

DOCKETED

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Staff Workshop Fusion Research and Development Innovation Initiative

**Thursday, April 2, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Remote Access Only via Zoom

<https://energy.zoom.us/j/87060161239?pwd=hYVvj51FkBHkKjxfvbd8D0Y9McvJCV.1>

(Listed times are general guidelines only)

Welcome, Logistics, and Housekeeping (9:00 – 9:10)

Nathan Lubega, Program Lead, California Energy Commission

Opening Remarks (9:10 – 9:20)

Noemi Gallardo, Commissioner, California Energy Commission

Introduction to Fusion Energy (9:20 – 9:35)

Dr. Jackson Williams, Research Scientist at Livermore Institute for Fusion Technology, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Existing and Needed Capabilities and Resources for Fusion (9:35 – 9:50)

Dr. Brian Grierson, Director of Fusion Energy Technologies, General Atomics

Informing a State-led Fusion Initiative | Panel Discussion (9:50 – 10:20)

Moderator: Rachel Shepherd, Supervisor, California Energy Commission

Panelists:

- Dr. Jackson Williams, Research Scientist at Livermore Institute for Fusion Technology, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- Dr. Brian Grierson, Director of Fusion Energy Technologies, General Atomics
- Dr. Javier Garay, Director of Fusion Engineering Institute, UC San Diego
- Dr. Arianna Gleason-Holbrook, Deputy Director High-Energy Density Science Division, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

Break (10:20 – 10:30)

Statewide Initiatives to Support a Fusion Ecosystem (10:30 – 10:40)

Jayden Saldana, Tech Transfer and Commercialization Coordinator, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)

Role of Workforce and Community Development (10:40 – 10:50)

John McMillan, Assistant Vice President of Economic Development, San Diego State University

Delivering the First Fusion Pilot Plant | Panel Discussion (10:50 – 11:20)

Moderator: Lorraine Gonzalez, Supervisor, California Energy Commission

Panelists:

- Dr. Hiroshi Gota, Vice President for Corporate Technical Initiatives and Strategic Collaborations, and Science Fellow, TAE Technologies
- Dr. Will Regan, Chief Scientist, Pacific Fusion
- Dr. Morgan Pattison, Vice President for Research and Development Partnerships, Blue Laser Fusion

Concluding Remarks (11:20 – 11:30)

Nathan Lubega, Program Lead, California Energy Commission