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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of:

2022 Integrated Energy Policy) Docket No. 22-IEPR-04
Report Update (2022 IEPR Update))
) Re: Centering Equity and
) Environmental Justice
) Throughout CEC Efforts
)
_____)

INTEGRATED ENERGY POLICY REPORT COMMISSIONER WORKSHOP
ON CENTERING EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
THROUGHOUT CEC EFFORTS

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Elise Hicks

APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS

Siva Gunda, CEC Vice Chair

Alice Reynolds, CPUC President

Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner

Patty Monahan, CEC Commissioner

Andrew McAllister, CEC Commissioner

Kourtney Vaccaro, CEC Commissioner

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Noemi Gallardo

ALSO PRESENT

Angel Garcia, Executive Assistant to Supervisor Carmen
Ramirez

SPANISH INTERPRETER

Jeanette Hernandez

MODERATOR

Josh Simmons, Prosper Sustainably

APPEARANCESPRESENTERS

Kevin Olp, Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Jaimie Huynh, California Environmental Protection Agency

Jennifer McGovern, State Water Resources Control Board

Lucas Zucker, Central Coast Alliance United for a
Sustainable Economy

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Robert Perry, Synergistic Solutions

Giles Pettifor, Port of Hueneme

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INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
Introduction	6
Heather Raitt, CEC, IEPR Director	
Dedication of Workshop to Carmen Ramirez	9
Angel Garcia, Executive Assistant to Supervisor Carmen Ramirez	
Morning Session Opening Remarks	12
Siva Gunda, CEC Vice Chair and Lead Commissioner for 2022 IEPR Update	
Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner	
1. Introduction to the IEPR and CEC's Focus on Energy Equity and Environmental Justice	18
Noemí Gallardo, CEC Public Advisor	
2. Pollution and Prejudice: Moving from Redlining to Revitalization Story Map and Local Context	28
• Kevin Olp, Bay Area Air Quality Management District	
• Jaimie Huynh, California Environmental Protection Agency	
• Jennifer McGovern, State Water Resources Control Board	
• Lucas Zucker, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)	
Q&A Discussion with Public	65
Discussion: Commissioners and Panelists	66
• Siva Gunda, CEC Vice Chair & Lead Commissioner for 2022 IEPR Update	
• Alice Reynolds, CPUC President	

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner • Patty Monahan, CEC Commissioner • Andrew McAllister, CEC Commissioner • Vaccaro, Kourtney, CEC Commissioner 	
3. California Tribal Gap Analysis: A Focus on Clean Energy and Climate Change Priorities	85
Josh Simmons, Prosper Sustainably	
Q&A Discussion with Public	107
Discussion: Commissioners and Panelists	109
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siva Gunda, CEC Vice Chair & Lead Commissioner for 2022 IEPR Update • Alice Reynolds, CPUC President • Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner • Patty Monahan, CEC Commissioner • Andrew McAllister, CEC Commissioner • Vaccaro, Kourtney, CEC Commissioner 	
Public Comment	111
Break and Networking	120
Opportunity to Build Connections with Workshop Participants In-person and via Zoom	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the biggest concerns and priorities in your community when it comes to energy? • What energy actions do you wish your community could make more progress on? • What challenges do you face in making progress on energy actions? • What do disadvantaged, low income, and environmentally burdened populations need to make progress on energy actions? • What can the State do to help? What technical assistance has been/might be helpful? 	

INDEXPAGE

- What did you learn from the morning presentations?
- What technical assistance support is needed to move from vision, planning, to implementation of clean energy projects?

Adjourn

120

P R O C E E D I N G S

10:11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022

MS. RAITT: So this workshop is on centering equity and environmental justice throughout the Energy Commission's efforts, and I'm Heather Raitt, the Director of the Integrated Energy Policy Report. So I'll go ahead and make a few logistical announcements before we get into the substance of today's workshop.

Next slide, please.

First, we're providing interpretation services in Spanish for attendees at our location here at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center and for those participating through Zoom on their computer or tablets. The Zoom interpretation function does not work for attendees joining by phone or using phone audio.

So now I'm going to invite the interpreter to speak in Spanish to let our Spanish-speaking audience know how to use the interpretive services. Go ahead.

(Interpreter introduction)

MS. HERNANDEZ: Back to you.

MS. RAITT: Okay. Thank you so much. And I'd also like to remind everyone to please speak clearly and slowly for the benefit of our translators.

Next slide, please.

1 This workshop is being held in-person by the
2 California Energy Commission in-person at Oxnard and is
3 publicly accessible through Zoom for our remote attendees.
4 Today's workshop is part of the Energy Commission's
5 proceeding to develop the 2022 Integrated Energy Policy
6 Report Update, which we refer to as the IEPR. More
7 information about the report will be provided this morning.

8 For those in the room today, videos of the
9 presenters and commissioners are being broadcast over Zoom.
10 Everything displayed over Zoom is also being shown on the
11 screens in the room, and we're using the microphones for
12 the sound. And then for those in the room also, the
13 bathrooms are through that back door. You can find them
14 through there.

15 To follow along, the meeting schedule and
16 presentations have been docketed, and are posted are on the
17 Energy Commission's IEPR webpage. And for those in the
18 room we have signs with the QR code that you can use to
19 scan with your smartphone to access those presentations.
20 We also have some hard copies of the meeting schedule
21 available at the back table and we have some binders with
22 hard copies of all the presentations if you'd like to see
23 those, and if you'd like your own hard copies please let me
24 or one of the Energy Commission staff know.

25 Please be aware that this workshop, like all IEPR

1 workshops, is being recorded. A recording will be linked
2 to the Energy Commission's website shortly after the
3 workshop, and then a written transcript will be available
4 in about a month. We invite attendees to participate in
5 the discussion today, and there are a few different ways to
6 do so. We've reserved time after the presentations to take
7 the questions, so if you're in the room you can write them
8 down on a card or we'll invite folks to come to the lectern
9 to ask questions.

10 For those remotely attending, you can use the
11 Zoom Q&A feature to ask a question, and a moderator will
12 read out the questions at the time. Please note that we
13 may not have time to address all questions raised.

14 Another way to participate today is during the
15 public comment period. We reserve time at the end of the
16 morning and the afternoon sessions to take public comments.
17 It's an opportunity to make remarks on the subject matter
18 of the workshop but unfortunately we will not be responding
19 to questions at that time.

20 Comments will be limited to three minutes or less
21 per person and one person per organization during the
22 public comment period.

23 For those in the room who'd like to make
24 comments, please fill out a blue card and you can go ahead
25 and give it to me or another energy commission person, and

1 when the time comes we will ask you to come up to the
2 lectern to make comments. And for those using the Zoom
3 platform, you can use the raise hand feature to let us know
4 you'd like to make a comment. And if you're on the phone
5 you can use star nine and that'll let us know you want to
6 make a comment during the public comment period.

7 And then also finally when we break at twelve --
8 about 12:30 we'll have some opportunity for facilitated
9 small group discussions. And we'll hear more about that
10 later but that's another great way to provide input for
11 today.

12 And then last we also welcome participation
13 through written comments and the public notice gives all
14 the information for that. And written comments are due
15 September 21st.

16 Next slide, please.

17 So finally we are dedicating this workshop to
18 Supervisor Carmen Ramirez of Ventura County who tragically
19 passed away recently. So I'd like to introduce Angel
20 Garcia. He served as Executive Assistant for Supervisor
21 Ramirez. Thank you so much Angel for being here today to
22 say a few words about Carmen and her dedication to equity
23 and environmental justice.

24 MR. GARCIA: Hello. Good morning everyone. Good
25 morning State Commission and members of the public. My

1 name is Angel Garcia. I'm the Executive Assistant to
2 supervisor Carmen Ramirez and it is such an honor to speak
3 before the Commission, although I do wish it was under
4 better circumstances.

5 It is -- it goes without saying the void that was
6 created with the loss of Supervisor Carmen Ramirez. In the
7 words of Assemblymember Steve Bennett when he adjourned in
8 memory of Supervisor Ramirez, it is going to take some time
9 to heal from this one. But during that time of healing
10 comes reflection, and when you reflect upon the career of
11 Supervisor Ramirez, it is a career of public service,
12 advocacy, and champion for those that did not have a voice.

13 Supervisor Ramirez fresh out of law school from
14 Loyola Law School was a legal aide attorney, (Spanish),
15 advocating for the rights of tenants and also protecting
16 those that were undocumented. She also became the
17 President of the State Bar Association and in 2007
18 organized and rallied the community to oppose the
19 construction of a power plant. In 2010, Supervisor Ramirez
20 made history as becoming the first Latina to be elected to
21 the Oxnard City Council. She went on the Oxnard City
22 Council for ten years and made history in 2020 as becoming
23 the first Latina to be elected to the County Board of
24 Supervisors, and in 2022 made history once again in being
25 the first Latina to chair the Board of Supervisors.

1 And it has been such an honor to work and be
2 mentored by such an incredible champion and an exceptional
3 Latina. And there are just so many stories I can share
4 with you, but the one thing that just comes to mind when I
5 think about Supervisor Ramirez was I always knew that she
6 was an environmentalist, but I had no idea how much of an
7 environmentalist she was until I became her staff member.

8 When we first started going into the office, when
9 cases started to go down, Supervisor Ramirez would always
10 bring in a bunch from home fresh out of her rose garden.
11 And I remember she told me, "Angel, I need you to water the
12 plants, okay?" I'm like, "Absolutely Supervisor. I'll
13 make sure they get watered."

14 The next day I come into the office, I had
15 realized I had completely forgot to water the plants and
16 Carmen comes into the office and comes up to me and
17 whispers, "Angel, you didn't water the plants like I told
18 you to." I was so scared. And I'd realized, "Oh my
19 goodness Carmen. I'm so sorry. I completely forgot." And
20 she says, "Angel, when I ask you to water the plants, I
21 want them to get watered. I take plants very seriously.
22 If I go to Home Depot and I see plants are dying, I
23 complain to the manager."

24 And that's just one of the many memories I have
25 with Supervisor Ramirez. She -- people say so many

1 wonderful things about her, but one of the things that I
2 don't hear mentioned enough is how funny she was, how
3 witty. Her comebacks and her jokes would just come so
4 quick to her, and she always knew what to say. And I
5 always loved how she introduced herself. She'd say, "Hi
6 everyone. This is Carmen." In that nice voice she had
7 that would just illuminate the room.

8 So with that being said my friends let us
9 continue to heal. I know it's going to be difficult. I'm
10 right there with you as a member of staff in the community.
11 It's going to take some time, but let's continue this good
12 work for the community, and let's remember Supervisor
13 Ramirez when we're doing that.

14 Thank you so much Commission.

15 MS. RAITT: Thank you so much Angel. So
16 unfortunately Commissioner -- Vice Chair Gunda is a little
17 bit delayed but he will be joining us. And so Patty --
18 Commissioner Patty Monahan, if you could go ahead and get
19 us going with this. Thanks.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, good morning
21 everyone.

22 My microphone is on, right? It's hard to hear.

23 Well, thank you for being here today. This is
24 the third in our series of workshops centering equity in a
25 conversation. And my name as Heather said is Patty

1 Monahan. I'm a Commissioner at the California Energy
2 Commission and the lead for Transportation, Hydrogen, and
3 Industrial Decarbonization.

4 I'm also -- I also have the great pleasure to be
5 the second lead to Vice Chair Gunda on behalf of the Energy
6 Commission for its work with the Disadvantaged Communities
7 Advisory Group. And I want to thank and acknowledge
8 everyone who has come here today to present and help us
9 think more deeply about how we can center equity in our
10 efforts.

11 The reason why Vice Chair Gunda can't join right
12 now is because of the heat wave that's coursing across the
13 West, and the implications that that has for the grid. And
14 really, job number one is for us to keep the lights on.
15 That helps to keep people alive, especially those that live
16 in really hot climates, and our grid is under stress right
17 now as we face increasing risk from wildfires and climate
18 change causing higher temperatures, but also the global
19 situation in Ukraine, inflation that's happening, some
20 supply chain constraints. And that's making it harder to
21 build out in the near-term the clean energy that we need to
22 meet the goals that the State has set.

23 So it's causing us to have to address some really
24 hard challenges around, you know, what does this mean for
25 Diablo Canyon, for keeping open nuclear power plants, for

1 keeping open plants that we had planned to retire, and real
2 consequences for people on the ground.

3 I had the opportunity yesterday with the help of
4 several environmental groups on the ground here to go visit
5 various facilities. So CAUSE, CFROG, Climate First,
6 Replacing Oil and Gas, and Food and Oil -- I mean Food and
7 Water Watch took us on a toxic tour, and it was really
8 illuminating and helpful for us to see the challenges that
9 are being faced here on the ground in Oxnard and the
10 surrounding area. And this tension between, how do we
11 reach our clean energy goals? How do we ensure that
12 communities are safe, there's a reliable energy source?
13 And these are just causing very hard questions that we are
14 wrestling with.

15 So these conversations are very important for us
16 to deepen our understanding as energy policy makers of
17 what's happening on the ground. So just really appreciate
18 this conversation. I thought actually as Angel was talking
19 -- so it's Angel, not Angel? Angel. I like Angel.
20 Spanish is more beautiful than English, so I'll stick with
21 that. And you know what he was saying about Supervisor
22 Ramirez bringing a career for those who do not have a
23 voice.

24 And one of the activities we did before we
25 embarked on the tour yesterday was to go around the circle,

1 a circle of -- there were students there -- and asked the
2 question, "What does environmental justice mean to you in
3 one single word?" And one of the last people in the circle
4 said, "Voice." And I just -- it just resonated with me,
5 this idea of voice, you know, giving voice. Creating
6 political power. And that's what Supervisor Ramirez, I
7 think that was the legacy that she has left, and that's
8 what we were -- we saw yesterday with a lot of --
9 especially the youth that are really taking that as their
10 challenge, you know? How do we make sure that we have a
11 voice and that things are different? That we don't
12 continue to be disproportionately impacted by pollution.

13 So with that I think I'm just going to stop. And
14 I know that we have several people participating on what we
15 call the dais in this virtual world. I don't think that's
16 quite the right word. But CPUC Commissioner Darcie Houck
17 is on the line, and I think she's ready to provide some
18 remarks. So Commissioner Houck?

19 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Thank you Commissioner
20 Monahan. I am pleased to be here today to join you in this
21 important discussion.

22 This workshop by the California Energy Commission
23 is an important step to ensuring that we're all working to
24 center equity and environmental justice in energy planning
25 for California. This is an important part of building a

1 just and equitable future for again everyone in California.
2 At the California Public Utilities Commission, we recently
3 formalized efforts to make energy affordability a core
4 component of decision-making in our Affordability
5 Proceeding. The Affordability Proceeding's Phase Two
6 decision requires an analysis of affordability impacts in
7 any proceeding raising revenue requirements by more than 1
8 percent for a utility and in all general rate cases. This
9 analysis includes a specific focus on tribal communities
10 and disadvantaged communities in looking at the CalEPA
11 EnviroScreen tools.

12 We're following this decision by -- we plan on
13 reaching out to communities regionally and talking with
14 Community-Based Organizations, local governments, and
15 communities generally on these issues as a follow-up.
16 There are also significant steps that we're taking at the
17 PUC across a variety of our proceedings to reign in energy
18 costs. These include looking at rate reform options in our
19 demand flexibility proceeding, and we have a Percentage of
20 Income Payment pilot program that was recently adopted as
21 part of our Disconnections Proceeding.

22 Also relevant to today's discussion, we have a
23 Tribal Order Instituting Rulemaking, which is conducting
24 government-to-government outreach with tribes across the
25 state. This rulemaking is intended to identify needs of

1 tribal governments and remove barriers to their
2 participation in our Commission's proceedings and our
3 energy programs, as well as looking at rules regarding our
4 tribal land transfer policy. In late May we held a
5 consultation in the north coast, and we just concluded a
6 two-day consultation in Southern California where we were
7 joined by the California Energy Commission, Commissioner
8 Monahan, as well as the California Air Resources Board.
9 There's going to be a statewide virtual consultation, and
10 the prehearing conference and the rulemaking is set for
11 October 11th. And information about this can be found in
12 our daily calendar, and in the docket for our -- for the
13 tribal rulemaking.

