

# CERT NEWS LETTER

March 2015



**CERT has purchased rain gear** in response to the lessons learned during the **December 11<sup>th</sup> storm deployment**. We now have 56 full sets of rain gear to be issued to members that respond to events with inclement weather. Once issued to you, the rain gear will be yours to keep with your CERT materials. You will get the one set, so please once issued, take care of this garment. The gear includes waterproof pants, jacket and hood. When in use for CERT, wear your CERT vest outside the rain garment. In addition, we have also issued 6 additional sets of rain gear to each neighborhood CERT container.



**CERT Portable Command Module** has been purchased as another lesson from the December 11<sup>th</sup> storm deployment in which communications between the EOC and certain areas were weak. We now have the ability to set-up remote communications and a Command structure in any area where it is necessary.



CERT Command Module at the January CERT Coastal Exercise

**PRACTICE YOUR BASIC CERT SKILLS** by attending the final exercise of the next CERT class. This occurs **April 16<sup>th</sup> in the EOC from 6:30-9:30 P.M.** We practice all our basic skills such as emergency medicine, triage, rescue, search and use of the CERT radios. Contact the instructors prior to the start of class.

**REVIEW YOUR CERT STUDENT MANUAL:** Here is the link to the online edition:

[http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1839-25045-8729/pm\\_combined.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1839-25045-8729/pm_combined.pdf)

## **CARMEL CERT NOW HAS A CONTAINER LOCATION**

at Sunset Center. Once finished, we will be working to stock the container with the standard CERT tools and equipment. Members of the Carmel Team may contact your Team Leader, Lee Larrew ( [lee@carmelcalifornia.org](mailto:lee@carmelcalifornia.org) ) for more information.

**WE'RE MISSING A RADIO** from the December storm deployment. If you were issued a radio on December 11<sup>th</sup>, please double-check to make sure it is still not accidentally in your possession. Thanks!

## **CERT RADIO NET: SAFETY BEGINS WITH GOOD COMMUNICATIONS!**

**CERT Radio Net exercises occur the second Monday of each month at 8 P.M. on CERT channel 3.** If you want to participate in the radio net, but don't have your own CERT radio, contact your team leader about borrowing one. This is a great opportunity to become familiar with our CERT radios and how they operate.

**TRAINING REFRESHER: Natural gas** safety starts with detection of a leak. Sight-Sound-Smell are the senses you must use to detect a gas leak. CERT teaches to shut the meter if you safely can. Otherwise notify CERT Command to dispatch PG&E.:

## GAS LEAK DETECTION

### Sight

- Dirt being blown into the air
- Dead or dying vegetation
- Flames coming from the ground
- Continuous bubbling in puddles
- Construction / excavation equipment
- Signage or pipeline markings

### Sound

- Roaring sounds:
  - Transmission: very loud (jet engine or locomotive)
  - Distribution: loud from several hundred feet
- Hissing and whistling sounds: Service and appliance releases
- Caution: There may be no perceptible sound

### Smell

- Mercaptan odorant smells like “sulfur” or “rotten eggs”
- Caution: Odor fade may occur
  - Odor may fade if gas filters up through soil. Prolonged exposure to gas may diminish one’s ability to smell the presence of mercaptan. Odorant may also be masked by other odors.*

**CAUTION!** Some or none of these factors may be present. If unsure, do not approach area. Keep others out of the area.  
Call PG&E at 800-743-5002.



