

DOCKETED

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California Energy Commission **Business Meeting Agenda**

**January 21, 2026
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 during announced times. 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. 2025 Energy Code Third-Party Compliance Software, Right-Energy Title 24 Version 2025.2.0. Proposed order approving third-party compliance software Right-Energy Title 24 Version 2025.2.0, by MiTek Wrightsoft, as an alternative calculation method for demonstrating performance compliance with the single-family residential new-construction provisions of the 2025 Energy Code, and adopting staff's recommendation this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Contact: RJ Wichert
- b. California State Pipe Trades Council (CSPTC). Proposed order updating the conditions of approval (COA 2026-1) for CSPTC's 2025 Update Report, which amended its acceptance test technician certification provider application in compliance with the 2025 Energy Code, and adopting staff's recommendation this action is exempt from CEQA. Contact: Bhaskar Ale
- c. Local Ordinances for the Cities of Santa Cruz, Palo Alto, Encinitas, and San Rafael. Proposed resolutions finding the applications submitted by the City of Santa Cruz, City of Palo Alto, City of Encinitas, and City of San Rafael meet the requirements of Public Resources Code section 25402.1(h)(2) and section 10-106 of the 2025 Energy Code, and adopting staff's recommendation that these actions are exempt from CEQA. Pursuant to these requirements, the CEC finds the local ordinances are estimated to save more energy than the 2025 Energy Code and that the corresponding cities have determined the local ordinances are cost effective. Contact: Anushka Raut
 - i. City of Santa Cruz. The local ordinance introduces electric readiness requirements for new single-family buildings and requirements for certain existing single-family buildings undergoing additions and alterations to choose from a menu of energy efficiency and electrification options.
 - ii. City of Palo Alto. The local ordinance introduces requirements for certain existing single-family buildings undergoing additions and alterations to choose from a menu of energy efficiency and electrification options. The ordinance also introduces a new mechanical cooling system requirement for altered space conditioning systems in existing single-family homes, which encourages the installation of an air source heat pump, while still allowing air conditioners to be installed with additional efficiency measures, and introduces new electric readiness requirements for certain building types.
 - iii. City of Encinitas. The local ordinance introduces requirements for certain existing single-family and multi-family buildings undergoing additions and alterations to choose from a menu of energy efficiency and electrification

options. The ordinance also introduces new electric readiness requirements for certain building types.

- iv. City of San Rafael. The local ordinance introduces requirements for certain existing single-family buildings undergoing additions and alterations to choose from a menu of energy efficiency and electrification options.
- d. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). Proposed order approving the Executive Director's recommendation that SMUD's amended Power Purchase Agreement with Geysers Power Company LLC for the procurement of geothermal energy from 13 geothermal power plants be found compliant with the Emission Performance Standard for local publicly owned electric utilities pursuant to Public Utilities Code sections 8340 – 8341. Contact: David Gee
- e. Rialto Bioenergy Facility, LLC. Proposed resolution approving a second amendment of grant agreement EPC-17-054, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This amendment will be for a novation to change the grant recipient from Rialto Bioenergy Facility, LLC. to Rialto Bioenergy Solutions LLC., extend the term by 18 months, and make minor modifications to the Scope of Work. (Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Funding) Contact: Van Do
- f. American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Proposed resolution approving agreement 600-25-002 with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, for a \$30,000 contract for a one-year membership with the Center for Hydrogen Safety. Membership allows the CEC to participate in member meetings, working groups, workshops, briefings, and other events, and will provide a forum for the CEC to collaborate with stakeholders in the fuel cell electric vehicle and hydrogen fuel community. (Clean Transportation Program (CTP) Funding) Contact: Vivian Nguyen
- g. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement 400-25-001 with the Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis campus for a \$100,000 contract to provide technical support services for developing Compliance Test Procedures for Flexible Demand Appliance Standards. (Cost of Implementation Account Funding) Contact: Elizabeth Butler
- h. EvGateway. Proposed resolution approving agreement RNEV-25-007 with EvGateway for a \$14,720,818 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install, operate, and maintain 148 public electric vehicle (EV) direct current fast charging (DCFC) ports across approximately 33 sites in approximately 12 counties throughout California. (National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program Funding) Contact: Jessie Powell

