DOCKETED

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AGENDA

Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0
Plenary Group Meeting on Long-Term Renewable Scenarios and Preliminary Transmission Assessment Focus Areas

Monday April 18, 2016
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (CalEPA)
CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street
Byron Sher Auditorium, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

TELEPHONE (no visual presentation): Call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number **928 037 329**

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Meeting Agenda

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1. **Introductions and workshop goals**
   RETI 2.0 Project Director Brian Turner will review the agenda and goals for the day

2. **Studies of long-term renewable resource portfolios and their implications for potential transmission infrastructure needs.** This session will feature five speakers discussing multiple academic, industry, and government studies of long-term renewable resource portfolios that could help meet California's RPS and GHG goals, and drawing conclusions regarding the renewable resource types, geographic areas, and transmission connections that may be of particular importance to achieving these goals.
   a. **CPUC Sensitivity Studies of potential 2030 RPS Portfolios**
      Forest Kaser, California Public Utilities Commission, will present the results of recent studies of potential renewable resource portfolios that could meet the 50%-by-2030 Renewable Portfolio Standard requirements for the state's investor-owned utilities. These 2030 studies were summarized in the 2016 RPS Portfolios Staff Paper available at: http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/RPS_Calculator/
   b. **California 2030 Low Carbon Grid Study and other NREL studies**
      Dr. Greg Brinkman of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory will present on the modeling methods and results of the California 2030 Low Carbon Grid Study, available at http://lowcarbongrid2030.org/.
   c. **Low Carbon Grid Study: Implications and Sensitivities**
      Jim Caldwell, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies, will discuss the results of the California 2030 Low Carbon Grid Study and their implications for different

renewable portfolios, as well as presenting on two previously-unpublished sensitivity analyses using the LCGS framework

d. **Western Electricity Coordinating Council studies of high-renewables futures**
Tom Carr of the Western Interstate Energy Board is Chair of the Studies Work Group of the Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee at WECC, the body responsible for overseeing the completion of biennial studies examining future electric scenarios in the Western Interconnection, available at www.wecc.biz/TEPPC. Mr. Carr will review the results of several of these studies and their implications for the renewable resource and transmission development.

e. **Integrating Land Conservation and Renewable Energy Goals**
Erica Brand with The Nature Conservancy will present results from TNC's study *Integrating Land Conservation and Renewable Energy Goals in California: A Study of Costs and Impacts Using the Optimal Renewable Energy Build-Out (ORB) Model (2015)* and its implications for the quantities and geographic distribution of renewable resources to meet California's long-term GHG goals.

------- (Rest break at approximately 3:30 pm) ---------

3. **Introduction of RETI 2.0 Transmission Assessment Focus Areas (TAFAs**). This session will introduce the approach proposed by the RETI 2.0 Agency Management Team to identify Transmission Assessment Focus Areas (TAFAs) for further analysis in the next stage of RETI 2.0. These TAFAs are defined as geographic areas with high value renewable resources, and/or transmission paths or interties that may require additional transmission capacity to efficiently integrate high levels of renewables into California's electric grid by 2030.

    a. **Introduction to TAFA identification approach**
    Brian Turner, RETI 2.0 Project Director, and other RETI 2.0 Management Team members will present on the goals and approach to identifying TAFAs

    b. **Sample draft TAFAs**
    RETI 2.0 Management Team members will present and discuss a short list of preliminary draft TAFAs

Discussion questions

1. What conclusions can be drawn from long-term renewable resource portfolios about the kinds of resources that may be important for California utilities to procure by 2030?
    a. What quantities of which renewable resource (and from where geographically) are studied in long-term energy scenarios?
    b. What lessons about the "fit" of different resources can we learn from the different scenarios? What aggregate metrics of "fit" are used to measure different portfolios of resources?
    c. Are there lessons about complementarity of resources in certain combinations? Are there insights about the complementarity of renewable generation profiles in some areas with electric demand in others?

2. What lessons about the role of transmission can we learn from the studies?
    a. Where is the existing system capable of integrating new renewables, where may new transmission be necessary to access resources, and where may new transmission improvements be necessary to integrate multiple renewable resource areas and/or demand centers?

3. Based on these studies and prior information, where should RETI 2.0 focus in examining transmission options and implications?

4. Is the proposed Transmission Assessment Focus Area approach appropriate for guiding the next phase of the RETI 2.0 project?
    a. Are the assumptions appropriate regarding the range of renewable resource development in specific geographic areas that may be important to meet California's 2030 GHG goals?
    b. Are the assumptions appropriate regarding where additional transmission capacity may be necessary to access or integrate these resources?
    c. Are the conclusions appropriate regarding the initial draft Transmission Assessment Focus Areas presented at the workshop, including the range of resource development in, or flowing through, these areas, and the potential need for additional transmission improvements to efficiently integrate these resources?