Instructions For Submittal of 2011 LSE Load Forecast Data

ALJ Wetzell's opinion on Oct. 27, 2005 (D.05-10-042) in proceeding R.04-04-003, and subsequent resource adequacy decisions, order each CPUC-jurisdictional load serving entity (LSE) expecting to serve end-use customers in the forthcoming calendar year to provide load forecasting information to the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) Staff as part of the resource adequacy (RA) process. All CPUC-jurisdictional LSEs (excluding small and multijurisdictional investor-owned utilities (IOUs)) who expect to serve load in 2011 are required to submit preliminary 2011 load forecasts no later than May 26, 2010, as directed by D.10-03-022.

Energy Commission staff will review and make adjustments as needed for plausibility, coincidence, allocation of demand-side programs, and pro-rata adjustments so that the sum of the adjusted forecasts is within one percent of the adopted Energy Commission forecast for each distribution service area. Energy Commission Staff may request additional information if needed. LSEs will receive their adjusted forecast from the CPUC in July 2010.

Each LSE is required to complete the attached forecast data template following the instructions below. This Excel file contains a certification sheet and forms requesting load forecasts and supporting data for each month through 2011. Note that retail electricity service providers (ESPs) serving direct access customers in each IOU service area must segregate these loads by IOU service area and complete each form three times. Also provide a description of forecast methods and key assumptions.

The Energy Commission has executed an interagency confidentiality agreement with the CPUC and the data submitted are subject to the protections of Section 583 of the California Public Utilities Code and pursuant to the "Revised Protective Order Regarding Confidentiality of Market Sensitive Load Data and Information" that ALJ Wetzell issued in his February 10, 2006 ruling.

Instructions for Each Form

Form 1 Monthly Peak Load and Energy Forecast:
For each IOU service area, each LSE reports their best estimate of monthly peak loads, disaggregated by sector, and including distribution losses. For IOUs, only a bundled customer forecast is requested. LSEs may modify the customer classes used. Forecasts for the balance of 2010 will not be used directly in the RA process but are requested to illustrate the path of load migration. LSEs are asked to provide their best estimates as of filing time; it is understood those estimates may differ from forecasts already submitted for June and July 2010.
A transmission loss factor of 1.025 should be applied to the **Monthly Peak Forecast including Distribution Losses**. A loss factor for unaccounted-for-energy (UFE) of 1.005 should be applied to the **Monthly Peak Forecast including Distribution Losses** for the PG&E distribution area only. UFE losses are already accounted for in the SCE and SDG&E distribution loss factors. The **Total Peak Load including Losses & UFE** field is the sum of the **Monthly Peak Forecast including Distribution Losses**, **Transmission losses**, and **UFE losses**.

In the **Current Load Under Contract** field, ESPs report monthly load of customers currently under contract. For **New Load Under Contract**, ESPs report load not currently under a contract but with a firm future start date. These items do not apply to IOUs.

**Form 2 Customer Count**
Each LSE provides monthly customers counts associated with the forecast by service area and sector, representing the total expected number of billed accounts in that month. For IOUs, bundled customer data only is requested.

**Load Forecast Documentation**
Provide a general description of forecast methods and key assumptions. LSEs should describe their assumptions about renewal of expiring contracts, new customer additions, and the rationale for those assumptions. The CPUC considers a zero renewal rate assumption to be inconsistent with the “best-estimates” principle established in D.04-10-035, section 3.4.2. Failure to follow the adopted best-estimates approach may subject the LSE to CPUC enforcement action. Submissions may include information related to particular customers that will be retained or will depart.