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Sent: 4/25/2011 12:12:59 PM
To: Prosper, Terrie D. (terrie.prosper@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Co-Sponsors Burbank Small Business Expo and Matchmaking Fair: CPUC
Media Advisory

**FOR
IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA
ADVISORY**

Media
Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

**CPUC CO-SPONSORS BURBANK SMALL BUSINESS EXPO
AND MATCHMAKING
FAIR**

SAN
FRANCISCO,
April 25, 2011 - The
California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today announced it is partnering
with Governor Jerry Brown's office and Southern California Edison to host a
Small Business Expo and Matchmaking Fair to connect small businesses with
companies such as AT&T, Verizon, Comcast, and many others in an effort to
stimulate job growth in the state.

WHAT:

Burbank Small Business Expo and Matchmaking Fair, co-sponsored by Governor Brown's office, the CPUC, and Southern California

Edison. The event includes:

- Workshop on connecting businesses with state and utility contracts

- Matchmaking forum to learn of contracting opportunities firsthand

- One-on-one meetings with procurement specialist from major utilities, local government, and state agencies

- Vendor Fair

WHO:

- Marty Keller, Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Small Business Advocate

- Karl Meeusen, CPUC President Michael R. Peevey's Chief Energy Advisor

- Representatives from the companies listed below

WHEN:

Wednesday, April 27, 2011, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SCHEDULE

- 7 a.m.-8 a.m.: Registration and Matchmaking Signups and Complimentary Continental Breakfast

- 8 a.m.: Opening Comments by Mr. Keller and Mr. Meeusen

- 8:15 a.m.-9 a.m.: Presentation on Connecting Businesses with State and Utility Contracts Workshop with Q&A Opportunities

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m.: Matchmaking Session and Vendor Visits

Workshops:

- 9:30-10:30 a.m.: Access To Capital: How Small Business Can Access Financing

- 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Successful Techniques in Social Media and Search Engine Optimization

- 11:30 a.m. – Noon: Edison Supplier Diversity University (SCESU)

- Noon - 12:30 p.m.: Employment Retirement Income Security Act Overview

WHERE:

Burbank Marriott Airport and Hotel and Convention Center,
2500 N. Hollywood Way,
Burbank

WHY:

Learn how to obtain state and utility contracts and sell goods and services. Obtain valuable information on financial services, bonding/insurance, and pre-paid legal services. Obtain insights into ways to use social media and green business practices to grow your business. Learn how to access capital for your business.

The CPUC participates in small business events throughout the state to help connect small businesses to utilities and government procurement specialists. Through its Small Business Program the CPUC hopes to educate businesses on the benefits of becoming certified as a small business, woman-owned, minority owned, and/or disabled veteran-owned business

California State Agencies are under Executive Order to conduct 25 percent of their procurement and contracts with small businesses and 3 percent with Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises. These small business programs complement the CPUC's Supplier Diversity Program, which encourages participating utilities to increase procurement levels with women, minority, and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises.

PARTICIPANTS:

Expo

Tables:

Matchmaking Tables:

Small Business
Administration (SBA)
Department of General Services

Employment Development
Department (EDD)
Comcast

Department of General
Services

AT&T

Veterans Business Outreach Center

Verizon

CalTrans (California
Department of Transportation)

PG&E

California Department of
Veterans Affairs
Southern California Edison

Supplier
Clearinghouse
Sempra Energy Utilities

Burbank Chamber of
Commerce

La County

Verizon
CalTrans (CA Dept. of Transportation)

Pre-paid Legal
Services
California Water
Association

California Public Utilities
Commission
City of Burbank

Pacific Gas &
Electric Company (PG&E)

AT&T

Comcast

Southern California
Edison

Sempra
Energy Utilities (SDG&E, SoCalGas)

California Water
Association

California Highway
Patrol

College of the
Canyons
Small Business Development Center

Elite
Veterans

Wells Fargo

California Disabled Veterans
Business Enterprise Alliance

Valley Economic
Development
Center

City of Burbank

Los
Angeles County

Preferred Bonding and
Insurance Services

US Department of
Labor

Business Thru
Government

Pre-registration is encouraged but not required, as walk-ins are welcome. Those participating in the matchmaking fair are encouraged to register in advance by e-mail at smallbiz@cpuc.ca.gov . Please include company name, contact information, and type of business.

For more information on the CPUC's Small Business Program, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/smbus.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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