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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
IEPR LEAD COMMISSIONER WORKSHOP

In the Matter of: ) Docket No. 21-IEPR-04

RE: IEPR Joint Agency Workshop ) RELIABILITY WORKSHOP
on Summer 2021 Energy )
Reliability Session 2 ) Re: Energy
_______________________________) Reliability

IEPR JOINT AGENCY WORKSHOP ON
SUMMER 2021 ENERGY RELIABILITY

REMOTE ACCESS ONLY

MAY 4, 2021
SESSION 2: 2:00 P.M

Reported By:
Martha Nelson
APEARANCES

CEC Commissioners: (Via Remote)

David Hochschild, Chair California Energy Commission (CEC)
Karen Douglas, Commissioner CEC
Andrew McAllister, Commissioner CEC
Patricia Monahan, Commissioner CEC
Siva Gunda, Commissioner CEC

Joint Agency Commissioners: (Via Remote)

Marybel Batjer, President, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
Elliot Mainzer, President and CEO, California Independent System Operator
Matthew Baker, Deputy Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources

Staff: (Via Remote)

Heather Raitt, IEPR Program Manager CEC
RoseMary Avalos, Public Advisor's Office CEC
David Erne, CEC
F. Tuan Bui, California Department of Water Resources
Tony Zimmer, Northern California Power Authority
Reiko Kerr, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Jim Shetler, Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)
Lana Wong, CEC

Also Present: (Via Remote)

Cindy Messer, Deputy Director, Delta Stewardship Council

Public Comment: (Via Remote)

Samuel Golding, Community Choice Partners
Keshava Prasad, Camp Pendleton
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PROCEEDINGS
MAY 4, 2021 2:00 p.m.

(On the record at 2:00 p.m.)

MS. RAITT: Hi, good afternoon everybody.
Welcome to Session 2 of today’s Joint Agency Workshop on
Energy Reliability for Summer of 2021. I am Heather Raitt,
the Program Manager for the Integrated Energy Policy
Report, which we refer to as the IEPR.

Today's workshop is being held remotely
consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and
the recommendations from the California Department of
Public Health to encourage physical distancing to slow the
spread of COVID-19.

To follow along with today's discussion the
workshop schedule and presentations are available on the
Energy Commission's website, just go to the 2021 IEPR and
you should be able to find it.

All IEPR workshops are recorded. And both a
recording and written transcript will be available on our
website within a couple weeks.

Attendees are going to have an opportunity to
participate today in a few different ways. You may ask
questions or upload questions submitted by others using the
Zoom's Q&A feature. You are also welcomed to make comments
during the public comment period at the end of the
afternoon.

And finally written comments always welcome and they are due May 18th and the notice provides instructions for how to do that. So with that I am pleased to turn it over to Commissioner Gunda for opening comments. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yes. Thank you, Heather, thanks for everything. I welcome everybody back from lunch. You know, we had a pretty good turnout this morning in terms of attendees as well as the joint agencies, so thank you to everyone for taking time to join today to be a part of this conversation.

I just want to provide a little quick summary of what we did this morning. We had a couple of panels this morning to discuss some of the analysis that CAISO and CEC have collected to establish how the outlook is looking for summer under both normal conditions and extreme conditions. And we were able to discuss that.

The second panel was focused on talking through the collective actions that agencies have taken that since last summer to prepare for this summer. And what we're going to try and go into now is kind of highlight some of the work we are doing with some of our reliability partners. I want to especially thank partners that are available today: DWR, NCPA, LADWP and BANC. All of you,
thank you so much for being here and kind of sharing the actions that you are taking in order to help support the summer reliability.

We are not able to discuss every single contingency that we have thought about, but this gives us a representative sample of how we are trying to prepare for this summer.

I know I’ve used up a lot of time this morning, so I'm going to try and pass on to open up the dais for any other comment. We’ll start with Commissioner Monahan, see if she might have anything. Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thank you. Yes, I think that the fact that all the agencies are here together with CNRA really is indicative of how seriously we are taking this reliability issue.

And for me as Lead for Transportation really trying to think through how we use other transportation and other potentially substitute energy resources to be able to enhance reliability. And particularly introduce questions as we scale up battery deployment in the state and how we have all these batteries on wheels as well to supplement how they all can work together, how we can create the right market signals for those investments to happen.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner.

MR. ERNE: So sorry I need to jump in. So
Commissioner Monahan they can't hear you, so I think we’re having the same problem this afternoon that we had this morning. So if you could jump over to the computer that might help.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Okay.

MR. ERNE: So for those who weren't on this morning there were some problems with those who were calling in and Zoom recognizing those voices. And so if you're going to be making comments you might need to jump over to computer audio to make your comments.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, David.

I’ll circle back to Commissioner Monahan towards the end, so going to President Batjer.

PRESIDENT BATJER: All right, let me press my unmute button again. No, thank you very much. It was an exciting morning and I'm very much looking forward to the discussion this afternoon. Thank you, Commissioner Gunda.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, President Batjer.

To President Mainzer.

PRESIDENT MAINZER: Yes, thanks Commissioner. Nothing else to add just really excited to have our guests here this afternoon and talk about additional collaboration for summer readiness. So thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you. Deputy Secretary Baker?
D/SECRETARY BAKER: Yes, I'm very excited about this afternoon. I just want to highlight that Secretary Crowfoot, who could not be here for the Natural Resources Agency, is also very appreciative of all the work that everybody has put together here. And I guess with that I will also pass.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Deputy Secretary. I just want to take a moment to thank you for your leadership in helping work with DWR. Thank you so much for all your work on it.

So with that, to Deputy Director Messer.

D/DIRECTOR MESSER: Hi. Good afternoon everyone, hopefully you can hear me okay. I think I signed in on computer audio for the audio.

So I just want to echo thank you for the invitation to be here today. We're very excited to be part of this conversation, other conversations that have been happening as we move into the summer months so that we do have a degree of readiness. As we all know it's been a challenging year so far, and getting through the summer months is going to bring more challenges with it, but we are very grateful to be part of this kind of early planning, if you will, conversations. So thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you so much.

I’m going to circle back to Commissioner Monahan
quickly.

COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Okay, and before I say
anything just maybe chat to let me know that you can hear
me or Heather can you let me know?

(Panel members indicate they can hear her.)

Okay, well at least on the panel you can hear me.  I don't think you could hear me before though.  I've got to
say I'm like the Zoom’s biggest fan, but not today, not
today Zoom.

