

Working for California

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CPUC

July 2022

Produced by the CPUC News & Outreach Office | outreach@cpuc.ca.gov

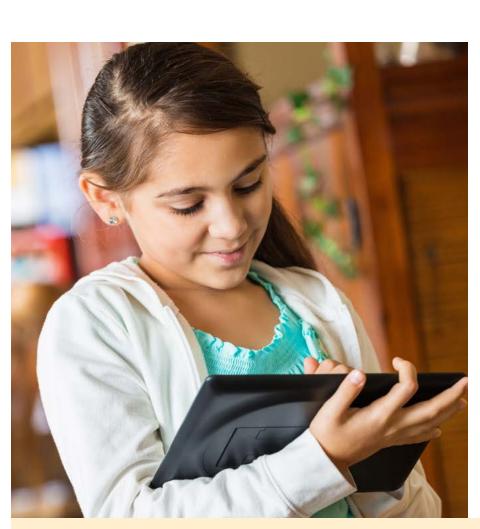
Closing the Digital Divide in California

Over the past decade, California has enacted several major pieces of legislation focused on facilitating broadband deployment and adoption to unserved and underserved communities throughout the state.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) administers a suite of broadband grant programs that support broadband deployment, technical assistance, affordability, adoption, and digital equity, including:

Broadband Infrastructure Grants

- A \$2 billion Federal Funding Account provides grants to public and private entities to build last-mile infrastructure for Californians without access to high-speed broadband service.
- The Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account provides broadband infrastructure grants in unserved and underserved areas in the state.
- A \$750 million Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund will support costs related to the financing of local broadband infrastructure development and expands local governments' ability to secure financing for build-



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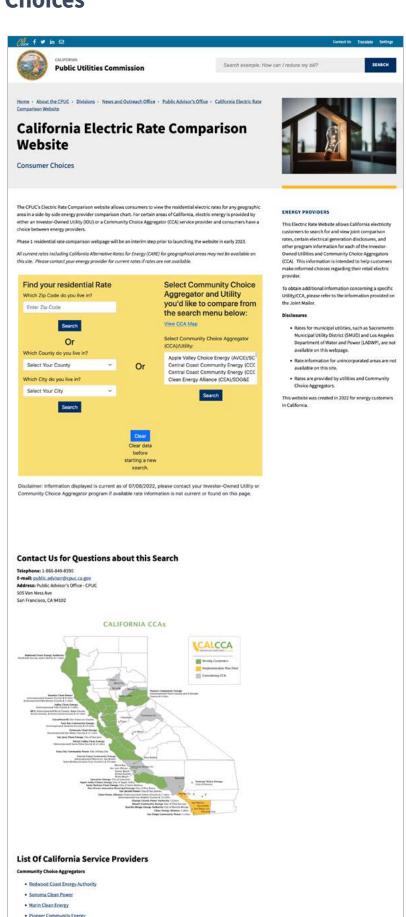
New Residential Rates Comparison Website Helps Consumers Make Informed Choices

n ongoing efforts to help consumers make informed choices regarding their electric provider, the CPUC has launched the first phase of its <u>California Electric Rates Comparison Website</u>.

The Electric Rate Comparison Website, created under Assembly Bill 1362 (2019, O'Donnell), offers residential consumers a side-by-side comparison of current electric rates that are available to them from investorowned utilities and Community Choice Aggregators.

Consumers can search for investor-owned utility and Community Choice Aggregator rate information using either a zip code, city, county, or the provider's name. From there, they will have access to a "Joint Rate Mailer" that the utility and Community Choice Aggregator have prepared that provides rates and other information.

The Electric Rate Comparison Website includes links to assistance programs such as California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).



· Valley Clean Energy

REMOTE EVENTS

Learn About Broadband and Utility Safety

The CPUC is holding a webinar on a broadband grant assistance program for tribal and local governments and public briefings on utility Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Please join us for the following events detailed below.



Local Agency and Tribal Technical Assistance Webinar

The CPUC administers a suite of <u>broadband</u> grant programs that support broadband deployment, technical assistance, affordability, adoption, and digital equity. One such program is the <u>Local Agency and Tribal Technical Assistance</u> program that provides grants to reimburse eligible local governments and Tribal entities for work that facilitates last-mile broadband infrastructure deployment to communities lacking sufficient Internet. Local and sovereign tribal governments that are interested in learning about the program are invited to a live webinar.

WHEN: Tuesday, August 2, 2022, 10-11 a.m.

WHAT: The webinar will introduce the program and highlight eligibility requirements, acceptable uses, and the application process.

