



**"PEOPLE GETTING EDUCATED" PGE GROUP**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

**MAY 2011**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**PG&E SMART METERS & RELAY ANTENNAS ARE BEING INSTALLED IN PLUMAS COUNTY**

Plumas County should "opt-out" of PG&E installations of SMART METERS until public meetings can be held on this issue to discuss health effects and other important issues regarding this program. (Read the SAGE Report)

Residents may temporarily "opt-out" of this program, until the Public Utility Commission Rules on this Issue in September 2011, by writing to:

**Pacific Gas & Electric Corporation – PG&E Corporate Headquarters**  
**President Christopher P. Johns, Members of the PG&E Board of Directors**  
 One Market, Spear Tower, Suite 2400, San Francisco, CA 94105-1126

(Make sure a copy is sent to the California Public Utilities Commission Along with Your Complaint-also to elected officials.)

**HAZARDOUS HOME & WASTE ISSUES SURROUNDING NEW ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHT BULBS**  
 CALIFORNIA EPA WARNING ON LIGHT BULB HAZARDS: FLUORESCENT, CFLS & LEDS <http://www.calepa.ca.gov>

**It is Illegal to Discard Fluorescent Light Tubes / Lamps in the Trash!** "A fluorescent light tube in your dumpster is a violation of the hazardous waste laws. Violation of these laws can result in large fines and criminal prosecution. Fluorescent tubes contain mercury and become hazardous wastes when they no longer work. Mercury poses especially serious hazards to pregnant women and small children..." California EPA

[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/hazardouswaste/mercury/upload/hwmp\\_fs\\_fluorescent-tubes-trash.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/hazardouswaste/mercury/upload/hwmp_fs_fluorescent-tubes-trash.pdf)

**California EPA Fluorescent tubes and bulbs and other mercury-containing lamps – Health Warning:**

These types "...Include Fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, high intensity discharge (HID), metal halide, sodium and neon bulbs. These lights contain mercury vapor that may be released to the environment when they are broken. Mercury is a toxic metal that can cause harm to people and animals including nerve damage and birth defects. If mercury is released into the environment it can contaminate the air we breathe and enter streams, rivers and the ocean, where it can contaminate fish that people eat..." (A few contain Arsenic & Lead-old Ballasts may Leak PCBs)

[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/Res\\_Fluorescent\\_Lamps.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/Res_Fluorescent_Lamps.cfm)

[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/Fluorescent\\_Lights.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/Fluorescent_Lights.cfm)

**THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE & OUR GOVERNOR SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARD TO THESE ISSUES. THEY CAN INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO STOP THE PHASE-OUT OF INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS UNTIL SAFER LIGHT BULBS ARE DESIGNED TO REPLACE THEM & ALSO VOTE TO STOP THE CALIFORNIA SMART METER PROGRAM TO PROTECT OUR HEALTH - WE MUST ACT TODAY – CONTACT ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS AT EVERY LEVEL & THE CA PUC.**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO TODAY!**

**You and your neighbors may need to be evaluated by a clinician who has experience with chemical exposures.**

The clinician can identify the target exposure that is causing problems, make a diagnosis, and offer treatment options, as well test for metals in your blood. You should contact the Association of Occupational and Environmental Health Clinics. This non-profit organization maintains a national network of clinics and medical centers that have the expertise to diagnose and treat patients with illnesses related to environmental exposures. Their direct number is (888) 347-2632, and their web address is [www.aoec.org/](http://www.aoec.org/) - According to the clinic directory, there is an environmental medicine clinic in Sacramento that should be able to assist you if anyone so wishes.

**University of California-Davis Medical Center, Occupational and Environmental Health Clinic**

Employee Health Service, Cypress Building Suite A, 2221 Stockton Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95817

**AOEC Contact:** Stephen McCurdy, MD, MPH [samccurdy@ucdavis.edu](mailto:samccurdy@ucdavis.edu) Fax: (530) 752-3239

Clinic Appointment: (530) 754-7635 Marc Schenker, MD, MPH

**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences** [contactniehs@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:contactniehs@niehs.nih.gov)

**Contacts:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to let them know about this chemical contamination in Plumas County. Their Region 9 Office in California is able to respond to requests from California, Nevada and Arizona. Their direct number is (866) 372-9378 or (866) EPA-WEST. You might also contact Jared Blumenfeld, administrator for the Region 9 Office, at (415) 947-8702 or [blumenfeld.jared@epa.gov](mailto:blumenfeld.jared@epa.gov)  
 Additional contact information for Region 9 is located at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/contact-region9.html>

**Contacts:** Region 5 Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (916) 464-3291. You may also want to send a letter to their information center at [info5@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:info5@waterboards.ca.gov) - Additional contact information for the Region 5 Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is located at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/StaffDirectory/org.asp?BDO=7&TIER1=R5>

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**This is our community; let's protect it, our children, our health, and our homes. Please feel free to contact PGE Group for more information or visit:** <http://www.agriculturedefensecoalition.org/?q=content/plumas-county-ca>