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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: A.16-11-008

**CPUC PROVIDES FOR MORE NUMBERS IN 805 AREA CODE REGION**

SAN FRANCISCO, May 25, 2017 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today acted to ensure that phone numbers continue to be available to meet demand in the geographic region served by the 805 area code by approving an area code overlay. The overlay will provide additional numbering resources while minimizing customer inconvenience. The new area code that will be added to the 805 region, which serves small portions of Monterey and Kern Counties and most of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, is 820.

Existing customers will retain their area code and specific telephone number(s). However, customers must dial the three-digit area code for all calls to and from telephone numbers with the 805 and new 820 area codes. Customers may begin using this new dialing procedure to and from telephone numbers with the 805 area code in November 2017, and continue to do so for six months (through May 2018, called the “permissive dialing period”). Customers must use the new dialing procedure (1+10-digit dialing) beginning May 2018. New telephone numbers with the 820 area code may be issued to customers beginning June 2018.

An area code overlay adds a second area code to a geographic region. Therefore, multiple area codes co-exist within the same geographic region. Consumers with telephone numbers within the exhausting area code retain their current telephone number(s) and area code. Individuals who would like to have new or additional telephone numbers or telecommunications services may be given telephone numbers with the new overlaid area code.

Here are some tips to help prepare for the area code overlay:

- Contact security or alarm vendors to update dial-up numbers to avoid a break in security



routines and contacts.

- Reprogram equipment or features i.e., automatic dial, speed-dial, call forwarding, modems for computer or Internet dial-up access etc., programmed to dial seven digits to dial "1+ area code + telephone number.
- Update items like stationery, checks, etc., to include your area code + telephone number.
- Start thinking of dialing 1 + the area code + telephone number for all calls.
- Advise families, friends etc., to dial 1 + the area code + telephone number for all calls.
- Provide your area code + telephone number, not just the telephone number, as needed.
- When asking for someone else's number, remember to ask for the area code too.
- Remember that the previous area code and the new area code will co-exist within the same geographic region.

The 805 area code was created in 1957, splitting from the 213 area code and covering the coastal and inland areas north of Los Angeles. The 805 area code was reduced to its current configuration along the coast when the 661 was split off of it in 1999.

The proposal voted on is available at

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M187/K354/187354351.PDF>.

For more information on the 805 area code, please see [www.cpuc.ca.gov/805areacode](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/805areacode).

For more information on the CPUC, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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