

2010 to 2015: Significant Events related to Assembly U&C CPUC Oversight

- In September 2010 the tragic San Bruno pipeline explosion killed eight people, injured 66, and destroyed 38 homes. Subsequent federal and independent reviews revealed serious deficiencies in the CPUC's oversight of PG&E.
- In December 2011 nearly 500,000 Californians experienced widespread power outages of up to 6 days in the Los Angeles region due to windstorms. This committee's investigation revealed that the CPUC allowed SCE to keep unspent maintenance funds and that the CPUC does not check to make sure that the maintenance work was performed.
- In January 2012 a leak of contaminated steam was detected at one of the two new replacement generators at the San Onofre Nuclear Power Station (SONGS).
- In June 2013 SCE decided to permanently shut down SONGS as a result of design flaws affecting the both generators.
- In January 2015 PG&E's released 65,000 emails between the CPUC and PG&E. These emails revealed a cozy relationship between the CPUC and PG&E.
- In February 2015 we learned about a meeting in March 2012 between then-CPUC President Peevey and an SCE executive in Warsaw where a settlement framework was outlined.
- In November 2014 the CPUC allocated three quarters of the cost of the SONGS generators to be paid by ratepayers "without review of the expenses for the steam generator replacement projects" and consistent with the notes from the Warsaw meeting. Parties to the settlement have asked for the proceeding to be reopened.
- In July 2015 transformer fires caused a power outage lasting for days that affected thousands of residents and businesses in Long Beach. A subsequent analysis reported SCE did not have accurate maps of its electrical network in Long Beach.
- In October 2015 a major leak at the Aliso Canyon Gas storage facility owned by Southern California Gas Company resulted in the relocations of thousands of people who live nearby in the Porter Ranch and Granada Hills communities. This leak occurred nearly a year after SoCal Gas had filed a report at the CPUC that indicated that it was experiencing, since 2008, a "negative integrity trend" at the wells it operates. The leaking well was plugged on February 12 this year. Residents have on-going worries about health and safety and the region may be exposed to problems with electric and gas reliability.