

**DOCKETED**

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BUSINESS MEETING

BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of: )  
 ) 23-BUSMTG-01  
 Business Meeting )  
 )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

10:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

In-person at:

California Natural Resources Agency Building  
715 P Street  
First Floor Auditorium  
Sacramento, California 95814  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access via Zoom™

*Please note that the California Energy Commission (CEC) aims to begin the business meeting promptly at the start time and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda proposed. The meeting may end sooner or later than the time indicated depending on various factors. To continue to protect the health and safety of civil servants and the public, this meeting will be held consistent with Senate Bill 143 (Stats. 2023, chapter 196) and one or more commissioners may participate remotely.*

*Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 20, section 1104(e), any person may make an oral comment on any agenda item. To ensure the orderly conduct of business, such comments will be limited to two minutes or less per person.*

Reported by:  
M. Nelson

APPEARANCES (\*Present via Zoom)

Commissioners

David Hochschild, Chair  
Siva Gunda, Vice Chair  
Andrew McAllister  
Patty Monahan  
Noemi Gallardo

Staff Present:

Drew Bohan, Executive Director  
Lisa DeCarlo, Acting Chief Counsel, Chief Counsel's Office  
Yoseph Saeed, Siting, Transmission, and Environmental  
Protection Division  
Josey Crosby, Chief Counsel's Office  
Mike Gravely, CEC Lead on the Long Duration Energy Storage  
Program  
Diana Friedrich, Electric School Bus Unit

Public Advisor:

Mona Badie, Public Advisor  
Dorothy Murimi, Public Advisor's Office

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1 DECEMBER 13, 2023

10:00 a.m.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, good morning friends and  
3 welcome. I'm David Hochschild, Chair of the California  
4 Energy Commission. Today is December 13th. I call this  
5 meeting to order.

6 Joining me are Vice Chair Gunda, Commissioner  
7 McAllister, Commissioner Monahan, and Commissioner  
8 Gallardo. We have a quorum. Let's stand for the Pledge of  
9 Allegiance.

10 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We'll begin with public  
12 comment and then move on to agency announcements. I'll  
13 turn it over to the Public Advisor.

14 MS. BADIE: Good morning. This is Mona Badie  
15 with the California Energy Commission. I'm the Public  
16 Advisor for the Commission. The Commission now welcomes  
17 public comment. This is the general public comment period.  
18 There will be multiple opportunities for public comment  
19 today. This initial comment period is for any item  
20 including informational and non-voting items on the agenda.  
21 If you want to comment on a voting item, you can comment  
22 now or wait for the dedicated public comment period for  
23 that item to make your comment.

24 There's a couple of ways to notify us you'd like  
25 to make a comment. If you're joining us in the room,

5

1 please use the QR codes that are posted around the room.  
2 And you'll sign up and indicate the item number you'd like  
3 to comment on.

4 And if you're on Zoom, please use the raise hand  
5 feature. If you're online, you'll see an open palm icon at  
6 the bottom of your screen. You'll click that. And if  
7 you're joining by phone, you'll press \*9 to raise your  
8 hand.

9 Let me just check for the in room. Okay, we  
10 don't have anyone in room, so I'm going to transition to  
11 Zoom.

12 All right, Call-in User 2, I'm going to open your  
13 line. If you can please state and spell your name for the  
14 record. We are asking for comments to be two minutes or  
15 less.

16 MR. UHLER: Hello, Commissioners. This is Steve  
17 Uhler calling. That's U-H-L-E-R.

18 I'm trying to work with the MIDAS system.  
19 There's a phone number to call, but it doesn't say it's --  
20 it says it can't receive calls. And I've sent out emails  
21 to answer some questions about why the MIDAS system is not  
22 providing data.

23 Also, I'd like to find out more about these  
24 regulations that your staff have sent to the Office of  
25 Administrative Law where you have not adopted them. And in

1 your implementing statutes you are required to adopt all of  
2 your regulations that you find necessary to produce. So  
3 I'd like to find out more about that. There's a particular  
4 one where they broadened the scope of the regulation, but  
5 somehow want to claim that it's non-substantial. So your  
6 staff should be aware of this. So I'd like to find out  
7 more about it.

8 And I'd like to be using MIDAS since SMUD sent in  
9 their plan. I'm ready to use it, but for some reason the  
10 system goes to sleep about 4:00 o'clock right when you  
11 would expect to get those notifications that there's been a  
12 rate change.

13 So, yeah, hopefully you'll get that stuff going  
14 and have somebody contact me about MIDAS. Thank you.

15 MS. BADIE: Thank you for your comment.

16 Next, we'll go to Claire Warshaw. Claire, if you  
17 could spell your name for the record I'm going to open your  
18 line. We're asking for comments to be two minutes or less.

19 MS. WARSHAW: Hi. My name is Claire Warshaw, C-  
20 L-A-I-R-E, then W-A-R-S-H-A-W. I'm a member of the public,  
21 no special affiliation. I submitted to the docket this  
22 morning. It probably won't show up immediately, but I have  
23 five topics of concern that I wanted to share. I'm going to  
24 touch on them briefly. And if you want to read more,  
25 please see my comment in the docket hopefully.



1           The first one is thanks for kindly inviting and  
2 encouraging all to attend the 2023 Clean Energy Hall of  
3 Fame.

4           The second one is please if possible, encourage  
5 energy leadership to lend some of their working time to add  
6 more vocal and emoji (phonetic) support to the already  
7 existing, low emission, more natural, extremely delicate  
8 and fleshy human-powered bicyclists and pedestrians, as  
9 well as their rights away.

10           The third is about EV charging stations. This  
11 past Sunday I was afforded the luxury of driving a new  
12 Chevy Bolt or newer one via Zipcar to and from Cloverdale,  
13 California from Sacramento. The delightful experience was  
14 extremely challenged by a few unusual experiences,  
15 including low air pressure about 30 miles out of town,  
16 local EV chargers, lack of a working phone with phone  
17 dependency and (indiscernible), and unique app problems.

18           The fourth one is about CalEnviroScreen data and  
19 cell towers. Please add cell towers to CalEnviroScreen  
20 data. There continues to be research suggesting cell tower  
21 activity impacts human health and now with 5g.

22           And the fifth one is about wave energy  
23 generation. I look forward to hearing the results of the  
24 California Energy Commission analysis due to California  
25 Senate Bill 605 authored by Senator Padilla in October 2023

1 about wave and tidal energy.

2 I've been following Eco Wave Power on LinkedIn  
3 and they have a pilot project via AltaSea at the Port of  
4 Los Angeles, which might -- the design might fit well,  
5 because it's easy to maintain, perhaps more so than others  
6 at break waters. And make it more possible to power our  
7 small coastal towns, marinas, piers and nearby structures.

8 Please help remove any possible political,  
9 religious biases and other discriminatory issues due to the  
10 current war, which I might not support, for example. While  
11 examining and supporting this newer wave energy generation  
12 investment from an Israeli female leader, despite various  
13 social media posts and suggestions sharing her support for  
14 her country.

15 Thank you for that ability and brainpower.

16 MS. BADIE: Thank you for your comment.

17 That concludes public comment. Back to you,  
18 Chair.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right. Well, thank you  
20 everybody. Today is our final meeting of 2023. We're  
21 going to be seeking to approve over \$41 million of  
22 investments today, contributing to California's economic  
23 recovery.

24 I did want to highlight that the LAO's 2024  
25 fiscal outlook was released and next year's budget is going

1 to be very tight, so a \$58 billion dollar deficit. I'm  
2 sure that will have you know, multiple ripple effects. As  
3 we've seen, it's a budget rollercoasters sometimes in  
4 California, but I think that is going to have an impact  
5 we're going to have to all reckoned with across many  
6 programs in the state next year. So just to flag that.

7 I will hold other announcements I have about the  
8 COP and so forth for the end of the meeting. But is there  
9 any other agency announcements from my colleagues? (No  
10 audible response.).

11 Okay. With that, let's turn to Item 3 Consent  
12 Calendar. Is there any public comment on Item 3?

13 MS. BADIE: Hello. Again, this is Mona Badie  
14 with the California Energy Commission. The Commission now  
15 welcomes public comment on Item 3, that's our consent  
16 portion of the agenda.

17 If you're in the room, please use the QR code to  
18 let us know you'd like to make a comment. And if you're  
19 joining online, please use the raise hand feature on your  
20 screen. And if you're joining by phone, please press \*9.

21 Okay, we have one comment on Zoom. Call-in User  
22 2, I'm going to open your line. If you could please state  
23 your name for the record. We are asking for comments to be  
24 two minutes or less.

25 MR. UHLER: Hello, Commissioners. This is Steve

1 Uhler, U-H-L-E-R. My comment is related to the Telos  
2 Energy Item 3a. I'm particularly interested in, and  
3 hopeful that the Senate Bill 846 which wants to emphasize  
4 the assessment of demand. In the past while the staff may  
5 have figured they were assessing demand they were actually  
6 assessing the dissipation of energy on the grid.

7           Demand in an AC circuit is measured in volt amps.  
8 The power factor is used to determine what those volt amps  
9 are. This is a vector-based system, it's been known since  
10 people basically knew electricity is an AC circuit. So I'm  
11 hoping that this system will provide that piece of  
12 information.

13           And I'm hoping another item that would probably  
14 help out your staff quite a bit, because a lot of them  
15 can't find a complete list of all of the generating units.  
16 So hopefully, somebody will put together a complete list of  
17 generating units and hopefully do away with the other IDing  
18 systems, so that there can be a complete list.

19           I know it's affected the RPS verification. And  
20 this individual that I spoke with, has also identified that  
21 it does provide some difficulty. So let's see a good list  
22 of equipment and let's see some volt amps in those reports.  
23 Thank you.

24           MS. BADIE: Thank you.

25           That concludes public comment for Item 3. Back

1 to you, Chair.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Unless there's any  
3 Commissioner discussion, is there a motion from  
4 Commissioner Monahan for Item 3?

5 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 3.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second, Vice Chair?

7 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Second Item 3.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

9 Commissioner Monahan.

10 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

12 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

16 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
18 3 passes unanimously.

19 We'll turn now to Item 4, STEP Division Efforts  
20 to Optimize Performance of Jurisdictional Facilities During  
21 Summer 2023.

22 We cannot hear you.

23 MS. BADIE: Can we get the podium mic on?

24 MS. HUBER: Can you hear me now?

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: There we go. Yeah.

1 MS. HUBER: Good morning Chair, Vice Chair, and  
2 Commissioners. My name is Elizabeth Huber. I am the  
3 Director for Siting, Transmission, and Environmental  
4 Protection Division, also formally known as STEP. Let me  
5 just say it's nice to be back.

6 In addition to STEP's role in planning  
7 California's future electric system infrastructure through  
8 land use, offshore wind, and transmission planning  
9 activities, and creating a safe and reliable electric  
10 system currently through environmental review, licensing,  
11 and enforcement activities STEP also works with our  
12 jurisdictional power plants to avoid outages and support  
13 system reliability.

14 Today's informational item is focused on STEP'S  
15 actions to taken to support the CEC's reliability efforts  
16 and increase the generating capacity of its jurisdictional  
17 power plants for summer 2023 reliability. Next slide,  
18 please.

19 Given the potential for future heat waves STEP  
20 developed an Incident Command Team or ICT comprised of  
21 leadership across our six branches, which we have placed  
22 into action every summer for the last three years. Actions  
23 taken by the ICT are initiated by stages of emergency  
24 alerts provided by the California Independent System  
25 Operator.

1           The California ISO Grid Operations communicates  
2 forecasted system conditions as much time as possible  
3 through a variety of methods. These include, but are not  
4 limited to resource adequacy forecasts published on the  
5 CAISO's public website, heatwave bulletins, and other media  
6 communications. Electric System conditions can rapidly  
7 change in real time, and any forecasted conditions are  
8 estimated based on available data. The California ISO will  
9 work directly with power plants to notify them of potential  
10 events via their heatwave bulletin up to a week ahead of  
11 time and more frequently as events are developing.

12           With this information in hand, STEP's ICT will  
13 also communicate with our jurisdictional power plants,  
14 owner, and operators ahead of any potential event and even  
15 during the heat event. The ICT will then direct STEP's  
16 engineering branches, air quality unit staff to contact air  
17 districts to inform them of the potential extreme weather  
18 events. And the ICT leads will email correspondence to the  
19 jurisdictional power plant owner operator requesting  
20 information on current facilities' operating status and  
21 know their plant derates or operational restrictions, as  
22 well as potential opportunities to increase output  
23 capacity. Next slide, please.

24           To provide some context to the breadth of this  
25 work, this map shows the power plant fleet on location,

1 type, and balancing authority they reside. STEP oversees  
2 76 operational power plants generating more than 27,000  
3 megawatts of electricity. This includes 63 natural gas, 5  
4 solar thermal, and 8 geothermal power plants that generate  
5 more than 50 megawatts of electricity. Eighty-eight  
6 percent of this fleet is within the California ISO's  
7 balancing authority, and the remaining 12 percent are  
8 located within the balancing authority of Northern  
9 California, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and  
10 Turlock Irrigation District.

11           During Summer 2023, our jurisdictional fleet's  
12 daily average at 24,400 megawatts on the hottest days was  
13 more than 40 percent of the total supply to the grid. To  
14 address the performance of resources credited to resource  
15 adequacy requirements by the CEC Jurisdictional Power Plant  
16 Fleet, STEP took several additional actions to better  
17 understand our power plants. Next slide, please.

