



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
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##### SCE Home Page

– [www.sce.com](http://www.sce.com)

##### Energy-Related Learning

– [www.sce.com/ctac](http://www.sce.com/ctac)  
– [www.sce.com/agtac](http://www.sce.com/agtac)

##### Statewide Transmission System Status

– [www.caiso.com](http://www.caiso.com)

##### Utility Regulation

– [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov)  
– [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)

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# POWER BULLETIN

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GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONS SEGMENT

## SCE Addresses Rate Changes and Offers Tips To Lower Summer Costs

At the recent Southern California Edison (SCE) Electricity Outlook sessions, business customers learned that SCE rates rose less than initially expected in April 2009, with a system-wide average increase of 0.4 ¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh), or 2.5%.

The smaller increase mainly resulted from adjustments related to lower natural gas costs – which affect a large percentage of the power SCE provides and all of the power allocated to SCE from the State of California – from regulatory changes and from one-time refunds related to renewable power and other programs.

SCE does anticipate an additional rate increase, along with rate schedule structural changes, later this year. But there are many steps you can take now to help offset recent and pending changes, particularly given the start of SCE's standard summer season on June 1 (July 1 for TOU-PA-SOP customers).

Businesses on a rate schedule containing seasonal charges will soon begin paying higher on-peak charges that reflect SCE's costs to meet greater summer electricity demand. Here are a few ways to reduce electric load during on-peak periods to improve your bottom line and help ensure adequate electricity supplies for your community:

- Turn off decorative and nonessential lighting and fountains.
- Raise cooling thermostat settings.
- Reduce use of multiple elevators and escalators.
- Delay dishwashing and laundry processes.

In addition, keep in mind that you can tap into SCE's wide array of energy efficiency and demand response programs to save even more energy and money. For example:

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1. Sign up today for the Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) Program for this summer, and earn rate discounts for shifting or reducing electricity use during critical peak events. As an added benefit, you will receive Bill Protection, meaning that if the CPP rate is not more beneficial for your business than your current rate schedule, you will be provided with a "true-up" credit after the summer season.
2. If you're on the Time-of-Use Base Interruptible Program – in which you receive a monthly credit for reducing demand during interruption events – also take advantage of the Demand Bidding Program (DBP) or Real-Time Pricing (RTP). The DBP, a flexible, Internet-based bidding program, gives you the opportunity to receive bill credits for voluntarily reducing power. RTP, which works well for customers with three-shifts-a-day operations, allows you to conserve and reduce power costs by taking advantage of hourly pricing variations.

For more information on all of SCE's customer-focused energy management programs and services, and tips on beating the heat and saving energy and money, contact your account representative or visit [www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/](http://www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/).

## How to Prepare for a Power Outage and What to Do When Experiencing One

At SCE, we strive to provide the highest level of reliability. However, sometimes unexpected events do result in the lights going out, or SCE needs to temporarily interrupt electric service for a planned outage to make system improvements that will enhance reliability in the future.

Knowing what to do during an outage can help keep you safe and make it less inconvenient:

- If your electricity stays off for longer than a few minutes, report an outage by calling 800.611.1911.
- If you are experiencing an outage and have access to the Internet, visit [www.sce.com/outage](http://www.sce.com/outage) to check on the status of the outage.
- Have an outage plan for critical equipment, and use surge protectors. If an outage occurs, shut off or disconnect sensitive electronic equipment to prevent the loss of data, equipment damage and/or a strain on the system when power returns.
- Maintain emergency lighting, and keep a kit with flashlights, battery-powered radios, bottled water and other emergency provisions.
- Know how to override or manually operate security gates.
- Before a planned outage, inform security and/or the phone companies that provide your business with alarm systems and private phone service of the outage.
- If you plan to operate an emergency generator during an outage, notify SCE first by calling 800.990.7788 to protect against possible dangerous electrical back feed.
- For additional outage-related resources and tips, visit [www.sce.com/outage](http://www.sce.com/outage).

