

HACIENDA HEIGHTS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Public Safety & Health

“Utility Scams”

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The Southern California Edison Company included an alert on this month billing regarding “scams”. Customers should be aware of utility imposters claiming to be SCE employees and demanding payment for overdue electric bills. Those customers failing to comply are in threat of service disconnection. Other request are as follows;

1. The customer purchase a prepaid cash card.
2. The customer return the imposter phone call.
3. Arrange a meeting for the imposter to claim the phone card.

Facts about SCE:

1. SCE will never call demanding payment or threats.
2. An SCE employee cannot accept or handle any monies for payment.

Warning!

1. Never disclose any personal information at the door or over the phone such as credit card, ATM pin number or SCE account number to anyone.
2. Be suspicious if someone calls to instruct you to leave your place of residence due to utility. This could result as a burglary attempt.
3. Be aware and suspicious of anyone who arrives to your home without an appointment asking to check an appliance, do wiring or frighten you about electrical problems.
4. Two types of wiring: SCE Communication and service wiring for cable TV.
5. Description of uniform/truck – Color of uniform unknown, but should be driving a white pickup truck with the yellow/green SCE emblem.
Sometimes the company subcontracts for further communication wiring.

What to do!

- Customers suspecting fraud should ask for the name, department representing, and business phone number.
- Call the police/sheriffs immediately to report the info obtained.
- Call the Southern California Edison/SCE Company to report the fraud at 1 800 655-4555.