

DOCKETED

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| Document Title: | Notice of Availability and Request for Comment on Proposed Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition |
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| Filer: | Jordan Gillmore |
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

715 P Street
Sacramento, California, 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 2/26)

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

*Reliability Reserve Incentive Programs and
Demand Side Grid Support Program Draft
Guidelines, Fifth Edition*

DOCKET NO. 22-RENEW-01

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND REQUEST
FOR COMMENT

RE: Demand Side Grid Support Program

Notice of Availability and Request for Comments on the Draft Demand Side Grid Support Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition

Comment Deadline: March 6, 2026

The California Energy Commission (CEC) seeks public comment on the *Draft Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS) Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition*. The *Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition*, propose changes to the rules for program participation including eligibility requirements, participation process, and incentive structures. The *Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition*, are available at Docket No. [22-RENEW-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?doctetnumber=22-RENEW-01), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?doctetnumber=22-RENEW-01>.

To assist parties in their review, two versions of the draft guidelines are available:

1. One shows changes to the *DSGS Program Guidelines, Fourth Edition*, adopted on April 10, 2025, in underline/strikeout with new text underlined and deleted text in strikeout (for example, underline/~~strikeout~~). This document is identified as TN# 268686.
2. The second incorporates the changes to the *DSGS Program Guidelines, Fourth Edition*, without showing text in underline/strikeout. This document is identified as TN# 268687.

CEC staff will be hosting a workshop on these *Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition* on February 24, 2026. Details are available on the [workshop event page](https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2026-02/rescheduled-staff-workshop-and-extended-comment-period-demand-side-grid) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2026-02/rescheduled-staff-workshop-and-extended-comment-period-demand-side-grid>. Staff will evaluate comments and anticipate bringing proposed guidelines for consideration for adoption at the CEC's April business meeting.

Background

Assembly Bill 205 (Ting, Chapter 61, Statutes of 2022) created the DSGS Program as part of the Strategic Reliability Reserve. The DSGS Program aims to support electric grid reliability beyond normal planning standards by providing incremental load reduction during extreme events, such as

heat waves. The DSGS Program provides compensation for incremental reduction in customer net load during extreme events achieved through reduced usage, increased generation, or use of backup generation.

On August 10, 2022, the CEC adopted the *DSGS Program Guidelines, First Edition*, to implement the DSGS Program. Participants enrolled 315 megawatts in the program to help meet grid needs during the September 2022 heatwave. On July 27, 2023, the CEC adopted the *DSGS Program Guidelines, Second Edition*, to address lessons learned from the summer 2022 program implementation and to bring on more non-combustion resources with expanded and streamlined participation. On March 8, 2024, the CEC adopted the *DSGS Program Guidelines, Third Edition*, to refine and clarify program requirements, reduce operational complexities, and scale and grow participation from clean resources. On April 10, 2025, the CEC adopted the *DSGS Program Guidelines, Fourth Edition*, to improve program effectiveness and continue to grow participation from clean resources.

CEC staff is preparing the *Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition*, and will be posting the draft for public feedback. After public comments are received, staff will review and revise as appropriate in anticipation of consideration of the revised program guidelines by the CEC at a future business meeting. The *Draft DSGS Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition*, seek to refine and clarify program requirements for the 2026 season, while aligning the program with the estimated funding level projected to be available after the 2025 compensation payout.

Public Comment.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page for this docket [Docket No. 22-RENEW-01](#), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?doctetnumber=22-RENEW-01>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

Written comments may be submitted to the Docket Unit by **5:00 p.m. on March 6, 2026**. Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number **22-RENEW-01** and "Demand Side Grid Support Program" in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be mailed to:
California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 22-RENEW-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Advisor. The CEC’s Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

Media Inquiries. Email mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 654-4989.

Technical Subject Inquiries. Email Payam Narvand at payam.narvand@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 477-1040.

General Inquiries: Email Jordan Gillmore at jordan.gillmore@energy.ca.gov or call (279) 226-1076.

Availability of Documents: Documents and presentations for this proceeding will be available at [Docket No. 22-RENEW-01](#), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=22-RENEW-01>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS). To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](#), at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: February 18, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Deana Carrillo
Director of the Reliability, Renewable Energy & Decarbonization Incentives Division

Subscriptions:
Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS), Distributed Electricity Backup Assets; Electricity Issues