Earlier this month, before the official start of summer, California experienced a heat wave that not only impacted our state, but several states across the west.

This heat event required the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), which manages the flow of electricity along the high-voltage electric grid for 80 percent of California, to call the first *Flex Alerts* of the summer, asking Californians to voluntarily reduce their energy use during critical moments of the afternoon and evening. Californians, as always, responded and made a difference.

A Flex Alert is a call for consumers to voluntarily conserve electricity when there is an anticipated shortage of energy supply. The CAISO may call a Flex Alert when extremely hot weather drives up electricity use and creates a gap between supply and demand. This usually happens in the evening hours when solar resources are no longer available, but temperatures remain high and consumers are switching on air conditioners, lights, and appliances. When consumers reduce electricity use during a Flex Alert, it can prevent more dire emergency measures, including rotating power outages.

Given how early in the summer this heat event occurred, as well as the western states’ experiences with weather variability in recent years, California must be prepared for similar events later this summer. To do that, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is urging Californians to sign up for Flex Alerts to receive information about best practices and to get word when it is time to act.

When a Flex Alert is called, consumers are strongly encouraged to set their thermostats at 78 or higher if health permits, avoid using major appliances, and turn off unnecessary lights. If they need to use major appliances or charge electric vehicles or other devices, it’s extremely helpful to do those things before the Flex Alert takes effect and the electric grid is not stressed. Those steps can, and have, made a big difference in maintaining stable grid conditions as California continues transitioning to a carbon-free electricity system.

You can find more tips about how to conserve electricity and sign up for Flex Alerts at [www.FlexAlert.org](http://www.FlexAlert.org).
Extraordinarily warm temperatures this year have accelerated already dry conditions, with much of the west in severe to exceptional drought as defined by the U.S. Drought Monitor. California is in its second consecutive dry year, and 2020 was the third driest on record in terms of statewide precipitation.

Water is central to the lives of all Californians — it is critical for drinking, cooking, sanitary purposes, recreation, and countless other aspects of everyday life. Dry conditions create the possibility of an earlier wildfire season. Decreases in the amount of available water can lead to reduced power produced through hydroelectric generation. Under Governor Gavin Newsom’s leadership and through coordination among state agencies, the CPUC continues to track possible impacts the drought may have on Californians.

Earlier this month, the CPUC partnered with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to call on local and regional water suppliers to increase their conservation efforts, develop a contingency plan in the event of water supply problems, and urge Californians to save water amid ongoing dry conditions.

Sustained preparation and drought planning are critical to meeting the challenges posed by ongoing dry conditions, which have been exacerbated by the effects of climate change. Most of California’s water systems were able to manage drought impacts and maintain the high quality of water delivered to their customers during the last drought by taking actions early.

To learn more about current conditions, the state’s response, and informational resources, please visit the state’s drought preparedness website.

The forecast for a hot and dry summer is a reminder that we must all do our part by using water more efficiently. Every gallon saved this year is a gallon available next year if these dry conditions continue. For water savings tips please visit SaveOurWater.com.
Providing Relief for Customers Who Have Energy Bill Debt

The CPUC, in ongoing efforts to ensure continued access to essential utility services during the COVID-19 pandemic, this month suspended disconnections of residential and small business customers for an additional three months, through September 30, 2021. This provides time for energy utilities to notify customers of a new CPUC solution to resolving COVID-19 era utility bill debt, which provides residential customers two years over which to pay off deferred energy bills, with help anticipated to become available in the California state budget. Similar relief was ordered for small businesses.

Retaining access to electricity and natural gas service remains critical to public health. Without the CPUC’s intervention, residential utility customers with energy utility bill arrearages would face balloon payments and risk losing their utility service if they fail to negotiate with their utility when the disconnection moratorium ends on June 30, 2021.

Under the CPUC’s decision, customers of the large investor-owned utilities with arrearages over 60 days old will automatically be enrolled in 24-month payment plans. There is an opt-out provision for customers who do not want to be enrolled in the payment plans. Nothing prevents customers enrolled in payment plans from applying funding from relief programs, accelerating payments or paying off entirely their utility arrearage to better fit their own circumstances.

