



Working for California

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CPUC

August 2020

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

State Energy Agencies Working Together to Ensure Energy Reliability

Responding to Gov. Gavin Newsom following power outages across the state during an extended August heat wave, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) are working together to pinpoint exactly why the rolling outages were necessary and what steps must be taken to avoid them from occurring again.

“We agree that the power outages experienced by Californians this week are unacceptable and unbecoming of our state and the people we serve,” leaders of the three organizations wrote in an August 19 letter to Gov. Newsom. “We understand the critical importance of providing reliable energy to Californians at all times, but especially now, as the state faces a prolonged heat wave and continues to deal with impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Ensuring there is enough electricity is a shared responsibility of the three agencies, with each playing a different role but also working collaboratively. The CPUC, through its Resource Adequacy program, requires the state’s regulated utilities and community choice aggregators to demonstrate that they have adequate energy commitments to meet demand. The CEC is responsible for forecasting what that demand is likely to be, and CAISO manages most of the state’s electric grid



California Public Utilities Commission



California ISO



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

“We agree that the power outages experienced by Californians this week are unacceptable and unbecoming of our state and the people we serve,” leaders of CPUC, CAISO and CEC wrote in an August 19 letter to Gov. Newsom.

and takes steps when additional power is needed to meet demand, such as importing electricity from out-of-state generators and other sources.

On Friday, August 14, with California and much of the Western U.S. wilting from multiple days of triple-digit temperatures, the CAISO ordered the state’s three largest electric utilities to turn off power on a rotating basis until demand for electricity

leveled off and there was enough power to serve customers.

The outages over two days were the first rolling outages in California in nearly 20 years. The CAISO said longer and more widespread outages were averted over the next several days because households and industry responded to calls for conservation, dramatically reducing demands on the system.

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Helping Consumers Stay Connected During COVID-19

By Amy Chamarty, Program Manager, CPUC Consumer Affairs Branch

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, what were you most concerned about? Your health? Your family? Whether you would keep your job? Many Californians wondered if they would be able to maintain basic utility service. California's unemployment rate reached 15.5 percent in April, a rapid turn of events that left many worried about paying their bills. Shelter-in-place orders brought utility service into sharper focus as Californians began spending most of their time at home.

In the Consumer Affairs Branch (CAB) of the CPUC, where I am the Program Manager, we assist consumers with their energy, communications, and water utility concerns.

By way of background, the CPUC has helped consumers resolve complaints for more than a century. We centralized informal complaint resolution in CAB in 1976. Last year, consumers contacted CAB more than 29,000 times about billing, outages, disconnections, fraud, and other issues.

CAB helped return more than \$1.3 million to these consumers in 2019 through the complaint process. That process provides an easily accessible way for consumers to resolve billing and service disputes with their utility. [To file a complaint](#), consumers write down their concerns and desired outcome. From there, CAB attempts to resolve the concern with the utility company. The consumer does not need any special knowledge of CPUC procedures or an attorney to go through this informal complaint process.

Maintaining service has been the overarching theme of consumer concerns in recent months. Utility service centers began closing their doors, leaving those who pay in person confused about how to make a payment and worried that their service would be shut

off. Other consumers were distraught when electric utilities began notifying them of maintenance outages to conduct critical wildfire safety work. The idea of sheltering in place for several days without power was upsetting. Grocery shopping to replace spoiled food created new challenges for the elderly and other high-risk individuals, not to mention the increased challenge of finding stocked store shelves.

As the pandemic has continued, concerns about service outages have persisted throughout recent months, and consumers who contacted CAB have had complaints about AT&T and the phone service it provides more than any other utility. This is driven largely by concerns about persistent outages. As of early August, 100 consumers have contacted us about AT&T outages. One consumer was concerned about her elderly mother who relies completely on her landline service for communication. The family members live several hours away, making the phone service critical for checking up on her. AT&T estimated that it would take 10 days to restore service. Another consumer self-identified as high risk for COVID-19 and stated that his AT&T service was estimated to be out for a month. He was worried that he was in danger of losing his job due to the outage. A third consumer complained that AT&T was demanding payment for service, even though he continuously did not have service. He said he was told by the utility that it would not make repairs until a payment was made.

The shelter-in-place orders also posed challenges for CAB as we navigated our own new reality of helping people during a pandemic. Consumers contact us through the phone, web, mail, and fax. Overnight, we transitioned most of our staff to receiving phone calls at home, allowing us to answer calls with little to no

wait time. Our staff in the office handled a significant new workload of mailing all paper correspondence on behalf of those working at home. Many staff moved to early or late shifts to be able to access cases under a strained Information Technology system that was trying to keep up with higher than usual activity.