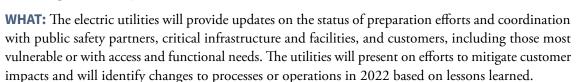
WHERE: Register

Utility Public Safety Power Shutoff Briefings

In continuing actions to hold utilities accountable for executing safe and appropriate Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events, the CPUC is requiring the state's electric utilities to publicly present on their preparedness for PSPS events in 2022 at virtual <u>briefings</u>.

WHEN: August 1, 2022, 1–5 p.m.: Southern California Edison (SCE), San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), and Bear Valley Electric Service

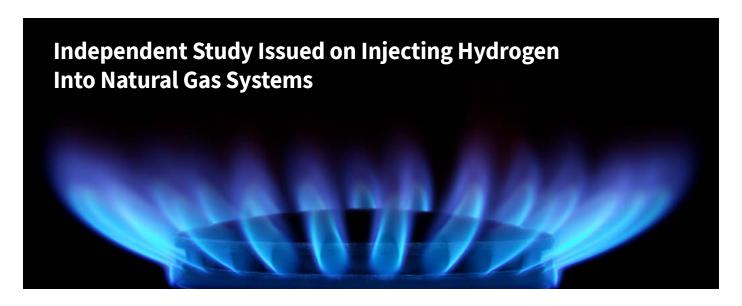
August 2, 2022, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), PacifiCorp, and Liberty Utilities



WHERE: Access each live briefing via webcast or phone (800-857-1917, passcode: 6032788#)

To learn about additional events the CPUC is hosting, please visit our Daily Calendar.





n ongoing actions to assess the feasibility and safety implications of injecting hydrogen into the natural gas system, and in order to advance its deployment, the CPUC has <u>issued</u> for comment a Study that represents a critical step in considering renewable hydrogen as a component in California's statewide decarbonization strategy.

The University of California at Riverside Hydrogen Blending Impacts Study was commissioned by the CPUC in compliance with Senate Bill 1369 (Skinner, 2018) and as part of the CPUC's ongoing Renewable Gas Rulemaking. The Rulemaking (R.13-02-008) examines expanding renewable hydrogen by establishing standards and interconnection protocols for injecting renewable hydrogen into natural gas pipelines. The Study assesses the operational and safety concerns associated with injecting hydrogen into the existing natural gas pipeline system at various percentages to

help California establish the standards and interconnection protocols for possibly injecting renewable hydrogen into natural gas pipelines.

The Study's findings include:

- Hydrogen blends of up to 5 percent in the natural gas stream are generally safe. However, blending more hydrogen in gas pipelines overall results in a greater chance of pipeline leaks and the embrittlement of steel pipelines.
- Hydrogen blends above 5 percent could require modifications of appliances such as stoves and water heaters to avoid leaks and equipment malfunction.
- Hydrogen blends of more than 20 percent present a higher likelihood of permeating plastic pipes, which can increase the risk of gas ignition outside the pipeline.
- Due to the lower energy content of hydrogen gas, more hydrogen-

blended natural gas will be needed to deliver the same amount of energy to users compared to pure natural gas.

The Study concludes that additional examination is needed into blending hydrogen into the gas system to ensure its safety in California. The Study finds that it is critical to conduct real-world demonstrations of hydrogen under safe and controlled conditions to build on the Study's findings and determine the appropriate blend percentage suitable to mitigate operational risks such as ignition.

"This Study provides additional insight into the possibilities and limits of California's pipeline infrastructure as we explore options for supplying zero-carbon energy to hard to decarbonize applications," said Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen, who is assigned to the Renewable Gas Rulemaking. "I look forward to party comments on hydrogen-methane blending and its role in decarbonization strategies."

Members of the public can comment on the Study, and access documents related to the proceeding, on the Docket Card.



"This Study provides additional insight into the possibilities and limits of California's pipeline infrastructure as we explore options for supplying zero-carbon energy to hard to decarbonize applications..."

Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen

ing last-mile projects, with an emphasis on public broadband networks.

Broadband Deployment Assistance Grants

- Local Agency and Tribal Technical Assistance provides grants to reimburse eligible local governments and Tribal entities for work that facilitates last-mile broadband infrastructure deployment to communities lacking sufficient Internet.
- Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Grant
 Account provides grants to eligible consortia to facilitate
 the deployment of broadband services by assisting infra structure grant applicants in the project development or
 grant application processes.

Broadband Equity, Adoption, Education, and Local Engagement Programs

- Broadband Adoption Account provides grants to increase publicly available or after-school broadband access and digital inclusion, such as grants for devices, digital literacy training programs, and public education to communities with limited broadband adoption.
- Broadband Public Housing Account awards grants to low-income communities to finance projects to connect broadband networks that offer free broadband service.

