

DOCKETED

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California Energy Commission **Business Meeting Agenda**

January 21, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

In-person at:

California Natural Resources Agency Building
715 P Street
First Floor Auditorium
Sacramento, California 95814
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access via Zoom™

<https://zoom.us/> Meeting ID: **863 3538 9460** Passcode: **energy**

Remote participation instructions are below, after the agenda items.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) aims to begin the business meeting promptly at the start time, and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda. The meeting may end sooner or later than the time indicated depending on various factors. Commissioners may attend remotely in accordance with Government Code section 11123.2(j). Agenda items may be taken out of order as needed.

Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 20, section 1104(e), any person may make an oral comment on any agenda item. To ensure the orderly conduct of business, such comments will be limited to two minutes or less per person.

Please visit the CEC [Business Meeting web page](#) for more information and backup materials for all voting items at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings>.

THE CEC WILL CONSIDER AND MAY TAKE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Public Comment.

Any person wishing to comment on information items (non-voting items) shall provide comments during this period.

2. Agency Announcements.

The Chair may announce relevant matters to the public and the CEC, including agency updates, events, and other opportunities. Discussion may follow.

3. Consent Calendar.

Items will be taken up and voted on as a group. A commissioner may request that an item be moved and discussed later in the meeting.

- a. Certification of Updated 2022 Energy Code Alternative Calculation Method (ACM) Reference Manuals. Proposed resolution certifying updates to the 2022 Energy Code ACM Reference Manuals, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The ACM Reference Manuals provide guidelines for modeling methods and rules used in energy simulation software to demonstrate a building's compliance with Energy Code performance standards. Updates to the ACM Reference Manuals include: language to describe modeling rules for new compliance software features, adjustments to account for compliance software bug fixes, and clarifications to existing language. Contact: RJ Wichert
- b. Forms and Instructions to Collect Electricity Demand Forecast Data. Proposed resolution approving Forms and Instructions for Submitting Electricity Demand Forecast Plans in support of the 2025 Integrated Energy Policy Report. Obligated load-serving entities are instructed to provide the CEC with energy demand forecasts, demand-side management and energy efficiency impacts, private supply impact, and other data related to electricity demand forecast for historical years 2023 to 2024 and forecast years 2025 to 2036. Contact: Cam-Giang Nguyen
- c. Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy (WRISE). Proposed resolution approving agreement 700-24-002 for a \$18,000 one-year membership in WRISE. WRISE is a collaborative platform that connects women in renewable and sustainable energy agencies. Contact: Joelle Kelly
- d. Modesto Irrigation District (MID). Proposed order approving the CEC Executive Director's recommendation that the MID's power purchase agreement with Woodland Biomass Power LLC for the procurement of biomass energy be found compliant with the Emission Performance Standard for Local Publicly Owned Electric Utilities pursuant to Senate Bill 1368 (Perata, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2006). Contact: David Gee
- e. Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD). Proposed order approving the CEC Executive Director's recommendation that the LMUD's power purchase agreement with Fish Lake Geothermal LLC for the procurement of geothermal energy be found compliant with the Emission Performance Standard for Local Publicly Owned Electric Utilities pursuant to Senate Bill 1368 (Perata, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2006). Contact: David Gee
- f. Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB). Proposed resolution approving agreement 800-24-002 for an \$18,000 contract with WIEB to fund membership for the State of California for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. WIEB membership includes participation in WIEB meetings on western energy coordination. (ERPA Funding). Contact: Jake McDermott

