



Working for California

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CPUC

September 2019 edition

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

CPUC Welcomes New President, Marybel Batjer

When he named [Marybel Batjer](#) President of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Governor Gavin Newsom made it clear why he chose her for a position many consider to be among the most impactful in state government.

"Marybel's deep experience in government administration and sound judgment make her uniquely qualified to take on this important role," [Governor Newsom said at the time](#). "I am confident she will protect the best interest of all Californians by challenging utilities to embrace reform while providing safe, reliable and affordable service."

Governor Newsom is not the only one who praises President Batjer, who comes from a Nevada family steeped in public service. Raised in Carson City, she is the daughter of former Nevada Supreme Court Justice Cameron Batjer and has a stellar reputation for her amiable demeanor and proven ability to solve problems and make organizations run more smoothly and effectively.

As Dana Williamson, who was Cabinet Secretary to former Governor Jerry Brown, once put it, "She's very good at calculating a problem. And then she looks outside for better processes and takes other people's ideas into account and is good at implementing them."

Williamson offered that assessment to the *San Jose Mercury News* for an article that



CPUC New President, Marybel Batjer, being sworn into office

ran last April headlined, "Meet the Woman Trying to Save the DMV." The article was published after Governor Newsom tapped President Batjer to lead a six-month strike team charged with solving longstanding management problems at the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). President Batjer led the task force while still serving as Secretary of the Government Operations Agency (GovOps).

By all accounts, significant progress was made at DMV during the strike team effort, including reduced wait times for DMV customers and improved training for staff.

President Batjer, who has

worked for two presidents and five governors over her career, was appointed President of the CPUC after the retirement of President Michael Picker. Sworn into office August 16, 2019, President Batjer knows there is a lot on her plate for the remaining 16 months of Picker's term.

In addition to the daily press of business for an agency that regulates industries Californians spend more than \$50 billion on annually, she and her fellow Commissioners have a host of pressing issues to address, including wildfire safety and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's bankruptcy.

"It's an honor to have been

chosen by Governor Newsom to help lead the CPUC," President Batjer said. "As I said in a message to the agency's staff shortly after I arrived, the responsibilities we face are tremendous and the breadth and depth of knowledge at the CPUC are incredible. It's going to be exciting to work together to make sure we are doing everything we can to ensure California has access to safe, clean, and affordable utility services and infrastructure."

President Batjer has a diverse range of experience that brings a unique perspective to state government.

After graduating from Mills College in Oakland, she went to work as a technical writer at



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Bechtel Corp., one of the largest construction and engineering firms in the nation. Her first government position was political liaison for U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who had been a Bechtel executive. Working for the Deputy Secretary, Frank Carlucci, she met his military aide, Colin Powell, and went to the Regan White House with Powell when he was President Ronald Reagan's National Security Advisor.

She later became an assistant to the Secretary of the Navy before coming to California in 1992 as Chief Deputy Director at the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

A Democrat who also worked for Republican Governors Pete Wilson and Arnold Schwarzenegger and as Chief of Staff to Nevada Republican Governor Kenny Guinn, President Batjer is known as a straight-forward manager and problem solver.

"She can deliver bad news," Powell, a close friend and mentor, told the *Los Angeles Times* for a profile of President Batjer when she worked for Schwarzenegger. "No matter who you are, she is candid and pulls no punches. If you don't like the answer you're liable to get, don't ask her the question. She put me in my place many times."

In 2017, four years after Democrat Governor Brown appointed her the first secretary of the new state agency known as GovOps, *Governing* magazine named her to its annual list of "Public Officials of the Year." GovOps has the one of the broadest portfolios in state government, overseeing entities including the CA Census 2020, the California Department of Human Resources, the California Department of Technology, General Services, the State Personnel Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and the state's two huge retirement systems, CalPERS and CalSTRS.

"In her four years heading up GovOps, she's tackled California's slow-moving bureaucracy head-on by shaking up the state's hiring practices and project management," *Governing* said.

President Batjer plans on bringing the same energy and management experience to the CPUC.

