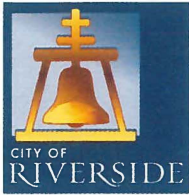


## DOCKETED

<b>Docket Number:</b>	16-OIR-03
<b>Project Title:</b>	Energy Data Collection
<b>TN #:</b>	214748
<b>Document Title:</b>	City of Riverside Public Utilities Comments on Title 20 Data Collection Regulations
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*City of Arts & Innovation*

December 12, 2016

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Docket No. 16-OIR-03  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

**RE: The City of Riverside (Riverside Public Utilities) Comments on Title 20 Data Collection Regulations to Support New Analytical Needs**

Riverside Public Utilities appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Title 20 Data Collection Regulations, as discussed at the November 16, 2016 Commissioner Workshop. Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) was established in 1895, under the provisions of the California Constitution and Article XII of the City Charter. RPU is supervised by the Public Utilities General Manager, and under the management and control of the City Manager, subject to the powers and duties vested in the Board of Public Utilities and the City Council. The Utility is committed to increasing its use of renewable resources and promoting sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

Riverside fully supports the concurrent comments being submitted by the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA). Additionally, Riverside would like to call attention to the following two specific issues in the proposed amendments that deserve further emphasis.

***1344 – Load Metering Reports***

Riverside appreciates the alternative option in Section 1344(a) to provide an estimation technique and process to fulfill the requested hourly load data requirements, but if it is denied then RPU would be subjected to the penalty fees described in Section 1353. It is unclear how the CEC will review the alternative plans and what estimation plans and processes the CEC would use to determine a grant or denial of the submitted information.

For example, Riverside currently does not have any load research sampling programs or Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) installed, which is what is needed to supply the load metering estimates being requested throughout Section 1344. It takes significant time, resources, and financial investment to implement and ensure a quality AMI system is functioning properly. In addition, if not having the data available by the deadline results in the penalty fee being imposed, then this would simply force the utility to refocus its budgeting to ensure the penalty fees are paid, which may delay the funding for a future AMI system and potentially cause a rate increase to RPU customers. The same conceptual argument and issues present themselves when implementing a formal load research survey program.

### **1353 – Failure to Provide Information**

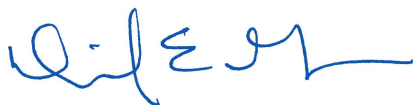
Riverside respectfully requests that the CEC remove the proposed language in Section 1353 since the penalty fee would be imposed on a utility for not being able to provide data that **does not exist**. Riverside believes that such a penalty process is both unjustified and unnecessary. Publicly Owned Utilities have always worked mutually and beneficially with the CEC to understand each other's business needs and processes. During all of these prior stakeholder processes, there was never the imposition of a penalty fee in CEC reporting regulations.

The uncertainty of the implementation of this section and what the CEC views as failure to provide information brings up several concerns. For example:

- 1) How does the CEC expect a utility to obtain data that they do not have by the reporting deadline and will they accept the justification that the data does not currently exist?
- 2) For entities that do not have the data, due to the lack of AMI or a formal load research surveying program, will the CEC subsidize or help the utility in implementing the resources, materials, software, etc. that would be needed to fulfill this data request by the deadline? Or will the CEC simply force them to request their local governing authority to implement it as soon as possible regardless of the costs to meet a specific data request and deadline?
- 3) Will the CEC penalize the utility every day at the unknown rate of \$500-\$2000 per day for each data infraction until data is received regardless of how long it may take a utility to implement the infrastructure and/or network to obtain this data?
- 4) Does the CEC expect the utility to increase customer rates due to the potentially cumulative high amount in penalty fees instead of ensuring cost-effective and quality service to its customers?

Riverside appreciates and supports the fact that the California Energy Commission has the authority and discretion to provide reasonable and necessary flexibility in the implementation of these amended regulations. We strongly encourage the Commission to exercise their authority during this Pre-Rulemaking process by adopting regulations that effectively account for the unique and diverse characteristics of California Publicly Owned Utilities, and carefully consider the implication of penalizing utilities for being unable to report data that is currently not collected.

Respectfully submitted,



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