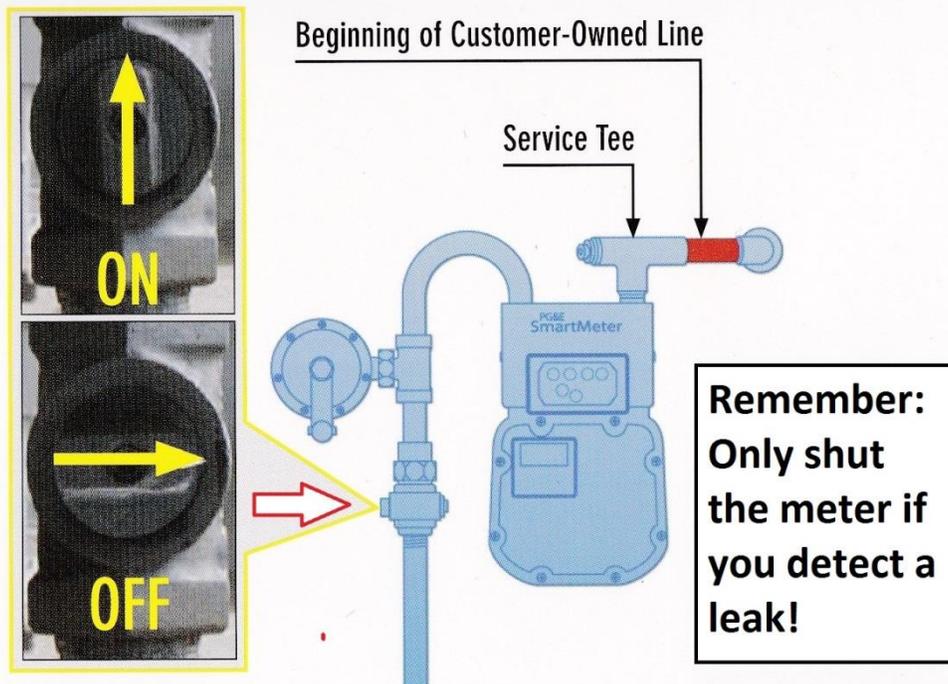
## SHUT OFF VALVES – AT THE METER

When the signs of a gas leak exist

**Sight – Sound – Smell**

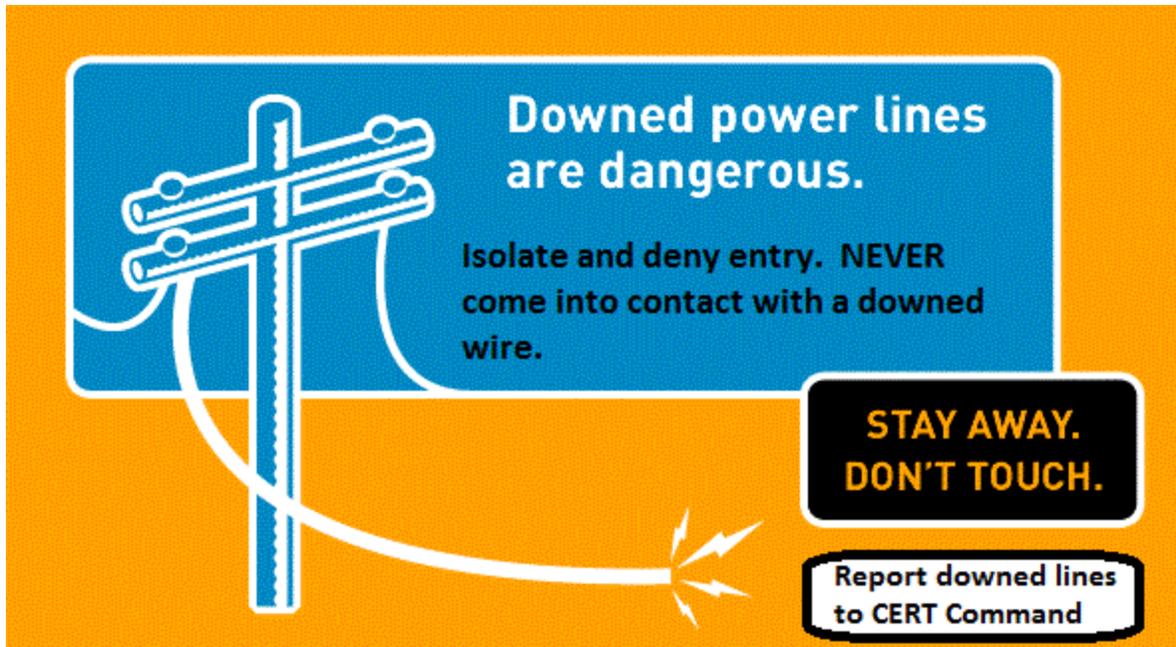
The gas supply must be shut off only if it is safe to do so.

Only PG&E personnel should turn gas ON.



## **ALL DOWNED WIRES OR LINES ARE DANGEROUS.**

Any overhead wire can be in contact with power lines downrange, energizing TV cable, telephone or other wires. Treat all displaced and downed lines as dangerous. Isolate the area, deny entry and notify CERT Command immediately! **Avoid contact with items touching lines.**



**CONTACT YOUR TEAM LEADER:** If you have not already done so, contact your team leader and meet them at your neighborhood CERT container. Make sure you know how to find the container and are familiar with the inventory.

**REMEMBER:** After an emergency such as an earthquake, storm or other potential disaster when all forms of communication are absent, when the power is out and telephones and cell phones don't work, secure your family, immediate neighbors and then, if you are able, report to your neighborhood CERT container. Using our radio system, CERT is the primary eyes and ears to the City on what's happening in the neighborhoods. We will form teams and proceed into the neighborhoods to *"DO THE MOST GOOD FOR THE MOST PEOPLE ....."* CERT provides an excellent video at this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwV3e1Xfif0>

**CERT TEAM LEADER LIST:** **CONA**=Casanova Oak Knoll, **Crml**=Carmel, **DMB**=Del Monte Beach, **FH**=Foothill, **MV**=Monte Vista, **NM**=New Monterey, **OG**=Oak Grove, **OT**=Old Town, **PG**=Pacific Grove, **S3**=Station 3, **SL**=Skyline

CONA	Ruccello	Richard	rruccello@aol.com
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Crml	Larrew	Lee	lee@carmelcalifornia.org
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DMB	Brownlee	Sean	sean@globalfms.com
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FH	Mendenhall	Bruce	bmende88@comcast.net

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*“Doing the most good for the most people .....*”