18           The first action we took was to compare that  
19 curtailment forced outage for information to the age of the  
20 facility within our fleet. We distributed a survey on  
21 forced outages excluding derates, where we were looking at  
22 outage data of 50 megawatts or more with a minimum of 24  
23 hours offline similar to Cal ISO's daily confirmed  
24 curtailment reports.

25           It was strictly voluntarily, but over 50 percent



1 of our jurisdictional fleet participated in the survey,  
2 with representation from each decade since we began  
3 permitting power plants. The outage data indicated that no  
4 matter the age facilities will on average experience one to  
5 three unplanned or forced outages due to incremental  
6 weather conditions, software or equipment failure, and even  
7 at times human error. What we learned from this informal  
8 study is that if a power plant followed their maintenance  
9 schedule, there is no apparent correlation between the age  
10 of the power plant and the forced outage. Next slide,  
11 please.

12           Next, we analyze outage information reported to  
13 STEP from the jurisdictional fleet over the last three  
14 summers. The result of this is more than 77 percent of the  
15 power plants that experienced derates or outages were due  
16 to the industry term "as equipment failure." Or in other  
17 words as we say with our cars, a "part failure." This  
18 includes unit trip losses, steam turbine generator control  
19 valves, boiler feed pumps. Our best analogy is like your  
20 car's fuel pump stopping and you can't start it unless it's  
21 repaired.

22           It's also important to note that California's  
23 combustion turbine base generators are more susceptible to  
24 derate or loss of generation output, because of high  
25 ambient temperatures. Thus, we see an increase during

1 extreme heat events. About 80 percent of the California  
2 power plants are combustion turbines based. Most are in  
3 the areas where summer ambient temperatures range from mild  
4 to very high. Most California combustion turbines use  
5 evaporator inlet air cooling, to mitigate the negative  
6 effects of increasing ambient temperatures.

7           Of the CEC jurisdictional combustion turbine  
8 generation power plants about 26,600 megawatts see a 9  
9 percent derate in the hot summer, which amounts to about 24  
10 -- it amounts to 2,400 megawatts of derate, which  
11 correlates to Cal ISO's daily reporting of 24,400 megawatts  
12 from our fleet. Next slide, please.

13           MS. HUBER: As we know energy is essential to the  
14 health, safety and welfare to all California's and our  
15 state economy. The STEP Division has a responsibility as  
16 public servants to ensure that reliable energy supplies are  
17 maintained at a level consistent with the need for such  
18 energy for protection of public health and safety, for  
19 promotion of general welfare, and for environmental quality  
20 protection. Our Division successes include protecting the  
21 reliability and security of our jurisdictional power plants  
22 by properly monitoring documents submitted, investigating  
23 incidents reported, and regulating activities at the power  
24 plant to mitigate potential disasters, and to ensure power  
25 plants are operating to meet demand.

17

1           We facilitate trust through ongoing  
2 communication, holding public workshops, protecting  
3 wildlife, and taking the time to listen to those consumers  
4 and especially those in underserved communities, and tribal  
5 government representatives. Through these collective  
6 efforts we can mitigate issues before they even occur.  
7 Next slide, please.

8           As we prepare for summer 2024, processing more  
9 project change petitions at our jurisdictional power  
10 plants, we are also working for them during the mid and  
11 long-term transition to 100 percent carbon free generation.  
12 In the midterm, we have amended licenses at two facilities  
13 to add utility scale battery energy storage systems. We  
14 are assessing a project change petition to add utility  
15 scale carbon capture and storage that includes a grant  
16 through the Inflation Reduction Act. We are processing  
17 three geothermal applications for certification, and two  
18 projects through the strategic reliability reserve programs  
19 opt-in certification process.

20           We just sent a letter to our 76 jurisdictional  
21 power plants regarding CEC's Distributed Electricity Backup  
22 Assets Program, and it's pending workshop on December 18.  
23 And we are hosting a collaborative workshop with multiple  
24 state agencies on battery safety storage workshop on  
25 February 23 of next year. So our work continues. Thank

1 you.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Elizabeth.  
3 I just had a quick question before I turn it over to the  
4 Vice Chair. It's actually two questions.

5 One is the solar fleet that we have, I know a  
6 number of solar thermal facilities converted to PV. We  
7 continue to maintain jurisdiction authority over those PV  
8 facilities or what (indiscernible)?

9 MS. HUBER: No, we had to -- the process was to  
10 decommission and terminate the license, so that they could  
11 work directly with the local government.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, so those five solar  
13 facilities we have are all solar thermal electric.

14 MS. HUBER: Four are solar thermal, and we did  
15 license one solar PV. So we have one solar thermal  
16 continuing to operate, and one PV continuing to operate at  
17 this time.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, great. And then just  
19 generally I like your analogy of the car. And you know  
20 with cars you take them in for a tune up to do preventive  
21 maintenance. I mean, are we getting better at our  
22 preventive maintenance protocols to be able to -- would you  
23 say just generally speaking? You know, because we're  
24 trying to really fine tune it so we don't have these  
25 outages during summer peak. But if you can just speak to

1 that issue generally.

2 MS. HUBER: No, absolutely. So since we started  
3 tracking three years ago they do communicate when there's  
4 an outage, but now we're actually tracking what causes  
5 them. And usually, they are very simple parts. So we've  
6 looked at programs where they continue to keep multiple  
7 spare parts and that can reduce the downtime. We're  
8 looking at where they can isolate, because when you have to  
9 completely, you know, shut down or ramp down if you will,  
10 that can take up to 24 hours before you can even walk  
11 inside a piece of equipment in a power plant. So whatever  
12 we can do in advance, we require it.

13 We also are looking at orderly and their annual  
14 reports. And so anything that we read flag, we right away  
15 communicate with them and ask them to provide additional  
16 detail. And I think our biggest accomplishment over the  
17 last year is our collaboration with the CPUC's electric  
18 safety and reliability branch where now we -- because they  
19 oversee, they have the jurisdictional authority over daily  
20 operations and maintenance. They have to report it to us,  
21 but they regulate it. And so by collaborating together,  
22 and at our jurisdictional power plants actually doing site  
23 visits, audits, we are catching things earlier on where it  
24 can be corrected during the other nine months of the year.  
25 And not forcing it to be shut down during extreme weather

20

1 events in the summer.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great.

3 Vice Chair?

4 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

5 I think I just want to start, Elizabeth, by just  
6 thanking the STEP Division. And I think the work that you  
7 guys do sometimes is invisible and how much work it is  
8 behind the scenes. And you've had some really good hires  
9 with Sean Simon joining the team. And it's great to kind  
10 of continue to move this.

11 I think I want to uplift, a couple of points that  
12 are important for the Commissioners to track as well, I  
13 think in 2020. And we continue to be caught off guard with  
14 exactly how many resources we have going into a heat event,  
15 right. And I think this work really helps understand what  
16 is the amount of risk that we are walking into in a given  
17 year.

18 I want to just reiterate the points that we've  
19 already discussed and I know you're kind of implementing  
20 them. The Summer Reliability Outlook should really have  
21 this information fed in, so we accurately capture the  
22 outage rates in our extreme event analysis. And I also  
23 would like to request the team to think about the climate  
24 data that we're receiving right now. And given that we are  
25 going to see this 120-125 degree days that are over 10, 15,

21

1 20 days moving forward into the next decade, you know, what  
2 is the correlation that we observed in terms of the  
3 derates? And can we adequately bake in both from the  
4 outages, but the derates into the reliability analysis?

5 Overall, I'm incredibly grateful for the work  
6 that you all do. I don't have any questions, but to just  
7 say thank you, thanks to the team.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's open up to other  
9 questions. Commissioner McAlister?

10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Well, just I guess thank  
11 you. Yeah, this is an unheralded work a lot. I mean, it's  
12 the sort of the traditional nuts and bolts of the of the  
13 grid. And most people in our society take it for granted.  
14 I know, certainly we don't, but it's really vital work.

15 And maybe I did have just one general question.  
16 Could you sort of give us a flavor of the dozens of units  
17 that we oversee sort of what's a typical sort of  
18 interaction in terms of maintaining open lines of  
19 communications? Do we sort of wait for them to talk to us?  
20 Do we sort of check in monthly or at some interval? Or are  
21 there any particular sort of guidelines that staff is using  
22 to maintain the channels of communication sort of on the  
23 regular?

24 MS. HUBER: Yeah. That's a great question. And  
25 I want to do a shout out to the Compliance Monitoring

1 Enforcement Unit, so thank you for your question. We have  
2 six, what we call Compliance Project Managers or fondly  
3 CPMs. And each of them have anywhere from 12 to 16 power  
4 plants that they liaison with on a regular basis.

5 So as we indicated, the email we sent out about  
6 the DEBA Program, each of them get that email. And they  
7 communicate, they talk to them on a weekly basis actually.  
8 So when the Chair gets a call and then Drew and I get a  
9 call, I can turn around to that CPM. And even if the plant  
10 isn't jurisdictional to us, we have the relationship where  
11 we get the information immediately.

12 So it is an ongoing month to month when they  
13 already have petitions where they need a project change at  
14 the facility. Those include regular biweekly or monthly  
15 meetings. And even during the decommissioning and closure  
16 we have standard monthly meetings. And then we also have  
17 boots on the ground through our delegate chief building  
18 officials. And so we'll talk to them on a regular basis.

19 So it's an ongoing relationship that has occurred  
20 with these CPMs and the plants.

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Thanks a lot, I really  
22 appreciate that. And it's so important as we go into each  
23 summer and sort of, you know really sort of sharpen our  
24 pencils and get our teeth ready for the worst, expecting  
25 the worst. Preparing for the worst, but expecting



1 (indiscernible) --

2 MS. HUBER: (Overlapping colloquy.) Hoping for  
3 the best.

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: And having excellence,  
5 you know, at the staff level. So thank you for cultivating  
6 that.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to Commissioner  
8 Gallardo.

9 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Buenos días, everyone.  
10 Good morning. Thank you so much, Elizabeth, for that  
11 wonderful presentation. I think it's really helpful to  
12 have that information for us, as you know, Commissioners.  
13 And also I think it's helpful information to provide to the  
14 public, so they know what is happening.

15 And on that front I was curious if you could  
16 speak to any type of engagement that's being done and  
17 communications being done with the community, whether it's  
18 from our teams doing that or the power plants themselves.  
19 Is there anything you can add on that front?

20 And then as a side note, I think there are a lot  
21 of community-based organizations who would also be  
22 interested to get this type of information, perhaps under  
23 the umbrella of Vice Chair Gunda. So I just wanted to  
24 throw that out there as well, but anything you can provide  
25 now would be helpful.

1 MS. HUBER: No, absolutely. And that's a great  
2 question.

3 And now I want to do a shout out to our Cultural  
4 Relations and Resources Unit and in the Engineering and  
5 Studying Environmental Branch.

6 So as you know AB 52 that was enacted a few  
7 decades ago requires us to do tribal consultation and  
8 listening sessions. And the uniqueness of AB 52 unlike  
9 other tribal intergovernmentals and consultations is, this  
10 is project specific. So we have a process in place on how  
11 we reach out to California Native American Historical  
12 Society, which distributes an upcoming project. And then  
13 the tribal governments will communicate directly to us  
14 saying yes, help us get on the listservs. Please keep us  
15 in the loop on every step on this specific project.

16 And so it's an ongoing relationship during the  
17 permitting process, as well as the construction of the  
18 project. And throughout the life of the project where we  
19 have ongoing communications. And that's especially  
20 important when a power plant submits a petition for project  
21 change to their operations that we definitely communicate,  
22 set up meetings with them.

23 We also have requirements as you know, in statute  
24 and in our regulations, to reach out to the community and  
25 different media outlets from newspapers to mailers. And we

25

1 have improved our process thanks to Mona and her team. So  
2 another shout out, because this is a collaborative  
3 approach. And Lindsay and her team in the Media and Public  
4 Communications Office, in our community outreach and  
5 meetings that we have. In particular in areas where plants  
6 are built in disadvantaged communities or DACs. And then  
7 others that may not be under the CalEnviroScreen designated  
8 DAC, but is in an underserved or underrepresented  
9 community. That we are reaching out to them and  
10 communicating any project change or any application we  
11 have.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, unless there are any  
13 other comments let me just thank you. I really just want  
14 to say you've been terrific in the role and terrific on  
15 this, just being proactive. So much of what we've been  
16 doing is sort of crisis response and you know, getting out  
17 ahead of these situations and helping us be better  
18 prepared. I just really want to commend you, so thank you.

19 With that we'll turn to Item 5, Renewables  
20 Portfolio Standard 2017 through 2020 Verification Results  
21 Reports.

22 MR. CHOU: Good morning, Chair Hochschild, Vice  
23 Chair Gunda, and Commissioners. I am Kevin Chou, the  
24 program staff for the Renewables Portfolio Standard  
25 Verification and Compliance Unit of the Siting,

1 Transmission and Environmental Protection Division.

2 Today, staff are presenting the verification  
3 findings of 28 publicly owned utilities or POU's, with  
4 Verification Results Reports for Compliance Period 3, which  
5 are ready for your consideration and adoption. Next slide,  
6 please.

7 Californians are benefitting as increasing  
8 renewable generation is procured by utilities to meet the  
9 requirements of California's Renewables Portfolio Standard,  
10 commonly known as the RPS Program. The reports presented  
11 here today for adoption benefit both the public and policy  
12 makers by providing verified data conclusions on renewable  
13 energy procurement amounts made by California load-serving  
14 entities to serve ratepayers in the state.

