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December 2, 2022

Dear Members of the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG),

We would like to share our deep appreciation for your assistance in shaping and improving the programs and policies of the California Energy Commission (CEC) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Your participation gives voice to disadvantaged communities, including tribal and rural communities, so that they can meaningfully participate in and benefit from both agencies' programs. We look forward to our continued collaboration.

Last year, the CEC and CPUC outlined shared priorities to achieve the state's climate and equity goals affecting disadvantaged communities. The DACAG graciously adopted all of these recommendations when formulating its priorities for 2022.

For 2023, our priority recommendations largely remain the same with the addition of two new priority suggestions as well as the recommendation to expand certain priority definitions, as described below. We offer the following list of 2023 priorities for your consideration.

Joint CEC & CPUC Priorities for 2023

- 1) **Affordability**. We recommend continued engagement on this existing priority, without modification.
- 2) **Workforce Training & Development**. A 2022 DACAG-proposed priority, we support its inclusion without modification in 2023.
- 3) **Tribal and Community Engagement and Participation**. We recommend expanding the existing Community Engagement priority to explicitly include Tribal engagement, program participation and enrollment.
- 4) **Building and Industrial Decarbonization, Electrification and Gas Transition**. We recommend consolidating the existing priorities of Building Decarbonization &

Electrification and Gas Transition given they are interrelated. Also recommend clarifying the Industrial sector is included.

- 5) **Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Deployment and Distribution Capacity in Disadvantaged Communities.** We recommend expanding the scope of the existing DER priority to include generation and storage and related distribution infrastructure as well as related programs such as the Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP).
- 6) **Resiliency.** We recommend adopting this new priority, defined to include climate resiliency and adaptation, wildfire mitigation plans in disadvantaged communities, and microgrid programs.
- 7) **Reliability and Flexibility.** We recommend expanding the scope of this existing priority to include demand flexibility.

CEC Priorities for 2023

- 8) **Clean Hydrogen.** We recommend adding this new priority area pertaining to demonstration, deployment, and scale-up of clean hydrogen production, infrastructure for delivery and storage, and end-uses (e.g. transportation, industrial, power generation) for maximum air quality, equity, health, and workforce benefits.
- 9) **Senate Bill (SB) 100.** We recommend adding this as a priority area. SB 100 requires renewable and zero-carbon resources to supply 100% of electric retail sales by 2045 and for the CEC, CPUC, and California Air Resources Board to issue a joint policy report by 2021 with updates every four years.

CPUC Priorities for 2023

- 10) **Transportation Electrification.** We recommend expanding the scope of this existing priority to include the Clean Miles Standard and SB 350-related issues pertaining to transportation network companies and accessibility.
- 11) **Energy Impacted Services.** We recommend including a new priority to focus on matters impacted by energy services. Suggested issues include broadband programs, the LifeLine program, and the California Advanced Services Fund.

Again, thank you for your partnership on these important equity issues. Your constructive input serves to inform and improve programs for all Californians. We wish you the best this holiday season and we look forward to working with you in the new year.

Sincerely,



Siva Gunda
Vice Chair, CEC



Cliff Rechtschaffen
Commissioner, CPUC



Patty Monahan
Commissioner, CEC



Darcie Houck,
Commissioner, CPUC