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Sent: 2/18/2011 1:37:01 PM
To: Hall, Thomas A. (thomas.hall@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: DRA Report Urges CPUC to Be More Discriminating on Contract Prices When Approving Renewable Contracts

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DRA Report Urges CPUC to Be More Discriminating on Contract Prices When Approving Renewable Contracts

SAN FRANCISCO, February 18, 2011 – The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), an independent consumer advocacy division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), has released *Green Rush: Investor-Owned Utilities' Compliance With the Renewables Portfolio Standard*, a report analyzing California investor-owned utilities' progress in renewable procurement and outlining ratepayer concerns with their renewable strategies.

The California Legislature has set standards for renewable procurement -- including 20 percent of utilities' power coming from renewable sources by 2010, with a flexible compliance date of 2013. DRA's report finds that utilities are well on their way to meeting the 20 percent goal as well as a 33 percent renewable level. But DRA's analysis finds that the CPUC has continued to approve renewable contracts more expensive than outlined standards, and that utilities have exceeded the Legislature's above-market fund cost cap by more than \$5 billion.

The report encourages the CPUC to be more discriminating in its approval of utility contracts for renewable procurement. DRA analysis has found that the CPUC has only rejected two

renewable contracts. *Green Rush* outlines specific measures that could help the CPUC bring ratepayer costs down while maintaining flexibility to help California get more of its power from sustainable, clean, renewable technologies.

You can [view the report on DRA's website](#), or request a copy by emailing Tom Hall at fbh@cpuc.ca.gov.

For more information on DRA, please visit www.dra.ca.gov.

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