

CBS

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KACEY MONTOYA, anchor:

The California Energy Commission warns nearly 20 percent of the state's electricity could be lost if Cogeneration contracts aren't renewed. Cogeneration is a highly efficient use of energy that uses a single fuel source to produce two energy sources. It keeps our lights on and our energy bills down, but we are at risk of losing it.

Ms. AUDRIE KRAUSE (CogenWorks Spokesperson): More efficient than just operating a power plant, almost twice as efficient. They're cleaner, they're more environmentally sound because they're producing two types of energy at once.

MONTOYA: During the 2001 energy crisis and recent hurricanes, it was Cogeneration that helped keep the power on. There are five of those plants in California, even one in Palm Springs right behind City Hall. But it's now in the hands of the California Public Utilities Commission. Now, you can contact state commissioners and urge them to keep the Cogeneration plants to help keep costs down and the environment clean.