

Post Southern California Firestorm Workshop
Communications Lessons Learned
California Public Utilities Commission
January 9, 2007, 9:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Caltrans District 11 Building
4050 Taylor Street, San Diego, CA

Welcome: 9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

- Welcome by the Honorable Timothy Alan Simon and Rachelle Chong, CPUC Commissioners
- Welcome by Stephen J. Sellers, Regional Administrator, Office of Emergency Services (OES)
- Comments by State Senator Christine Kehoe
- Acknowledgement of other local officials in attendance by Commissioner Simon

Panel 1: How Cities and Localities Responded to the Firestorm – 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Purpose - This panel will review the Southern California firestorms as to communications issues and how the state, localities, and OES responded. Issues covered will include interoperability, reverse 911/emergency notification systems, 211 and other systems.

Moderator – Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, CPUC

Panelists –

- Ron Lane, Director
San Diego County Office of Emergency Services
- Maribel Marin, Executive Director
211 LA County
- John A. Ohanian, Chief Executive Officer
211 San Diego
- Pamela Gray Payton, Assistant Vice President
Office of Public Affairs University of San Diego

Panel 2: How Carriers Responded/Best Practices – 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Purpose – Communication carriers will share their experiences during the firestorms, and also discuss best practices and lessons learned for emergency situations, including network issues, backup power issues, communication strategies with local authorities and impacted customers, outreach, additional deployment of staff/repair crews.

Moderator – Commissioner Rachelle Chong, CPUC

Panelists –

- Mark Leslie, Vice President External Affairs
AT&T
- Bill Chubb, Vice President Network Group
AT&T
- Michael Augst, Manager Cell Operations
Verizon Wireless
- Lorraine Kocen, Regulatory Manager
Verizon Communications
- Bill Geppert, Regional Vice President
Cox Communications
- Shahin Daneshkhah, Network Disaster Recovery Manager
Sprint

Panel 3: How Notification System Vendors Responded/Best Practices - 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Purpose - This panel will be composed of notification system vendors that provided systems or services during the California wild fires. They will review best practices and lessons learned.

Moderator – Nick Lordi, Senior Director, Telcordia Technologies

Panelists –

- Chad Blackburn, Regional Account Manager
Reverse 911
- Natasha Rabe, Chief Business Officer
NTI Group
- Jim Kennedy, Founder & CEO
Twenty First Century Communications

Panel 4: Proceedings on Backup Power and Emergency Notification – 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Purpose – To provide an overview of the CPUC Rulemaking that resulted from Assembly Bill 2393, and also to discuss the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) progress in this area and the reports that they have issued.

Panelists – Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon will review CPUC progress; Nick Lordi, Senior Director, Telcordia Technologies will review the FCC reports and will provide a report on the FCC’s CSMAAC Committee progress.

Break: 3-3:15 p.m.

Panel 5: Next Steps for Statewide Best Practices Guide – 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Purpose - How to improve the State’s interoperability of emergency communications systems and emergency notification systems

- Lessons from the recent firestorms
- Development of a statewide best practices guide

Moderator – Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, CPUC

Panelists –

- Stephen Sellers, Regional Administrator
OES, Southern Region
- Richard Osborne, Acting Chief
OES, Communications and Technology Development
- Glen Nash, Supervising Telecommunications Engineer
DGS, Telecommunications Division Office of Public Safety Radio
- Jim Kennedy, Founder & CEO
Twenty First Century Communications
- Dean Leavenworth, Vice President External Affairs
Time Warner Cable