



California ISO
Your Link to Power

News Release

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For more information, contact:

Stephanie McCorkle | smccorkle@caiso.com

Gregg Fishman | gfishman@caiso.com

Severe storm triggers transmission emergency; conservation urged

Loss of high-voltage power line reduces electricity flow on Path 15

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) declared a transmission emergency today after an early storm system battering California with heavy rain and strong wind gusts knocked a high-voltage line to the ground near Moss Landing.

Northern Californians are urged to conserve electricity through 10:00 p.m. tonight. The 500 kilovolt line impacts the flow on Path 15, which serves as a major transmission link between Northern and Southern California.

The amount of electricity that can flow on Path 15 is reduced to about a third of what it normally is rated to carry. Although customers are experiencing numerous localized power outages, the transmission emergency did not cause additional system disruptions. However, conservation is needed as the ISO manages the peak demand for the day at about 6:00 p.m.

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California ISO Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

151 Blue Ravine Road | Folsom, California 95630 | www.caiso.com

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The California ISO operates the state's wholesale transmission grid, providing open and non-discriminatory access supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive planning efforts. Partnering with more than 90 client organizations, the ISO is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates at the least cost to the benefit of consumers. The ISO bulk power market allocates space on transmission lines, maintains operating reserves and matches supply with demand. Recognizing the importance of global climate change, the ISO welcomes new, advanced technologies that will help meet the energy needs of 30 million Californians efficiently and cleanly. The ISO is a nonprofit public benefit corporation.