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Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

MEDIA ADVISORY

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**CPUC HOLDS SYMPOSIUM ON CREATING
A SMARTER ELECTRIC GRID FOR CALIFORNIA**

SAN FRANCISCO, April 16, 2009 -- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will hold a symposium to discuss issues related to developing a smarter electric grid.

WHAT: Smart Grid Symposium

WHEN: Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: CPUC Auditorium
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco
Also available via video webcast at:
www.californiaadmin.com/cgi-bin/cpuc.cgi

WHY: This symposium is organized to provide policy makers a forum to hear the relevant and latest issues surrounding developments of Smart Grid systems for energy utilities.

WHO: The CPUC has invited leading experts to give briefings on key aspects of issues surrounding Smart Grid systems. A quorum of Commissioners from the CPUC and California Energy Commission may attend.

In December 2008, the CPUC initiated a proceeding to develop policies for California utilities to enhance the electric grid. A smarter grid has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and demand response, expand the use of renewable energy, and improve reliability.

The April 21st symposium will provide context and proposed action items for California to consider in developing a Smart Grid, including regulatory policy and a deployment plan to upgrade the current electrical grid with the latest technology.

Documents in the CPUC's Smart Grid Proceeding are available at <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/Published/proceedings/R0812009.htm>.

For more information on California's Smart Grid, as well as the agenda and speaker profiles for the symposium, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/energy/smartgrid.

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

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