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September 23, 2019

Via E-Mail Total number of pages = 14 (including this 1<sup>st</sup> page and exhibits)

**URGENT AND IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUESTED**

**Cal Fire**

**Attention: Lorina Pisi, T&V Manager – Technical Services - Lands**

E-Mail: [<Lorina.Pisi@fire.ca.gov>](mailto:Lorina.Pisi@fire.ca.gov) Telephone: **916-327-8492** Fax: **916-324-3400**

CC: Governor Gavin Newsom via FAX: 916-558-3160

Senator Brian Dahle via FAX: (916) 651-4901

Sheriff Tom Bosenko E-Mail: [tbosenko@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:tbosenko@co.shasta.ca.us)  
Shasta County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services

Shingletown Volunteer Fire Department Attention: Chief Dodson  
E-Mail: [svfdchief20@gmail.com](mailto:svfdchief20@gmail.com)

Shingletown Amateur Radio Club (STARC) Attention: Dar Walker, President  
E-Mail: [W6iodar@gmail.com](mailto:W6iodar@gmail.com)

Shasta Tehama Amateur Radio Emergency Services Attention: Tom Henthorn, President  
E-Mail: [tomhenthorn@att.net](mailto:tomhenthorn@att.net)

Shasta Forest Village Fire Wise Community Attention: Doug Young  
E-Mail: [n15@frontiernet.net](mailto:n15@frontiernet.net)

Shingletown Fire Safe Council – Attention: Tom Twist  
E-Mail: [FireSafe@ShingletownCouncil.org](mailto:FireSafe@ShingletownCouncil.org)

Re: **Emergency Communications, Community Safety, and Wild Fire Threat.  
Cal Fire Removal of Critical Ham Radio Emergency Communications Infrastructure.  
Imminent Threat to Life and Property.**

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Dear Ms. Pisi:

I am writing you concerning your e-mail to Ham Radio Repeater owners advising them that they must remove all repeater equipment from various mountain locations unless they pay huge fees. (See Exhibit A – which is a copy of your e-mail). I am advised that this action is being done for the entire State of California. Many of these repeaters have been in public safety use for decades. They have saved lives. They have in fact been used for public safety and to protect life and property when the public communication systems have completely collapsed and failed during disasters.

The cost to the State of California is nothing for these repeaters. Rather, Ham Radio Operators pay for the equipment and maintain the equipment at their own cost. The Ham Radio Operators do not make any money off of these repeaters.

Your actions will destroy the existing Ham Radio Repeater System Infrastructure and Network that is a critical and vital asset for Disaster Emergency Communications. This Ham Radio Emergency Communications Infrastructure has existed for decades. Additionally, once removed, these Ham Radio assets will be cost prohibitive to rebuild.

Moreover, your actions will serve to eviscerate the SHINGLETOWN EMERGENCY RADIO PLAN (SER PLAN), and directly expose residents of Shingletown (and other areas) to increased risk of being trapped by raging wildfires as well as subjecting residents to increased risk of loss of life from disasters. The result will be the same for all areas throughout the Entire State of California if this Cal Fire “DISASTER IN THE MAKING” is not IMMEDIATELY TERMINATED AND RENDERED PERMANENTLY - DEAD ON ARRIVAL!

One of the foundational elements of the SER PLAN is: Early observation and reporting. This facilitates rapid response by Cal Fire and other emergency resources.

In Shingletown, we have been warned that we could be the “next Paradise”. In order to try and avoid that prediction, Shingletown has continued implementing the SER PLAN. This PLAN has taken over 4 years to design, build, and refine. It is an operating emergency communications plan (combining HAM and NON Ham Neighborhood allocated frequencies). There are no fees, no dues and no one has to join any group. Hams and Neighborhoods just get on board, plug in and follow the plan. The SER PLAN has been described by a Shasta County Sheriff Lieutenant (Office of Emergency Services) as “robust”. The Lieutenant told me that he had reviewed the SER Plan and he was very impressed.

