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Sent: 10/11/2011 4:21:24 PM  
To: 'cjs@cpuc.ca.gov' (cjs@cpuc.ca.gov)  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Fw: FP - FierceSmartGrid's Top 5 Smart Grid Utility Leaders Of 2011

Good news.

**From:** News Flash  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 11, 2011 03:49 PM  
**Subject:** FP - FierceSmartGrid's Top 5 Smart Grid Utility Leaders Of 2011

Smart grid efforts are being supported and recognized by the US DOE. The Fierce 5 awards for utility smart grid leadership were announced. PG&E was among the award winners.

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## **FierceSmartGrid's Top 5 Smart Grid Utility Leaders of 2011**

By Barb Lundin

Fierce Publications, October 11, 2011

According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), over 20 years, the smart grid could save \$46 billion to \$117 billion through the avoided costs of power plant, transmission line and substation construction. By 2025, increases in energy efficiency, renewable energy and distributed generation through the smart grid could save an estimated \$36 billion, according to the DOE.

Smart grid efforts are being supported by the DOE at the federal level and the anticipation of electric vehicles, pressure to accommodate renewable power, and state pressure to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption are all driving investments for upgrading the existing grid and making it more intelligent.

"A successful smart grid strategy is, first and foremost, dependent on adequate network infrastructure that is built to support enhanced visibility, monitoring and control of the grid," said Energy & Power Systems Principal Consultant Farah Saeed of Frost & Sullivan.

"The roll out of demand response programs, advanced meter infrastructure, and distribution grid management falls flat without planning for appropriate a network that offers high bandwidth, low latency, and interoperability. The industry has already witnessed projects that were hurt because network infrastructure was under-budgeted and/or underestimated. "

With that in mind, let me introduce you to the 2011 winners of the FierceSmartGrid Fierce 5 awards for utility smart grid leadership. The editors at FierceSmartGrid with input from industry executives and analysts have selected the Top 5 utility smart grid leaders based on

their vision, innovation, time to deploy, technology, and the potential to take the next steps needed to advance the industry, as well as percentage of smart meters deployed compared to service territory size.

For those of you who are familiar with other Fierce publications, you know that our Fierce 15 (or in this case, the Fierce 5) is something of a tradition around here. For those of you who are unfamiliar, we hope this scaled down version of the Fierce 15 will become a tradition for you as well.

Fierce 5 Winners:

1. Austin Energy
2. Salt River Project
3. Portland General Electric
4. **Pacific Gas & Electric**
5. San Diego Gas & Electric