"The CPUC is a very busy agency with an impact on virtually everyone who lives in California," she said. "There's a lot for me to learn about everything the agency does, and I am really looking forward to the important work ahead."

Former CPUC President Heads Into Retirement

Now-retired CPUC President Michael Picker said he's never put much stock in personal legacies, but that doesn't mean he stepped down without having a positive impact on California.

Picker was appointed to the CPUC in February 2014 by former Governor Jerry Brown after a long career in local and state government, where he focused on environmental advocacy, renewable energy, mitigating toxic hazards, and related issues.

At the time of his appointment, Picker had been a Senior Energy Advisor to former Governor Brown and it immediately became clear that improving the CPUC's reputation and the public's trust would be a top priority.

Just a few days after becoming a Commissioner, Picker handed flyers to employees at the agency's headquarters in San Francisco, inviting them to contact him on his personal cell phone if they had concerns about how the agency dealt with safety issues. Since then, the CPUC has beefed up its Safety and Enforcement Division and, with a new Director brought in, continued to become more aggressive on safety matters.

In another unconventional move, during a trip to Washington, D.C. soon after Donald Trump became president, Picker stood in the cold outside the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection



Former CPUC President Michael Picker at his final Voting Meeting

Agency. He gave flyers to federal employees reporting to work that morning, emphasizing that if they still wanted to fight climate change, there were opportunities in California working for the state.

Holding a sign that said, "Fight climate change, work for California," Picker lured several employees to the CPUC, including Nidhi Thakar, a lawyer and experienced energy advisor coming out of the Obama administration, who later became Picker's Chief of Staff for Strategy and External Affairs.

"That morning, talking with people who had spent their careers working to change the world for the better, truly inspired

me, as did President Picker's commitment," Thakar recalled. "Little did I realize when I got up that morning, that one of the people I would be recruiting was myself – and that I would later be joining President Picker in his efforts to expand decarbonization and innovation in the state."

Governor Gavin Newsom recognized Picker's successes in a letter that CPUC Commissioner Liane M. Randolph quoted during Picker's last CPUC Voting Meeting in August.

"You presided over the Commission during a turbulent period that included increased threat from catastrophic wildfires, growing customer choice in

how electricity is delivered and the voluntary bankruptcy of the state's largest investor-owned utility," Newsom wrote. "You brought deep expertise in energy policy to the Commission and a commitment to advancing the state's climate goals. It was a difficult job and you performed it with vision, integrity and commitment to California and its clean energy policies."

Picker also received a laudatory resolution from Assembly member Chris Holden (D-Pasadena) who, as chairman of the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, works closely with the

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CPUC.

Citing “an indelible mark of excellence as his legacy,” Assemblymember Holden’s resolution said Picker “worked tirelessly to help transform the agency and restore its reputation with the California State Legislature, the news media and the general public by setting a strong example for integrity, honesty and hard work. . .”

Anyone who watched Picker at the CPUC knows he’s passionate about renewable energy, electric reliability, and other issues coming before the agency. He never sugarcoated his feelings when angry or frustrated with the many competing concerns regulators must weigh during hundreds of proceedings a year.

“No one can ever accuse you of being anything but your own man, your own person, or being in the pocket of anybody or playing to the whim of anyone else,” CPUC Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen said during Picker’s final CPUC Voting Meeting. “You call shots as you see them and that has done a great deal to restore the integrity of the institution.”

Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves echoed Commissioner Rechtschaffen’s assessment.

“There are few people you can say have impacted society and it’s not an overstatement to say had Michael Picker not been in this world, we would not have reached our renewable goals,” Commissioner Guzman Aceves said of California’s global leadership on clean energy. “His probably 15 to 20 years dedication on making sure we were building renewal energy in one form or another is undoubtedly a reason we have reached our goals . . . It required somebody like Michael with the vision and not caring what anybody thought to reach the goal, and we’ve gotten there because of your leadership.”

