

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

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**CPUC UNVEILS ONLINE SPEAKER SIGN-UP FORM AND
ADOPTS RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT TO IMPROVE PROCESS**

SAN FRANCISCO, June 24, 2010 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today unveiled a new online public speaker sign-up form and adopted rules to streamline public access, accommodation, and participation at CPUC voting meetings.

The CPUC welcomes and encourages public participation, and each voting meeting starts with a public comment period. To offer individuals another easy way to sign up to make public comment, the CPUC now offers an online sign-up form that can be submitted electronically by noon the day before the voting meeting at <https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/requesttocomment/>. Speakers must still visit the Public Advisor's Office table before 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting to ask staff to mark their presence. Individuals may also still sign-up in person the day of the voting meeting at the Public Advisor's Office table before 10 a.m.

At today's voting meeting, the CPUC adopted rules to streamline and improve the public comment process. The rules include speaker time limits, a sign-in deadline, topics that may be addressed, and submission of written materials. For a complete list of the new Rules for Public Comment at Business Meetings, please see:

http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/word_pdf/AGENDA_RESOLUTION/119532.pdf. Interested parties can also contact the Public Advisor's Office at 1-866-849-8390 for more information.

"I am pleased to see the roll-out of several rules to help the public better understand and prepare to participate at CPUC voting meetings," said CPUC Executive Director [Paul Clanon](#). "In addition, the

new online sign-up form provides the public with another tool to simplify their communication with us and also allows for requesting the assistance of an interpreter well in advance of the meeting.”

At the direction of the CPUC President, CPUC staff initiated a working group project to identify methods to streamline public access, accommodation, and participation at the CPUC’s voting meetings, generally held twice a month in San Francisco. These new rules are one of the initiatives identified by this project.

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

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