

**DOCKETED**

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# EPIC 2021-2025 Investments in California's Energy Future

CPUC-CEC *En Banc* Meeting | EPIC 4 Investment Plan

October 8, 2021



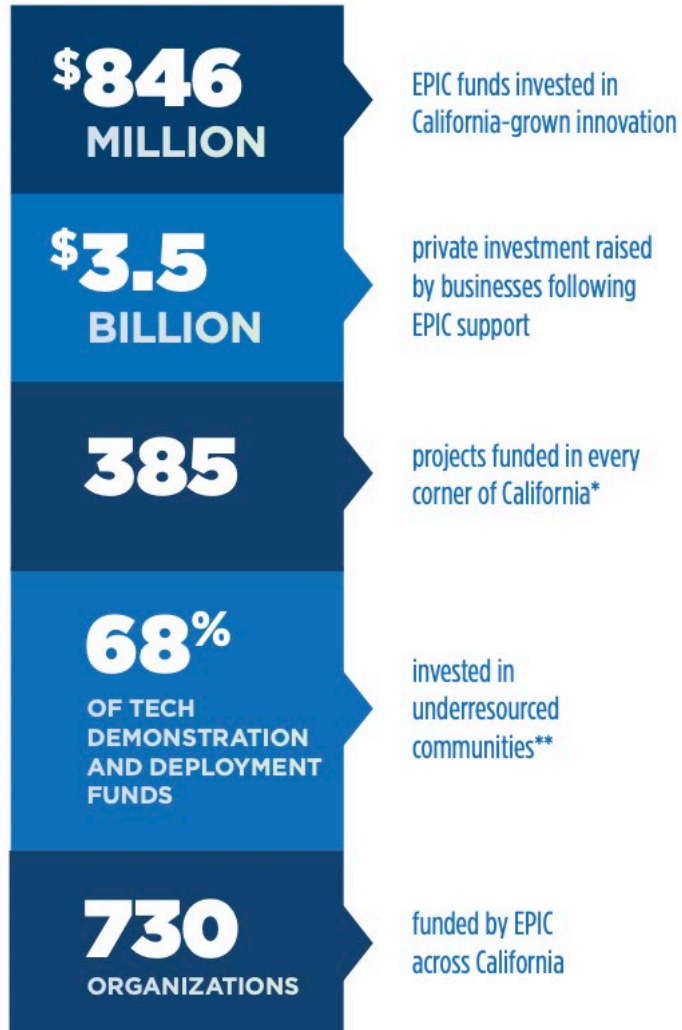
# **Snapshot of EPIC's Past Decade**

**Laurie ten Hope, CEC Deputy Director, Energy  
Research & Development Division (ERDD)**

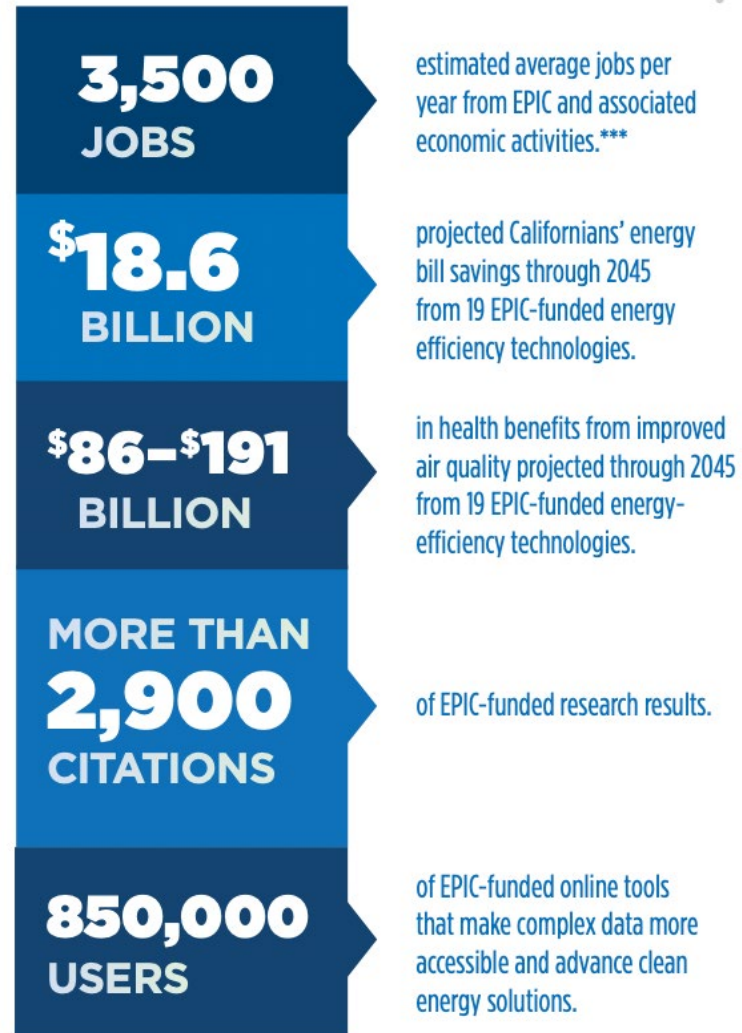


# Targeted Investments = EPIC Results

## INVESTMENTS



## BENEFITS



# CALIFORNIA'S INVESTMENT IN CLEAN ENERGY INNOVATION

EPIC is California's premier public interest research program investing over \$130 million annually to unleash innovation.



## Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

\$143 million invested

Through EPIC, the CEC is building a world-class ecosystem supporting clean energy entrepreneurship.



## Grid Decarbonization & Decentralization

\$207 million invested

Improving the cost competitiveness and performance of key technologies.



## Resiliency & Safety

\$151 million invested

Helping communities, businesses, and public agencies build a safer, more resilient energy system.



## Industrial & Agricultural Innovation

\$119 million invested

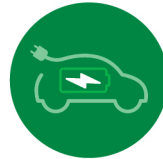
Scaling specialized technology solutions to drive energy efficiency without compromising production.



## Building Decarbonization

\$194 million invested

Improving the affordability, health, and comfort of buildings.



## Transportation Electrification

\$32 million invested

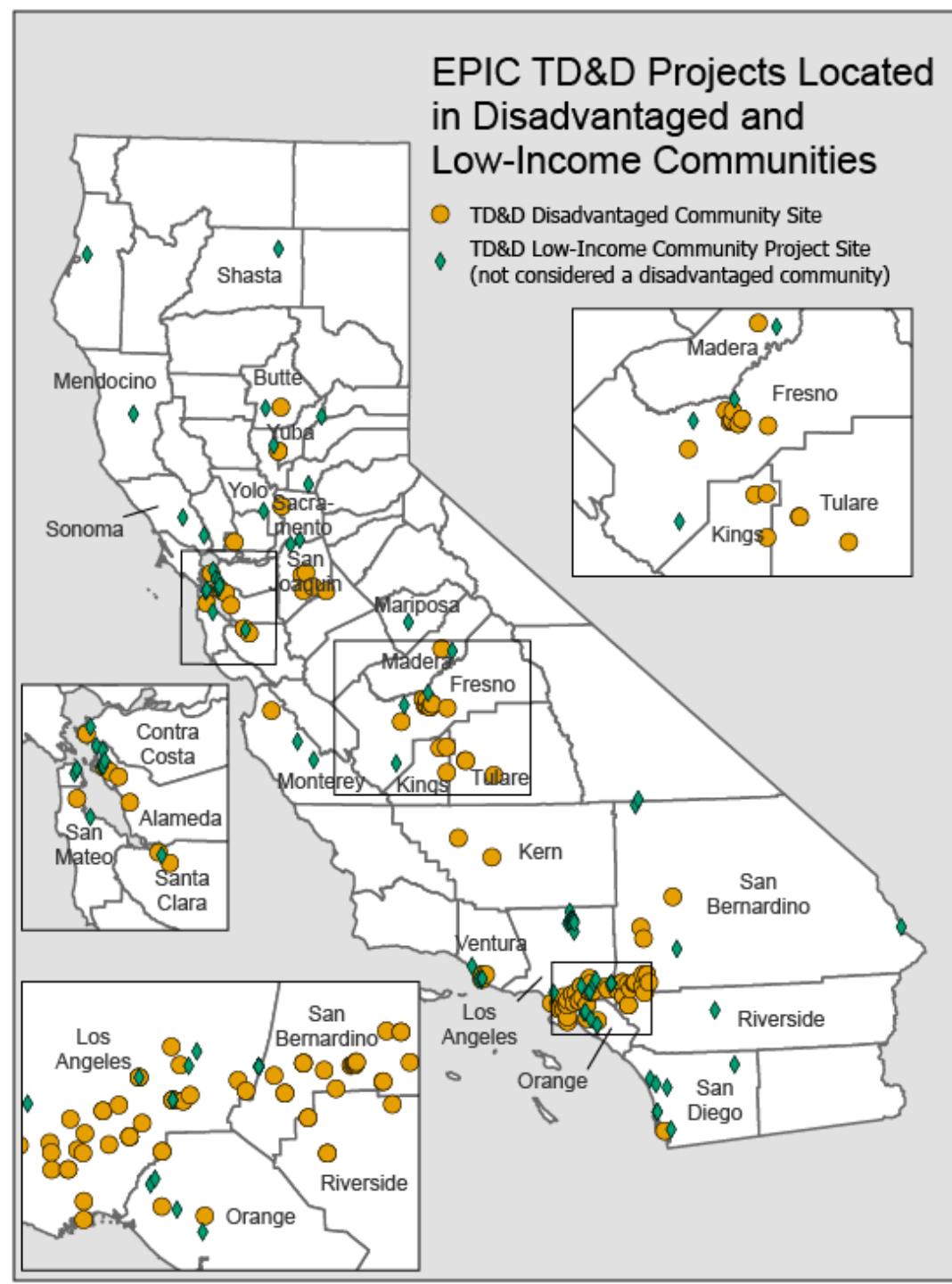
Supporting advances that reduce the cost of electric vehicle ownership and support the grid.

