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<td><strong>Docket Number:</strong> 16-OIR-06</td>
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<td><strong>Project Title:</strong> Senate Bill 350 Disadvantaged Community Advisory Group</td>
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<td><strong>Document Title:</strong> Presentation - Empower Innovation - Catalyzing the Cleantech Community - Item 6b -</td>
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<td><strong>Description:</strong> Item 6b - Electric Program Investment Charge, Empower Innovation overview</td>
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<td><strong>Filer:</strong> Kristy Chew</td>
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<td><strong>Organization:</strong> California Energy Commission</td>
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Empower Innovation – Catalyzing the Cleantech Community

California Energy Commission
Diversity and Equity in Research and Development

Three-Pronged Strategy

• Increase awareness of R&D funding opportunities to underrepresented businesses and vulnerable communities

• Provide preference points or reserved funding for projects benefitting disadvantaged- and low-income communities

• Scope solicitations and projects around specific priorities of customers in disadvantaged- and low-income communities.

CEC staff identified the need for better tools to augment this strategy.
Empower Innovation Overview

Overview:
• Empower Innovation Demo
• Empower Innovation Events
• Questions
Empower Innovation Demo

www.empowerinnovation.net
Empower Innovation Events

**Outcomes:**

1) Facilitate dialogue and networking among diverse stakeholders
2) Expand access to grant funding by developing meaningful partnerships
3) Familiarize users with the Empower Innovation platform

**Format:**

- Demo and Onboarding of Empower Innovation platform
- Workshop on Engagement: Identifying Community Priorities & Existing Resources
- AB 523 “Look Ahead” on CEC Grant Funding Opportunities
- Open Networking

**4 Events**

**Locations:** Diverse regions throughout California (seeking DACAG suggestions)
Questions for the DACAG

• What are effective approaches to get the word out about Empower Innovation and the Empower Innovation events?

• What are priority locations where we should target for Empower Innovation events? Or what are criteria we should consider when identify potential locations for the events?

• What other activities and efforts can we leverage to increase awareness about Empower Innovation and our funding opportunities?
Questions and Discussion