As working from home continued, it became clear that we had to adapt and implement even more new strategies. We began emailing consumer correspondence when possible, which made our work more efficient and allowed us to respond to consumers faster. In order to help prevent people being left with no service during such a difficult time, we prioritized complaints about disconnections or payment arrangements.

The good news is that the consumer protections that have been ordered by the CPUC and that provide moratoriums on disconnections for energy and water utilities appear to be working. Utilities have been flexible with re-connections and payment arrangement requests. Since mid-March, CAB has helped almost 100 consumers get re-connected or set up payment arrangements so they can keep their service. Consumers have also benefitted from assistance

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program renewal suspensions for CPUC-run programs such as [California LifeLine](#) and [CARE](#), which provide discounted phone and energy service, respectively. This allowed consumers relief by keeping their benefits in place as they dealt with a quickly changing environment.

When disconnection and renewal moratoriums are lifted, consumers will face significant challenges paying their bills and maintaining service. A recent [Decision](#) from Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves that the CPUC approved greatly expands disconnection protections for large utility customers and will help address some of those challenges. Given the challenges that so many Californians are facing, we know the workload for CAB will be significant in the coming year, but our dedicated team welcomes the opportunity to assist consumers in their time of need. ■

STATE ENERGY AGENCIES WORKING TOGETHER continued from front page

Even with the severe heat wave, demands on the system were consistent with available sources of power for August, and the utilities and community choice aggregators procured the resources that were required to meet forecasts. The question that needs answering is why certain resources were not available.

The joint letter to Gov. Newsom said that the CPUC will review its resource adequacy requirements, existing procurement plans, and demand response programs that seek to reduce energy use during periods of extra-high demand.

The letter also listed a number of steps already taken by the CPUC, including:

- In 2019, the CPUC tightened electricity import rules to ensure imports and all other resources the state relies on are actually delivered to California on peak days.
- The CPUC ordered 3,300 megawatts of new capacity to come online by 2023 to meet potential shortfalls that were identified when it adjusted assumptions to reflect that peak demand occurs later in the day.
- The CPUC opened a phase in its Re-



source Adequacy proceeding to consider changing the framework for determining reliability rules. These changes may be needed to adjust for the fact that community choice aggregators dominate the retail electricity market.

The CPUC has also previously recommended that some natural gas plants that were scheduled to retire in 2020 remain online

until the 3,300 megawatts of new resources are available in 2023. The CPUC has also created a central procurement entity to ensure that the resources the state needs are procured. And it has created a process in its reliability proceeding to review the need to overhaul the entire framework of determining reliability rules. ■

Making a Difference: Telecommunications and Communication Access for the Disabled

The CPUC is known primarily for the work it does to ensure the state's privately owned utilities are providing their customers with safe, reliable, and affordable service.

But the CPUC has run another state-mandated program since 1979 that provides help to people with disabilities.

The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) was created by the California Legislature to provide telecommunications devices to the deaf, the severely hearing-impaired and those with other disabilities in California. Importantly, no other state programs provide these services. Such devices include, but are not limited to, Speech Generating Devices (SGDs), accessory equipment, and specialized phones. The DDTP even runs an iPad pilot program called Voice Options.

Roughly one-fifth, or 23 percent, of Californians over the age of 18 have a disability, ranging from light impairment to severe impairment. Those who have disabilities often have multiple disabilities and require help in managing all of them.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control, disability-related health care costs represented 24 percent of all health-care expenditures in the state of California. Given that some individuals with disabilities may have little or no income and rely on their families and communities to help access their wired or wireless connections to talk to another person, the DDTP fills crucial needs for these constituencies in California.

A nominal surcharge on Californians' monthly phone bills funds the program. Take a deeper look at your monthly phone bill. You might newly appreciate those surcharges and the help they provided to more than 10,000 Californians last year. The program also supplements federal programs, such as the Video Relay Service (VRS), Internet Protocol Relay (IP), and IP Captioned Telephone Services.



The DDTP mandate consists of supplying specialized equipment and access to 911 and emergency services for disabled individuals. It also provides relay services to individuals with hearing or speaking limitations; disabled consumers dial 711 to reach a specially trained Communications Assistant to relay their phone calls.

The program functions throughout California through its subprograms: the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP), the California Relay Service (CRS), and the Speech Generating Device (SGD) Program. Disabled consumers or those who support them can call an 800-line, accessible via different access methods and in various languages, or they can visit one of the 13 Service Centers throughout the state. The program also offers Field Advisor in-home visits to the disabled.