So I'll just say really briefly that I really
kind of appreciate this conversation, and especially the
deep collaboration with all the agencies. And as the Lead
for Transportation at the Energy Commission I am
particularly interested in how we can use vehicles and
other distributed energy resources to help with
reliability. And especially this question as we scale up
more battery deployment, how can battery deployment be
supplemented with these batteries on wheels and other DER
to help with reliability?

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you so much,
Commissioner Monahan. You did beautifully there again.

So going to Commissioner Douglas.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yes, hello. I hope you
can hear me. I'm just using computer audio, so that should
work.
But I'm excited to hear these presentations. The partnerships that we have within the state have been and were extremely valuable last summer. And it’s clear that we need to be planning together to understand how to make the most advantage of the assets that we have in California to help us withstand these extreme weather and other events. And so I’m really looking forward to seeing the presentations today, thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Commissioner Douglas, thank you for your leadership on SB 100 and the continued planning on the long term. I really appreciate your work on that.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: From there, we go to Commissioner McAllister.

COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Just really quickly, I want to circle back to something from the first thing this morning, which is just that we're absolutely focused on this summer. And figuring out what resources can be relevant and online in helping us if there are capacity issues. But also with an eye towards multiple years out front with the following year and long term, so hopefully can learn for that larger project to really systematize the solutions that we find. So I'm really excited to hear all of the partners and what they have to do and what they're
thinking about how they can contribute more in the future.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner McAllister. So I wanted to recognize your leadership on the DER conversation and the long-term load management. Thank you.

I believe the Chair has joined. Chair Hochschild, if you are able to hear us do you want to say anything?

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Siva. Yeah, no additional comments, just looking forward to the discussion.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. With that I will pass it back to Heather.

MS. RAITT: Great, thank you, Commissioner. So yeah, we will go ahead and start our panel -- excuse me -- our summer reliability partners. And David Erne is joining us again this afternoon to moderate. He is the Manager of the Supply Analysis Office from the Energy Commission. Thanks, David, go ahead.

MR. ERNE: Thank you, Heather. And good afternoon to our members on the dais and our own participants, appreciate you joining this afternoon. For those of you who missed the morning session there was some recap comments made. But if you go back and look at the content that was presented this morning there was a substantial number of activities that are being initiated.
or have been initiated by the larger state energy
institutions. But there are number other partners that are
actively engaged in preparing for summer reliability,
supported last year are issues statewide but also looking
to support this year. And so this panel is looking at
those other, what we call reliability partners, to help
look for opportunities for the state to have better
reliability planning as we move forward into this summer.

We have four panelists who will be presenting
today or speaking. I'll introduce each one of them. And
then we will go back and have each one of them give
comments, they have about 10 minutes comments from each one
of our participants. And they will be followed by
questions from the dais and then questions that can be
submitted through Zoom. And that will be followed by a
public comment period.

So let me first go through the four speakers and
announce them. So Tuan Bui is the Chief of the State Water
Project Operations Office, that’s the California Department
of Water Resources. He'll be followed by Tony Zimmer, the
Senior Assistant General Manager for Power Management in
the Northern California Power Authority. Reiko Kerr is the
Senior Assistant General Manager of Power System
Engineering, Planning and Technical Services in LADWP. And
Jim Shetler is the General Manager of the Balancing
Authority of Northern California.

So each of them will be making their comments.

I’ll help with segues in between each of the speakers. But we can turn over now to Tuan and he can start with his presentation about DWR.

MR. BUI: Thank you, David. Good afternoon Commissioners and Executives. My name is Tuan Bui and I’m the Chief of the State Water Project Operations Office. Thank you for the opportunity to present today. Next slide, please.

I have about 10 minutes to go over the overview of the State Water Project. Actions that we took last summer in August 2020. And the outlook for the summer coming of 2021. Next slide, please.

The primary purposes of the state water projects are water supply and flood control. We (indiscernible) designs to develop to 4.2 million-acre-feet to our 29 contractors who then distribute the water to farms, residential and industry.

For flood control, we have about 750,000 acre-feet reserved for winter storage in Lake Oroville for flood control purposes. And there are additional benefits that we have designed for, such as environmental power generation and recreation. Next slide.

Facilities, we rely on our facilities to deliver
wattage to more than 29 million Californians and irrigate about 750,000 acres of farmland. We have 34 storage facilities with two largest reservoirs, Orville being the largest, 3.5 million-acre-feet. And San Luis Reservoir, a joint-use facility. This is between the state water project and the Central Valley project.

We have 29 pumping and generating plants with Edmonston being the highest pump lift, 1926 feet. We have 3 pump/gen facilities, that being Hyatt, Thermalito and Gianelli. And we have over 700 miles of canal in pipelines to convey water to our customers. Next slide.

The State Water Project headquarters and the project operation San Jose and Sacramento, with the five field divisions are located throughout Northern California and Southern California. In the north, we have Oroville Field Division and Delta Field Division. Oroville Field Division is where the Hyatt/Thermalito complex is located. And Delta Field Division is the home of Banks Pumping Plant where water is diverted into the aqueduct.

In Central California we have San Luis Field Division. This is a joint-use facility between the federal and the state.

And for the south we have San Joaquin Field Division. This is where all of the major pumping plants with the State Water Project are located. And in the South
we have Southern Field Division. This is where all the
State Water Project power recovery plants are. And that I
believe wraps up the overview of the State Water Project.

Now I'm going to move into the State Water
Project operations during the August 2020 heat wave. So
first the objectives, the objectives of the State Water
Project during last year was to help the CAISO grid
operations. And we used a limited flexibility that we have
to generate more and pump less during peak hours. But we
also must maintain water deliveries to our contractors and
state compliance with all of the regulatory requirements,
both including NERC, WEC reliability standards as well as
environmental requirements. Next slide.

So what action did we take in real time when we
responded to the CAISO’s exceptional dispatches? During
peak hours, we reduced our discretionary pump load and
increased Oroville’s generation in the north and increased
Devil Canyon generation in the south.

In the day-ahead timeframe, we set up ours
afterbay storages at Oroville and Devil Canyons to add more
generations to peak hours. We also used pump storage
capability at Gianelli, that would be in San Luis Field
Division, to provide additional generations to the grid.

We also drafted the aqueduct storage and terminal
reservoirs to meet our water deliveries. This action
helped us reduce pump load during the peak hours at our Valley String pumping plants.

In the afterbay, the second afterbay at Devil Canyon was getting full after two days of additional generation. So we reached out to one of our contractors, the MWD Metropolitan Water District, to increase their demands to help drain the afterbay, so that we can get it ready for additional generations.

We also worked with our operating partners the Central Valley Project to shift some of the federal peak pumping to non-peak pumping to a state facility. And our (indiscernible) has continued to make available generations reserved for back peak pumping into the grid. That was quite a bit of effort to coordinate. Next slide, please.