- g. Verdant Associates LLC. Proposed resolution approving agreement 800-24-003 with Verdant Associates LLC for an up to \$1,000,000 three-year contract. This agreement will initially provide \$500,000 for use of CEC's Investor-Owned Utilities distribution system data and advanced metering infrastructure data to create a statewide model in Arras Energy, a high-performance agent-based simulation modeling tool. Additional funding, up to an additional \$500,000 may, with approval from the CEC's Executive Director through an amendment, be added to further support the modeling tool. (General Funds) Contact: Allen Le
- h. Guidehouse Inc. Proposed resolution approving agreement 800-24-004 with Guidehouse Inc. for up to \$750,000 to support the CEC with analysis of low carbon fuels, including clean and renewable hydrogen and fuels derived from biomass, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. (General Funds) Contact: Jennifer Campagna
- i. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the San Diego Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-24-031 with The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the San Diego Campus, for a \$2,820,083 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will demonstrate the use of mobile batteries for charging electric construction equipment and backup power for an existing microgrid and develop a model to optimize charging schedules, reduce peak demand, and increase utilization of existing grid capacity and charging infrastructure at three sites on the San Diego Campus. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Ran Laviv
- j. IXP, LLC. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-24-032 with IXP, LLC for a \$3,999,317 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will demonstrate a mobile electric vehicle (EV) charging system that integrates mobile battery energy storage and modular, skid-mounted, EV supply equipment at four sites in Santa Clara, San Diego, and Los Angeles Counties. The mobile charging system will shift charging loads, increase utilization of existing electrical infrastructure, and enable charger deployment in locations where permanent charger installation would be infeasible due to limited grid infrastructure and construction barriers. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Emily Ou
- k. The Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment, Inc. (AWWEE). Proposed resolution approving a \$2,500 purchase order with AWWEE for a one-year membership. Membership includes use of CEC's logo and supports CEC staff diversity, recruitment and development opportunities, and expands education and training to advance justice, access, equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives. (ERPA Funding) Contact: Tiffany Solorio

4. Information Item – Department of Water Resources (DWR) to Provide an Update on Strategic Reliability Reserve Investments.

In accordance with Assembly Bill 205 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 61, Statutes of 2022), DWR is required to provide a quarterly update to the CEC regarding current and planned investments being considered for California's Electricity Supply

Strategic Reliability Reserve Program. DWR will present the status of its efforts in response to the legislation and activities taken. Contact: Delphine Hou (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

5. Resolution Adopting the California Energy Demand 2024-2040 Forecast Update.

Proposed resolution adopting the California Energy Demand 2024-2040 Forecast of Electricity Consumption, as well as Hourly and Peak Electricity Demand for California and for Certain Utility Planning Areas within California, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. The forecast includes estimates of impacts from data centers, behind-the-meter photovoltaic and storage, as well as scenarios assessing potential impacts of additional achievable energy efficiency, fuel substitution, and transportation electrification. The adopted forecast will be used in planning processes, including the California Independent System Operator transmission planning and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) integrated resource and distribution planning. Contact: Nick Fugate (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

6. ADM Associates Incorporated.

Proposed resolution approving agreement 400-24-001 with ADM Associates Incorporated for a \$5,555,790 contract to provide technical support services for both the existing CEC Benchmarking Program and the implementation proceeding for Senate Bill (SB) 48 (Becker, Chapter 378, Statutes of 2023). Benchmarking Program support will focus on process and compliance improvements, while SB 48 implementation support will focus on stakeholder engagement and practical demonstration analyses of real building performance. (General Fund) Contact: Elizabeth Butler (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

7. Lincus, Inc.

Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-24-033 with Lincus, Inc. for a \$1,758,800 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will fund the development, performance evaluation, and pilot field demonstration of a packaged commercial Heating Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) unit that is powered internally through a direct current power bus. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Jason Tancher (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

8. PSGM3, LLC.

Proposed resolution adopting CEQA findings for PSGM3, LLC's (PSG) Electrified Steel Mill Long Duration Energy Storage Demonstration, and approving agreement LDS-24-002 with PSG. (LDES Funding) Contact: Caitlin Planchard (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

- a. CEQA. Findings that, based on the lead agency Kern County's, March 19, 2024 certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR), adopted Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program, adopted Statement of Overriding Consideration, Resolution No. 8-24, approved modification to Precise Development Plan No. 3, Map 213,

and an addendum prepared by the CEC, work under the project presents no new or substantially more severe environmental impacts beyond those already considered and mitigated, and adopting a statement of overriding considerations.

- b. PSG's Electrified Steel Mill Long Duration Energy Storage Demonstration. Proposed approval of agreement LDS-24-002 with PSG for a grant of up to \$14,000,000, with \$4,800,000 available now, to fund the deployment of a 32MWh non-lithium-ion long-duration energy storage (LDES) system serving PSG's planned \$630,000,000 first-of-its-kind zero carbon emission steel mill near Mojave. The LDES system will be connected to a microgrid and solar photovoltaic system. It will optimize the use of on-site solar energy, support critical operations during outages, and contribute to the overall energy management strategy of the facility.

