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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



In the matter of:)	Docket No. 15-RETI-02
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<i>Renewable Energy Transmission</i>)	NOTICE OF WORKSHOP RE:
<i>Initiative 2.0</i>)	Renewable Energy Transmission
_____)	Initiative 2.0

Notice of Second Staff Workshop on the Environmental and Land Use Technical Group for the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0

California Energy Commission staff will hold a workshop for the Environmental and Land Use Technical Group (Group) for the Second Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) process to continue to review and explore the available statewide environmental data to identify data gaps and discuss how these gaps should be treated. The workshop will be held:

Friday, December 4, 2015
1:30 p.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™
(Instructions below)

Background

California is currently on a solid trajectory to meet the state's 33 percent renewable energy mandate by 2020 and the Assembly Bill 32 goal 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's regulations (Clean Air Act Section 111(d)) will encourage discussions across the West. This presents many opportunities to take advantage of resource diversity, as well as regional balancing of electricity supply and demand. For example, through the Energy Imbalance Market, the California Independent System Operator (California ISO) has been able to sell low-cost, 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 renewable energy resources in California. Developing the transmission needed to support increasing amounts of renewable resources will be critical to meeting these goals and will require careful 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 target. 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 resource development, including the [Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan](#) (DRECP) and the San Joaquin Valley Least-Conflict Lands for Solar stakeholder exercise. 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, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and California ISO have initiated the RETI 2.0. This 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.

The first workshop of the Environmental and Land Use Technical Group will be held on November 23, 2015 to explore the available statewide environmental data and discuss various approaches to using the data to assess and compare areas for potential renewable energy resource development. Comments will be due December 18, 2015.

Agenda

The Group will continue to present and discuss specific studies and planning efforts that have identified potential areas for renewable energy development and discuss how scientific data was used and shared in those efforts.

A specific agenda will be posted prior to the workshop. Topics on the agenda will include, but not limited to:

- Available statewide and west-wide environmental data
- Approaches to using these data
- Data interpretation and data combination
- Public process for stakeholder involvement
- Public Comment

Public Comment

Oral comments: The Energy Commission 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 should be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on December 18, 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.

You are encouraged to use the electronic commenting system, described above, to submit comments. If you are unable to submit comments 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-mail 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 agencies may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the workshop.

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission 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 Scott Flint by e-mail at Scott.Flint@energy.ca.gov or (916) 651-3774.

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: **926 547 291**. When prompted, enter your name and the meeting password: **meeting@130**.

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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: **926 547 291**.

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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/>.

DATE: November 20, 2015

Original signed by

ROBERT B. WEISENMILLER, Chair
California Energy Commission

Original signed by

KAREN DOUGLAS, Commissioner
California Energy Commission

List Serve: RETI