CPUC Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma, who served with Picker on the board of the publicly owned Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), praised Picker’s worth ethic, recalling how she regularly saw him on the train to and from San Francisco reading through stacks of documents related to CPUC business. “You have pushed for transparent, fact-based decisions and policies that advanced the utilities’ role in climate change and customer service, really with an eye to protecting the consumer,” she said.

And Commissioner Randolph, who shared a 2 ½-hour confirmation hearing in the state Senate with Picker, thanked him for “getting us to think not just about the cool, sexy stuff, but thinking about how we can make the operation of the Commission more efficient. How we can make it better, how we can serve the people of California and our stakeholders, how we can think about governance.”

With his last Voting Meeting and his presidency about to end, Picker did some reflecting of his own.

“Hopefully, everybody who is here feels that they come to work with more dignity, more pride, and a really strong sense of purpose,” he said, acknowledging that a lot of agency employees felt that way before his arrival, but that staff at times worked under tremendous pressure and stress.

“When I first got here, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration federal auditors who came in said we had a long, long, long way to go,” Picker said. “The last time I met with them, they said we were one of the top agencies in the country. So, that speaks to our ability to recapture tasks that we know are

important. There are many other examples.”

Known for having a wry sense of humor, Picker also poked fun at himself over his ongoing fascination with utility poles and the role they play keeping lights on and phones working in California. As president, he started a proceeding that seeks, among other things, to create an inventory of the state’s more than four million utility poles. It’s safe to say, his reading a poem on the topic was probably a first for a CPUC Voting Meeting.

“See here, where the cleats of linemen have roughened a second bark onto the bald trunk,” the John Updike poem goes. “And these spikes have been driven sideways at intervals handy for human legs . . . These giants are more constant than evergreens by being never green.”

He read the poem about utility poles, he said, to remind people of the value they bring and how they carry “prosperity to California, and we should all be proud of it.” With fellow Commissioners and the audience standing to applaud, Picker’s presidency was over at the end of the day.

Examining the Impacts of CPUC Decisions on Utility Bills

By [Clifford Rechtschaffen](#),
CPUC Commissioner

California is a remarkable state. We have built the world’s fifth largest economy, and we are a leader among the states for job creation. But living here is expensive. Low-income households spend more than half their income on housing, and we have close to one in five people living in poverty, with income and wealth inequality only growing.

As public regulators, my fellow Commissioners and I at the CPUC have an obligation to keep utility services affordable. We know there are limits to what people can pay for essential services without suffering and being forced to make real sacrifices.

Low to moderate-income Californians often bear a heavy burden when it comes to paying for basic utilities, including



electricity, gas, water, and communications, and they must juggle these costs with housing, food, and medical care. Statewide costs for these utilities average

roughly \$300 a month, higher in certain areas of the state and during certain times of year.

These financial pressures are evident in the rate of

disconnections for failure to pay energy bills, which has risen sharply over the past decade, affecting low income residents

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at three times the rate of other customers. Disconnections can lead to health and safety problems, loss of housing, and other impacts.

We also know that utility bills are likely to increase. Investments are needed to replace aging infrastructure, harden our grid, and reduce the increasing risks of wildfires due to climate change. Electric utilities regulated by the CPUC, for example, have proposed spending \$3.3 billion this year alone as part of their Wildfire Mitigation Plans. Ratepayers will also contribute to a new statewide insurance fund that pays for damages from future wildfires. And we will need to spend considerable sums to decarbonize our grid, which will be made somewhat easier by sharp declines in costs over the past decade in clean energy resources such as solar photovoltaics (80 percent), wind (50 percent), and battery storage (74 percent). All these investments are important, but they will also add to the financial burden of millions of Californians.

For too many Californians, these rising utility bills are the second highest financial obligation, behind only rent or mortgage. That is why the CPUC last year launched a proceeding to examine the affordability of utility bills, with a focus on different demographics, including location and income level. Paying for essential utility services should not sacrifice the health, comfort, or safety of a household. It should also not jeopardize a household's ability to pay for other essential needs.