Here are the results of all of the coordination. On the generation side in the north, Oroville has generated an additional 60 to 260 megawatts during peak hours.

San Luis Field Division, San Luis has added between 35 to 90 megawatts to the grid.

And in Southern California, Devil Canyon power plant added between 60 to 100 -- between 30 to 160 more of generations into the grid. On the load reduction side, BANC's combination of reducing and shifting pump load were able to reduce consumption between 6 to 70 megawatts. And Edmonston and the supporting plants reducing load between
90 to 210 megawatts. Next slide, please.

Moving into 2021, I borrowed these two pictures from my coworkers to show this year’s hydrologic conditions. The purpose is to compare the percentage of the average precipitation between Water Year 2020 on the left-hand side and 2021 on the right-hand side.

In 2020, the precipitation in the north ranged between 50 to 70 percent of historical average. It was the ninth driest record on records for Northern California. And for 2021 to date, precipitation is between 20 to 50 percent of normal throughout the state. And the year 2020 and 2021 is the second driest two-year period on record.

Next slide.

The State Water Project system is definitely very highly dependent on hydrology and the operations vary from year to year. The picture on the right is Oroville towards the end of April.

The dry conditions so far definitely shows up in the State Water Project operation outlook for 2021. We have less water for generation and 5 percent lower water allocation this year, resulting less water being released for generation. 2021 generation is estimated to be about a third or 30 -- roughly a third of 2020 level. And the pump loads for 2021 are available for reduction is estimated to be about 25 percent of the 2020 level. Definitely, last
year’s performance is not a good indication of this year’s capability. Next slide, please.

So to prepare for this summer we have been working with the California ISO on the communication protocol for early alerts and system preparations. We also participated in the CAISO summer readiness tabletop exercises. And as so far as possible we tried to schedule all generator outages during non-summer months and make sure that we have enough capacity for the hot summer.

And that is the end of my presentation. Back to you, David.

MR. ERNE: Thank you, Tuan.

We will now move to Tony Zimmer from Northern California Power Authority.

MR. ZIMMER: Great. Thank you very much. And good afternoon Commissioners appreciate the opportunity to have this discussion with you today. It's an important topic obviously. And I think all of us are working hard and working together to ensure we can be successful this summer.

Just to provide a little bit of background regarding NCPA. NCPA is a joint powers authority who works on behalf of 16 of our member utilities. Each of our members are located throughout Northern and Central California and we serve approximately 700,000 customers in
that area. NCPA does own and operate a number of large-scale power generation facilities consisting of a variety of technologies, and I’ll speak to that as one strategy we’re using for planning and preparing for these type of events.

NCPA is also a registered scheduling coordinator in the California ISO and we currently manage and operate over 15 generating -- excuse me, 50 generating resources located throughout California. And in the context of this discussion NCPA’s primary role is focused on planning and operational activities for our membership.

We obviously take the summer of 2021 reliability and readiness very seriously. It is one of our top priorities that we're currently working on here on behalf of our members. Especially in light of the events of 2020, we are studying kind of outcomes and our experience from that period of time to determine how we can learn from that experience. And help try to ensure that we build the resilience in our system to help avoid that type of situation in the future.

For example, in 2020 NCPA did actively support reliable operations of the grid. For example, we did maximize generation output in a variety of our facilities based on direction and coordination with the California ISO.
We also worked actively with our customers to look for opportunities to increase the availability of distributed generation resources, or non-kind of registered units. And we’re very successful at reducing the amount of load in our systems by increasing the amount of generation produced by backup generation sources.

We also worked actively in real time to try to coordinate with our customers to really encourage additional conservation when possible to reduce loading on the system. And ultimately, we did actively participate in the coordinated load-shedding that took place last year that we're all hoping to avoid coming 2021.

As we plan for 2021 and looking forward there's really kind of three key areas that we've been focused and I’m going to walk through each somewhat quickly to try to preserve time for questions and answers where we might get the greatest benefit out of this discussion.

But first in the context of planning activities as POUs we are responsible for planning for the needs of our various customers who have distinct and different needs. As part of our strategy, we actively work to ensure that we have a high level of diversity in our resource mix and in our portfolios. For example, in the context of NCPA’s members we own and operate hydroelectric facilities, geothermal facilities, natural gas facilities, solar, wind
imports, landfill gas and other technologies. Really, the strategy behind that approach is to ensure that our resources have a very diverse operating profile and provide a variety of different operating characteristics to meet the needs of our load serving requirements. And that includes the ability to provide ramping services, operating reserves, obviously energy production, load-following regulation support.

And we also worked to diversify the actual production profile of our portfolio focused on building baseload generation as well as dispatchable and fast ramping resources, so that we can not only meet kind of the total planned forecasted demand of our members and customers over a long duration of time, but on an hour-by-hour basis from an operational standpoint. And we think based on that focus on portfolio diversity and how that's supportive for our planning efforts will really position us well to support grid reliability going into 2021.

Another area that we've really focused on more specifically in the short term is ensuring that all of our facilities are properly maintained. And so we do focus a lot on developing very coordinated, planned outage schedules to ensure that we can perform the maintenance that is required for each of our units, so that they're ultimately available and ready to respond to the needs of
the system during high-load events.

As far as in addition to just regular maintenance, we are also working currently to ensure that we can position our resources in a way that they are ready to respond to high-load events.

And a good example is we do own and operate a number of large-scale hydroelectric facilities that have dispatchable capability with water storage. And so we are currently working to operate those facilities in a way to preserve as much of that discretionary generation as possible for later this year and so it can respond to the needs of the system.

And also in the context of other resource types, including our natural gas fleet, ensuring that we are coordinating actively with our fuel suppliers to ensure that we have a continuity in terms of our fuel supply so that we can operate when needed.

In addition to that, we are actually also working actively to try to mitigate exposure risk associated with wildfire. In the past, we did have a number of experiences where generation assets became unavailable at critical times as a result of impacts associated with wildfire. So we have developed a very thorough mitigation plan and in each of our facilities they’re actively working to try to harden those facilities to limit the potential that their
production could be interrupted as result of wildfire risk. And a good example at our geothermal facilities located up near Clear Lake we do a lot of vegetation management and other activities to ensure that those facilities are protected from a resiliency perspective.

And the third area that we're really focused on as far as 2021 preparedness is coordination with all the key stakeholders that are involved in this process including the California ISO and the various state agencies.

