings" or EPSS program.

As I understand it, EPSS is an adjustment to settings for the protection devices on the electric grid. It makes them more sensitive to react faster and reduce the risk of an ignition shutting down the system more readily if any threat is perceived.

This weekend, I and my councilmembers spent time responding to residents and businesses who had to endure some prolonged power outages. Yesterday, we once again experienced an outage that affected 5,900 customers in Danville and was ongoing into Tuesday morning. This outage affected roughly one-third of the Town's population of almost 44,000 residents, during the first week of the new school year. This is a repeat of what occurred at the beginning of July when we again were confronted with *thousands* of our residents and businesses having to endure extensive outages for long periods of time - as much as twenty-four hours or more.

Beyond the inconvenience presented to those affected, there are legitimate concerns about our most vulnerable populations - the elderly, or those with very young children or infants, etc. as well as business related impacts. The Town is not in a position to install generators at all sixty of the traffic signals we are tasked with operating across a

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(925) 314-3388

Building
(925) 314-3330

Engineering & Planning
(925) 314-3310

Transportation
(925) 314-3320

Maintenance
(925) 314-3450

Police
(925) 314-3700

Parks and Recreation
(925) 314-3400

community that encompasses over eighteen square miles, and recent outages have routinely exceeded the length of time that our available battery backup systems will operate the signals.

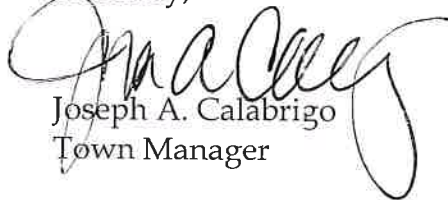
For the past few years, we've been hearing about everything that PG&E has been doing to improve the power grid in terms of safety and reliability, yet to the many being affected by these outages, things seem to be worse than ever. Telling our residents that they should consider buying a generator in 2023 doesn't cut it. Shouldn't our residents be able to expect a system that is safe and reliable?

Information being provided to customers by PG&E regarding EPSS suggests that we should routinely expect outages from May through November. While information provided speaks to taking steps to mitigate risk due to wildfires, it doesn't tell folks that they are at risk of losing power any time that temperatures rise to a certain level - a level that is fairly common in the East Bay Area between the months of June and September.

While the goal is to ensure safety, please tell us what else PG&E is doing to try to avert these events. Despite ad campaigns that tout PG&E investments in system upgrades to make the distribution system safer and more reliable than ever, I cannot recall any other point in time during my tenure with the Town when PG&E's distribution system and the management of that system have seemed less reliable than they are right now.

Our Town Council would welcome you or your representative to attend a Town Council meeting on September 5 or 19, 2023 to address the concerns raised in this letter and share your thoughts with regard to what Town residents may expect from PG&E moving forward.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Calabrigo
Town Manager

cc Town Council
California Public Utilities Commission