



Working for California

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CPUC

September 2022

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

Conserving Energy During a Heat Wave

At the beginning of September, California and the western U.S., endured a prolonged heat wave that shattered records for its intense temperatures and duration.

Staring down multiple days of triple digit temperatures and record demand

on the state's energy grid, Californians stepped up and conserved energy when the state needed it the most.

One of the tools we have in California to help with energy conservation is called "demand response." Demand Response allows customers to lessen

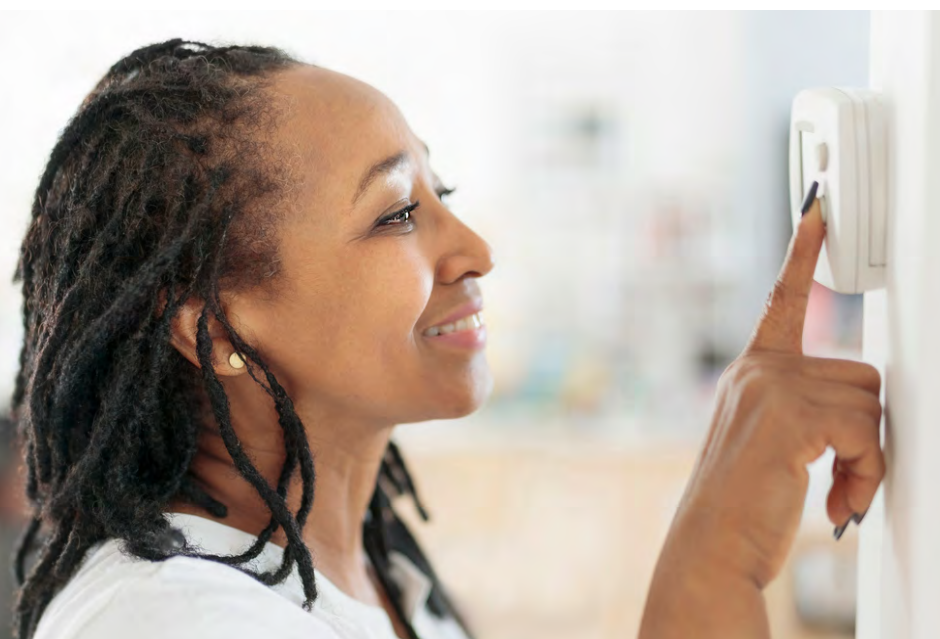
demand on the grid by reducing their electricity use during key times of the day and get compensated for it.

Demand Response programs are available for residential, commercial, and industrial customers. They include the [Power Saver Rewards Program](#) and Smart Energy Program for residential customers, and the [Emergency Load Reduction Program](#) for non-residential customers.

California also created the [Flex Alert](#) program to raise awareness with consumers when energy conservation is needed. A Flex Alert is typically issued in the summer when extremely hot weather drives up electricity use, making the available power supply scarce. This usually happens in the evening hours when solar generation is going offline and consumers are returning home and switching on air conditioners, lights, and appliances.

For tips on how to conserve energy, and to sign up to receive alerts when a Flex Alert is called, visit <https://www.flexalert.org>.

Thank you, Californians, for all your efforts! ■



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California Becomes First State in the Country to Eliminate Natural Gas Subsidies to Accelerate Building Decarbonization

In a crucial step towards achieving carbon neutrality, the CPUC has eliminated natural gas line subsidies for new natural gas hookups. The first-in-the-nation action will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from buildings and lower utility bills for consumers.

Buildings are responsible for approximately a quarter of California's overall GHG emissions. Natural gas use in buildings accounts for approximately 10 percent of emissions statewide. Natural gas line subsidies, which are funded by natural gas ratepayers, are currently available to builders to offset the costs of extending natural gas pipelines to new residential or commercial buildings. The subsidies originated at a time when the state was encouraging natural gas as a cleaner alternative to the use of coal and oil, and when electricity was far less clean than it is today. The CPUC's action is integral to California's transition to clean energy, advancing the state's



“This policy change will save ratepayers money, reduce GHG emissions, and improve indoor air quality as we reduce natural gas combustion in people’s homes and businesses”

Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen

progress towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2045, and meeting the ambitious 2030 emissions reduction target.

The CPUC's Sept. 15, 2022, [Decision](#) eliminates subsidies effective July 1, 2023. This will eliminate a financial incentive for expanding the natural gas system to serve new buildings, accelerating the electrification of homes and commercial buildings, and reduce the risk of stranded assets, saving ratepayers approximately \$164 million every year. These changes move the state closer to meeting its ambitious goals of reducing greenhouse gas, combating climate change, and attaining a decarbonized energy system.

The Decision creates an application process for the CPUC to consider exceptional projects that may be deserving of continued natural gas extension subsidies. Only projects leading to a demonstrable reduction in GHG emissions, that are consistent with California's climate goals, and that lack feasible alternatives to natural gas use, such as electrification, will be eligible.

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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 email CPUCRecruiter@cpuc.ca.gov.

Reminder: 369 Area Code Coming to 707 Region

The new 369 area code will be added as an overlay to the existing 707 area code region starting February 1, 2023.