Total investment, 2012-2020



# Investing Equitably in Technology Demonstration & Deployment

- 68% in underresourced communities
- Seek geographic diversity
- Must bring tangible benefits to the community
- Meaningful engagement of community members





# The EPIC Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

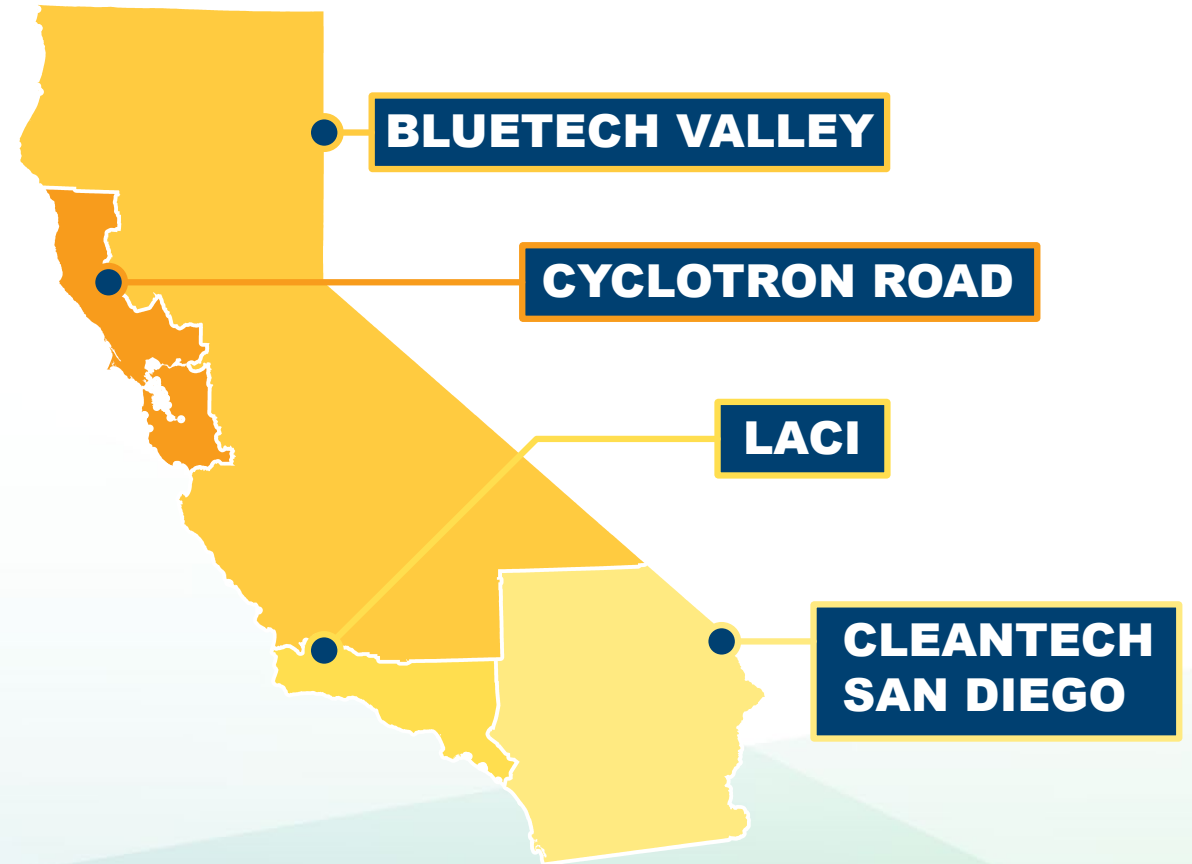
**\$3.5**  
BILLION

private investment raised  
by businesses following  
EPIC support

## Ca|SEED

Helping early-stage clean energy startups  
across California bringing their concepts  
and prototypes to market

### REGIONAL INNOVATION CLUSTERS





# Fostering Technological & Scientific Breakthroughs

## Managed Charging



## Solar



## Microgrids



## Wildfire Mitigation



## Industrial Efficiency



## Batteries



## Storage



## Residential Electrification







# **Proposed EPIC 4 Investment Plan Overview: Strategic Initiatives**

**CEC ERDD Office Managers: Virginia Lew, Mike  
Petouhoff, Jonah Steinbuck, Erik Stokes**



# EPIC 4 Strategic Initiatives:



Accelerate Advancements in Renewable Generation Technologies



Create a More Nimble Grid to Maintain Reliability as California Transitions to 100 Percent Clean Energy



Increase the Value Proposition of Distributed Energy Resources to Customers and the Grid



Improve the Customer Value Proposition of End-use Efficiency and Electrification Technologies



Enable Successful Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Across California



Inform California's Transition to an Equitable, Zero-Carbon Energy System that is Climate Resilient and Meets Environmental Goals



# Strategic Initiative: *Accelerate Advancements in Renewable Generation Technologies*

1. Floating Offshore Wind Energy Technologies
2. Advancing Geothermal Energy and Mineral Recovery Technologies\*
3. Emerging Solar Energy Technologies

**\*This formatting indicates research that staff will highlight in the EPIC 4 overview.**

(Descriptions for the remaining topics are given in the Plan Summary document.)





