

CUEA STAFF

Don Boland, Executive Director
Jenny Regino, Editor

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SENATE HEARING

On November 18th, Don Boland testified at the Oversight Hearing on Electric Utility Power Shutoffs: Identifying Lessons Learned and Actions to Protect Californians at the State Capitol. Several of our telecom members were there to support Don including T-Mobile and AT&T.



FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS VISITS THE UOC



On December 11th, CUEA provided UOC training for Frontier Communications. Javier Mendoza, Vice President of Corporate Communications and External Affairs arranged for Frontier Communications to tour the State Operations Center (SOC) and to take part in the UOC orientation-training course.



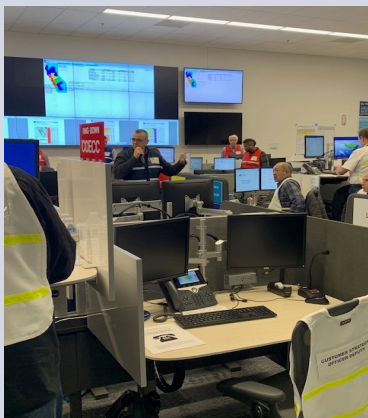
INFORMATIONAL HEARING WHAT HAPPENS TO WATER SUPPLIES DURING PSPS?



On February 11th, Don Boland the Executive Director of CUEA spoke at the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee Hearing. He began by giving a brief overview of CUEA. He also shared the types of events that activate the Utility Operations Center and how many times the UOC has been stood up for power-related events recently. He was also asked to explain the role water utilities play in the UOC during a power outage; and what communications between the UOC and member water agencies look like during those power outage-related emergency activations.

PG&E CONDUCTS LARGE-SCALE EARTHQUAKE EXERCISE AT NEW EMERGENCY OPERATIONS FACILITY

Release Date: January 28, 2020 – Reprinted from PG&E's Website



SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) conducted a large-scale earthquake exercise on Thursday, Jan. 23, at its new emergency operations center in Vacaville.

Hundreds of PG&E employees at that location and elsewhere across the service area took part in the emergency exercise, which simulated a magnitude 7.0 earthquake with the epicenter near Oakland and subsequent aftershocks in the East Bay Area.

The company was joined by representatives of several agencies, as either observers or participants, including the Edison Electric Institute, the California Office of Emergency Services,

the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Bay Area Rapid Transit, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Independent System Operator, the Department of Energy, and the California Utilities Emergency Association.

"We live in earthquake country, and seismologists say that the Big One is not a matter of if, but when. PG&E has a plan and we practiced executing that plan in a real world scenario. It's vitally important that our customers are prepared, too, by having individual and family emergency plans, go bags and making sure PG&E has your updated contact information," said Mark Quinlan, Senior Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response for PG&E.

The simulated quake caused massive damage throughout the nine-county Bay Area; about 1.5 million PG&E electric customers and about 200,000 gas customers lost service. Assessments began shortly after the quake, but the company told customers that full restoration could take weeks, even with a large influx of mutual-aid and contract crews.

Under the direction of the Emergency Operations Center Commander, PG&E employees from nearly every organization from gas and electric operations to corporate security and customer care took part in the exercise.

The 30,000-square-foot PG&E Vacaville Emergency Response Center opened in 2019. A purpose-built critical facility, it has redundant utility power, backup generator power and backup and telecom infrastructure. To improve earthquake structural resilience, the facility was constructed to a 1.5 Importance Factor, which is 50 percent above the California commercial building standard. It contains emergency operations for electric, gas and energy procurement.



CUEA'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Charter Communications



Charter Communications, Inc. is an American telecommunications and mass media company that offers its services to consumers and businesses under the branding of Spectrum. They are committed to integrating the highest quality service with superior entertainment and communications products. Charter is at the intersection of technology and entertainment, facilitating essential communications that connect more than 28 million residential and business customers in 41 states. Their commitment to serving customers and exceeding their expectations is the bedrock of Charter's business strategy and it's the philosophy that guides our 98,000 employees.