Briefly, the SER PLAN involves coordination and communications within and between neighborhoods. We conduct weekly drills involving exactly the type of items recommended by the Sheriff and Cal Fire. It is a pure volunteer Emergency Radio Communications System for any

neighborhood desiring to participate, and it is coordinated and integrated into the SER Ham Radio Net.

There are several mobile “smoke / fire lookout locations” which the SER Plan has mapped. They cover over 500 square miles (each). This is at a time when Cal Fire has cut back on using lookout locations. These locations are used by Ham operators while traveling (and which are also used for Active Fire incidents). Your actions in causing the removal of Critical Communication Ham Repeater Equipment will result in loss of this Alert and Warning System. Reports have been made to Cal Fire from these locations, including triangulation and mapping arrive at the estimated Township, Range and Section of the source of a smoke column.

Our practice drills / exercises include such matters as: Earthquake reporting drills (recording damage assessment and reporting); utility and hazards reporting; communications status reporting and ability / inability of neighborhoods to call 911; Rapid Brevity Fire Watch Reporting; Procedures for locating unknown sources of smoke or fire with mapping and triangulation; Smoke column triangulation and reporting; Fire and Ember watch procedures; welfare checks; disabled persons checks; and emergency / priority traffic relay to 911 via Radio when there is no other ability to reach 911, and more.

With the SER PLAN exercises and reporting (including reports from mobile designated smoke look out locations) a substantial geographic area is covered. Our emergency procedures involve Various Alert Tone Levels, neighborhoods conducting separate and simultaneous neighborhood emergency nets on designated frequencies, relaying of neighborhood reports into the Ham Radio Net, mapping and summary by geographic area of the reports provided by neighborhoods; recommendations for action; and passing emergency traffic. And all of this is done within 15 to 30 minutes! The plan also provides for the relay of damage assessment information reports from neighborhoods (e.g., earthquake damage assessment) to County emergency agencies. This can be done in very short time frames. On the other hand it would take the county DAYS to otherwise accumulate such data.

It is of concern that while community and emergency preparedness focus should be on continuing to build this Community Emergency Communications Plan with the present wild fire dangers (today is a “RED FLAG DAY”), energy and time is now being diverted to seeking to educate those purportedly in emergency communications (and who should know better) who are in the process of destroying vital emergency communication infrastructure and placing California communities at risk (on a State Wide Basis).

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## **Cal Fire Color brochures and pamphlets and destruction of HAM RADIO Emergency Communications infrastructure.**

The removal of the Critical Ham Radio Emergency Communications Infrastructure is especially hypocritical in light of Cal Fire going door to door and distributing expensive Color brochures and pamphlets to residents advising them to have a “Wildfire Action Plan” – for the purpose of Saving Lives and Property through Advance Planning” .

In these impressive color packed Cal Fire brochures and pamphlets, residents are advised that: “You can dramatically increase your safety ... by preparing well in advance of a wildfire”. Cal Fire advises of the risk of wind driven flying embers, and other advice includes:

- install smoke alarms (to warn).
- “prepare your family”, and to practice your plan “regularly”.
- have a “**communication plans and practice it regularly**” (emphasis added).
- plan different evacuation routes.
- have out of area contacts to you can **communicate with family members who have relocated**. (emphasis added)
- have a portable radio or scanner so you can stay updated on the fire.
- **alert family and neighbors**” (emphasis added).
- **Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don’t wait to be told by authorities to leave. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. (emphasis added).**
- Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire, or by emergency vehicles and equipment.
- if you become trapped **call 911 and inform authorities of your location**. (emphasis added)
- patrol your property and monitor the fire situation. Don’t wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.

The Sheriff Department also advises residents to - **Learn about your community's warning signals: what they sound like and what you should do when you hear them.” We are told to find out how to help the elderly or disabled persons and to conduct fire and emergency**

**evacuation drills. (emphasis added).**

While the above written advice is great, Cal Fire is taking action THAT WILL DESTROY THE critical and vital Ham Radio Repeater System Infrastructure and network which is necessary for the “communications plan” and safety measures which Cal Fire and the Sheriff advises should be set up by communities and families!