15 These reports also benefit the state by providing  
16 verified renewable energy data that can be used in  
17 determining whether California is on track for its  
18 renewable energy goals. Next slide, please.

19 California, representing the 5th largest economy  
20 in the world, has a track record of having the nation's  
21 largest and most ambitious RPS Program. The RPS Program is  
22 a key driver for achieving the decarbonization of the  
23 energy sector and the reports presented today represent the  
24 work done in the program for Compliance Period 3, for years  
25 2017 to 2020.

1           The compliance period officially began on January  
2 1st of 2017 and ended on December 31st, 2020. The final  
3 year of claims data needed for staff analysis was submitted  
4 the following year by September 2021.

5           During the initial claims eligibility analysis  
6 for all load-serving entities, the CEC completed its  
7 responsibilities for retail sellers specifically with the  
8 adoption of the retail sellers report in January 2023. At  
9 that point the report was transmitted to the California  
10 Public Utilities Commission where final analysis and  
11 compliance determinations for retail sellers would be made.

12           For publicly owned utilities, analysis continued  
13 until the Verification Results Reports were drafted and  
14 posted for public comment on November 7th, 2023, given a 2-  
15 week comment period. The reports are now being presented  
16 with a resolution for adoption today December 13th. Next  
17 slide, please.

18           This bar chart shows the amount of renewable  
19 energy credits reported by POUs, by year and compliance  
20 period, with Compliance Period 3 the subject of the reports  
21 being the bar on the right. Each compliance period is  
22 three or four years in length. In Compliance Period 1  
23 POUs reported over 35,000 gigawatt hours of renewable  
24 energy. Reporting increased to over 42,000 gigawatt hours  
25 in CP2 and our findings for CP3 show over 78,000 gigawatt

1 hours of renewable energy. This increase can be attributed  
2 to an increase in procurement requirements and an  
3 additional year of data reporting with Compliance Period 3  
4 being a four-year compliance period. Next slide, please.

5 The steps outlined in this verification process  
6 flowchart were completed to generate the verification  
7 reports for the 28 POUs mentioned.

8 As you can see, the annual claims data needed for  
9 analysis is not fully received from POUs until the Fall of  
10 2021. Staff responsible for verification activities will  
11 first receive the retirement claims from all load serving  
12 entities and proceed to an in-depth, three-level analyses  
13 to determine compliance with the RPS obligations.

14 This begins with Level 1 Analysis for all LSEs to  
15 determine the eligibility of the claims received. You may  
16 recall a separate verification report for the retail  
17 sellers that was adopted by the Energy Commission earlier  
18 this year. That was then transmitted to the California  
19 Public Utilities Commission for further compliance  
20 determination.

21 Next, the responsibilities are split with the  
22 CPUC completing analysis for retail sellers and the Energy  
23 Commission completing the analysis for POUs. Levels 2 and  
24 3 are POU-specific analyses that determine the  
25 classification of renewable energy credits and how the

1 reported data compares to the procurement requirements.  
2 Once those analyses are complete, verification results  
3 reports are drafted for each POU, which is what's presented  
4 to the commission today for consideration.

5 After Commission adoption, the draft reports will  
6 become finalized, and a compliance determination letter  
7 issued to each POU that met the RPS obligations. For those  
8 that fail to meet the RPS requirements, staff analyze any  
9 optional compliance measures applied by the POU before  
10 issuing their compliance determination letter. Next slide,  
11 please.

12 The first of the two RPS obligations POUs shall  
13 comply with is the renewable energy procurement target.  
14 For Compliance Period 3 represented by the green-shaded  
15 area in this graph, load serving entities are required to  
16 procure at least 33 percent electricity from eligible  
17 renewable resources by end of year 2020. The RPS  
18 procurement target increases over time, until it reaches 60  
19 percent by 2030 as set by SB 100.

20 The additional blue line shows the trajectory of  
21 reaching 100 percent clean energy by 2045, also set by SB  
22 100. Although we cannot guarantee whether the state will  
23 reach 60 percent renewables by 2030, RPS verification data  
24 can be used to show how load-serving entities have  
25 overwhelmingly complied with state RPS mandates to date.

1 Next slide, please.

2 California's RPS defines all renewable  
3 procurement from contracts executed after June 1, 2010,  
4 into three portfolio content categories or PCCs for short.  
5 Additional to the procurement target mentioned on the  
6 previous slide, POUs are also required to meet portfolio  
7 balance requirements. The portfolio balance requirements  
8 are minimum and maximum percentages of PCC 1 and PCC 3  
9 products that POUs procure and apply to their RPS targets.

10 A PCC 1 product represents bundled renewable  
11 energy and associated REC, which is most beneficial PCC  
12 classification for the state's energy goals as it  
13 represents full renewable energy delivery to customers.

14 PCC 3 products are RECs only, unbundled from the  
15 associated renewable energy.

16 The minimum requirement for PCC 1 products has  
17 increased each compliance period from 50 percent in CP 1 to  
18 75 percent in CP 3 and remains at 75 percent thereafter.  
19 The maximum amount of PCC 3 products allowed for the RPS  
20 decreased over time from 25 percent in CP 1 to 10 percent  
21 in CP 3 and thereafter. The remaining balance of a POU's  
22 total may be fulfilled with additional PCC 1 products, or  
23 with PCC 2 products which are RECs bundled with substitute  
24 energy, also known as firmed and shaped products. The  
25 balance of these different PCC products make up the total



1 of a POU's procurement. Next slide, please.

2 This slide displays Alameda Municipal Power's RPS  
3 Verification Results Report as an illustrative example of  
4 the report format and the information it provides. Each  
5 POU report contains information specific to that POU on  
6 their procurement target and portfolio balance  
7 requirements, the amount of eligible renewable energy they  
8 retired and applied broken down by PCC, amounts of historic  
9 carryover and excess procurement, and any optional  
10 compliance measures being applied. Next slide, please.

11 The draft Verification Results Reports were  
12 docketed and posted on November 7th, 2023, with a two-week  
13 public comment period. Each POU presented today has  
14 reviewed and accepted staff's findings prior to the  
15 business meeting and did not submit public comments. We  
16 received five comments during the two-week comment period  
17 from one member of the public.

18 CEC staff reviewed the comments, had a dialogue  
19 with the commenter, and determined a Public Records Act  
20 request was also being made in addition to public comment.  
21 After careful review, we determined the comments made  
22 focused on disclosure of data to be considered going  
23 forward, but that no changes to these reports were  
24 required. Next slide, please.

25 Presented here are a summary of staff's findings

1 for POU's in Compliance Period 3: 43 POU's are subject to  
2 California's RPS requirements. As of today, we've  
3 completed the evaluation for 28 POU's' verification results  
4 whose reports are presented for adoption today. The  
5 remaining 15 POU's without reports will be presented at a  
6 future business meeting.

7           Of the 28 POU's presented today, 23 met or exceed  
8 their procurement target and also met the portfolio balance  
9 requirements; 5 POU's did not meet one or more of the RPS  
10 requirements and have elected to apply optional compliance  
11 measures. One POU opted for voluntary early compliance in  
12 CP 3 of a new long-term procurement requirement which is  
13 not mandated until Compliance Period 4. Next slide,  
14 please.

15           Following adoption of the RPS Verification  
16 Results Reports, the Energy Commission's Executive Director  
17 will notify each POU that met RPS requirements of its  
18 compliance determination. For the POU's that did not meet  
19 the requirements, Energy Commission staff will begin  
20 evaluating the optional compliance measures applied. This  
21 analysis involves reviewing rationale provided by the POU  
22 for cost limitations, delay of timely compliance, or a  
23 portfolio balance reduction.

24           Following the evaluation staff will make a  
25 recommendation to the Executive Director. The Executive

1 Director will notify POUs of the compliance determination  
2 and follow the enforcement process as needed.

3 Of the 43 total POUs requiring Verification  
4 Results Reports, the remaining 15 POUs not receiving a  
5 report today will be adopted at a future business meeting.  
6 The cause of delay for the remaining POUs varies, but a  
7 common cause of delay stems from large amounts of out-of-  
8 state generation claims featuring discrepancies. The  
9 majority of these discrepancies have already been resolved  
10 and staff are confident that the entirety will be resolved  
11 early next year.

12 While staff are completing determinations for  
13 Compliance Period 3, we are already working on Compliance  
14 Period 4 analyses for years 2021 through 2024. Staff  
15 continue to look for ways to streamline the review process  
16 and analyze the data already in hand.

17 We do want to acknowledge technical challenges  
18 recently experienced with WREGIS' new system for tracking  
19 renewable generation and REC issuance. During this system  
20 change, staff continue to work with WREGIS and stakeholders  
21 to minimize reporting disruptions and ensure consistency  
22 with the data being collected.

23 As well as bringing the remaining 15 POUs to a  
24 business meeting next year, staff plan to present an  
25 informational item on the accounting mechanism of RPS and

1 the interaction with WREGIS' recent system change. Next  
2 slide, please.

3 Staff finds that the analysis results and  
4 conclusions outlined in the Verification Results Reports  
5 for the 28 POU's listed below to be true and accurate, ready  
6 for next steps in providing compliance determinations to  
7 each POU. We request that the Energy Commission adopt the  
8 resolution, adopting the RPS Verification Results Reports  
9 of the 28 POU's mentioned below.

10 We thank you for your consideration of this  
11 request, and I'm happy to respond to any questions.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Kevin, and  
13 really appreciate your diligence and that of your team.

14 Let's go to public comment on Item 5.

15 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair. This is Mona Badie  
16 again, the Public Advisor for the Energy Commission. The  
17 Commission now welcomes public comment on Item 5. If  
18 you're in the room with us, please use the QR code to  
19 notify us you'd like to make a comment. And if you're  
20 joining us by Zoom online, please use the raise hand  
21 feature. If you're joining us by phone, please press \*9.

22 And I just want to mention that the QR code is  
23 open for any item. So if you're here for another item, I  
24 encourage you to sign up now to make sure that we can get  
25 you queued up in time.

1           We do not have any commenters in the room. So I'm  
2 going to transition to Zoom. Call-in User 2, I'm going to  
3 open your line if you could please state your name for the  
4 record. We are asking for comments to be two minutes or  
5 less.

6           MR. UHLER: Hello, Commissioners. It's Steve  
7 Uhler again.

8           I'd like to point out that reports, and I'm  
9 talking about the spreadsheet area of the report, doesn't  
10 meet all the requirements. There's a call out for green  
11 pricing program yet there is not nothing identifying where  
12 those RECs came from. And these racks are highly  
13 restrictive RECs. They have to be PCC 1. They have to be  
14 within proximity of the end user. None of that is  
15 declared.

16           Also it should be noted that the report itself  
17 should have been rejected by the docket department, because  
18 a lot of it is in less than 12 point type making it really  
19 hard to read.

20           Items of data show up in four locations. This is  
21 unnecessary. You should be able to read this the same way  
22 you read a statement from your bank to know what your  
23 balance was, what you spent, and what your current assets  
24 are. It is way too cumbersome. So yeah, you need to have  
25 -- you need to identify. And I believe the staff realize

36

1 that and they're putting this forth without any RECs for  
2 green pricing programs.

3 I have a number of comments they didn't answer.  
4 A month ago I put in a record request. They're finally  
5 responding to it. I suggest you not vote on this. This  
6 will give the public a really good idea if you vote yes for  
7 this, of how you manage the energy in this state. Is  
8 you'll totally ignore the law. You already are ignoring a  
9 court opinion on how to count renewable energy.

10 So yeah don't -- vote no on this. Don't bother  
11 to table it. Vote no on all of these, particularly all of  
12 the ones that have green pricing programs. I hope I'm  
13 making that very clear to you, because we'll get a very  
14 good notion of how you handle energy in this state if you  
15 vote yes to accept this as a statement of where we stand.

16 MS. BADIE: Thank you for your comment.

17 That concludes public comment. Back to you,  
18 Chair.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Let's go to  
20 Commissioner discussion starting with Commissioner  
21 Gallardo.

22 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Thank you, Chair.

23 So I appreciate the participation of the public  
24 throughout this process. The Renewables Portfolio  
25 Standard, also known as RPS, has been operating for over 20

1 years as one of the key California climate policies  
2 supporting the state's ambitious decarbonization goals.  
3 And it's one of the programs that has helped make  
4 California a leader in clean energy and in the fight  
5 against the climate crisis.

6 I want to give a big thank you to, Kevin, for  
7 that wonderful presentation. And the entire RPS team for  
8 getting to this point, which I know is really complex  
9 process. And so it takes a lot of hard work to verify  
10 these RPS procurement claims, and in this case for  
11 Compliance Period 3. And I also want to thank you for  
12 educating me and helping me wrap my head around this whole  
13 process and you've been very patient with all my questions  
14 and whatnot.

15 So I do want to emphasize that the verification  
16 work is a critical component to maintain integrity and  
17 confidence in the program. And success of the program is  
18 reflected in the results we see in these Verification  
19 Results Reports. One of the other highlights is that  
20 utilities are overwhelmingly making their best efforts to  
21 comply with the increasing RPS goals that are set in  
22 statute. Some POUs are even setting more accelerated clean  
23 energy targets than prescribed by RPS statute. And the RPS  
24 Program success is also exemplified in the strong interest  
25 we see in the community of development to build, and have

1 the renewable energy projects participate in our state's  
2 RPS, which in turn results in jobs and more investment in  
3 our communities.