14 Proceedings such as our Affordability Proceeding,
15 our Disconnections Proceeding, our Environmental Social
16 Justice Action Plan and our Tribal OIR are critical to
17 ensuring that issues addressing equity are informing all of
18 our decisions across industry and across proceedings. As
19 decision makers it's important that we ensure all
20 communities are included as California transitions to a
21 clean, decarbonized future, and efforts by the State's
22 energy agencies are needed to ensure that no one's left
23 behind in meeting these goals.

24 California Energy Commission's initiative to
25 center environmental justice and equity in forward planning

1 greatly contributes to ensuring informed decisions going
2 forward for all of our agencies, and with that I want to
3 again thank the Energy Commission and their staff for
4 putting this workshop on, and I'm looking forward to
5 hearing the discussions today, and will turn this back over
6 to Commissioner Monahan.

7 MS. GALLARDO: Actually I'll step in and take it
8 over.

9 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Perfect. Sorry. I wasn't
10 sure.

11 MS. GALLARDO: Buenos dias. Good morning. I'm
12 Noemi Gallardo, and my pronouns are she/her.

13 First, I want to thank Commissioner Houck for
14 your partnership, and making time to join us today, and
15 also for having us in the -- at the events earlier this
16 week.

17 Angel, I also wanted to -- Angel, I wanted to
18 thank you again for joining us and for reminding us of the
19 legacy of the great Carmen Ramirez. And I am definitely a
20 Latina that wants to be more like that Latina, so we'll
21 commit to being more like her every day.

22 I serve as Chief of Staff to Chair David
23 Hochschild. I'm also the interim Public Advisor today
24 though. Today I am functioning as the Public Advisor. The
25 key responsibility of the public advisor is to ensure that

1 everyone can participate meaningfully in our proceedings.
2 And in order to do that our proceedings need to be
3 accessible, including this IEPR.

4 We thought one of the best ways to make the IEPR
5 more accessible was to bring the IEPR to the people. So
6 here we are in Oxnard, and I'm personally excited about
7 being in Ventura County because I was born and raised in
8 this area, so it still feels like home. It's nice to be
9 back.

10 Now I will explain about the Energy Commission's
11 focus on energy, equity, and environmental justice, and
12 also give some basics about the Integrated Energy Policy
13 Report, which we're calling the IEPR.

14 Next slide.

15 Hang on. I would tell you a joke but I don't
16 know any. I'm really bad at delivering jokes. I can't
17 sing either, so sorry. We'll just have to wait awkwardly.

18 Alright. It's coming. I promise. Alright. The
19 next slide? Perfect. Thank you.

20 So our agency's mission is to achieve a 100
21 percent clean energy future for all. And we're aiming to
22 accomplish this goal by 2045. The visual on this screen
23 shows that our goal is 100 percent clean for 100 percent of
24 California. And we view clean energy as our part of the
25 state puzzle to help all Californians have a life of

1 dignity and prosperity.

2 Next slide.

3 Although this is the first time equity and
4 environmental justice are central topics for the IEPR, it
5 is not the first time the agency is working on these
6 efforts. In 2015, for example, we put into writing our
7 diversity policy through a resolution where we committed to
8 optimize opportunities for small and diverse businesses,
9 also known as supplier diversity. We also committed to
10 disadvantaged and underserved communities to participate in
11 and benefit from the Commission's programs.

12 Next slide.

13 In 2019 we started an initiative called JAEDI to
14 achieve Justice, Access, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
15 in a comprehensive way for both our internal workplace and
16 our external programs. We want to make sure the Energy
17 Commission reflects California's diversity and is a place
18 of belonging. And we want our employees to understand what
19 equity and justice means in the workplace so that they can
20 perform without barriers and also be inspired to develop
21 even better programs and policies for tribes and
22 communities.

23 Next slide.

24 We also have an array of funding programs that
25 advance equity. We listed six examples on this slide that

1 range from grants for research, incentives for residential
2 buildings, funding to upgrade ventilation in plumbing and
3 schools, grants that encourage renewables and agriculture,
4 incentives for electric vehicle charging and other types of
5 infrastructure for the acceleration of zero-emission
6 vehicles. I'm not going to go into details, just wanted to
7 show you. And these slides are accessible on our website
8 in case anyone wants to look at those further.

9 Next slide.

10 The Energy Commission has also invested over 1
11 billion dollars through at least nine of our programs as of
12 December 2021 in projects located in disadvantaged
13 communities as defined by CalEnviroScreen 3.0.

14 Next slide.

15 And then this slide shows that nine of our
16 funding programs are investing significantly in
17 disadvantaged communities. Of course we can always do
18 better and we always aim to, but we're still proud that
19 nine of our programs have invested at least fifteen percent
20 of their funds in projects located in disadvantaged
21 communities, with the highest program investing almost
22 eighty percent. And all of these nine programs investing
23 at least in the double-digits.

24 Next slide.

25 This map shows the locations of projects that the

1 Energy Commission has funded through seven of its programs,
2 and which are located in the top 25 percent most
3 disadvantaged communities, with the yellow portion showing
4 areas we have not reached yet.

5 Next slide.

6 So in prior workshops, we have been asked about
7 the funding opportunities that we have available, so I
8 wanted to provide two pathways to obtain this information.

9 First, we encourage you to visit our website to
10 subscribe to receive announcements about funding. We also
11 encourage everyone to register for Empower Innovation.
12 It's an online platform we support that provides the latest
13 information about potential project partners and funding
14 opportunities. And we'll provide the links for both of
15 those in the Zoom chat.

16 Next slide.

17 Now I'll focus on some basics about the IEPR.

18 The key things to know is that it is a report
19 mandated by legislation. The report is biennial, which
20 means we produce a report every other year. The updates
21 happen on even years, like 2022, so this year it is an
22 update. But the report, regardless of whether it's an
23 update or the full report, is taken very, very seriously.
24 But the most important part is that the Energy Commission
25 provides recommendations in the IEPR for the governor and

1 the legislature.

2 And it is very important to us that the ideas we
3 present be informed and derived by the public, or from the
4 public. So today, just by being at this workshop, you are
5 influencing the report. And we also encourage you to
6 provide public comments during that time that we'll have
7 later on, or to submit comments in writing on our Jamboard
8 or through our docket. And please maximize this
9 opportunity to make this your IEPR. It's not just ours.

10 Next slide.

11 So there are three key phases to the report. The
12 first was to develop the scope of topics which we included,
13 equity and environmental justice. The second phase is to
14 collect information through workshops and written comments,
15 so that's the phase we're in now. And the final phase is
16 to develop the report. So we'll share a draft for comment
17 in October. The final report is shared early next year in
18 January. And then the Energy Commission considers adopting
19 it in February at a business meeting.

20 Next slide.

21 So now I'd like to talk about the ways that you
22 can stay updated about the IEPR and provide us additional
23 comments. And we do realize that people have varied
24 preferences on how to participate, so we're trying to
25 implement different methods to accommodate everyone. Today

1 we have opportunities for verbal discussion, for public
2 comment. We also want to share a Jamboard with you, which
3 is an electronic whiteboard where you can put comments
4 during this workshop. We have an array of questions that
5 you can respond to. And to access the Jamboard, you'll
6 click on the link that we'll share in the Zoom chat.

7 And for those of you who are here in person,
8 during the lunch hour we will also have an opportunity for
9 you to engage with some of our staff who will ask some
10 questions. That will be outdoors, so you can enjoy the
11 nice weather.

12 Next slide. Alright.

13 So to ensure you are receiving the latest
14 information and to submit comments, we recommend you
15 subscribe to the docket associated with this IEPR. You can
16 go to our webpage energy.ca.gov and write '2022 IEPR' in
17 the search box and click on that first link that appears in
18 the list and you'll be able to get there. We'll add more
19 instructions in the Zoom chat and you can follow those
20 instructions.

21 Let's see. And we also encourage you to submit
22 comments. You can do that easily by emailing my office,
23 publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov. And if those of you in the
24 room want to sign up for the docket or, you know, want to
25 learn more about how to contact us, please feel free to

1 talk with any of our staff members here.

2 And real quick I wanted to ask Staff from the
3 Energy Commission, if you could raise your hand if you're
4 out in the audience so folks can see you. Thank you for
5 being here. Those are folks that you can talk to, get help
6 signing up, and learn more about the Energy Commission.
7 They're very friendly, so please say hello them. Alright.

8 So that leads us to the 2022 IEPR, what we're
9 doing today. So as shown on this screen we have four key
10 deliverables. So one is testing a regional approach to
11 engagement. A second is developing an agency-wide equity
12 and environmental justice framework. And then third,
13 creating an assessment tool that helps Staff determine if
14 they are applying an equity EJ plan in their work, and an
15 action plan eventually that we'll develop to keep us on
16 track to meet our goals, and to keep us accountable to our
17 commitments as well. And finally, we're revisiting the
18 Energy Commission's Equity Indicators tool that was
19 originally produced as a recommendation from Senate Bill
20 350.

21 Next slide.

22 So including tribal and community engagement was
23 a vital part of our plan for this IEPR. As we told you, we
24 wanted to bring the IEPR to the people, and we knew that we
25 had to go to where they are as opposed to expecting them to

1 come to us. And so with that in mind we decided to try a
2 regional approach and use the fourth Climate Change
3 Assessment Map as a starting point for selecting the
4 regions. And because we planned to have three workshops,
5 we selected three regions for this year. And if we get
6 positive feedback from all y'all, we'll continue with the
7 six other regions.

8 And so we did select the Salton Sea region, the
9 Central Coast, and the San Joaquin Valley. These are all
10 regions that significant areas considered disadvantaged by
11 the CalEnviroScreen tool, and these are also areas where
12 the Energy Commission is currently focused, so that we
13 thought it'd be helpful to add that engagement piece.

14 Next slide.

15 So in terms of a framework, we are seeking to
16 develop a comprehensive commitment and baseline
17 understanding for the entire Commission to achieve our
18 vision of all Californians benefitting from a clean energy
19 future regardless of race, income, or location. And this
20 framework is also meant to be a depository for definitions,
21 for example, how we're defining equity, which is something
22 that's not defined in statute, at least not yet. We also
23 plan to include guiding principles and best practices
24 inspired by existing resources -- resources, excuse me --
25 including the Jemez Principles, the framework established

1 by our key advisory body, the Disadvantaged Communities
2 Advisory Group, and then material also produced by other
3 state and federal entities. And we'll also develop the
4 assessment tool based on that framework and, eventually,
5 the action plan, as I mentioned earlier.

6 Next slide.

7 So we are planning to submit a draft of the
8 framework in October which will be included in the draft
9 IEPR. We originally aimed for July but had delays beyond
10 our control, so we apologize for any confusion. People
11 have already been asking me for it, so I'm really excited
12 that people are interested to provide comment. We hope
13 that you all do review our deliverables and provide
14 feedback. We want to know, for example, are we going in
15 the correct direction? We want to know if we're missing
16 anything. And also we want to know if there are other
17 resources that we should review.

18 So that concludes my presentation. Thank you for
19 listening to that.

20 And now I have the honor to introduce the next
21 presentation, Pollution and Prejudice: Moving From
22 Redlining to Revitalization Story Map and Local Context.
23 I'm really excited to hear this, so I welcome Kevin,
24 Jaimie, Jennifer, and Lucas to begin. And, please,
25 introduce yourselves.

1 MR. OLP: Alright. Thank you so much, Noemi.
2 We'll do a quick round of introductions for our presenters
3 before we go into the presentation today.

4 My name is Kevin Olp and I work for the Bay Area
5 Air Quality Management District. And saying thank you so
6 much for inviting us to be a part of this.

7 MS. HUYNH: Hi, everyone, my name is Jaimie
8 Huynh. I am a climate change advisor for California
9 Environmental Protection Agency.

10 MS. MCGOVERN: Good morning, everyone. I'm
11 Jennifer McGovern. I'm an environmental scientist for the
12 State Water -- Water Boards.

13 MR. ZUCKER: Good morning. Lucas Tucker. Policy
14 Director with Central Coast Alliance United for a
15 Sustainable Economy.

16 MR. OLP: Alright. And before we get started, I
17 think we're going play a short video just to get the energy
18 right in the room.

19 (Whereupon, a video is played and not transcribed.)

20 MR. OLP: Growing up as a White person in
21 Montana, these were questions that I never asked myself. I
22 never really wondered why is it that all the White
23 communities were in the nice neighborhoods in my city and
24 all the communities of color were on the other side of the
25 railroad tracks? And why is it that on one side of the

1 railroad tracks, there's potholes, and on the other side of
2 the railroad tracks, there are speed bumps? And why is it
3 that I go on one side of the railroad tracks to go to the
4 liquor store, but I go on the other side to go to the movie
5 theater? Never asked the question: Why? Why do we have
6 all White presidents?

7 I can't tell you how many times I've been in
8 meetings with local elected officials and city
9 commissioners and planning officials, and they would say,
10 "Well, where else are we supposed to put the warehouse or
11 the logistics center? Where else are we supposed to put
12 the public housing? Where else are we supposed to put the
13 metal recycling facility?"

14 These land use decisions, we never question why
15 our communities are the way they are. We just accept these
16 as normal and don't challenge the systems in which we've
17 inherited.

18 And so today, we wanted to talk to you about our
19 Pollution and Prejudice Project we created to ask these
20 questions and try to embed them in our mind and remind us
21 all of the moral imperative we have, not only to confront
22 this history but to remember that we need to dismantle this
23 history and replace it so that the color of our skin is not
24 indicative of the quality of our environment.

25 Next slide.

1 So the Pollution and Prejudice Project manifested
2 out of an initiative that we were doing when I was working
3 at the California Environmental Protection Agency with
4 Jennifer and Jamie. And we were doing an initiative, we
5 did these different geographic initiatives across the
6 state -- and so it's hard to think about who to look at
7 this virtual audience or all of you -- but we were doing
8 these different initiatives and the communities would
9 decide where is the focus area of where we're going to do
10 geographically targeted enforcement and inspections to make
11 sure that businesses were in compliance with environmental
12 laws to protect communities that were disproportionately in
13 the residential industrial interface.

14 And the communities said, very clearly, they
15 wanted us to make the focus area the historically redlined
16 neighborhoods of South and East Stockton. And so when we
17 looked at that and we said, okay, let's learn a little bit
18 about this history. Let's not just designate these
19 neighborhoods, but let's try to incorporate that history
20 into the work that we're doing. And that was very
21 important to them.

22 And when we started to unearth this history and
23 look at these historically redlined communities, we found
24 these old forms that were created in 1938 that were
25 basically created to decide who could live in what

1 neighborhoods and where the government was going to invest
2 in communities and shore up neighborhoods that were still
3 recovering from the Great Depression, and where communities
4 would not get loans, where they would not get investments,
5 where communities were designed to fail by these federal
6 government policies.

7 Next slide.

8 And so when we looked at the green and blue
9 areas, the areas that were set aside specifically only for
10 White communities and only certain types of White
11 communities and upper class White communities, we saw that
12 they were labeled as hotspots. They were -- had
13 conveniences like schools, churches, trading centers,
14 recreation, and transportation. They also had deed
15 restrictions which protect against, quote unquote "the
16 infiltration of undesirable racial elements."

17 Next slide.

18 And then when we looked at the redlined areas and
19 looked at the forms that describe these neighborhoods, we
20 saw that these were areas that had a lack of sewers. These
21 are areas that were surrounded by industrial and business
22 areas. These are areas that were, quote unquote, "infested
23 with subversive racial influences." And in one of the
24 quotes in particular said, "There is a concentration of
25 Mexican residents in the area, as well as many Negroes and

1 Orientals. The best that can be hoped for in this area is
2 that it will develop into a business or industrial
3 section." And that to me made me feel sick to my stomach
4 when I read it.

5 The government, when it was creating the City of
6 Stockton, said, "Let's set aside the best areas with the
7 great views, with the good neighborhoods, with
8 transportation and healthy land uses for the White
9 communities. And let's push and corral communities of
10 color into the unhealthiest and most harmful land uses.

