

DOCKETED

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GSCE Comment in Support of Land-Use Screens for Electric System Planning (Agenda Item #7) - Aug 9, 2023 Business Meeting

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



GOLDEN STATE CLEAN ENERGY

August 7, 2023

California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comment in Support of Land-Use Screens for Electric System Planning (Agenda Item #7)¹

Dear Chair Hochschild and Commissioners:

Golden State Clean Energy (“GSCE”) would like to acknowledge the important work done by staff at the California Energy Commission in developing the updated land use screens to be used for electric system planning to meet California’s renewable energy and carbon reduction goals. The updated land use screens were developed with robust stakeholder engagement and represent an improvement in granularity and transparency compared to the previous land use screens. GSCE appreciates the attention to the need to update these screens and the improvements made.

Now that the updated land use screens have been developed, GSCE urges the Commission to work with the other energy agencies and planning bodies to ensure the screens sufficiently guide the current resource planning processes. The land use screens allow the California Public Utilities Commission’s Integrated Resource Planning and the Joint Agency SB 100 Report to consider various land use and environmental policies in their planning efforts. However, it will be critical for those planning efforts to not merely consider the land use screens as an additional planning input, but to allow the screens to drive the end results and tightly link resource planning decisions with land use policies. Land use and environmental implications must take a larger role in energy resource planning and enable more proactive land planning to occur, and this will better ensure that renewable energy development occurs timely and in a cost-effective manner by avoiding issues associated with poor siting decisions.

GSCE appreciates the Commission’s attention to the role of land use planning in the energy sector. We look forward to seeing the updated land use screens drive well-informed locational decisions for transmission and generation resource planning.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Daniel Kim

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¹ California Energy Commission Business Meeting, August 9, 2023. Docket 23-BUSMTG-01, 21-SIT-01.