Residential customers of small electric utilities Bear Valley, CalPeco Electric, and PacifiCorp with arrears over 60 days will automatically be enrolled in 12 or 24-month payment plans, with the same opt-out and early payment provisions. For Southwest Gas residential customers, the utility’s existing protections will prevail. Southwest Gas residential customers have already been automatically enrolled in 8-month payment plans, and Southwest Gas permits low-income customers impacted by COVID-19 to, upon request, halt disconnections through the end of 2021.

All energy utilities, large or small, must automatically enroll their small business customers in plans with payoff terms long enough so that the debt payments are no more than 10 percent over their average bill, or for small business customers located in disadvantaged communities, no more than 5 percent over their average bill.

Together with significant state and federally funded arrearage relief programs that are beginning to be implemented, these mandatory, automatic amortizations of debt allow time for customers to gradually address their debt.

To address the mixed record of payment plan success, the decision pairs payment plans with intensive follow-up efforts by community-based organizations (CBOs). As a first step toward this enhancement, the CPUC ordered energy utilities to begin documenting their partnerships with CBOs as a means of helping the hardest-to-reach customers navigate these important relief programs.

CPUC Modernizes Its Transportation Licensing System

After years of planning and development, the CPUC has replaced its current paper-based system of processing transportation licensing applications for passenger carriers with an online, cloud-based portal.

For-hire passenger carriers include limousines, airport shuttles, charter and scheduled bus operators, and Transportation Network Companies. The new Transportation Carrier Portal streamlines the registration process for these carriers, allowing them to fill out and submit voluminous application information electronically, make required payments electronically using a credit card or bank-to-bank transfer, and check the current status of their submitted application.

The portal will enable CPUC staff to process applications faster and with greater accuracy, as information submitted by carriers will be entered automatically and electronically into a licensing master database. Integration with California Highway Patrol, Department of Motor Vehicles, and Secretary of State databases will enable licensing staff to quickly validate required carrier authorities, such as valid vehicle registrations, driver’s licenses, and active pull notices.
GET TO KNOW US:
Meet Mona Dzvova

Q. What Division do you work in at the CPUC, and what is your title?
A. I work in the Energy Division (ED) as a regulatory analyst in the Energy Efficiency Evaluation and Analytics section. I will soon move over to the News and Outreach Office as a senior analyst.

Q. How would you describe your job to a child?
A. We protect the people of California by making rules to keep them safe and so that they have electricity and natural gas in their homes to take care of their families or businesses.

Q. What does a typical day look like for you, and what are you currently working on?
A. Currently, I’m working on three key projects to provide regulatory oversight of the large investor-owned utilities’ (IOU) energy efficiency programs. As the lead and subject matter expert for the small and medium commercial sector, I lead program evaluations to analyze and verify the results of the utilities’ projected energy savings. For the utility annual budget Advice Letters, I analyze the technical inputs of their program strategies, forecasted budgets, and projected energy savings. To advance the CPUC’s policy for innovative third-party energy efficiency programs, I lead meetings with a diverse group of stakeholders and all IOUs to ensure a fair, transparent, and unbiased solicitation process. Therefore, a typical day for me involves collaborating with staff and consulting with management to address issues and recommend solutions.

Q. What do you like best about your job?
A. I like building relationships with CPUC staff and stakeholders to ensure ratepayer funds are spent on energy efficiency programs that actually benefit customers.

Q. What is your favorite thing about working at the CPUC?
A. I enjoy attending public outreach events representing the CPUC and meeting energy efficiency program implementers.

Q. What is on your wish list for the next five years at the CPUC?
A. My wish list for the CPUC is that it finds a way to balance increasing rates while achieving its aggressive statewide clean energy goals and creates equity within and across California with delivery of programs and services.

Q. What drew you to the CPUC?
A. My experience in the telecommunications industry as a technical representative for hospitals and schools created a desire to continue public service. I started working on regulatory (issues) and realized the power of regulation in governing policies that protected public funds.

Q. What is your career background?
A. Prior to joining the CPUC, I held several positions in regulatory compliance, which involved targeting vulnerable customers, including income-qualified, hard-to-reach, and rural and tribal communities. I hold a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Design from San Francisco State University.

Q. What would you do for a career if you weren’t doing this?
A. I would be a professional singer or work in a non-profit organization.

Q. If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?
A. I would learn to play a musical instrument, probably piano.

Q. If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?
A. I would create a non-profit organization that empowers women to pursue their educational goals and professional careers.