Although the CPUC currently considers bill impacts in our individual decisions—such as General Rate Cases, when utilities present new cost requests to the CPUC—we do not assess the cumulative effects on consumers' ability to pay. We do not, for example, calculate the total set of expenses households face from multiple decisions across all the utilities we regulate, including customers at various income levels or who face differing energy and other burdens. While we have bill assistance programs for the lowest income ratepayers, the programs are not comprehensive and they only provide a limited discount on a customer's bill. Most critically, these programs are not designed to ensure that the bills are affordable in the broader context of overall expenses.

Given California's geographic and economic diversity, a one-size-fits-all analysis will not cut it, since we know affordability takes on one meaning in more affluent parts of the state and quite another in economically disadvantaged communities.

In August 2019, [CPUC staff issued a proposal](#) detailing how affordability of utility services should be defined and measured. The goal is to establish a framework to assess affordability across proceedings in the industries we regulate—electricity, natural gas, water,

and telecommunications. Once we establish this, we will be better equipped to assess how utility requests and CPUC decisions impact affordability from the consumer's perspective. We can weigh our decisions against these guideposts and answer questions such as: Should a utility application be approved as requested or modified? Should a utility project be phased in over time? Should subsidies for certain customers be provided? How should costs be shared between customers and utility shareholders?

The first part of the staff proposal establishes what level of utility services are essential - the levels of service for energy, water, and telecommunications that meet basic needs and are necessary for health, safety, and full participation in society. The second part sets forth three different metrics that together measure whether the cost of providing those services is affordable. The first metric is the percentage of a household's income spent on essential utility services, after deducting housing expenditures. CPUC staff proposes calculating this measure for households at the 20th and 50th percentile of income in a given geographic region. The second measure is the number of hours a person needs to work to pay for basic utility services if they are paid minimum wage in California. This provides a rapid and easily understandable snapshot of the cost of utility bills. The third measure identifies economically vulnerable populations by examining income and the percentage of income spent on housing by households in a given region. These metrics each have strengths and weaknesses (hours at minimum wage, for example, is easy to understand but insensitive to household budgets), but they are designed to complement each other. Together, they should give us a better understanding of which Californians may struggle to pay their utility bills.

The CPUC held a public workshop on the proposal August 26, 2019 and will accept public comments on it through September 26. We are looking for input both on the specific metrics proposed and when and how they should be utilized in CPUC decisions and program implementation. The next step will be issuing a Proposed Decision this fall.

By developing methodologies to comprehensively assess the financial impacts of CPUC proceedings on consumers throughout the state, we can do a better job developing strategies to protect ratepayers, especially those with high bills and lower incomes or who are particularly vulnerable.

I'm not aware of another state examining affordability of various utility services as comprehensively as we are in this proceeding. But we owe it to California ratepayers to keep at the task until we succeed.

Reducing Methane Emissions from California's Natural Gas System: An Important Step Forward

By [Clifford Rechtschaffen](#),
CPUC Commissioner

On August 15, 2019, the CPUC adopted a groundbreaking decision to reduce methane emissions from the natural gas system, demonstrating California's continued leadership in combatting climate change.

Background

In 2014, California passed Senate Bill (SB) 1371, with the goal of minimizing methane emissions from our natural gas system. Methane, the main constituent of natural gas, is a

powerful greenhouse gas, 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide over a 20-year time frame.

2015 Decision

In 2015, the CPUC initiated a rulemaking to accomplish the goals of SB 1371. Two years ago, as part of that rulemaking, we required California's largest gas utilities to file annual reports tracking methane emissions from their systems, comply with 26 best practices to reduce these emissions, and file biennial compliance reports.

This was a significant step

forward. But there were issues that we could not fully address for want of data and experience in implementing these new requirements.

Moving Forward

With the benefit of utilities' compliance plans, utility experience in implementing them, and input from a range of stakeholders, including consumer advocates and environmental groups, we were able to advance further with this new decision.