# Floating Offshore Wind Energy Technologies (#1)

## Innovations

- Optimize component designs for cost, efficiency, durability
- Develop methods for installation, operations and maintenance
- Advance grid integration and port readiness
- Assess environmental impacts and mitigation

## Goals

- Lower cost
- Reduce technical and financial risk
- Minimize environmental impact
- Support grid reliability



Floating offshore wind platform (source: NREL)



# Advancing Geothermal Energy and Mineral Recovery Technologies (#2)

## Innovations

- Advance geothermal drilling technologies, well targeting, flexible operations, and address corrosion and scaling
- Demonstrate lithium recovery technologies and processes

## Goals

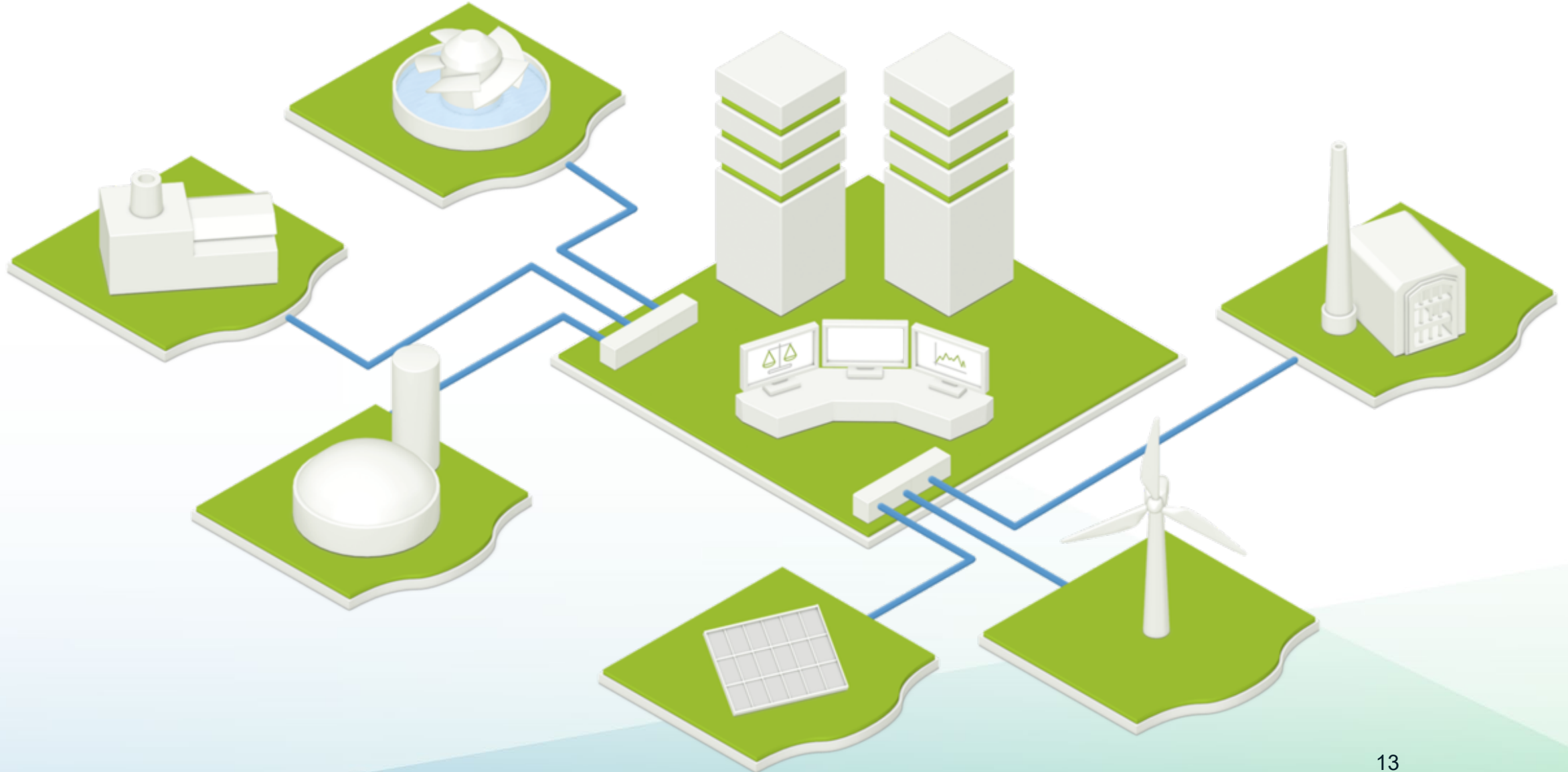
- Lower cost
- Reduce technical and financial risk
- Advance in-state lithium



Geothermal plants near the Salton Sea (source: Land Use Database)