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# THE DOCKET:
## Proceedings Filed at the CPUC May 2021

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<thead>
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<th>PROCEEDING NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>A2105001</td>
<td>03-MAY-2021</td>
<td>CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of California-American Water Company (U210W) for Authority to Establish its Authorized Cost of Capital for the Period from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.</td>
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| A2105002 | 03-MAY-2021 | CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY |
| Application of CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY (U60W) for Authority to Establish its Authorized Cost of Capital for the period from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. |

| A2105003 | 03-MAY-2021 | GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY |
| Application of Golden State Water Company (U133W) for Authority to Establish Its Authorized Cost of Capital and Rate of Return for Utility Operations for 2022 - 2024. |

| A2105004 | 03-MAY-2021 | SAN JOSE WATER COMPANY |
| In the Matter of the Application of San Jose Water Company (U168W) for Authority to Adjust Its Cost of Capital and to Reflect That Cost of Capital in Its Rates for the Period from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. |

| C2105005 | 04-MAY-2021 | MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT |
| Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Complainant vs California American Water Company (U210W), Defendant. [Charging allegation is failure to ensure adequate water supply to the Monterey Peninsula.] |

| A2105006 | 07-MAY-2021 | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY |

| A1807011 A1807012 | 13-JULY-2018 (REOPENED WEEK OF MAY 3, 2021) | T-MOBILE USA, INC. |
| the Matter of the Joint Application of Sprint Communications Company L.P. (U-5112) and T-Mobile USA, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, For Approval of Transfer of Control of Sprint Communications Company L.P. Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a). [CONSOLIDATION ALERT: Pursuant to 9/11/2018 Ruling of ALJ Bemesderfer, A.18-07-011 and A.18-07-012 are consolidated. GML] |

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**GET TO KNOW US** continued from page 4

**Q.** When you have 30 minutes of free-time, how do you pass the time?

**A.** I enjoy working in my garden and preparing floral arrangements.

**Q.** If you could be any fictional character, who would you choose?

**A.** I would be Storm, a Marvel character that is a wise leader with the ability to control and manipulate the weather. I would use my powers to combat climate change and prevent wildfires.

**Q.** Anything else you’d like to tell us about yourself?

**A.** I am honored to participate as a member of the CPUC’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Group and one of the CPUC’s employee resource groups, the African American Coalition, to advance the CPUC’s goals for an inclusive work environment. I serve on the DEI’s Recruitment and Hiring Subcommittee to develop strategies to address barriers to recruiting and retaining talent.

I also represent the Energy Division in the Capital Collaborative on Race and Equality or CCORE, which is a community of California government agencies working together to implement activities that embed racial equity approaches in state government.
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A1201008 A1204020 A1401007 | 17-JAN.-2012 (REOPENED WEEK OF MAY 3, 2021) | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
EMERGENCY PETITION FOR MODIFICATION OF DECISION 15-01-051. Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) for Authority to Implement Optional Pilot Program to Increase Customer Access to Solar Generated Electricity. [Proceedings A12-01-008, A12-04-020, and A14-01-007 are consolidated by Email Ruling of 4/1/14.]

A2004023 | 30-APRIL-2020 (REOPENED WEEK OF MAY 3, 2021) | PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
APPLICATION FOR REHEARING OF DECISION 21-04-030. In the Matter of the Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for (1) Administration of Stress Test Methodology Developed Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 451.2(b) and (2) Determination That $7.5 Billion of 2017 Catastrophic Wildfire Costs and Expenses Are Stress Test Costs That May Be Financed Through Issuance of Recovery Bonds Pursuant to Section 451.2(c) and Section 850 et seq.(U39E).

A1802016 A1803001 A1803002 | 28-FEB.-2018 (REOPENED WEEK OF MAY 10, 2021) | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

A2105009 | 14-MAY-2021 | VENTURA COUNTY SHUTTLE, INC. | TRANSPORTATION
In the Matter of the Application of Ventura County Shuttle d/b/a Ventura County Airporter (PSC-6291) to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Serve Locations within Ventura County.

A2105010 | 14-MAY-2021 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
Application of Southern California Gas Company (U904G) and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902G) for Authority to Establish a Gas Rules and Regulations Memorandum Account.

A2105008 | 17-MAY-2021 | COMMERCIAL ENERGY OF MONTANA INC.
Application for Rehearing of Resolution E-5138.

A2105011 | 17-MAY-2021 | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC
Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M) to Submit Its 2021 Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase Report.