In the context of the California ISO where I perform most of my business we’ve really focused more from an operational coordination standpoint to ensure that all the various lines of communication that will be necessary and important to ensure that we can manage the system when loading is expected to be high. We’ve gone through the process of ensuring that all those lines of communication have been tested and that all of our staff are trained and prepared to coordinate using those tools.

Also actively working with the California ISO to review all of our various operational procedures to ensure that those procedures are clearly understood and coordinated, so we can execute those procedures effectively when needed.

Also focusing a lot on active coordination with
our customers, one of the key things that we discovered during the 2020 experience is that if we can coordinate in a timely fashion and an effective fashion with our customers. They tend to be pretty responsive in terms of looking for opportunities to conserve and reduce loading requirements. So we have worked to establish additional lines of communication using various techniques such as Twitter or otherwise to ensure that we can coordinate with our customers in real time and coordinate with them to seek a response.

And lastly, in addition to that coordination effort also looking for new opportunities to find additional potential backup or distributed generation sources in our customer base. Many of our customers do own and operate backup generation, so ensuring that we can identify that upfront and have a procedure in place where we can reach out to those customers to seek assistance when necessary.

So in the interest of time, I’ll pause there, but I'm happy to engage in further discussion there in the Q&A session.

MR. ERNE: Thank you, Tony, for your review and all of the things that NCPA is doing.

I will now turn to Reiko Kerr from LADWP.

MS. KERR: Good afternoon. First, I'd like to
thank you for the opportunity to address such an esteemed
group of commissioners and executives. These are important
initiatives and help highlight the critical concerns for
this summer. LADWP was an important power reliability
partner from the state last year and we will continue to do
so this year.

We were invited to the summer reliability
shortage party last year late in the game, and that limited
some of the solutions that we could offer and the
assistance we could provide. Even with that LADWP still
provided over 10,000 megawatt hours over the August
heatwave, primarily over key coordinate peak load periods.

And by September there was much better advanced
coordination, it was just markedly improved. And when
needed there were daily calls in advance with the
Governor's Office, with the CEC, with CAISO, so it helped
tremendously to help ensure that DWP could plan and provide
the most assistance possible. And during the September
event L.A. provided almost 13,000 megawatt hours so a vast
majority through the CAISO, but also to other utilities
under emergency conditions or when there was unexpected
loss of generation.

During that time, and in order to support the
state we really challenged our staff to find every single
megawatt we could come up with, because we understood
during tight conditions every little -- every single megawatt counts. And so from LADWP's perspective we will continue to look to serve LADWP's customers first and then maximizing the support that we have available to the state as well as other utilities under emergency conditions.

We do not expect supply shortages this summer either, but we still have some reliability concerns. Last year due to COVID our commercial load was down about 20 percent. That was offset by some uptick in the residential, but not nearly as much as what commercial, industrial were down. I want to caveat this, because portions of our fleet are aging and very temperamental. So it isn't unusual to have startup issues despite best efforts and maintenance activities, so some of those items that staff came up with last year that will continue this year.

So again, no shortage of supplies but for DWP the issues were on the distribution system and that could maybe be the same for this year. Although with these outages on the distribution system, because for those not aware, we operated a pretty low voltage in basin. It’s 4.8 kV, so a lot of our circuits are overloaded. We do a big push for summer reliability, but when we have those outages that just obviously makes more supply available on the wholesale side.
Once we were made aware of this shortage of supply and reliability issues we knew that LADWP had to help. And we used maximum effort to get a couple of the units that were already offline, to get them back online. And it took extraordinary measures for us, which means we had all hands-on-deck. And even recognizing it wasn't for DWP's needs, it was to help the state. So we had numerous failed attempts to start, but we even took a starter out of a previously decommissioned unit that hadn't been demolished. And those efforts were very successful and we got those units to start after multiple failed attempts. So that provided several hundred megawatts available that we otherwise would not have had.

The other thing we did, we stopped the day-ahead sales once we were aware that there was a shortage. Because we wanted to make sure we were able to help the state stay to the maximum extent possible, taking care of our own backyard first. So we had very close coordination with other sister city agencies including the Port of L.A., L.A. Sanitation; that allowed tens of megawatts. And again, looking for every megawatt we could help, that we could find. And it helped that the Governor had an emergency declaration so that allowed temporary restrictions on the air permits.

We also have a number of customers as Tony...
mentioned, that have customer-sited cogen (phonetic) and recognizing the more they use their onsite load that provides more that we can assist the state.

We worked with our water system to modifying our pump loads and that was really challenging during wildfire season, because we also have a critical need to keep the reservoirs full for firefighting capabilities. We implemented our demand-reduction program, so there were tens of megawatts of demand from there. We worked through premier accounts on the messaging, and again, getting folks to help.

A significant effort was we had some transmission availability so we were able to import power from other regions and deliver it to CAISO to provide 4 to 700 megawatts of import capabilities. We also did some reserve sharing, so we had non-firm energy sales that we could curtail if needed. And fortunately we didn't need it but that allowed us 400 to 700 megawatts of additional non-firm energy sales to CAISO.

And social media campaigns, even though we weren't in shortage we participated and will continue to participate just to raise public awareness. It’s always better to get more messaging. So overall there were periods so that was over 1,000 megawatts during peak and net peak-hour periods.
So what's new this year? Things that we're doing to prepare for this summer so this year, April 1st, LADWP joined the Energy Imbalance Market. I think this year there's a much better aligned coordination between the agencies' communications. And thank you for this effort, this is really important and very helpful to make sure that there is a clear understanding of all the assistance that's needed. We know this year that much of the load that disappeared last year from COVID we expect some of that to come back.

Better advanced planning, we have an annual summer readiness program typically focused internally on the distribution system on overloaded circuits and transformer replacements and getting the distribution system ready for the summer. This year we expanded the readiness program to also focus on the supply side in ensuring that we have the maximum amount of generation available for the summer. So this summer it looks like we are going have 8 more units available than we had last summer. And that's up to potentially another 1000 megawatts.

We had an additional 71 megawatts come online this year for geothermal. We have increased our planning reserve margins. One of the things we are looking at we had some underperforming renewables during that peak
period, so considering curtailing and getting a more
certainty of supply so we can maximize the use of that
transmission so it doesn't end up unloading if those units
aren’t performing.

And then we started a new demand response for a
thermostat program, about 25 megawatts more that we didn’t
have.