# Strategic Initiative: *Create a More Nimble Grid to Maintain Reliability as CA Transitions to 100% Clean Energy*





# **Strategic Initiative: *Create a More-Nimble Grid to Maintain Reliability as CA Transitions to 100% Clean Energy***

4. Short Duration Energy Storage Technology Demonstrations
5. Long Duration Energy Storage Technology Demonstrations to Support Grid Reliability
6. Energy Storage Use Case Demonstrations to Support Grid Reliability
7. Green Hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) Roadmap Follow-up and Implementation
8. Infrastructure, Market Analysis, & Demonstrations to Support Firm Zero-Carbon Firm Dispatchable (ZCFD) Resources
9. Advancing Clean, Dispatchable Generation
10. Technology Demonstrations to Address Grid Congestion Resulting from 3X Generation Growth on the Path to a Decarbonized California
11. Demonstrate Technologies to Maintain Reliability and Power Quality (PQ) in the Inverter-Centric Grid of the Future Associated with High Levels of Renewable Penetration
12. Furthering Cybersecurity with Highly Modulatable Grid Resources



# Energy Storage Demonstrations to Support Grid Reliability: Short & Long Duration Tech, Use Cases (#4-6)

## Innovations

- **Short** Duration Storage Technologies
- **Long** Duration Energy Storage Technologies and comparison framework to ZCFD
- Energy Storage **Use Cases**

## Goals

- Meet SB 100 projections for 8X storage increase with least cost and optimal performance
- Short duration: improve depth of discharge, degradation, thermal runaway & supply-chain diversity
- Long duration: minimize cost and environmental impact







# Demonstrate Technologies to Maintain Reliability and Power Quality (PQ) in the Inverter-Centric Grid of the Future Associated with High Levels of Renewables (#11)

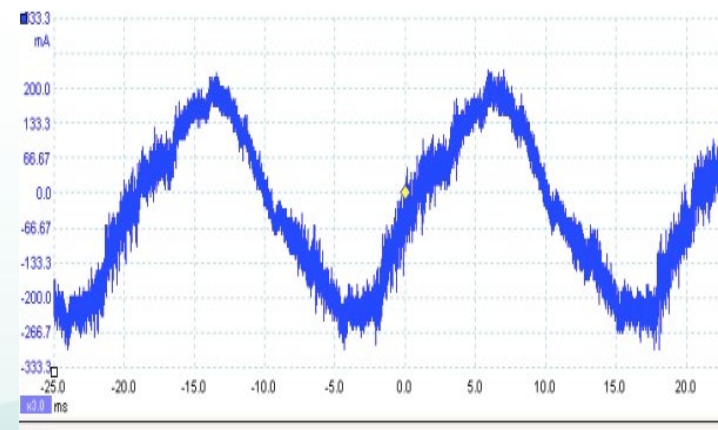
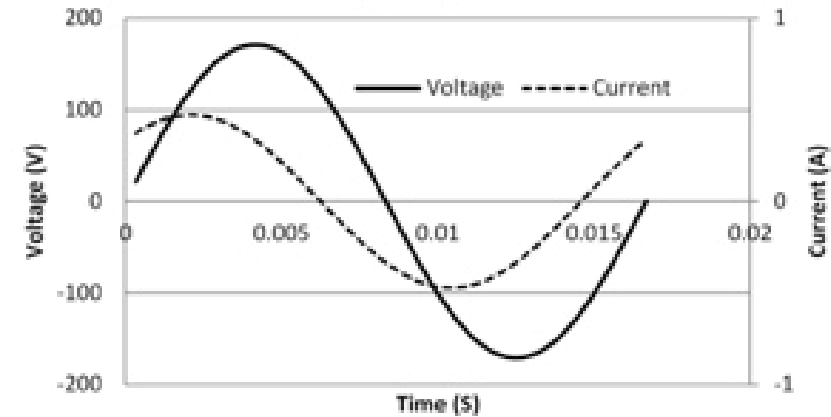
## Innovations

- Address PQ:
  - Rotational inertia (synchronization)
  - Power factor (PF)
  - Harmonics

## Goals

- Demonstrate solutions such as grid forming inverters, harmonics filters, and new PF correction technologies
- Provide recommendations on new standards and regulations

Power Factor Example:  
PF = .7





# Furthering Cybersecurity with Highly Modulatable Grid Resources (#12)

## Innovations

- Require best practices for CEC projects
- Work with IOUs to develop cybersecurity protocols: Apply cybersecurity learnings from previous work of CEC, IOUs, EPRI, DOD, DOE, and Homeland Security
- Develop cybersecurity testing and performance verification facility