Going forward, utilities are required to evaluate the cost-

effectiveness of their proposed measures to reduce methane emissions and include the social cost of methane in making this evaluation. For now, we will only be using this evaluation for informational purposes. But it will allow us to identify the measures that give us the biggest bang for the buck and help ensure that we are using our limited resources as efficiently as possible in addressing climate change. Including the social cost

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of methane will also ensure that we don't undervalue the benefits of potential methane reduction measures.

We also adopted a limit on the extent to which California's two largest gas companies can recover from customers the cost of methane emissions leaked from their systems, creating an economic incentive for utilities to minimize these emissions. These methane emissions are part of what is known as lost and unaccounted for gas, or LUAF." Specifically, beginning in 2025, if these utilities fail to reduce their methane emissions by at least 20 percent below the 2015 baseline, they will not get rate recovery for the amount of methane emissions exceeding this target. These emission reduction levels are feasible and in line with the utilities' own estimates of what they will achieve over this time period.



California Leads the Way

We are one of the very first utility regulators to adopt such a measure, which ties gas companies' environmental performance to their bottom line. It is appropriate because we are

authorizing very large utility expenditures on methane reduction measures and we want them to be successful. The utilities have five years and two additional rounds of compliance plans to achieve this target.

While the potential economic impact on the utilities is modest if they do not comply, the message is important. Californians are paying for utilities' methane reduction measures. We expect results.

Get to Know Us: Meet Ken Koss

Ken Koss had no idea what he was getting himself into when he applied to work for the State of California. Literally.

"In 1972, you took a generic all-agency 'Analyst' exam but could not tell which agency it was for," Ken explained. "When I found out I passed and would be moving to Bakersfield to be a Transportation Analyst for the California Public Utilities Commission, I had no idea what that meant. Straight out of college with a degree in cultural geography, I was just excited to have a job in which I was assigned a state vehicle."

With no job description or duty statement, he recalls thinking he would need a large hat in Bakersfield because he thought he would be standing out in the hot sun manually counting cars on exit ramps.

The biggest growth spurt in his 47-year career trajectory, he recalls, was early on when he was promoted from rank-and-file to first-line supervisor and his focus shifted from just programs to people as well. He describes that as, "a period of a lot of personal growth."

At the time, the CPUC had 20 field offices throughout the state – most of which existed to serve the CPUC's trucking industry program where he was assigned. Responsible for regulating for-hire trucking, the Transportation Division issued permits, certificates of insurance, fines and, in a surprise by today's standards, also set minimum rates to protect drivers' pay.

"In fact," he says, "if a trucking company had not charged its customer a high enough rate, staff had the authority to direct the carrier to go back to the customer and collect the undercharge. In some cases, the undercharge amount was then paid to the CPUC as a fine."

Ken also recalled a complaint he investigated involving a household goods (moving) company in Bishop, CA, where the District Attorney pursued criminal charges. It evolved into the first and maybe only felony case prosecuted under CPUC truck tariff issues.

In 1996, when the CPUC reorganized according to industries rather than function, Ken became Director of the Rail



Ken Koss, retired annuitant at the CPUC

Safety and Carriers Division, where he served until that Division merged into the Consumer Protection and Safety Division in 2002. He points out that even as the federal government was deregulating transportation for

economic reasons, California continued to advocate for safety regulation. Regardless, in 1998 for-hire trucking was deregulated, and safety oversight was transferred to the California

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Highway Patrol. The CPUC lost more than 100 positions and all the smaller CPUC district offices, including Bakersfield, were closed.

In 2003, Ken shifted gears again, becoming an Administrative Law Judge with a caseload primarily in transportation, energy, and water. In that role, he coordinated the CPUC's Intervenor Compensation Program and became especially interested in Alternative Dispute Resolution, earning certificates in Civil and Advanced Mediation.

"I guess if I have any life motto," Ken reflects, "it's the Golden Rule: treat others as you would like to be treated."

