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MEDIA ADVISORY

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A.10-11-015

**CPUC TO HOLD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS FOR
EDISON AND SOCALGAS RATE INCREASE REQUESTS;
BILL INFORMATION FAIRS ALSO AVAILABLE TO CONSUMERS**

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27, 2011 -- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said it is holding public meetings to obtain consumer input about requests from Southern California Edison (SCE) and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) to raise additional revenue from ratepayers in order to cover future costs of service. The CPUC will also hold Bill Information Fairs at these hearings:

When: June 8, 2011

Where: City Hall Council Chambers, 300 N. "D" St., San Bernardino

- Two Public Participation Hearings: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers
- Bill Information Fair: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the lobby

When: June 9, 2011

Where: Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove

- Two Public Participation Hearings: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers
- Bill Information Fair: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Constitution Room

At the beginning of the Public Participation Hearings a CPUC Administrative Law Judge will provide an overview of the CPUC hearing process and may ask SCE and SoCalGas to describe their proposals to the audience. The hearing has no set end time, as it concludes after all speakers have been heard. Consumers who wish to speak are encouraged to arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the hearing to sign-up.

The hearings and the Bill Information Fairs are free, open to the public, and wheelchair accessible.

If you need a language or American Sign Language interpreter, please send a request to the CPUC Public Advisor's Office at least three business days before the hearing you want to attend at

public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov or 866-849-8391, or CPUC Public Advisor, 320 West 4th St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90013, or TTY 866-836-7825. The CPUC provides these services at no cost.

SCE and SoCalGas have filed separate requests to increase their revenue requirements. The actual amount of the rate increases, if any, will be determined after the revenue requirement has been set. Revenue requirements for both utilities include costs for maintaining and operating their offices and facilities. The requests do not cover SoCalGas' costs to purchase natural gas for customers, or SCE's cost for fuel to generate electricity or its costs to purchase electricity from other companies.

SCE is requesting an initial revenue increase of \$828 million or 7 percent in 2012 and additional increases of \$194 million in 2013 and \$514 million in 2014.

SoCalGas is requesting an increase of \$308 million or 7 percent. If the full amount is approved, SoCalGas estimates it will increase monthly bills by \$3.35 a month for a residential customer using 38 therms of gas a month.

At the Bill Information Fairs, information will be provided about, and applications will be accepted for, both utilities' discount programs. Plus, consumers can learn about energy saving measures and receive assistance in resolving problems with utility bills. The Bill Information Fairs will include utility staff and representatives from Community Based Organizations that are part of the CPUC's CHANGES (Community Help and Awareness of Natural Gas and Electricity Services) program, which provides assistance in 32 languages. Bring your utility bills and these organizations can help you sign-up for services, explain bills, and help resolve disputes. The organizations are also a part of the CPUC TEAM (Telecommunications Education and Assistance in Multiple-languages) program and can offer assistance with telecommunications services and bills. Representatives will be there to provide assistance in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Additional Public Participation Hearings will be announced in the near future to hear from consumers about SoCalGas' request. The following additional Public Participation Hearings have been scheduled to hear from consumers about SCE's request:

- June 15, 2011, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Oxnard City Hall Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd St., Oxnard

- June 16, 2011, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Visalia Convention Center, San Joaquin A/B Room, 303 E. Acequia Ave., Visalia
- June 20, 2011, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Long Beach Courtyard by Marriott Downtown, Atlantic A Room, 500 East 1st St., Long Beach
- June 21, 2011, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., City of San Clemente Community Center, Ole Hanson Fireside Room, 100 N. Calle Seville, San Clemente
- June 23, 2011, noon and 5 p.m., Palm Springs City Hall Council Chambers, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs

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

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