

From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 12/19/2012 11:58:23 AM
To: mfl@cpuc.ca.gov (mfl@cpuc.ca.gov); Sepideh Khosrowjah (skh@cpuc.ca.gov) (skh@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: FW: PG&E Commits to Expanding Job Opportunities

FYI –

From: Aguilar, Orson [<mailto:orsona@greenlining.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2012 10:30 AM
To: Samuel Kang; Stephanie Chen
Subject: PG&E Commits to Expanding Job Opportunities

Dear members and allies,

We recently reached out to you regarding a potential change to PG&E's background check policy for its energy efficiency contractors. At the time, we were concerned that some aspects of the policy would have had a disproportionate impact on communities of color.

We are pleased to announce we have come to an agreement with PG&E on the issue. We believe that we have reached a fair and reasonable policy that balances the critical interests of customer safety and expanding job opportunities in our communities.

In particular, PG&E will not screen for misdemeanor drug convictions, which disproportionately impact communities of color. It will also institute an appeals process to help applicants whose checks come back with mistakes, which is a common problem. We will continue to work with PG&E in the new year as they implement the policy.

We are quite happy with the results we have achieved, and commend PG&E for its commitment to working with our communities and achieving this great victory with us. This policy follows in the steps of PG&E's earlier victory this year, of becoming the first utility in California to offer billing options in Spanish and Chinese. These recent victories demonstrate how PG&E's leadership has renewed its commitment to its customers and our communities. In many ways, PG&E is setting the pace for the rest of California's regulated utilities.

Since we have resolved the issue, we no longer need to reach out to the CPUC or to folks in Sacramento for their support. Rather, if you have reached out to anyone directly for their support on this issue, please forward them this message and let them know that Greenlining appreciates their support and advocacy. Please also let us know if there are particular groups or individuals that you would like Greenlining to follow up with directly, as we would be happy to more fully brief them on this great victory for our communities. Finally, we would encourage everyone who worked on this issue, to reach out to PG&E to congratulate the company on a great victory.

If you have any questions on this issue, please contact Stephanie Chen at stephaniec@greenlining.org.

Thank you and happy holidays!

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Orson Aguilar
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