



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

Business and Financial Affairs
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Sally Roush
Vice President

October 13, 2011

The Honorable Christine Kehoe
Chair, Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management
State Capitol
Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Bonnie Lowenthal
Chair, Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

The Honorable Steven Bradford
Chair, Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0051

Dear Chairwoman Kehoe, Chairwoman Lowenthal and Chairman Bradford,

I am responding to the inquiry directed to the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University (“CSU”) regarding concerns about San Diego State University’s response to the massive power outage that occurred in San Diego County on September 8, 2011.

San Diego State University (“SDSU”) has a 14 MW co-generation plant with capacity to power much of the SDSU campus. When the Sept. 8 county-wide power outage occurred, a message through SDSU’s loud speaker system was broadcast stating that classes were cancelled. SDSU’s first priority for power was directed to as many of SDSU’s residence halls as possible. As standard practice to account for every resident in the Residence Halls during any emergency, hall coordinators and their staff collected ID cards.

The co-generation facility had to be disconnected from the SDG&E grid before it could be re-started on a stand-alone basis. All but three residence halls were quickly up and running on full power. Those three halls, including Villa Alvarado, Maya Hall, and Olmeca Hall are on the SDG&E grid, not the campus co-generation facility. Student residents of those three halls were advised to relocate to a large assembly room in Tenochca Hall where we provided cots, food and water. Chapultepec Hall is on SDSU’s co-generation facility, but co-gen power was not restored to Chapultepec until about 8:30 p.m. Students in all halls heard the 4:00 p.m. campus-wide message alert that indicated classes were cancelled. Some

students in Chapultepec believed they should evacuate the building, but the Residence Hall Coordinator informed them such was not necessary. Students were directed to the dining room, where food was available, to await the restoration of power. If students chose, they were allowed to check out of the residence hall system to stay with friends or family. No residential student was ordered to leave campus. When power restoration began throughout the county, at SDG&E's request SDSU exported 2 MW of power to assist SDG&E with its managed process to restore power incrementally and safely.

We are not aware of the source of the information in the *LA Times* article, nor did we receive complaints from students or their parents about our management of the situation.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to this concern. Please feel free to contact me if you need further information or clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sally F. Roush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sally" being the most prominent.

Sally F. Roush
Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs

c: President Elliot Hirshman
Members, Joint Committee on Emergency Management
Members, Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
Jackie Koenig, Committee Consultant