## Goal

- Ensure cybersecurity despite more access points and more points of modulation





## Strategic Initiative: *Increase the Value Proposition of Distributed Energy Resources to Customers and the Grid*

13. Improving Forecasts of Behind-the-Meter Solar Storage, and Load Flexibility Resources

14. Direct Current Systems for Efficient Power Delivery

15. Behind-the-Meter Renewable Back-up Power Technologies

16. Design-Build Competition

17. Efficient Transportation Electrification and Charging Technologies

18. Technology Enablers for Using Electric Vehicles as Distributed Energy Resources

19. Integrating Distributed Energy Resources for Grid-Supportive Vehicle Charging

20. Lithium-ion Battery Reuse and Recycling Technologies

21. Enabling Grid Resilience with Load Flexibility in the Industrial, Agriculture and Water (IAW) Sectors

22. Virtual Power Plants with Autonomous and Predictive Controls

23. Increasing Reliability and Interoperability of Load Flexible Technologies





# Technology Enablers for Using Electric Vehicles as Distributed Energy Resources (#18)

## Innovations

- Develop grid-interactive inverters in bi-directional chargers
- Integrate charging with building management systems
- Demonstrate high-accuracy, low-cost submeters for chargers

## Goals

- Lower site costs
- Enable EV operator benefits
- Ratepayer savings



Bidirectional charging (source: Nuvve EPIC project EPC-16-061)



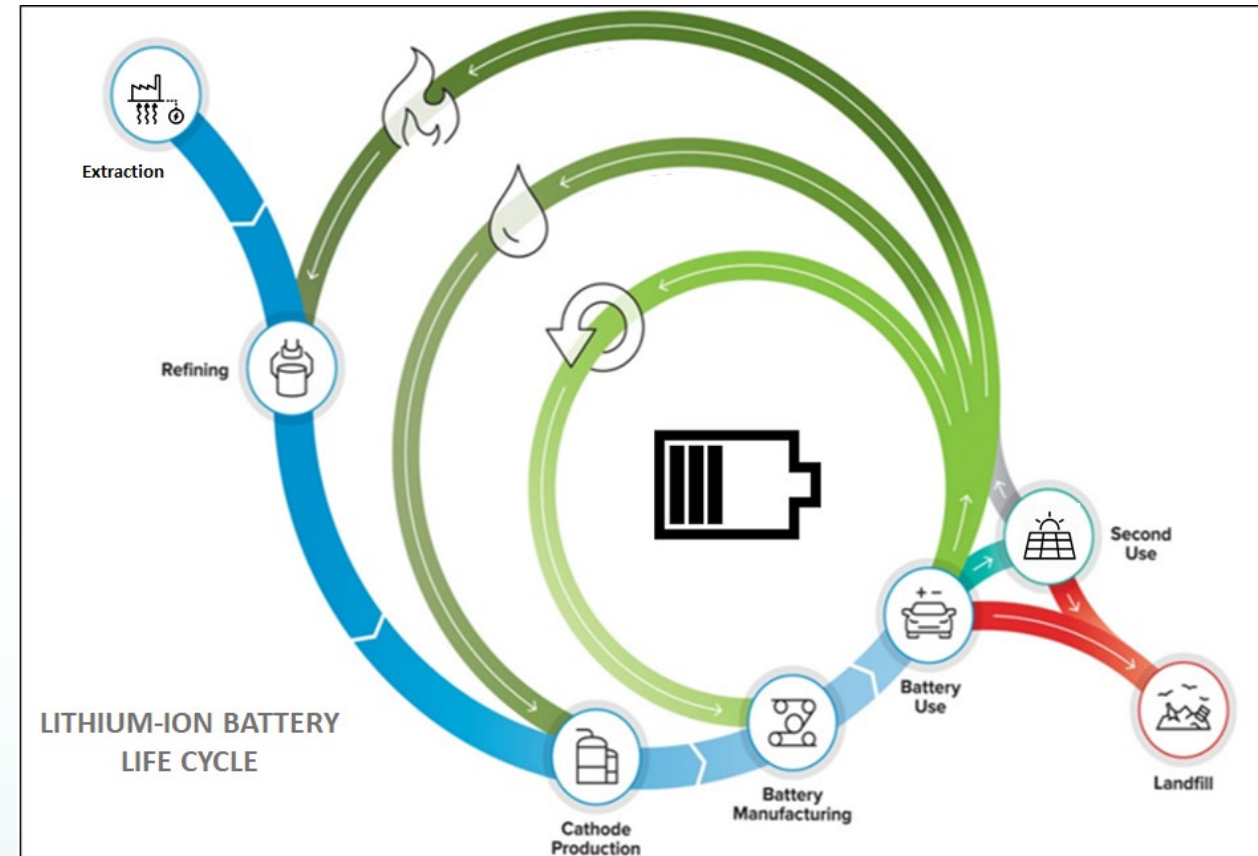
# Lithium-ion Battery Reuse and Recycling Technologies (#20)

## Innovations

- Advance battery designs for reuse and recycling
- Demonstrate recovered materials in new batteries
- Develop methods for battery collection, sorting, testing

## Goals

- Spur investment in battery end-of-life
- Lower battery costs
- Promote environmental sustainability



Modified from Argonne National Lab, ReCell Center, 2020.