We do have one area of concern, particularly in
Southern California. I know that there was a recent
Southern California gas filing with the PUC on the summer
of 2021 technical assessments under worst-case scenarios.
And that stated that non-core curtailments this summer
would be maybe needed to fill storage capacity needed for
core reliability in the winter of 2122. And if this is
needed to meet that November minimum monthly inventory
level specified in Aliso Canyon Withdrawal Protocol. I

In that report it says approximately 14 BCF of
non-core curtailments over the summer season will be needed
under those worst-case conditions. So it goes without
saying this requires close coordination amongst the
agencies, so balancing authority areas to ensure that gas
system winter-readiness is not at the expense of electric
system summer reliability. And given the already
heightened interest and concerns this summer it warrants
additional attention.
But just a reminder that despite the best planning efforts, things happen. Tony mentioned this too, but two years ago, we lost 75 percent of our transmission import capabilities due to wildfires. And we were fortunate, because it was doing low-load conditions. But that could just as easily have happened during the summer heatwave despite our best efforts.

Fast forward to 2021 and Texas is another example where better planning and preparation and implementation of recommendations from the 2011 freeze could have avoided much of the extreme hardship, loss of life and property, and economic devastation that occurred. And it just highlights the importance of these type of planning efforts. And at least if the items that are within our control are properly planned for and we don't wait until it's too late.

So the bottom line the POUs can play a big role in helping the state, being a good reliability partner, and help keeping the lights on. Our commitments are aligned as we all seek to ensure summer grid reliability. Simply I'd like to just reinforce the coordination communication and clearly this forum does that, as well as the CAISO hosted also a forum a couple weeks ago. So I would recommend that we over-communicate and coordinate to prevent a repeat.

And encourage providing that information as early
as possible whether or not there is a shortage. Because for DWP we are voluntarily foregoing those forward sales of excess energy to provide maximum assistance to the state and those wholesale sales are critical components, because they offset rate increases. And that’s especially important to the 47 percent of our customers that reside in environmental justice communities. So our ask is that the communication and coordination happens whether or not there are anticipated shortages with as much notice as possible.

So again I want to thank this panel for convening this, I think it’s a very important workshop. And LADWP looks forward to working with the agencies and CAISO to help ensuring summer reliability for all of California. And with that, that's all my comments.

MR. ERNE: Thank you, Reiko. And thank you for the overview of all of the support that you gave the state last year, quite impressive. And I agree that the coordination and communication is critical as we’re moving forward. And we heard a lot of that this morning as well. So now I’ll turn to our last speaker, Jim Shetler from BANC, who will be (indiscernible).

MR. SHETLER: Good afternoon. Thank you for having me today, commissioners and agency executives. We appreciate the opportunity to speak today. And clearly reliability is a focus for us.
BANC is a balancing authority operator. We oversee the transmission of our six members, which includes SMUD, Modesto, Redding, Roseville, Trinity PUD, and the City of Shasta Lake. As well as contractual relationships overseeing transmission for the Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada region and the Transmission Agency in Northern California.

In looking at reliability, I want to jump back on what happened in 2020. For BANC we saw our peak day in August 16th. It came in at about 45, 75 megawatts and we had two members who set all-time record peaks that day. Having said that, for BANC it was about 300 megawatts shy of our all-time record and so we did have capacity available to serve load. We did not have to get any load-shedding scenarios last summer. We did issue conservation notices to our members in order to minimize any usage. And we did make excess capacity available to the California ISO, anywhere from 100 to 300 megawatts in a given hour when we had it available.

So from our perspective last year was acceptable, but we also know that there are challenges for all of us. And in looking at 2021 we took a very hard look at what does it look like for us to ensure reliability for our members and customer base, and therefore be able to ensure that we have capacity when it's available to support
others. And so we did a much deeper, more critical dive into our summer assessment we just completed. And it was presented to our Commission last week. We took a very hard look at our peak-load day forecast for this summer, both on a gross and net peak over the critical hours from 4:00 to 9:00 o'clock. We went through and took a hard look at all of our generation and we have about over 5,400 megawatts of generation in the BANC footprint. And looked at that from a historical generation and made sure that we're not over-planning what’s going to be available to us and can realistic forecasts.

The other thing that's important to us, the peak hour about 25 percent of our load is served from imports and those imports are either coming from the ISO footprint or the Pacific Northwest. And so we wanted to ensure that we understood the firmness of those imports and how much we could count on them.

And then we did a lot of scenario analysis looking at just different probability risks and different scenarios to ensure that we felt comfortable we could serve the load for this coming summer. And we did such things as that looking at a loss of a 500 kV line on the Pacific Intertie. Watched the impact on wildfire smoke on solar generation and how that impacts us. And what if we had a west-wide heatwave and which we looked at in a 1-in-20
probability load event and how would that impact us. The results of all that are we’re comfortable that we're going to be able to serve our load in 2021 and still meet the NERC and WECC reliability standards.

We have also ensured that our facilities have been maintained over the winter and spring, so that they're available this summer. We don't have any major outages that are forecasted or planned for this summer, either for generation or transmission. And you want to make sure that the interties are maintained open for our use and our neighbors use.

We will also be continuing to do conservation throughout our area when the time is -- or when it is appropriate to do so. We also took a very hard look at our demand response programs and made sure that they were valid and that we can count on them when needed.

We are prepared to support adjacent balancing authorities in the coming summer. We will be able to do that with excess capacity that we have on any given hour assuming we’re not using it.

And then from our perspective looking forward, and this has been mentioned by a couple of the other speakers, I think there are probably the three C’s is what I call them: communication, coordination, and collaboration. And historically I think balancing
authorities have done very well at that. And I applaud the ISO being proactive this spring with outreach to the adjacent balancing authorities in the west to make sure we're communicating and understanding what's coming our way. And though we've done that traditionally well I think one of the keys is making sure that we continue to do that and we're doing that in anticipation of what might be coming. And looking ahead and making sure that we are coordinating and what those responses need to be if we see a heatwave coming or there's fire impacts that we need to address. And that we're collaborating on what those solutions will be.

We're prepared to do that and we look forward to working with the ISO and the other balancing authorities and the agencies as the summer comes.

One thing that I would leave you with is we look from our perspective going forward. We're comfortable for 2021, we're probably comfortable for 2022. But as we start looking at mid-decade we realized that, and as I mentioned earlier 25 percent of our load is served from imports. That capacity in our areas that we normally import from are going to be decreasing. The ISO is looking at some major, or ISO footprint is looking at some major capacity shutdowns by mid-decade. The Pacific Northwest is seeing that capacity shutdowns as well. And so I think for all of
us who rely on imports in order to meet load I think the
next three to five years is going to be telling as to what
might be in our future.

With that I'll yield back any of my time. And I
look forward to comments and questions.

MR. ERNE: Thank you, Jim. And thank you to all
the speakers, I appreciate your work and comments and
review of not only last year, but planning this year and
beyond.

