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Heat wave expected this weekend BANC anticipates no problems serving member utilities' demand

The region is expecting another heat wave, with temperatures forecasted to be well above 100 degrees through the Labor Day weekend. The Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC) has enough power resources to meet demand, barring a regional or state grid emergency.

High temperatures, especially over consecutive days, can drive increased air-conditioning needs, which can result in higher energy usage and strain supplies. Heat wave weather can also stress the electric grid.

While BANC does not anticipate any problems serving load this weekend, BANC is asking customers of its member to limit their electricity use and raise thermostats to 78 degrees during the hours of **3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. this holiday weekend.** Also, limiting the use of both hot water and cold water will reduce demand for electricity needed for pumping, processing and delivery.

BANC is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) consisting of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), Modesto Irrigation District (MID), Roseville Electric, Shasta Lake Public Utility District, Trinity Public Utility District and Redding Electric Utility. BANC is responsible for operational resource plans, continuously matching load and generation, monitoring power line loads, and coordinating with neighboring balancing authorities including the Bonneville Power Administration, the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and Turlock Irrigation District.

BANC is an independent balancing authority within the western electricity power grid. By controlling its own system, BANC is not required to participate in rotating outages that might be required of California utilities, which are located in other balancing authority areas. BANC will initiate rotating outages only in the event of a major equipment failure or transmission loss, caused by something such as a large fire. BANC continues to support the statewide electricity grid in the event of an electrical emergency and when surplus power is available.

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About BANC:

BANC began operations in May 2011. BANC is the third largest balancing authority in California and the 16th largest in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council. BANC's area currently extends from the Oregon border to Modesto and from Sacramento to the Sierra and includes the transmission grid of the Western Area Power Administration's Sierra Nevada Region and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamations' generation resources in California. BANC includes the California-Oregon Transmission Project (COTP), the MID system and the SMUD system. BANC is responsible to the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for complying with mandatory reliability standards that began with the Energy Policy Act of 2005. BANC was formed from the SMUD Balancing Authority, which was created in 2002 to strengthen local control and improve the ability to serve customers. More information about BANC is available at www.theBANC.org

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