



DRA

*Division of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission*

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JOSEPH P. COMO
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April 19, 2012

Honorable Jerry Hill
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3160
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1703 (Hill) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Hill:

DRA (Division of Ratepayer Advocates) is an independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). DRA's statutory mandate is to obtain the lowest possible rate for utility service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. DRA also advocates for customer and environmental protections in connection with utility service.

DRA supports your AB 1703, which would require investor-owned utilities (IOU) to report to the CPUC on the outcome of civil actions brought against them regarding safety issues that could jeopardize the lives or health of Californians, as specified.

AB 1703 would help the CPUC improve its efforts to ensure safe and reliable utility operations by ensuring it receives timely safety information identified in civil actions by individuals with critical information about utility safety practices. With this information, CPUC decision-makers can continue to advance their renewed commitment to safety by making well-informed decisions to ensure essential utility services are provided in the safest and most reliable manner.

DRA supports your AB 1703 and looks forward to working with you to ensure this bill is enacted into law.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call DRA's Legislative Director Matthew Marcus, at (916) 327- 3455 or me at (415) 703- 2381.

Respectfully,

Joseph P. Como, Acting Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates

By
Matthew Marcus
Legislative Director