



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
December 5, 2000

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### **CUSTOMERS URGED TO DELAY TURNING ON OUTDOOR HOLIDAY LIGHTS**

#### **Electrical Emergency Warrants Conservation Efforts**

(Folsom, CA) The California Independent System Operator (California ISO) is asking consumers to conserve electricity whenever possible today, Tuesday, December 5, 2000. Conservation tips include delaying start-up of outdoor holiday lighting until 7:00 p.m. tonight when the peak consumption of power begins tapering off. Additional tips include setting the thermostat at 68 degrees when you are home or 55 degrees when you leave the house, using electrical appliances during off-peak hours (either before 4 p.m. or after 7 p.m.), and turning off computers, copiers, lights, etc. when not in use. Today's peak demand is expected around 6:00 p.m. when a forecasted 34,100 megawatts worth of electricity will be used by 30 millions residents within the California ISO control area, which encompasses 75 percent of the state.

The California ISO declared a Stage One Emergency at 5:45 a.m. this morning when after operating reserves were forecasted to fall below seven percent. More than 11,000 megawatts of generation remain off line, the majority categorized as forced outages. Included in that figure is a substantial amount of power plant production shut down because of expired air emission credits. Additionally, the thin supply picture is exacerbated by a sudden drop in imported power from the Northwest today.

The Stage One Emergency triggers a public request for conservation of electricity that will be in effect until 10:00 p.m. tonight.

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