So at this point, I think we’ll turn it over to
Commissioner Gunda who will be coordinating questions from
the dais.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah, thank you so much,
David.

Before I jump into questions, I just want to
share a couple comments. I had with the difficulty as well
as the pleasure last year, in working day-to-day with Jim
and Reiko as well as DWR through Secretary Baker. So I
just want to take a moment again and just say thank you so
much for all of the support that you provided. I cannot
count the number of text messages we all exchanged during
those five, six days but thanks again for all of your help
and coming in with some of the thoughts you have.

Also I wanted to just share for the broader
audience here, so what you’ve heard on this panel is the
coordination that’s been happening in terms of some of our reliability partners as Ed Randolph in the previous panel kind of mentioned around the demand, around the modernization of Flex Alert and the opportunities there. As well as some of the work that CAISO is doing in terms of improving the emergency generator limits. As well as kind of looking towards opportunities that might exist in the real time for more economic imports.

We are looking at contingencies holistically and we hope to have enough arrows in the quiver, for lack of a better word, hopefully to tackle this summer in case an extreme event. But as Reiko pointed out as smartly, we can do everything that is in our control. And as an interagency team we are planning to do that and hope we are not throwing out curve ball, we don’t have a spit (phonetic) right now.

With that I have one question to DWR, Tuan, so on your presentation you mentioned the overall generation to be in the third of what we’ve seen last year. And the demand reduction in kind of like of a quarter, is that the overall over a year? Does that mean it's both capacity and energy or is it purely energy and we can still count on those extreme days? Anything you might be able to share to comment on, that would be great.

MR. BUI: Sure. The percentage that I present,
35 percent of compared to 2020, were the average over the summer months and the load reductions this all depends on, because this year is a very dry year. And we don't have much of a discretionary pumping. Most of the pumping that we put online during the peak hours are necessary to supply to our contractors’ water. So that's in that context is the 35 percent of generations compared to 2020 and to quarter 25 percent of the pump load.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Tuan. Thank you for the clarification. I look forward to continuing the discussions on that.

With that, anybody else from the dais have questions? Yeah, I’ll go to Commissioner Douglas.

COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Hi, yeah thank you. Thank you, Commissioner Gunda.

First of all I have to say to Reiko that I really like your background. I have wind turbines in my background too. They aren't floating though, and yours are quite nice there.

So I just wanted to make really a brief comment. We’re obviously focused on the very short term here and there's a huge amount of potential in this kind of collaboration in the short term.

Also as we think a couple of years out more medium term and longer term just keeping up the
communication and the dialogue in doing, planning as much as we can together and with communication I think will help all of us as we move forward. So it's really great to have you here and I appreciate all the presentations.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner. Let's go to Deputy Secretary Baker and then to President Batjer and President Mainzer. You're muted.

D/SECRETARY BAKER: Thanks. I say my best things when I muted.

I also wanted to bestow kudos on the folks who were just speaking. My experience directly has been with DWR who I think really rose to the occasion this summer. And I want to thank Chief Deputy Messer and Deputy Ted Craddock over at the SWP. But I also want to thank you Siva, who really coordinated this effort across sectors and I think you did a fantastic job.

My question is to also Tuan and maybe to Chief Deputy Messer. Are there things that either the state and/or the energy agencies can do to try to help institutionalize some of the coordination that we saw last summer between federal water agencies and state water agencies and local water agencies and even some of the major users that could be helpful, either in the short term or in the medium term?

D/DIRECTOR MESSER: Okay. Well I can start,
Tuan, and would definitely welcome thoughts that you might have as well. So thank you again for just the acknowledgement. I want to say on behalf of the Department we were very happy to be able to jump in last summer and help out, and did very much and do very much welcome the coordination.

I would say maybe short answer, maybe not completely satisfactory to your question, but I think this degree of coordination I think just having the Department invited into these different venues, ongoing meetings I know there are I believe, a tabletop exercise that we’ll be doing over the summer. I think that when we were part of a roundtable that CAISO had several weeks back, this workshop, I think this -- we have obviously a lot of our technical staff, and I know our Deputy Ted Craddock for the State Water Project is pretty well plugged in with a lot of the venues on the energy side of the world.

But I think last summer took it to a whole different level, if you will, for the Department. I think planning, I think any sort of early warning that we might get that would allow us to be in a more creative space if you will to start to think about possible solutions and really kind of working maybe with some small groups. And how do we leverage each other's resources, infrastructure abilities? How do we collaborate around that? Those are
the kind of opportunities I think that come to mind for me. I think it's really kind of can we get ahead of things? And then as I mentioned just being more in that creative kind of space to problem solve.

    Unfortunately -- and I think Tuan did a really good job of kind of laying out the challenges that DWR, well frankly the whole state is facing this year with the second critically dry year -- it is going to limit some of the creative solutions we came up with last summer. But again, we stand ready to engage and help wherever we can.

    So, Tuan, I’d offer if you have any additional thoughts on this?

    MR. BUI:  Thank you, Cindy.

    We have been working with CAISO on the communication protocol to make sure that we institutionalize the channel that outside of the real time communication between control to control (indiscernible) type of communications. We will be able to tap into the planning stages, planning staff over CAISO for early warning and early system preparations that would be helpful in the coming -- for this year and the coming years.

    COMMISSIONER GUNDA:  Thank you, Tuan.

    We will go to President Batjer.

    PRESIDENT BATJER:  Thanks Commissioner, Gunda.

    I really want to add my voice of thanks to Cindy
and Tuan and Reiko and Jim. Living in real time during those days in August and September as we were dialing for megawatts, we could not and we would not have survived and gotten through as well as we did even though we had two days of rolling blackouts without you all. And to hear all that LADWP, as an example did during those hours, it's quite extraordinary. And I just can't thank you all enough on behalf of the people of California.

But at any rate, it -- just like this morning hearing some of the coordination and all that each of the three agencies has done, even though I've lived through it, hearing it and sort of categorizing it and taking note of it is really quite something. And I think we learned an awful lot in those tough days. And hopefully the lessons learned will do us all well in the future.

But that coordination is extraordinarily important. And thank you Cindy for raising how important that is that we involve everyone early and often in this effort to essentially keep the lights on in California for all of us. So I'm thinking that's being done fairly well, but I'm sure it can always be done more. So I'm sure that Chair Hochschild and President Mainzer and I can try and even double those efforts. So thank you again, all of you thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, President Batjer.
Go to President Mainzer.

PRESIDENT MAINZER: Yeah, thank you very much.