Lithium-ion battery lifecycle (source: ReCell Center)





# Strategic Initiative: *Improve the Customer Value Proposition of End-use Efficiency and Electrification Technologies*

## Industrial Decarbonization

- Enabling Grid Resilience with Load Flexibility in the Industrial, Agriculture and Water Sectors
- **Low-Carbon / High-Temperature Industrial Heating**
- Energy Efficiency and Decarbonization of Concrete Manufacturing
- Energy-Efficient Separation Processes

## Building Decarbonization

- Building Electrification Technology Prize Competition
- **High Efficiency and Low-GWP Heat Pump Water Heaters and HVAC Heat Pumps.**
- Innovative Solutions for Improving the Value Proposition for Building Envelope Upgrades
- Combination Heat Pump for Domestic Hot Water & Space Conditioning
- Nano-Grid HVAC Module Development and Demonstration
- Demonstrate Smart Energy Management Systems to Accelerate Electrification of Homes at a Reduced Cost. Energy Management Systems (SEMS) for Homes
- HVAC Decarbonization for Large Buildings



Source: US DOE, IEPR Presentation



# Low-Carbon / High-Temperature Industrial Heating (#25)

## Innovations

- Tailor electrification to specific processes
- Use zero-carbon heat sources
- Switch to zero-carbon fuels like green H2

## Goals

- Reduce capital and operating costs
- Provide industry flexibility for decarbonization
- Reduce industrial GHG emissions and criteria air pollutants



Example of electric heat pump  
Source: flicker.com





# High Efficiency & Low Global Warming Potential (GWP) Heat Pump Water Heaters (HPWH) and HVAC Heat Pumps (#28)

## Innovation

- Design and develop energy efficient 120 and 240V heat pumps

## Goals

- Use low-GWP refrigerants
- Reduce refrigerant leakage
- Operate at high efficiency
- Have life and maintenance like existing heat pumps
- Be cost competitive

