## Legal Title
Ratepayer Relief Fund

## Legal Citation/Authority
Chapter 228, Statutes of 2003 (AB 1756)
Government Code section 16428.15

## Fund Classification

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<td>Governmental/Special Revenue Funds</td>
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## Purpose
This fund was created to benefit electricity and natural gas ratepayers and to fund investigation and litigation costs of the state in pursuing allegations of overcharges and unfair business practices against generators, suppliers, or marketers of electricity or natural gas.

## Administering Agency/Organization Code
Department of Justice/ Org 0820

## Major Revenue Source
Settlement payments.

## Disposition of Fund (upon abolishment)
Pursuant to Government Code section 16346, in the absence of language that identifies a successor fund, any balance remaining in this fund upon abolishment shall be transferred to the General Fund.

## Appropriation Authority
Money in the fund may be expended upon appropriation by the Legislature for the following purposes:
- To finance energy litigation and investigation expenses of state entities.
- To reduce rates for customers in the affected service areas of electrical and gas utilities.
- To reduce the debt service on bonds issued pursuant to Division 27 (commencing with Section 80000) of the Water Code.

## State Appropriations Limit
**Always Excluded** – Revenues in this fund are not proceeds of taxes and even after transfer, will never become proceeds of taxes because the major revenue source is derived from settlement payments.

## Comments/Historical Information