



# BALANCING AUTHORITY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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## **Balancing Authority of Northern California faces peak alert day, power shortfalls are possible**

The Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC) is asking customers of its member utilities to limit their use of electricity during this afternoon's high temperatures. With the Bootleg Fire in Oregon impacting critical transmission lines, energy imported from the Pacific Northwest has been reduced. With the heavy use of air conditioners, electricity could push to record levels, requiring the use of all BANC power sources. With help from member utilities, BANC will do everything possible to keep the power on, but power shortfalls are possible.

BANC member utilities are asking residential customers to raise thermostat settings on air conditioners to 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. In addition, residential customers can help by limiting the use of household appliances during the hours of **3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.** Limiting the use of both hot water and cold water will lower the demand for electricity needed for pumping, processing and delivery.

BANC member utilities are asking commercial and industrial customers to reduce the use of lighting not essential for safety purposes in garages, hallways, lobbies, warehouses and displays. The minimized use of office equipment, supply and exhaust fans, circulating pumps, and maintenance and repair equipment will also allow the utilities to lower demand for electricity.

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 a true regional electrical emergency.

### **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 [theBANC.org](http://theBANC.org)