

# The Land Conservancy OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

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## PG&E's \$10,000 Jump Starts Octagon Barn Center Renovation

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – To help accelerate an ongoing, major community project, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is funding \$10,000 of the proposed renovation of the Octagon Barn Center's Milking Parlor. Built in 1938 as milking machines were being used more widely, the Milking Parlor sits next to the San Luis Obispo Octagon Barn. It played a vital role in dairy operations until the 1960s, but is now in need of major structural change and repair. PG&E's grant will enable work to begin on design and structural engineering, setting the stage for a major building renovation. The PG&E donation was presented to the Land Conservancy at the Octagon Barn Holiday Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.



*"PG&E is proud to support the Milking Parlor as a center of sustainability and as a regional showcase,"* said Patricia Wilmore, as she passed the \$10,000 envelope to Land Conservancy Board Trustee, B.K. Richard.

The PG&E sponsorship funds will jump-start the first phase of construction. Early work will include engineering, planning, permitting, and incorporating energy efficiency design concepts and renewable energy systems. The Land Conservancy aims to make this community center available for educational purposes and for community room space. At over 1800 square feet, the Milking Parlor will also house a selection of artifacts from the County's dairy farming history.

*"As part of the Octagon Barn Center, the Milking Parlor will have a special role as an education center, community room, and museum. It will reinforce our conservation mission through emphasis on activities in agriculture, county history, and sustainability,"* says Teresa Tibstra, Membership and Outreach Coordinator, after planning and hosting this year's Barn Lighting event.



The Land Conservancy is grateful to have PG&E as a partner in the Octagon Barn Center Project. Previously, PG&E had donated the mile of LED holiday lights that appear each year on the roof. They also donate support in dealing with poles and posts on our lease land. Most importantly, PG&E employees have been among the most dedicated volunteers. The Land Conservancy hopes to continue the partnership with PG&E through each step of

completing the Milking Parlor renovation, which is expected to take several years.

To learn more about the history and proposed developments of the historic Octagon Barn, please visit [www.octagonbarn.org](http://www.octagonbarn.org).

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**The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County** is a local nonprofit working to protect and restore land for the benefit of people and wildlife. Since its formation in 1984, The Land Conservancy has led collaborative efforts to permanently protect over 11,000 acres of land in San Luis Obispo County. For more information visit [www.LCSLO.org](http://www.LCSLO.org) or call (805) 544-9096.

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