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PRESS RELEASE

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**CPUC UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS LEGISLATION AIMING TO INCREASE
DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION**

SAN FRANCISCO, February 1, 2012 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today voted unanimously (4-0) to support pending legislation by state Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco) that would make it easier for the CPUC to release information to the public.

Senate Bill (SB) 1000 is a proposed bill that Senator Yee's office has indicated will be introduced soon. It would amend Public Utilities Code section 315 to require the CPUC to make available to the public any accident report filed with the CPUC, as well as any order or recommendation made by the CPUC pertaining to its investigation of an accident. The bill would also repeal and replace Public Utilities Code section 583 to make the California Public Records Act applicable to all records of, and records filed with, the CPUC, unless expressly exempt. Lastly, the bill would require the CPUC to immediately conduct a hearing to amend General Order 66-C to be consistent with the new Public Utilities Code section 583.

Said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey, "I fully support Senator Yee in his commitment to take a fresh look at outdated laws that impede the CPUC's ability to share documents with the public we serve. The bill would provide the public with more immediate access to accident reports and records of our investigations. It would also eliminate the threat of criminal sanctions for the CPUC's public disclosure of information supplied to us by utilities."

Said Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, "Guidance provided by this legislation could have a positive impact on public access to CPUC records and towards alleviating some of the existing confusion regarding common disclosure issues."

The CPUC suggested technical amendments to the proposed legislation, including that the proposed amendments to Public Utilities Code section 315 should be revised to clarify certain disclosure ambiguities and mandate the disclosure of additional safety records; and that the subsection of the new Public Utilities Code section 583 should be revised to avoid the procedural delays and inefficiencies that could result from the requirement that the CPUC immediately conduct a hearing to amend General Order 66-C.

The proposal voted on is available at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/word_pdf/REPORT/158501.pdf.

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

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