11 And so when we got together as a team after this
12 initiative concluded, we thought it was important to keep
13 asking questions.

14 Next slide.

15 And so a team of us at CalEPA that represented
16 folks that worked in the air and water, hazardous waste,
17 solid waste, work to protect communities from pesticide
18 exposures, wanted to actually explore this further and say
19 what is the correlation between current date health and
20 environmental injustices and these 80 year old maps? And
21 the question that we wanted to ask is: If things haven't
22 substantially changed, if the color of your skin is going
23 to be determinative of whether or not you have those nice
24 views, whether or not you live near a liquor store, whether
25 or not you live near a hazardous land use, then what are we

1 doing to actually change that history?

2 Because this was, as we can read here, a time
3 when the color of your skin was supposed to determine the
4 quality of your environment. This is a time where
5 government embraced a policy of White supremacy. And if
6 things haven't changed, it begs -- what do we need to do
7 differently to make sure that we actually are adhering to
8 the values and meeting the moral obligation so that the
9 color of your skin is not actually determinative of
10 anything in terms of where you live?

11 And so now I'm going to turn it over to Jennifer
12 McGovern from the State Water Resources Control Board.
13 We're going to talk a little bit more about the history of
14 redlining and racial segregation.

15 MS. MCGOVERN: Thank you, Kevin.

16 Good morning everyone. So let's talk a little
17 bit about the history of where these maps came from.

18 So Kevin's showing you these words that are so
19 difficult to look at; right? But we need to think about,
20 where did this actually start? We have, you know, these
21 these forms that show us that this was actual policy that
22 the government was creating. This wasn't an accident.

23 And so in the 1930s, redlining maps were created
24 under the oversight of the Homeowners Loan Corporation,
25 which I think we call HOLC, but it's actually H-O-L-C is

1 actually how you say it. The agency was charged with
2 providing low interest loans to residents in these areas
3 following the Great Depression to prevent widespread
4 foreclosures. So these maps that they created to figure
5 out who to give loans to were color coded, and these were
6 called residential security maps. And so the maps had four
7 different colors. There was red, and you can see here on
8 the slide were hazardous areas. Yellow was declining
9 areas. Blue, still desirable. And green were the best
10 areas to live.

11 Next slide, please. Yes, I'm looking at the
12 wrong screen, so I thought it didn't change. And so when
13 we look at these maps -- there it goes. Alrighty.

14 When we look at these maps -- so this is an
15 actual redlining map. This is what we're talking about
16 when we say redlining maps or residential security maps.
17 You can see how it's broken up into red, green, blue and
18 yellow areas. These were created all over the country in
19 the 1930s for areas that had a population of over 40,000
20 people. And in this state, in California, there were eight
21 cities that were included, and you can see them listed
22 here, so Fresno, L.A., Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San
23 Francisco, San Jose, and Stockton.

24 Next slide. There might be a delay. So while
25 we're -- well, okay. Next slide here. I think we're

1 having a little bit of delay on some of our screens.

2 So, again, you can see here closer in, these
3 are -- this was one of the residential security maps. I
4 can't see it on my screen. It's okay. And you can see how
5 they're broken up here into different grades. This was
6 Sacramento shown here.

7 Let's just go ahead and go to the next slide.

8 So with each of these maps there were area
9 description forms, and this here that you guys see is the
10 actual historic document. And this is the entire document,
11 I think, for the City of Sacramento.

12 Nice. I apologize you guys, I'm having a hard
13 time with my screen.

14 These forms were developed to describe the
15 different areas and figure out, are they red areas are they
16 blue areas, are they green areas?

17 And so when you look at this, these area
18 descriptions -- we're going to zoom in on a piece of it
19 here -- they didn't just look at what the area was made up
20 of. They didn't look at how close it was to
21 transportation, just looking at things like that, or how
22 close things were to parks, they took everything into
23 consideration when they were writing up these area
24 descriptions.

25 And so if you can see in this first box -- I

1 can't see it on my screen unfortunately -- but if we read
2 it together I think it reads, "Highly congested population
3 whose density greatly exceeds city's average. Presence in
4 large numbers of subversive racial elements, encroachment
5 of commerce and business."

6 So we can see here that this isn't just looking
7 at an area description or physical things, they're taking
8 the color of people's skin into consideration to determine
9 if an area would be considered hazardous, just like we
10 would look at pollution and consider that hazardous. We
11 were considering -- government was considering the color of
12 skin, just it was weighted the same as pollution.

13 And if we go down to the next area of this same
14 area description where it describes inhabitants, you can
15 see words in here, like "Oriental, Negro, Foreign Born, and
16 so they were using these implicitly racist terms, again to
17 determine if an area was okay to live in, okay to, you
18 know, give out loans to, things like that.

19 Alright, let's move to the next slide.

20 So, yeah, with this project, we wanted to look at
21 these redlining maps, these historic redlining maps, and
22 overlay them with some other tools. And so one of the
23 tools that we used was CalEnviroScreen. CalEnviroScreen is
24 a tool that looks at different indicators, and you can see
25 up there -- you are probably somewhat familiar with it --

1 but they considered pollution burden, population
2 characteristics, environmental effects, socio-economic
3 factors.

4 And so when they -- when this tool was developed,
5 areas were scored, since these tracks were scored based on
6 these indicators, and compared to other areas within the
7 state. So when you look at CalEnviroScreen and you look at
8 the red colors, those would be the highest scores, so the
9 most impoverished areas with the highest pollution burdens,
10 and then on the opposite. And of that scale would be green
11 where there's less pollution.

12 Next slide.

13 CalEnviroScreen was -- there was also some
14 analysis done on race with CalEnviroScreen 4.0. And so you
15 can see the -- when we're looking at these graphs, the top
16 10 percent least polluted neighborhoods are 67 percent
17 White. And so if you just stop and think about that and
18 take that in, compare it to the next graph, the top 10
19 percent most polluted neighborhoods are 90 percent people
20 of color.

21 And there's another graph here on the right.
22 It's a little bit hard to see it, I don't know if you all
23 can see it, but you can see that there's an increasing
24 disadvantage as it goes down. And, obviously, that area is
25 increasingly Latino, and you can see the opposite when you

1 look at the White blue area.

2 Next slide.

3 I think we're going to hand this over to Jaimie.

4 MS. HUYNH: Thank you, and I apologize if my
5 video goes off. I just got an unstable internet connection
6 notice here.

7 So here I'm going to go into some data, so I hope
8 you all are excited for some maps and graphs.

9 So the approach -- this approach for our Story
10 Map was made possible by the availability of digitized
11 1930s-era neighborhood assessment forms that Kevin and Jen
12 had gone over. This was made through the Mapping
13 Inequality Project. I encourage you all to please explore
14 that project online. It was a collaboration between
15 Virginia Tech, John Hopkins, University of Maryland, and
16 University of Richmond.

17 Oops. Is it moving on your end? Okay.

18 So because I think Jen had gone over earlier,
19 CalEnviroScreen goes by Census Tracts and the HOLC maps are
20 not by census tract. So we went through this process to
21 aggregate a lot of the CalEnviroScreen scores to fit into
22 the boxes of the HOLC maps. So here you can see the --
23 kind of just a screenshot of the process we went through to
24 add those scores up and aggregate them.

25 And now I'm going to go into a quick demo, so

1 let's hope my interconnect connection continues to stay.

2 I'm going to turn off my video for this portion. Okay.

3 So here is the kind of opening page of our Story
4 Map. You can find this on the CalEPA website. And we can
5 go into this tab. Here we see we are slowly loading the
6 map.

7 I think, Commissioner Monahan, I think you're
8 from Berkeley, or at least it shows that online, sorry,
9 from what I could lurk. So we're good. Let's go to your
10 neighboring area by Berkeley. Let's go to Oakland.

11 Okay, so here's an interactive map that's part of
12 our larger Story Map which includes all of the history that
13 Jen had gone over and these interactive maps and a lot of
14 data. So here -- oops, zoomed in too far -- you can see
15 all the outlines of the redlining maps. You can also see
16 the ports. And these dotted lines are railroad tracks.
17 And the gray solid lines are the highways. So you can see
18 where the highways split through these communities, that
19 these were specific actions made by government to do this.
20 Ports are near redlined areas. Highways intersect through.
21 Railroad tracks intersect through. And here you can
22 actually zoom in a little bit more and you can click on
23 hazardous waste facilities. And it will slowly load and
24 you will see it soon. I apologize for the connectivity
25 issues.

1 Okay, so here you'll see, in a little bit, the
2 hazardous waste facilities. There's the darker purple
3 color that will show up. That means there are more
4 hazardous waste facilities in those areas and it will align
5 very well with the redlined areas. You'll see that
6 hazardous waste facilities were planned in these areas.
7 This was part of the planning process to put industrial
8 facilities in these redlined areas. It was already pre-
9 written in 1930s and we followed through with it.

10 I'm sorry that it is not showing up right now.
11 But outside of these pollution burdens, you can also see
12 population characteristics on this other bubble here, so
13 you can look into asthma room visits. You can look at
14 unemployment, poverty, linguistic isolation. You can turn
15 these -- toggle these on and off and choose your own path,
16 see what you can find from it.

17 Okay. And I'm going to go back to my
18 presentation. Okay. Apologies. I'm going to try to stop
19 the share and then restart it. Oh. That's why. Zoom
20 kicked me out. Yeah. Thank you all for being patient with
21 me.

22 (Pause)

23 MS. HUYNH: Okay. I am now back. Can I get the
24 next slide, please? Well, thank you so much. I appreciate
25 it.

1 So here we're going to go into some more data.
2 So you can see in this graph on the X axis, it might be a
3 little small on your screen, that is the average
4 CalEnviroScreen score here. In this project, we use
5 CalEnviroScreen 3.0. And we understand there's a 4.0.
6 We're working on it. And on the left-hand side on the Y
7 axis, you can see all the cities that were redlined in
8 California. And the little black line that you see
9 throughout the graph is the city average. And it is not
10 surprising that a lot of the redlined areas and the yellow
11 areas are above -- their pollution burden scores are above
12 the city average, whereas the green and blue are below.

13 Next slide, please. Thank you.

14 And one last graph I'll show you that I really
15 want to highlight, you saw a similar one earlier when Jen
16 was showing this from CalEnviroScreen -- sorry -- so these
17 are present-day demographic conditions from redlined areas
18 of the 1930s. So in the redlined areas earlier in those
19 texts you saw that there are subversive racial elements,
20 there are a lot of Mexicans, and Orientals, Negros. And so
21 today, we want to see did that change? And it looks like,
22 in the redlined areas, it truly hasn't changed much.
23 Hispanic, Native American, African American people still
24 live in the declining and hazardous areas that were defined
25 back in the 1930s. You can see that in this graph here.

1 Next slide, please.

2 So you can find all of this information through
3 these links here. And I think these are -- these
4 PowerPoints are also published, so you can go into there
5 and click on it in case you can't type quick enough to copy
6 these links. We're also including a shiny app tool here.
7 This incorporates our CalEPA regulated site portal, so it
8 shows all of our inspections, all of the violations given,
9 and shows where we actually put our resources towards. And
10 we have a lot of work to do. I'll be honest there.

11 Next slide, please.

12 So we are committed to continuing to advance
13 racial equity until race no longer predicts cumulative
14 pollution burden, as Kevin had said earlier. Despite a lot
15 of progress in addressing explicit discrimination, racial
16 inequities continue to be deep, pervasive, and persistent
17 across many key indicators of wellbeing.

18 Oops. Okay.

19 So our commitment to racial equity revolves
20 around our -- the Race Forward model of change, which is
21 normalize, organize, and operationalize. This Pollution
22 and Prejudice Project, redlining project, is part of the
23 effort to normalize conversations about race and
24 environmental injustice.

25 I'll pass it back to Kevin.

1 MR. OLP: All right. Next slide. Oh, I think,
2 just because we're running behind on time, we'll skip this
3 slide. Go to the last one. So thank you all for -- sorry,
4 one slide back.

5 So thank you all for listening to this
6 presentation. And we encourage you to go to the Pollution
7 and Prejudice Story Map where you can learn more about
8 this. You can look up the neighborhoods you lived in. And
9 you can read more from the residential area forms in the
10 neighborhoods that you grew up in. And I wanted to, before
11 we conclude and pass the microphone to Lucas, to just take
12 a moment and let everybody look at this slide and ask
13 yourselves, what does this history mean for you?

14 For some of us that are in this room, these words
15 represent the history of fighting against the government
16 and decisions that have been made against the community's
17 wellbeing over multiple generations as land uses were
18 divided to benefit White communities. For others of us
19 that work in government, for those of us in positions of
20 power, these words might make you uncomfortable because
21 this is the history that we have inherited. And this is
22 something that we have to live with every day.

23 And so we created this presentation because we
24 wanted these questions to be at the front of our minds
25 every single day when we talk about what racial equity

1 really means. It means fighting against the foundations of
2 millions of actions from millions of individuals over
3 multiple generations that were intentionally trying to make
4 it so the color of your skin was going to be determinative
5 of the quality of your environment. And it's going to take
6 nothing less than that in a struggle for racial equity in
7 order for us to be able to make it so the color of your
8 skin is not determinative of the quality of your
9 environment.

10 And so a lot of the times when we're in these
11 meetings and we're talking about creating the Integrated
12 Energy Report, we might be thinking to ourselves that there
13 are ideas that may seem radical, they may seem too
14 difficult to achieve and may be challenging. But when we
15 think about this through the lens of the moral imperative
16 that each and every one of us have to meet our values,
17 these are things that we have to be asking: How do we get
18 to these places and how do we create transformational
19 change? Because clearly what we're doing up to this point
20 has not been enough.

21 When we look at 18 of the 20 indicators, all of
22 the redlined neighborhoods have higher asthma, they have
23 cited hazardous waste, solid waste, landfills, air quality
24 problems, water quality problems, pesticide exposures. And
25 so for those of us at CalEPA, we created this project to

1 remind every single person working in that building, what
2 is your responsibility? And what do we all do through all
3 of our actions over this generation so that when we hand
4 over the government to the next generation, that we have
5 actually made progress, so making it so the quality of your
6 environment is not determined by the color of your skin?

7 And so with that, it's my pleasure now to turn it
8 over to Lucas Zucker from CAUSE who's going to talk more
9 about the local contexts of environmental justice here in
10 Oxnard, and the history of the struggle to fight for
11 fairness and environmental justice.

12 MR. ZUCKER: Thanks Kevin. Thanks everyone. My
13 name is Lucas. I'm the Policy Director at CAUSE, that's
14 Coastal Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy. I've
15 worked on a range of environmental justice campaigns and
16 issues, you know, stretching from energy to oil,
17 pesticides, healthy food access, ports, access to green
18 space, wildfires. I'm also on the Advisory Committee for
19 the CEC's Clean Transportation Program, as well as the --
20 oh that's way better, wow -- as well as the Advisory
21 Committee for the Clean Power Alliance in our local
22 community choice energy provider. I want to welcome you
23 here to Oxnard.

24 Go to the next slide, please.

25 So Oxnard is a city of over 200,000 residents, as

1 you can see, predominantly Latino, and 75 percent Latino,
2 about, and about 85 percent people of color.

3 Next slide, please.

4 And compared to the rest of California, much
5 higher, in some cases twice as high, shares of immigrants,
6 undocumented folks, folks with less than a high school
7 education, residents who speak a language other than
8 English at home, and children under 18 years old.

9 Next slide, please.

10 A little bit about the history of Oxnard. I know
11 we're talking a lot about history here, but I think, you
12 know, as the last presentation showed, our history is
13 really important to understand how we got to where we are
14 now. So Oxnard, like other -- the other strawberry growing
15 towns in the Central Coast, like Santa Maria, Salinas,
16 Watsonville, originally all started as sugar beet towns.
17 Has anyone here heard of a sugar beet? Do you know what a
18 sugar beet is? Alright, we've got a couple of people.