Supplying specialized equipment to help disabled individuals have functional equivalent telecommunication and communication equipment and services to lead more independent lives, and to enhance their quality of life, is one of DDTP's important contributions. Individuals with Disabilities can apply by filling out an application on [DDTP's website](#).

In a world more virtually connected than ever, such equipment is indispensable. The current technological landscape and its innovations are also leading to a slow but continuing decline in the DDTP's California Relay Service component. Many disabled consumers now have the appropriate technology that replaces having to request the services of Communications Assistants.

The DDTP grows with the times and collects consumer input to meet their needs. For example, the DDTP is exploring opportunities to reach disabled consumers who have no access to wired or wireless services. Outreach presentations, enrolling community-based organizations, and conducting field visits are all part of these on-going efforts.

In summary, this important program connects the disabled with each other, their communities, their families, and with the world. Brent Jolley, the new DDTP Supervisor at the CPUC holds this vision for the program: "Our program finds opportunities to improve communication access for all individuals with disabilities to ensure we recognize them, lift them up, and include them in our world." ■

Affordability of Utility Services in the COVID-19 Era

By [Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen](#)

California will always remain a place of tremendous opportunity, but even before the current economic downturn brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, it also had some of the worst poverty in the nation, with millions of residents struggling to meet their monthly expenses. Now, with four million people out of work due to the public health crisis, Californians are facing even greater financial challenges.

Although utility bills may not seem large compared to housing costs, when money is tight, households are forced to make tough choices between paying for utilities and other necessities. Utility disconnections due to non-payment have surged over the last decade and some financial projections show electric utility costs are likely to increase between 15 and 35 percent over the next three years.

For these reasons, in 2018 the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) launched a significant effort to broadly evaluate the affordability of electricity, natural gas, water, and telecommunication utilities, based on the real circumstances facing California households. As the COVID-19 pandemic has made abundantly clear, reliable internet is an essential service people need to function in modern society, critical for education, telework, telemedicine, and more.

Although the cost of utility service is always front of mind at the CPUC, we have never taken a comprehensive look at the affordability of utility services as part of a household's overall needs. Indeed, few government agencies have looked at affordability this broadly. That is partially because each service tends to be reviewed individually and partially because calculating affordability requires a complex methodology to account for the variety of services customers use in different parts of California.

We know, however, that this effort is crucial to consumers because for them utility bills are not an isolated and separate reality from other financial considerations. Every bill comes out of the same household budget. To view affordability this broadly, the CPUC needed to overcome the technical issues in calculating the overall costs of utilities for each area of California – actually each census tract – to account for regional variation in incomes, housing costs and utility costs.

The CPUC's affordability analysis underscores that we have substantial swaths of the state where many households spend a shockingly large portion of their earnings on utility services. For example, in Humboldt and Mendocino counties, the lowest 20 percent of households by income spend, on average, more than half the money remaining after paying mortgage or rent on utility bills, leaving precious little to spend on anything else, including food and clothing.

After extensive outreach, staff work, and consultation with experts, we came up with three metrics that we hope—when taken together—will give the CPUC a more detailed understanding of

how well Californians are faring when it comes to paying for their utility services.

The first metric is called the Affordability Ratio. It calculates how much income remains after housing costs for the lowest 20 percent and 50 percent of households by income in a census tract. It then divides the total costs of utility services – electricity, natural gas, water, internet, and landline or wireless phone – by that left-over income. The result is the percentage of disposable income that gets spent on utilities.

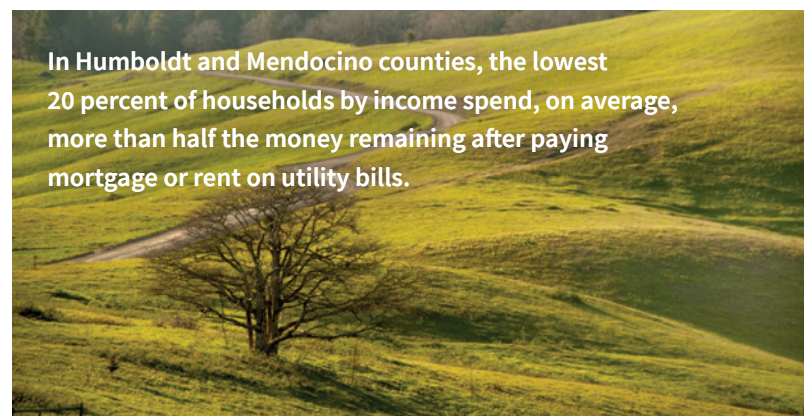
The second metric calculates how many hours one must work while earning minimum wage to afford the average costs of those utilities. This measurement is intended to give us a quick and understandable snapshot of the impact that utility costs are having on consumers. The third metric examines general socio-economic vulnerability by census tracts that takes into account factors that include poverty, language barriers and educational attainment.

