

DOE NEWS

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Jill Schroeder 202/586-4940

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Energy Secretary To Announce Success of Federal Plan to Increase State Power Transmission on Path 15

Federal Initiative is First-Ever Progress to Relieve Electricity Bottlenecks

WASHINGTON – U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham will be in Los Angeles Monday to announce the successful results of the federal government's plan to expand the State's power grid on Path 15 by attracting private investment. About a dozen proposals were submitted by the end of last week in response to the federal government's request for investors to help build the Path 15 expansion and help relieve a serious bottleneck in the flow of electricity from Southern to Northern California.

The Path 15 power lines near Los Banos have been eyed for expansion for at least a decade, but little or no action has ever been done. The Bush Administration's plan to upgrade Path 15 is a critical component in solving the State's energy crisis, especially as the dozens of long-term contracts between the State and power generators take effect. Many of those contracts are for power generated in Southern California, which must be squeezed up Path 15 to meet demand in Silicon Valley and San Francisco. California grid officials report that this bottleneck was responsible for many of the previous blackouts in Northern California.

WHO: Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham

WHAT: Announcement of Increased State Power Transmission on Path 15

WHEN: Monday, July 23, 2001
9:30 AM

WHERE: United States Federal Building
Room C206 (behind the Cafeteria)
11000 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90024

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