The FACT IS - when there is a complete communication failure (no phones, no cell phones, no internet, no reverse 911, no code red, no ability to dial 911, and no ability to warn people who are asleep at 2:00 AM in the morning of a raging wildfire, etc...,) ALL of the Cal Fire and Sheriff recommendations go up in smoke.

**WHY?** Because there is no WAY to send or receive any information OR even issue warnings!

Communities will have no communications. They will not be able to advise neighbors that the exit to a subdivision is blocked by a fallen tree. They will not be able to ask others to bring chain saws and trucks to open up the exit. There will be no actual ability to coordinate or communicate. You can't effectively warn your neighbors about a fire at 2:00 A.M., without communications!

In the real world scenario of a communications blackout and raging fire, all of those “technological advances” you advised of in your e-mail will **HAVE ALL FAILED AND DO NOT WORK!**

Your claim that Ham Radio is no longer a “benefit” to the State, is delusional.

If one needs proof of this, merely review the recent FEBRUARY, 2019 Shasta County Declared State of Emergency (below).

## **EXAMPLES OF RECENT USE OF THE HAM RADIO REPEATER SYSTEM YOU ARE SEEKING TO HAVE REMOVED.**

### **FEBRUARY, 2019 Shasta County Declared State of Emergency.**

In Shingletown, all electrical power was OUT. There was no land line service, no cell phones, no internet, no reverse 911, no code red, no ability to dial 911. As one Shingletown Resident put it – If I had a heart attack I had no ability to get help! That resident is now part of his neighborhood emergency SER PLAN radio team. Residents were snow bound. Snow depths ranged from several feet to 4 feet. THE ONLY COMMUNICATIONS WE HAD WAS THE SER HAM PLAN WHICH UTILIZED ONE OF THE REPEATERS YOU ARE SEEKING TO HAVE REMOVED. Some areas were without power for 5 days or more, others less. Many were snow bound. Some

residents (including elderly and those with medical conditions) were without any source of heat as temperatures plunged into the mid and upper 20's. Neighbors helped neighbors and the only means of communication was Ham Radio and the repeater system you are seeking to have removed.

### **August 14, 2019.**

Active Fire near a neighborhood in Shingletown. This was a SER PLAN Full alert Activation. Thus, the Emergency Toning Alert was done for all 5 DIVISIONS of Shingletown on the 760 repeater (one of the Repeaters your are seeking to remove from the Emergency Communication Infrastructure). The activation resulted in HAM radio operators participating in the SER Active Fire Net from multiple Shingletown locations covering in excess of 70 square miles of rough mountain terrain. People were awakened (as it was late at night). Additionally, Non Hams also monitored using their Radios programmed using the SER Frequency Plan. People were aware and had warning of the situation. There was no news source for people to view. There was No TV to watch. There was No internet source because this event was real time and none of those "sources" were on scene (likely home in bed). The only source for the active fire was HAM RADIO. The Report is attached as Exhibit B.

### **August 30, 2019.**

Smoke check Activation in a neighborhood in Shingletown. This was a LIMITED activation involving one neighborhood (on its assigned MURS Alert Frequency). However, the neighborhood HAM operator utilized the HAM portion of the SER Plan to reach out over 14 miles and obtain a report from a mobile station (which had a critical view from a designated lookout location) of that neighborhood. That mobile HAM station confirmed there was no suspect smoke or fire visible from the lookout. I understand this information was relayed to Cal Fire who had arrived in the neighborhood. Again, during this activation, the repeater system you are seeking to have removed was used. The Report is attached as Exhibit C.