So I really appreciate the dialogue today. Thank you guys for joining us. I agree that reliability really takes a village. You guys were incredibly helpful last year and I know it's going to be the same this year.

I want to just emphasize one point from this particular panel that I think also was touched earlier that's so critical and we're all talking about the importance of advanced communication. Just being able to think several days ahead, both in terms of anticipating when you actually think something bad is going to happen, being able to get everything in order, and being able to dispatch or re-dispatch or get infrastructure set, or get the big demand response program to get consumers mobilized is so critical.

And with the support, conversely if it looks like things are going to be okay that's equally important information in terms of asset utilization. If we hear Reiko talk about hey if it looks like things are going to be fine, I'm going to use my system as previously intended and not hold out capability for local needs.

So that advance information of the ISO, we’re going to really be trying to kind of operate on almost some sort of a seven-day advanced warning kind of signal to get
ahead of the heat. And I just think across the board we’ll -- thank you so much for that info. We will do everything we can. I know that the PUC and the CEC are equally committed working with DWR and the adjacent utilities to get the communication just a steady state of good information, so we can run the system as effectively.

And then just that spirit of collaboration within California, we know our balancing authority covers 80 percent of the state. But these other entities, the big POUs and others within California have important reliability responsibilities. They’ve also been an important part of our broader western conversation. We talked today about how critical; how much California continues to depend on imports from around the west. Those partnerships across the west with our EIM partners and our adjacent balancing authority are all working together to maintain reliability.

So thank you guys so much for your contribution to the dialogue this afternoon.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, President Mainzer.

I’m just kind of taking a quick look for anybody else that might have questions from the dais. It doesn’t look so.

Yes, I want to provide a quick heads up. So as
we go into the rest of the reliability workshops this year we are, as I mentioned in the morning, going to spend some time in workshops to tackle demand response and opportunities to really maximize that resource for the state. And then we’re going to try and do them jointly between CPUC and CAISO.

And we also are going to look at other key variables such as imports. And as everybody pointed out we are hoping to double up a dialogue around that to figure out what are some of the common planning assumptions moving forward and how do we think about imports. So this has been tremendous conversation.

With that, I will pass it to David to get going on the questions.

MR. ERNE: Actually, we have Lana Wong who will be covering the Q&A. So Lana, over to you.

MS. WONG: Hi. So I have a few questions that came in. The first is from Evelyn Loya (phonetic).

“During the 2020 August heat wave it was my understanding that the ISO is the only California balancing authority that had blackouts. There has been discussions in the past for the balancing authorities to explore better interconnectivity between their systems. What efforts are underway, if any, are there to increase the interconnectivity between say LADWP or BANC and the ISO to
allow for greater capacity swaps between balancing
authorities during dire times of need?”

MR. SHETLER: Well maybe I'll start. So this is
Jim Shetler with BANC. I can say that the interconnection
between the ISO and the BANC footprint is very robust. We
probably have a couple thousand megawatts in transfer
capability, maybe more between us. So interconnectivity is
not the issue, it is our loads and our resource commitments
to serve our load is usually the limiting factor on how
much we can share with others.

MS. KERR: Yeah, Jim, I would agree with that. I
think DWP has a number of interconnections with CAISO, but
our focus has always been serving our native load. And up
until this last year when we really made a major push to
see how we could help the state out that's when we looked
to maximize the use of whether it's excess generation or
excess transmission. And of course we joined the EIM so
that alone will allow sharing a lot of those resources too
into the future.

MS. WONG: Okay, next question from Chris McLain.
“For the EIM participants, could these parties
comment on the respective transmission capabilities planned
to be volunteered to the EIM in real time?”

MR. SHETLER: Well again speaking for the BANC
footprint, as I mentioned earlier we have a couple thousand
megawatts in transfer capability between us and the ISO. And currently most all of that is open and available for EIM transfers.

MS. KERR: Yeah, and for LADWP we have significant capabilities too, but we're getting more and more renewables from outside the basin. Obviously to hit our high levels of RPS, it's not going to be with significant utility-scale resources in basin. That requires the import capability from outside the basin.

But it also requires the upgrade of the downstream transmission to allow that import capability. Our system has been built around local generation that is required to maintain grid reliability. And as we shift our system towards decarbonizing our grid and we use more and more of those external resources, well it's a real fine balancing act of getting the outage as necessary.

So I can't tell you because we have the most complex outage schedule that changes daily, or certainly weekly. And I can’t tell you three months from now or two months from now what is going to be available based on a series of transmission upgrades that have to occur for us to reach our high-level RPS goals.

PRESIDENT MAINZER: I’ll just mention very briefly one of the key principles for transmission planning in the west is we try to build on and reinforce the
strength of the networks that enable the economic
environmental (indiscernible) EIM, is look at the resource
needs of the utilities as they build out. And also think
about additional transfer capacity that we can build in the
system to further reinforce air regional trades. That's
something that we'll be looking at, both within the ISO and
in cooperation with adjacent utilities for transmission
planning.

MS. WONG: Great.

Next question from Mike Petoojah. (phonetic)

“When DWR modulates generation does it impact
downstream flow? And what are the limits there?

MR. BUI: This is Tuan Bui. The generation
facility at the State Water Project all have an afterbay
attached to it. So during the heatwave we set up our
afterbay storages in such a way that it will be able to
absorb the extra -- peak generations to generations during
super peak hours and so on. So this all depends on how
long the heat wave would last. If it's a shorter heat wave
it won't have any impact to downstream releases and so on.

MS. WONG: Great.

So last question, and I did try to get some
clarification on it, this is from Keshava Prasad -- I’m
pronouncing that correctly.

“In order to compensate for reduced water
generation due to hydrologic dry year are there plans for using technology such as seawater desalination?”

MS. KERR: Not from DWP's perspective.

MS. WONG: Okay, would anyone else like to comment?

(No audible response.)

MS. WONG: Okay that is the last question. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Great, Lana. Thank you for helping moderate those questions.

I did forget to mention or respond to one thing that Reiko mentioned in terms of the natural gas planning. And we initially intended this workshop to be on reliability on electric and the natural gas system. But as you all saw from earlier today, it would have been really crammed. But we are planning to convene a workshop specifically on the natural gas impacts pretty soon so in kind of collaboration with CPUC and some of the analysis that we have jointly have done. So I think we’ll kind of keep you informed on that as well.

And back to Heather.

MS. RAITT: Yes, okay. Thank you, Commissioner.

So if there are no more questions and no more discussion on this then we will go ahead and move on to public comment. And Rosemary Avalos from the Energy
Commission’s Public Advisor’s Office is here to help us with that. Go ahead, Rosemary.

MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Heather.

