

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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Notice of Availability and Request for Comments on the Staff Draft Recommendations for A Study of Barriers and Solutions to Energy Efficiency, Renewables and Contracting Opportunities Among Low-Income Customers and Disadvantaged Communities

California Energy Commission staff has made available for public comment the draft recommendations for *A Study of Barriers and Solutions to Energy Efficiency, Renewables and Contracting Opportunities Among Low-Income Customers and Disadvantaged Communities* ("Barriers Study"). The draft recommendations are available on the Energy Commission's website at:

www.energy.ca.gov/sb350/barriers_report/

The recommendations will be incorporated into the Barriers Study, which the Energy Commission will consider adopting at the December 14 Business Meeting.

Background

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (SB 350) on October 7, 2015. The bill establishes new energy efficiency and renewable electricity targets by 2030 to support California's long-term climate goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The bill also finds that there is insufficient understanding of the barriers for low-income and disadvantaged communities to access energy efficiency investments, solar photovoltaic energy generation, weatherization, other forms of renewable generation, and contracting opportunities.

For this reason, SB 350 directs the Energy Commission to complete and publish a study by January 1, 2017, on the following topics:

- Barriers to and opportunities for solar photovoltaic energy generation as well as barriers to and opportunities for access to other renewable energy by low-income customers.
- Barriers to contracting opportunities for local small businesses in disadvantaged communities.

- Barriers for low-income customers to energy efficiency and weatherization investments, including those in disadvantaged communities, as well as recommendations on how to increase access to energy efficiency and weatherization investments to low-income customers.

Written Comments

Interested members of the public are encouraged to review and comment on the staff draft recommendations. Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **4:00 p.m. on October 28, 2016**. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding.

The Energy Commission uses an electronic commenting system. Visit the website at www.energy.ca.gov/sb350/barriers_report/ and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link in the "Proceeding Information" box.

This will take you to the page for adding comments to the SB 350 Barriers Report Docket. Please enter your contact information and comment title. Under "subject(s)" select "SB 350 Public Comments". You may include comments in the box titled "Comment Text" or attach a file with your comments. Please include your name and the name of the organization you represent, if applicable. Attached comments must be in a Microsoft® Word (.doc, .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf) formatted file.

Written comments may also be submitted by e-mail to the Dockets Office or sent by U.S. Mail to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 16-OIR-02
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

If you choose not to use the electronic filing system, please include the appropriate docket number on any e-mailed or written comments. Comments may be e-mailed to Docket@energy.ca.gov with a copy to Alana Mathews at Alana.Mathews@energy.ca.gov.

Please note that your electronic, e-mailed, written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, address, phone, and e-mail) become part of the viewable public record. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

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If you have questions on the subject matter of this document, please contact Alana Mathews at Alana.Mathews@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489.