In 2008, after 37 years of service to the CPUC in Bakersfield, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, Ken retired only to be brought back as a retired annuitant, a special part-time position for former employees whose expertise and knowledge is considered necessary to the agency. He initially continued his work as an Administrative Law Judge but more recently has served as interim Chief of Staff to three different CPUC Commissioners, including recently retired President Michael Picker. Ken returned to Bakersfield in 2018 and now is working in the

CPUC's Office of the Safety Advocate, which intervenes, recommends, and comments on behalf of consumers in CPUC proceedings.

Over the nearly half century he has worked at the CPUC, he says the biggest change to the agency has been technological improvements, especially in communication and travel.

"For the first 25 years I was with the CPUC in Southern California, I worked with a Branch Chief in San Francisco, but it was 18 years before we met face to face," Ken recalls. "In order to receive our paychecks in Bakersfield in the '70's, someone would drive from San Francisco to Fresno with the checks, then another person would deliver the checks to Bakersfield, Pony Express style, hopefully the same day."

Looking back on his long career, recalling then-Governor Ronald Regan's signature on his college diploma -- as well as on his first paycheck -- he sees himself as someone who sticks things out.

Although currently recovering from back surgery, Ken looks forward to resuming all types of activities, travel and sports - and "of course, any day I can get in one uninterrupted hour of reading is a good day."

In Brief

- The CPUC would like your feedback on improving our public website. You can provide your input via our [survey](#).
- Did you know you can see us in action by following us on [Flickr](#)? You can also keep up with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!
- On Aug. 29, 2019, Saul Gomez was [appointed](#) as one of the CPUC's Deputy Executive Directors by Governor Newsom. A big welcome to Saul!

The Docket: Proceedings Filed at the CPUC in Aug. 2019

PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

A1908002 • 01-Aug-2019 • PacifiCorp

In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp (U901E) for Approval of its 2020 Energy Cost Adjustment Clause and Greenhouse Gas-Related Forecast and Reconciliation of Costs and Revenue. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310153694>

A1804025 • 05-Aug-2019 • ALJ/BEMESDERFER/CPUC

Approves the purchase of the Hillview Water Company, Inc. by California American Water Company for a total purchase price of \$7,470,459. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310065499>

A1305017 • 05-Aug-2019 • ALJ/MASON/CPUC

Proposed Decision affirming Decision 15-03-002 and Decision 15-10-052 following remand from the California Supreme Court. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310066129>

A1908004 • 05-Aug-2019 • Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority

Application of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority for an order authorizing construction of one light rail track at the La Verne Station east pedestrian at-grade rail crossing in the City of La Verne in Los Angeles County, California. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?Do>

PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

[cFormat=All&DocID=310226335](http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226335)

I1405012 • 06-Aug-2019 • CMMR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC

This Decision closes Investigation 14-05-012 because Commission staff, respondents, and the applicable parties have completed their tasks ordered by Decision 16-12-066. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310224673>

A1908005 • 06-Aug-2019 • Silica Networks Holdings, LLC

In the Matter of the Joint Application of COLUMBIA CAPITAL EQUITY PARTNERS VI, (QP) L.P. and SILICA NETWORKS HOLDINGS, LLC For Expedited Approval of Acquisition of Control of Silica Networks, LLC (U7336C) by Columbia Capital Equity Partners VI, (QP) L.P. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226134>

R1807003 • 08-Aug-2019 • ALJ/THOMAS/CPUC

Proposed Decision on new Community Choice Aggregators' 2018 Renewables Portfolio Standard Procurement Plans and Liberty Power Holdings' request for waiver. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226375>

R1211005 • 09-Aug-2019 • CMMR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC

Proposed Decision establishing a Self-Generation Incentive

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Docket: Aug. Filings, *continued from page 6*

Program Equity Resiliency Budget, modifying existing equity budget incentives, approving carry-over of accumulated unspent funds, and approving \$10 million to support the San Joaquin Valley Disadvantaged Community Pilot Projects. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226267>

A1904023 • 09-Aug-2019 • ALJ/FORTUNE/CPUC
Proposed Decision authorizing Southern California Edison Company to issue short-term debt not to exceed \$4.0 billion. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226153>

