

NEWS RELEASE

July 24, 2006

(Lodi, CA) – The City of Lodi has experienced record breaking demand for electricity in recent days, reaching an all time peak of 137 megawatts (MW) on Friday, July 21; the previous record was 129 MW set in 2003.

The entire State of California has also experienced record electricity usage. The high demand for electricity is expected to continue today, with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) predicting the possibility of rotating outages (brownouts) this afternoon. Lodi is within the CAISO electric network and will comply if called upon to participate.

With additional energy conservation, citizens can reduce the possibility of rotating outages:

- Set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher.
- Turn off or set the thermostat at 85 degrees when away from home.
- Cool with fans when possible.
- Keep your window coverings closed.
- Turn off unneeded lights, computers and appliances.
- Use large appliances only in the early morning and late at night.

According to Lodi Electric Utility Director, George Morrow, "Customers in Lodi experienced very few interruptions in local service this past week. Our system performed very well with only some minor localized problems, well within what's expected during this period of record heat."

Lodi residents are encouraged to watch out for those family members and friends that may have health or age-related problems that may be escalated during this prolonged heat wave.

The CAISO has issued a warning as of this morning, with the next level being a Stage 1 Alert. During Stage 1, consumers are urged to reduce their use of electricity voluntarily to avoid severe conditions. For the most recent information regarding power demand today in Lodi, please tune to Radio Lodi on AM 1250.



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