

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

October 30, 2019

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As you know, many areas of California are on fire and in desperate need of support. What you may not be aware of is that many more communities in the state have been placed in the untenable position of sustained power outages, even where no fires exist, due to the unprecedented Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) policies recently enacted by the major utility companies here, and supported by Governor Gavin Newsom.

Our congressional representative resigned this week, so we are writing to you directly requesting assistance from FEMA in response to the impacts of these PSPS sustained power outages.

We represent the rural communities of Acton and Agua Dulce that have no cell coverage, and where residents draw their water from wells. When there is no power, people have zero access to water and are unable to communicate to family, friends, or first responders.

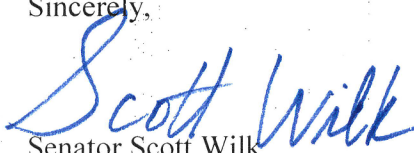
In addition, many of our constituents have medical conditions that require electricity. PSPS outages, for example, can shut off people's ventilators or sleep apnea machines that allow them to breathe, can cause those in wheelchairs to be completely immobile once their battery packs run out, and can cause life-saving insulin to spoil or dialysis machines to stop working.

Actions speak louder than words and Gavin Newsom has allowed this to become the 'new normal' despite his words to the contrary. We call it quitting and we reject the status quo. Ordinary Californians are suffering and possibly dying because of Sacramento policies. Until we can address these policy flaws we need FEMA to intervene to save lives.

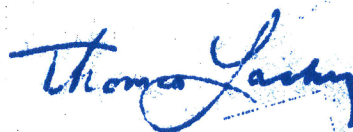
That is why we are requesting that FEMA immediately provide personal generators to all those in need, as well as the delivery of water trucks for those on wells that now face water shortages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Scott Wilk
21st Senate District



Assemblyman Tom Lackey
38th Assembly District

CC:
Federal Emergency Management Agency