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CALIFORNIA'S ENERGY CHALLENGE

California is facing a major energy challenge.

We can all help reduce consumption and improve energy efficiency. While California continues to experience electrical shortages and rolling blackouts, Governor Davis and leaders of the California Legislature are working with utilities, energy generators, and consumer groups to forge a long-term solution to this problem. In the short run, California's consumers and businesses can work to reduce electricity usage and use energy more efficiently.

The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists and all State of California agencies have implemented a plan to reduce consumption by a minimum of 8 percent. During critical power shortages, State agencies will conserve 20 percent. The Governor also has asked all Californians to reduce their electricity use by at least 8 percent.

California has the power of nearly 35 million people and the sixth largest economy in the world. By implementing a few simple energy-savings measures, we can avoid shortages, lower energy bills, and have a **major impact** on the availability of power.

We're asking you to flex your power. Each of us has an important role to play right now.

- * Reduce usage during peak demand hours- 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- * Turn off all non-essential lights and equipment. When you're not using it, turn it off. Unplug equipment not in regular use, such as VCRs and phone chargers. Putting computers in "sleep" mode can save up to 40 percent in energy consumption.
- * Turn thermostats to 68 degrees or lower during the day. At home, turn the temperature down to 55 degrees before going to sleep or when gone for the day. For every one degree you lower your thermostat, you'll save up to 5 percent on your heating bill.
- * At night, close shades and blinds to reduce heat lost through windows.
- * Buy Energy Star® appliances, products, and lights, which are more energy efficient than older models.
- * Seal off unused or storage areas from heating.

Kids also can save energy through their schools by turning off lights, computers, and other electrical equipment during recess and after school. Tell your kids: "Save a little, save a watt."

Taken together, each of these small steps adds up. Whether at work or at home, we can make a **dramatic difference** in the energy crunch.

This publication is available on the Board's website at: www.dca.ca.gov/geology



ON-DEMAND TESTING

Board staff is continuing to move towards on-demand testing for the California-Specific portion of the Registered Geologist licensing examination. The Office of Examination Resources, within the Department of Consumer Affairs, and the Board's Examination Unit are working with Experior LLC, a company with testing centers located throughout the country. By the end of this calendar year, it is anticipated that approved applicants for the Registered Geologist licensing examination will be able to take the one-hour California-Specific examination at one of Experior's testing centers. This should enable applicants to schedule the California-Specific examination at a time and location that is more convenient to them. Please call the Board's office for more information on this subject.

WHERE ARE YOU?



The answer to the Winter 2000, Newsletter, "Where Are You" is:

Glacial Striations, Donner Pass

Glacially polished and striated Mesozoic granitic rocks near Donner Pass, Tahoe National forest. Quaternary glacial moraines formed a dam for Donner Lake as well as the gently sloping central ridge. The Carson Range (distant background) is located in the rain shadow east of the Sierra Nevada and experienced only minor glacial erosion.

REVISED ACT

The Board has submitted to the Legislature proposed revisions to the Geologists and Geophysicists Act. Senator Liz Figueroa, Chair of the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee and the Business and Professions Committee, has agreed to author this proposed legislation in Senate Bill 136. Amendments to this bill may be viewed, as they occur, at the Legislature's website: www.leginfo.ca.gov or by calling the Board's office.

THANK YOU

The Board thanks the many professional volunteers who recently participated in the Certified Engineering Geologists Item-writing workshops. The questions that have been submitted to the Board will be reviewed by the Board's Examination Committee prior to being entered into the examination data bank. Good Work!

February 2001