



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PG&E ACTIVATES NORTHERN CALIFORNIA POWER CURTAILMENTS AS STATE BATTLES THIRD DAY OF HEAT WAVE

(Folsom, CA) The California Independent System Operator (California ISO) ordered Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to initiate its localized non-firm interruptible program from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. today, June 15, 2000. This is in response to continuing hot temperatures in Northern California, particularly in the inland areas. Additionally, the amount of generation unavailable in the Bay Area due to repairs has increased from 488 megawatts yesterday to 800 megawatts today.

PG&E curtailed 300 megawatts of interruptible customers beginning at 12:15 p.m. today during localized load shedding to help stabilize the flow of power on the ISO-controlled transmission systems. The curtailments are occurring at various locations in the PG&E service area. Interruptible customers receive a reduced rate in exchange for a commitment to come off line when asked to do so by the ISO for reliability purposes. The California ISO is not under a Stage One Emergency, however it issued a Power Watch today—urging customers throughout the state to conserve electricity whenever possible.

California ISO is chartered by the state to manage 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 mandated the investor-owned utilities turn their private transmission power lines over to the Cal-ISO's open-market power grid. The mission of the California ISO is to safeguard the reliable delivery of electricity and ensure equal access to the state's "electron highway", spanning 124,000 miles or three-quarters of the state.

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LOAD CURTAILMENTS-2-2-2

Other helpful contacts (for media only):

PG&E 415 973-5930

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