### **OTHER EMERGENCY USES:**

The SER PLAN has additionally responded to emergencies when there was no cell phone or ability to call 911, including the following: auto accidents (e.g. truck on icy road and crashing into a tree; vehicle rollover and person ejected 30 feet from vehicle); lost person search / Sheriff resources limited and request for search help/ lost person description relay); elderly lady followed home into remote area – relay to sheriff resulted in arrest on outstanding warrants before the suspect even got out of Shingletown); Impaired driver with multiple near head on collisions on Highway 44 / relay to 911; keys retained / arrested by CHP; and more. All of these events utilized the repeater system that you are seeking to have removed.

Local Cal Fire personnel (boots on the ground) appreciate the SER Plan, and have advised that they view this Ham Radio service as beneficial and helpful to the community

You actions are the equivalent to you mandating that all Cal Fire radio repeater system components and infrastructure be removed from the Cal Fire emergency radio communications system. Question: what person of right mind would do that?

### **DISREGARD OF EXECUTIVE ORDER OF GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA:**

The Governor of California issued Executive Order N-05-19, dated January 8, 2019, recognizing California as having experienced the most destructive wildfire season in State history during 2018, enduring over 7,600 wildfires that burned 1, 846,445 acres in total. The Executive Order referenced the Camp Fire as being the deadliest fire in State history claiming the lives of 86 people. The Executive Order recognized that Communities with high preponderance of physical fire danger deserve the State's highest attention and recognized that the people of California expect that their government will take all possible actions to protect life, property, and forests from deadly megafires, and will do so with an urgency that matches the scope of the threat.

Under this Executive Order, Cal Fire was charged with providing a written report to the Governor with recommendations... "necessary to prevent and mitigate wildfires to the greatest extent possible"...and to consult with local fire chiefs, local elected officials, Fire Safe Councils, and other impacted stakeholders, as necessary. Shingletown is at the top of the fire risk list in California.

Cal Fire responds by instituting a destructive project to remove Critical Emergency Ham Radio Communications Infrastructure. Such is in flagrant disregard of the Executive Order and devoid of any notion of common sense. Moreover, making an emergency resource cost prohibitive is in fact destruction of that resource! Additionally, once removed, these Ham Radio assets will be cost prohibitive to rebuild.

Cal Fire's actions will jeopardize Ham Radio Community Emergency Communications during complete and/or partial communication failures, including, but not limited to hampering and/or destroying Ham Radio Emergency Communications relating to:

- reporting / relay of forest fires at the early stages to minimize risk to life;
- evacuation coordination by neighborhoods;
- alerting neighborhoods of disasters (e.g., forest fires) when all other communications methods have failed (including but not limited to reverse 911, code red, etc...);

- neighborhood welfare checks and neighborhood coordination for assisting evacuation of disabled persons during disasters; and
- rapid area damage assessment and reporting so that public officials can be alerted to areas requiring immediate assistance.

Moreover, the rugged geography and difficult access to various areas in Shingletown serve only to compound the situation. So the only unresolved question, if this Cal Fire disaster in the making comes to fruition, is: “ **Will Shingletown’s death toll exceed Paradise?** ”

Compounding the situation is that PG & E may shut off communities electricity during Red Flag and other events. This poses additional risks. Communication Blackouts may result.

## **DISREGARD OF SHASTA COUNTY SHERIFF AND OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES PROCEDURES.**

Additionally, Cal Fire’s actions disregard Existing Shasta County Emergency Communication Plans.

Specifically, the Shasta County Sheriff’s website has information for disaster preparedness and advises residents to develop home evacuations plans and to practice with our family and neighbors. We are told to find out about community emergency plans and to join or start a neighborhood group. [See: [https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/sheriff\\_index/divisions/oes/oes\\_safety\\_tips.aspx](https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/sheriff_index/divisions/oes/oes_safety_tips.aspx) ]

In this regard, the Sheriff recognizes the clear and present danger about collapse of emergency services during the initial stages of disaster. Specifically the public is advised:

“In light of the reality of Hurricane Katrina and the literal collapse of emergency management services during the initial stages, it is certainly understandable for our communities to be concerned about their own welfare.” We are advised that “Disaster can strike quickly and without warning” and to prepare in advance. We are told to “Learn about your community’s warning signals: what they sound like and what you should do when you hear them.” We are told to find out how to help the elderly or disabled persons and to conduct fire and emergency evacuation drills.

