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**PUTTING A LID ON IT:
COGENERATION AND CAPPING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

STATEMENT RELEASED BY AUDRIE KRAUSE, SPOKESWOMAN, COGENWORKS, IN RESPONSE TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION ACTION ON GREENHOUSE GASES:

“Note to CPUC Commissioners: with today's vote to develop a cap on future greenhouse gas emissions for the state's utilities, we urge you to remember that we're at risk of losing one emission reduction strategy that's already in place and working.

“Cogenerated electricity is taking the equivalent of more than 5 million cars a year off the road. That represents 26,053,093 tons of CO₂, along with a reduction of 7,607 tons of smog-forming emissions (NO_x) that we benefit from right now.

“But those emission reductions are at risk, as contracts for cogeneration approach expiration, with no sign of renewals in sight.

“Cogeneration is the use of one fuel, usually natural gas, to produce two forms of energy. It provides 17 percent of the state's electricity – as well as steam that's used for everything from heating schools and hospitals, to industrial operations at food processors and oil fields. That's at risk too, if cogeneration contracts are allowed to expire.

“In spite of the key role cogeneration plays both in meeting the state's electricity needs, and in providing environmental benefits, we could lose it without CPUC action.

“CogenWorks, a coalition representing cogenerators in California, urges you to take action to preserve this existing power and pollution-prevention resource. Specifically we ask you to do three things: set specific targets for use of cogenerated power, establish an open and fair process for cogenerators and utilities to follow, and require greater transparency with regard to utility prices and costs.”

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