

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-RETI-02
Project Title:	Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0
TN #:	206235
Document Title:	Nathan Bengtsson Comments: PG&E Comments on RETI 2.0
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	PG&E
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	9/29/2015 6:11:23 PM
Docketed Date:	9/29/2015

Comment Received From: Nathan Bengtsson

Submitted On: 9/29/2015

Docket Number: 15-RETI-02

PG&E Comments on RETI 2.0

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

September 29, 2015

**VIA E-MAIL DOCKET@ENERGY.
CA.GOV**California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 15-RETI-02
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512Re: Docket 15-RETI-02: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Comments on the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0**I. Introduction**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the September 10, 2015, joint California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and California Energy Commission (CEC or Commission) Workshop on the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0. We applaud the Commissioners, Agency leaders and other staff for convening this workshop and recognizing the critical role that transmission planning will play in achieving the 50% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and associated greenhouse gas reduction goals.

II. PG&E Supports the Creation of an Efficient Process for Studying Potential Renewable Energy and Transmission Development

PG&E supports the vision of RETI 2.0 as a process that will identify potential options for meeting California's ambitious renewable energy goals. It is critical that the work products of the RETI 2.0 process be clearly defined from the outset to ensure that the effort serves the stated purpose of unlocking the state's renewable potential. Similarly, clearly defined outcomes will determine how the robust planning processes and tools already employed by California's energy agencies and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council can inform RETI 2.0, and will help avoid potentially duplicative efforts. Backwards planning from RETI 2.0 outcomes will also be useful in determining what kind of governance structure will be best suited for this effort.

In addition to the need to define clear outcomes, RETI 2.0 should consider regional options to meet California's energy goals. Many agency leaders noted during the September 10 workshop that geographic diversity of renewable resources can assist with the challenges of integrating high levels of renewables onto the grid. For this reason, RETI 2.0 must look at the potential of renewables beyond California's borders.

Finally, PG&E agrees with Commissioner Peterman's comments that RETI 2.0 must consider the cost of new transmission and look to optimize existing transmission infrastructure when possible. Prudent transmission investments will help California achieve a 50% renewable energy portfolio at reasonable cost to customers.

III. Conclusion

We appreciate this opportunity to comment on RETI 2.0, and we look forward to continuing to work with the CEC and other stakeholders as California works toward the 50% Renewable Portfolio Standard.

Sincerely,

/s/

Nathan Bengtsson