



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ROTATING POWER OUTAGES ORDERED STATEWIDE

Conservation Critical as High Temps Continue to Impact State

(Folsom, CA) At 3:15 p.m. today, Tuesday, May 8, 2001 **the California Independent System Operator (California ISO) ordered rotating customer outages.** The California ISO requested the state's utilities to implement their rotating outage programs and **curtail 400 megawatts statewide.** The duration and impact of blackouts will be evaluated on an hourly basis. **Conservation efforts of Californians are critical to minimizing the overall impact of today's outages.**

Up-to-the-minute information about the total amount of megawatts associated with today's outage is available on the California ISO's website (www.caiso.com) on the *Systems Conditions* page. Specific information regarding which customers are affected must be obtained from the local investor-owned utilities.

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Stage Three of the state’s Electrical Emergency Plan (EEP) is required when operating reserves fall below one-and-a-half percent. The California ISO’s EEP is part of the state’s enhanced reliability standards created by landmark legislation Assembly Bill 1890, which restructured California’s electricity industry.

The California ISO is charged with managing the flow of electricity along the long-distance, high-voltage power lines that make up the bulk of California’s transmission system. The not-for-profit public-benefit corporation assumed the responsibility in March, 1998, when California opened its energy markets to competition and the state’s investor-owned utilities turned their private transmission power lines over to the California ISO to manage. The mission of the California ISO is to safeguard the reliable delivery of electricity, facilitate markets and ensure equal access to a 25,526 circuit mile “electron highway.”

Other helpful contacts:

Pacific Gas and Electric	415/973-5930
Southern California Edison	626/302-2255
San Diego Gas and Electric	877/866-2066

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