CONNECTIONS

Customer Services: 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) ■ Hours: M-F 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. ■ Best times to call: 7-8 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Meter readers need assistance from dog owners

It's an occupational hazard. Each day, SMUD meter readers must do what canine experts warn the rest of us to avoid: Step into a back yard where a dog might be loose.

But you can help reduce the risk. Although utility workers are trained to spot potential danger before entering a yard and to defend themselves when attacked, there are times when no amount of preparation can avert disaster.

Each year, about a dozen SMUD employees are bitten on the job.

Since dogs are instinctively protective of their homes and families, customers should take steps to ensure their pets don't cause injury to utility workers. To avoid any problems

DATE .

Post a sign on your fence to aler



For the safety of all, dogs need to be secured when meter readers are in the neighborhood.

and others to the presence of a dog in the yard.

- Confine your pet when workers are in the area. Never restrain a dog near the meter.
- Determine when SMUD meter readers will be in your yard by viewing a meterreading schedule at www.smud.org/meter/schedule.html. For residential customers, a schedule for the upcoming year is included in the December bill.
- If you are in the yard at the same time as a SMUD worker, put your pet in the house. Even a friendly dog can become

protective in the presence of a stranger.

If you're a new customer, or if you have a new dog, please inform SMUD by calling 1-888-742-5MUD (7683).

Pedal your way to RECD. NOVE 8 200 better health, less traffic, cleaner air

Bicycling is the most energy-efficient mode of travel. It's a great way to relieve stress, conserve gas and spare the air. Plus, riding a bike to work means fewer cars on the road.

Join SMUD's Power Pedalers and other teams of cyclists in the Commuter Bike Challenge during California Bike Commute Week, May 17-21. For more information about special offers and prizes, visit the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates' Web site at www.sacbike.org.

On Bike to Work Day – Thursday, May 20 – a Bike Fest will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 10th and I streets in downtown Sacramento, across from City Hall.

For those living or working along the Highway 50 corridor, there will be a rally on Friday, May 21, at Folsom City Hall. For more information, see www.50corridor.com.

Comparison of typical electric bills

Monthly bill for residential usage of 750-kilowatt-hours rates averaged over the full year (winter and summer).

Amounts shown are based on rates in effect May 1, 2004.

Roseville Electric	\$66.50
Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)	\$68.01
L.A. Department of Water & Power	\$78.11
Southern California Edison	\$100.40
Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	\$100.80
San Diego Gas & Electric	\$114.72

Summer rates take effect next month

SMUD reminds customers that summer rates begin May 1 and continue through Oct. 31.

As the demand for electricity increases during the warmer summer months, so does SMUD's cost to supply energy.

This increased cost results in a seasonal adjustment for residential rates during the summer season.

The average season rate will go from 9.34 cents to 10.28 cents per kilowatt-hour. Your bill for usage beginning May 1 will reflect the higher rate.

The rates will be adjusted down in November when energy costs drop.

SMUD's annual average rate for residential customers remains lower than PG&E's.

704/04/RESCE

Free classes offered on efficient home lighting, cooling

Whether you're interested in learning how to illuminate your home in energy-efficient light or finding out better ways to cool your home during the summer months, plan to take advantage of these classes offered by SMUD's Energy and Technology Center:

Designing with Light, Saturday, May 15, 9 to 11:30 a.m., no charge.

Learn about the many ways to light your home while improving its look, feel and energy-efficiency.

This session covers general types of lighting in addition to specific applications for the different rooms of a home.

The class is for individuals with minimal to

intermediate lighting knowledge.

Cooling Your Home, Saturday, May 22, 10 a.m. to noon, no charge.

To cool your home during summer months with maximum energy efficiency, there are specific maintenance requirements and easy modifications you can make. Let SMUD energy specialists show you how.

Workshops are held at SMUD's Customer Service Center, 6301 St.

Reservations are required for these classes.

To register or find out about upcoming workshops, visit www.smud.org (click on "Energy Education"), call 1-916-732-6738 or fax 1-916-732-6229.■

EnergyHELP: People helping people in our community

Since EnergyHELP was launched last fall, more than 1,900 SMUD customers have signed on to help financially strapped people in our community to keep their lights on.

The voluntary participants in SMUD's EnergyHELP program add as little as \$1 a month to

their monthly SMUD bills to help low-income customers maintain electricity service. EnergyHELP contributions are tax-deductible.

Contributors to EnergyHELP select a participating charity to receive their donations. The charity then uses those funds to help pay the electric bill of

qualified SMUD customers with an immediate need. SMUD partners with The Salvation Army and Sacramento Food Bank Services in this program.

To enroll in SMUD's EnergyHELP, visit www.smud.org (click "Serving Your Home") or call 1-888-742-SMUD (7683).

POWER CONTENT LABEL

ENERGY RESOURCES	SMUD 2003 POWER MIX* (actual)	2002 CA POWER MIX** (for comparison)
Eligible Renewable	9%	9%
- Biomass & waste	4%	3%
- Geothermal	2%	4%
- Small hydroelectric	2%	2%
- Solar	<1%	0%
- Wind	1%	<1%
Coal	7%	15%
Large Hydroelectric	34%	23%
Natural Gas	45%	42%
Nuclear	5%	11%
Other		<1%
TOTAL	100%	100%

^{*53%} of SMUD 2003 Resources are specifically purchased from individual suppliers or generated by SMUD.

For specific information about this electricity product, contact SMUD. For general information about the Power Content Label, contact the California Energy Commission at 1-800-555-7794 or www.energy.ca.gov/consumer.

Power supplies for 2003: How to read SMUD's Power Content Label

The Power Content Label (left) compares SMUD's generated and purchased power for 2003 to the State of California power mix for 2002.

To reflect the inclusion of "generic" outside power purchases, SMUD, as mandated by state law, uses State of California averages to calculate its purchase power mix. Because of this, the SMUD 2003 power mix shows percentages for nuclear- and coal-generated power. SMUD does not generate any of its own power using coal or nuclear fuel. Nor does SMUD specifically purchase power generated by coal or nuclear fuel.

SMUD Board of Directurs

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Linda Davis • Ward T

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President • Ward 5 Vice President • Ward 7 Susan Patterson • Ward 2 Genevieve Shiroma • Ward 4

Meetings: Held on every first Thursday of the month at 6 n.m. and overy third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the SMUI

Meetings: Held on every first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. and every third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the SMUD HQ Auditorium, 6201.5 St., Sacramento. NOTE: Meeting times and locations are subject to change.

For the latest information and agenda, visit www.smud.org or call the Board Office at (916) 732-6155.

^{**}Percentages are estimated annually by the California Energy Commission based on electricity sold to California consumers during the previous year.