19 So the history of sugar has really shaped the
20 world in many ways. It is extremely profitable, extremely
21 labor intensive, and extremely addictive, and so it was
22 really the largest driver of the transatlantic slave trade.
23 And like many communities across the Caribbean, Latin
24 America, the Pacific Islands, Oxnard's history has been
25 shaped by sugar.

1 So this here you can see is the sugar beet
2 factory brought by the Oxnard Family which Oxnard is named
3 after to, essentially, you know, build the city as a
4 company town at the turn of the century. After the
5 emancipation of slaves across the Americas throughout the
6 1800s, the industry was looking for other ways to produce
7 sugar. And so one of those solutions was to grow sugar
8 beets, these sweet beets, and boil them into sugar refined
9 in a refinery like this. And so they set up these
10 refineries across the Central Coast.

11 Sugar beets required really heavy manual stoop
12 labor, and so that required the importation of at that time
13 predominantly Chinese and Japanese immigrants, later
14 Filipino and Mexican, to do that work. And so it, you
15 know, took a lot of laborers and really set the pattern of
16 Oxnard start as a community where you have heavily
17 industrialized agriculture, what historian Carey McWilliams
18 called factories in the fields, surrounded by densely
19 populated neighborhoods of people of color, immigrant
20 workers. And actually, Oxnard has the distinction of
21 creating the first ever multiracial farm worker union here,
22 the Japanese Mexican Labor Alliance, shortly after this
23 sugar beet factory was created. Most workers at the time
24 lived in the neighborhood of La Colonia.

25 Next slide, please.

1 And, actually, one of the first recorded
2 histories of kind of political action and organized thing
3 in La Colonia was an environmental justice protest. It was
4 environmental justice before anybody knew or used the term
5 EJ. The city dump was placed in La Colonia. This is from
6 the book, *Strategies of Segregation*. And the members of La
7 Colonia, actually 100 years ago, roughly, today protested
8 the city putting the city dump in La Colonia.

9 Next slide, please.

10 So in the post-World War II era, during the war,
11 that's when the city really boomed and also really
12 industrialized. So we had the growth of naval base and
13 port complex and kind of the, you know, maritime industry
14 that kind of shifted back and forth between the Navy and
15 the port. And really a history similar to communities like
16 Barrio Logan and San Diego or West Oakland, where that kind
17 of industry grew around community.

18 And we also saw, in the 60s and 70s, as Oxnard
19 industrialized, and particularly South Oxnard, a
20 White flight from the community where a lot of the White
21 and middle class families left Oxnard for neighboring
22 communities like Camarillo and Ventura. And a lot of the
23 heavy industry was developed like the Halaco Toxic Waste
24 Site we have here, which was a metal smelter in South
25 Oxnard, the sewage plant, the -- a lot of the kind of port

1 and logistics facilities, the paper mills and power plants.

2 Next slide, please.

3 And particularly the -- Oxnard's two paper mills
4 and three power plants are some of the most kind of
5 imposing smoke smokestacks that you see in the community,
6 really shaping the city skyline.

7 Next slide, please.

8 And so the modern zoning of the city really
9 reflects this history. So you can see here that kind of
10 swath of industry. And that dark M2 Zone there, close to
11 the downtown, is where the sugar beet factory originally
12 was. Right above that is the La Colonia neighborhood,
13 which you can see is literally on the other side of the
14 railroad tracks, that kind of curve shape, with industry
15 circling around it.

16 Next slide, please.

17 You can see the same in South Oxnard. We have
18 that same pattern of kind of high-density residential, low-
19 income immigrant, often farmworker, neighborhoods next to
20 heavy industry, and the way that South Oxnard is really cut
21 off from its coast by kind of a wall of heavy industry.

22 Next slide.

23 This is from the California Air Resources Board.
24 These are the largest fixed sources of pollution in the
25 county here, in Ventura County. And you can see they're

1 heavily concentrated in Oxnard, particularly those -- the
2 top two there are the paper millimeters, and that third
3 top-polluting facility is the Ormond Beach Generating
4 Station, the largest power plant in Ventura County.

5 Next slide, please.

6 So starting in the '90s, the environmental
7 justice movement nationwide really gained ground and
8 recognition at Rio Mesa High School in Oxnard. Parents did
9 a lawsuit against the EPA for the exposure of students to
10 pesticides. Oxnard still remains number one in the state
11 for them or students attending school near the highest
12 levels of toxic agricultural pesticides. They actually won
13 the first ever environmental justice lawsuit settlement,
14 legal settlement, from the USEPA. In 2004, the Halaco
15 Metal Smelter abandoned its toxic waste site.

16 In 2007, the community was able to get the EPA to
17 designate it as a Superfund Site. It remains to be cleaned
18 up. But this September there's going to be the beginning
19 of a process to decide what to do here.

20 2007, really historic victory where the Oxnard
21 community organized. Thousands of people showed up to the
22 State Lands Commission to fight the largest mining company
23 in the world. BHP Billiton, building a liquefied natural
24 gas terminal on the Oxnard coast, which would have been the
25 largest source of air pollution in Ventura County. And it

1 was defeated in a huge watershed moment for environmental
2 justice in Oxnard.

3 All of Ventura County's fossil fuel power plants
4 are in Oxnard. And in 2012, the community unsuccessfully
5 fought against another Peaker plant, the McGrath Peaker,
6 being sited in Oxnard.

7 Next slide.

8 So you can see here, since we're at the
9 California Energy Commission, these -- this is the location
10 of the three major utility power plants in Ventura County
11 and southern Santa Barbara County region, they call them
12 Moorpark Sub-Area, for energy planning. And you'll notice
13 this region has a lot of affluent communities Thousand
14 Oaks, Santa Barbara, Ojai, communities that are known for
15 their commitment to wellness. And, you know, beautiful
16 environment, so people come all over the world to come and
17 visit. And this is the CalEnviroScreen map that, you know,
18 my colleagues here shared earlier, ranking kind of
19 pollution and social and economic disadvantage. And you
20 can see the heavy concentration of red and orange around
21 Oxnard where, you know, these power plants just so
22 conveniently happen to be all located.

23 I would also note that the -- you know, these
24 power plants are sited in Oxnard. But when you think about
25 the power need, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and these

1 Inland Empire -- inland areas where there are large houses
2 that are blowing air conditioning throughout the day, all
3 day, this is where the highest energy load, you know, is
4 really in the county, you know, and where that power is,
5 you know, disproportionately consumed.

6 In the green over on this side -- in the green
7 over on this side in Santa Barbara you have, you know, a
8 community that's kind of way out at the edge of SoCal
9 Edison's grid, you know, has a lot of kind of resilience
10 issues with the need to supply power out there. And so
11 Oxnard is really serving the needs for both, you know, the
12 beautiful community of Santa Barbara kind of, you know,
13 sandwiched between the mountains and the ocean, you know,
14 that needs a power supply and the, you know, affluent
15 communities to its east that use a lot of, you know,
16 average consumption.

17 Next slide.

18 So when several of these -- once the cooling --
19 ocean cooling powerplants were planned to be phased out by
20 the State of California, as well as power plants up and
21 down the coast, there was a lot of excitement in the
22 community about the opportunity to reclaim the coastal
23 Oxnard, reduce a lot of the largest sources of air
24 pollution in the in the city.

25 And Edison and NRG, the largest operator of power

1 plants in the United States, proposed that, you know, as
2 these power plants were being phased out for this area,
3 they wanted to build a new power plant, you know,
4 essentially same location as the old ones. And I think
5 this is really important in understanding the way that
6 environmental racism and inequity perpetuates itself. It's
7 not always about explicit bias, about, you know, folks
8 saying, "This community, we want to be mean to them and
9 racist to them, and we're going to put a power plant there
10 because of it."

11 You know, there may be a little bit of explicit
12 bias. I think there's a reality that a lot of polluters
13 see, you know, this community, they're, you know, Spanish-
14 speaking, you know, immigrant. They're -- they're going to
15 be much less likely to kind of put up a fight and have, you
16 know, the power to convince an agency, like the California
17 Energy Commission, not to put a power plant in their
18 backyard, right, as a Santa Barbara or Malibu might.

19 But it's also, you know, a kind of seemingly
20 race-neutral, least cost/best fit analysis that will find
21 that, you know, this community, where all the power plants
22 have been sited historically, has the transmission
23 infrastructure. The, you know, energy companies already
24 own the land there and it's, you know, industrially zoned,
25 the land is cheaper. You know, this is going to be the

1 cheapest and most efficient place to put this thing; right?

2 And so, you know, and even the fact that there
3 were already power plants there, NRG used that as leverage
4 with the city and threatened the city of Oxnard, "If you
5 don't allow us to build a new power plant, we are going to
6 abandon these old power plants, we're going to get the
7 Energy Commission and the Public Utilities Commission to
8 approve our new power plant, and you'll be left with not
9 only the new power plants, but these two old power plants,
10 we're just going to leave them on your coast to rust." And
11 the community was really sick of that and sick of being
12 kind of pushed around by corporations like this, and I
13 think that actually backfired. You know, they just had the
14 McGrath plant approved. Now came an even bigger, you know,
15 power plant proposal.

16 So the city really fought and really led by, you
17 know, the late supervisor, then City Councilmember and
18 Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Ramirez. The city passed a moratorium
19 on new power plants on its coast. Unfortunately, you know,
20 we have -- in California the Warren-Alquist Act basically
21 says that cities don't really have land use power over
22 there. So you can, as a city say, "We don't want a power
23 plant in our community," and the state can just override
24 that. And so this really was a state level decision and
25 the city knew and community members knew we had to take it

1 to the state level.

2 Next slide.

3 So the community fought at the Public Utilities
4 Commission and California Energy Commission. You know,
5 hundreds of members of the community, you know, coming out
6 to these hearings. This was from a PUC hearing in San
7 Francisco, you know, a demonstration of how inaccessible it
8 can be, you know, to the community, leaving on a midnight
9 bus, all these young people, you know, as well as Carmen
10 who was, you know, at that time near 70, to go speak at the
11 PUC. And really the community felt this frustration of
12 even the way the process was set up where the PUC makes its
13 decision on power plants before the CEC does. And the PUC,
14 you know, kind of seems to lock in the decision for a lot
15 of communities where they say, "Well, reliability requires
16 this power plant to be put here," before the CEC does its
17 environmental analysis, its kind of CEQA-equivalent
18 analysis where the community can actually talk about kind
19 of the environmental justice issues that are that are being
20 faced.

21 Next slide.

22 So over the course of several years, there was
23 hearing after hearing really led by a lot of youth from the
24 community, particularly Latino young women from Oxnard.
25 And the members of the public really felt this frustration

1 feeling of kind of talking to a wall, at these hearings.
2 You know, you've got the commissioners, they kind of have
3 to keep the poker face and you know, you go and speak in
4 public comment and you're kind of not able to tell really,
5 is this making an impact? Is anyone, you know, being even
6 influenced or hearing what I have to say here in my life
7 experience growing up in a community with these high rates
8 of cancer and asthma from dealing with all this pollution?

9 Next slide.

10 And there was a sense of a lack of democracy.
11 All of Oxnard's elected representatives, unanimous City
12 Council, the County Supervisor, you know, the State
13 Assemblymember, the State Senator, the Congresswoman, were
14 all opposed to this power plant and, yet, the project
15 continued to roll on at the state level. And so there was
16 this feeling, how -- how can we even exert any kind of
17 democratic rights as our as our community? What options do
18 we have left?

19 Next slide.

20 And so the community actually did a civil
21 disobedience, you know, here in this Oxnard Performing Arts
22 Center where, you know, probably about a dozen hearings
23 from the California Energy Commission were held and shut
24 down a meeting. And this really started generating
25 attention outside of Oxnard and outside of Ventura County

1 to this issue and really kind of started turning the tide
2 when it became not just an Oxnard issue but became a symbol
3 statewide of environmental justice and environmental
4 injustice.

5 Next slide.

6 And at that point things kind of started to shift
7 all at once. So this was a -- this is a series of
8 headlines from the Ventura County Star, that just over the
9 course of really a year, you had a set of state lawmakers,
10 you know, led by our local legislators and Kevin de Leon,
11 the President of the Senate, saying that, you know, the
12 Energy Commission really needs to listen to the community
13 of Oxnard, you know, Tom Steyer, you know, big, big
14 environmental voice, you know, getting involved.

15 The Energy Commission authorized a study from
16 CAISO to see, you know, is it possible? Is there an
17 alternative to this project, now that we're seeing so much,
18 you know, so much public opposition? And that study came
19 back saying, yes, it's feasible, it's feasible to, you
20 know, replace this plant power plant with all clean energy
21 particularly due to the rapidly dropping cost of battery
22 storage.

23 And Commissioners Karen Douglas and Janea Scott,
24 who were the Lead Commissioners at the time on this
25 project, issued a very unusual letter to SoCal Edison

1 saying, "We think this project is likely to be rejected
2 and, Edison, you'd better start coming up with a plan B."

3 So at that point, NRG considered and ultimately
4 did kind of suspend their application for the project. And
5 the SoCal Edison said that they ultimately decided they
6 were going to go through a bidding process and they would
7 have no new gas-fired generation in Ventura County. They
8 would replace the need for the Puente Power Plant with
9 entirely renewable resources.

10 Next slide. Oh wait. I think there was one in
11 the middle. Was there a -- was there one before this? Oh,
12 that's strange.

13 So I think I'm missing a slide, but it has two
14 headlines, you know, one from the *Ventura County Star*.
15 It's an editorial, essentially saying that the -- this is
16 inevitable, you know, the community has put up a good fight
17 but this is just going to happen, and the next saying that
18 the Puente Power Plant really marked a turning point, you
19 know, in the state's energy future. And so that was really
20 what it felt that. You know, the community is being told
21 it's impossible, it's infeasible, you know, you have maybe
22 at best a 10 percent chance of winning, you know, these
23 power plants never get rejected by the CEC.

24 And after a few years of, you know, organizing
25 and activism, we saw people saying, you know, this may be

1 the last fossil fuel power plant ever approved in
2 California. And this could be the watershed moment that
3 really turns the tide towards a clean energy future.

4 Next slide.

5 This is SoCal Edison's portfolio of what they
6 were going to procure -- or what they did procure to
7 replace that power plants. As you can see here, you know,
8 this, you know, battery storage predominantly. You know, I
9 do think it was maybe a mistake on Edison's part to not
10 procure new generation, renewable generation, at the time
11 and I think we're seeing some of the consequences of that
12 now. But, yeah, this is kind of what replaced it.

13 Next slide.

14 And, you know, and, particularly, the largest
15 facility is this Saticoy Battery Storage system, which at
16 the time was one of the world's largest battery storage.
17 These are now kind of popping up everywhere. And so it's
18 maybe not one of the largest in the world not but built
19 with the same building trades labor that was going to build
20 the fossil fuel power plant, and just a real symbol of that
21 change.

22 Next slide. Oh, this is the slide I was looking
23 for. All right.

24 So this is an editorial: "*Oxnard Power Plant*
25 *Approval Seems Inevitable.*" You can see there, that's July

1 2nd, 2016. And October 10th, 2017, just about a year
2 later: *"Is Puente A Turning Point In Our Energy Future?"*

3 Next slide.

4 So this is really just an incredible community
5 victory and I think, you know, incredible story of the
6 California Energy Commission here being part of changing
7 the trajectory of environmental injustice. You know, as
8 Kevin shared it, you know, it can take as many generations
9 to undo this legacy as it can take to create it, and as
10 many difficult and intentional decisions, and as much
11 resources going in as created the legacy of environmental
12 injustice. And so this was certainly a moment when the CEC
13 took a bold stand, took a hard choice for environmental
14 justice for the people of Oxnard.

15 Next slide.

16 And I think it really was powerful for so many of
17 the young people that I worked with who were part of this,
18 and just a transformational experience for them where I
19 think, you know, many young people in the last five years
20 have really, you know, lost faith in the system and, you
21 know, have become very disillusioned. And to see folks
22 who, you know, got involved in activism for environmental
23 justice in their own community and saw that, you know,
24 sometimes government works and sometimes, you know, people
25 organizing against the largest energy company in the United

1 States can win from a working-class immigrant, you know,
2 blue-collar community, and get the health and justice and,
3 you know, and environment that their community deserves.

