

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## California ISO Initiates Internal Investigation

Concerns Surface Following Potential Improper Release of Information

(Folsom, CA) The California Independent System Operator (California ISO) has started an internal investigation and placed an employee on leave, following the discovery of a potential release of confidential data to an individual outside the ISO.

"We are taking immediate actions to identify what information has been disclosed, and what data, if any, is confidential," said ISO Board Chair Ken Wiseman. "We want to take all precautionary steps to protect the integrity of the energy market."

Former Board Chair Michael Kahn is assisting with overseeing the investigation.

"We have reported our concern to the appropriate authorities, including the California Attorney General and other state officials as well as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission," said Kahn.

The California ISO has retained an outside law firm to advise during the investigation, which began immediately following discovery of the suspected activity.

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 the to the California ISO to manage. The mission of the California ISO is to safeguard the reliability delivery of electricity, facilitate markets and ensure equal access to a 25,000-circuit mile "electron highway."

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