Going forward, when considering a particular utility program or proposed rate increase the CPUC, parties in our proceedings, and the general public can more accurately assess the affordability impacts and the economic vulnerability of specific customers who would be affected by such proposals.

On July 16, the CPUC adopted a decision that establishes these new affordability metrics and directs that we begin using them. We will also begin issuing an annual report on the general affordability of utility services throughout the state to broaden everyone's awareness, including ours, of the affordability challenge facing Californians.

These new affordability metrics represent just one of several tools the CPUC will use to understand and alleviate the burden on California ratepayers, but it is vital for assessing the true and accurate impact our actions have on households and families throughout the state. ■

Editor's Note: This article originally ran in the [Sacramento Bee](#) on July 24, 2020.



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A Day in the Life of One CPUC COVID-19 Tracer

By Lynn Sadler, CPUC News and Outreach Office

COVID-19 contact tracing is quite different from my normal CPUC routine.

While I still lean heavily on all of the communications and persuasive skills I ever learned, I now must deliver cold, hard facts to people who have been exposed to the SARS-2 Coronavirus that can cause COVID-19.

One recent Friday, I referred a contact to a resource specialist because all the household wage earners were in quarantine and the family needed food that day. By the time I made a follow-up call on Monday morning, the phone was no longer in service. Even though the free food was available, I will never know if this family even received it.

The margin between just getting by and household collapse is only one virus wide in some cases. When I am talking through an interpreter to someone who is terrified of federal immigration officials and reluctant to share information, that margin can feel like an unnavigable chasm.

I knew what I was getting into. I volunteered to be redirected from my News and Outreach work at the CPUC soon after Gov. Gavin Newsom asked state agencies to seek COVID-19 tracers to volunteer within their workforce. As COVID-19 cases continued to rise, I willingly joined the ranks of some 10,000 state employees and Retired Annuitants dedicated to discovering, preventing, containing, and stopping the spread of the disease. A few days ago, I volunteered for additional investigator training to help relieve bottlenecks in getting contact information to tracers.

Contact tracing is not new to either me or the world. I volunteered for Planned Parenthood in the 1970s and, while we did not call it contact tracing, that is what we were doing to help contain and prevent the spread of venereal disease.

Contact tracing is actually well-developed and a proven technique that played

an important role in controlling smallpox until a vaccine was developed. In the 1980s, tracing played a huge role in California in controlling the spread of HIV-AIDS, even in the absence of a vaccine, and is the model for COVID-19 tracing. Tracing is also currently used for diseases like Ebola, tuberculosis, malaria, and other infectious diseases.

So the way it works is this: once a person has tested positive for a contagious disease, in this case COVID-19, they are interviewed by a case investigator – often a public health doctor or nurse – to gather contact information for all the people they may have exposed.

Those lists of contacts are sent to tracers who must call the contacts with news that they have been exposed to COVID-19 and then tell them they need to quarantine for two weeks. The rest of the call is spent explaining what that means, obtain-

ing personal and private information regarding health and housing situations, and then helping people with what they need to comply with quarantine.

Imagine what might be needed by a single working mother of three school-age children, who also cares for her elderly parent, who was planning to go to the grocery store that evening because the cupboards are bare. She is going to need a lot of help fast and part of my job is to help her get it.

If the contacts themselves ultimately contract the disease, as they often do, they are referred back to a COVID-19 contact investigator to help them through their disease progression and also to investigate with whom they have been in contact over the previous few days. Those contacts are then sent to tracers and the cycle continues.

In my current six-month assignment, I work with the San Joaquin County Department of Health Services. Because



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CoVID-19 cases have been spiking in the Central Valley, the San Joaquin County Health officer issued a formal order requiring compliance with quarantine and isolation orders. Failure to do so can result in a \$10,000 fine and up to a year in jail.

I am grateful that San Joaquin County has a 211 number that folks can call, in their own languages, for social services assistance. In spite of all my training, solving some problems really does take a team.