4 Next slide.

5 I also want to talk about some of the, you know,
6 just real briefly, kind of next steps for this community
7 and opportunities, and especially ones that relate to the
8 CEC.

9 I think one of the biggest opportunities in the
10 coming decade is as freight and heavy-duty transportation
11 electrification, that is probably one of the biggest
12 possibilities we have to reduce deadly air pollution in
13 Oxnard. You know, because this is both a port community
14 and a community with a lot of agriculture, we've got a lot
15 of kind of heavy duty diesel trucking. You know, and to
16 make that transition, which the technology is, you know,
17 really promising here, the political opportunity is really
18 promising and the investments from the state are very
19 serious, you know, it's going to take a lot of work on the
20 grid side for that power, you know, as well as kind of on
21 the charging station side, and we know that the CEC is
22 working to make those investments and, you know, really
23 encourage us to, you know, keep that that moving, because,
24 you know, not just for Oxnard but so many kind of portside
25 communities from, you know, Wilmington to West Oakland to

1 Bonnie Logan (phonetic), you know, are dealing with the
2 same issue.

3 Next slide.

4 The retirement or removal of gas plants is
5 another really big one. So the Ormond Beach Generating
6 Station, the largest and the one that's most in the, you
7 know, kind of disadvantaged community and in Oxnard has --
8 its life has been extended past when it was supposed to be
9 retired for a few years. You know, we're really hoping to
10 see that that power plant shut down. You know, some of our
11 commissioners got to tour the area around that that plant
12 yesterday. So it's, you know, it's still up and running.

13 The Mandalay power plant is now retired but it's,
14 you know -- NRG followed through on their plans. It's been
15 spun off into a subsidiary LLC and put through bankruptcy
16 and, you know, just kind of abandoned there on the beach.

17 And then the McGrath Peaker was, you know, was
18 built recently so, you know, it doesn't really have an end
19 in sight of when that plant might be retired.

20 And so, you know, I think this really raises the
21 question of, as we make this energy transition, what's
22 going to happen to all this old fossil fuel infrastructure?
23 You know, and when, you know, are we going to be able to
24 prioritize, you know, particularly communities, like a
25 small community like Oxnard that has had so many, three,

1 power plants, just in this small town, you know, to be
2 prioritized for environmental justice?

3 Last slide.

4 And then the offshore wind industry here in the
5 Central Coast, I think there's a real potential to, you
6 know, replace, you know, some of this fossil fuel
7 generation to, you know, rebuild the community's
8 resilience, you know, for -- on the energy side if it's,
9 you know, losing some of the, you know, polluting
10 generation. And really, as we look at building the clean
11 energy economy in the Central Coast, you know, how do we
12 make sure we undo the mistakes of the old fossil fuel
13 economy?

14 How do we make sure communities like Oxnard are
15 at the table, that communities like Oxnard, instead of in
16 the old fossil fuel economy, you know, got the
17 disproportionate harms of fossil fuel generation and, you
18 know, for often other communities to receive the
19 disproportionate benefits?

20 You know, how do we kind of flip that around so
21 that communities like Oxnard are getting those harms undone
22 and are receiving, you know, a priority for some of the
23 benefits of clean energy, like offshore wind, you know, and
24 are being protected from, you know, some of the potential
25 disadvantages?

1 We know, you know, like any energy, there's
2 always going to be some, you know, some impacts to mitigate
3 as well.

4 So thank you so much, everyone. I hope this put
5 it in a local perspective here in this community.

6 MS. GALLARDO: Thank you so much Lucas, Jennifer,
7 Jaimie, Kevin. That was extremely valuable information to
8 have both at the higher level with the historical
9 awareness, and then Lucas bringing it in with the local
10 information, and the local history.

11 So we wanted to start out by opening it up to the
12 public to ask some questions and have a discussion here.
13 And then after that we'll open it up to our leadership to
14 have a discussion.

15 So is there anyone here in person who would like
16 to ask a question? You're welcome to approach the podium
17 if you would like. No pressure.

18 I do have some questions on the Zoom, so I will
19 start with those then or turn to those.

20 So there was a question here by Claire Warshaw:
21 "Is nuclear hazardous waste considered or mapped in
22 CalEnviroScreen 4.0?"

23 Does anyone -- so I'm seeing Kevin shake his head
24 no. Kevin, do you want to add to it or is it -- alright.
25 We're getting the mic over to Kevin.

1 MR. OLP: Well, hazardous waste storage
2 facilities are mapped in CalEnviroScreen.

3 Is That better? Thanks everybody for your
4 patience with our technical limitations.

5 Hazardous waste storage facilities in landfills
6 are mapped in CalEnviroScreen. The nuclear waste isn't
7 specifically an indicator. But if you go to the
8 CalEnviroScreen 4.0 website, they have a list of all the
9 individual indicators and what's included in each of those,
10 and it's a pretty easy user-friendly website.

11 MS. GALLARDO: Thank you, Kevin.

12 Alright, so another question is from Fatima
13 Abdulkadir: "Does CalEnviroScreen or other tools
14 incorporate impacts of emerging tech, like green hydrogen,
15 biogas digesters, et cetera?"

16 MR. OLP: I don't believe that those indicators
17 are in the updated version of the tool. One of the
18 challenges -- limitations is that, usually, CalEnviroScreen
19 is looking for pollution types that are consistent across
20 the state of California, otherwise there will be very few
21 places that are at the 100th percentile. And then you
22 might be 70 miles away from that and still be at the 80th
23 percentile because there's just not enough sites. So at
24 this time, I don't think that biodigesters or other sorts
25 of individual pollution convert -- or energy conversion

1 indicators are in the tool.

2 MS. GALLARDO: Thank you.

3 Alright, there's an additional question here from
4 Claire Warshaw: "Will the battery storage sites, when they
5 retire, also be considered hazardous waste sites or will
6 the sites be able to recycle the components in healthy
7 ways?"

8 MR. OLP: I guess I don't know the answer to
9 that. Maybe I'd ask our CEC folks here, you know, when --
10 you know, when these products are approved, is there kind
11 of, you know, a bond or anything for their cleanup or
12 what's --

13 MR. ZUCKER: So the large battery storage
14 projects are not thermal power plants, so they actually
15 don't come through a CEC siting process. I do know that
16 there's interagency discussion on battery recycling that's,
17 actually, statutorily mandated and also kind of just trying
18 to get ahead of this problem. There's going to be a lot of
19 batteries that need to be recycled. We haven't hit that
20 wave yet, but it's coming, so I think the agencies do know
21 what's coming and are starting to work on it.

22 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Yeah, just -- this is the
23 Commissioner Houck.

24 The PUC and the Energy Commission are working
25 with CalRecycle. And there was a workshop a couple of

1 years ago to start this discussion and there's going to be
2 a paper that we're hoping is going to be coming out
3 sometime, I think early next year, with some follow-up
4 workshops specifically on this topic looking at both
5 photovoltaic solar panels and battery recycling and
6 disposal, cradle-to-grave, issues. So keep posted for more
7 information on that but it is something that we are
8 carefully looking at.

9 MS. GALLARDO: Alright. Thank you.

10 And one last final comment here through the Q&A
11 function from Claire Warshaw. She says, "Also, it might
12 make sense to eventually map cell towers and related
13 antennas." So we'll take that into consideration. I
14 assume it's not a question, so no comment. Okay.

15 Alright, so one last call for folks in the room.
16 Is there anyone who would like to ask a question? You're
17 welcome to come to the podium. Don't be shy. Alright.

18 Okay, so now we'll turn it over to our leadership
19 who are definitely not shy.

20 And Vice Chair Gunda, would you like to begin?

21 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah. I just wanted to start
22 with a big thanks to the panel, Kevin, Jamie, Jennifer,
23 Lucas. What an extraordinary moral clarity each one of you
24 possess in effecting the, you know, the injustices of the
25 past and how to move forward.

1 I think my -- you know, Lucas, you specifically
2 said, you know, there is a poker face on the Commissioner
3 faces. And I would love for that to be in statute not to
4 have them; right? Because I think, you know, in the spirit
5 of the conversations we had yesterday, also to Sophie and
6 other, you know, high school kids, you know, who came to
7 the tour that we had yesterday, we feel this is incredibly
8 hard; right?

9 So I think the important thing I want to note is,
10 you know, I'm sure we all feel this way; right? But
11 particularly as a person of color, right, particularly
12 going through -- I mean, again, I do not want to emphasize
13 my color as a, quote unquote, "requirement for empathy,"
14 you know, my colleagues possess that, I've experienced the
15 impacts of racism, the racial inequities differently;
16 right? I mean, I haven't necessarily lived by a power
17 plant. I haven't necessarily, you know, live by a toxic
18 waste discharge place.

19 My impact of color has come through my
20 immigration status after September 11th. The inequities I
21 felt and the worst of the worst feeling is when you want to
22 consciously be invisible, you don't want to be visible
23 because somebody might ask you a question that makes you
24 uncomfortable. So I recognize that; right? And I just
25 wanted to, you know, get up and give you a hug,

1 particularly, you know? It's just we need people like you
2 to set the anchor of moral clarity, to kind of help us move
3 forward.

4 And I think I had a lot of questions, a lot of
5 thoughts, but I think what I want to just ask is help us do
6 the right thing. Push us, push us, push us.

7 And I want to apologize to the extent that, you
8 know, we as leaders have not delivered the basic idea of
9 democracy. That is horrible. That is just horrible;
10 right? We cannot not deliver on democracy. So I apologize
11 on behalf of myself if I ever did that, and the law that I
12 represent, that we do not do that again.

13 You know that comes to the question of where we
14 are. We are going through this energy transition. And one
15 of the most important pieces of the future for us here is
16 the SB 100 transition. You know, we had some ideas
17 yesterday. I just want to make sure that your voice and
18 the voices of the communities and the local governments are
19 a part of that conversation. And I want to pledge that,
20 to the extent possible, I will do my best to make sure
21 those voices are heard as we write those reports.

22 There's a lot of questions here but I just want
23 to make sure just I ask one question on the record that I
24 want to be able to push back on.

25 A lot of times people just kind of say the

1 communities of color encroached on the areas where there
2 are structures that are already dangerous; right? I think
3 there are real clear kind of ideas that you kind of
4 presented here, which is the historical guardrails that
5 have put on make sure that happens, and that's the only
6 place you're going to build. And then you're going to say,
7 it's a problem with the communities of color for getting
8 there and, hence, you should move away. But, to, we've
9 already built it here, we need it for some more time, we
10 can't get rid of it.

11 How do we reflect the true costs in the analysis
12 we do? How do we really ensure that the alternatives are
13 being really asked and then kind of constructed? And what
14 is your message to those who say this is inevitable, it's
15 your -- you're at fault?

16 MR. ZUCKER: I would say I think the community of
17 Oxnard has experienced so many times being told, this is
18 inevitable; right? With the BHP Billiton liquefied natural
19 gas facility, with the Puente Power Plant, both of those,
20 you know, people were told, "You're being naïve, this
21 inevitable, you just don't understand the science or you
22 don't understand the economics." You know, and lo and
23 behold, when hundreds or thousands of people organized, you
24 know, to demand justice and said, "Hey, we're not the State
25 Lands Commission, we're not the California Energy

1 Commission, you know, we may not know exactly, you know,
2 what's the possible solution, but the status quo is
3 unacceptable," smart people, scientists, engineers,
4 economists, were able to figure out a solution.

5 And I think that's understanding, you know, the
6 difference in all of our roles, and, you know, in kind of
7 undoing these harms. And, you know, it may not be the
8 average, you know, farmworker or high school student in --
9 you know, here in Oxnard, you know, may not have all the
10 scientific answers or, you know, financial answers to these
11 problems, but knows what they've experienced in their lived
12 experience; right? They know the asthma and cancer that
13 they see in their neighborhoods and their families, you
14 know, and they, you know, often have the courage to speak
15 up and say, "We need to do something differently."

16 And when the folks, you know, who have that data,
17 have that analysis, have that decision making power, are
18 able to listen, right, and are able to be accessible, you
19 know, have those folks at the table and change the way
20 that, you know, we normally are influenced by, you know,
21 the certain set of people who might be around us or in the
22 room when these big decisions are made, you know, that's
23 when those solutions can really break through, right? And
24 we can find a way, you know, when we're willing to accept
25 that the status quo is unacceptable.

1 MR. OLP: I'll just say, when we did this
2 project, I thought a lot about just the underlying elements
3 that create this reality; right? Because it's a system
4 built on momentum that is perpetuating and, unless we take
5 very intentional actions, how are we going to expect
6 anything different to happen?

7 And when I went through and learned about this,
8 what I -- oh, there we go -- what I saw time and time again
9 as a recurring theme is that government was created to
10 protect power. And the one thing that power wants more
11 than anything is stability. And what is the one thing
12 that, you know, threatens stability the most is change;
13 right? And transformational change is really hard because
14 it goes fundamentally against the grain of what government
15 was created to do.

16 And the other thing, I can say this from doing
17 environmental justice work my whole career, there is
18 nothing that most people in government, including myself,
19 don't like more than conflict. And what it requires is
20 being able to embrace conflict, moving into situations
21 where those with power that can create a lot of
22 repercussions for going against decisions that have been
23 pre-decided, it requires courage and it requires
24 consistently asking ourselves, what are our values and how
25 are we going to stand up for them?

1 And so I think a lot of the elements about what
2 is happening today for me are really reassuring. We're
3 here in this space having these conversations. We are
4 making public commitments of accountability. We are
5 hearing stories from community members that hopefully are
6 bringing tears to our eyes; right? And we should be going
7 to the communities because if we don't hear these stories,
8 they are stories that should be bringing tears to our eyes
9 every day, and they remind us of what it is that we're here
10 to do and why we're doing it and why we need to make
11 ourselves constantly uncomfortable all the time in order to
12 be able to bring about the change that is necessary so that
13 we see different outcomes.

14 Because otherwise, you know, if we just keep
15 moving forward and we keep making excuses for this is the
16 way the system was created, this is the way the system
17 works, nothing is going to change, and we've seen that.

18 And so I'm really heartened by this conference
19 and these conversation. And these need to happen much more
20 regularly. And we need to think about this at the front of
21 our minds every day when we wake up and realize the
22 importance of the work that we do and obligations we have
23 within this work.

24 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: I mean I can ask a lot of
25 questions, but I will keep it there. And I just want to

1 say my sincere gratitude for the panel for raising these
2 questions. And, you know, just, you know, the -- even if
3 it's incremental, the change of hearts that we carry from
4 this, from the last couple of days.

5 And one thing that particularly hits me, you
6 know, I lost most of my grandparents last year, and one of
7 the stats I, you know, heard from, you know, the CalEPA's
8 work is the life expectancy in, you know, in areas of color
9 compared to other areas. And I would give anything to
10 spend another year with my grandma; right?

11 So it is unfair, unjust, morally reprehensive.
12 This is where we are. The transition requires all of us to
13 trust each other and have the courage to work with each
14 other and have the conversation. So I just want to say,
15 you know, please engage, don't be disheartened, especially
16 those who are younger listening, government can work, and
17 it will work, but it needs all of us to be a part of it.

18 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: So I want to thank the
19 CalEPA Racial Equity Team. This is the first I've heard
20 about your effort and which is, in a way, the challenge
21 that we face; right? You've done all this amazing work,
22 and now how do we, you know, take what you have learned,
23 and implement that into our policies or incorporate it in
24 some way?

25 And I'm wondering, do you have any explicit

1 examples of how your work has been incorporated by agencies
2 to address this inequity that we see?

3 MR. OLP: So I work now at the Bay Area Air
4 Quality Management District and I think we have
5 conversations about this all of the time.

6 We have done a series of trainings, first on the
7 history of environmental injustice, redlining and racial
8 segregation. We had another training on partnerships and
9 collaboration. And then a third on, you know, embracing
10 conflict. And in each of these trainings, we had community
11 members do all of the trainings; right? We were there to
12 listen and we were there to learn. And I think we had
13 debriefs and discussions from that and we created a set of
14 values that we made share to incorporate into the work that
15 we're doing.