With new telephone numbers in the 707 area code region in high demand, the CPUC in June 2022 [approved](#) the implementation of an area code overlay, which adds a second area code to the geographic region served by the existing area code. Therefore, the new 369 area code will serve the same geographic area currently served by the 707 area code.

The [707 area code](#) serves all or portions of Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Tehama, and Trinity counties. It encompasses cities such as American Canyon, Arcata, Benicia, Calistoga, Clearlake, Cloverdale, Cotati, Crescent City, Dixon, Eureka, Fairfield, Ferndale,

Fort Bragg, Healdsburg, Lakeport, Napa, Novato, Petaluma, Point Arena, Rio Dell, Rio Vista, Rohnert Park, Saint Helena, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma, Suisun City, Trinidad, Ukiah, Vacaville, Vallejo, Windsor, Willits, and Yountville.

Starting on February 1, 2023, customers in the 707 area code overlay region may be assigned a number in the new 369 area code when they request new service or an additional line. Customers receiving a 369 area code will be required to dial 1 + the area code and phone number for all local calls, just as customers with telephone numbers from the 707 area code do today.

Customers should continue to identify their telephone number as a 10-digit number (3-digit area code + 7-digit telephone number), and include the area code when giving the number

to friends, family, business associates, and others. Customers should ensure their websites, personal and business stationery, and printed checks, advertising materials, contact information, and personal or pet ID tags include the area code.

Customers should ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment recognize the new 369 area code as a valid area code and should continue to store or program telephone numbers as 10-digit numbers. Some examples include but are not limited to: stored telephone numbers in contact lists in wireless or cordless phones, PBXs, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, medical alert devices, safety alarm security systems and gates, ankle monitors, and/or other similar equipment. ■



Key facts about the 707/369 area code overlay:

- Telephone numbers, including the current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call.
- Those in the overlay region will continue to dial 1+10 digits for local calls within and between the overlay area codes, and 1+10 digits for long distance calls.
- You still can dial just three digits to reach 911 and 988, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, or 811 if those are currently available in their community.

THE DOCKET:

Proceedings Filed at the CPUC August 2022

PROCEEDING NUMBER | FILED DATE | FILER

A2003016 | 4-AUG-22 | ALJ/LIANG-UEJIO/CPUC

Proposed Decision dismissing application.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496397013>

A2106007 | 5-AUG-22 | ALJ/POIRIER/CPUC

Proposed Decision authorizing establishment of the Catalina Water Decommissioned Pipe Memorandum Account.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496415590>

C1010010 | 2-AUG-22 | ALJ/WERCINSKI/CPUC

Proposed Decision granting in part and denying in part the Petition for Modification of Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496396943>

R1407002 | AUG-22 | ALJ/KAO/CPUC

Proposed Decision modifying Decision (D.) 17-12-022 and D.20-04-012 regarding process for Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing Program Funding.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496415698>

A2207014 | 29-JUL-22 | SAN PABLO BAY PIPELINE COMPANY LLC

In the Matter of the Application of San Pablo Bay Pipeline Company LLC (PLC-29) for Authority to Increase Rates for Its Crude Oil Pipeline Services.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496396482>

A2207015 | 29-JUL-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. (NORTHERN CALIFORNIA)

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496396417>

A2208001 | 1-AUG-22 | PACIFICORP

In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp (U901E) for Approval of its 2023 Energy Cost Adjustment Clause and Greenhouse Gas-Related Forecast and Reconciliation of Costs and Revenue.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496397092>

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ELIMINATE NATURAL GAS SUBSIDIES continued from page 2

CPUC Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen, who is assigned to the proceeding, noted, “Our current policy of subsidizing natural gas line extensions is a vestige of the past. With California now seeking to phase out natural gas usage to [decarbonize the building sector](#), it no longer makes sense for ratepayers to subsidize new natural gas infrastructure. This policy change will save ratepayers money, reduce GHG emissions, and improve indoor air quality as we reduce natural gas combustion in people’s homes and businesses.”

“Tackling the climate crisis requires that we align financial incentives with our environmental goals. Saving ratepayers money on natural gas distribution system expansion is an essential early step,” said Commissioner Darcie L. Houck.

Added Commissioner John Reynolds, “This is a common-sense solution to more closely align new building construction with California state policy. It will help to level the playing

field and afford customers greater flexibility in deciding how to power their homes and businesses.”

The CPUC’s Decision was issued in an umbrella [proceeding](#) to support the decarbonization of buildings initiated by the CPUC in January 2019, in response to Senate Bill 1477 (Stern, 2018). [Phase I](#) of the proceeding established two pilot programs, the Building Initiative for Low Emissions Development (BUILD) Program, and the Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH) Initiative. [Phase II](#) adopted guiding principles for the layering of incentives when multiple programs fund the same equipment; established a new Wildfire and Natural Disaster Resiliency Rebuild (WNDRR) program to help victims of wildfires and natural disasters rebuild all-electric properties; provided guidance on data sharing; and directed California’s three large investor-owned utilities to each study energy bill impacts that result from switching from natural gas water heaters to electric heat pump water heaters. ■

C2208002 | 2-AUG-22 | DISH WIRELESS, L.L.C.