I will first call on the attendees using the raised hand feature on Zoom. And please state your name and affiliation and spell your first and last name. Also do not use the speakerphone feature, because we may not be able to hear you clearly.

Let’s see here. We have one raised hand, Keshava Prasad. You may have to unmute on your end, go ahead.

(No audible response.)

MS. AVALOS: We're having a little bit of technical difficulty here. Keshava, if you can unmute on your end go ahead and speak.

So I just want to remind those that are on the phone to dial *9 to raise your hand, and to speak, dial *6 to mute and unmute your phone line.

We’re having a bit of technical difficulty with the mic for Keshava Prasad. So there are no other raised hands at the moment.

Oh, I’m sorry, we have Samuel Golding. Samuel, go ahead and unmute your line.

(No audible response.)

MS. AVALOS: I believe we’re having some technical difficulty with the audio. One moment, we're
trying to look into that.

    COMMISSIONER GUNDA:  Heather or Rosemary, is it feasible to potentially move speakers into the panelists to kind of allow for them to speak more easily?
    MS. AVALOS:  I'll defer to Heather on that question.

    (Overlapping colloquy.)
    MR. GOLDING: Are you able to hear me now?
    MS. RAITT:  Yeah, we can hear you now.
    MS. AVALOS:  Go ahead, Samuel.  We're having some kind of technical difficulty.  I'm going to defer —
    MR. GOLDING: Are you able to hear me now?
    MR. PRASAD:  Can you hear me?
    MS. AVALOS:  Yes.  Is this Samuel Golding?
    MR. GOLDING:  MR. GOLDING:  Yes.
    MR. PRASAD:  No, this is Keshava Prasad.
    MS. AVALOS:  Okay, go ahead.  Go ahead, Keshava.
    MR. PRASAD:  I was the one who had the question on seawater desalination plant.  I don't know if you are aware of a plant like that exists in in Carlsbad, California.  The city has got a plant and they generate potable water using seawater.  And this, the cost of this plant used to be not very competitive, because the water was cheap at the time.  But however the cost of water is getting more expensive and also the availability has become
more and more scarce. So you might want to look into that technology.

And it is also possible to power a seawater desalination plant using solar power, solar (indiscernible). And so it’s like blessing, doubly blesses. You have water, an additional water supply coming from the seawater generation. And then you’re also getting energy from renewable sources, so that's a combination of two good things. So I'm sure you can find information on this online. And also I can provide more information on the technology itself because some of these things have been tried on military bases.

So what my point on bringing this up is to ask you if you would consider supporting financially projects like that if tried on military bases. See I work at Camp Pendleton. I’m the Regional Energy Manager. And they always look for funding opportunities for trying things like this where we can save water, where we can save energy. And that's the reason why I brought it up.

MS. AVALOS: Okay, thank you, Mr. Prasad.

I want to give another reminder for those that are on the phone, to dial *9 and to raise your hand. I’ll give a few more moments.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Rosemary, do we have Mr. Golding?
MS. AVALOS: No, I don't see his name on the list.

MR. GOLDING: Oh, can you hear me?

MS. AVALOS: Oh yes, we can hear you. Go ahead Mr. Golding.

MR. GOLDING: Okay, thank you very much. Samuel Golding, President of Community Choice Partners. And by way of introduction I ask a lot of questions about smart meter data access and I've been asking those questions for a number of years now. But more recently I've been supporting the Utility Consumer Action Network, UCAN, a nonprofit ratepayer advocate in San Diego, intervening in the reliability 2021 proceeding and before that the PCIA reform proceeding.

And I have to tell you that the way that the CPUC has been approaching this issue I don't think will lead to satisfactory resolution. The utilities and I, in the chat I identified a folder where our reply briefs, our testimony and our exhibits were filed in the proceeding, everything that I said in my comments that Ed Randolph kind of glossed over by paraphrasing them, is actually based on documented evidence on the record.

The utilities advanced metering infrastructure networks have been built to work, collect the data from all of the smart meters and verify it and load it into their
meter data management systems by 8:00 o'clock in the morning every day. And they do that with a high degree of reliability, 98 percent-plus of the data is there to be used. They use it on that day. They send it to third parties, the vendors that support their own operations. But they refused to provide it to the CCAs. And the CCAs have been asking for this for years. Now these are nonprofit, democratically controlled load-serving entities providing electricity to 40 percent or more on the market.

And it should be very concerning to everybody here that this simple problem hasn't been fixed long ago because it's holding back a lot. And it's costing everyone in this state quite a lot of money. Through the inefficiency it’s impacted market operations, it’s impacted reliability because of the nature of how the rolling blackouts played out in the CAISO markets. But it also just suppresses retail innovation statewide. And we could be doing a whole lot more if we just put the infrastructure we all paid millions of dollars for to good use.

So don’t rely on the utilities. And at this point I’d say don’t rely on the CPUC either to come up with these solutions, because this stuff that they’ve implanted even for a third-party DR company, this has never worked well. I mean, they’re just architecting it wrong and they’ve architected it wrong because they were relying on
the utilities to do so. So come and bring some independent
experts in and figure it out. It's not -- and you can
figure it out. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Mr. Golding.
Rosemary, I’m not sure if we have anybody else on
the line? Yeah, I don't see any more raised hands either.
So with that I’m passing it back to Heather.

MS. RAITT: Yeah, so thank you.

Just to say that we have written comments are
welcome and they’re due on the 18th. And that's all I
have. I don’t know if you have any closing remarks.

Commissioner, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Heather. I just
want to say thank you to your team first of all for making
this happen. I think (indiscernible) the comments over and
over, but I think it's just incredible coordination. Thank
you for everybody that participated today and helping
advance this conversation.

One of the things that I want to make sure that
we do as has been suggested by several of the speakers, is
continue the dialogue not just for this summer, but for the
future to ensure that we're really thinking through a long-
term reliability and planning as we go into this inflection
of clean energy transition.

And with that, I don't know if you have anybody
else from the dais for any closing comments? President Mainzer, okay I see you shaking your head.

    PRESIDENT MAINZER: Thank you. Thank you all.

    COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah, thank you. Deputy Secretary Baker, did you have anything you want to say? President Batjer, how about I give you the last word to just say.

    PRESIDENT BATJER: My last word is thank you all very much. It's been a very interesting and informative and thoughtful day. And I appreciate so much the CEC putting this on. I know the types of logistics that have to be considered to do this. And I thank all the participants and the panelists and the commenters, so thank you all very much.

    COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Heather. We can close now.

    (The workshop was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of August, 2021.

[Signature]

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367
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[Signature]

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367