4 Kevin did allude to some of the challenges the  
5 RPS Program is facing. My team and I look forward to  
6 continuing to engage with staff and also with Vice Chair  
7 Gunda as my associate on this program, to continue  
8 improving the processes as the RPS targets ramp up.

9 With that I support the staff's recommendation to  
10 approve the Item 5.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, I had a couple of  
12 comments, but I'll save it until after Vice Chair Gunda.  
13 Oh, go ahead? All right.

14 All right, so thank you, Commissioner Gallardo  
15 and to the Vice Chair. I just want to observe this program  
16 is working. RPS is working. And I think it's really worth  
17 observing. It's working, not just for us here in  
18 California, but what has happened because of our scale  
19 right when this law was first adopted almost 20 years ago  
20 now. And then we ratcheted up to 200 percent. We have  
21 basically also created whole new industries that are now  
22 decarbonizing the grid nationally.

23 You know, more coal got shut down under President  
24 Trump than under President Obama, because there were  
25 cleaner alternatives that were really scaled in California,



1 because of the RPS law. And I just want to observe that  
2 the benefits extend to other states and they also extend to  
3 a much broader footprint than existed when the first RPS  
4 law was passed, right. We did not have transportation  
5 electrification at the point that it is today. We're going  
6 to hit 2 million electric vehicles in 2024. We're adding  
7 over 1,000 a day.

8           Next year, the electrification of the Caltrain  
9 line connecting Silicon Valley to San Francisco will be  
10 completed, building electrification as well. So the  
11 benefits extend to sectors, you know, much larger than  
12 existed when the first RPS was done. I just really want to  
13 thank the staff for the diligence, because tracking this  
14 and kind of holding everyone accountable is a really key  
15 piece of the success.

16           So Kevin, thank you to you and the whole team,  
17 really proud of you guys. And with that I think, Vice  
18 Chair, you were going to make a comment?

19           VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. I just want  
20 to first of all start with thanking the RPS team. Kevin,  
21 thank you for the presentation. And just appreciate all  
22 the conversations we've been having to just understand this  
23 better and make the process better.

24           I also want to just elevate a couple of points  
25 that the Chair mentioned. We have seen a 20 fold increase

1 in solar generation over the decade, last decade, just in  
2 terms of the system. We've seen 20 percent reduction in  
3 gas usage over the last 10 years, 63 percent increase in  
4 wind. We've been hitting these incredible milestones on  
5 our path to clean energy. So I just want to say the  
6 foundational impact of tracking and helping us understand  
7 the vulnerabilities is such an important part. So thank  
8 you to the STEP team, and specifically the RPS team.

9 I do want to take an opportunity to hear, you  
10 know, we've just heard a comment. I want to make sure that  
11 you guys have an opportunity to respond on the record.  
12 Would you be able to comment on what we heard? Thank you.

13 MR. SAEED: Yeah, definitely. Good morning,  
14 Commissioners. My name is Yoseph Saeed. That's spelled Y-  
15 O-S-E-P-H S-A-E-E-D. I'm a supervisor for the RPS Program  
16 in the STEP Division.

17 We'd like to start by saying CEC staff  
18 appreciates the commenter's participation in the process  
19 and staff have reviewed the comments carefully. In  
20 addition to the written comments received and the comment  
21 given here verbally today, CEC staff also had phone  
22 conversations with the commenter that gave our team a  
23 better understanding of their concerns.

24 Staff in consultation with the Chief Counsel's  
25 Office analyzed and concluded that the claims information

1 provided in the Verification Results Reports, and the RPS  
2 verification process as detailed in the RPSL eligibility  
3 guidebook, and the POU regulations, is consistent with the  
4 CEC statutory directives governing the California  
5 Renewables Portfolio Standard sections 399.11 to 399.33 of  
6 the Public Utilities Code. The CEC's verification process  
7 is robust with multiple methods in place to prevent double  
8 counting of RECs.

9           The draft reports are a summary of the  
10 verification results for POU procurement claims in  
11 Compliance Period 3. And are intended to present the most  
12 important information in a publicly accessible format.  
13 With that explanation in mind, the verification reports as  
14 drafted, are consistent with our statutory obligations and  
15 CEC regulations.

16           The comments received do not raise any reason to  
17 postpone taking action today. As mentioned during the  
18 presentation, the commenter are clarified that his  
19 information request in the written comments period for the  
20 verification claims data was a Public Records Act request.  
21 That was not clear when it was submitted in the public  
22 comment period, but after a phone conversation on December  
23 7, it became clear as he verbally stated it was a Public  
24 Records Act request. And Chief Counsel's Office is working  
25 to take care of that request as we speak.

1           As lastly, we appreciate the feedback on the  
2 content and formatting of the POU Verification Results  
3 Reports. And we will work to identify improvements going  
4 forward. This includes comments that were given such as  
5 that the summary table of data in the reports should be  
6 restructured to appear similar to an accounting balance  
7 sheet. And that more detail on the energy information  
8 could be included or made available in ways, so that  
9 members of the public may perform their own data analysis.

10           The specific comment about the green pricing  
11 program RECs, that there are inaccuracies in the data or  
12 that the sources are not known is not true. It is just not  
13 included in the summary of the report. So that data is  
14 available. And if that is part of the request that is  
15 submitted, we can provide that data if necessary.

16           Again, we appreciate any and all feedback on  
17 improvements for the RPS Program going forward. Thank you.

18           VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Yoseph.

19           I just wanted to see if Chief Counsel chat or  
20 anybody has anything else to add?

21           MS. CROSBY: Hi, this is Josey Crosby with the  
22 Chief Counsel's Office. I don't have much to add, but I  
23 can speak a little bit to the Public Records Act request.

24           So as Yosef said we received the Public Records  
25 Act request from Steve Uhler via the phone on December 7.

1 Steve Uhler requested the Energy Commission provide him  
2 with serial numbers and missing data related to the  
3 Verification Results Reports.

4 This request was related to a written comment  
5 Steve Uhler left on the Renewables Portfolio Standard  
6 Compliance Period 3, 2017 through 2020 Verification and  
7 Compliance Docket. This was part of a public comment  
8 period.

9 Staff and the Chief Counsel's Office are working  
10 with Steve Uhler currently to address the PRA request and  
11 narrow the scope of this request. Thank you. Let me know  
12 if you have anything else.

13 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you so much. Youseph,  
14 thank you for your thoughtful response there. And I  
15 appreciate us taking input to consistently improve the  
16 accessibility of our data, and in a consistent manner that  
17 those that would wish to make their own analysis and  
18 continue to keep us accountable on the numbers we're  
19 putting out, is important. So I appreciate us kind of  
20 doing that moving forward, and continuing to look for  
21 opportunities to improve our process.

22 So with that, and kind of checking off the  
23 legality buckets, looking forward to support the item.  
24 Thank you,

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Any other, Commissioner

1 McAllister?

2 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Yeah, very quickly. I  
3 just really appreciated the briefing on this. And I also  
4 appreciate just the big lift that this is, you know,  
5 through the third compliance period. And I think the  
6 history of the RPS really has just done an amazing service  
7 to the state in sort of facilitating and stimulating the  
8 maturation of sort of the cleaning of our electric grid.  
9 And it really has been foundational.

10 And now we're seeing you know, in a whole bunch  
11 of other ways how we're able to build on that to really  
12 push viably towards 100 percent. So it's just hard to  
13 overstate how important the RPS has been. And this is just  
14 one fleet of these reports. And then we'll have the next  
15 group come through, and it's just a big lift. So I just  
16 want to acknowledge staff effort on all this.

17 And then also I just wanted to appreciate the  
18 public input. And you know, the fact that we can always do  
19 better certainly. And acknowledge and just highlight the  
20 challenge and the good faith effort that everyone is making  
21 to find a balance between accessibility and participation  
22 of the public with content. With sort of the rigor that we  
23 know you all put into this.

24 So and then finally the back and forth to  
25 understand that there is a PRA request and then to narrow

45

1 it in a way that is actually sort of that we're able to be  
2 responsive to. So I really appreciate staff's back and  
3 forth facilitation of all the input. And that's part of  
4 our fundamental role and obligation of public, so just  
5 really appreciate that effort.

6 And it's a team, a lot of teamwork involved in  
7 that, so thank you. So with that, just really looking  
8 forward to supporting this.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo, would  
10 you be willing to move Item 5?

11 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes, I move to approve  
12 Item 5.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from  
14 Commissioner McAllister?

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER I second Item 5.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.  
17 Commissioner Gallardo.

18 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister --  
20 Vice Chair Gunda.

21 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
25 5 passes unanimously. Thank you.

1           We'll turn now to Item 6, Form Energy.

2           MR. YANG: Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, and  
3 Commissioners. My name is Yahui Yang and I work in the  
4 Energy Research and Development Division.

5           Staff requests the Energy Commission to adopt the  
6 resolution for this agenda item, which would satisfy the  
7 California Environmental Quality Act known as "CEQA" for  
8 Form Energy's Commercial Demonstration of a Long-Duration  
9 Energy Storage System Project.

10           This resolution would also approve Amendment  
11 Number 1 to Agreement LDS-22-004 for term extension, budget  
12 augmentation, and scope of work revision. Next slide,  
13 please.

14           The project will help California address the  
15 challenges of energy reliability, resilience, affordability  
16 and decarbonization. With more renewable energy  
17 penetration in California, the amount of energy curtailment  
18 has been increasing. Throughout the last year, as much as  
19 2.4 terawatt hours of electricity generated from solar and  
20 wind was curtailed. Energy storage, particularly long  
21 duration energy storage can mitigate this issue and further  
22 reduce the cost of renewable energy.

23           According to the analysis by California Clean  
24 Electricity Resources, the state will need 1 gigawatts of  
25 long duration energy storage by the year 2032.



1           The 100-hour battery system will benefit the  
2 nearby communities by supporting the integration of  
3 intermittent renewable resources and providing multiple  
4 days of continuous, zero-carbon power to the grid connected  
5 to PG&E's substation in Mendocino County. The long  
6 duration energy storage system has a low-cost battery  
7 chemistry, which is less than one tenth the cost of  
8 Lithium-ion battery when deployed at scale.

9           In addition, the project will generate  
10 operational data that will allow utilities to identify  
11 optimal deployments of the energy storage technology for  
12 replicability and scaling up. Next slide, please.

13           The project is located at East Road, Redwood  
14 Valley, Mendocino County, and is known as the East Road  
15 Storage Project. The Energy Commission is responsible for  
16 environmental review of the project as the lead agency  
17 under CEQA.

18           In compliance with CEQA, environmental documents  
19 were prepared for the Project under the direction and  
20 control of Energy Commission staff. Including an initial  
21 study, proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, proposed  
22 mitigation monitoring and reporting program, and a Notice  
23 of Intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

24           The Energy Commission provided a review and a  
25 comment period for these environmental documents, which ran

1 from October 27 through November 27 this year.

2 Four comment letters were received during the  
3 review and comment period. Staff reviewed all comments.  
4 In summary, among other things, the comment letters  
5 expressed concern regarding noise, lighting, fire risk, and  
6 air emissions. Other comments related to the timing of  
7 biological surveys, the integrity of the battery  
8 enclosures, source of water, safety of the 10,000-gallon  
9 water storage tanks, housing supply, and the Project's  
10 duration.

11 Responses to the timely comments were prepared  
12 and published. And a link to the comments and the  
13 responses was included in the backup materials for this  
14 agenda item. One late comment letter was received, which  
15 raised issues already addressed in the responses to  
16 comments.

17 Some of the comments expressed the concern with  
18 the Project creating a substantial temporary or permanent  
19 increase in ambient noise levels, including for residence  
20 that live uphill from the Project. The noise levels  
21 estimated by Form Energy seem to be overly conservative.  
22 It is expected that actual noise levels will be much lower  
23 and that noise levels at all residence will be below  
24 applicable thresholds.

25 Furthermore, Form Energy will be required to

1 build a sound wall unless they can demonstrate that actual  
2 noise levels will be less than significant.

3 In addition, Mitigation Measure NOISE-2 provides  
4 a noise complaint resolution process where local residents  
5 can file a complaint. And a report of the investigation  
6 into the complaint is required to be filed with the Energy  
7 Commission. Next slide, please.

8 The initial study and the proposed mitigated  
9 negative declaration finds that the project will not result  
10 in any significant environmental impacts with the  
11 imposition and implementation of the mitigation measures  
12 proposed. Nothing in the comments changes the finding or  
13 require changes to the project.

14 Mitigation measures were proposed in the  
15 technical areas of Biological Resources, Cultural and  
16 Tribal Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazardous  
17 Materials, Noise, and Transportation. These mitigation  
18 measures are listed in the Initial Study and the Proposed  
19 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, which are  
20 included in the backup materials for this agenda item.  
21 Next slide, please.

22 The battery operates through the principle of  
23 reversible rusting. While discharging, the battery absorbs  
24 oxygen from the air and converts iron metal to rust. While  
25 charging, the application of an electrical current converts

1 the rust back to iron and the battery emits oxygen.

2           The battery technology is very safe, because the  
3 water-based electrolyte is non-flammable, the iron-air  
4 chemistry is extremely stable, and there is no pathway for  
5 thermal runaway. The battery does not use rare earth  
6 metals, but is made of abundant and low-cost materials on  
7 the planet, including iron, water and air. These make the  
8 battery system cost-competitive, which is as low as  
9 \$20/kWh, compared to \$200/kWh for lithium-ion batteries.

