

From: Doll, Laura  
Sent: 1/31/2013 11:14:37 AM  
To: Julie Halligan (julie.halligan@cpuc.ca.gov) (julie.halligan@cpuc.ca.gov)  
Cc: Yura, Jane (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JKY1)  
Bcc:  
Subject: FW: SMT, Edhat SLO - SLO Task Force to Prep for Disaster

I'm going to hold onto this for a possible "case study" at the conference. Seems like it might be of general interest?

**From:** owner-Newsflash-AllNews@pge.com [mailto:owner-Newsflash-AllNews@pge.com] **On Behalf Of** News Flash  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2013 7:20 AM  
**To:** Newsflash-Allnews  
**Subject:** SMT, Edhat SLO - SLO Task Force to Prep for Disaster

The *Santa Maria Times* and *Edhat San Luis Obispo* report on PG&E's \$75,000 grant to the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department for disaster preparedness. PG&E's Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs Greg Pruett and PG&E Chief Nuclear Officer Ed Halpin were quoted.

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## SLO Task Force to Prep for Disaster

**PG&E supplies \$75,000 to bring emergency responders together**

**By Brian Bullock**

Santa Maria Times, January 31, 2013

[http://santamariatimes.com/news/local/slo-task-force-to-prep-for-disaster/article\\_05b277a2-6b7a-11e2-9b69-0019bb2963f4.html](http://santamariatimes.com/news/local/slo-task-force-to-prep-for-disaster/article_05b277a2-6b7a-11e2-9b69-0019bb2963f4.html)

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department will utilize a \$75,000 grant from **Pacific Gas and Electric Co.** to create a public safety task force with the goal of

making the county the “most prepared” in the country for emergencies.

Sheriff Ian Parkinson and representatives of PG&E, Cal Fire, the county Office of Emergency Services and 1st District Supervisor Frank Mecham gathered Wednesday to announce the awards.

Together, they vowed to bring together emergency services and volunteer groups to ensure the residents of the county would be ready in case of a natural or man-made disaster.

The task force will unite the Sheriff’s Department, city police forces and fire departments from the cities, Cal Fire, the county OES to coordinate their efforts in case of an emergency, Parkinson said.

“There’s an old saying that you can never be too prepared, and I think that is what this is all about,” the sheriff said. “The goal of the task force is to raise public awareness, increase collaboration and communication and establish San Luis Obispo County as the most prepared county in the country.”

**Greg Pruett, PG&E senior vice president of corporate affairs**, said all Central Coast residents needed to do to see the value of emergency preparedness was to watch the news about what Superstorm Sandy did to the East Coast.

**Pruett** said PG&E, like many utility companies all around the country, sent help in the aftermath of the storm. He said 600 employees, including 400 line crews, worked to re-establish power in the wake of the storm.

“Like yourselves,” **Pruett** said looking around a room filled with law enforcement and firefighters’ uniforms, “we look at our duty, in particular our line crews the hard hats the men and women who drive the blue trucks around the community, as being first responders and being essential to the community’s well being.”

He said the grant would be put to good use by the task force.

While the Central Coast isn't susceptible to hurricanes, wildfires, floods and earthquakes have ravaged the area. And many of the people at the announcement were working when the San Simeon earthquake hit in 2003.

The magnitude 6.5-quake killed two people and destroyed parts of downtown Paso Robles, where Mecham served as mayor prior to his election to the county Board of Supervisors.

Alsop coordinated the county's emergency response to that disaster and many of the massive wildfires that have burned large parts of the county over the past 20 years.

He listed the Las Pilitas fire that burned 75,000 acres in 1985, the Highway 41 Fire, which destroyed 42 homes, caused massive power outages and closed two highways in 1994, the San Simeon earthquake, and the effects of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in 2011 as examples of how many different ways the Central Coast can be affected by disasters.

He said establishment of the task force can only help the county be more prepared in the event of the next disaster.

"What this will do is add to our emergency planning by having increased community awareness programs, having community agencies working even closer together. One of the things we're fortunate to have in our county is a lot of volunteer groups and nonprofit organizations that are involved and can help in an emergency. What this will do is to bring all of these agencies together," he said.

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# Sheriff's Task Force

Edhat San Luis Obispo, January 30, 2013

<http://slo.edhat.com/site/tidbit.cfm?nid=107986&nc=1>

Sheriff Ian Parkinson and **Pacific Gas and Electric Company** jointly announced today the formation of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Task Force on Public Safety. The Task Force was established through a donation of \$75,000 from PG&E to the Sheriff's Advisory Foundation.

The goal of the Task Force will be to raise public awareness, increase collaboration and communication to establish San Luis Obispo County as the "Most Prepared County in Disaster Preparedness & Response in the Country."

"We strive to be the safest county in the country and this new task force gives us a great opportunity to be better prepared and responsive in case of emergency," said Sheriff Parkinson. "With PG&E's generous donation, we are able to be a leader in planning for any and all types of emergencies."

"Helping the local communities we serve -- and are a proud part of -- prepare for emergencies has long been a top priority for PG&E," said **Greg Pruett, PG&E's Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs**. "We place such a high value on preparedness that a main focus of our charitable contributions program is funding public safety programs at local non-profits and working with local governments. We commend Sheriff Parkinson for his leadership in this important area, and for pushing local emergency preparedness to a whole new level."

Led by the Sheriff's Office, the Task Force will include personnel from each of the seven cities (Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo), as well as representatives from PG&E and organizations like the Red Cross and Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and members of local media to foster outreach plans to raise awareness about emergency preparedness. PG&E is recognized as the founding sponsor of the

Task Force.

"At PG&E and Diablo Canyon, no priority is more pressing, and no responsibility more important than the safe operation of the facility," said **Ed Halpin, PG&E's Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer**. "In partnering with the Sheriff's task force, we will be able to share our paradigms and expertise to benefit the citizens of San Luis Obispo County in the name of emergency preparedness. We applaud the Sheriff in his call-to-action to make San Luis Obispo County the most prepared county in the nation."

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