16 So I'm referencing this in regards to a team that
17 I'm working on to implement AB 617, Creating Community
18 Emission Reduction Plan, where we have a 31-member
19 community steering committee. And we shared -- we also
20 invited our community members to be a part of these
21 trainings, as well, and asked them to hold us, you know,
22 accountable to the values that we created with them.

23 And so I'm saying this all very humbly because I
24 recognize every day, I need to do more; right? Like I'm
25 not sitting here on a high horse like I figured it out or,

1 you know, the Air District has figured it out, or CalEPA
2 has. We all have a long way to go.

3 But I think, first, it always starts with a
4 cultural change. It starts with making sure that these
5 thoughts are ever present in our mind because, like I said,
6 it's climbing uphill to do things differently. And it's
7 always easier to take shortcuts. And just trying to
8 remember like all of the barriers that we have in front of
9 us that make it hard to do the right thing. And so I think
10 having trainings, having conversations, having
11 accountability with community members are all elements of
12 what lead to change.

13 And the other thing is, is I've recognized that
14 from all levels of the work that I've done, leadership
15 matters in this work. And this can't be an add on, it
16 can't be a priority, it can't be a feature. It has to be
17 integrated in the center of the work that we're doing. And
18 I think people respond to incentives from people above them
19 all the way to the top. And once the incentives are
20 aligned that, no, this is the way that we do things, then
21 that trickles downwards.

22 And so I think that's also a feature of where
23 I've seen organizations successfully changing and really
24 embracing these values and trying to lead to different
25 outcomes that can benefit communities in other places where

1 the work falters and is, you know, an add-on and people
2 say, we don't have time for this and this isn't what I get
3 paid for. So for me, those are the things that I've seen
4 work the best.

5 MS. HUYNH: And I'll add a quick note on what
6 CalEPA is doing.

7 We've been working on a lot of trainings to build
8 capacity within our staff so that all our staff understand
9 government history. It matters for when they go out to
10 communities and speak to them, have community meetings,
11 they know the background so they're more sensitive. And
12 they understand why this is the way it is.

13 And there's been plenty of trainings. And I
14 think I mentioned earlier, the model of change, it's a
15 cyclical cycle: normalize, organize and operationalize. We
16 are still in the normalized phase, so we're still working
17 with staff to understand these topics. And Kevin here, the
18 Air District, I think they're a lot farther along than we
19 are. But also -- okay, now he's shaking his head, no. So
20 we've got a lot of work to do ourselves.

21 And we're happy to share. All of this data is
22 publicly available. All the coding is there. Please have
23 your staff, you know, add your energy data to it, see what
24 patterns you can find and share it with your staff. And,
25 yeah.

1 MS. MCGOVERN: Yeah. I just want to add really
2 quickly, I'd like to mirror everything that they're saying,
3 especially about normalizing. I think it just takes time
4 and a lot of conversations over and over. And you do feel
5 a sense of, in the government, like, okay, environmental
6 justice is a priority, we'll figure it out. Over time, I
7 think that people do start to understand it and they want
8 it to be a priority.

9 And I think -- I don't know that we talked about
10 this enough, but the Story Map is a great tool. Use it.
11 Open it. It's easy to scroll through. It's easy to read.
12 So share it as much as you can.

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So I'm Commissioner
14 Andrew McAllister. I haven't spoken yet, so just for the
15 record.

16 So I want to thank you all for just all the work
17 you've done. I mean, long history, not just this
18 presentation, but clearly this, you know, is synthesized
19 from a lifetime of effort for each of you and your
20 organizations and I just really want to call that out.

21 I also want to point out that, you know, I'm
22 clearly, you know, I'm White and inherently privileged in
23 that in that way. So I appreciate Kevin, you know, your
24 sort of pointing out that fact for yourself.

25 And Vice Chair Gunda, also, you know, I think

1 it's participating in these kinds of conversations and sort
2 of having, you know, identity really be part of the ether,
3 you know? We do ourselves, I think, a lot of valuable
4 level setting by just, you know, putting that on the table
5 and understanding and listening to others equally.

6 So I was a Peace Corps volunteer in a much
7 younger phase of my life and then worked internationally
8 for many years and in some very remote, very poor
9 communities in developing countries for 10 or 12 years.
10 And the themes that you're bringing up are just -- these
11 are not inherent to the U.S. or any particular place, they
12 are global; right? And so -- and those global issues come
13 to, you know, with immigration, and with sort of all the
14 cultural exchange, and just the incredible, you know,
15 number of, you know -- what's the word I'm looking for --
16 dispersion -- no, the diaspora, there you go, of hundreds
17 of types; right?

18 And so I think that makes me think that -- it
19 makes me kind of want to go up a level and talk about
20 structural solutions to make sure that investment, that
21 actual, you know, cash money investment being pushed down
22 to local communities to support the local infrastructure --
23 really what we're really what we're talking about here is
24 decentralization, you know? And I mean we need that
25 leadership, I absolutely agree, but also we have to have

1 leadership at every level, not just -- so I guess I'm
2 getting to a question.

3 You know, are there -- so, you know, you pointed
4 out some specific cases that kind of works that, you know,
5 that have gotten results; right? How can -- and often I
6 think those are -- those are crisis driven. Like, you
7 know, when you're -- you've got a power plant right in
8 front of you trying to stop.

9 Do you have any thoughts about how to kind of
10 institutionalize the investment in local communities so
11 that it isn't crisis driven, so that it actually does build
12 these? It costs a lot of money to -- I mean, you know,
13 we're talking about historical disinvestment. And I think
14 all of you said in some way that, you know, we have to undo
15 what's been done in order to redo it; right? Well, with
16 this transition, we have an incredible opportunity because
17 we're going to be investing like banshees in this, in the
18 clean energy, you know, transition.

19 So how can we leverage that to really push the
20 resources into the places where they need to be so that we
21 have that alignment that you mentioned, Kevin; right?

22 And so I guess, you know, I guess it's really a
23 policy question, fundamentally, is, you know, how can we
24 message that and make it consistent and actually ensure
25 that it doesn't get value engineered out? Because that's

1 what happens; right? It gets beaten up in the legislature
2 and appropriations are in, you know, where -- in the
3 implementation with the contracting and all that.

4 So I guess it's a very roundabout way of asking
5 sort of what structural kind of changes might we make, you
6 know, beginning with sort of in the IEPR kind of
7 describing, you know, hey, we need a different approach to
8 how we do projects going forward? And because these will
9 be more decentralized. I worry about buildings, you know,
10 so that's super decentralized. But just in our
11 infrastructure investment, how can we sort of fix -- how
12 can we not only just do things not badly but actually
13 reverse sort of, you know, invert that, the conversation,
14 and provide resources to do that?

15 MR. ZUCKER: Now we're getting into policy wonk
16 stuff, so I've got a million answers to this one.

17 But I would say, you know, California has got a
18 little bit of a head start on other states. We do have
19 CalEnviroScreen that is already kind of guiding some of our
20 investments where we're saying, you know, we want to set
21 targeted percentages of dollars, you know, in communities
22 that have the highest CalEnviroScreen scores, so we do need
23 to go a little farther than that. Just because a thing is
24 put in a neighborhood doesn't mean that's, you know,
25 necessarily benefitting the people in the neighborhood.

1 I think you know looking at, for example, you
2 know, if you've got an investment in a community, where
3 does the hiring come from? Is there a targeted hiring for
4 people in that community, people who are, you know, you
5 know, disadvantaged populations in that community? You
6 know, what are the benefits that might be coming from that?
7 Are there air quality benefits that are actually reaching
8 the community? Is the new clean energy that's being built
9 here displacing, you know, gas plants that are that are
10 putting emissions into this area?

11 And then when we talk about, you know, programs,
12 I mean you mentioned really decentralized programs like
13 building decarb, right, how do we make those programs
14 accessible? Because for too many of our community, you
15 know, especially in an immigrant community like Oxnard
16 where a lot of folks are dealing with language barriers or,
17 you know, immigration status barriers to accessing
18 government programs, you know, how do we shape those
19 programs in a way that -- that the people who they're
20 intended to reach, you know, can actually get them and can
21 navigate the process to apply for them and, you know, and
22 use them? And it's kind of, you know, the subsidies are
23 happening kind of at the, you know, at the point of -- a
24 point of sale, not some, you know, complicated rebate that
25 they have to apply for or something like that.

1 And the last thing I would just say is around
2 kind of the accessibility to the process. And I think so
3 many, especially when you get upstream, that's when we --
4 with power plants, right, you get the -- at the point when
5 a power plant is proposed and communities, you know, are
6 kind of fighting against it, that's when people see it.
7 But the real decisions are happening like way back in like
8 the IRP and, you know, and things like that that community
9 isn't really following, and it's very hard to follow;
10 right? You know, and once those decisions are made
11 upstream it's very difficult, you know, to the places that
12 actually are accessible to community and have those public
13 hearings that are, you know, here in Oxnard or whatever;
14 right? So thinking about how to make the process more
15 accessible, more engaging.

16 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: This is Commissioner Houck.
17 I just want to say that I think that this
18 presentation and these discussions need to continue. We
19 have our ESJ Action Plan at the PUC. But for that to have
20 meaning we have to engage with communities. And, as Lucas
21 just said, we need to make our processes accessible. And
22 our processes are very difficult to follow. And there's
23 many, many of them that overlap and, as you said, kind of
24 feed into other ones. And we need to do a lot of work and
25 community engagement with our tribal consultations and our

1 OIR.

2 A big part of that OIR is how do we make things
3 more accessible? And we need to be doing the same things
4 with environmental justice communities. We need to be
5 looking at how to engage community groups and community
6 navigators. And I'll have some more comments later. I
7 know we're kind of running short on time.

8 This budget, hopefully it will be signed off by
9 the Governor. But we are going to be getting some money
10 specifically targeted to provide grants to community-based
11 organizations to work with on equity initiatives so that
12 they can actively participate and ensure that community
13 voices are heard in our processes. And we're going to need
14 input from communities to be able to make sure that that's
15 distributed and processed in a way that's going to be
16 meaningful to the communities.

17 And I feel in one sense that's one more ask
18 because we've been asking or you've been having to bear a
19 lot of burdens to make sure these voices are heard. And if
20 people are having to give up other things to invest their
21 time and their efforts into our processes, then we need to
22 be working together to figure out how we can make them more
23 accessible and how we can ensure that that those voices are
24 heard in a way that's providing some resources to you to be
25 able to do that. And we're working to try and figure out

1 what that may look like.

2 And so we're looking forward to engaging in
3 communities. And to the extent you have recommendations or
4 options on how we can do better and make those processes
5 more affordable, we need to have that discussion, and not
6 just with projects that communities don't want in their
7 neighborhood but, as I think Vice Chair Gunda and
8 Commissioner Monahan and Commissioner McAllister said, but
9 how we're going to get to this clean decarbonized energy
10 future. We need input from communities on what's going to
11 work best for them, how to make those investments, and how
12 to make sure everybody's part of that. And so your
13 recommendations and thoughts on that are going to be
14 critical.

15 MS. GALLARDO: Thank you everyone for that really
16 robust discussion. And I feel terrible that I'm going to
17 have to cut the discussion but it's for a good reason. We
18 have another presentation and speaker waiting to go next,
19 Josh Simmons from Prosper Sustainably. So we will turn it
20 on over to him.

21 MR. SIMMONS: Great, thank you, Noemi. Can
22 everyone hear me okay? Awesome.

23 So, Commissioners, thank you for having this
24 workshop today and thank you for having me here to present.
25 And also I want to thank the public for participating

1 today. And I'm excited to be here. So my name is Josh
2 Simmons, President of Prosper Sustainably. I've been
3 working with California Native American tribes since 1999.
4 I'm the former environmental director for the Santa Ynez
5 band of Chumash Indians, live pretty close up in
6 Carpinteria, so it was a short drive down which was nice.
7 And I've been serving tribes through Prosper in the areas
8 of clean energy, climate change, and other areas since
9 2014.

10 So we're going dive into the California Clean
11 Energy and Climate Change Gap Analysis. But, you know,
12 before I do so, just want to also, you know, acknowledge
13 and thank the Strategic Growth Council who is leading this
14 effort administering this project. It was funded by the
15 California Energy Commission, and a variety of other
16 agencies participated provided input, and we have
17 contracting partners I'll mention as well. Mostly want to
18 thank all the tribes that participated. We had over -- we
19 had 76 tribes that participated in completing the
20 questionnaire.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So fair bit to cover today. I'm going to
23 probably talk fast and try to make fairly concise points on
24 each slide. We have a very detailed report coming out.
25 This is a presentation of the draft. I'll share that

1 disclaimer in just a moment. But a little bit of
2 background on the California Gap Analysis and our approach,
3 I'll cover some of our key results and findings, and end
4 with some overall recommendations in three different areas.

5 Next slide, please.

6 So as I mentioned, this presentation is of the
7 draft Gap Analysis results, findings and recommendations,
8 which has not yet been released for review and feedback
9 from the responding tribes.

10 Next. Next slide.

11 Okay, so this complicated slide probably needs a
12 moment to be digested. So as I mentioned, this was a gap
13 Analysis focused on California Native American tribes'
14 clean energy and climate change needs. So, you know, there
15 are certainly historic and current injustices and
16 disadvantages faced by California Native American tribes,
17 Native American tribes in general, which varies from tribe
18 to tribe. That is briefly discussed in the report. I'm
19 not going to go into that here today, just more the
20 specific findings of our analysis.

21 So the primary research questions we sought to
22 answer are what assistance gaps -- sorry, try to read the
23 small type -- so which we're seeking, through this
24 analysis, we're seeking to identify the assistance gaps
25 that that California tribes face in advancing their clean

1 energy and climate change goals and needs, and how can the
2 State of California address these assistance gaps?

3 So our research involves both primary and
4 secondary research. The key aspect of the primary research
5 was a 37-question tribal survey that went out to all
6 California Native American tribes. And we also did an
7 informal questionnaire among state agencies and other
8 tribal-serving organizations, and we did receive responses
9 from 14.

10 We conducted an extensive amount of secondary
11 research, as well. We reviewed over 180 -- or identified
12 over 180 assistance programs, also reviewed prior relevant
13 meetings and conference reports and other relevant reports.
14 In reaching out to the tribes to gain their participation
15 in this survey, we conducted a battery of emails, mailings,
16 both, you know, broad and direct. We started the Tribal
17 Energy and Climate Exchange -- regular Tribal Energy and
18 Climate Change meetings, participated in other online
19 events. Since this is all during COVID-19, instead of
20 pounding the pavement and going out to tribes, we pounded
21 the internet as much as possible.

22 So Next slide, please. Oh, sorry. Well,
23 before -- sorry, coming back to that prior slide.

24 Okay, so that primary and secondary research on
25 one side of it led us to identify unmet tribal clean energy

1 and climate change goals, priorities, and needs.

2 On the other side, we asked tribes about their --
3 the gaps and barriers, the challenges they're facing in
4 accessing assistance and, you know, in a variety of ways,
5 just about their access to assistance, how much assistance
6 was actually available, and their level of awareness. So
7 there were some specific questions and areas identified.
8 And those, together, fed into identifying what those
9 assistance gaps, external assistance gaps, were in
10 addressing those needs.

11 And this analysis overall resulted in three
12 recommendation areas. First, improving tribal outreach,
13 communication, and engagements. Second, improving tribal
14 access and utilization of existing state programs. And
15 third, creating increasing investment to create and expand
16 programs that will benefit tribes and build capacity in the
17 areas of clean energy and climate change.

18 Next slide, please.

19 So just for some, you know, more specific
20 acknowledgments, so Strategic Growth Council, the main
21 Project Manager has been Coral Abbott, we definitely
22 appreciate her support. So there's been a state committee
23 primarily made up of the California Energy Commission, and
24 key people from Cal Fire Energy Commission, and Strategic
25 Growth Council. So Coral Abbott led it for the Strategic

1 Growth Council. Katrina Leni-Konig, CEC's Tribal Liaison,
2 has been leading it on behalf of California Energy
3 Commission. I definitely want to acknowledge Tom Gates and
4 his efforts. He recently retired, but he was involved up
5 until just last spring. We appreciate all of his efforts
6 and contributions. Patricia Kennedy from OPR has been
7 actively involved, as well as Ken Holbrook from the CPUC.