10           These materials reduce the risk of supply chain  
11 shortages by tapping into existing, robust supply chains.  
12 It also allows Form Energy to domestically supply the  
13 batteries, which will be manufactured and assembled in West  
14 Virginia. Next slide, please.

15           Under this project, Form Energy will design and  
16 construct a 100-hour duration energy storage system with a  
17 capacity of 5 megawatts and 500 megawatt hours for front-  
18 of-the-meter application, after the use case and market  
19 analysis are completed. The project will be located at  
20 PG&E's substation in Redwood Valley, Mendocino County, as  
21 shown by the satellite map here. The white blocks on the  
22 map indicate the battery enclosures. The storage system  
23 will have 128 battery enclosures altogether.

24           This multi-day storage system can charge and  
25 discharge energy over extended periods. For example, the

1 batteries can charge during months when net loads are low  
2 and dispatch power during months when net loads are high,  
3 allowing it to take advantage of more seasonal trends and  
4 relieve more prolonged grid stress events. The operation  
5 of the storage system is expected to begin at the end of  
6 the year 2025. Next slide, please.

7 Energy Commission staff has a continued role in  
8 monitoring compliance with the mitigation measures under  
9 the mitigation monitoring and reporting program. Staff  
10 will thoroughly monitor project implementation. Any  
11 concerns that arise during the construction or operation of  
12 the project may be submitted as a comment via the e-comment  
13 link for the Long Duration Storage Program.

14 Staff recommends adopting the resolution, which  
15 will adopt the initial study, proposed Mitigated Negative  
16 Declaration, and proposed mitigation monitoring and  
17 reporting program that were included as backup materials to  
18 this agenda item.

19 The resolution would also adopt the following  
20 CEQA findings. That after reviewing and considering the  
21 initial study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration,  
22 comments, and all related materials in the record first  
23 that the CEC's environmental documents were completed in  
24 compliance with CEQA.

25 Second, that with implementation of the proposed

1 mitigation measures and the mitigation monitoring and  
2 reporting program, there is no substantial evidence that  
3 the adoption of the Project will have a significant effect  
4 on the environment.

5           And finally, that the Mitigated Negative  
6 Declaration reflects the Energy Commission's independent  
7 judgment and analysis.

8           Staff also recommends approval of Amendment  
9 Number 1 to the agreement.

10           This concludes my presentation. And I'm  
11 available for any questions together with my colleagues  
12 from Legal and also staff from (indiscernible)  
13 environmental group in the room and online to help address  
14 any stakeholder related issues.

15           Also, Mike Gravely, the CEC Lead on the Long  
16 Duration Energy Storage Program, would like to comment on  
17 staff contribution to this project.

18           In addition, Jason Houck from Form Energy is in  
19 the room as well and he would like to support the project  
20 with comments. Thank you for your time.

21           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Let's go to public  
22 comment.

23           MS. BADIE: Chair, first we'll hear from Mike  
24 Gravely and then --

25           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Over to Mike, sorry.

1           MR. GRAVELY: Yes, I just want to make a quick  
2 comment, because of the effort. As many know, as the  
3 overall manager of this project I had the opportunity to  
4 work with everybody. This is a perfect example of where  
5 the Commission came together as team. I've been here 20  
6 years and it's kind of understood, but I think it's also  
7 important to recognize that the Siting Division, the STEP  
8 Division, the Admin Division, and R&D all came together.  
9 And we had this, the first phase back in June. (phonetic)  
10 And the Chair certainly knows this. We have all worked  
11 together as a team and we wouldn't be here without  
12 everybody's effort. I just wanted to take the time  
13 recognize that.

14           And in particular I want to recognize Christina  
15 Evola and Yahui Yang. They have followed this for over a  
16 year and (indiscernible) here. This represents a great  
17 opportunity for California to reduce our costs in future  
18 storage, to improve our performance, and to provide  
19 California new options. And this is just kind of the  
20 poster child to show how great this opportunity is and what  
21 we've been doing at the Commission.

22           And with that, unless your questions, I would  
23 like to invite Form Energy to come up and make a few  
24 comments.

25           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, yeah. Please go ahead.

1 MS. BADIE: So if I could just do the public  
2 comment instructions and then we'll go to folks in the room  
3 just for consistency.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, that's fine as well.

5 MS. BADIE: So if you are in the room with us and  
6 you'd like to make a comment, we're asking folks to sign up  
7 using the QR code. And if you're joining us by Zoom,  
8 please use the raise hand feature. And if you're joining  
9 by phone, please press \*9.

10 So we'll go to folks in the room first. We have  
11 Jason Houck. Jason, if you can approach the podium we're  
12 asking for comments to be two minutes or less. There'll be  
13 a timer on the screen. Thank you.

14 MR. HOUCK: Hello, Commissioners. My name is  
15 Jason Houck and I'm the Senior Manager for Policy Strategy  
16 at Form Energy. I want to thank you for giving us this  
17 opportunity. And we would also like to thank the numerous  
18 CEC staff for all their hard work and for PG&E for their  
19 collaboration and support on this project.

20 As you heard Form Energy is commercializing and  
21 manufacturing a new class of multiday energy storage, a  
22 100-hour iron air battery. That's 25 times longer in  
23 duration than the four hour duration storage resources that  
24 are typically deployed in California to date. This type of  
25 multiday storage, and this technology class is needed for

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1 California to meet its 100 percent Zero Carbon goals and  
2 also maintain a reliable and affordable electricity system.

3           This project and multiday storage will operate  
4 every day of the year to balance the hourly, multiday, and  
5 seasonal variability of renewable energy resources. By  
6 making the best use of our renewable energy supply, and our  
7 transmission and distribution systems, we'll lower the  
8 overall costs of the electric system and the land use  
9 impacts of achieving our clean energy goals. Multiday  
10 storage is essential for grid reliability going forward, as  
11 the state faces increasingly common extreme weather events  
12 that can cause consecutive days of high energy demand. And  
13 can also result in extended loads of renewable energy  
14 supply.

15           As staff shared earlier, this project will be at  
16 PG&E's Mendocino Substation, supporting the local grid and  
17 the community in a transmission constrained area with  
18 wildfire risks. This project will be the first multiday  
19 storage system in California, but we expect it's just the  
20 first of many more to come in the future.

21           So thank you, again for your leadership and your  
22 support for technology innovation and for this project in  
23 particular. I'm happy to answer any questions.

24           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

25           MS. BADIE: Thank you.

1                   We will now transition to Zoom. Call-in User 2,  
2 I'm going to unmute your line. Please state and spell your  
3 name for the record. We're asking for comments to be two  
4 minutes or less.

5                   MR. UHLER: Hello, Commissioners. This is Steve  
6 Uhler, U-H-L-E-R. Storage is very, very important to  
7 meeting our zero carbon goals, very, very important. But  
8 also your RPS regulations need to keep up with this. In  
9 21-RPS-02 where you're going to update your guidebook on  
10 how to qualify these items, they're trying to determine  
11 what happens to renewable energy when it passes through  
12 storage. And nothing has happened on that in a couple of  
13 years.

14                   In fact, they haven't even posted the transcript  
15 from the from the workshop. So I know in one -- in the  
16 prior RPS item you talked about how important this is. You  
17 guys are far behind on opening up a pathway to being able  
18 to use renewable energy and credit for it going through a  
19 battery. You may talk about how important RPS is. You may  
20 talk about how you're doing all of this stuff. But you  
21 you're not. You're not?

22                   Yeah, RPS does do some things for the state. But  
23 you need to open up these legal requirements and finish up  
24 21-RPS-02. I think we'll find a lot more batteries and  
25 different types of storage being used. Thank you.

1 MS. BADIE: That concludes public comment. Back  
2 to you, Chair.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Well, let me just say  
4 first of all congratulations to the team, to Form Energy.  
5 And to the whole CEC team that was involved in this.  
6 Sorry, the podium is blocking your faces there.

7 And most especially to Mike Gravely. Mike, when  
8 the when the history of long duration storage is written  
9 you've got a whole chapter in that in that book. And it's  
10 a great example, I think of the power of perseverance. In  
11 an agency like the Energy Commission when you lean into  
12 something, you know, your expertise and dedication was  
13 instrumental in getting the budget for this, which is  
14 substantial.

15 I want to just make a few points. Energy  
16 storage, I think, is the defining energy technology of this  
17 next decade. By the end of this month, we will reach 8,600  
18 megawatts of storage on the grid. That is a 3,500 percent  
19 increase in the last four years. We're the largest and  
20 fastest growing energy storage market in the world and  
21 that's a point of pride. It's definitely helped keep the  
22 lights on. It's clean. The fleet has been performing very  
23 effectively, but it's almost entirely four-hour lithium.  
24 And so this, the benefit of this is that it really does  
25 open a new technology category within a very dynamic and

1 fast growing technology sector. And that provides  
2 additional benefits. And it also gives us diversity on  
3 supply chain.

4 I do want to note that this is a California  
5 headquartered company, leadership here, domestically  
6 manufactured. We're not dependent on imported products  
7 from other countries to make these kinds of iron air  
8 batteries work. So really interested to see how this goes  
9 and to see how it scales. I've been really impressed by  
10 what I have learned with the technology.

11 And others, sister technologies along with it. I  
12 know, we've been funding Eos and Redflow and others, but  
13 this is a big deal. This is 10 times bigger than the than  
14 the previous largest long duration storage project we've  
15 funded, so I just want to recognize this as a big day. And  
16 really to congratulate the team. And I think it's going to  
17 deliver a lot of benefits for the grid and for the  
18 innovation space and our economy, so thank you for all your  
19 work up. I really appreciate your diligence.

20 And I know I just want to especially recognize  
21 Christina, because I know the legal diligence in getting  
22 through this was a very, very heavy lift. And I just want  
23 to thank you especially for all that as well.

24 Let me just open it up, Commissioner Monahan,  
25 please.

1                   COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, I just want to thank  
2 the team for educating me and I too am really excited about  
3 this technology. I think in the transportation space, you  
4 know, working with lithium and a lot of rare earth and  
5 we're trying to really make sure that we can have domestic  
6 production, to have a battery that's produced with I'm  
7 assuming most of these -- all these materials are coming  
8 from California. Is that right? Or at least from the  
9 United States?

10                   CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: It's domestic, yeah.

11                   COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And the fact that NASA  
12 originally I think, Mike, were you the one who said it or  
13 maybe I can't remember who said, but in the 1960s NASA  
14 developed this technology. And now we're trying to scale  
15 it in California for long duration energy storage. And so  
16 it's also just this kind of amazing arc of a technology  
17 that's finally like hopefully having its moment or at least  
18 we're testing out whether we're having it -- whether it's  
19 moment is now.

20                   And so I just ask the team and Form Energy that  
21 as this project moves forward, to come back periodically  
22 with updates on sort of durability. And just what you're  
23 learning from this as you implement this project.

24                   CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. Vice Chair -- I'm  
25 sorry, did you want to respond to that at all?

1 MR. YANG: I just said to Commissioner Monahan I  
2 will update her later on with new data, yeah.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Great. Thank you.  
4 Vice Chair?

5 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.  
6 Yeah, we thank you for that presentation. And, Mike, I  
7 think you've been a troublemaker in this area, so thank you  
8 for being a good troublemaker in the long duration storage.

9 So I just wanted to kind of share a couple of  
10 high level pieces. In the SB 100 results we've had about  
11 50,000 megawatts of storage that we need to bring online in  
12 California, and a few 1,000 megawatts of long duration  
13 storage, right. This is even before we really studied the  
14 reliability, and especially the winter reliability as we  
15 begin to see. I think just a point that we would need  
16 several thousand megawatts of long duration storage just to  
17 kind of keep our SB 100 goals.

18 Second, if we look at today's gas fleet, you  
19 know, any given day we are running our gas fleet maybe 10  
20 to 15,000 megawatts of ramping needs in the afternoon. So  
21 like even on a day like today the load is low. We have  
22 enough solar. You still kick in the gas resources running  
23 to help with the ramping needs for several hours, usually  
24 five to seven hours of ramping needs. And then they kind  
25 of plateau and run all night, right? I mean, you're kind

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1 of depending on that. So I do not see anything close to a  
2 silver bullet like the long duration storage for being able  
3 to kind of reduce the gas fleet usage. Continue to reduce  
4 that really help through the winter, help through extreme  
5 situations where we might not have sun and wind for long  
6 days, potential import constraints as we have broader  
7 electrification and retirements in the West. So I think  
8 this is such a critical part of our long term journey here.

9 I really recognize the R&D's work but, Mike, as  
10 you uplifted the rest of the CEC's work thank you for all  
11 the work you guys have done to just push this forward.  
12 Congratulations to Form and others who are working in these  
13 areas.

14 And I really look forward to closely tracking the  
15 progress of this. I really would like to understand the  
16 ongoing benefits, but also impacts and potential concerns  
17 we might continue to observe. And we want to have to  
18 continue to like, you know, change and evolve in the way we  
19 run our market, in the way we run our resources. So really  
20 looking forward to learning on a continued basis.

21 And really before going to the holidays, Mike,  
22 just to you, thank you for your leadership. And thanks to  
23 the entire team. Thanks.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, Commissioner McAllister?

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER So, yeah I'll try not to

1 repeat, but this is huge and thanks Yahoo and Mike and the  
2 whole team, and Legal. You know, I understand how big a  
3 lift this is.