Residents are further told that if disaster occurs near your home while you are there, check for damage using a flashlight. ... Check for fires, fire hazards ... and to Check on your neighbors, especially those living alone, elderly or disabled. Residents are advised to find out about community emergency plans and to join or start a neighborhood group.

We are advised to evacuate if authorities ask us to leave our home. [See [https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/sheriff\\_index/emergency\\_prep.aspx](https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/sheriff_index/emergency_prep.aspx) ].

But, with Cal Fire’s destruction of the Ham Radio Emergency Communications Infrastructure, residents will not be able to effectively undertake many of the critical Cal Fire and Sheriff recommendations. Again, in a complete communications Blackout - residents won’t be receiving that reverse 911, code Red or Internet e-mail!

## **The Shasta County Emergency Operations Plan**

The Shasta County Emergency Operations Plan includes the following statements and provisions: [EF 2: Communications](#) (Per Shasta County Web site).

“3.1 ... A disaster condition may result from a significant natural or human-caused incident that generates extensive damage and/or results in a high volume of Shasta County EOP Emergency Functions EF 2. ... At a time when the need to convey information quickly is greatest, the infrastructure needed to facilitate efficient communication may be damaged or overloaded. In such situations, all functioning telecommunications assets of the various levels of government, augmented by extra-regional assets, will be needed immediately to ensure a proper response to aid those in need.” [emphasis added].

The **Shasta County Emergency Operations Plan** further provides that:

“Normal forms of communication may be severely interrupted during the early phases of an emergency or disaster. The loss of some or all telephone service will reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) public information lines, as well as the majority of County departments.

Significant incidents may require evacuation of significant numbers of affected populations. Such evacuations may require extensive coordination of inter- and intra-County communications and may exceed normal radio communication capabilities. (emphasis added).

**“Local amateur radio operators have the ability to set up field communications to support or augment public safety operations, as appropriate.”** (emphasis added).

The Emergency Operations Plan further mandates the development and maintenance of “a communications resource inventory”. This clearly includes Ham Radio Operators, their equipment, and Repeaters). [See The **Shasta County Emergency Operations Plan** is at this link

[https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/docs/libraries/cao-docs/emergencies/shasta-eop\\_ef-2\\_communications\\_sep-2014.pdf?sfvrsn=fc29e389\\_2](https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/docs/libraries/cao-docs/emergencies/shasta-eop_ef-2_communications_sep-2014.pdf?sfvrsn=fc29e389_2) ]

Due to the Clear and Present Danger to the public safety which this Cal Fire action presents, it is imperative that it be immediately and forever terminated. We need to build emergency communications capability, not destroy it.

I look forward to hearing from you. Time is of the essence.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

COMPUTER COPY

A. Nathan Zelfiff  
Attorney at Law

ANZ:eea 20190923 jitiu

**Exhibit A: communication from Cal Fire.  
Communications Received by Repeater Owner from <[Lorina.Pisi@fire.ca.gov](mailto:Lorina.Pisi@fire.ca.gov)>**

"Hello [name deleted]:

I do understand and appreciate all of the service you have provided in the past. However, with constantly changing technological advances, there is no longer the same benefit to State as previously provided. Therefore, the Department no longer financially supports HAM operators radios or tenancy. If you desire to enter into a formal agreement to operate and maintain said equipment, you must complete and submit attached collocation application along with fee as outlined on page one of application.

There is cost associated with getting an agreement in place. In addition to the technical analysis fee (\$2500/application), there is DGS Lease admin cost associated (typically between \$3000-\$5000) with preparation of lease. Also, there will be an annual rent charge based upon equipment type/space.