In addition to managing broadband grant programs, the CPUC collects broadband data from internet service providers on an annual basis. This data is available on the <u>California Interactive Broadband Map</u>. This data determines broadband grant program eligibility. In addition, it informs public policies intended to make sure broadband is available throughout California, and to promote digital equity, digital literacy, and broadband usage.



Broadband Affordability

To help eligible consumers and entities with the cost of broadband, the CPUC has the following programs available:

The <u>California LifeLine Program</u> provides a monthly subsidy for wireline or mobile voice and broadband services. The program works in tandem with the federal Lifeline program administered by the Federal Communications Commission.

The <u>California Teleconnect Fund</u> provides a 50 percent discount on advanced communication services (including Internet access and broadband services) to qualifying K–12 schools, libraries, community colleges, government-owned hospitals/health clinics, and community-based organizations.

For more information on the State of California's broadband efforts, please visit the state's one stop shop for broadband, the Broadband for All Portal.

JOIN OUR TEAM

If you are looking for a rewarding career, consider joining our team at the CPUC!

We typically have opportunities at all levels available: leadership, supervisory, engineers, lawyers, Administrative Law Judges, analysts, specialists, administration, and more. You will join a team of individuals tackling issues related to the regulation of essential services in California. For more information on job opportunities and the CPUC's hiring process, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/careers or <a href="mailto:em

THE DOCKET:

Proceedings Filed at the CPUC June 2022

PROCEEDING NUMBER | FILED DATE | FILER

A2007020 | 10-JUN-22 | ALJ/LAU/CPUC

Proposed Decision approving Settlement Agreement on PG&E's 2011-2014 GT&S Capital Expenditures.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=483587266

R1706026 | 10-JUN-22 | ALJ/WANG/CPUC

Proposed Decision resolving Phase 2 issues related to data access and voluntary allocations in market price benchmark calculations.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=483864795

R1807006 | 10-JUN-22 | CMMR/HOUCK/CPUC

Proposed Decision implementing the Affordability Metrics.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=483885749

R2005003 | 7-JUN-22 | ALJ/FITCH/CPUC

Proposed Decision granting correction to Decision 22-02-004. https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=483887914

A2206003 | 3-JUN-22 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Authorization to Recover 2021 Incremental Costs Related to Wildfire Mitigation and Vegetation Management.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=482391364

$C2206002 \mid 6$ -JUN-22 \mid NAPA CHRISTIAN CAMPUS AND K12 ENERGY INC.

Napa Christian Campus and K12 Energy Inc., Complainants vs. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E), Defendant.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=482391363

A2206001 | 1-JUN-22 | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) for Approval of: (i) Contract Administration, Least-Cost Dispatch and Power Procurement Activities in 2021, (ii) Costs Related to those Activities Recorded to the Energy Resource Recovery Account, Portfolio Allocation Balancing Account, Power Charge Indifference Adjustment Undercollection Balancing Account, Transition Cost Balancing Account, and Local Generating Balancing Account in 2021, and (iii) Costs Recorded in Related Regulatory Accounts in 2021.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=ALL&Doc ID=482147191

A2010012 | 17-JUN-22 | ALJ/LONG/CPUC

Proposed Decision adopting five uncontested partial settlements resolving most issues for Southern California Edison Company's Phase 2 General Rate Case.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=485618386

A2206004 | 2-JUN-22 | HWCA LP

Application of HWCA LP for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide full facilities based and resold competitive local exchange service and interexchange services on a statewide basis.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=483864942

A2206005 | 15-JUN-22 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY

In the Matter of the Application of Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G) Regarding Year 28 (2021-2022) of Its Gas Cost Incentive Mechanism.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=485625923

C2206006 | 15-JUN-22 | MARK SMITH

(ECP) Mark Smith, CPA., Complainant vs. Frontier California Inc. (U1002C); Citizens Telecommunications Co. of Ca. d/b/a Frontier Communications of California (U1024C), Frontier Communications of America Inc. d/b/a Frontier Communications (U1548C); Frontier California (U4439C); Frontier Communications of America Inc. d/b/a Citizen Long Distance (U5429C); Frontier Communications LD & Online (U7167C), Defendants.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=485614315

A1911019 | 22-JUN-22 | ALJ/DOHERTY/CPUC

Proposed Decision adopting real-time pricing pilot and marginal generation capacity cost study and its usage.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486499123

A2010011 | 22-JUN-22 | ALJ/DOHERTY/CPUC

Proposed Decision adopting real-time pricing pilot and marginal generation capacity cost study and its usage.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486499123

A2206008 | 22-JUN-22 | GRACETEL, INC.

