



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2001

Contact: Patrick Dorinson
Director of Communications
1 (888) 516-NEWS

STATE-WIDE ELECTRICAL EMERGENCIES CONTINUE
Stage Three Emergency Again Today; Rotating Blackouts Not Ordered At This Time

(Folsom, CA) The California Independent System Operator (California ISO) declared a Stage Three Emergency early this morning at 1:45 a.m., Wednesday, January 17, 2001. **Rotating blackouts are not required at this time.** The California ISO is strongly urging consumers statewide to conserve electricity today.

The total number of units off line due to planned and unplanned outages is more than 11,000 megawatts. The Stage Three declaration enables the California ISO to receive additional emergency assistance from federal and state agencies. The forecasted peak demand is 32,279 megawatts at approximately 6:00 p.m. this evening.

Stage One and Stage Two emergencies were extended from yesterday and remain in effect until midnight. Fifteen hundred (1,500) megawatts of interruptible load was curtailed this morning. Today's Stage Three emergency is also in effect until midnight.

Today's ISO Teleconference Updates

TIMES (ALL PST):	10:30 a.m.	2 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
PHONE NUMBER:	800/374-1387		
PASSCODE:	ISO News		

-MORE-

Stage Three of the state's Electrical Emergency Plan (EEP) is required when operating reserves fall below one-and-a-half percent. The California ISO's EEP is part of the state's enhanced reliability standards created by landmark legislation Assembly Bill 1890, which restructured California's electricity industry.

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 12,500 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.caiso.com.

#