

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 24, 2001 Contact: Patrick Dorinson Director of Communications 1 (888) 516-NEWS

## SOARING TEMPERATURES PRODUCE CALL FOR CONSERVATION CALIFORNIA ISO ALSO ANNOUNCES NEW OUTAGE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND ON-CALL NUMBER

(Folsom, CA) As the mercury climbs this week, the California Independent System Operator (California ISO) is reminding consumers to curb their electricity use in order to minimize the strain on the power grid. The first warm spell of the season is expected to cause temperatures to jump 10 degrees, leading to a 2,000 megawatt increase in electricity consumption—the equivalent of two large power plants. The week started out with a peak demand of 28,835 megawatts, but by tomorrow it is forecasted to top 30,500 megawatts. This comes as hydroelectricity resources (both Northwest and California) run low, more than 10,000 megawatts of power plants remain off line due to planned and unplanned maintenance, and some 3,000 megawatts of Qualifying Facilities or alternative energy suppliers are not operating.

The California ISO's renewed call for conservation precedes a forecast of 90 degree highs in the inland areas that may tempt many Californians to flip on air conditioners. For conservation tips—such as using fans instead of air conditioners, setting thermostat at 78°, etc.—please see the California ISO's web site www.caiso.com.

## **New Notification System:**

With a challenging summer around the corner, the California ISO wants to do all it can to bring information to the public as quickly as possible. For that reason, a new notification system is being brought on line. Media and the public can now access the Internet to keep current if rotating blackouts are issued.

## **Navigation:**

Visit www.caiso.com

Click on **System Conditions** for current information on rotating outages (will appear only when activated) For previous outage information (last hour, etc.), click on **Market Notices**, scroll to bottom of page and click on Notice Log

-MORE-

Media Hotline: 888 516-NEWS

ISO HOT WEATHER-2-2-2

The California ISO is also testing a new service to notify newsrooms immediately by email should the ISO initiate

electrical emergencies (Stage One - Three) or rotating outages. If you would like to participate, please email

kwerst@caiso.com with a maximum of one email address per newsroom.

Additionally, a single on-call media pager number has been established: (916) 815-0679. To make it easier on

media, ISO Communications will no longer be posting on-call schedules for media spokespersons on the web site. Simply

call the on-call pager after hours.

News releases alerting the media to electrical emergencies will continue, as will news conferences held on-site in

Folsom and via telephone. As a reminder, if you wish to visit the ISO control rooms (in Folsom or Alhambra) always call

ISO Communications first at (888) 516-NEWS to make an appointment. Access to the control rooms may be limited on

certain days, depending on system conditions and/or level of requests from media.

-ISO-

Media Hotline: 888 516-NEWS