Application of Gracetel, Inc. for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation Pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486447687

A2206009 | 14-JUN-22 | CORRECT SOLUTIONS, LLC

Application of Correct Solutions, LLC for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation Pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486752341

A2206010 | 10-JUN-22 | VOXOLOGY, INC.

Application of Voxology Inc. for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation Pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486752343

A2206011 | 22-JUN-22 | CROSSTALK SIP, LLC

Application of Crosstalk SIP LLC Inc. for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation Pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=488411099

C2206006 | 15-JUN-22 | MARK SMITH

(ECP) Mark Smith, CPA., Complainant vs. Frontier California Inc. (U1002C); Citizens Telecommunications Co. of Ca. d/b/a Frontier Communications of California (U1024C), Frontier Communications of America Inc. d/b/a Frontier Communications (U1548C); Frontier California (U4439C); Frontier Communications of America Inc. d/b/a Citizen Long Distance (U5429C); Frontier Communications LD & Online (U7167C), Defendants.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=485614315

K2206007 | 20-JUN-22 | AMORE LIMOUSINE SERVICE INC.

Appeal of Amore Limousine Service Inc. from T.22-04-002 in the amount of \$4,000.00 issued by the California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=486216860

P2206012 | 23-JUN-22 | BLOOM ENERGY CORPORATION

Petition to Adopt, Amend, or Repeal a Regulation Pursuant to Pub. Util Code Section 1708.5.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=488538453

A2109009 | 9-SEP-21 | QUALITY VOICE & DATA INC.

Application of Quality Voice & Data Inc. for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation Pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=407765445

A2202012 | 11-FEB-22 | ATLANTIS UTILITY INC.

Application of Atlantis Utility Inc. for Registration as an Interexchange Carrier Telephone Corporation pursuant to the Provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 1013.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=453952705

A1812017 | 27-JUN-22 | ALJ/KAO/CPUC

Proposed Decision granting petition for modification of decision 20-05-008 regarding audit requirements for recovery of substation upgrades capital costs.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489140841

A2004017 | 30-JUN-22 | ALJ/WATTS-ZAGHA/CPUC

Proposed Decision approving the sale of Warring Water Service, Inc. to California-American Water Company Inc.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489141140

A2105007 | 30-JUN-22 | ALJ/JUNGREIS/CPUC

Proposed Decision authorizing AT&T Corp. to discontinue providing residential service in Frontier territory and relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489141036

A2203010 | 29-JUN-22 | ALJ/JUNGREIS/CPUC

Proposed Decision on financing order authorizing Pacific Gas and Electric Company's second issuance of recovery bonds pursuant to Assembly Bill 1054.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489141119

R1812006 | 30-JUN-22 | CMMR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC

Proposed Decision adopting plug-in electric vehicle submetering protocol and electric vehicle supply equipment communication protocols.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489140936

A2206013 | 24-JUN-22 | BIF IV INTREPID OPCO LLC

Application of BIF IV Intrepid OpCo LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Full Facilities-Based and Resold Competitive Local Exchange and Interexchange Services.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489140722

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A2206014 | 23-JUN-22 | THE LYNX LLC

In the matter of the Application of The Lynx LLC, a California limited liability company, dba LINQ, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide an on call, door-to-door, passenger stage service, between the cities of San Diego (Old Town Transit Center), Oceanside and Palm Springs, on the one hand, and the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), on the other hand; and, to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489140903

A2206015 | 29-JUN-22 | MAMO G. TEGEGNE

Application of Mamo G. Tegegne doing business as Dream High Transportation for Authority to Operate as a Passenger StageCorporation Between points in the Counties of San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Solano, Marin and San Mateo, and the San Francisco, Oakland and San JoseInternational Airports; and to Establish a Zone of Rate Freedom.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=489140575

A2206017 | 30-JUN-22 | CRIMSON CALIFORNIA PIPELINE, L.P.

In the Matter of the Application of Crimson California Pipeline L.P. (PLC-26) for Authority to Increase Rates for Its Crude Oil Pipeline Services. (SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA)

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=490710963

K2206016 | 27-JUN-22 | AGILITY COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES COMPANY

Appeal of Agility Communications and Technology Services Company U-1242-C from Citation No. CD-2022-06-001 in the amount of \$1,000 issued 6/22/22, by the Communications Division Pursuant to T-17601.

Link Not Available.

R2009001 | 30-JUN-22 | CAL ADVOCATES/GRONSKY/CPUC

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Broadband Infrastructure Deployment and to Support Service Providers in the State of California.

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&Doc ID=490475613



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 <u>outreach@cpuc.ca.gov</u> or call (855) 421-0400. You can find information about events we are having at <u>www.cpuc.ca.gov/Events</u>.

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