- i. Skychargers, LLC (ARV-25-008). Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-008 with Skychargers, LLC for a \$1,200,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install at least 12 public EV DCFC ports in a disadvantaged community in South Lake Tahoe to increase public access to reliable, fast, and convenient EV charging. (CTP Funding) Contact: Gia Kirkland
- j. Skychargers, LLC (ARV-25-009). Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-009 with Skychargers, LLC for a \$2,400,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install at least 24 public EV DCFC ports at the San Francisco International Airport's Electric Vehicle Hub to increase public access to reliable, fast, and convenient EV charging. (CTP Funding) Contact: Gia Kirkland
- k. ENERIDGE INC. Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-010 with ENERIDGE INC. for a \$1,458,830 grant and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install at minimum 20 public EV DCFC ports across a minimum of two locations in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities in Santa Barbara and Irvine to increase public access to reliable, fast, and convenient EV charging. (CTP Funding) Contact: Gia Kirkland
- l. Gravity Mobility. Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-011 with Gravity Mobility for a \$1,942,746 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install at least 24 public EV DCFC ports at approximately two sites in Los Angeles to increase public access to reliable, fast, and convenient EV charging. (CTP Funding) Contact: Gia Kirkland
- m. County of Alameda. Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-013 with County of Alameda for a \$3,997,659 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will install at least 40 public EV DCFC ports across approximately four sites in Alameda County to increase public access to reliable, fast, and convenient EV charging. (CTP Funding) Contact: Gia Kirkland
- n. Charge Bliss, Inc. Proposed resolution approving amendment 2 to agreement LDS-22-003 with Charge Bliss, Inc. to increase total funding from \$32,750,000 to \$36,250,000 and make minor modifications to the Scope of Work, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This amendment will allow the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California to procure utility assets, and addresses costs associated with system design changes, and unforeseen project delays. (Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) Funding) Contact: Javier Flores

- o. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-039 with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for a \$3,000,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will fund the design, prototyping, field validation, and initial classification of a next-generation smart mooring system for floating offshore wind infrastructure. The system integrates distributed fiber optic sensing to enable real-time entanglement detection, structural health monitoring, and environmental acoustic monitoring along mooring lines. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Matthew Haro
- p. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (CER-25-004). Proposed resolution approving agreement CER-25-004 with SMUD for a \$25,463,040 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. The project will deploy grid infrastructure upgrades to replace 230 network protectors and an estimated 210,000-280,000 circuit feet of aging underground electrical cables in the SMUD service territory in Sacramento. Upgrades will enhance grid reliability and safety by eliminating legacy lead cables, reducing failure risks, improving outage detection and response, and enabling more efficient real-time system management. (Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment (CERRI) Funding) Contact: Abigail Jacob
- q. County of Sonoma. Proposed resolution approving agreement GEO-25-001 with County of Sonoma for a \$1,359,699 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will create reliable surface datasets and geospatial analysis that provide local county planning and permitting expertise for geothermal development, identify opportunities for industry to develop geothermal resources of conventional and next-generation technologies that are compatible with surface conditions, and foster meaningful engagement with community and tribal partners. The project aims to guide the industry towards lower-risk permitting opportunities and provide an important foundation for future updates to county zoning or general plan updates. (Geothermal Resources Development Account Funding) Contact: Erica Loza
- r. Last Frontier Healthcare District. Proposed resolution approving agreement GEO-25-002 with Last Frontier Healthcare District (LFHD) for a \$1,500,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will improve and expand the existing geothermal heating system utilized by the Modoc Medical Center in the City of Alturas. The strategy is to convert an existing, unused geothermal production well into an injection well. The additional injection well will provide the necessary injection capacity to serve the expanded Modoc Medical Center facilities and future users. The project will provide economic benefits to Alturas and the surrounding Modoc County communities by lowering heating costs, providing services to medical personnel,

and supporting local businesses. (Geothermal Resources Development Account Funding) Contact: Jordan Duncan

- s. Red Bluff Union Elementary School District. Proposed resolution approving agreement 002-25-ECG with Red Bluff Union Elementary School District for a \$656,197 Energy Conservation Assistance Account (ECAA) loan at zero-percent interest, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. The loan will fund the completion of a prior ECAA project to install three solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays totaling 470 kilowatts (kW) at three Red Bluff Elementary School District sites in Tehama County. The project is estimated to reduce 732,656 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity consumption in the first year, saving approximately \$185,317 in annual utility costs. The simple payback period is approximately 16.2 years. (ECAA-Ed Funding) Contact: Cenne Jackson
- t. Mountain Gate Community Services District. Proposed resolution approving agreement 002-25-ECI with Mountain Gate Community Services District for a \$2,640,117 ECAA loan at one-percent interest, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. The loan will finance a 400-kW photovoltaic (PV) system at one site in Redding, Shasta County. The project is estimated to reduce 559,612 kWh of electricity consumption in the first year, saving \$155,301 in annual utility costs. The simple payback period is approximately 17 years. (ECAA Funding) Contact: Jonathan Fong

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

In accordance with Water Code section 80710(e)(2), 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 and activities taken in response to the legislation. Contact: Hurshbir Shahi (DWR Presentation: 10 minutes)

