

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 19, 2019

The Honorable Paul Roen
Sierra County Board of Supervisors
100 Courthouse Square, Room 11
P.O. Drawer D
Downieville, CA 95936

SUBJECT: Implementation of Senate Bill 1212 and disaster 2-1-1 services

Dear Supervisor Roen:

As part of the statewide expansion of 2-1-1 dialing for emergencies and disasters, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) invites your county again to participate in the process to implement disaster 2-1-1 dialing in your county.

The California State Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1212 in 2016, authorizing the CPUC to spend up to \$1.5 million to bring disaster 2-1-1 services to currently unserved areas. These services operate during emergencies to provide critical public information such as evacuations, road closures, and emergency alerts. Over the past two years, the CPUC has worked cooperatively with 2-1-1 providers and unserved counties to implement this initiative. After extensive discussion, the unserved counties and the CPUC have issued preliminary approval to Interface Children & Family Services, which operates 2-1-1 Ventura County and serves multiple counties in California.

The CPUC had contacted your county in January 2018 regarding disaster 2-1-1 implementation, and your county had participated in the process's early stages. However, your county has not continued its participation. The implementation process is soon ending, and your county's lack of participation means it is forgoing state funds that will bolster disaster communications and emergency preparedness. We strongly encourage your county to rejoin our efforts and subscribe to the proposed solution so that you may assure your constituents are informed and safe during disasters and in other times of emergency.

The CPUC is available to speak with you and other members of the Sierra County Board of Supervisors regarding this effort. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by email at evw@cpuc.ca.gov or by phone at (415) 703-2896.

Sincerely,

Eric Van Wambeke
Program & Project Supervisor

CC: Cynthia Walker, Jonathan Lakritz