



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
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TO: **SWIMMING POOL OWNERS/OPERATORS**

DATE: **July 2006**

SUBJECT: **POWER CRISIS**

As you probably are aware, the demand for electrical power within the State has frequently exceeded the current infrastructure's ability to meet that demand. Long-term predictions indicate that the State will likely continue to have problems during the summer months when electrical demand rises rapidly due to the use of air-conditioning equipment. During this time of energy conservation and rolling blackouts, we offer this information to address your legal obligation for the proper maintenance of public swimming pools.

High energy costs may prompt you to shut down your system or cutback on the hours of operation of your recirculation and purification equipment. Please be advised that you are required to comply with the regulations stated below to ensure bather safety and to reduce the risk of disease transmission to your patrons.

As stated in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Article 3, Section 65525 –

"The pumps, filters, disinfectant and chemical feeders...and all related parts of the pool water purification system shall be kept in operation whenever the pool is available for use...."

AND

Section 65527 –

"The recirculation and purification system shall be operated and maintained so as to keep the pool water clean and clear...."

In the event of a power outage, all patrons must be required to vacate the pool and the pool must be closed for use.

When power is restored, the following conditions are required before re-opening the pool:

- A **free chlorine residual** of at least 1.0 PPM (1.5 PPM if a cyanurate stabilizer is used)
- The **pH** must be between 7.2 and 8.0
- **Water clarity** -- the main drain must be clearly visible from the deck.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, feel free to contact our office at (408)918-3400.