Over the years, Charter has invested billions of dollars in infrastructure improvements, unleashing the power of an advanced, two-way, fully interactive fiber network. By moving to this all-digital network, today's Charter customers enjoy the most HD TV channels, more On Demand choices and the fastest internet speeds.

Charter delivers a wide range of TV, internet and voice services to residential and business customers through the Spectrum brand.



Comcast



Comcast is deeply committed to California, where nearly 5,000 employees serve more than 3 million customers throughout the state.

Comcast is California's leading provider of XFINITY® video, high-speed Internet, "smart home" and phone services. Our X1 entertainment platform — with its innovative voice remote and Netflix and Amazon integration — is changing the way our customers experience TV. Xfinity Mobile uses America's largest 4G LTE network combined with the most WiFi hotspots nationwide to give customers a better wireless experience. Xfinity Internet gives customers unprecedented access and control over one of the most important technologies in their lives. We are delivering gigabit speeds, have built the largest network of WiFi hotspots in the U.S. and created a new, fully personalized home WiFi experience.



SAVE THE DATE

June 17th
Committee Meetings & Board Meeting
CUEA Hosted Dinner

June 18th
General Membership Meeting
Annual Conference

This year's Annual Conference will be hosted in beautiful Palm Springs California at the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel, 888 Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California 92262

CUEA has secured a room rate of \$109.00/night for our members. Registration for the conference will begin in March, however hotel reservations can be made anytime using the following link:

[Book your group rate for California Utilities Emergency Association](#)

CUEA STANDING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE'S

ENERGY AND PIPELINE COMMITTEE

With over 39,000,000 residents in California this year, the energy, gas and pipeline industries were continually meeting to assess current and potential issues which could impact the dependability of energy supplies. Through invaluable information sharing and implementation of updated notification protocols, the Energy Committee is dedicated to ensuring that California is able to meet energy demands and protect its most critical infrastructure. The Energy Committee is chaired by Rod Wheeler of the California Independent Systems Operator (CAISO) with members representing companies from across the state. Committee members try to meet quarterly to assess current and potential issues, which could impact the dependability of energy supplies within the operational systems and vulnerabilities within the organizations continuity plans. As a result the committee has shared successes and experiences relating to emergency preparedness issues such as Employee Emergency Preparedness Programs, lessons learned and newly innovative programs such as Nationwide Security Identification for First Responders and Credentialing of First Responders. If you are interested in being a part of the energy committee, please contact Jenny Regino at jenny.regino@caloes.ca.gov or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518. Our next meeting will be late February or early March.

Psps COMMITTEE

The PSPS Committee is a new committee that was formed to heighten awareness of and offer education relating to PSPS. This committee is open to all members as the power shutdowns affect all utilities. CUEA staff will chair this committee. If you are interested in being a part of the PSPS committee, please contact Jenny Regino at jenny.regino@caloes.ca.gov or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518.

WATER & WASTEWATER COMMITTEE

This committee has been diligent in its efforts to strengthen the water/waste water emergency response community. The ongoing information sharing between member organizations has proved to be of great value. Exchanging best practices, lessons learned, and emergency related templates between organizations have led to improved processes within the water/waste water arena.

Steve Frew of East Bay Municipal Utility District serves as the Chair of this committee and holds quarterly conference calls to focus on Water security, preparedness, and response. Committee members exchange information on how their companies are dealing with theft, protection of sensitive information, as well as upgrades to security policies and technology. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Steve Frew at steven.frew@ebmud.com or contact the CUEA office at (916) 845-8518.

ALERT



**REPRESENTING:
POWER-GAS-TELECOM-CABLE
WATER/WASTEWATER**

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**PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES AND/OR PICTURES
FOR OUR NEXT
SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER BY 06/30/20:
JENNY.REGINO@CALOES.CA.GOV**

Contact Us

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