8 On our side, I want to acknowledge Angie Hacker,
9 who you'll see, she -- CEO of Prosper Sustainably. She was
10 involved in, particularly, the climate change aspect of
11 this report.

12 We worked closely with Shasta Gaughen who was the
13 Environmental Director for the Pala Band of Mission
14 Indians. She was a contractor for us on this project.
15 Michael Burr, who has been involved in a lot of tribal-
16 related energy activities. GC Green, owned by Liz Perez, a
17 member of North Fork Rancheria. UCLA also supported us, in
18 particular on the data analysis component of this project.

19 Next slide, please.

20 So in terms of response, so the universe of
21 tribes that we reached out to -- so there's approximately
22 180 tribes that were identified. This is a bit of a
23 snapshot in time taken from the Native American Heritage
24 Commission list that was available to us through the Energy
25 Commission. And we were able to get 76 tribes to respond;

1 75 percent of those tribes are fully recognized, 25 percent
2 of those California Native American tribes did not have
3 that recognition. And then among those, 84 percent had
4 land holdings and 16 percent did not.

5 So there was a variety of characteristics we
6 asked tribes about and these were kind of the key primary
7 ones. Most of the analysis I'm going to share in findings
8 today are relevant to the averages of all responding
9 tribes. But when we found noticeable differences, usually
10 in these areas, we did report those in the report as well.

11 Next slide, please.

12 Okay, so we asked tribes about their clean energy
13 goals, and we asked them to rank each of these goals on a
14 scale of not a goal to a high-priority goal, and we
15 translated those into a score from zero to three. So the
16 key thing I want to point out is really all these goals are
17 high priorities to tribes. And all the goals, the tribes
18 are in the range of somewhat to minimally achieving. None
19 of the goals on average a tribe said they were fully
20 achieving.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So we asked tribes about similar goals for
23 climate change. Again, you know, all the goals were deemed
24 high priorities and were in somewhat the range of somewhat
25 to minimally achieving. But on these, you know, what

1 tended to rise up was more protection of natural resources.
2 But again, you know, I think this indicates that, really,
3 all these areas are high priorities, high goals for the
4 tribe, and work to be done.

5 Next slide, please.

6 So keeping in mind that all goals are high
7 priority, another way we looked at this was -- let's see --
8 was actually taking the difference between how tribes
9 ranked goals in terms of importance, minus the extent of
10 which they're achieving those goals. And this kind of
11 gives us a little more nuance in terms of ranking or
12 prioritizing the need. And in this case you'll see that
13 the, you know, ones that rose a little closer to the top
14 were -- sorry -- building social economic resilience and
15 avoiding high costs of disaster response and recovery in
16 the area of climate change, in the area of energy,
17 increasing energy resilience, and becoming energy
18 independent.

19 Next slide, please.

20 So we also asked tribes to provide more
21 information on the climate, clean energy, and climate
22 change activities. Focusing here on clean energy
23 activities, we asked tribes about a series of activities,
24 25 activities, organized into the subtopics of energy
25 efficiency, renewable energy and energy storage, and clean

1 transportation. And we asked them to describe what to
2 extend it -- it's a priority, how much work has been
3 completed, and their need for assistance. They had the
4 response averages from, you know, none to highest. And we
5 rank those on a scale from zero to three.

6 Next slide, please.

7 So again, as another way of kind of looking at
8 and identifying need in these areas, we actually combined
9 priority need for assistance, the averages of those to
10 identify the top areas. And, you know, one thing you'll
11 note in this particular chart is, you know, the kind of top
12 overall need areas, combining some were really solar,
13 energy storage, energy efficiency, clean transportation,
14 and microgrids. But there's really not much difference
15 between the top of the top 12 here and the bottom of the
16 top 12 here as well. So, you know, I think really
17 emphasizes there's a strong need almost across the board.

18 Next slide, please.

19 We looked at the -- considered the top needs
20 across these types of activities in a variety of different
21 ways. So, you know, there was the priority work completed,
22 need for assistance, on their own. There was combining
23 those for what we call the Need Score. We also identified
24 the percentage of respondents that we said were -- sorry --
25 that some need criteria, that need criteria being a minimum

1 of a two or at least medium in priority and medium for need
2 for assistance, and at a two or lower in somewhat having
3 zero to somewhat work completed.

4 And so across all those, these are a combination
5 of the top 12 of each. This kind of was around our top 17
6 and, again, are in the same areas. But you know, there
7 isn't -- as you can see, there's not a wide gap between all
8 these.

9 One thing I do want to point out is that, you
10 know, these are the response averages across all tribes.
11 You must consider tribes are in different areas. They have
12 different characteristics, different locations. So, you
13 know, we asked tribes about things like their priority with
14 respect to biomass, wind, hydro and, you know, in the areas
15 where those resources were available, those tended to rank
16 more as a priority. I also want to point out that all
17 activities were ranked as high priorities for at least one
18 tribe.

19 Next slide, please.

20 So a quote from one of the responding tribes is,
21 "We would like more education on various aspects of energy
22 that is tailored for our tribe and our homeland issues."

23 Another tribe stated,

24 "The tribe would benefit from technical assistance in
25 how to determine which clean energy options are

1 available and which would create the most benefit for
2 our tribe."

3 So the main point is, is that tribes not only
4 need help across all clean energy and climate change goals
5 and activities, they need help in better understanding
6 their options in addressing their needs. So there's just a
7 foundational level of support in actually helping them
8 understand what where their needs are and what their
9 options are.

10 Next slide, please.

11 So we also looked at a need score, and we also
12 asked tribes about activities in the area. So climate
13 change, and again you'll kind of see that there is not a
14 wide gap between what was identified as the top need versus
15 the bottom need, and all these were between medium and high
16 needs for assistance.

17 In this case, you know, the top one is shown --
18 showing is implementing climate change strategies, which I
19 think makes the most sense. There's a lot of climate
20 change strategies that are out there. They can be very
21 costly. They can involve construction. They're
22 complicated. They can involve, you know, getting the
23 community together and can involve behavioral changes as
24 opposed to planning and other activities that are easier to
25 do in a bit of isolation in a bubble.

1 Next slide, please.

2 So when kind of looking at that need score that
3 need criteria we talked about, that actually shows that
4 there's a bit of a wider gap in implementing planned
5 adaptation and resilience strategies versus some of those
6 other activities.

7 Next slide, please.

8 We also asked tribes about how much they are
9 currently or have been impacted by climate change hazards
10 and their concern about future impacts. So in this chart
11 the top line, the red line, is how much they've been
12 impacted. And the bottom line is what they're -- how
13 they're concerned about future impacts. I think the top
14 concerns are fairly obvious. They're the ones, you know,
15 drought, wildfire, temperature extremes, and worsening air
16 quality. These are the things we're facing right now, you
17 know, this being -- heat wave coming through right now
18 being a prime example of that.

19 All hazards are least moderately impacted or
20 concern to, you know, severely impacted or extremely
21 concerned about. The vectors I think is more of an
22 obscure -- you know, vector changes, it's more of something
23 obscure, so I think it's not as in your face as, say, you
24 know, drought, wildfire, or temperature extremes. And
25 then, obviously, among the all tribes, there are not as

1 many tribes that are located in coastal areas that may have
2 as -- are as concerned about melting ice and sea level
3 rise.

4 Next slide, please.

5 We also asked tribes about their -- the impact
6 they've experienced in the past or currently on assets due
7 to climate change, as well as their concern about impacts
8 on these assets in the future. And, you know, these were
9 kind of scored in the same way as hazards from, you know,
10 not impacted or not at all concerned to severely impacted
11 or extremely concerned from, you know, zero to three. And
12 in this case, you know, the top four in here are wildlife
13 and natural resources, physical, mental and emotional
14 wellness, traditional knowledges and cultural practices,
15 water and wastewater infrastructure. However, I do want to
16 point out that concern is at least moderate to extreme for
17 all assets that were identified. So, you know, there's
18 varying levels, which are all, you know, still relatively
19 high for the assets in terms of current and past impacts,
20 and there's a high level of concern about impacts to these
21 assets in the future.

22 Next slide, please.

23 Just to, you know, further emphasize the point,
24 this is the percent of respondents extremely concerned,
25 that identified they're extremely concerned, about each

1 individual assets. And least 30 percent of respondents
2 indicated that they were extremely concerned about each of
3 those assets, you know, ranging up to over 70 percent.

4 Next slide, please.

5 We asked tribes about their barriers in advancing
6 their clean energy and climate change goals and this,
7 again, is their response averages, you know, with not
8 all -- not at all -- these barriers not at all prohibiting
9 them from advancing these goals to three being greatly
10 prohibiting. You know, the top four being lack of funding,
11 lack of staff time, lack of information, and lack of
12 expertise.

13 Next slide, please.

14 We did examine, as I mentioned, over -- we looked
15 at over 180 assistance programs. We identified the most
16 popular federal, non-governmental organization, and state
17 programs. This is nine of those state programs we looked
18 at. We actually had in the questionnaire and had tribes
19 indicate how familiar they were about the program, if they
20 are familiar to actually having applied for it and
21 successfully used it. So, you know, there's a lot on this
22 chart.

23 I think the main thing you want to look at is the
24 two bars on the left of each of those charts shows that --
25 and for the most part, tribes are either not aware of these

1 most popular state programs or are, you know, aware of it
2 and want to learn more but not -- haven't actually applied.

3 The one exception is LIHEAP, which is in the
4 upper left. And that, you can see that there's a red bar
5 on the right side, which shows that tribes have applied for
6 and successfully used the program. And so LIHEAP is a
7 longstanding program. I believe it's federally funded. I
8 think there's, you know, some lessons to be learned and
9 gained from, why is LIHEAP so successful? How can we
10 translate that success into these other programs, such as
11 ESA, the Energy Savings Assistance Program, next to it,
12 which should probably have some similar eligibility among
13 residents on in tribal communities that's very, you know,
14 very underutilized?

15 And so, you know, so that also shows to that
16 LIHEAP, there still is a fair bit of tribes that are not
17 aware of it or interested in using it. That's also some,
18 you know, low-hanging fruit there, as well, that if there's
19 some greater communication and outreach about that, that
20 there may be some greater uptake.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So another quote,

23 "Our tribe has been historically ineligible for these
24 types of programs. If we are eligible, we'd like to
25 know more about them."

1 So this kind of just points out, you know,
2 distinguishes between -- this is from a tribe without
3 federal recognition, which on the -- you know, even on the
4 state side of things, there can be a distinction between
5 tribes with, say, trust lands being eligible for an
6 opportunity versus tribes that don't have trust lands. But
7 just, you know, generally, there's just some communication
8 awareness gap, as well as some eligibility issues.

9 Next slide, please.

10 And then in terms of the assistance, the
11 assistance that tribes see as beneficial to them and
12 advancing their clean energy and climate change goals, you
13 know, I think, you know, grants, you know, came to, pretty
14 clearly, to the top of that, followed by grant writing,
15 assistance, planning and project design expertise, and
16 staff training to kind of point out the top ones. But
17 everything was seen as being either moderate to high need
18 for how beneficial it would be seen as in terms of
19 assistance.

20 Another quote I want to mention to you is one
21 tribe said,

22 "Grants seem highly competitive, and tribal staff
23 often lack the necessary expertise in time to craft
24 applications. In addition, each grant program is
25 different, is a different application with different

1 requirements. It is challenging to meet all of the
2 criteria and craft a quality application with limited
3 time and resources, which reflects those top needs."

4 Next slide, please. Next slide.

5 We also did a very, I'd say, high level, looking
6 at the kind of top eight need areas combined, you know,
7 based on the average needs across all the responding
8 tribes. And looking at the 180 -- over 180 assistance
9 programs available, we did some -- a cursory analysis with
10 a snapshot of very limited data of where there may be some
11 more needs in the areas where tribes said they were seeking
12 the most assistance, that I just pointed out. And, you
13 know, again this is, you know, very much a snapshot. I'm
14 not going into detail on this. This will fall into one of
15 the recommendations of actually having agencies better
16 track and report these things with their individual
17 programs so that it's more clear for each agency, you know,
18 across the board where these needs are.

19 Next slide, please.

20 So I mentioned the three recommendation areas,
21 and I'm going to just provide a few more specific
22 recommendations for each area.

23 So next slide.

24 So the primary area is improving tribal outreach,
25 communication, and engagement. And you know, first of all,

1 it just, you know, involves tracking, maintaining and
2 communicating assistance opportunities for tribes.
3 Clearly, that one slide showed that there's just a major
4 gap in actual awareness of tribes about what assistance is
5 actually available, so doing things, continuing things,
6 like the Tribal Energy and Climate Exchange, or having a
7 similar type of forum, having a dedicated website, having
8 robust and growing contact lists that cut across all
9 agencies that are relevant to these, in addition to the
10 individual consultation opportunities, because it is
11 critical to respect tribal sovereignty and they're and the
12 need to consult with them individually on their individual
13 needs and opportunities.

14 But ensuring that there's regular communications
15 by email, regular meetings, webinars, conferences,
16 workshops, on an ongoing basis, that's how we actually had
17 success and getting as many tribes to respond to this as
18 possible was not also just asking them to come in to show
19 up and give us feedback but bringing agencies, bringing
20 assistance programs to us that were relevant to them
21 saying, we're going to have CARB present on some CCI-
22 related program. Strategic Growth Council is going to
23 present on the TCC, the Tribal climate -- the Regional
24 Climate Collaboratives Program, so tribes would show up so
25 they can learn more about it. And then we would also ask

1 them for feedback on these programs and related needs, as
2 well.

3 So simplifying, supporting, and funding ongoing
4 tribal participation in policy development and rulemaking
5 proceedings when tribes are asked by each individual agency
6 and divisions with these agencies very regularly, probably
7 four or five times a month, to participate in some sort of
8 activity to provide feedback on an overlapping activity
9 with the same thing another agency is asking about. And
10 they're already spread so thin as it is, they'd probably
11 participate in one a month.

12 So being able to combine and streamline
13 engagement on overlapping policies, programs and topics
14 between agencies, and centralizing feedback and
15 communications, while still providing us individual
16 consultation opportunities, would be another kind of
17 recommendation. Developing a state tribal engagement
18 policy planning processes I think would, you know,
19 encompass that.

20 Having more tribal liaisons and support staff,
21 particularly with tribal government experience, and also
22 having tribal relations training for state employees to
23 better understand how to work with tribes, cultural
24 sensitivity, how tribal governments operate, items like
25 that to gain more greater awareness.

1 Having a working document of the needs, gaps, and
2 concerns, these are evolving things. So we did -- you
3 know, the survey had covered clean transportation before
4 the recent Governor's decree of eliminating gas-powered
5 vehicles, or not selling-gas powered vehicles by 2035, so
6 those types of things are going to evolve tribes needs and
7 priorities.

8 And then still having -- also having a
9 consultation portal, a centralizing track consultation, so
10 that tribes individual needs are met.

11 Next slide, please.

12 You know, there's the -- there are existing
13 programs out there that can be meeting tribal needs, so
14 further assessing the access challenges and utilization of
15 those programs, having standard metrics and regular
16 reporting on tribal utilization of those, we have found
17 very limited information on, between program and between
18 agency, on these metrics. Addressing eligibility,
19 evaluation criteria and requirement, challenges, barriers,
20 political status, land location activities, waiver of
21 sovereign immunity came up pretty regularly for tribes, the
22 federal recognition. Increasing tribal set-asides, tribal
23 specific grants. Reducing or eliminating cost-share
24 requirements. I already talked about streamlining funding
25 solicitations and doing things to make them more

1 accessible. Longer, more predictable funding
2 solicitations.

