

Responses to 2011-2012 Grand Jury Report

Every year, when the annual Santa Cruz County Grand Jury Report is published, designated agencies are requested to respond to the findings and recommendations of the report. These responses may agree or disagree with the findings, and may indicate that recommendations have already been implemented, will be in the future, or will not be implemented, or that further analysis is required.

Comments may also be added to the responses. When a response agrees with a recommendation, further comments are optional. In case of complete or partial disagreement, or in response to recommendations for action, comments should be provided as part of the response.

For each report, the collected responses are published in a separate file on the [grand jury's section of the county's public website](#). Note: The responses are provided as received, and have not been edited, except for minimal formatting to make them appear correctly on this web page.

Report: [Learning the Lessons of a Tragedy](#)

This report requested responses from the following:

1. Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors: findings 1, 2; recommendation 1
 - **Finding 1: The Grand Jury and Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services have no jurisdiction over PG&E. However, the County Board of Supervisors can request help from the Governor and from their state legislators to require that the California Public Utilities Commission uphold their state mandate, as the oversight body of PG&E: “to ensure the provision of safe, reliable utility service and infrastructure at reasonable rates.”**
 - Response from Santa Cruz County: **AGREE**

The County of Santa Cruz Office of Emergency Services (OES) is developing a recommendation for the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors to submit to the Governor requesting that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) provide continued oversight over the PG&E gas pipeline testing and inspection program in Santa Cruz County.
 - **Finding 2: During the course of our investigation, the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services made significant progress in coordinating the flow of essential emergency response information regarding pipeline safety to the appropriate agencies.**
 - Response from Santa Cruz County: **AGREE**

OES has coordinated two meetings with PG&E and the local fire agencies to assure that all have an understanding of the other agencies' roles in responding to a gas pipeline emergency. PG&E has recently conducted first responder training for the local fire agencies in how to respond to a gas pipeline emergency.

- **Recommendation 1: The County Board of Supervisors should request periodic updates on the condition and safety of PG&E gas pipelines in Santa Cruz County, urging the Governor and state legislators to demand that the CPUC improve their oversight of gas pipeline safety.**
 - Response from Santa Cruz County: **HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED, BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE**

OES is developing a recommendation for the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors to submit to the CPUC requesting that they provide continued oversight of the PG&E gas pipeline testing and inspection program in Santa Cruz County.