

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
TN #:	245943
Document Title:	Committee Order Granting Petition to Intervene Filed by California Unions for Reliable Energy
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 11/2021)



IN THE MATTER OF:

Willow Rock Energy Storage Center

Docket No. 21-AFC-02

**COMMITTEE ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO INTERVENE
FILED BY CALIFORNIA UNIONS FOR RELIABLE ENERGY**

Upon consideration of the Petition to Intervene (Petition) filed by California Unions for Reliable Energy (Petitioner)¹ in the Application for Certification (AFC) for the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center (Project)², the California Energy Commission (CEC) committee designated to conduct proceedings in this matter (Committee)³ makes the following findings:

1. On August 11, 2022, a Petition in the above-captioned proceeding was filed by:

California Unions for Reliable Energy
Tanya A. Gulesserian
Tara C. Rengifo
Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo
601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Telephone: (650) 589-1660
Facsimile: (650) 589-5062

¹ TN 244476. The Petitioner submitted the Petition after 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on August 10, 2022 and according to the "General Orders Regarding Motions, Electronic Filing, Service of Documents, and Other Matters" (TN 243235) for this proceeding the Petition is considered filed on August 11, 2022. Documents related to this proceeding may be found in the [online docket](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02>.

² Information about this proceeding, including a link to the electronic docket, may be found on the CEC's [web page](https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/willow-rock-energy-storage-center) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/willow-rock-energy-storage-center>. The Application consists of various documents filed in the online docket beginning with TN 240751-1.

³ On March 24, 2022, the CEC amended its assignment of a committee to this proceeding to consist of Kourtney Vaccaro, Commissioner and Presiding Member, and Andrew McAllister, Commissioner and Associate Member. (TN 242449.)

Email: treninfo@adamsbroadwell.com

2. The Petition contains the information required by the CEC's regulations.⁴
3. The Petition states that Petitioner intends to participate in the topics of air quality, public health, greenhouse gas emissions, biological resources, energy use, geology and soils, hazards, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, public services, transmission system engineering, power plant reliability and efficiency, recreation, transportation, utilities, worker safety and fire protection, wildfires, cumulative impacts on resources, and alternatives, and may provide testimony, briefing, and cross-examination of witnesses.⁵
4. The Petition states that if granted intervention in this proceeding Petitioner respectfully requests the right to participate in other topics, including cultural and tribal cultural resources and mineral resources, should issues be identified warranting Petitioner's participation.⁶
5. No opposition to the Petition has been filed, and the deadline for such opposition was August 25, 2022.
6. Petitioner has demonstrated a bona fide interest in the Project and has demonstrated possession of information or expertise that may help the Committee in preparing a proposed decision.
7. Petitioner's stated interests are relevant to the above-captioned proceeding.
8. Intervention is granted at the Committee's discretion to the degree that it finds intervention reasonable and relevant. The Presiding Member or Committee may impose conditions on all intervenors' participation in the hearings to promote the orderly conduct of the proceeding.

THEREFORE, the Committee **ORDERS** that the Petition be **GRANTED** and that Petitioner may participate on the following topic areas as requested:

- **air quality**
- **public health**
- **greenhouse gas emissions**
- **biological resources**
- **energy use**
- **geology and soils**

⁴ Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20 § 1211.7, subd. (a).

⁵ TN 244476, p. 5.

⁶ *Ibid.*

- **hazards**
- **hydrology and water quality**
- **land use and planning**
- **noise**
- **public services**
- **transmission system engineering**
- **power plant reliability and efficiency**
- **recreation**
- **transportation**
- **utilities**
- **worker safety and fire protection**
- **wildfires**
- **cumulative impacts on resources**
- **alternatives**

The Committee further **ORDERS** that Petitioner’s name be placed upon the Proof of Service List as an intervenor. Petitioner may exercise the rights and shall fulfill the obligations of a party as set forth in all orders issued in this matter and California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1212. Deadlines and other matters shall not be extended or changed by the granting of this Petition.⁷

If Petitioner wishes to participate as an intervenor on topics other than those above, including those for which it made a reservation of right, Petitioner must file a motion to intervene on those topics and is subject to any deadline imposed on the time to intervene. Petitioner’s intervention is subject to further modification at the discretion of the Presiding Member or the Committee. These limitations of Petitioner’s participation as an intervenor do not affect Petitioner’s ability to make public comments on other topics in the proceeding.

The CEC welcomes and values intervenor participation in its energy facility siting process. The Public Advisor’s webpage [Public Participation in Siting Cases](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/public-participation-siting-cases) can be found at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/public-participation-siting-cases>. Portions of the [CEC’s regulations](#) relating to power plant siting cases (Title 20) can be found at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/power-plant-siting-certification-title-20>.

As an intervenor, Petitioner is required to file and serve documents on other parties and to follow the CEC’s procedures and orders regarding presenting witnesses and evidence. Petitioner is further required to review the “General Orders Regarding Motions, Electronic Filing, Service of Documents,

⁷ Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1211.7, subd. (d).

and Other Matters,⁸ the rules regarding filings, the rules of evidence that apply at the Evidentiary Hearings, and the rules prohibiting off-the-record contacts with commissioners, their advisors, or the hearing officer(s) about the Project. Petitioner’s failure to fulfill these responsibilities may result in the Committee limiting or precluding Petitioner’s participation in the proceedings.

PUBLIC ADVISOR AND OTHER CEC CONTACTS

The CEC’s Public Advisor assists members of the public with participating in CEC proceedings. For information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or (916) 957-7910. Requests for interpreting services, reasonable accommodations, and other modifications should be made at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to accommodate all requests based on the availability of the service or resource needed.

Direct questions of a procedural nature related to the AFC to the Hearing Officer, Reneé Webster-Hawkins, at renee.webster-hawkins@energy.ca.gov or (916) 237-2507.

Direct technical subject inquiries concerning the AFC to the Project Manager, Leonidas Payne, at leonidas.payne@energy.ca.gov or (916) 838-2124.

Direct media inquiries to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

Information about the Application, as well as notices and other relevant documents pertaining to this proceeding, may be viewed on the [Willow Rock Energy Storage Center webpage](http://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/willow-rock-energy-storage-center) at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/willow-rock-energy-storage-center> or scan the following QR code:



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⁸ TN 243235.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 9, 2022

APPROVED BY:

Kourtney Vaccaro
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
AFC Committee

Dated: September 9, 2022

APPROVED BY:

Andrew McAllister
Commissioner and Associate Member
Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
AFC Committee

Mailed to: List Number: 7544