

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S POLICY

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Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent and uniform approach for utilities in county facilities, such as sewer, electricity, gas (natural and propane), water and refuse.

Policy:

Authority:

Pursuant to this policy, all utilities in facilities countywide (either owned or leased) shall be the responsibility of the Economic Development Agency's Energy Division. This shall ensure a uniform and consistent approach to utility costs within county-owned and leased facilities. The Economic Development Agency will process all utility bills and subsequently charge said bills to applicable county departments. EDA's Energy Division will coordinate the establishment of new accounts resulting from expansion or new space occupied by county departments, who will then in turn be charged for their utility usage. Projected utility costs will be sent to departments on an annual basis through the annual budget process. This Board Policy provides the following benefits:

- a. Reinforcement of Board Policy H-4, Conservation of Energy;
- b. Promotion of energy conservation consciousness to county departments;
- c. Utility costs previously unrecovered can be recovered by other funding sources, such as grants, federal and state revenue or other non-county revenue;
- d. Maximize county leverage by negotiation of utility rates through one central agency;
- e. Identify energy savings through monitoring of meter usage to ensure costs are correctly applied;
- f. Identify any potential energy projects that will benefit multiple departments or the county as a whole;
- g. Give energy providers one central point of contact for contracts, billings and potential energy programs.

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Exemptions from this Policy:

1. Street lights and traffic signal accounts;
2. Telephone and data-related communication charges;
3. Accounts processed through component units of the County, such as Flood Control, Housing Authority, County Service Areas, Regional Parks and Open-Space District, among others; and,
4. Accounts processed through the Riverside County Regional Medical Center (RCRMC).

It is recommended that the component units and RCRMC work with EDA's Energy Division to ensure their energy rates are the same as the County's and foster participation in any energy savings programs that are available.

Reference:

Minute Order 3.26 of 08/10/10