3 A best practices guide could also be useful for
4 agencies and developing these opportunities up front,
5 collaborating with tribes on climate change research,
6 science, and planning activities. And then regular
7 recurring funding opportunities for tribes, particularly
8 for staff and capacity-building activities.

9 And next slide.

10 Okay, final recommendation area, increasing
11 funding assistance for top in the areas but really for all
12 needs, because all the needs that we discussed and reach
13 out to tribes were -- are really, you know, at least for
14 some tribes, a high priority and a high need area. You
15 know, seeking to identify the low-hanging fruits,
16 centralizing the no-cost -- have a centralized no-cost
17 technical assistance and grant writing program.

18 Having there be sustainable and flexible funding
19 sources for tribal clean energy and climate change projects
20 and programs, including implementation projects like the
21 Challenge Grant, I think that was a very successful program
22 that gave tribes the ability to define what their
23 priorities were and meet those. Offering match funding for
24 federal government grants and funding opportunities to make
25 those more accessible to tribes that have less resources to

1 meet those funding requirements.

2 And then infrastructure modernization, I touched
3 upon this, actually, at Pala.

4 And, you know, finally increasing opportunities
5 for tribes to acquire land, that being a key barrier for a
6 lot of tribes, similar to what CPUC is trying to do for the
7 Land Transfer Policy.

8 Next slide.

9 So there's a lot of need, a lot of gaps, and a
10 lot of work to be done. The gap analysis was a great
11 starting point and, hopefully, a key turning point in all
12 this. The state investments in clean energy and climate
13 change assistance needs identified by California Native
14 American tribes needs to not only be increased, it needs to
15 be systematic, streamlined, consistent, easy to access,
16 flexible, well-communicated, effectively attract, and
17 guided and led by well-informed, engaged tribal
18 communities. And this was, I think, an excellent effort
19 that's building momentum in this area and I hope that it
20 all continues.

21 So thank you so much for your support and time.

22 MS. GALLARDO: Thank you, Josh. You did a
23 tremendous job getting through all that. And it's such
24 valuable information that we're going be able to use for
25 our IEPR, so thank you for doing that and sharing. And

1 this is the first time that you're showing results to
2 public; is that correct?

3 MR. SIMMONS: Yes.

4 MS. GALLARDO: So this is a really special
5 occasion.

6 Alright, we have one question for you in the Q&A.
7 Claire Winch Warshaw wants to know if you can expand on
8 what percentage of the Oxnard-Ventura area population is
9 considered tribal, or what portion of that area's land is
10 considered tribally owned. She says,

11 "I might assume that tribes are considered one of
12 California's smallest minorities to be respected
13 equally and be more aware of. That assumption might
14 be incorrect due to various Californian individual
15 ancestral lineages."

16 MR. SIMMONS: Well, I definitely do not have
17 those statistics on hand. You know, I guess all of
18 California was once tribal lands. There's a variety of
19 Chumash Bands in the area with state -- they're on the
20 Native American Heritage Commission list. There's actually
21 only one federally-recognized tribe, the Santa Ynez Band,
22 in the Central Coast. And so, you know, those -- some of
23 those tribes were actually involved in this analysis. So
24 sorry I can't provide, you know, more information on kind
25 of statistics and land for those tribes.

1 MS. GALLARDO: No need to apologize. We
2 completely understand.

3 Alright, so we're going move it over to the
4 Commissioner discussion. And that'll be a little brief
5 because I know folks are getting hangry. We're very close
6 to lunchtime, if not in it.

7 So Vice Chair Gunda?

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you Noemi.

9 Given that Commissioner Houck has been leading
10 the tribal work from CPUC in California, I just want to
11 give her the opportunity to begin the discussion.

12 Commissioner Houck?

13 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Thank you, Vice Chair.

14 No, I appreciate this. And this is, you know,
15 really great information. It's such an important study.
16 And just being able to take this information and be able to
17 figure out, you know, how best to be able to incorporate it
18 into our different programs and ensure that we're providing
19 better access and doing it in a way that's respectful of
20 tribal sovereignty on a government-to-government level, and
21 ensuring that we're recognizing the historical context that
22 we, you know, need to address and recognize in everything
23 we're doing and working with tribes, I want to, you know,
24 thank the Energy Commission for moving forward with this
25 study.

1 And just, you know, we had some discussions
2 yesterday with Josh at our tribal consultation and a lot of
3 good information that he provided to us. And I don't know
4 if I -- I know we don't have a huge amount of time now, but
5 just any recommendations you have on how we, as decision-
6 makers, can make sure that we're not losing sight of some
7 of these critical issues that are specific to tribes and
8 being able to incorporate into our processes ways to make
9 sure that we're doing the outreach needed to take some of
10 the issues that you've identified here into account?

11 And I know that's a huge question. But any
12 insight you can provide on that, in your experience doing
13 the study and working with tribes, would be appreciated.

14 MR. SIMMONS: Thank you, Commissioner Houck.
15 Yeah, thanks. And I appreciate you attending, as well as
16 Commissioner Monahan, down in Pala the past two days, as
17 well, and the conversations we had there and you had with
18 tribal leaders and representatives.

19 I mean, I think the main thing is just there
20 being an ongoing conversation, an ongoing conversation in
21 one place, you know, more centralized. There's a variety
22 of agencies that are working on shared goals. And,
23 certainly, there's shared goals among tribes, as well. And
24 for it to be, you know, not always asked in the context of
25 this plan, this opportunity, you know, this -- it's, well,

1 I guess less transactional, more relational, it being
2 documented in this way so that it -- just the tribes aren't
3 being asked the same questions over and over again, and
4 they know where to show up and they know they're being
5 heard, as well as continuing to, again, you know, provide
6 those direct consultation opportunities, like you did
7 yesterday, as well, so individual tribes can go there and
8 express their concerns which may not be as well
9 represented, or they may not want to express in a more
10 public manner, as well.

11 So I think, you know, consistency, relationships,
12 having dedicated staff that are there that are going back
13 over and over again. And even when they receive, you know,
14 tribes are not as willing to talk or seeming very
15 frustrated about a particular issue of particular concern
16 or feeling that they're not being heard, continuing to show
17 up over and over again and trying to better understand,
18 trying to better understand and address, and coming back
19 and always having something to give, like, well, you know,
20 we're here to try to offer this specific opportunity, we
21 want you to understand this while continuing to try to
22 better understand what their needs are to offer new
23 opportunities.

24 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: If you're okay, I would like
25 to just pass it back to Heather for the next step, given

1 the time constraints.

2 MS. RAITT: Great. Thank you, Josh, so much for
3 that, and for Commissioners.

4 So we will move on to public comment now. So if
5 there's anybody in the room who would like to make public
6 comment, this is an opportunity to make any comments, too,
7 about the workshop or the materials we've heard. We won't
8 be responding to questions but we welcome your comments.
9 We limit it to three minutes per person. So if you would
10 like to just raise your hand, you know, come on up to the
11 lectern.

12 Please, for the record, state your name and spell
13 it for us, and if you have an affiliation, please let us
14 know.

15 MR. PERRY: Yes. Hi, my name is Robert Perry, P,
16 as in Paul, -E-R-R-Y. I'm an energy consultant with
17 Synergistic Solutions. And I've been involved in energy
18 matters down in Santa Barbara and Ventura County for the
19 past six years.

20 I just want to give remembrance to Carmen
21 Ramirez. I didn't spend a lot of time with her but I did
22 work with her in connection with the Puente Plant campaign.
23 And she's a woman that, when you first meet her, you
24 immediately know that this is a woman of substance and of
25 vision. And I think her legacy will be all the local

1 citizens here that will transform the Oxnard-Ventura area
2 into its productive, you know, new energy economy. So I
3 just wanted to say that on the record.

4 Some takeaways from the conversation. Great
5 panel. Both panels were great. Historical perspective
6 creates moral clarity and gives us an idea of the debt that
7 is owed, And we owe a debt.

8 I confess, I was at the opposite end of the
9 spectrum. I was born in Santa Barbara, raised in Goleta.
10 I live two miles from the Goleta substation. I had no idea
11 of what it did or what its importance was. I didn't think
12 about energy because they ran the lines behind the
13 mountains, so us privileged people didn't have to deal with
14 that and became aware of the resilience issues up there in
15 connection, came back and began to learn about the history
16 here.

17 Oxnard-Ventura is a tremendous area. It has a
18 tremendous legacy. I mean, offshore drilling was born
19 here. You know, there's so many things. And with the
20 offshore wind coming into play, it's going to be
21 instrumental in that. So anyway, I'm out of time --
22 running out of time.

23 But two points.

24 A lot of talk about lack of resources. If you're
25 going to develop local energy, we need investment in local

1 staff, people, full-time people, on the ground in the
2 community, working in connection with developing energy
3 resilience.

4 And the second thing is, is that, well, that's
5 the main thing -- oh, and it's going to be critical at the
6 state level to develop a data portal that integrates all
7 these programs. There's so many programs out here. I've
8 been part of the CEC and the PUC. We need to bring it all
9 together in one place that people can go to that just have
10 general knowledge and that can educate themselves going
11 forward.

12 So thank you.

13 MS. RAITT: Thank you.

14 Is there anybody else in the room?

15 Go ahead and come on up to the lectern. Again,
16 please state your name for the record and spell it and let
17 us know your affiliation, if any.

18 MR. PETTIFOR: Morning everybody. My name is
19 Giles Pettifor. I'm the Environmental Manager for the Port
20 of Hueneme. We'll be seeing a few of you tomorrow morning.
21 My name is G-I-L-E-S P-E-T-T-I-F-O-R.

22 In regards to some of the conversation earlier
23 that Commissioner Gunda was leading, a fascinating
24 conversation, long overdue. I really want to emphasize two
25 points specific to Ventura County as perhaps an analogy for

1 other regions within the state. And that is, first and
2 foremost, the depoliticization of green energy and
3 transitioning into thinking of it truly as an opportunity,
4 especially in light of the discussion related to
5 disadvantaged communities and enabling it as a means of
6 leveling the playing field and enabling, you know, further
7 careers in science, engineering, mathematics, data
8 analysis, you name it. That green energy is that pathway,
9 especially in communities, places where historically that
10 access has been denied.

11 Secondly, a real emphasis on cross-jurisdictional
12 planning. That is something that, if you look at in
13 Ventura County, there is a massive need for assessing those
14 realities of shortcomings of utility-provided electrical
15 power are really going to be hampering the ability of a
16 region to transition to future clean fuels, having
17 difficult but real conversations around what should be
18 battery, what might need to be other fuels, and looking
19 beyond just the silos of a jurisdictional boundary.
20 Because of those realities, climate action adaptation plans
21 are amazing but they're very limited in scope, typically,
22 to jurisdictional areas. Getting across those, looking at
23 the realities of how we get transmission in, how we enable
24 cross fueling, bringing business, bringing schools, and
25 bringing, as critically, the community into those

1 conversations I think is something that Oxnard and the
2 Ventura County region in general would be an incredible
3 location to do some of that pilot demonstration of how
4 these conversations, when you're bringing all of the
5 players in, could drive real investment and real transition
6 with zero-emission fuels.

7 So that's what I have. Thank you very much.

8 MS. RAITT: Thank you.

9 Is there anybody else in the room who'd like to
10 make comments? Raise your hand if you do.

11 Okay, seeing none, we'll move on to Zoom. So I
12 see two hands raised. And just a reminder, if you are on
13 Zoom and you wanted to make comments, use that raise-hand
14 function to let us know. And if you're on the phone line,
15 press star nine to let us know you'd like to make comments.

16 So Amy Cortese, go ahead. We'll open up your
17 line. Oh, sorry. And so Amy, you can go ahead and make
18 comments. Please spell your name and let us know your
19 affiliation, if any.

20 MS. CORTESE: I'm sorry, I might have
21 accidentally hit that. I'd like to just pass. Thank you
22 for the conversation.

23 MS. RAITT: Okay. No problem.

24 Hold on one second.

25 Noemi, did you want to take that?

1 MS. GALLARDO: I had a comment that came through
2 in the Q&A from Dean Tonenna, D-E-A-N T-O-N-E-N-N-A.

3 "It would be useful to have a technical advisory team
4 work with tribes to assess their needs and aspirations
5 and help communicate what assistance programs would be
6 most suitable. We tribes have difficulty in keeping
7 up with the information, as survey data shows."

8 MS. RAITT: Dave Shukla, did you have a comment?
9 You can go ahead and unmute your line. There you go.

10 MR. SHUKLA: Can you hear me?

11 MS. RAITT: Yes. Thank you.

12 MR. SHUKLA: Thank you. And thank you for not
13 only the workshop but the opportunity to speak about
14 something that has dominated my life for the past 25 years.

15 My name is Dave Shukla. I live at 6333 East
16 Elliott Street, Long Beach, California, where I'm calling
17 you from. It's directly across the street from the
18 Alamitos Generating Station, newly reinvented as the
19 Alamitos Energy Center newly reminted --

20 MS. RAITT: Can you -- do you need to speak a
21 little closer to the microphone?

22 MR. SHUKLA: This coastal once-through cooled
23 power plant has some battery storage across the street from
24 my window.

25 I really appreciate one of the last comments that

1 was made by Staff that there are utility priorities,
2 existing transmission pathing, a lot of issues that are
3 beyond just a municipalities jurisdiction or a Climate
4 Action Plan that, nonetheless, need to be gotten right.

5 I think at this point in human history, it's
6 simply a travesty that the rich countries like ours that
7 have the ability, have the funds, have all the data that
8 they need to know they need to convert from these
9 facilities as soon as possible, can't seem to find the
10 wherewithal and seem to be fine consigning the rest of the
11 world's population to the effects of climate change. It's
12 a deeply immoral situation.

13 I know you've never asked for but I purposely, in
14 1997, at only 17 years old, asked that the electricity bill
15 be put in my name because even at that age, at that time,
16 it was clear that global warming, climate change would be a
17 problem. And I've spent the better part of my adult life
18 really kind of wasted fighting things that -- you know,
19 fighting people and things like that have just decided to
20 change for the better and actually fulfill their
21 institutional mandates.

22 So I'd like to ask the Energy Commission, you
23 know, when are we going to actually talk about some of
24 these cross-jurisdictional kind of systemic things, like
25 using existing transmission pathing for offshore oil and

1 gas drilling to convert wind, water and solar and create
2 many more jobs than are currently -- I mean, L.A. County
3 has what, 600, 700 jobs? We can't find better work for
4 that what 600, 700 people? Like what is this? So, yeah,
5 like I'd like to know like, you know, like how serious are
6 we? Because I really do care about having a livable
7 future. I'm only in my 40s, there's lots of time left..

8 Thank you.

9 MS. RAITT: Thank you.

10 If anyone else wants to make comments on from
11 zoom, please use the raise-hand function. And if you're on
12 the phone, press star nine to let us know you'd like to
13 comment. Okay, I don't see any more comments, so we'll go
14 ahead and close this out.

15 But -- so we have Akruti Gupta from the Energy
16 Division here to talk a little bit about what we're going
17 to do over the break.

18 MS. GUPTA: Yeah, thank you.

19 So just to let everybody know, we have a food
20 truck just outside. If you follow the path to come in,
21 you'll follow it to go out, and there's a food truck there.

22 And then we'll be sitting here right in the
23 courtyard to have a little community networking session.
24 There are links that I've put on Post-It notes on each of
25 the tables to the electronic whiteboard that we discussed

1 earlier, so -- and there will be a CEC representative at
2 each of the tables to be able to kind of collect your
3 thoughts. But if you'd like to contribute yourself to that
4 Jamboard, which we highly encourage, please look at that
5 URL. And find me if you have any questions.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. RAITT: And then I'll just add, the hope is,
8 at the end of the day or later this afternoon, that Akruti
9 will sort of do a recap of what we talked about in this
10 discussion session over the break, so hope all can join.
11 And food truck is out in the front where you came in, so
12 thank you. We'll be back at two o'clock.

13 (Off the record at 12:53 p.m.)

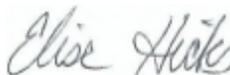
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under 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 6th day of December, 2022.



ELISE HICKS, IAPRT CERT**2176

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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.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

December 6, 2022

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367