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California Energy Commission BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA



California Energy Commission

Business Meeting Agenda

September 10, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

In-person at:

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

Remote Access via Zoom[™]

https://zoom.us/ Meeting ID: 886 5692 5780 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 <u>CEC Business Meeting web page</u> 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. Sepion Technologies, Inc. Proposed resolution adopting staff's recommendation that Sepion Technologies, Inc.'s Manufacturing Expansion project under the PowerForward Zero-Emission Vehicle Battery Manufacturing Grant Program (PowerForward) is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CALSTART, Inc. administers PowerForward under CEC Agreement ZVI-22-035 and has proposed a grant award to Sepion Technologies, Inc. CEC is required to make CEQA findings prior to CALSTART, Inc. executing the grant agreement with Sepion Technologies, Inc. Contact: Taiying Zhang
- b. South 8 Technologies, Inc. Proposed resolution adopting staff's recommendation that South 8 Technologies, Inc.'s Liquified Gas Electrolytes to Power project under PowerForward is exempt from CEQA. CALSTART, Inc. administers PowerForward under CEC Agreement ZVI-22-035 and has proposed a grant award to South 8 Technologies, Inc. CEC is required to make CEQA findings prior to CALSTART, Inc. executing a grant agreement with South 8 Technologies, Inc. Contact: Taiying Zhang
- c. Inlyte Energy, Inc. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-018 with Inlyte Energy, Inc. for a \$1,783,874 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will conduct development, production, verification testing, and analysis of a low-cost and safe iron-sodium battery technology to provide critical energy storage for both short and long duration energy storage applications at Inlyte's pilot facility in San Leandro. (Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Funding) Contact: Elyse Kedzie
- d. American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE). Proposed resolution approving agreement 300-25-003 with ACEEE, for a \$12,000 cosponsorship of the ACEEE 2025 Behavior, Energy & Climate Change Conference and approving use of the CEC logo in co-sponsorship advertisements. The conference will take place on November 2-5, 2025 in Sacramento and focus on utilizing the knowledge of human behavior and decision-making to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future. (Energy Resources Programs Account (ERPA) Funding) Contact: Darren Lee
- 4. Information Item Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) 2024 Annual Report and Updated Equity Framework.

DACAG Chair, Julia Hatton, will present the 2024 DACAG Annual Report and the updated DACAG Equity Framework. The DACAG is an eleven-member advisory body to the CEC and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) created by

Senate Bill 350 (De León, ch. 547, stats. 2015) that advises the agencies on how to design and implement clean energy policies and programs to be more effective on behalf of disadvantaged communities. The 2024 DACAG Annual Report summarizes actions taken and recommendations provided to the agencies in 2024. The updated DACAG Equity Framework provides guidance to the agencies to embed equity into clean energy and pollution reduction programs, ensuring that disadvantaged communities, including tribal and rural populations, benefit from climate investments and policy decisions. Contact: Ryan Young (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

5. Information Item – Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS) Update.

CEC staff and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) will provide an update on WREGIS, the independent renewable energy certificate (REC) tracking system. California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) program, and other California programs and clean energy programs throughout the WECC region, rely upon WREGIS to support program administration and commercial transactions. On May 1, 2025, WECC and WREGIS announced that their software provider agreement ends on December 31, 2027, and will not be extended. A report on activities to ensure continued operations through 2027 and beyond will be provided. Contact: Sean Simon (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

6. Electrochemistry Foundry, Inc.

Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-011 with Electrochemistry Foundry, Inc. for a \$28,000,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this project is exempt from CEQA. This project will launch and operate a shared-use, nonprofit battery pilot manufacturing facility in Hayward to provide critical infrastructure to accelerate the commercialization of next-generation battery and battery component technologies and advance inclusive workforce development across the clean energy sector. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Anthony Ng (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

7. Enabling Electric Vehicles as Distributed Energy Resources - GFO-24-302.

This solicitation sought to fund studies and applied research and development projects to accelerate the use of electric vehicles (EVs) as distributed energy resources by addressing Vehicle-Grid Integration (VGI) knowledge gaps, the high cost of bidirectional charging equipment, and the lack of access to cost-effective, accurate, and flexible submetering solutions. This item includes nine projects totaling \$15,463,789. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Antonio Gomez (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

a. Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-017 with Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. for a \$800,000 grant,

- and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will develop a replicable modeling framework to provide insights into the technical and economic potential of VGI. The project will evaluate and compare practical mechanisms for harnessing VGI potential at the distribution level such as flexible connections, distribution grid services, time varying pricing, and hybrid strategies.
- b. San Diego Community Power. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-015 with San Diego Community Power for a \$693,611 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will assess the impact of managed charging strategies on bulk grid and distribution grid operations by leveraging an ongoing EV managed charging pilot in San Diego.
- c. Rivian Automotive, LLC. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-012 with Rivian Automotive, LLC for a \$2,144,780 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will take place in Los Angeles County and develop an alternating current bidirectional charging system that significantly reduces the cost of vehicle-to-everything (V2X) participation and provide access to a broad swath of EV owners through use of common industry standards.
- d. Lucid Group, Inc. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-013 with Lucid Group, Inc. for a \$2,699,520 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will take place in Alameda County and develop the Lucid Electric Advanced Platform-V2X (LEAP-V2X), a cost-effective alternating current bidirectional on-board charging system to support more widespread adoption of bidirectional-capable EVs.
- e. Nuvve Holding Corp. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-020 with Nuvve Holding Corp. for a \$2,834,090 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project, taking place at UC Davis, UC Irvine, and other locations, will develop a low-cost energy management kit that enables vendor-agnostic integration of solar, storage, and bidirectional EV chargers for residential home energy management and participation in grid services.
- f. The Regents of the University of California on behalf of the Riverside Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-021 with The Regents of the University of California on behalf of the Riverside Campus for a \$1,500,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will develop and demonstrate technologies that reduce the net cost for medium-duty electric trucks to participate in V2X by minimizing