4           And I mean it's really hard to overstate the  
5 importance of this. I think we can kind of hear the  
6 initial -- the beginnings of a big sigh of relief in Folsom  
7 when we have these opportunities to really bridge much,  
8 much longer time gaps. And multiday when there's not  
9 enough wind in the middle of winter, when there's not much  
10 sun.

11           And we really do have a lack of renewables. You  
12 know, there are, you know, analyses are emerging that  
13 really do point out these gaps and that they are true  
14 vulnerabilities. And so, you know, can address those  
15 vulnerabilities and actually enhance markets during those  
16 times as well, so that we don't get price spikes and things  
17 like that. So I really imagine there are some even  
18 potentially national security, you know, sort of  
19 implications of having these kinds of resources really as a  
20 backstop.

21           So I just really appreciate the vision here. And  
22 the broad portfolio of efforts, some of which will  
23 absolutely pay off to help us solve these problems that  
24 maybe don't get all the attention they deserve. Because,  
25 you know, the biggest problems are kind of hard to hard to



1 understand, because they have low probability but high  
2 impact if they occur. And so I think this is really a nice  
3 backstop to fill some of those gaps and really be  
4 responsible in how we address our transition. So thanks  
5 for really leading the way here.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Just before we go to vote,  
7 just you quickly recap the timing again. And from now  
8 until commissioning, what are we looking at?

9 MR. YANG: Sure, actually, so they will start to  
10 commission the system around the summer 2025. And then at  
11 the end of the year, 2025, starts the operation of the  
12 system. And they will operate the system for at least five  
13 years.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay.

15 MR. YANG: And during the five years they'll  
16 maintain the system and collect the data for different  
17 optimize the use case scenarios as well.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, got it. Very helpful.

19 All right, unless there's other comments is there  
20 a motion on Item 6? Maybe Commissioner McAllister?

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Sure, I'll move Item 6.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair, would you do a  
23 second?

24 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Second Item 6.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

1 Commissioner McAllister?

2 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

4 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

8 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well, Item 6  
10 passes unanimously. Congratulations.

11 All right, we'll turn now to Item 7, the Electric  
12 School Bus Bi-Directional Infrastructure. And I believe  
13 Commissioner Monahan first has statement to make.

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: On Item 7, I will recuse  
15 myself from any discussion, consideration, or vote on the  
16 proposed grant to The Mobility House in which World  
17 Resources Institute appears as a subgrantee.

18 I'm a member of the Institute's Electric School  
19 Bus Initiative Advisory Council. In that role, I do not  
20 make governance decisions on behalf of the institute, but  
21 the Advisory Council exists to provide guidance for  
22 investments in electric school buses. I do not receive any  
23 compensation in any form including reimbursements or per  
24 diem for expenses. So there's no financial interest in  
25 which there would be a conflict of interest under the

1 Political Reform Act or Government Code section 1090.

2           However, in an abundance of caution, I will  
3 recuse myself to avoid any perception of a conflict of  
4 interest.

5           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Commissioner  
6 Monahan.

7           What we'll do is we'll hear and consider Items 7a  
8 and 7b first. After the votes on Items 7a and 7b  
9 Commissioner Monahan can excuse herself we will then  
10 consider Item 7c. So with that let's move to Lauren Jansen  
11 to present on Item 7a and 7b.

12           MS. JANSEN: Good morning, Chair, Vice-Chair and  
13 Commissioners. My name is Lauren Jansen, from the Fuels  
14 and Transportation Division. I will be presenting Agenda  
15 Item 7 and 7b, which is seeking approval of two grant  
16 agreements within Stanislaus and San Diego counties. And  
17 the associated CEQA findings for projects that will deliver  
18 bidirectional electric school bus infrastructure resulting  
19 from this solicitation GFO-22-612. Next slide, please.

20           This solicitation, entitled Electric School Bus  
21 Bi-Directional Infrastructure, sought projects that support  
22 the ability to enable managed charging and bi-directional  
23 power flow for electric school buses and their associated  
24 infrastructure.

25           In addition to making progress towards the

1 electrification of school bus fleets, this solicitation was  
2 designed with a core objective. This was to mitigate the  
3 impact of public safety power shutoff or PSPS events, and  
4 wildfires, and to create additional energy resources during  
5 periods of high electricity demand. Electric school buses  
6 with bi-directional capabilities can help offset some of  
7 the impacts and challenges of grid reliability and PSPS  
8 events. Most California school districts have electric  
9 school buses and are ready to take advantage of the  
10 benefits of vehicle-to-grid integration, VGI. Allowing for  
11 these districts to engage in VGI will allow further  
12 development of the new technology and positively impact the  
13 surrounding communities. Next slide, please.

14           Senate Bill 110 appropriated funds to establish  
15 the School Bus Replacement Program at the CEC, which  
16 provided funding to school districts across California to  
17 replace old diesel buses with Vehicle to Grid (V2G) enabled  
18 battery electric school buses. At the time of this  
19 solicitation's release, Cajon Valley Union School District,  
20 previously funded through the School Bus Replacement  
21 program, was V2G enabled. Through the districts  
22 partnership with San Diego Gas & Electric, Nuvve and the  
23 CEC, they were advocates for the first V2G project to come  
24 online in the nation.

25           Through the most recent Electric School Bus Bi-

1 Directional Infrastructure solicitation, a total of 78 bi-  
2 directional charging ports will be installed to support 10  
3 school districts or school agencies across the state and  
4 enable battery electric school buses to connect to the  
5 grid. Next slide, please.

6           Let's now return to discuss some specifics about  
7 this solicitation. The funding available in this  
8 solicitation are General Funds from the California Budget  
9 Act of 2021-2022. Each of these projects will develop a  
10 blueprint for replicability of their technology at future  
11 California school districts. The two projects before you  
12 today have a combined proposed award of approximately \$4.8  
13 million. Additional projects for bidirectional  
14 infrastructure are being prepared for your future  
15 consideration and approval. Next slide, please.

16           The first proposed project is with Storer  
17 Transportation, and will be working with Stanislaus County  
18 school districts to deploy at least 37 bi-directional  
19 charging ports at two project sites. The new EVSEs will  
20 allow for the project sites to be interconnected to the  
21 grid, to demonstrate seamless integration between charging  
22 infrastructure and electric school buses. Both sites will  
23 be capable of participating in demand response programs and  
24 be able to provide grid support during emergencies. This  
25 project has a proposed award amount of \$3 million with a

1 little over \$839 thousand in match. Next slide, please.

2 The second proposed project for funding is with  
3 Nuvve Holding Corp. Nuvve will be working with two school  
4 districts in San Diego County, to enable V2G charging  
5 through the implementation of a microgrid and battery  
6 energy storage system.

7 Nuvve will deploy and commission at least three  
8 bi-directional charging ports and utilize three existing  
9 charging ports, as well as interconnect and operate two  
10 battery energy storage systems.

11 Nuvve is working with San Diego Unified School  
12 district, which is the site for the three new EVSEs, as  
13 well as Cajon Valley Union School District, to expand upon  
14 their three current EVSEs. As mentioned, Cajon Valley  
15 Union School District has been the first district in the  
16 nation to facilitate V2G transactions, and this project  
17 will be expanding upon their current capabilities through  
18 the incorporation of the battery energy storage system.

19 This project has a proposed award amount of about  
20 \$1.9 million with about \$727 thousand in match. Next  
21 slide, please.

22 The staff recommendation on this item is to  
23 approve both agreements and adopt the staff findings that  
24 the projects are categorically exempt from CEQA. This  
25 concludes my presentation. I am available to answer

1 questions and representatives from Storer should be on the  
2 line to provide brief comments about their project. Thank  
3 you.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. Let's go  
5 to public comment on Item 7a and 7B only.

6 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair. This is Mona Badie  
7 with the California Energy Commission. If you'd like to  
8 make a comment on 7a or 7b, please use the QR code if  
9 you're in the room to let us know. And if you're joining  
10 us by Zoom, please raise your hand by using -- by clicking  
11 on the raise hand feature on your screen, or if you're  
12 joining us by phone pressing \*9.

13 We do not have commenters in the room, so I'm  
14 going to transition to Zoom. Sarah Storer, I'm going to  
15 open your line. If you could please state and spell your  
16 name for the record we're asking for comments to be two  
17 minutes or less. Sarah, if you could unmute on your end.

18 MS. STORER: Hi, Sarah Storer, S-A-R-A-H S-T-O-R-  
19 E-R.

20 MS. BADIE: You may begin your comment.

21 MS. STORER: Thank you.

22 Good morning Chair and Commissioners. My name is  
23 Sarah Storer. I'm the fourth generation of Storer  
24 Transportation. It is an absolute honor to be considered  
25 for the California Energy Commission's Electric School Bus

1 Bi-Directional Infrastructure Grant Award. Storer was  
2 founded in 1952 by my great grandparents in Modesto,  
3 California, because there was the need for transportation  
4 services for the newly developed special education programs  
5 for children throughout Stanislaus County. Our seven-  
6 decade track record of experiencing success in the state of  
7 California has given us a unique understanding and thorough  
8 understanding of the state's intricate operating and  
9 regulatory environment for school bus transportation.

10 As part of our long term and ongoing dedication  
11 to Stanislaus County school bus transportation needs we  
12 intend to pivot with the times again and help carry out bi-  
13 directional charging infrastructure for electric school  
14 buses at two of our school bus yards. These two bus yards  
15 are over 10 and 12 acre parcels perfectly situated in the  
16 middle of Stanislaus County, and are also the place where  
17 over 250 special needs school buses operate out of.

18 This milestone in the electrification of our  
19 school bus yards underscores our unwavering commitment to  
20 the safety and sustainability of the community that we have  
21 proudly called home for over 70 years. With this grant, we  
22 aim to reduce our carbon footprint and inspire a similar  
23 transformation from our peers and community.

24 I want to again express our sincere gratitude to  
25 the CEC for this opportunity. And I look forward to the



1 positive impact this initiative will have on the  
2 environment and the generations to come.

3 MS. BADIE: Thank you for your comment. That  
4 concludes public comment. Back to you, Chair.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, let's go to Commission  
6 discussion starting with Commissioner Monahan.

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I feel like nobody can  
8 really build on what Sarah Storer just said, and the story  
9 she told about her family's commitment to student  
10 transportation and her willingness to adopt this new  
11 technology. You know, we theoretically have this huge  
12 value in all these batteries. As the Chair said, we'll be  
13 over 2 million electric vehicles early next year and that's  
14 a lot of storage. But how to unlock it has been a  
15 challenge.

16 And I think school buses, I'm not saying anything  
17 new, that there's a unique opportunity because they sit  
18 idle often at times when our grid is the most stressed.  
19 And unlocking that value and helping cash-strapped school  
20 districts get money to win these buses are idle is a real  
21 opportunity, a win for the grid, a win for school  
22 districts.

23 And just thanks to the team for this project and  
24 for one that's going to be coming soon. Redwood's  
25 responsive easy charging products with dynamic signals.

1 Yes, I got it. Where we're really trying to, as the Chair  
2 has said in the past, figure out how to make electric  
3 vehicles be good citizens of the grid and actually beyond  
4 just good citizens, but delivering energy back to the grid  
5 when we need it. So thanks to Lauren and the team.

6 I think these two projects are really just models  
7 for us in in in how to unlock this potential value stream.  
8 And Sarah, I hope we can visit you. I'm sure I'm not the  
9 only Commissioner who's really curious to, when you have  
10 these charges in the ground, to talk to you about your  
11 experience.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And Vice Chair?

13 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah. Thanks, Chair. Thank  
14 you for the presentation. That was wonderful. And again,  
15 I can't beat what the comments have already been. Just a  
16 couple of points to I think uplift is that we have the  
17 7,000 megawatt goal on the load flexibility. A huge part  
18 of that is hopefully going to come from transportation. So  
19 for especially beyond the audit requirements and  
20 incrementally supporting emergencies.

21 So in that context, I was just thinking as we  
22 continue to work through this, it will be helpful to have  
23 an understanding on county by county especially on the  
24 buses, given that opportunity for PSPS, what levels of  
25 storage do we have? And how can we potentially support

1 PSCS, but the extreme events would be really helpful to  
2 have on a county by county. Especially those places where  
3 we are lacking in distribution upgrades or tail ends of the  
4 transmission grid where we typically have a lot of outages.

5 So it would be really interesting to track this  
6 project. And thank you for the presentation, looking  
7 forward to supporting it.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Any other comments on?

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Yeah, just briefly along  
10 those lines, now because is potentially a really great time  
11 with the load management standards and sort of using rates  
12 and automation. And allowing targeting circuits that are  
13 under stress, you know, obviously a broad sort of CAISO  
14 need across the state, but also much more targeted to where  
15 the school buses actually are. And so I think you using  
16 that digital infrastructure that we're building could  
17 really reap some benefit for the state when we need it.  
18 And help us meet the 7 gigawatt goal.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo?

20 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: So hearing about these  
21 programs takes me back to my days being a kid when I rode  
22 the bus from kindergarten all the way through high school.  
23 And I just think you know, how cool it is that this  
24 generation of students and youth are going to see this as a  
25 norm to have electric vehicles, zero emission vehicles,

1 etc. And it wasn't so cool back in my day to ride the  
2 school bus. But you know, now it is. So I also think  
3 about that impact that we're having.

