



Ex Parte Communications

Ensuring Equal Access

What are Ex Parte Communications?

Proceedings at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) follow specific legal procedures to ensure fairness, and to ensure that all parties in a proceeding have access to the same information and can respond to the communication. These include rules for ex parte communications.

Learn more about ex parte communications:



ONLINE:

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/
Practitioners](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Practitioners)

or contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office:



EMAIL:

public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov



CALL: 866-849-8390

415-703-2074

TTY 866-836-7825



Ex parte communication is:

- Oral or written communications between an interested person and decision-makers about substantive matters in proceedings.
- A decision-maker can be the CPUC's Commissioners and their Advisors, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judges, and the Administrative Law Judge(s) assigned to the proceeding.
- An interested person includes parties, agents or employees of parties, participants in hearings, persons with financial interests in a proceeding, or any representative of any organization who intends to influence the decision of a Commissioner on a matter before the CPUC.



Different types of ex parte communications may include, but are not limited to:

- Scheduled in-person meetings, including telephone calls, and spontaneous conversations.
- Written communications, including emails.

Each Type of Proceeding Has Different Rules for Ex Parte Communications

- **ADJUDICATORY PROCEEDINGS** prohibit ex parte communications.
- **QUASI-LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS** permit ex parte communications.
- **RATE-SETTING PROCEEDINGS RATES** allow ex parte communications if they follow the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (www.cpuc.ca.gov/RPP).

Reporting Ex Parte Communications

For ex parte communications that must be reported, a notice of ex parte communication must be filed within three business days of the communication. The notice must describe when and where an ex parte communication occurred, who the decision-maker was, and any other attendees. The notice must also describe the interested person's communication and include copies of any documents provided.



California Public
Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102

415-703-2782
800-848-5580 (Toll Free)

cpuc.ca.gov

