

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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March 26, 2014

Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 941023298

President Peavey & Commissioners:

The Board of Forestry & Fire Protection is responsible for wild land fire policy in the State of California. Commensurate with that responsibility, the Board has been evaluating appropriate steps in light of the Governor's Drought Emergency declaration to reduce the extreme fire risk associated with it.

As part of this evaluation, the Board noted that the Commission has sent a letter to utility companies directing them to take all necessary measures to reduce the risk of fire during the drought emergency, including compliance with the rules and regulations of the Board and CAL FIRE.

At its March meeting, the Board unanimously directed me to send a letter that not only endorses the action of the CPUC, but strongly encourages the CPUC to support funding the Utilities at the appropriate levels to conduct this important electric vegetation management work. This may be in the form of pending rate cases, or in supplemental funding as deemed appropriate by the CPUC.

The Utilities can perform significant work that helps to ensure public safety. Given the appropriate resources, a significant public private partnership could be forged. We support timely completion of that work in the face of the extreme conditions presented by this drought.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George D. Gentry".

George D. Gentry
Executive Officer