We understand that outages cause inconvenience and business downtime, and getting your power back on quickly and safely is our greatest concern. SCE continues to enhance its restoration process and communications with customers about emergency and planned outages. Help us further improve the processes by completing the brief survey about planned outages that will appear as a link in all planned outage notifications in June. For more information, contact your account representative.

## Mark Your Calendars for West Coast Energy Management Congress in June

Make plans to attend the West Coast Energy Management Congress (EMC) on June 10-11, 2009, at the Long Beach Convention Center. Hosted by SCE, the EMC is the largest energy conference and technology expo held on the West Coast specifically for commercial, industrial and government and institutional energy users. It brings together top experts to help set an optimum path to both energy cost control and energy supply security.

SCE also will exhibit at the EMC, and if you go to the SCE listing on the exhibitor page of the EMC website, you can access free exhibits-only registration passes. For more information, visit [www.energyevent.com/](http://www.energyevent.com/).

## GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONS SEGMENT FOCUS

### Walnut Valley Schools Save Money and Keep Kids First With SCE Programs

"The money we don't spend on electricity is money we can invest in the high quality of our educational program," said Steve P. Zamora, energy manager for the Walnut Valley Unified School District, located about 25 miles east of downtown Los Angeles.

Zamora's challenge is to deliver electricity to the District's 16,000 students and 16 sites while keeping control of energy costs. The support of SCE, "our long-time partner for managing energy wisely," and account executive John Rensch, "who's been an immense help through the entire process," enables Zamora get the best return on Walnut Valley Unified's energy dollars.

"A comfortable environment helps kids learn, and we strive for that, but we strive as well to be responsible with money," said Zamora, a 24-year District veteran. "So it's vital to save energy as part of that educational mission."

#### SCE's Money-Saving Opportunities

"Since the 1990s we've been very attentive to our energy costs," Zamora added. "Some of our buildings date from the days when energy efficiency wasn't a consideration, so we retrofitted extensively with help from SCE." In a recent example, last year Walnut Valley Unified installed 15 new high-efficiency multi-zone air conditioner units at four sites, which earned an SCE rebate of \$82,000, plus ongoing energy savings.

In addition to making such upgrades, the District continues to take advantage of other money-saving opportunities like SCE's Summer Discount Plan (SDP) and Demand Bidding Program (DBP).

The SDP permits SCE to turn off, or "cycle," customers' air conditioner compressors during peak-usage times in return for significant bill credits. It runs from June to October, and customers can choose their level of participation.

A flexible, Internet-based program, the DBP offers participants the opportunity to receive credits for voluntarily reducing power when a DBP event is called. Customers who take part in the SDP and DBP can lower their operating costs and help alleviate potential power shortages in California.

"We already have SCE's SDP devices on hundreds of air conditioning units throughout the District, some as large as 60 tons," Zamora noted, "and we're adding 26 more units to high schools this year."

#### Program Savings of Nearly \$90,000

In 2008, the District saved \$81,500 with SDP, a number that could double this year with a change from the 50% cycling option to the 100% option – meaning that the compressors will remain off for the duration of SDP events. Zamora explained, "It's another way of getting more in savings."

As for the DBP, Zamora added, "When I use our computerized energy management system to power down our air conditioning and adjust the thermostats up by just one or two degrees, the Demand Bidding Program can save us hundreds of dollars in a single day."

Overall, the DBP saved the District \$8,350 in 2008 alone. Zamora noted, "Best of all, there's no compromise to comfort, even during the hottest days. The only place we see any change from the norm is on the bottom line. The savings speak for themselves. With all the SCE energy efficiency programs we've used over the years to upgrade equipment, and with taking part in demand response events, we can document savings of about \$5.3 million."

To learn more about SCE's complete array of energy management programs, contact your account representative or visit [www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/](http://www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/).



The Walnut Valley Unified School District saved nearly \$90,000 last year by participating in SCE's Summer Discount Plan and Demand Bidding Program.