5. Equitable Building Decarbonization Tribal Direct Install Program Guidelines.

Proposed resolution to adopt guidelines for the Equitable Building Decarbonization Tribal Direct Install Program and staff's recommendation that the action is exempt from CEQA. In accordance with Assembly Bill 209 (Chapter 251, Statutes of 2022), this statewide program will provide and install energy efficient electric appliances, energy efficiency measures, and related upgrades at no cost for buildings owned or managed by California Native American tribes or tribal organizations, and buildings owned by members of California Native American tribes. The guidelines describe requirements for the program, including funding allocations, household and property eligibility, and eligible measures. Contact: Diana Maneta (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

6. Resolution Adopting the California Energy Demand Forecast, 2025-2045.

Proposed resolution adopting the California Energy Demand Forecast, 2025-2045 Electricity and Gas Consumption, including the Hourly and Peak Electricity Demand Forecasts 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 integrated resource and distribution planning. Contact: Nick Fugate (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

7. Gas Research and Development Program 2025 Annual Report.

Proposed resolution approving the Gas Research and Development Program 2025 Annual Report. This Gas Research and Development Program 2025 Annual Report highlights project successes and research benefits of completed and in-progress projects during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024–25. In FY 2024–25, the CEC administered \$88.3 million across 43 gas research, development, and demonstration projects working to advance building decarbonization; gas system decarbonization; industrial and agricultural innovation; transportation; and resiliency, health, and safety in California. Contact: Ferris Chu (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

8. California Energy, Power, & Innovation Collaborative.

Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-25-012 with California Energy, Power, & Innovation Collaborative (Cal EPIC) for a \$4,000,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will operate a charging interoperability and collaboration space at Cal EPIC's multi-purpose facility in Sacramento and will create a space for interoperability testing, standards conformance testing and verification, industry collaboration, and exploration of next-generation charging use cases across multiple types of EVs and EV chargers. (CTP Funding) Contact: Taylor Nguyen (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

9. Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) 2025 – GFO-24-311.

This solicitation sought to fund the deployment and demonstration of advanced energy efficiency, decarbonization, renewable energy, and load reduction technologies at food processing and supporting facilities. These technologies will enable food processors to demonstrate their reliability and effectiveness to reduce energy costs, maintain product quantity and quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve air quality in under-resourced communities. This item includes three projects totaling \$5,841,323. (Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) Funding) Contact: Claire Sweeney (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

- a. Gallo Global Nutrition LP. Proposed resolution approving agreement FPI-25-001 with Gallo Global Nutrition LP for a \$2,331,222 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will replace the aging and outdated R-407 and R-410A refrigeration systems with two ultra-efficient, low-charge ammonia refrigeration systems at a dairy facility located in Atwater. The new systems will improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and enable on-peak demand reductions.
- b. Harvest Food Products. Proposed resolution approving agreement FPI-25-002 with Harvest Food Products for a \$2,500,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will replace an aging, inefficient freon (R-22) refrigerant system with a new transcritical CO2 refrigeration system incorporating substantial efficiency improvements, including heat recovery, variable frequency drives, advanced controls, and an adiabatic gas cooler at the Harvest Food Products' frozen food facility in Hayward. The upgraded system will improve energy efficiency and reduce the facility's energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.
- c. FC Tracy Holdings, LLC. Proposed resolution approving agreement FPI-25-003 with FC Tracy Holdings, LLC for a \$1,010,101 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This agreement will install a solar-powered microgrid and battery energy storage system at a produce processing facility in Tracy. The microgrid system will reduce grid electricity consumption, enable on-peak demand reductions, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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 pending litigation, including the following matters:

- i. 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. City of San Juan Capistrano v. California Energy Commission (Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2025-01507450)
 - vi. 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)
 - vii. State of New York, et al. v. Donald Trump, et al. (United States District Court, District of Rhode Island, Case No. 25-cv-39-JJM-PAS)
 - viii. State of New York, et al. v. Donald J. Trump, et al. (United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Case No. 1:25-cv-11221-WGY)
 - ix. State of New York, et al. v. U.S. Department of Energy, et al. (United States District Court, District of Oregon, Case No. 6:25-cv-01458-MTK)
 - x. State of Arizona, et al. v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, et al. (United States District Court, Western District of Washington, Case No. 2:25-cv-02015-TMC)
 - xi. Maryland Clean Energy Center, et al. v. United States of America (United States Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 25-1738 C)
 - xii. State of California, et al. v. U.S. Department of Transportation, et al. (United States District Court, Western District of Washington, Case No. 2:25-cv-02574-TL)
- c. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel 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
 - iv. Willow Rock Energy Storage Center, Docket 21-AFC-02

- d. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to discuss any judicial or administrative proceeding that was formally initiated after this agenda was published; to discuss whether to initiate litigation; or to discuss a significant exposure to litigation against the CEC.
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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)