

DOCKETED

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Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)



California Public Utilities Commission

Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group

January 25, 2019





Overview of CPUC Research, Development & Deployment Programs

- Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) (\$555 M for 2018-2020)
- California Energy Systems for the 21st Century (\$35 M for 2014-2019)
- Natural Gas Research and Development (\$24 M/yr)





EPIC - Overview

- CPUC established in 2011, funded by utility customers
- Provides investments in clean energy innovation to benefit California ratepayers
- Administered by the CEC (80% of funds), PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E (together, 20% of funds)
- Program areas:
 - Applied Research and Development
 - Technology Demonstration and Deployment
 - Market Facilitation
- 3-year Program Cycle





EPIC - Recent Activity

- 300+ EPIC projects currently active or completed
- Eight EPIC-related workshops held throughout 2018 covering topics including:
 - Implementation of legislation on DAC-related EPIC investments
 - Stakeholder input into 2018-2020 Investment Plans
- In 2018, CPUC approved administrator investment plans for 2018-2020





EPIC - DAC Considerations

- California law* requires the CEC to spend at least:
 - 25% of EPIC Technology Deployment and Demonstration (TD&D) funds on projects located in and benefitting DACs
 - 10% of EPIC TD&D funds on projects located in and benefitting low-income communities
- Per recent CPUC EPIC decision, DAC Advisory Group should inform administrator outreach work to encourage DAC participation in EPIC with goals of:
 - Ensuring beneficial projects are sited in DACs
 - Ensuring DACs benefit from results of all EPIC projects
- Future utility filing will address how utilities plan to better incorporate DAC input into their investment planning process

*Assembly Bill 523 (2017)





Additional Information

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/energyrdd/>

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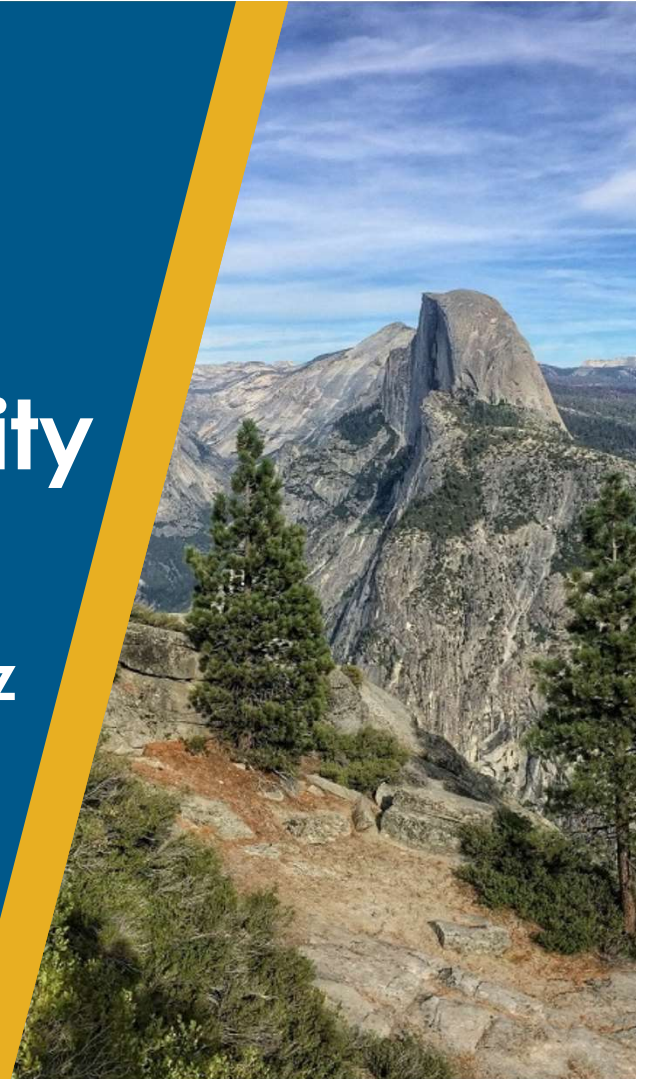
California
Energy Commission
Research & Development

Disadvantaged Community Advisory Group Meeting

Laurie ten Hope and Lorraine Gonzalez

Energy Research and Development Division

January 25, 2019 in Fresno, CA





What types of projects are eligible for funding?

EPIC projects must contain a research component and fall within one or more of the funding initiatives identified in the Energy Commission's EPIC Triennial Investment Plan.

The 2018-2020 EPIC Investment Plan can be found at:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic/17-EPIC-01/>



What types of projects are eligible for funding?