Both tracers and investigators take a week of web-based and online training as well as “labs” in which callers practice diffusing resistance to, and persuading compliance with, best COVID-19 practices. Absolute compliance with privacy and confidentiality laws is an important part of the training. Tracers spend another full day learning to use the specially designed COVID-19 tracing software system and then devote further time with local health agencies learning their protocols, chain of command, and what resources are available in the local area to offer those in quarantine.

In spite of extensive public outreach, misunderstandings about the disease itself abound. Much of my time on calls is helping people understand the facts of COVID-19 and how to manage their risks. Many are surprised to learn quarantine means no household members go out of the house – not even to walk the dog or go to the grocery store – and no others come into the house. Isolation, for those who test positive or have symptoms, additionally requires no interaction or shared surfaces with other household members.

Cultural beliefs about family and close friends are another barrier to COVID-19 control I have now seen firsthand. Many people absolutely reject the notion that a family member can be dangerous to them. The words “no one in or out of the house” simply do not register as prohibitions on entertaining family members who do not live in the house.



I volunteered to be redirected from my News and Outreach work at the CPUC soon after Gov. Gavin Newsom asked state agencies to seek COVID-19 tracers to volunteer within their workforce.

Lynn Sadler, CPUC News and Outreach Office

In the Central Valley, which saw a spike in new cases and hospitalizations in July and August, it is not uncommon to see multiple generations living in the same homes. In that household configuration, grandma may take care of ailing grandpa and the young children while the adult siblings go to work, a teenager sneaks out for a date, or a child goes to the non-custodial parent for the weekend. When one household member gets COVID-19 that means the whole household is quarantined inside the house – with no one in or out – for 14 days.

That often means no income for the household during the entire quarantine period. A week later, the person with the initial case recovers but another household member may contract the virus and the two-week quarantine starts over – not only in the original household but also in the workplaces of the siblings, the home of the sweetheart, and the apartment of the other parent’s family. And another cycle begins.

At this time, I am thankful for our CPUC Consumer Affairs Branch that is helping customers avoid disconnections and navigate late payments for their utility services when they cannot pay their bills.

My CPUC experience also makes me highly aware of another barrier to COVID-19 containment that emerges from

time to time. When households do not have access to the internet, it can delay getting crucial quarantine information and access to social services, in addition to hampering children’s educations.

Through it all, I remain amazed at how well people respond to cold calls from people like me who they do not know giving them news they do not want to hear.

I am truly in awe of how wonderful people have been. I have not had a single person be unpleasant, resist compliance, or make snarky remarks. Often, when I call back to monitor folks, they call me by name, wish me a good day, and thank me for calling.

A week ago, one of those calls was my last call of the day – a “quick” call – to follow up with a man who subsequently blurted out that his wife had just died of COVID-19. He apologized for crying, saying it was the first time he had said those words. An hour later, after supporting him through funeral logistics, I had to tell him he would need to be quarantined for 14 days.

These personal stories really drive home the importance of this work for me. I get to know people in a very personal way for two intense weeks. I then get to tell them how much I have enjoyed being of service to them and hope that we never talk again. ■



COVID-19 Information and Resources

California COVID-19 Website: <https://covid19.ca.gov>

Utility Protections for Customers:
www.cpuc.ca.gov/covid19protections

GET TO KNOW US:

Meet Kenneth Holbrook

Kenneth Holbrook is an experienced entrepreneurial leader of programs, projects, and teams – a visionary weaver between water, land, tribes, and utilities.

Appointed by the Governor as the CPUC's newly created Tribal Advisor to the CPUC on July 8, Kenneth is best known for furthering the repatriation of California lands to their original owners.

“Every bit of land in California,” he asserts, “is stolen tribal land.” He sees the sale of utility lands as another opportunity to revisit this loss and establish some restitution for past and current inequities.

His ambition is born of experience. He cites his proudest accomplishment – the return of tribal lands to Mountain Maidu ownership – as fulfilling the lifelong dreams of his grandmother and mother.

“The sense of pride in my mother’s face when we cut that ribbon dedicating those ancestral lands – it was a gift to generations past and present,” he recalls.

Kenneth’s role at the time was Executive Director of the Maidu Summit Consortium, where for six years he led the non-profit tribal organization in negotiations with Pacific Gas and Electric Company and many large state and federal agencies. He developed the vision for the Tasmam Kojám Maidu Cultural Park, California’s first tribal park, and secured nearly 3,000 acres in Western Plumas County – all while creating a repeatable model for tribal communities throughout the world.

