



California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

April 2006, Number 21

This newsletter is intended to inform you about recent actions and issues before the CPUC that may affect your community. If you need assistance or clarification on anything in this newsletter, please contact [Kyle DeVine](#) or the [Public Advisor](#). Below is information on how to subscribe or unsubscribe and you can also email us at: cpucnl@cpuc.ca.gov.



Statewide Small Business Expo will be in Los Angeles on April 19! The Commission is holding Expos throughout the state, which are led by Commissioner John Bohn, to connect small business owners with California's utility companies. Come learn what business opportunities exist with utilities. For more information, [click here](#).

Go Solar! The Commission continues to encourage use of solar and other cost effective, clean and reliable energy sources and has begun a proceeding to develop rules and procedures for the California Solar Initiative and the Self-Generation Incentive Program. Updates about this proceeding and more information about the program are available on our website, [click here](#).

Update on the Consumer Protections Initiative!

Workshops have been held to develop a consumer education program and to consider a citation program for utilities that slam customers, that is, change a person's telephone service without consent from the person. Much more is being planned and developed to assist and to educate consumers. For more information, [click here](#) (proceeding R00-02-004).



Give us your comments about universal telephone service! The PUC is holding workshops on April 25 and April 26 and the public is invited to attend and comment about the state's universal telephone service programs and the funding for them. For more information, [click here](#).

It's warming up! The PG&E and SDG&E summer season begins May 1, which means that many communities will receive more baseline allowances then. Edison's summer season begins June 1. But frequently unexpected heat waves occur in the month before each utility's season change, so you may want to warn your constituents to be careful of

their energy use. Also, now is a good time for consumers to tune up their homes and businesses for energy conservation and energy efficiency. You may call your utility for more information or visit its website.

California LifeLine will make it easier for consumers to enroll in the discounted telephone service for low-income consumers! Starting in July, consumers may qualify if someone in the household is enrolled in one of numerous public assistance programs, or if the entire household's income is the same or less than the established income limits, which in June will increase. Consumers enrolling for the first time that qualify under the income guidelines will need to provide proof of income, such as a tax return. Also the program has been renamed as the California LifeLine; it used to be called the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service (ULTS). To see what assistance programs will qualify consumers, or for more information, [click here](#).

Northern



The CPUC approved the closing of PG&E's Hunters Point power plant which is located in the Bayview-Hunters Point area of San Francisco. It will close once the Jefferson-Martin and Potrero-Hunters Point transmission upgrades are fully operational - expected in April 2006. For more information, [click here](#).

Klamath Irrigation Project customers of PacificCorp will see rate increases, since the 1956 contract that they were billed under will expire on April 16. However, the increases will not be as steep as expected (which was 1,300%). Instead, rates will gradually increase over the next few years to bring the rates in line with current day prices. For more information, [click here](#).

Events Calendar



Here's a list of events that may interest you or your constituents:

Upcoming Commission Meetings: April 27, May 11 and May 25.
The agenda for the April 27 meeting meeting will be available on our website on April 17.

Discussion on energy outlook for summer 2006 - April 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the California Energy Commission, 1516 Ninth Street, Hearing Room A, Sacramento. CPUC and Energy Commission members, other state representatives, and the California Independent System Operator will discuss the energy outlook for summer 2006, demand response, resource adequacy, and Energy Action Plan staff activities. More information is posted on the Commission's daily calendar, accessible from the CPUC website.

Public Hearing in San Miguel where you may comment on the San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department's request to authorize construction of a pedestrian crossing

across the railroad tracks at 16th Street. April 19 at 7 p.m. at the Lillian Larsen School Cafeteria, 1601 "L" Street, San Miguel.

Public Hearing in Chula Vista where you may comment on SDG&E's request to construct the Silvergate Substation Project, April 20 at 5 p.m. at the Chula Vista Civic Library, 365 "F" Street, Chula Vista.

Public Hearings throughout northern California on PG&E's request to increase rates. You may attend and comment on the request at any of the following:

Oakland - April 26 at 2 and 7 p.m., Elihu Harris State Building - Auditorium, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland

Ukiah – April 27 at 2 p.m., Ukiah Valley Conference Center - Cabernet 1, 200 South School Street, Ukiah.

Santa Rosa – April 27 at 7:30 p.m., Steele Lane Community Center - DeMeo Room, 415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa.

King City – May 3 at 2 p.m., King City Branch Library - Meeting Room, 402 Broadway Street, King City.

Salinas – May 3 at 7:30 p.m., Laurel Inn & Conference Center, 801 West Laurel Drive, Salinas.

San Luis Obispo – May 4 at 2 and 7 p.m., San Luis Obispo Veteran's Building - Veterans Main Hall / Right Wing, 801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo.

Modesto - May 9 at 2 and 7 p.m., Modesto Centre Plaza - Pistache Room, 10th K Street, Modesto.

Fresno – May 10 at 2 and 7 p.m., Fresno City Hall Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno.

Woodland – May 17 at 2 and 7 p.m., Woodland Public Library - Leake Community Room, 250 First Street, Woodland.

Chico – May 18 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m., University of Phoenix - Room 106, 500 Orient Street, Chico.