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MEDIA ADVISORY

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**CPUC PRESENTS RALPH CAVANAGH AT
THOUGHT LEADERS SPEAKER SERIES**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24, 2010 -- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today announced that Ralph Cavanagh, Senior Attorney and Co-Director of the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) Energy Program, will lead a discussion at the CPUC's upcoming 21st Century Thought Leaders in Essential Industries Speaker Series. The public is invited and reservations are not required for this informative session.

- WHAT:** Mr. Cavanagh is internationally known for his vision and leadership on energy efficiency, clean energy, and climate change policy issues, which he will address along with related topics.
- WHEN:** Thursday, April 8, 2010, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
- WHERE:** CPUC Auditorium, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco;
Also available in real time and archived via video webcast at www.californiaadmin.com/cgi-bin/cpuc.cgi.
- WHO:** Mr. Cavanagh is a Senior Attorney and Co-Director of NRDC's energy program, which he joined in 1979. In addition, Mr. Cavanagh has been a Visiting Professor of Law at Stanford and University of California, Berkeley (Boalt Hall), and from 1993-2003 he served as a member of the U.S. Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board. His current board memberships include the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, the California Clean Energy Fund, the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies, the Renewable Northwest Project, the Northwest Energy Coalition, and the Sustainable Energy Advisory Board of Texas-based Energy Future Holdings. He is a member of the National Commission on Energy Policy, which the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation established in 2002. Mr. Cavanagh has received the Heinz Award for Public Policy, the Yale Law School's Preiskel-Silverman Fellowship, the Lifetime Achievement in Energy Efficiency Award from California's Flex Your Power Campaign, the Headwaters Award from the Northwest Energy Coalition, and the Bonneville Power Administration's

Award for Exceptional Public Service. He is a graduate of Yale College and the Yale Law School.

The CPUC's Policy and Planning Division hosts the Thought Leaders Speaker Series to stimulate thought and discussion of some of the most pressing challenges facing California utility regulators and the private sector industries impacted by state policies. Leading experts from around the world take center stage to offer their expertise and vision in areas such as communications, energy, water, transportation, the environment, green jobs, and more.

To register for this event (not required, but appreciated) and for more information on Thought Leaders, including archived video webcasts of prior speakers, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/thoughtleaders.

For more information on the NRDC, please visit www.nrdc.org.

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