He has since spearheaded the land planning and management as well as the sustainable forestry plan, authored a case study for the Maidu Forestry Vision for resilient forests, developed a project for Conserving Traditional Plant Communities, and is Founding Member and Vice President of the Tasmam Kojám Foundation.

Delivering conference keynote addresses at the 7th World Wilderness Congress in Spain, numerous land trust conferences, and a paper submitted for the 8th International Conference on Sustainable Tourism in Vienna, have cemented Kenneth’s reputation for turning dreams of equity and inclusion into reality.

“I look forward to eventually travelling to the hinterlands of rural California,” Kenneth says, “bringing voices and a clear picture of the benefits of tribal-owned land and then translating that to decision-makers.”

He plans to work with the Legislature and the Governor’s Tribal Advisor’s Office and other state agencies to facilitate inclusive and equitable information sharing across California’s Tribal communities, pursuant to California’s Assembly Bill 52, Executive Order B-1011, and CPUC’s [Tribal Land Transfer Policy](#). This work aims to offer equal access to tribal groups seeking to leverage opportunities when utility lands become available for sale or other conveyance.



He cites his proudest accomplishment – the return of tribal lands to Mountain Maidu ownership – as fulfilling the lifelong dreams of his grandmother and mother.

Although Kenneth is a dreamer, his feet are firmly planted on the land. For five years he worked all phases of timber operation at a tribal member-owned company focused on Traditional Ecological Knowledge. He has also served as CIO and on the Boards of the Native Land Trusts Council and Transition Habitat Conservancy.

Prior to joining the CPUC, he stepped away as President of Native Forest Resources Inc., which employs sustainable forestry principles of tribal people to create resilient forests. Steeped in restorative forestry and forest product markets, he hopes to combine his extensive knowledge of traditional burning methods to help inform the state’s wildfire responses.

Kenneth was also a fellow with the S.D. Bechtel, Jr., and Water Foundations in 2019, engaging water planning group exercises and presenting formal recommendations for implementation of the California Human Right to Water Act of 2012 via funding provided last July by Senate Bill 200.

Kenneth has a B.A. in U.S. history with an emphasis on America and Africa from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is a graduate of the Global Leadership Program in International Affairs in Prague.

Kenneth speaks fluent Maidu, enjoys gardening and photography, and is an avid cyclist.

At the end of the day, his greatest joy is his three children, ages 6 to 13.

“My Filipino children,” he says, “know their diversity is valued and source of pride.” ■

THE DOCKET:

Proceedings Filed at the CPUC July 2020

PROCEEDING NUMBER | FILED DATE | FILER

A2007005 | 03-JULY-2020 | CITY OF SAN DIEGO, TRANSPORTATION, C/O DUNCAN HUGHES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Application of the City of San Diego to Construct a new At-Grade Crossing at Fenton Parkway in the City of San Diego on San Diego Metropolitan Transit System's (MTS) Green Old Town to La Mesa Trolley Line at MP 8.69 (Proposed CPUC Crossing No. 081MV-8.69-D).
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342153152>

R1804019 | 6-JULY-20 | CMMR/RANDOLPH/CPUC

Proposed Decision on Energy Utility Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Adaptation in Disadvantaged Communities (Phase 1, Topics 4 and 5).
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342080840>

R1407002 A1607015 | 6-JULY-20 | ALJ/KAO/DOHERTY/CPUC

Proposed Decision Modifying Decision 16-01-044 Regarding Virtual Net Energy Metering Eligibility Requirements.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342165414>

R1111007 | 6-JULY-20 | CMMR/GUZMAN ACEVES/CPUC

Proposed Decision Allowing and Adopting Conditions for Wireline Competition in Small Local Exchange Carrier Service Territories.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342189340>

A2007006 | 06-JULY-2020 | DESERTXPRESS ENTERPRISES, LLC

Application of DesertXpress Enterprises, LLC dba XpressWest to construct proposed highspeed tracks under the following public road crossings: Harvard Rd. (MP 123.53), ZZYX Rd. (MP 89.77), West Baker (MP 84.13), and Route 127-15 Separation (MP 83.37).
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342878638>

R1812005 | 7-JULY-20 | ALJ/POIRIER/STEVENS/CPUC

Decision Granting Intervenor Compensation to William B. Abrams for Substantial Contribution to Decision 19-05-042.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342945018>

C1512020 | 28-DEC.-2015 (REOPENED WEEK OF JULY 6) | O1 COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Decision Vacating Decision 20-02-033. • O1 Communications, Inc. (U6065C) Complainant, v. New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (U3060C) and AT&T Mobility Wireless Operations Holdings, Inc. (U3021C) Defendants, [for an order that Prohibits ATT Wireless from disconnecting the direct connections that are in place between its network and O1's network at a minimum, pending resolution of O1's Complaint proceeding against ATT Wireless; and related relief.]

