



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

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

CPUC Invites You to South San Francisco for the Small and Diverse Business Expo and 24th Annual Supplier Diversity En Banc

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 1, 2026 – The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will host two free events in South San Francisco to engage with the public about small business opportunities and the CPUC’s Utility Supplier Diversity Program.

The CPUC’s Utility Supplier Diversity Program, created under [General Order 156](#), has existed for nearly four decades with the goal of advancing the private enterprise marketplace through free, open, and transparent competition. The program encourages utilities to purchase at least 23 percent of their total procurement from women, minority, disabled veteran, LGBT, and persons with disabilities-owned businesses. In 2025, more than 3,400 businesses obtained opportunities through the Supplier Diversity program, with utilities reporting over \$13 billion in spending with diverse suppliers. The CPUC’s Small Business Program hosts small and diverse business events to help connect businesses to utility companies and government procurement representatives.

Mark your calendar for the following Small Business and Supplier Diversity program events:

Small & Diverse Business Expo

- **When:** Sept. 30, 2026, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Where:** South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 S. Airport Blvd., South San Francisco, CA, 94080
- **Registration:** [CPUC Small and Diverse Business Expo](#)
- **What:** The Expo is a free event where small and diverse businesses can connect directly with representatives from more than 55 utilities, public agencies, chambers, prime contractors, and community choice aggregators. Attendees can meet directly with industry representatives at exhibitor booths, learn about certifications, and explore upcoming opportunities with

companies like PG&E, T-Mobile, and Verizon. To learn more about the Expo and the Small Business Program, visit [Small Business Expos](#) or contact smallbiz@cpuc.ca.gov.

24th Annual Supplier Diversity En Banc

- **When:** Oct. 1, 2026, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Where:** South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 S. Airport Blvd., South San Francisco, CA, 94080
- **Registration:** [24th Annual GO 156 Supplier Diversity En Banc](#)
- **What:** The 24th Annual GO 156 Supplier Diversity En Banc is a free public hearing where leaders of California's investor-owned utilities will report on their supplier diversity programs and contracting trends. Join us to hear from local ethnic chambers of commerce, community-based organizations, and community choice aggregators on their perspectives for fostering inclusive procurement. To learn more about the Supplier Diversity Program and En Banc, visit [Supplier Diversity Program](#) or contact supplierdiversity@cpuc.ca.gov

The CPUC has consistently highlighted its commitment to supporting the state's economic vitality, recognizing the positive impact of small businesses and diverse suppliers in achieving this goal. Equalizing opportunities not only aligns with corporate responsibilities and CPUC goals, but also fosters heightened competition and reduced costs for ratepayers.

These events provide a platform for CPUC Commissioners, utility executives, community-based organizations, and suppliers to engage in discussions about the progress of the Small Business and Supplier Diversity Programs and ways utilities can further expand opportunities for a wide range of suppliers. No official action will be taken at these events.

If special accommodations are needed to attend, such as non-English or sign language interpreters, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov or call toll free at 866-849-8390 at least five business days in advance of the events.

More Information

- [CPUC Supplier Diversity Program Helps Small and Diverse Businesses Thrive While Supporting Reliable and Affordable Utility Service](#)

###

About the California Public Utilities Commission

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, protects consumers, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. Visit www.cpuc.ca.gov for more information.