Please let me know how you wish to proceed. If you determine the cost is too great to proceed, please make arrangements with me to remove equipment. If you still have questions, please do not hesitate to ask. I am much more readily available via email.

**Lorina Pisi**

**T&V Manager**

**CAL FIRE**

**Technical Services - Lands**

**P.O. Box 944246**

**Sacramento, CA 94244-2460**

or

**PLEASE NOTE NEW PHYSICAL ADDRESS EFFECTIVE 8/5/19**

**1131 S Street**

**Sacramento, CA 95811-6524**

**916-327-8492**

**916-324-3400 (fax)**

Exhibit A

August 14, 2019: SHINGLETOWN EMERGENCY RADIO PLAN – FIRE NET ACTIVATED

Late August 14, 2019, there was a tone out from Cal Fire – Shingletown. SER Net station K6PDS, tuned one radio to dedicated monitoring of Cal Fire Dispatch to determine situation while continuing to monitor the SCAN PLAN on another radio. Fire reported in area of Mobile Park Dr. The situation met the criteria for an Emergency SER Net Plan Activation and Long Tone T Alert.

The SER Net was activated on all SER NET SCAN PLAN FREQUENCIES. 5 LONG TONE T ALERTS ARE THE SIGNAL FOR AN EMERGENCY SITUATION. The Fire Net was Activated.

An Active Fire Net was conducted, which included:

1. The Active Fire Net was conducted on 760 (CH 10 – monitoring / CH 55 - transmit).
2. W6iO, KE6PCR, AND KB6BZL monitored Cal Fire Dispatch and reported relevant information into the Fire Net. Great job W6iO, KE6PCR, AND KB6BZL.
3. Cal Fire reporting included: fully engulfed structure fire with spread to the vegetation and reports of explosions in area ... spot fire near Lisa Glenn Court / locked gate; Dozers, water tenders, engines, in route ... some crowning ... live wire down north side of highway (44) ... PG&E contacted as to downed line... .
4. KE6PCR monitored Cal Fire Tac 11, and Reported relevant information into the Fire Net. Great job KE6PCR.
5. Net Control requested all stations to perform a QWA PROCEDURE (Brevity Fire Watch) and report back. Of those Neighborhood Areas reporting back, results were QWA (No Suspect Fire / Smoke / or Embers observed (other than the existing fire - QWK).
6. Request was made for any station to report on conditions in the South East Section of Shasta Forest Village (in the Bambi Area – close to the fire area). Request was made for any station in that area to report (Ham or NON HAM). There was no response from the Bambi Area. Accordingly, KB6BZL volunteered to go mobile and drove into the area. He did a visual mobile search and found heavy smoke on Bambi (near the Water Company) and the air was “still”. Net Control was in radio contact with KB6BZL. A radio relay call was made to 911 to advise of this situation. Great job KB6BZL.
7. KB6BZL also drove up to Shingletown and provided reports as to the situation in Shingletown and at the Fire Scene (equipment on both sides of highway 44, etc...). A suspicious vehicle was observed in the Village Area and radio relay was made to 911 (Vehicle Description and partial plate). Request was made that all station operators be on the look out for any suspicious vehicles and to report, but do not engage.

EXHIBIT B PAGE 1 OF 2

8. Smoke Check reports were requested by Net Control and stations conducted such at various times to obtain wind directions, smoke smell levels and whether any fire / smoke / or embers were visible . We can use such information to determine if there are any new spot fires and potential areas where the existing fire may spread.

9. The Active Fire Net provided a Hub for information collection and dissemination from multiple sources, in real time, including: Cal Fire Dispatch reports; Cal Fir Tac 11 reports; Mobile Ham radio Unit ground / field observations; radio operators periodic reports for Smoke / Fire / Ember Checks; observations from home locations; and the ability for adjoining Neighborhoods to provide real time Smoke / Fire / Ember Checks as to any new fire threats. Reporting was brief, accurate and concise.

