

Redacted

February 12, 2009

CPUC Energy Division
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DMS Branch
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San Francisco, California 94102

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RE: Protest – Advice 3407-E

CPUC Energy Division:

On behalf of the [Redacted] we respectfully request that the California Public Utilities Commission considers mitigating in the near term the rate increases associated with Department of Water Resources (\$528 million increase) by lengthening the collection period.

By way of background, [Redacted], founded in 1978 by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, represents more than 285 of Silicon Valley's most respected employers. Our members collectively provide nearly 250,000 local jobs – or one of every four private sector jobs in Silicon Valley – with more than \$1 trillion in economic contribution toward the state and national economy.

As you know, we are in the midst of an economic downturn that has led to significant and continued job losses not only by Silicon Valley companies but also across California and our nation. Whatever reasonable steps that could be taken to ameliorate the impact of these rates increases would be of assistance in these challenging economic times.

[Redacted]

Cc: California Public Utilities Commissioners