Verified Complaint of DISH WIRELESS L.L.C. (U4533C), Complainant, Against Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E), Defendant, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Sections 1701 and 1702, and Article IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496396201>

A1809013 | 10-AUG-22 | ALJ/WERCINSKI/CPUC

Proposed Decision approving California-American Water Company's acquisition of Bellflower Municipal Water System.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496415883>

A2203014 | 9-AUG-22 | ALJ/LIANG-UEJIO/CPUC

Proposed Decision dismissing Application. <https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496418748>

R1407002 | 10-AUG-22 | ALJ/KAO/CPUC

Proposed Decision denying intervenor compensation claim of Solar Consumer Advisor.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496433398>

R1407002 | 5-AUG-22 | ALJ/KAO/CPUC

Proposed Decision modifying Decision (D.) 17-12-022 and D.20-04-012 regarding process for Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing Program Funding.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496415698>

R1901011 | 8-AUG-22 | CMMR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC

Proposed Phase III Decision eliminating gas line extension allowances, ten-year refundable payment option, and fifty percent discount payment option under gas line extension rules.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496415627>

C2012017 | 12-AUG-22 | ALJ/TOY/CPUC

Presiding Officer's Decision Denying Complaint.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496433431>

A2208003 | 10-AUG-22 | PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Approval of Zonal Electrification Pilot Project (U39G).

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496451495>

C2208004 | 9-AUG-22 | WANDA H. NAGEL, WOPUMNES NISENAN AND MEWUK HERITAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF EDC

Wanda H. Nagel and Wopumnes Nisenan and Mewuk Heritage Preservation Society of EDC, Complainants vs Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E), Defendant. [Charging allegations are vegetation

management and related practices violate PU Code Section 451 and other laws.]

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496442119>

A2104001 | 19-AUG-22 | ALJ/KLINE/CPUC

Proposed Decision approving Southern California Edison Company's 2020 Energy Resource Recovery Account Enteries and Related Matters.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496525380>

A2208003 | 10-AUG-22 | PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Approval of Zonal Electrification Pilot Project (U39G).

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496451495>

A2208005 | 15-AUG-22 | CITY OF NAPA, JULIE LUCIDO, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Application of the City of Napa for an Order authorizing construction of an at-grade vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle crossing (CPUC No. 108AB-66.70-X over tracks of the Union Pacific (DOT No. 751355Y), providing connectivity to the Napa Vine Trail and Napa Pipe Redevelopment planned west of the railroad corridor at Kaiser Road in the City of Napa, County of Napa.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496524778>

A2208006 | 15-AUG-22 | CITY OF NAPA C/O JILIE LUCIDO, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Application of the City of Napa for an Order authorizing construction of an at-grade vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle crossing (CPUC No. 108AB-66.19-X over tracks of the Union Pacific (DOT No. 751351W), providing connectivity to the Napa Pipe Redevelopment planned east and west of the railroad corridor at Street C in the City of Napa, County of Napa.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496524814>

A2101003 | 24-AUG-22 | ALJ/PULSIFER/CPUC

Proposed Decision approving Amended Settlement Agreement and resolving general rate case of San Jose Water Company for Years 2022 through 2024.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496592330>

A2109024 | 24-AUG-22 | ALJ/RAMBO/CPUC

Proposed Decision granting compensation to the Protect Our Communities Foundation for substantial contribution to Resolution WSD-019.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496592435>

A2208007 | 24-AUG-22 | CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
Application of California-American Water Company (U210W) to issue, sell, and deliver debt securities consisting of long term notes not exceeding \$397,261,000 in the aggregate, and other related requests.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496628790>

A2208009 | 25-AUG-22 | NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN ADMINISTRATOR
Application of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, on behalf of the California Telecommunications Industry, for Relief of the 213/323 Numbering Plan Area.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496628720>

R2208008 | 25-AUG-22 | CPUC
Order Instituting Rulemaking Proceeding to Consider Changes to Licensing Status and Obligations of Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol Carriers.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=ALL&DocID=496674130>

R2103002 | 2-SEP-22 | ALJ/FORTUNE/CPUC
Proposed Decision updating the mechanism for surcharges to support Public Purpose Programs.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496696166>

A2208010 | 30-AUG-22 | BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC.
Application of Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. (U913E) for Authority to, Among Other Things, Increase Rates and Charges, and Authorized Revenues, for Electric Service Effective January 1, 2023.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496676189>

K2208011 | 30-AUG-22 | THE I.T. WORKSHOP, LLC
Appeal of The I.T. Workshop, LLC, Utility ID No.: U-1259-C, from Citation No. CD- 2022-06-007 in the amount of \$2,000 issued June 22, 2022, by the Communications Division Pursuant to T-17601.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=ALL&DocID=496684910>

A2203014 | 1-SEP-22 | SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION
Application of Southwest Gas Corporation (U905G) for Authority to Revise its California Gas Tariff to Establish its Move2Zero Program.
<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=496676226>



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.

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.

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