



California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Docket #: Res ST-163

CPUC CREATES CITATION PROGRAM FOR RAIL TRANSIT AGENCIES

SAN FRANCISCO, December 18, 2014 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today augmented its safety efforts by authorizing its staff to issue citations to rail transit agencies that are out of compliance with rules and regulations.

The new Citation Program will aid in ensuring compliance with regulations regarding the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of rail fixed guideway systems such as BART, Los Angeles Metro, the Sacramento Regional Transit District, the San Francisco Municipal Railway system, and others. CPUC staff is delegated authority to issue citations for specific violations and levy penalties ranging from \$2,000-\$10,000 per incident.

Prior to the Citation Program, fining a company required the opening of a formal proceeding and vote of the Commissioners. Delegation of citation authority to staff will allow prompt action to protect the public and rail fixed guideway system employees.

“Along with our new citation programs for regulated electric and gas services, the CPUC now has a range of faster tools across industries for holding our essential service companies to standard safety practices. Our new requirements to study safety in setting rates for gas systems will help us to push utilities to even higher levels of safety,” said Commissioner Michael Picker.

The Citation Program does not diminish, alter, or reduce the CPUC’s existing authority to promote and enforce public safety requirements.

The proposal voted on is available at

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M143/K568/143568870.PDF>.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

###

