

DOCKETED

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*Comment Received From: Douglas Davenport
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Comments on EPIC 5 Draft Initiatives and Research Topics

I've included a letter providing comments on CEC's excellent set of proposals, and thank you for your consideration.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



June 18, 2026

California Energy Commission
EPIC Program

Re: Comments on EPIC 5 Draft Initiatives and Research Topics

To Whom it May Concern,

I read with great interest your slide deck from June 11, where you outlined your proposed initiatives and focal points for the EPIC 5 funding round. It's an exciting time, and an exciting portfolio of proposed investments. My selective comments are taken from your slide deck, and I hope productive to your finalizing your investment plan.

Comments as follows:

- I note the term "renters" in several slides, which I take to refer to California residents renting their home, but in most cases the term is not accompanied by a distinction as to the home in question (eg single family, multifamily) or the implied connection between the renter as occupant, and landlord as owner/manager of the home to deliver the intended impact. I think it's important to acknowledge in future scoping activities that both entities are critical to assure intended benefits.
- Reference to a Pre-Commercial Grid Tech Incubator is encouraging. One challenge among many is how CEC will approach funding such an effort to equally benefit people from all three IOU territories. I encourage you to consider multiple programs, even overlapping territories, stressing impactful commercialization and long-range effectiveness, so as not to limit the potential of this investment.
- As to the CBO Incubator mentioned in the slide deck, I remain curious as to how this investment will differ from other investments made by the state to assist CBOs. I recommend an emphasis (among others) on solutions awareness, capacity building, and clear metrics on return on investment for programs of this kind. I also recommend clear requirements for partnerships that assure CBOs can develop long-term connections and resources.
- As to Innovative Approaches to Building Community Scale Decarbonization, I note references to systems for residential homes, and whole-home retrofit solutions. I recommend these terms be clarified to encompass residential buildings, and whole-building retrofits including multi-family buildings.

Please contact me at (415) 867-7498 or doug.davenport@prospectsv.org if you have any questions or if there is any other way that we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Davenport", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Douglas Davenport
Executive Director