



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA ISO CALLS STAGE TWO ELECTRICAL EMERGENCY HIGHER TEMPERATURES DRIVE UP DEMAND

(Folsom, CA) The California Independent System Operator (California ISO) declared a Stage Two Electrical Emergency today, Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 1:00 p.m., with operating reserves dipping below five percent. The change in status on the Grid is attributable to higher loads as a result of temperatures that are averaging two to three degrees above what was forecast for today.

Grid operators **are not** predicting a Stage Three or rotating blackouts today, unless import flows slow or generation/transmission outages surface. For updates, please monitor www.caiso.com under System Conditions.

Consumers are asked to step up conservation efforts as the California ISO's job of balancing the supply and demand for power becomes more challenging this afternoon and into the evening peak hours. **No news conferences are scheduled at this time.**

Today's Stage Two Emergency is in effect until midnight. With the Stage Two declaration, the California ISO is able to access emergency resources that will help maintain operating reserves. A Stage Two Emergency is declared when operating reserves dip below five percent or are expected to within the next two hours. If an operating reserve shortfall of less than one-and-a-half percent is unavoidable, Stage Three will be initiated. Involuntary curtailments of service to customers, including "rotating blackouts," are possible during this

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STAGE TWO-2-2-2

emergency declaration.

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.”

Information about the California ISO control area’s electricity supply and the current demand is available on the web at www.aiso.com.

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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