

California Public Utilities Commission
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PRESS RELEASE

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**CPUC CONTINUES COMMITMENT TO DEMAND RESPONSE WITH
APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS THROUGH 2011**

SAN FRANCISCO, August 20, 2009 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today continued its commitment to empowering consumers to use electricity wisely by adopting demand response programs and budgets for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas and Electric Company.

Demand response programs allow consumers and businesses to reduce their electricity use during times of high energy demand in response to signals in the form of electricity prices, incentives, or compromises to reliability. Demand response enhances electric system reliability, reduces power purchases and individual consumer costs, and protects the environment.

“The increased demand response approved by this decision will avoid the need to build several new power plants,” said CPUC Commissioner Rachelle Chong. “The utility programs will also provide opportunities for energy consumers to save money.”

Today’s decision approves demand response programs and pilots for the remainder of 2009 through December 31, 2011, some with modifications from previous years, and authorizes several demand response pilot programs to test new demand response-related technologies and integration of demand response with Advanced Metering Infrastructure systems. The decision also provides funding for evaluation, measurement, and verification of demand response activities.

Demand response programs are an essential element of California’s resource strategy, as articulated in the state’s Energy Action Plan.

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