



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 24, 2003

Contact: Stephanie McCorkle
Director of Communications
1 (888) 516-NEWS

Southern California Fires Threaten Transmission Lines

Conservation Could Help Reduce Problems if Key Lines Trip

(Folsom, CA) The Grand Prix fire burning southeast of Los Angeles is threatening to affect high voltage transmission lines in the region. With high electrical demand due to the hot and windy weather it is possible that some customers could suffer a loss of power. The ISO is urging customers throughout Southern California to reduce their power usage today. Conservation now means that if the fire does impact the transmission lines, potentially fewer customers would be affected.

The Grand Prix Fire caused two 230 kilovolt transmission lines to trip offline briefly at 10:09 this morning. That resulted in a power outage that lasted only about three minutes and affected an unknown number of customers before the line reset, and came back into service.

The ISO is dispatching additional generators in Southern California to help mitigate the loss of transmission lines if the fires do affect the key transmission facilities in the area. Additionally, the ISO is coordinating with area utilities, and has an employee in the California Department of Forestry office in Sacramento to ensure that key information is flowing in both directions.

The California ISO is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation charged with managing the flow of electricity along California's open-market wholesale power grid. The mission of the California ISO is to safeguard the reliable delivery of electricity, and ensure equal access to a 25,000 circuit miles of "electron highway". As the impartial operator of the wholesale power grid in the state, the California ISO conducts a small portion of the bulk power markets. These markets are used to allocate space on the transmission lines, maintain operating reserves and match supply with demand in real time.

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