

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0
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Document Title:	Final Letter for Notice of Joint Agency Workshop on the Proposed Organization Structure and Work Plan for the RETI 2.0
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Filer:	Susan Fleming
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

October 26, 2015

**Notice of Joint Agency Workshop on the Proposed
Organization Structure and Work Plan for the
Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0**

Dear Tribal Leader:

The California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will hold a joint workshop to discuss and receive public comment on the proposed organization structure and work plan for the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0 process. This workshop will give the public and stakeholders the opportunity to learn about the proposed work that will be considered for this initiative.

Energy Commission Chair Robert B. Weisenmiller, and Energy Commissioners Karen Douglas and Janea Scott will jointly preside over the meeting with CPUC President Michael Picker and CPUC Commissioners Carla Peterman and Michael Florio. Representatives of the California Independent System Operator (CalSO), California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Bureau of Land Management will also be in attendance. Other Commissioners of the Energy Commission and the CPUC may also attend and participate in the workshop. The workshop will be held:

Monday, November 2, 2015

10:00 a.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Art Rosenfeld Hearing Room

Sacramento, California

(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
Please see Instructions below or go to www.energy.ca.gov/webcast.

Background

California is currently on a solid trajectory to meet the state's 33 percent renewable energy mandate by 2020 and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In April 2015, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued Executive Order B-30-15 establishing a new statewide intermediate target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, in order to guide policy and maintain momentum to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

An important part of meeting California's greenhouse gas reduction goals is moving toward de-carbonizing the electricity sector, through energy efficiency, renewable electricity, regional diversity of resources, and increased coordination of supply and demand across the electric grid. To meet these goals, California's Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015) was signed into law on October 7, 2015, which establishes targets to increase retail sales of qualified renewable electricity to at least 50 percent by 2030 and double the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end uses by 2030. In addition, U.S. EPA's pending regulations (111(d)) for existing gas-fired generation will encourage greater communications across the West. This presents many opportunities to take advantage of resource diversity, as well as regional balancing of electricity. For example, through the Energy Imbalance Market, the CalSO has been able to sell cheap, low-carbon, excess power to other states in the West, which has resulted in lower GHG emissions for those states and reduced the need to curtail the resource in our state. Developing the transmission needed to support increasing amounts of renewable resources will be critical to meeting these goals and will require planning and coordination across the West.

California faced similar challenges in 2007, as the state implemented a renewable energy target of 20 percent while looking forward to a 33 percent goal. The 2008 Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, a non-regulatory statewide planning process, was established to identify the transmission projects needed to support the renewable generation required to meet the 33 percent target. The 2008 Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative was a collaborative, analytical effort that assessed the need for new transmission to connect renewable resource areas to California consumers.

In addition to the 2008 Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, state, federal, and local agencies have collaborated on other landscape planning processes to identify the most appropriate locations for renewable energy development, including the [Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan](#) and the San Joaquin Valley Solar Project. RETI 2.0 will incorporate and build off of the science, data, and analyses from these efforts.

To facilitate this coordination and planning, the California Energy Commission, CPUC, and CalSO have initiated the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0. RETI 2.0 is an open, public process that will explore the abundant renewable energy resources in California and throughout the West, consider critical land use and environmental constraints, and identify potential transmission opportunities that could access and

integrate renewable energy with the most environmental, economic, and community benefits.

An introductory workshop was held on September 10, 2015 to present and receive public input on the purpose for RETI 2.0. Comments submitted on the initiative recommended a number of topics to consider for infrastructure planning and expressed interest in participating in the related analytical activities to advance transmission planning processes. Since that introductory workshop, the Energy Commission, CPUC, and CalSO have collaboratively developed a draft organization structure for RETI 2.0 and identified a proposed set of tasks that will help us accomplish the goals of RETI 2.0.

Agenda

The purpose of this workshop is to present the RETI 2.0 organization structure and work plan. The Energy Commission, CPUC, and CalSO will also present a timeline of activities that will run through 2016 and could be used to inform the statewide transmission planning studies that will begin in 2017. Federal, state, and local agencies, tribal governments, the public, and stakeholders representing land use, development, environmental, and other interests are encouraged to attend. A specific agenda will be posted prior to the workshop. Topics on the agenda include, but are not limited to:

- RETI 2.0 Organization and Timeline
- RETI 2.0 Work Plan and Study Groups
- Public process for stakeholder involvement
- Public Comment

Public Comment

Oral comments: The Energy Commission and CPUC will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes and will become part of the public record for this stakeholder process.

Written comments (Gov. Code, §11346.5(a)(15)): **Written comments should be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on November 16, 2015.** Please submit comments to the Energy Commission using the Energy Commission's e-commenting feature by going to the RETI 2.0 webpage <http://www.energy.ca.gov/reti/> and click on the "Submit eComment" link. A full name, e-mail address, comment title, and either a comment or an attached document (.doc, docx, or .pdf format) is mandatory. After a challenge-response test used by the system to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the "Agree & Submit Your Comment" button to submit the comment to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit.

Please note that written comments, attachments, and associated contact information included within the written comments and attachments (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the viewable public record.

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Tribal Leaders
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You are encouraged to use the electronic commenting system, described above, to submit comments. If you are unable to submit electronically, a paper copy of your comments may be sent to:

Docket Unit
California Energy Commission
Dockets No. 15-RETI-02
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Or e-mailing them to: DOCKET@energy.ca.gov

If you choose not to use the electronic filing system, please include the Docket Number 15-RETI-02 on any e-mailed or written comments. Written comments will also be accepted at the workshop. However, the workshop participants may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the workshop.

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, by e-mail at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz by e-mail at Lou.Quiroz@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance of the meeting.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Al Alvarado by e-mail at Al.Alvarado@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4749.

The service list for the stakeholder process is handled electronically. Notices and documents for this proceeding are posted to the Energy Commission website. When new information is posted, an e-mail will be sent to those on the RETI e-mail list server. We encourage those who are interested in receiving these notices to sign up for the list server through the website at www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will be webcast, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

To join a meeting:

VIA COMPUTER: Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **923 607 709**. When prompted, enter your name and the following meeting password: **meeting@10**

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VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number: **923 607 709**. International callers may select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>.

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at (866) 229-3239.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/reti/>

Should you have further questions concerning the upcoming workshop please contact Thomas Gates by email at Thomas.Gates@energy.ca.gov or by telephone at (916) 654-5008.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON
Deputy Director,
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection
Tribal Liaison