4 And so congratulations on this great work. And  
5 also appreciate the story we just heard about that  
6 generation of this company doing an investment in that  
7 community. And now, you know, just very proud to come to  
8 this point where they're reaching a great milestone in  
9 clean energy.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, well great.

11 First of all, Lauren, thank you for the  
12 presentation. Thank you to Hannon and the whole team  
13 that's worked on this. Thank you to Commissioner Monahan  
14 for your amazing leadership on this issue.

15 I did have a chance to visit the Cajon Valley  
16 School District and to see that installation, really  
17 inspiring to me. And by the way, this is closing out the  
18 year funding the largest, long duration about to be done  
19 with nearly 40 of these charges. This is a great, great  
20 way to end the year.

21 We need to electrify every single school bus in  
22 the state of California. And this is not just a climate  
23 issue, it's a health issue. But also within that is an  
24 incredible opportunity for the grid. I would just observe  
25 that the duty cycle for school buses works really well for

1 the grid. I mean, they're typically not in service in the  
2 summer. And the hours that they are in service actually  
3 comport very well with our grid needs. I mean, our peak  
4 now goes to 9:00 o'clock at night. And when you look at  
5 when the buses are operating, I mean they're very often  
6 back and plugged in by 5:00 o'clock if not earlier. And so  
7 that battery can help with the grid, and this  
8 infrastructure facilitates that.

9           So this is just very high in leverage. I mean,  
10 obviously one of our hopes in addition to getting this  
11 infrastructure deployed, we want to see these buses  
12 manufactured in California. I know a couple of companies  
13 are looking at that and we have other sources of funding to  
14 support that kind of activity. But I think it's a huge  
15 opportunity and a real win for kids health.

16           There's some studies showing that you know, when  
17 diesel buses are driving the exhaust gets into the cabin,  
18 and that affects children's health and also drivers. So  
19 this is a great opportunity to help change all that and  
20 make a positive impact for climate and the grid. And just  
21 totally thrilled to support this and just really want to  
22 recognize Commissioner Monahan for championing this for so  
23 long.

24           And with that I would welcome a motion on Item 7a  
25 and 7b from you.

1                   COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 7a  
2 and 7b.

3                   CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo, would  
4 you be willing to second?

5                   COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I second Item 7a and 7b.

6                   CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. All in favor say aye.  
7 Commissioner Monahan.

8                   COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

9                   CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

10                  COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

11                  CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

12                  VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

13                  CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
14 7a and 7b pass unanimously. Commissioner Monahan is going  
15 to step out while we take up Item 7c.

16                  So Lauren, I invite you to present on Item 7c.

17                  MS. JANSEN: Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, and  
18 Commissioners. My name is Lauren Jansen from the Fuels and  
19 Transportation Division. I will be presenting Agenda Item  
20 7c, which is seeking approval of one grant agreement within  
21 Alameda, Napa, and Contra Costa counties. And our  
22 associated CEQA findings for the project that will deliver  
23 bidirectional electric school bus infrastructure resulting  
24 from solicitation GFO-22-612. Next slide, please.

25                  As mentioned in the previous presentation, this

1 project will offer the same Benefits to Californians. Next  
2 slide, please.

3 As mentioned before in the previous presentation,  
4 this project will contribute to the total of 78 additional  
5 V2G chargers proposed from this solicitation. Next slide,  
6 please.

7 Resulting from the solicitation previously  
8 mentioned, today's item will be one project at four site  
9 locations, amounting to approximately 3 million. As a  
10 result of the solicitation, the fourth proposed project for  
11 bidirectional infrastructure at two additional school  
12 districts proposing \$3 million in funding is being prepared  
13 for consideration at a future business meeting. Next  
14 slide, please.

15 The proposed project is with The Mobility House  
16 and will be working with three school districts in  
17 California. Within these school districts, Pittsburg  
18 Unified School District, Fremont Unified School District  
19 and Napa Unified School District will be cumulatively  
20 deploying 12 bi-directional charging ports at four sites.  
21 These chargers will be enrolled in their respective utility  
22 programs to allow for additional revenue for the school  
23 districts through managed and bi-directional charging. And  
24 these bill savings will be modeled through Time of Use  
25 optimization and demand charge mitigation.

1           This project has a proposed award amount of about  
2 \$2.9 million with about \$340 thousand in match. Next  
3 slide, please.

4           The staff recommendation on this item is to  
5 approve this agreement and adopt the staff findings that  
6 the projects is categorically exempt from CEQA. This  
7 concludes my presentation. I am available to answer  
8 questions and a representative from The Mobility House  
9 should be on the line to provide brief comments about their  
10 project. Thank you.

11           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.

12           Let's go to public comment on Item 7c.

13           MS. BADIE: This is Mona Badie, the Public  
14 Advisor for the Energy Commission. The Commission welcomes  
15 public comments on Item 7c at this time. If you're in the  
16 room we're asking folks to let us know that you'd like to  
17 make a comment by using the QR codes posted in the room.  
18 And if you're online, please use the raise hand feature on  
19 Zoom. And if you're joining us over the phone, please  
20 press \*9 to raise your hand and let us know.

21           We do not have commenters in the living room, so  
22 I will transition to online and phone. Sam Hill-Cristol,  
23 I'm going to open your line, if you could please spell your  
24 name for the record. We are asking for comments to be two  
25 minutes or less.



1           MR. HILL-CRISTOL:  Awesome, thank you.  Yeah, my  
2 name is Sam Hill-Cristol.  That's S-A-M H-I-L-L hyphen C-R-  
3 I-S-T-O-L.

4           MS. BADIE:  You may begin your comment.

5           MR. HILL-CRISTOL:  Great.  So as I said, I'm Sam  
6 Hill-Cristol.  I'm a Strategy and Business Development  
7 Manager at The Mobility House.  I just want to thank the  
8 Commissioners and the CEC staff for providing us with this  
9 opportunity to implement this project.  We're extremely  
10 excited.

11           The Mobility House is a charging solutions  
12 company originally founded in 2009.  We focus primarily on  
13 charging and energy management software.  We have over  
14 1,500 sites operating on our charging and energy management  
15 system called ChargePilot.  That's globally.  Our focus  
16 with this project is to demonstrate VTG across multiple  
17 sites specifically using open standards that are replicable  
18 regardless of the hardware brand of charger and bus.  And  
19 also document those learnings with our nonprofit partners  
20 to move the industry forward.

21           I wanted to close just by thanking our partners  
22 at World Resources Institute, Center for Transportation and  
23 Environment, Polar (phonetic) Energy USA and also most  
24 importantly, the school districts in Fremont, Napa and  
25 Pittsburg, California who are putting their trust in us to

1 participate in this project.

2 I also want to thank PG&E for engaging with us to  
3 conceptualize this project.

4 And also just give a little shout out to the CPUC  
5 and their vision for making the interconnection capacity  
6 maps available. You know, that's a public resource that is  
7 extremely, extremely useful when it comes to setting up  
8 these projects and being able to respond in an informed way  
9 to these are solicitations from the CEC. So important to  
10 acknowledge their contributions as well over the years.  
11 Thank you.

12 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

13 That concludes public comment. Back to you,  
14 Chair.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, Vice Chair, do you have  
16 a question? Yeah,

17 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yeah, Lauren, thanks again for  
18 the presentation. Just so a rough count of the school  
19 buses in California, and when we think about VTG, are we  
20 thinking about one to one for every bus to have a charger?  
21 Like ultimately what's kind of the broad vision in terms  
22 of things?

23 MS. JANSEN: I'll bring up Diana Friedrich.

24 MS. FRIEDRICH: Hi, Diana Friedrich, Acting  
25 Supervisor with the School Bus Unit. Yes, that's a great

1 question. I think we're definitely looking with hat,  
2 talking with our VGI team to see what makes sense. That's  
3 something that's still being developed, so as we kind of  
4 investigate some of those questions we can definitely share  
5 with you but yes, so kind of discussing what makes sense.

6 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Sure. Thank you.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right. Is there a motion  
8 for Item 7c from Commissioner Gallardo.

9 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I move to approve Item  
10 7c.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair, would you be  
12 willing to second?

13 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Second.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.  
15 Commissioner Gallardo.

16 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

18 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
22 7c passes 4-0 with Commissioner Monahan abstaining. Can we  
23 invite her back into the room? Thank you.

24 Let's turn now to Item 8, Senate Bill 114 Funded  
25 Charging And Refueling Infrastructure Program Guiding

1 Principles. Welcome, Elizabeth.

2 MS. MENCHACA-GUHL: Thank you for having me.

3 Good afternoon, Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioners. My  
4 name is Elizabeth Menchaca-Guhl. and I am from the Fuels  
5 and Transportation Division. Today, I will be presenting  
6 on Item 8, the Senate Bill 114 Funded Charging and  
7 Refueling Infrastructure Program Guiding Principles. Next  
8 slide.

9 The need for the Guiding Principles originated  
10 from the education omnibus budget trailer bill, Senate Bill  
11 114, and its \$125 million appropriation to the California  
12 Energy Commission for the 2023-2024 FY.

13 The purpose of the appropriation is for the CEC  
14 to fund grants that cover charging and refueling  
15 infrastructure costs that will support local educational  
16 agencies' replacement of internal combustion school buses  
17 with zero-emission school buses, which will be awarded by  
18 the California Air Resources Board with complementary  
19 funding found in SB 114.

20 The Guiding Principles are intended to cover  
21 today's appropriation as well as future appropriations that  
22 were indicated in SB 114, and which can be seen in the  
23 table above. The guiding principles are intended to cover  
24 a program that is anticipated to receive about \$375  
25 million, subject to future appropriations. Next slide.

1           The Guiding Principles and its respective funding  
2 will bring benefits to California. And these benefits  
3 include empowering local educational agencies to join the  
4 zero-emission future by reducing cost barriers for zero  
5 emission fleet investments, stimulating economies of scale  
6 and zero emission vehicle market growth, supporting the  
7 state's goals for decarbonization of the transportation  
8 sector, and actualizing respiratory health and emissions  
9 reductions benefits. Next slide.

10           The purpose of the guiding principles is to  
11 provide a competitively selected third-party implementer  
12 with overarching objectives for the program design,  
13 implementation, and administration of the Senate Bill 114  
14 funded program. The competitively selected third-party  
15 administrator is expected to be awarded by April 2024 under  
16 GFO-23-605. And the Senate Bill 114 funded program is  
17 expected to open to applicants by May 2024.

18           A staff draft of the Guiding Principles was  
19 released on November 9th, 2023, and public comments were  
20 accepted until December 8th, 2023. During this time, staff  
21 received one public comment, which has been considered in  
22 the final version of our Guiding Principles and will be  
23 considered in future program development.

24           Today, staff is requesting your approval of the  
25 final version of the Guiding Principles. Next slide.

1           The Guiding Principles contains a summary of  
2 legislative elements that a third-party implementer's  
3 Senate Bill 114 funded program must adhere to during the  
4 design and implementation of the program. These elements  
5 include definitions of eligible applicants, characteristics  
6 of priority awardees, grant award breakdowns, and  
7 activities that require coordination with the California  
8 Air Resources Board. Next slide.

9           The Guiding Principles also provides overarching  
10 frameworks for other program design and implementation  
11 activities such as expectations for program accessibility  
12 and acceleration, outreach and engagement to targeted local  
13 educational agencies, technology standards, implementation  
14 manual development, program reporting, and fiscal  
15 responsibility. Next slide.

16           To conclude, staff are recommending the adoption  
17 of staff's determination that the Guiding Principles is  
18 exempt from CEQA. And the adoption of the final version of  
19 the Guiding Principles for the Senate Bill 114 Funded  
20 Charging and Refueling Infrastructure Program.

21           This concludes my presentation. And thank you  
22 for your time.

23           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

24           Let's go to public comment on Item 8.

25           MS. BADIE: Hello again. This is Mona Badie with

1 the California Energy Commission. If you'd like to comment  
2 on Item 8, and you're in the room with us, please use the  
3 QR code to let us know. And if you're joining us online,  
4 please use the raise hand feature on your screen. It looks  
5 like an open palm. And if you're joining us by phone,  
6 please let us know you'd like to make a comment by pressing  
7 \*9.

8 Just giving that a moment. All right, we don't  
9 have any public comment for this item. Back to you, Chair.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Let's go to the  
11 Commissioner discussion starting with Commissioner Monahan.

12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I'll be really brief  
13 on this one. I just think this is an example where we, or  
14 the CEC with our long history of working actually both was  
15 funding school buses and infrastructure, are providing  
16 Guiding Principles for this third-party administrator to be  
17 able to support schools. So just thanks to the team for  
18 pulling this together. And really just think it's a good  
19 example of making sure that we're leveraging our expertise  
20 to inform program development.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Any other Commission  
22 discussion? (No audible response.) Hearing none,  
23 Commissioner Monahan, would you be willing to make the  
24 motion?

25 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 8,

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1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from the  
2 Vice Chair.

3 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: I second Item 8.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.  
5 Commissioner Monahan.

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

12 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
14 8 passes unanimously.

15 We'll turn now to Item 9, approval of the  
16 minutes. Any discussion or any public comment? Sorry  
17 about that.

18 MS. BADIE: Thank you. The Commission now  
19 welcomes public comment on Item 9. Again, if you're in the  
20 room, please use the QR code. If you're joining us online,  
21 please use the raise hand feature on your screen, and  
22 joining us by phone please press \*9.

23 And just giving that a moment. We're not seeing  
24 any comments for Item 9. Back to you, Chair.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Unless there's discussion,



1 Commissioner Gallardo, would you be willing to move Item 9?

2 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes, I move Item 9.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan?

