

Below are the comments that Trish Steel shared at the CPUC Informational Hearing on the IP transition held on 12/6/17 in San Francisco on behalf of Mendocino County Sheriff Thomas Allman:

"Within 6 hours of the devastating Redwood Complex Fire, the city and community of Willits was without cell coverage, internet service, 9-1-1 coverage and hard line phones (with the exception of calls within the 459/456 pre-fix area). Only satellite phones, Ham radios and local FM radio coverage allowed limited communication for this community of 7,500 citizens. Any public utility company which advocated for less maintenance for copper line infrastructure does not understand Rural California. As a resident of the Willits Community and as Sheriff for Mendocino County, I am adamantly opposed to any move to decrease copper line maintenance in Rural California."