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M342/K332/342332633.PDF>

A2007008 | 08-JULY-2020 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Authority to Securitize Certain Costs and Expenses Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 850 et seq.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=343092064>

A2007007 | 09-JULY-2020 | SAN DIEGO DIRECT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, LLC

Application of San Diego Direct Transportation Service, LLC (PSG12852), dba San Diego Airport Shuttle, to Amend Service Routes and Areas of Service to Include the Cities of San Diego and Los Angeles and Points in the Counties of San Diego, Imperial, Orange, Riverside, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara and Kern; and to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom.
HARD COPY FILED

A2007009 | 10-JULY-2020 | SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

Expedited Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) Under the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment Account Trigger Mechanism.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342878697>

A2007010 | 10-JULY-2020 | CBTS TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS LLC

In the matter of the joint Application of CBTS Technology Solutions LLC (U-5393-C), and Cincinnati Bell Inc., and Red Fiber Parent LLC, for approval to acquire indirect control of CBTS Technology Solutions, LLC, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a).
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342945077>

C2007011 | 14-JULY-2020 | CLOVER LLC

Clover LLC, Complainant vs. Southern California Edison Company (U338E), Defendant [Charging allegations is billing error].
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=343624766>

K2007014 | 14-JULY-2020 | WELLTOWER PEGASUS TENANT LLC

Appeal of Welltower Pegasus Tenant, LLC, A Delaware Foreign Corporation, dba The Village at Rancho Solano, from Citation F-5677, dated June 18, 2020, issued by Consumer Protection and Enforcement Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344038375>

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K2007015 | 15-JULY-2020 | WELLTOWER COGIR TENANT, LLC

Appeal of Welltower Cogir Tenant, LLC, A Delaware Foreign Corporation, dba Vallejo Hills Retirement Community, from Citation F-5680 in PSG-5308, dated June 2020 issued by Consumer Protection and Enforcement Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344032848>

A2007012 | 15-JULY-2020 | GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY

In the matter of the application of the Golden State Water Company (U133W) for an order (1) authorizing it to increase rates for water service by \$49,518,400 or 14.97% in 2022; (2) authorizing it to increase rates by \$16,107,100 or 4.22% in 2023, and increase rates by \$17,207,900 or 4.31% in 2024 in accordance with the Rate Case Plan; and (3) adopting other related rulings and relief necessary to implement the Commission's ratemaking policies.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=343624894>

R2007013 | 16-JULY-2020 | CPUC

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Further Develop a Risk-Based Decision-Making Framework for Electric and Gas Utilities.
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?docformat=ALL&docid=343729530>

A1602009 | 11-FEB.-2016 (REOPENED WEEK OF JULY 13) | CITY OF CARPINTERIA

Petition for Modification of Decision 16-10-027: Application of the City of Carpinteria for authorization to construct a bridge over Union Pacific Railroad tracks at railroad mile post 380.49, new crossing DOT #441148Y to link the Carpinteria Bluffs and Rincon Beach County Park in the City of Carpinteria, County of Santa Barbara.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=342195619>

A2003010 | 03-MARCH-2020 (IN NEED OF REASSIGNMENT, WEEK OF JULY 13) | TRANSIT SYSTEMS UNLIMITED, INC.

Application of Transit Systems Unlimited, Inc. for Authority to Operate as Self-Insured Charter-Party Carrier of Passengers Pursuant to Public Utilities Commission General Order No. 115-G.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=329216693>

A1409001, A1508005 | 03-SEPT.-2014 (REOPENED, WEEK OF JULY 13) | LODI GAS STORAGE, L.L.C.

Joint Petition to Modify Decision 16-06-014: Joint Application of Lodi Gas Storage, L.L.C. (U912G), Buckeye Gas Storage LLC, Buckeye Partners, L.P., BIF II CalGas (Delaware) LLC and Brookfield Infrastructure Fund II for Expedited Ex Parte Authorization to Transfer Control of Lodi Gas Storage, L.L.C. to BIF II CalGas (Delaware) LLC Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 854(a). [Filing note: Per ALJ Haga's Ruling of 12/1/2015, Proceeding A.14-09-001 and A.15-08-005 are consolidated. GML]
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344038410>

