TO: EMPLOYERS COVERED BY CalPERS, EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA'S ENERGY CHALLENGE

During this critical energy crisis period, we want to reassure you that the vital CalPERS services you rely on will continue to be available.

In the event that CalPERS does experience a full power shutdown, our data centers, Telephone Information Center, and trade room will remain in operation until 5:00 p.m. For all other phone service, a voicemail message will be put in place notifying CalPERS employers and members of early closure each business day.

Employers submitting payroll reports during this time would not be impacted if CalPERS experiences a blackout. However, if your workplace should experience a blackout and a situation arises that would prevent you from submitting payment and/or the data to us by the required due date, please notify us in writing to request an extension. When making the request, be sure to include an explanation and mail it to:

California Public Employees' Retirement System
Actuarial and Employer Services Division - DC Unit
Payroll Processing Unit
P.O. Box 2709
Sacramento, CA 94229-2709

How would a blackout experienced at your office affect the data being sent to CalPERS? If a blackout occurs before you have completed and saved a transaction headed for our Corporate Registration System (CRS), it will be lost and will not be on our system. You will need to re-enter your transaction once your power has been restored. (CalPERS will post a notice on our bulletin board for CRS users to alert you that key transactions were lost and will need to be re-entered.)

Employers on the Automated Communication Exchange System (ACES) should verify that files have been received by CalPERS after you have experienced a blackout by checking in the ACES application. If your files were not received, you will need to resubmit your file transfer by using the ACES application once your power has been restored.
The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), and all State of California agencies, have implemented a plan to reduce consumption by a minimum of eight percent. During critical power shortages, the State will conserve 20 percent. The Governor has also asked all Californians to reduce their electricity use by seven percent.

CalPERS is doing its part to reduce energy consumption and has turned off escalators, dimmed the lights in hallway corridors during business hours, asked staff to turn off unnecessary appliances, such as radios; extra work lamps, monitors, printers and computers not in use; and made sure all energy sources are turned off at the end of the work day.

We urge you to encourage your employees to do the same. By reducing power, conserving energy and implementing a few simple energy-saving measures, we can help avoid shortages, lower energy bills, and reduce the impact of the energy crisis.

If you have a business service question or concern, please feel free to contact Actuarial and Employer Services Division at (916) 326-3420.

Kenneth W. Marzion, Chief
Actuarial and Employer Services Division