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To: Prosper, Terrie D. (terrie.prosper@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Offers Reminder of Expansion of Technologies Eligible for Net Energy Metering: CPUC Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE**

PRESS

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CPUC OFFERS REMINDER OF EXPANSION OF TECHNOLOGIES ELIGIBLE FOR NET ENERGY METERING

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2, 2012 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today offered a reminder that the Net Energy Metering (NEM) program has significantly expanded the scope of eligible renewable technologies that can participate in NEM. Customer-site distributed generation technologies that meet the resource definition of the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) can receive full retail rate NEM, where previously the tariff was limited mainly to solar and small wind technologies. To date, 99 percent of all NEM applications have come from solar projects.

Senate Bill (SB) 489 expanded the definition of eligible generation technologies for California's NEM program, effective January 1, 2012. Highlights of the bill include:

- Extends NEM to all technologies that meet the resource definition for the RPS program.
- Provides NEM for eligible biogas digester customer-generators.
- Modifies existing law that requires an eligible fuel cell customer-generator to use technology that meets the definition of an "ultra-clean and low-emission distributed generation". The new law requires an eligible fuel cell customer-generator to use technology that the CPUC determines will achieve reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases and meets emissions requirements for eligibility for funding under the Self-Generation Incentive Program. Thus, renewable-

powered fuel cells will now qualify for retail rate NEM and non-renewable fuel cells that meet the emission performance standard will receive NEM at the generation rate only.

California's NEM law originally took effect in 1996 and applies to all investor-owned utilities. The law has been amended numerous times since its enactment, most recently by SB 489, signed October 8, 2011.

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

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