A2105014 | 17-MAY-2021 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
Application of Southern California Gas Company (U904G) to Submit Its 2021 Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase Report.

A2105011 | 17-MAY-2021 | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC
Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M) to Submit Its 2021 Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase Report.


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I1906013 | 19-MAY-21 | CMRR/SHIROMA/CPUC

R1407002, A1607015 | 19-May-21 | CMRR/GUZMAN ACEVES/CPUC

A2105012 | 19-MAY-2021 | BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY

A2105013 | 19-MAY-2021 | CAL ADVOCATES/O’HARA/CPUC

A2105015 | 20-MAY-2021 | TELIAX, INC.
Application of Teliax, Inc. For a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate as a Provider of Resold or Limited Facilities-Based Local Exchange and Resold Interexchange Service within the State of California. https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=384990235

R1812005 | 21-MAY-21 | CMRR/BAT JER/CPUC | ELECTRIC | QUASI-LEGISLATIVE
Proposed Decision Adopting Phase 3 Revised And Additional Guidelines And Rules For Public Safety Power Shutoffs (Proactive De-Energizations) Of Electric Facilities To Mitigate Wildfire Risk Caused By Utility Infrastructure. Opening Comments, which shall not exceed 15 pages, are due on June 10, 2021. Reply Comments, which shall not exceed 5 page, are due 5 days after the last day for filing Opening Comments. https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=385027270

R2005003 | 21-MAY-21 | ALJ/FITCH/CPUC
Proposed Decision requiring procurement to address mid-term reliability (2023-2026). Opening comments, which shall not exceed 15 pages, are due no later than June 10, 2021. Reply comments, which shall not exceed 5 pages, are due within five days after the last day for filing opening comments. https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=385026495

R2005003 ALT | 21-MAY-21 | CMRR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC
Alternate Proposed Decision of Commissioner Rechtschaffen requiring procurement to address mid-term reliability (2023-2026). Opening comments, which shall not exceed 15 pages, are due no later than June 10, 2021. Reply comments, which shall not exceed 5 pages, are due within five days after the last day for filing opening comments. https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=385026495

About this publication

This monthly newsletter is to keep you informed of proposals by the CPUC’s Commissioners and Administrative Law Judges, as well as utility applications, and other issues and work of note. We also include a list summarizing the filings at the CPUC in the previous month.

We want to hear from you! If you have topics you’d like us to cover or if you’d like to make comment on our proceedings or work, please contact us at outreach@cpuc.ca.gov or call (855) 421-0400. You can find information about events we are having at www.cpuc.ca.gov/Events.

Prior editions of this newsletter are available on the CPUC’s website at www.cpuc.ca.gov/newsletter.
A2105016 | 21-MAY-21 | PACIFICORP
In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp (U 901 E) for Authority to Recover Costs Recorded in the Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account.

A2101004 | 6-JAN.-21 (REOPENED WEEK OF MAY 17, 2021) | PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

R2102014 | 24-MAY-21 | ALJ/WATTS-ZAGHA/CPUC
Decision addressing energy utility customer bill debt via automatic enrollment in long term payment plans. Opening Comments, which shall not exceed 15 pages, are due on June 13, 2021. Reply Comments, which shall not exceed 5 pages, are due 5 days after the last day for filing Opening Comments.

A2102020 | 24-MAY-21 | ALJ/JUNGREIS/CPUC
Proposed Decision: Financing Order authorizing the issuance of recovery bonds pursuant to Assembly Bill 1054. Opening comments, which shall not exceed 15 pages, are due no later than June 14, 2021. Reply comments, which shall not exceed 5 pages, are due no later than June 18, 2021.

R1812005 | 26-MAY-21 | ALJ/POIRIER/CPUC
Presiding Officer’s Decision on alleged violations of Pacific Gas and Electric Company with respect to its implementation of the Fall 2019 Public Safety Power Shutoff events. Any party to this adjudicatory proceeding may file and serve an Appeal of the Presiding Officer’s Decision within 30 days of the date of issuance of this decision.

C2003006 | 28-MAY-21 | ALJ/YACKNINI/CPUC
Presiding Officer’s Decision dismissing Complaint. Any party to this adjudicatory proceeding may file and serve an Appeal of the Presiding Officer’s Decision within 30 days of the date of issuance of this decision.