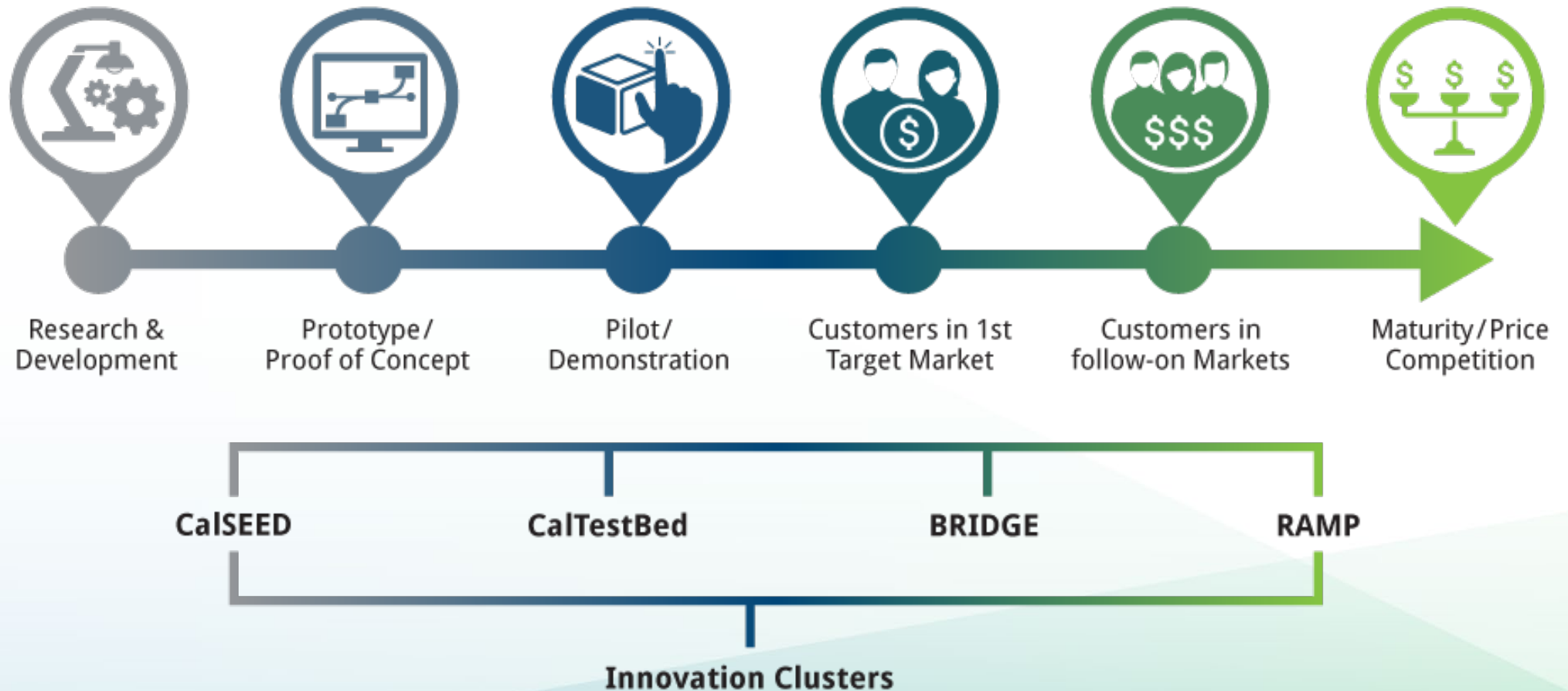


High Efficiency Heat Pump  
Source: From DOE-IEPR Presentation



# Strategic Initiative: *Enable Successful Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Across California*

## Entrepreneurial Ecosystem





# Strategic Initiative: *Enable Successful Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Across California*

34. Activating Innovation and Expanding California's Clean Energy Entrepreneurial Talent Pool\*

35. CalSEED

36. Provide Support for Entrepreneurs to Test, Verify, and Validate Their Innovations

37. Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy (BRIDGE)

38. Realizing Accelerated Manufacturing and Production for Clean Energy Technologies (RAMP)

39. Mobilizing Significant Private Capital for Scaling Clean Energy Technologies\*

40. Supporting Advanced Battery Scale-up in California\*

41. Cost Share for Private, Non-Profit Foundation, or Federal Clean Energy Funding Opportunities

42. Outreach and Events





# Activating Innovation and Expanding California's Clean Energy Entrepreneurial Talent Pool (#34)



## Innovation

- New incubator program to attract entrepreneurial talent, particularly from diverse and under-resourced backgrounds
- Match talent with IP developed at research institutions that is ready to be commercialized
- Assist in negotiating licensing agreement and other initial business setup

## Goals:

- Lower entry barriers to clean energy entrepreneurship
- Increase the commercialization of IP from research institutions
- Broaden and expand clean energy entrepreneurship



# Mobilizing Significant Private Capital for Scaling Clean Energy Technologies (#39)

## Innovations

- Establish a Clean Energy Innovation Financing Cluster
- Conduct due diligence on new clean energy start-up companies ready for scale
- Provide a portfolio of bankable clean energy investments for investors
- Pool capital from early-stage investors along with CEC funding to deploy as catalytic capital

## Goals

- Pool \$100 million in early-stage capital
- Secure a \$1 billion+ in later-stage investment
- Minimum of 50% to underresourced communities

## Financing Gap to Scale New Clean Energy Technologies

Technology Development	R&D	Demonstration Proof of Concept	Deployment Pilot Facility	Commercialization First Commercial	Commercial Maturity
Financial Instrument	R&D Grants, Corp R&D Funds, Tax Credits	Private Equity, Convertible Debts	Private Equity, Convertible Debts	Private Equity, debts, bonds, Stocks	Debts, Bonds, Stocks
Form of Intermediation		Direct	Indirect (GP/LP Fund)	No (a few if any) investment vehicle	Direct, Indirect
Source of Funding	Governments, Corporates, Foundations	Angels, Startup Accelerators, Seed Stage VC	VC/PE, Strategic Ventures, Corporate Ventures	Potential investors remain untapped	Banks, Corporate Investors, Public Market

Source: Financing Energy Innovation: The Need for New Intermediaries in Clean Energy



# Strategic Initiative: *Inform California's Transition to an Equitable, Zero-Carbon Energy System that is Climate Resilient and Meets Environmental Goals*

43. Evaluating Air Quality, Health, and Equity in Clean Energy Solutions

44. Integrating Climate Resilience in Electricity System Planning

45. Advancing the Environmental Sustainability of Energy Deployments





# Evaluating Air Quality, Health, and Equity in Clean Energy Solutions (#43)

## Innovations

- Examine air quality, health, and equity in clean energy strategies and demonstrations
- Develop tools, metrics, data for integrating health and equity in energy policy

## Goals

- Enable prioritization of equity
- Maximize air quality and health benefits
- Promote affordability of solutions



Poor outdoor air quality (source: Sacramento Bee)



Measuring indoor air quality (source: LBNL)



# Integrating Climate Resilience in Electricity System Planning (#44)

## Innovations

- Evaluate climate impacts on electricity demand, supply, distribution
- Quantify societal benefits of strategies for grid reliability and community resilience



Lake Oroville in drought conditions (source: EPA)

## Goals

- Integrate climate in electricity system planning, investment, operations
- Support resilience and reliability



Wildfire in the Sierra Nevada mountains (source: Unsplash)





# Roundtable Discussion: Input on Strategic Initiatives

***Where do you think the greatest emphasis should be placed and why (policy priority, weight)?***

***Are there any gaps in the proposed research?***

Accelerate Advancements in Renewable Generation Technologies

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# Public Comment

## Zoom:

- Use the “raise hand” feature to make verbal comments

## Telephone:

- Dial \*9 to raise your hand
- \*6 to mute/unmute your phone line. You may also use the mute feature on your phone.

## When called upon:

- Your microphone will be opened
- Unmute your line
- Spell your name for the record, state your affiliation, then start your comment

## 1-MINUTE TIMER

(Please limit to 1 representative per organization.)

<https://www.online-stopwatch.com/>

Written comments due **October 15, 2021.**

(<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=20-EPIC-01>)