



Women's Energy Matters  
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### **CPUC DECISION ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS FOR 2010-12 TRIES TO FIX THE BLEEDING BUT KEEPS FOXES AND WOLVES IN CHARGE**

*PG&E's EE lawyer Bill Miller, Feb. 28, 2008: "The kind of collaboration that's going to underlie success is absolutely unprecedented. You know, the fox, and the chicken, and the wolf, and the piglet all have to work together — in a way that they never have before — and it's really daunting us in terms of thinking how that could even happen."*

See WEM's video at [http://www.womensenergymatters.org/video/pgvideo\\_eesp.htm](http://www.womensenergymatters.org/video/pgvideo_eesp.htm)

With over-the-top fanfare the California Public Utilities Commission approved a 400-pg. decision today, awarding \$3.1B for 2010-12 ratepayer-funded energy efficiency (EE) programs in the investor-owned utility territories of PG&E, So. California Edison, San Diego Gas & Electric and So. Cal. Gas. See all documents in the case at <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/published/proceedings/A0807021.htm>

Women's Energy Matters (WEM) has advocated for ratepayers in EE proceedings since 2001. WEM's Executive Director Barbara George stated, "The decision puts in place more of what's needed for energy savings to happen. But it keeps utilities in charge, with all their conflicting motivations. There are more watchdogs, but the foxes and wolves are still running the barnyard."

#### ***Some of the good news... The decision:***

- Strengthens the role of CPUC staff to improve program designs and keep them on track. In a last minute change, at WEM's urging the CPUC put its Energy Division in charge of cooperative efforts to implement the Strategic Plan (canceling many utility-controlled Task Forces);
- Requires in-depth residential retrofits and reduces funds for Compact Fluorescent Lights (utilities have primarily focused on CFLs for residential customers);
- Forces PG&E to create On-Bill Financing (though only for commercial customers);
- Forbids utilities to "use energy efficiency funds in any way which would discourage or interfere with a local government's efforts to consider becoming, or to become, a Community Choice Aggregator" (Ordering Paragraph #42)

#### ***Some of the bad news... The decision:***

- Fails to penalize PG&E for its current misuse of EE funds to fight Community Choice (see WEM's video [PG&E tries to buy Novato](#));
- Subjugates cities to utility-controlled "partnerships;" invites utilities to violate jurisdictional boundaries, for example controlling codes & standards and school curricula;
- Fails to prevent utilities from claiming EE profits (aka *shareholders incentives*) on federal stimulus dollars.

*WEM will continue to provide a public interest perspective on energy efficiency in California; the next major CPUC decision (later this fall) will be on Evaluation & Measurement for 2010-12 EE programs. WEM is also a leader of Community Choice efforts in California.*