

Public Utility Commission of Texas

1701 N. Congress, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326

News Release
Thursday, July 30, 2015

Contact: Terry Hadley 512-936-7135

PUC Urges Electricity Conservation

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) urges Texans to conserve electricity this afternoon as record electricity demand and higher than normal temperatures exist throughout the state.

The PUC advises residential and business customers to adjust air conditioning thermostats at least two degrees higher and turn off unnecessary lighting. Customers also are asked to run dishwashing and laundry appliances after sunset or later. When the weather gets hot, electricity usage peaks between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The National Weather Service has issued a heat advisory for areas of eastern Texas from the Gulf Coast north to the Red River until 7 p.m. Thursday, including the cities of Beaumont, Tyler and Texarkana. Thursday's heat index is expected to top 105 degrees in most areas of the state east of I-35.

The current conservation alert can be found on the PUC Website by linking to the colored box near the lower right corner of the PUC home page at www.puc.texas.gov.

**Conservation Needed
Power Watch**

On YELLOW days, extra conservation measures are urged because of a chance that electricity shortages may occur during the peak usage hours. Check other no or low-cost conservation tips and other energy efficiency improvements you can make to your home by clicking on the links from the Web page: <http://www.puc.state.tx.us/agency/conserves/Conserve.aspx>

Go to www.powertochoose.org to see if you can save money by switching to a lower cost retail electricity provider. Your choice will not affect electric service reliability, the frequency or duration of outages, or the time it will take to have your electric service restored if an outage occurs.

Information about bill payment assistance, low-income weatherization and energy efficiency measures is on the PUC Website and by phone toll-free at 1-888-782-8477.

All PUC News Releases are available at www.puc.texas.gov