Funding areas include topics such as:

- ▶ Energy Efficiency
- ▶ Energy Storage
- ▶ Renewables
- ▶ Climate Science
- ▶ Entrepreneurial Support and assistance
- ▶ Advanced Energy Communities
- ▶ Customer Adoption of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies



The EPIC Solicitation Process

EPIC projects are awarded through a competitive solicitation process:

- ▶ Each solicitation specifies what projects are eligible for funding

Interested applicants should:

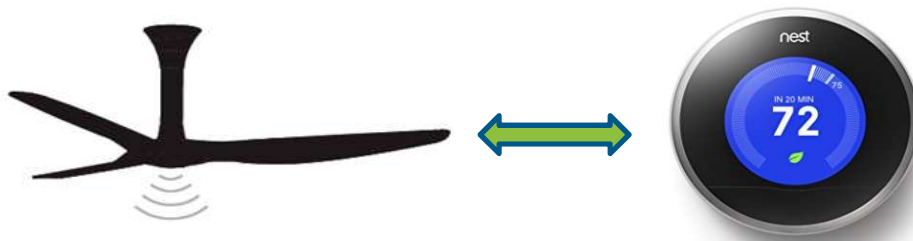
- ▶ Participate in the pre-application workshops and LinkedIn webinars for solicitations to hear clarifying information and seek potential partners for projects.



What types of projects benefit communities?

EPIC-funded projects can provide benefits to communities by:

- ▶ Improving critical services
- ▶ Improving affordability, health, and comfort in residential homes
- ▶ Supporting local economy and businesses





Stay Informed . . .

Sign up for the EPIC Listserve to receive notifications for upcoming activities and funding opportunities, at:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic>

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The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency. bit.ly/DiscoverCalEne...

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California takes another bold step toward zero-carbon energy with a 100% #CleanEnergy plan. California is already at 32% #RenewableEnergy. @GovPressOffice @JerryBrownGov @kdeleon @CAgovernment



2019 EPIC Symposium

Come learn about EPIC projects, and how R&D investments can help the state achieve its energy goals. This year's symposium will feature:

- ▶ Resilient and Equitable Communities
- ▶ Electrified Transportation
- ▶ Enabling Localized Clean Energy Portfolios
- ▶ Survival Tips for Entrepreneurs
- ▶ Broadening Storage Technologies Beyond Lithium Ion
- ▶ Non-Battery Solutions for Grid Flexibility
- ▶ And more

Keynote Speakers: Senator Henry Stern and Assembly Member Eloise Gomez Reyes

Register for free: <https://www.eventbee.com/v/2019epicsymposium>





Other R&D Programs

- ▶ PIER Natural Gas
 - ▶ Focuses on reducing statewide natural gas consumption through energy efficiency; increasing use of natural gas alternatives; reducing carbon emissions, and responding to critical research issues, such as methane emissions, air quality, and natural gas pipeline integrity and safety.

- ▶ Food Processing Incentive Program (FPIP)
 - ▶ Provides grants, loans, or financial incentives to food processors to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; replace high energy consuming equipment and systems with market-ready and advanced technologies and equipment; and accelerate the adoption of state-of-the-art energy technologies that can substantially reduce energy use and costs, and the associated GHG emissions.

- ▶ California Sustainable Energy Entrepreneur Development (CalSEED)
 - ▶ Provides up to \$600,000 in grant funding for early-stage development of promising new energy concepts.



Assembly Bill 523 Engagement and Implementation Efforts

After 2 public workshops in May 2018, staff developed revised evaluation criteria for TD&D projects located in low-income and disadvantaged communities that will be included in EPIC Grant Funding Opportunity solicitation manuals. During evaluation, scorers will consider:

- ▶ How project proposals meet the overall goal of the EPIC program to fund research that provides ratepayer benefits in the form of greater reliability, increased safety, and lower costs
- ▶ How TD&D proposals for projects located in communities demonstrate how the project will provide benefits to the targeted communities

A Request for Comments will be released soon, to solicit stakeholder feedback on these revised criteria.



Community Engagement

In collaboration with local CBOs and the Public Adviser's Office, staff will hold a series of 2-part meetings areas across the state to better understand communities' clean energy needs to help inform future EPIC solicitations:

- ▶ First meeting held in San Diego in December 2018
- ▶ Next meetings planned for early 2019 in Central Valley and Eureka (Tribal)
- ▶ Additional meetings can be scheduled in coordination with DACAG members or other CBOs



Additional Resources

Intro to R&D Funding Opportunities with
the California Energy Commission



[Video Transcript \(PDF file\)](#)

[More Information on Applying for R&D Funding Opportunities \(PDF file\)](#)

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/research/>



Additional Resources

Anticipated Solicitations			
Solicitation Title	Release Date	Program Area/Strategic Objective	Estimated Funding Amount
Next Generation Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing in California	Jan. 2019 – Mar. 2019	Market Facilitation (\$5.2.2)	\$12 million
Developing Lessons Learned, Best Practices, Training Materials and Guidebooks for Customer Side of the Meter Energy Storage	Jan. 2019 – Mar. 2019	Market Facilitation (\$2.3)	\$1 million
Cost Reductions, Advanced Technology for Solar Modules (CREATE Solar)	Feb. 2019 – Apr. 2019	Applied Research and Development (\$4.1 and \$4.4)	\$9 million
Ignition Prevention and Utility System Vegetative Intrusion Detection and Suppression	June 2019 – Aug 2019	Applied Research and Development (\$7.2)	\$3 - \$5 million

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/epic.html>



Questions