

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	25-EPIC-01
Project Title:	Electric Program Investment Charge 2026–2030 Investment Plan (EPIC 5)
TN #:	267840
Document Title:	kimberley mayfield Comments - Agrivoltaics and batteries
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	kimberley mayfield
Submitter Role:	Other Interested Person
Submission Date:	12/5/2025 11:03:41 AM
Docketed Date:	12/5/2025

Comment Received From: kimberley mayfield

Submitted On: 12/5/2025

Docket Number: 25-EPIC-01

Agrivoltaics and batteries

California recognizes its need for additional carbon-free energy, but (1) it has no requirements for utility scale solar projects to have a certain amount of battery storage on-site to moderate stress on the grid (states like HI have this as a legal requirement if you want to build a solar farm in the state and their electric rates are cheaper than ours because the grid doesn't need to do as much hardening to accomodate the intermittent loads); would be great if the state could find a path to get to that point. (2) utility scale solar is competing with farmland and agrivoltaics are potentially a great solution for this but there's bad actors putting sheep on solar farms occasionally to save on mowing costs and pretending this is agrivoltaics, which give the technologies a bad name. Is there something the state can do to make those projects use the traditional title of 'solar field' and agrivoltaics to specifically mean solar energy with crop growing co-located? Also, farmers are certainly interested in this, but there's just not enough agronomic research being conducted in CA with CA-relevant plants under agrivoltaics to assure farmers that they will make money and not lose money if they follow through with that investment. I'd like to see EPIC funds be used to solve these problems (as a person that pays up to \$450/mo in the summer for electricity for just a 2br townhouse that is well-insulated!).