



News Release

For immediate release | **September 9, 2011**

For more information, contact:

Stephanie McCorkle | smccorkle@caiso.com

Steven Greenlee | sgreenlee@caiso.com

California grid operator launches joint task force to investigate major power outage

FOLSOM, Calif. –The California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) initiated a joint task force today to investigate the widespread blackout that left more than a million Southern Californians without power for nearly 12 hours. In close coordination with the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), the ISO will bring together all of the utilities impacted by the outage including Arizona Public Service, San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, Imperial Irrigation District and Comisión Federal de Electricidad, which serves customers in northern Baja.

“Our first priority was to help restore electricity to customers in the San Diego area who were hard hit by this devastating blackout and we appreciate all the entities that teamed up to perform herculean efforts overnight,” said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. “We now turn our focus to root-cause analysis to investigate the reason for the series of events that triggered the widespread power outage.”

The task force will conduct a full investigation in a thoughtful, collaborative and transparent fashion to guard against it happening again. Findings from the investigation will be made public when available.

Most of the local power plant units impacted by yesterday’s major system disturbance have returned to service and electricity has been restored to all San Diego customers.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) also announced a joint inquiry in cooperation with the ISO, WECC, all utilities impacted and state regulators in California and Arizona. WECC has also announced its own Event Analysis that will be conducted with participation from the California ISO.

More information will be relayed to media as it becomes available.

California ISO Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

250 Outcropping Way | Folsom, California 95630 | www.caiso.com

Follow us on Twitter | <http://twitter.com/CaliforniaISO>

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.