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CPUC PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE PROCUREMENT FROM DIVERSE SUPPLIERS HITS NEW RECORD

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5, 2013 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said that the companies participating in its Supplier Diversity Program achieved a new record, procuring approximately \$8.1 billion in goods and services from women, minority, and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises. In addition, the largest utilities all procured more than 36 percent from diverse firms, with Verizon achieving a record 50.44 percent.

The CPUC encourages companies to procure from diverse suppliers, who are by and large small businesses. In its General Order 156, the CPUC encourages investor-owned utilities to purchase 21.5 percent of its goods and services from diverse firms (15 percent minority owned firms, 5 percent women-owned firms, and 1.5 percent disabled veteran-owned firms). The state's utilities and telecommunication companies report annually on their procurement purchases from diverse firms and reports were submitted to the CPUC on March 1, 2013.

Of the more than 30 companies participating in the Supplier Diversity Program, those doing the most business with diverse firms in the past year include:

- AT&T: \$1.02 billion, or 44.7 percent
- AT&T Wireless: \$813 million, or 24.8 percent
- Comcast: \$252 million, or 22.3 percent
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company: \$2 billion, or 38.5 percent
- San Diego Gas and Electric: \$435 million, or 36.1 percent
- Southern California Edison: \$1.5 billion, or 38.2 percent
- Southern California Gas Company: \$348 million, or 41.9 percent
- Verizon: \$114 million, or 50.4 percent



Said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey, “I have long maintained that small and diverse businesses are the backbone of our economy and provide needed jobs and competitive services. I am pleased to see that so many large companies are embracing our Supplier Diversity Program and increasing their procurement from diverse companies year after year.”

The diversity procurement reports filed by utilities are available at www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/SupplierDiversity/Utilities+File+Supplier+Diversity+Procurement+Reports+2013.htm

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