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Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Increases Transparency With Improvements To Public Access To Documents: CPUC Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov
Docket #: L-436

**CPUC INCREASES TRANSPARENCY WITH IMPROVEMENTS
TO PUBLIC ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS**

SAN FRANCISCO, February 13, 2013 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today improved and streamlined the process for the public to access certain safety related documents received or generated by the CPUC.

The CPUC's regulations for public access to CPUC records, as outlined in General Order 66-C, are outdated and cumbersome, and often delay rather than facilitate access to records requested under the California Public Records Act. Today's decision provides the public with more immediate access to records of safety inspections, audits, and investigations, and sets the stage for opening a formal proceeding to further revise General Order 66-C to increase the CPUC's ability to provide documents to the public.

Under today's decision, the CPUC can disclose the following categories of safety related records, after any appropriate redactions, without requiring a vote of the CPUC or an Administrative Law Judge ruling as was needed previously: 1) CPUC-generated reports, summaries, and correspondence regarding completed CPUC safety related inspections, audits, and investigations; and 2) annual reports that gas operators file with the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. These documents will be posted to the CPUC's website.

Workshops will be conducted in the coming months to address remaining issues regarding disclosure of safety related records, including 1) the nature and treatment of other types of safety related records that utilities and other regulated entities provide to the CPUC, and 2) other issues regarding disclosure of CPUC-generated safety records.

The CPUC intends to open a Rulemaking in the near future to address improving the CPUC's procedures regarding the public's access to records that are not exempt under the California Public Records Act or other state or federal law, and the CPUC's ability to process records requests and requests for confidential treatment in an efficient, well-reasoned, and consistent manner.

The resolution voted on is available at <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M048/K767/48767561.PDF>.

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

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California Public Utilities Commission

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