| From: | Hall, Thomas A. |
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| Sent: | 1/10/2012 2:52:30 PM |
| To: | Hall, Thomas A. (thomas.hall@cpuc.ca.gov) |
| Cc: | |
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| Subject: | DRA Releases Annual Report, Highlighting 2011 Advocacy Success and 2012 Goals |

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DRA Releases Annual Report, Highlighting 2011 Advocacy Success and 2012 Goals

SAN FRANCISCO, January 10, 2012 – The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), an independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), today submitted its *2011 Annual Report* to the state Legislature, highlighting the successful advocacy DRA achieved on behalf of California residential and small business customers during 2011 and presenting DRA's goals for 2012.

DRA is mandated to present an annual report to the Legislature each January. The report is available on DRA's website.

DRA's 2011 principle advocacy successes include:

- Saving utility customers \$4.1 billion on their energy and water bills;
- Launching a strong opposition to the AT&T/T-Mobile merger and persuading the CPUC to open an investigation into the merger plan;
- Helping to formulate state policy on cost-effective renewable energy integration;

- Helping to formulate state policy on water and energy conservation; and
- Increasing the awareness of the need for accountability for utility safety programs.

In the report, DRA also lays out the consumer issues expected to continue in 2012, including electricity rate increases for customers in southern California; energy policy challenges to achieve the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals; natural gas pipeline safety; water conservation and rate design to keep water affordable; and appropriate criteria to achieve improved broadband adoption for unserved and under-served regions.

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

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