

January 6, 2019

To Disadvantaged Advisory Group:

I am writing to comment on the PUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. I was very disappointed to see that the Plan does not include any action on pay phones in prisons and jails in California. The PUC should act on its authority to regulate the contracts for, access to, and quality of these phones. Individuals in custody are undoubtedly one of the most disadvantaged groups in CA and yet they and their families are allowed to be charged exorbitant fees to use phones inside public facilities. In addition to affecting people's relationships with their families and support networks, it also limits people's ability to have critical contact with their attorneys. I urge the DAC-AG and PUC to take action on this important issue.

- Mikaela Rabinowitz