

Wireless Utilities Support and Integration with Government in Emergencies



CPUC -- September 28, 2018

California Utilities Emergency Association

The First and Largest Utility Emergency Association in California

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Process Flow

- Operational Area uses local Government assets, if none are available,
 - Escalate to the Regional Operations Center, if none are available,
 - Notify Chief of OES Telecom, if no government assets are available in the state,
 - Chief of OES Telecom contacts CUEA for private sector assistance.
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- Note, private sector assets are a national asset,
 - A limited number are staged in California.

CUEA OPERATIONAL FLOW

State Operation Center (SOC) Activated

Non-Activation

Cal Fire
CA Highway Patrol
Cal Trans

REOC

OA's

**CUEA
UOC
Staff**

CA National Guard
CA Energy Comm.



Cal OES and CUEA Partnership

**SOC
ACTIVATED**



**UOC
ACTIVATED
SUPPORTING
SOC**



Cal OES and CNG assets



CUEA COMMUNICATIONS DEPLOYMENT

*** Note these are national assets***



Understanding Power Interdependencies

Power is an important issue that is relevant for both the network elements (transmission, radio access network, etc.) and for the subscriber equipment. Mobile devices need to be recharged and cordless phones in the home will not work without power, even if connected to a traditional POTS circuit. Likewise, VoIP services that lack proper battery backup will be inoperable without utility power

Network integrity is essential for the continued operation of communications links. Even with reliable utility or backup power, services to impacted areas can still be interrupted if a network center is damaged or destroyed, or if the backhaul links (typically fiber optic cable) are severed.

Concerns

There is misunderstanding of things like Cell on Wheels (COWS) and Cell on Light Trucks (COLTS) - specifically what they can cover, how many users they make sense for (eg: not your 20 person command center, nor can they cover your entire 20k population city), how they require interconnect to the network fabric and how that can be difficult, or impossible, but always time consuming to deploy, and how some satellite versions exist but most do not understand you have to that satellite backhaul is both limited and expensive so they aren't a magical unicorn solution. In many situations restoring a downed site can be faster than deploying an asset.