A1807021 • 09-Aug-2019 • ALJ/CHIV/CPUC
Decision approving the application of Pacific Gas and Electric company for the Empower Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive and Education Program. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226261>

R1901006 • 10-Jan-2019 (reopened week of 05-Aug-2019) • CPUC
Rehearing of Decision 19-06-027 - Order Instituting Rulemaking to Implement Public Utilities Code Section 451.2 Regarding Criteria and Methodology for Wildfire Cost Recovery Pursuant to Senate Bill 901 (2018). <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226356>

A1908007 • 09-Aug-2019 • Cali Road LLC
Application of Cali Roads LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a Small Shuttle Service Between the City of San Francisco and the City of Santa Barbara (and back) with Sightseeing Stops along the way; and to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF). • Routine. September newsletter. Hard Copy Filed.

A1709006 • 12-Aug-2019 • ALJ/AYOADE/CPUC
Decision approving Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Application to revise Its gas rates and tariffs effective October 1, 2018. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=310226820>

A1710007, A1710008 • 22-Aug-2019 • ALJ/LIRAG/CPUC
Decision Addressing the Test Year 2019 General Rate Cases of San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Gas Company. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311290392>

R1807003 • 23-Aug-2019 • ALJ/ATAMTURK/CPUC
Decision Adopting Modeling Requirements to Calculate Effective Load Carrying Capability Values for Renewables Portfolio Standard Procurement. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311583059>

A1512005 • 03-Dec-2015 (reopened week of 19-Aug-2019) • Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Petition for Modification of Decision 17-12-012 - Application

of PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, a California corporation, for a Permit to Construct the Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project (U39E). Involves minor change of 800-foot access road made in consultation with local homeowners. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=237709801>

A1908010 • 22-Aug-2019 • California High Speed Rail Authority (Bruce Armistead)
Application of the California High-Speed Rail Authority to construct proposed high-speed tracks (HST) and rail-rail grade separation (135S-280.4-T) over BNSF's existing main line track (MP 911.5) at Wasco Ave in Kern County. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311582515>

R1709020 • 27-Aug-2019 • ALJ/ALLEN/CHIV/CPUC
Decision Denying the Petition for Modification of The Alliance for Retail Energy Markets. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311582983>

A1908012 • 28-Aug-2019 • Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Application of the Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority to construct proposed light rail tracks and grade separations at Capitol Avenue (+974+00); NB Capitol Expressway (+978+00); Story Road (+995+00); Ocala Avenue (+1037+00); Cunningham Avenue (+1050+00); SB Capitol Expressway (+1067+00); Swift Lane (+1073+00); Tully Road (+1078+00) and Pedestrian Crossings at the Eastridge Transit Center (+1086+00 and +1089+80) within City of San Jose and County of Santa Clara, California. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311582777>

A1908013 • 30-Aug-2019 • Southern California Edison Company
Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Authority to Increase its Authorized Revenues for Electric Service in 2021, among other things, and to Reflect that Increase in Rates. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311582915>

R1505006 • 07-May-2015 (reopened week of 26-Aug-2019) • CPUC
Petition for Modification of Decision 17-12-024. Order Instituting Rulemaking to Develop and Adopt Fire-Threat Maps and Fire-Safety Regulations. Edison is seeking to add more areas to fire risk, potentially around 45 areas. If approved, would be placed on distributed maps. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=311289489>

A1809006 • 14-Sept-2018 • Afishinado Inc., DBA Afishinado Charters
(In need of judicial re-assignment) Application of Afishinado Inc., dba Afishinado Charters for authority to operate as an "on-call" passenger Vessel Common Carrier operating from Avalon

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Docket: Aug. Filings, *continued from page 7*

Harbor to various points on Catalina Island, including: Campus by the Sea, All C.I.M.I. facilities, White's Landing, Two Harbors, Howland's Landing, Emerald Bay. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=262405967>

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.

Prior editions of this newsletter are available on the CPUC's website at www.cpuc.ca.gov/newsletter.