10. Neighborhood Areas responding on Frequency included: Viola; Village; Wilson Hill; Rest Area; Inwood, and Starlite. Other neighborhood areas monitored the reporting (e.g., Hay Flat, Immigrant, etc...).

11. We have learned that multiple Hams and non hams were monitoring and were awakened by the Alerting process and listened to the Active Fire Net, although they may not have transmitted into the Fire Net. Immigrant Area activated its neighborhood net (great job Steve). Inwood activated its neighborhood net and reported into the Fire Net (great job KK6DOO). Starlite was on frequency and reported into the Fire Net (great job AJ6KJ). The Rest Area activated and reported into the Fire Net (great job KN6CYK). The Wilson Hill Area was on frequency and reported into the Fire Net (great job KK6SWE and Beverly). Viola was on frequency and Reported into the Fire Net (great job K6YM). Hay Flat was monitoring and I understand conducted local communications. Great job K6SCR. The Village neighborhood was activated and conducted active mobile ground operations, Net Control function, and communications activity.

12. Hams and Non Hams with whom I have since discussed the Fire Net with had the following to say: the process was very helpful, “it was impressive”, “made me aware”, “felt very informed”, “felt very connected”, “went great”, the alert tone “woke me up”, “heard the alert and was awakened by it”, and the Net “let me know what was going on as it was happening”.

13. For the Village, this was a high alert. The fire was extremely close, and since the Village only has one point of escape from a fire, timely information is critical. Please join in and help out.

14. The Active Fire Net was deactivated once Cal Fire advised that the fire was in mop up stage. Stations were requested to QSY Scan Plan and their Neighborhood Frequencies.

Thank you to everyone who helped in this vital emergency communication tool.

Nathan K6PDS 73

NOTE: on 8/15/2019 there was another Fire near Dersch Rd & Hyrax Rd (Cottage fire). Stations also conducted operations concerning that fire. EXHIBIT B PAGE 2 OF 2

August 30, 2019: SER Nets Status Report

## **VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVATED SMOKE CHECK**

On the afternoon of August 30, 2019, a Station in the Village (Village Tango 2) called out on the VILLAGE alert Frequency asking if any other stations in the Village smelled smoke (wind out of the North).

Village Foxtrot 7 responded and requested other stations to report. Those responding included: Village Tango 3; Village India 1; Village Bravo 3; and Village Tango 1 (who is also a Licensed Ham - W6iO). Additionally, Village Tango 1 went mobile to survey the area and reported via radio while mobile. Village Tango 1 also had heard K6PDS give a recent mobile radio report from the Millville Plains and 44 lookout (while heading East Bound on Highway 44). W6iO requested (using the Ham frequency 760) that K6PDS confirm that there was no visible smoke from the Village Area. K6PDS confirmed, while mobile, that no smoke or fire was visible. The Millville Plains / 44 lookout location has a great view of the Shingletown Ridge.

During this process, Village Foxtrot 7 relayed the situation to 911 and Cal Fire responded.

The origin of the smoke odor was not able to be located. It may have been caused by someone starting a barbeque using cedar and other wood materials. Unknown source / Unable to Locate.

### **To recap, the Village Neighborhood pro-actively responded to Suspect Smoke by:**

1. securing reports from Neighborhood Stations throughout different locations in the Village;
2. relayed the situation to 911;
3. used Mobile Radio communications for gathering information, reporting and making Neighbors aware of the situation (who had their radios on);
4. combined use of the SER Neighborhood frequency plan with the SER Ham frequency plan to obtain a report from another station which was mobile, and over 14 miles away, to confirm that there was no smoke or fire visible in the Village Neighborhood Area from the lookout location; and
5. additionally, provided the benefit to multiple other stations in the Village Neighborhood who were listening as to a potential fire situation. They found the reporting informational, timely, and beneficial.

This is an illustration of neighbors working together and being proactive. That is what this is about.

**GREAT JOB TO THE VILLAGE TEAM!**

EXHIBIT C PAGE 1 OF 1