C1911021 | 20-JULY-20 | ALJ/ZHANG/CPUC

Presiding Officer's Decision dismissing Complaint and ordering installation of backflow prevention assemblies.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344014394>

C1911021 | 20-JULY-20 | ALJ/ZHANG/CPUC

Presiding Officer's Decision dismissing Complaint and ordering installation of backflow prevention assemblies.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344014394>

A2007016 | 21-JULY-2020 | SONOMA MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT

Application of Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) to construct a new grade-separated pedestrian undercrossing on SMART rail line MP 62.66 (Proposed CPUC Number 005-62.66; DOT Number 977 396 F) which is a subproject of the Windsor Extension Project, a new transit line extending from Santa Rosa Airport Station to a proposed Windsor Station.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344071583>

A2007017 | 21-JULY-2020 | SONOMA MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT

Application of Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) to construct a new at-grade pedestrian crossing on SMART rail line MP63.03 (Proposed CPUC Number 005-63.03; DOT Number 977 397 M) which is a subproject of the Windsor Extension Project, a new transit line extending from Santa Rosa Airport Station to a proposed Windsor Station.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344067775>

R1411001 | 21-JULY-20 | CMMR/RANDOLPH/CPUC

Proposed Phase 2B Decision Adopting Baseline Showings Necessary to Qualify for Consideration of Confidential Treatment.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344014013>

A1805007 | 22-JULY-20 | ALJ/JUNGREIS/CPUC

Proposed Decision Granting Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacitor Project.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344014031>

R1910005 | 22-JULY-20 | ALJ/GLEGOLA/CPUC

Proposed Decision Renewing the Electric Program Investment Charge. Opening Comments are due on August 11, 2020. Reply Comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing Opening Comments.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344032829>

A1411007, A1411009, A1411010, A1411011 | 23-JULY-20 | ALJ/TRAN/CPUC

Proposed Decision on San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Petition for Modification of Commission Decision 19-06-022.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344014053>

A1807024 | 24-JULY-20 | ALJ/HYMES/CPUC

Proposed Decision Addressing Sempra's Petition for Modification of Decision 20-02-045.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344059717>

A1801002, A1801003 | 24-JULY-20 | ALJ/WATTS-ZAGHA/CPUC

Proposed Decision Authorizing Rate Changes for Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp and for Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp for Years 2019, 2020, 2021.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344067793>

R1807003 | 24-JULY-20 | ALJ/ATAMTURK/ LAKHANPAL/CPUC

Proposed Decision revising the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff Program.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344038401>

I1807007 | 28-JULY-20 | ALJ/BEMESDERFER/CPUC

Proposed Decision Dismissing Investigation and Closing Proceeding.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344105754>

A1811010 | 27-JULY-20 | ALJ/AYOADE/CPUC

Proposed Decision Adopting Settlement Agreement Resolving the Application of Southern California Gas Company (U904G) and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902G) for Review of Costs Incurred in Executing Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344084995>

A1806015 | 27-JULY-20 | ALJ/GOLDBERG/CPUC

Proposed Decision Authorizing Southern California Edison Company's Charge Ready 2 Infrastructure and Market Education Programs.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344059748>

R1302008 | 27-JULY-20 | CMMR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC • GAS • QUASI-LEGISLATIVE • 18661

Proposed Decision adopting the Standard Renewable Gas Interconnection Tariff

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344059737>

A2007019 | 27-JULY-20 | CONTERRA WIRELESS BROADBAND, LLC ET AL.

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Conterra Wireless Broadband, LLC (U7057C) and Cub Parent, Inc., and Eaglecrest Cub GP Inc. and Draden Investors, LLC For Expedited Approval to Transfer Indirect Control of Conterra Wireless Broadband, LLC Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a).

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344085022>

C2007021 | 29-JULY-20 | SONIC TELECOM, LLC | COMMUNICATIONS

Sonic Telecom, LLC (U-7002-C), Complainant vs. Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California (U-1001-C), Defendant. [Charging allegations are violation of P.U. Code Section 761 and changes in agreement terms.]

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344124072>

R1709020 | 30-JULY-20 | ALJ/CHIV/CPUC

Proposed Decision denying Petitions for Modification of Decision 19-06-026, Decision 19-02-022, and Decision 20-01-004.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344114963>

A2007020 | 31-JULY-20 | PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Recovery of 2011-2014 Gas Transmission and Storage Capital Expenditures Reviewed and Certified by the Safety and Enforcement Division. (U39G)

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=344132890>








California Public Utilities Commission

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.

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California Public Utilities Commission

News & Outreach Office
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
outreach@cpuc.ca.gov