- battery degradation and maximizing V2X service benefits at an existing facility in a disadvantaged community in Ontario.
- g. It's Electric Incorporated. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-019 with It's Electric Incorporated for a \$1,004,245 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will develop and demonstrate a curbside bidirectional EV charger in Richmond that integrates with existing urban infrastructure to support development of a grid-supportive public charging network and enable broader EV adoption.
- h. NeoCharge Incorporated. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-014 with NeoCharge Incorporated for a \$1,598,747 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will develop and demonstrate an affordable EV submetering solution that combines multiple measurement pathways with integrated meter data management agent functionality to enable customers to access EV-specific rates at residential homes across California without the need for expensive equipment upgrades.
- i. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-016 with The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus, for a \$2,188,796 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will develop a low-cost, virtual, EV submetering solution and demonstrate it at an existing charging site in Santa Barbara. The submetering solution will enable increased tariff flexibility, managed charging program participation, and simplified electricity cost allocation for workplaces, fleets, multi-unit dwellings, and public charging.

8. National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium.

Proposed resolution approving sub-awards from the CEC's Offshore Wind Block Grant Program with the National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (NOWRDC), and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This item includes seven projects totaling \$4,331,109 competitively selected by NOWRDC and its co-funding leadership team under CEC's existing agreement EPC-22-009. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Katherine Greenwald (Staff Presentation Time: 10 minutes)

- a. RCAM Technologies, Inc. dba Sperra. This project, with \$850,000 in CEC funding, will develop a 3D-printed, concrete floating construction station to assist the manufacturing, assembling, and launching of concrete floating offshore wind (FOSW) foundations.
- b. Foss Maritime Company, LLC. This project, with \$332,500 in CEC funding, will develop a concept-level design utilizing two extra-large ocean-going deck barges

- that can be joined and used as a floating dry dock to add flexibility for port facilities and accommodate various sized FOSW components.
- c. Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. This project, with \$673,609 in CEC funding, will develop an environmental monitoring system for a FOSW farm that uses autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) equipped with sensor packages. The design will be developed with guidance from an advisory board composed of government and industry representatives.
- d. Orpheus Ocean, Inc. This project, with \$1,125,000 in CEC funding, will further develop an existing AUV for environmental monitoring around a FOSW farm by integrating and validating a sensor package. The AUV is intended to collect highresolution benthic images and data for biodiversity assessments and subsurface geohazards mapping.
- e. Teledyne Marine. This NOWRDC partner-funded project will develop an environmental conditions monitoring system using both an AUV and an uncrewed surface vehicle equipped with sensors capable of collecting data at various depths surrounding FOSW turbines.
- f. Geo SubSea, LLC. This project, with \$1,125,000 in CEC funding, will develop a small, maneuverable uncrewed underwater vehicle (UUV) capable of deepwater seabed mapping and environmental data collection that is operational near FOSW structures.
- g. The Candide Group LLC. This project, with \$225,000 in CEC funding, will conduct laboratory testing on the technical feasibility of a bio-inspired UUV intended for subsea environmental monitoring and inspection in FOSW developments.

9. Ecology Action of Santa Cruz.

Proposed resolution approving agreement ZVI-25-001 with Ecology Action of Santa Cruz for a \$5,999,929 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will increase equitable access to EV charging by deploying at least 480 Level 2 EV charging ports at approximately 48 multifamily housing communities across Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties. (Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Funding) Contact: Jeff Fletcher (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

10. FirstElement Fuel Inc.

Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-001 with FirstElement Fuel Inc. for a \$1,500,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will accelerate the development of three light-duty hydrogen refueling stations in San Bernardino, Buena Park, and Riverside by

supplementing an existing agreement where progress has stalled due to cost constraints. (Clean Transportation Program (CTP) Funding) Contact: Mark Johnson (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

11. 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.

12. Executive Director's Report.

13. Public Advisor's Report.

14. 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:
 - Shasta County and Pit River Tribe, et al. v. California Energy Commission (Shasta County Superior Court, Case No. 23CV-0203737)
 - ii. California Fuels and Convenience Alliance v. California Energy Commission, et al. (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 24WM000058)
 - iii. Interlink Products International, Inc., v. California Energy Commission (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000001)
 - iv. California Energy Commission v. KIGT, Inc., et al. (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25CV018816)
 - v. State of Washington, et al. v. U.S. Department of Transportation, et al. (United States District Court, Western District of Washington, Case No. 2:25-cv-00848-TL)
- 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:
 - 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 section11126(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

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If participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute. CEC staff 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.

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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)