

From: Prosper, Terrie D.
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To: Prosper, Terrie D. (terrie.prosper@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Supplier Diversity Program Hits Procurement Milestone: CPUC Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

**CPUC SUPPLIER DIVERSITY PROGRAM
HITS PROCUREMENT MILESTONE**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6, 2014 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said that companies participating in its Supplier Diversity Program have hit a new milestone of procuring \$8.5 billion in goods and services from women, minority, and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises.

The CPUC encourages companies to procure from diverse suppliers, who are by and large small businesses. In its General Order 156, the CPUC encourages investor-owned utilities to purchase 21.5 percent of goods and services from diverse firms (15 percent minority owned firms, 5 percent women-owned firms, and 1.5 percent disabled veteran-owned firms). Utilities and communication companies report annually on their procurement purchases from these enterprises. Reports detailing 2013 spending were submitted to the CPUC on March 3, 2014, and show an approximate \$500 million increase in procurement over 2012.

Of the more than 30 companies participating in the Supplier Diversity Program, those doing the most business with diverse firms in 2013 include:

- Pacific Gas and Electric Company: \$2.3 billion, or 42.1 percent
- Southern California Edison: \$1.4 billion, or 40.99 percent

- AT&T: \$1.2 billion, or 51.57 percent
- AT&T Wireless: \$999 million, or 27.74 percent
- Sprint: \$546 million, or 41.88 percent
- San Diego Gas & Electric: \$453 million, or 44.88 percent
- Southern California Gas Company: \$428 million, or 45.38 percent
- Verizon: \$115 million, or 48.84 percent
- Comcast \$64 million, or 22.35 percent

Said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey, a champion of the Supplier Diversity Program, “Thanks to the state’s Supplier Diversity Program, utilities and communication companies are investing in the diversity of America, and they continue to do so at an increasing level. I commend the companies for this accomplishment and challenge them to continue to grow their opportunities with diverse businesses. Small and diverse businesses are the backbone of our economy and play an important role in the state’s economic well-being.”

The 2013 diversity procurement reports can be viewed at

www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/SupplierDiversity/2013_Utility_Supplier_Diversity_Procurement

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

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Terrie Prosper

Director, News and Public Information Office

California Public Utilities Commission

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