

DOCKETED

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Description:	Agenda and discussion questions for the July 21, 2016 Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0 Environmental and Land Use Technical Group county meeting
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AGENDA
Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0
Environmental and Land Use Technical Group
County Meeting

July 21, 2016

1 p.m. - 4 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™

VIA COMPUTER: Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **927 178 716**. This meeting does not require a password.

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the United States and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number **927 178 716**.

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions

Administrative orientation and introductory remarks by Commissioner Karen Douglas.

2. Orientation to Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0 and Transmission Assessment Focus Areas

RETI 2.0 Project Director will review the goals of the RETI 2.0 project and the Transmission Assessment Focus Areas (TAFAs) that are currently being evaluated.

3. Orientation to Environmental and Land Use Technical Group and DataBasin tools

ELUTG staff lead Scott Flint will review the work of the ELUTG to evaluate the environmental and lands use implications of TAFAs and discuss the use of geographic data in the online DataBasin tool.

4. Roundtable Discussion with County Representatives

Representatives from counties with land in TAFAs will discuss the status of renewable energy planning in their counties and the nature of issues faced in renewable energy and transmission development.

5. Public comment and next steps

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0
Environmental and Land Use Technical Group
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1. What are general development trends and current planning activities for renewable energy in your county? What are specific trends and activities for renewable energy?
2. Does your county's general plan include an energy element? If so, when was the last time your energy element was updated? Does it include renewables and/or transmission? (is there GIS data?)
3. If you don't have an energy element, is renewable energy and/or transmission part of your general plan? How?
4. Do you have zoning, ordinances, overlays, districts, or other types of locational preferences and/or development standards for utility-scale wind? solar? geothermal? (is there GIS data?) Do these create exclusion or preference areas for renewables?
5. Are there environmental/biological issues that in your opinion strongly impact renewables development? (is there GIS data that we currently do not have?) Do these environmental/biological issues effectively prevent large-scale renewable development in some areas?
6. Are there agricultural issues that in your opinion strongly impact renewables development? Do these agricultural issues effectively prevent large-scale renewable development in some areas? (is there GIS data that we currently do not have?)
7. What has been your planning agency's experience with large-scale renewable development proposals? What are the issues that have come up, and how complicated and contested were they? What's been the level of interest in renewables development in the county, and how would you characterize the experience of developers? What kind of community concern (or support) has come from what constituencies?
8. Has there been significant work in the county around electric transmission planning or development? What's that experience been like for the developers and for the community? What were the major issues that came up? (is there GIS data?)
9. Have you been involved in any planning efforts by other entities (tribes, military, utilities, others) around renewables planning? What's the status? What was your take-away on the prospects for renewables development? (is there GIS data?)
10. What would you recommend as useful next steps the state could undertake to facilitate the planning of renewables and transmission in your county (if any)?