9. California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Proposed resolution approving interagency agreement RMB600-24-002 for Caltrans to provide up to \$59,000,664 to the CEC to administer California's West Coast Truck Charging and Fueling Corridor (CFI) Program, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. The CEC will provide \$752,588 in match funds for the CFI Program and work with Caltrans to ensure charging infrastructure investments are strategic, coordinated, efficient, and equitable while meeting applicable laws and regulations. (Federal CFI Program Funding, CTP Match Funding) Contact: Sarah Sweet (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

10. Lead Commissioner and Presiding Member Reports.

Lead commissioners on policy matters and presiding members on delegated committees may report to the CEC on relevant matters and discussion may follow.

11. Executive Director's Report.

12. Public Advisor's Report.

13. Chief Counsel's Report.

- a. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(a)(1), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against that employee by another person or employee.
- b. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e)(1), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to discuss the following pending litigation:
 - i. Shasta County and Pit River Tribe, et al. vs. California Energy Commission (Shasta County Superior Court, Case No. 23CV-0203737).
 - ii. California Fuels and Convenience Alliance v. California Energy Commission, et al. (Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 24WM000058).
 - iii. Ernest Vardanyan v. City of Burbank, et al. (Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. 24NNCV04047).

- c. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3), Commissioners may adjourn to closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached in the following proceedings the state body is required by law to conduct:
 - i. Morton Bay Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-01
 - ii. Elmore North Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-02
 - iii. Black Rock Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-03
- d. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e), the CEC may also discuss any judicial or administrative proceeding that was formally initiated after this agenda was published; or determine whether facts and circumstances exist that warrant the initiation of litigation, or that constitute a significant exposure to litigation against the CEC, which might include personnel matters.

In-Person Instructions

Visitors to the California Natural Resources Agency building attending the business meeting held in the first-floor auditorium should proceed directly to the auditorium and do not need to sign in at the lobby security desk. Please note that visitors are solely permitted in the auditorium, restrooms, and cafeteria without a visitor badge or staff escort.

Remote Access Instructions

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Zoom: Click the link below to participate and provide public comment via Zoom.

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If you are experiencing difficulties accessing the business meeting using the link or call-in information appearing above, please visit the business meeting event page for this meeting at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings> for the most up-to-date information or contact the CEC's Public Advisor using the contact information above for further assistance.

Public comments are welcomed at the business meeting during announced times. Comments may be limited to two minutes or less per speaker and one speaker per entity depending on the proposed agenda and number of commenters.

If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you would like to make a comment. The Public Advisor will open your line to speak. Please restate and spell your name for the record, indicate any affiliation, and begin your comments.

If participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute. The Public Advisor will announce the last three digits of the phone number listed and open your line. Make sure to unmute your phone before speaking, restate and spell your name for the record, indicate any affiliation, and begin your comments.

Zoom's closed captioning service will be enabled for the CEC business meetings. Attendees can use the service by clicking on the "live transcript" CC icon and then choosing either "show subtitle" or "view full transcript." The closed captioning service can be stopped by exiting the "live transcript" or selecting the "hide subtitle" icon. If using a phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A full and formal transcript rendered by a professional court reporter will be docketed in the CEC business meeting docket.

Public Advisor Assistance. Direct questions about how to participate in the business meeting or requests for interpreting services or other reasonable modifications and accommodations to the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 957-7910. Requests for interpreting services, reasonable accommodations, and other modifications should be made as soon as possible and at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on the availability. Additionally, the Public Advisor may upon the request of public participants who may be absent when a matter of interest to them is being considered, neutrally read their comments into the record during the public comment period. If you are interested in this service, please email concise comments before the start of the business meeting to the Public Advisor. Comments submitted after the business meeting starts or that cannot be read within a two-minute timeframe will be filed in the business meeting docket.

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Adjournment. Depending on time and the orderly management of proceedings, the CEC may adjourn, recess, or postpone any noticed hearing or meeting to be continued the next day, another specific date or time, or the next business meeting. Any such adjournment will be noticed at the time the order of adjournment is made. (Government Code sections 11128.5, 11129)