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CPUC ADOPTS PLAN TO SAVE 60-80 PERCENT LIGHTING ENERGY USE STATEWIDE

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 23, 2010 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today adopted a plan to transform the lighting market and achieve a 60-80 percent reduction in statewide electrical lighting energy consumption. This plan will be a new chapter of the California Long Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan.

The CPUC said that lighting accounts for approximately one-fourth of California’s electricity use and promoting the widespread use of energy efficient lighting can lead to significant savings. The lighting chapter of the Strategic Plan focuses on development and dissemination of best practices; expanded and enhanced research, development, and demonstration infrastructure; cultivation of end user demand; and integrated, supportive state policies to yield a 60-80 percent reduction in California’s statewide lighting electricity consumption (over a 2010 baseline).

“The lighting chapter is a comprehensive strategy to bring together all aspects of the lighting market in California to achieve the state’s energy efficiency and zero net energy goals,” said CPUC Commissioner Dian M. Grueneich. “By coordinating public policy and regulations, building designers, owners, managers, occupants, consumers, and technology developers can make best practices in energy efficient lighting common practice.”

On Sept. 18, 2008, the CPUC adopted the Strategic Plan, presenting a single roadmap to achieve maximum energy savings across all major groups and sectors in California. This comprehensive plan for 2009 to 2020 is the state’s first integrated framework of goals and strategies for saving energy, covering government, utility, and private sector actions, and holds energy efficiency to its role as the highest priority resource in meeting California’s energy needs. The lighting chapter of the Strategic Plan was developed through a collaborative 18-month period and represents the work of more than 200 stakeholders from lighting, architecture, labor and electrical workers, laboratories, and various state agencies.

The proposal voted on by the CPUC is available at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PUBLISHED/AGENDA_DECISION/123750.htm.

The Strategic Plan is available at www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Energy+Efficiency/eesp/.

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