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PRESS RELEASE

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CPUC REPORTS ON COMMITMENT TO SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30, 2016 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said that the companies participating in its supplier diversity program have hit a new milestone of procuring more than \$8.9 billion in goods and services in 2015 from women, minority, and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises.

In its General Order 156, the CPUC encourages investor-owned utilities to purchase 21.5 percent in goods and services from diverse firms (15 percent from minority owned firms, 5 percent from women-owned firms, and 1.5 from percent disabled veteran-owned firms). In 2015 the program was extended to include lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender businesses, per Assembly Bill 1678 (Gordon).

The state's utilities and telecommunication companies report annually on their procurement purchases from diverse enterprises. Of the more than 30 companies participating in the supplier diversity program, those doing the most business with diverse firms in 2015 include:

- AT&T: \$1 billion, or 48.56 percent
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company: \$2.46 billion, or 44.01 percent
- Park Water and Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company: \$12.53 million, or 39.94 percent
- San Diego Gas & Electric: \$497.46 million, or 42.74 percent
- Southern California Edison: \$1.82 billion, or 42.90 percent
- Southern California Gas Company: \$665.90 million, or 44.67 percent
- Sprint: \$585.19 million, or 44.50 percent
- Verizon: \$82.67 million, or 51.23 percent

“I’m really pleased that we had another good year of utility spending with diverse businesses, which are by and large small businesses,” said CPUC President Michael Picker. “Year after year the

utilities have been steadily increasing their financial commitment to diverse firms, in large part because it's a prudent financial decision and helps bring prosperity and jobs to the communities where consumers live and work.”

The 2015 diversity efforts of the utilities will be discussed at the CPUC's annual Diversity En Banc, which is free and open to the public. It will be held on September 21, 2016, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 South Airport Blvd., South San Francisco.

The 2015 diversity procurement reports filed by utilities are available at www.cpuc.ca.gov/supplierdiversity.

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

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