4 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Second.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

6 Commissioner Gallardo.

7 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

9 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

11 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item  
15 9 passes unanimously.

16 We'll turn now to Lead Commissioner Reports. I  
17 do want to note we have a hard stop at 12:20. So if we  
18 don't complete this item by then we'll pick it up after  
19 lunch, but let's go ahead.

20 Commissioner Gallardo, I'll begin with you.

21 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Okay, well I'm focusing  
22 my report on thank yous. And my heart is definitely full  
23 of gratitude towards the entire Energy Commission at all  
24 levels from all corners.

25 I've received so much support since I got to the

1 Energy Commission, serving as Public Advisor and then Chief  
2 of Staff to the Chair and now in this position of privilege  
3 as a Commissioner. So I wanted to start out with that to  
4 the entire Commission and then more specifically to my  
5 team.

6 I have two fantastic advisors, Erik Stokes, who  
7 is serving as my Chief of Staff and Jimmy Qaqundah who's  
8 serving as my Special Advisor. Erik's taken on Lithium  
9 Valley. Jimmy's taking on the opt-in certification  
10 process, and then everything in between. And they have you  
11 know, they remind me of that quote from the Jerry Maguire  
12 movie of they complete me. And I've been really grateful  
13 to them for all that they do. And it's just a really happy  
14 team.

15 And we're very fortunate to have a great fellow  
16 in Valeria Bernal. We also had other great people coming  
17 in the office. Clarissa Kino, (phonetic) who you haven't  
18 met yet is an intern in our office. And I'm hoping that  
19 she can introduce herself one of these days at a business  
20 meeting.

21 Andrea McGary was really helpful to me when I  
22 first started. Jann Mitchell and Victoria Sandoval-Moreno  
23 are filling some gaps right now that I am so grateful for  
24 and so I wanted to highlight how much they've supported me.

25 And Camden Burke is another intern we had in our

1 office who is also just fantastic and a bright light for us  
2 during the time that he was in our office.

3 I also wanted to thank and congratulate the STEP  
4 Division, especially Elizabeth Huber and Sean Simon, who  
5 have been wonderful partners to me and everyone else,  
6 particularly from the Siting team and also from the RPS  
7 team.

8 I also wanted to highlight the Public Advisor's  
9 Office or I should say, the Office of the Public Advisor,  
10 Energy Equity and Tribal Affairs. They've been fantastic  
11 partners, and also put up with me with a lot of the other  
12 requests I have in the efforts that I want to take on.

13 I also want to give a big shout out to the JAEDI  
14 Initiative and all the folks who make that happen, in  
15 particular Carousel Gore, who's my partner in all things  
16 good trouble. She's been wonderful, and there's a good  
17 team that we rely on as well. So I listed them out here.  
18 I won't go through them given we have a hard stop.

19 And also RREDI Division has been wonderful to  
20 work with Deana Carrillo in particular has been a wonderful  
21 partner to me when we were working on Lithium Valley  
22 Vision. And now and in particular, the GRDA team, the  
23 CalAPP team, and also the Solar Equipment List team.

24 And then in terms of leadership my fellow  
25 Commissioners have been wonderful guides, and mentors,

1 coaches, friends. And so I thank you for that, and  
2 appreciate you for all that you do.

3 And then I also wanted to highlight Jen Martin-  
4 Gallardo who also has been a good friend to me and an ally  
5 throughout my experience at the Energy Commission. And  
6 Aleecia Gutierrez as well. She's always a bright light in  
7 my life, and also is just an equity champion who I  
8 appreciate having and working with.

9 And then I also wanted to highlight Mindy  
10 Patterson, who's new to the Energy Commission, but has hit  
11 the ground running with the audits. And so it's been  
12 lovely to learn how to do the audits with her this year.

13 Let me see, I also wanted to highlight Katrina  
14 Leni-Konig, and Larry Three Yetta (phonetic) have been  
15 wonderful partners to me. They have left the Energy  
16 Commission, which I'm sad about that, but really wish them  
17 well in all their endeavors. I know they're going to be  
18 great partners, because they're at other agencies that we  
19 work with. So it'll be great to continue working with  
20 them.

21 But overall, I just really appreciate everybody.  
22 Thank you. Quick enough?

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

24 Let's go to Vice Chair Gunda next, who's got a  
25 hard stop.

1                   VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Big thank you, Chair. I glad  
2 I'm going after Commissioner Gallardo, so I second  
3 everybody you acknowledged.

4                   I just wanted to again begin with our office. So  
5 Miina Holloway is kind of the Executive Assistant in our  
6 office, without whom I don't think we could have gone  
7 through this year. It's been an extremely difficult year  
8 to manage this year with lots of new legislation coming.  
9 So our office has been focusing primarily on resource  
10 planning and reliability as a core focus. But this year,  
11 we also kind of started thinking through natural gas issues  
12 along those two domains, but also petroleum. So it's been  
13 a lot of new work, and lot of guidance needed, so we kind  
14 of had to go through that. So just Miina, I want to thank  
15 you for keeping us together.

16                   We've had a full transition from our office. So  
17 Ben Finkelor, who was our Chief of Staff, he was on loan  
18 from UC Davis and he went back. So thanks to Ben, and a  
19 couple of other advisors who went back to the divisions, so  
20 Liz Gill, and Eric. So thank you so much for all the work  
21 that you've guys have done championing the work we do in  
22 our office.

23                   And also our new team now with Aria Berliner and  
24 Jane Park and Qing Tian. So thanks for all the work you're  
25 doing to keeping us afloat.

1           I wanted to say -- also just extend my gratitude  
2 to the sibling group up here. It's become more of a family  
3 I mean, and this is the kind of family that you want to  
4 have Thanksgiving with and Christmas with. You know,  
5 people who really share high ideals and values and are  
6 willing to work with others on things that they want to  
7 debate. So thank you. Commissioner Monahan, you've been  
8 kind of a person full of heart in my life. And  
9 Commissioner Gallardo, for formally adopting me as your  
10 brother. And both I'm going to call it David and Andrew  
11 for being good friends and mentors over the last three  
12 years for me.

13           I also want to just kind of acknowledge some  
14 foundational groups that we have here with the Chief  
15 Counsel's Office, the Executive Office is another  
16 extraordinary group of people in the Executive Office.  
17 Jen, great that you're now compensating for all the all the  
18 issues we have with Drew. (Laughter.) But just Drew,  
19 thank you for the work that you do in the Executive Office.  
20 And Gaylene, thanks for the work you bring to the table as  
21 well.

22           Chief Counsel's Office, our office had to rely a  
23 lot on the Chief Counsel's Office this year, especially  
24 with the petroleum discussion. So Lisa, thank you for your  
25 work. Linda, who's worked a lot on our work. Chad, for

1 your work on the regional integration issues and the  
2 broader markets. Allan Ward, Dian who kind of touched our  
3 work as well this year. So thanks to the foundation work  
4 that the Chief Counsel's Office does.

5 We had a new addition to the Energy Commission in  
6 terms of the Petroleum Oversight Division. So Tai Milder,  
7 it's not an easy task. So I want to give a shout out to  
8 him, for all the energy and commitment that he's bringing  
9 to the table to, you know, really help support the citizens  
10 of California and move us forward together.

11 The three divisions we work with in our office  
12 are the Energy Assessments Division, the RREDI and Siting  
13 or the STEP Division. So again, I just say thanks to  
14 Aleecia as a proxy for the entire Division.

15 So Aleecia has been spectacular in trying to make  
16 sure the new work that we have in the Division is really  
17 absorbed well. And it couldn't be done without the support  
18 of David Earne, Jeremy Smith, Judi, Quentin Gee, who has  
19 been our focus on the petroleum work. Amanda and Heidi for  
20 her incredible leadership on the demand forecasting side.  
21 So, you know, we were just continuing to build a team,  
22 which has been spectacular for us.

23 RREDI, I don't know what I would do without  
24 Deana. I know Deana Carrillo has been amazing in kind of  
25 moving forward the DEBA and DSGS conversation. And she now

1 has an incredible team in Christine Collopy, Alope Gupta,  
2 and continue to be supported by Armand, GiGi, and Ashley  
3 and Hudson. So thank you guys for the work in landing the  
4 guidelines for DEBA and DSGA, but also just moving the work  
5 forward.

6 STEP, I just want to recognize the partnership  
7 with Elizabeth on reliability issues broadly and the  
8 resource planning. Gina, thank you for your support. Sean  
9 was here in the room earlier, Sean Simon has been  
10 spectacular to work with on transmission and his leadership  
11 and work on resource planning at large. Susan, Yoseph that  
12 presented today, Joseph Hughes, Kyle, and Brett and Eric,  
13 thank you for all the work.

14 There's a couple of groups we left out here  
15 including our office, but I just want to say Mona to you  
16 and the Public Advisor's Office. You know, nothing gets  
17 done here without you guys and your support. And Carousel  
18 and her amazing leadership in continuing to incorporate our  
19 work on equity.

20 And I also just want to highlight the Comms' team  
21 and Lindsay is here. She's hiding under the chair. She  
22 doesn't want to put her head up for the record, but  
23 Lindsay, thank you. We had to rely so much on you this  
24 year for our work.

25 So overall, it's been a good year. And I want to



1 thank my family. You know, it's hard work. And I just  
2 want to say thanks to my wife and my children for all that  
3 they allow us to do here. So thanks to everybody and happy  
4 holidays and look forward to the next year.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.  
6 Commissioner McAllister.

7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Well great. I  
8 understand Vice Chair, you're going to have to leave here  
9 pretty soon, but I'm probably going to talk past when you  
10 have to leave. So just thanks for those comments.

11 This is always challenging for me, just we have  
12 so many professionals contributing to our mission. And you  
13 know, I feel like the CEC is like a huge switchyard you  
14 know, bigger than Grand Central. A lot of trains running  
15 around on a lot of tracks with thousands of boxcars, and  
16 platforms and diesel engines. You know, a lot of work  
17 getting done and moving forward and lots of conductors.  
18 And it's just amazing how much comes in and out of the  
19 Commission and how much work gets done and mostly without  
20 train wrecks. So just remarkable teamwork we have here.

21 So first, I just want to start off with my  
22 amazing team. Bryan Early, my Chief of Staff, who's in the  
23 room here. Just yeah, talking about a conductor, amazing  
24 work. And then David Johnson, Kathryn Kynett, who have  
25 just been stellar this year. I have a new addition as

1 you're in the room, Dori Floyd is with us, my new Executive  
2 Assistant so welcome, Dori. And thanks to Gaylene for all  
3 your support. And Jan and Laura who have really held the  
4 fort and helped us keep all those trains running very  
5 capably. So really looking forward to incorporating Dori  
6 into the team.

7           So I wanted to just also start with thanking my  
8 colleagues here on the dais. I've learned so much from you  
9 every day. I guess I'm the longest tenured Commissioner  
10 here right now, but I feel like a newbie sometimes when I  
11 go to go to the schools that you all put on in your efforts  
12 every day. So it's great to have such a wonderful set of  
13 colleagues.

14           And in particular, I want to highlight the Chair  
15 and your staff who just really are working closely together  
16 with Kat and Ken and Nancy Ander. This has been a huge  
17 addition this year doing all sorts of great support work.

18           You know, I'm really grateful for our strong  
19 sense of shared mission, teamwork, we bring our whole  
20 selves and I know that we just feel that we do really  
21 deeply. And I'm reminded of George Shultz' kind of quote  
22 which I'm going to just butcher here, but I'll get the  
23 spirit of it who passed I believe this calendar year,  
24 sometime early this year. But you know, a healthy garden  
25 requires cultivation, not just so it bears lots of flowers

1 and fruit in the good times, right. But really, even more  
2 so, so that it develops a strong root system so that when  
3 hard times come, they can really get through those  
4 challenges. And I think just our work together in the  
5 climate mission really gives a sense of that sort of  
6 strength and power, then we're going to persist and  
7 succeed. Lots of fruit to be borne by our efforts.

8 I wanted to also highlight Drew. It bears  
9 reiterating Drew is just in the trenches working through  
10 lots of tough issues on our behalf. And just the nuts and  
11 bolts, administrative pay classifications, making sure  
12 staff gets what they need, just really making progress in  
13 the engine room. And I just really appreciate you.

14 And Jennifer Martin-Gallardo, JMG, so you have a  
15 moniker now, right. So I think great things are happening  
16 because of your partnership with Drew.

17 Maunee Berenstein and Jason Harville as well in  
18 the Executive Office, just amazing work in support of  
19 implementation.

20 And Damien, our champion and facilitator on the  
21 finance front and the budget process, really tremendous  
22 work.

23 So Efficiency Division is kind of my major gig.  
24 So lots of great leadership with Mike Sokol, Will Vicent,  
25 Scott Blanc, just really we're so fortunate to have them at

1 the helm of the Division.

2 The Building Standards Branch, a huge lift this  
3 year with an update of the building code with Javier,  
4 Payam, Bill, Bach, Muhammad and Hally. We have a great  
5 engineering team, Mikey and Che and RJ and Thao are doing  
6 just tremendous support work and dialing and in the code in  
7 all the various sectors and building types.

8 Chris Olvera leads just the incredible Outreach  
9 and Education Unit that helps socialize the building codes,  
10 it's a big endeavor. It's very complex and just helping  
11 get the local governments and everyone else on board and  
12 educated up. And Danuta tracking local government  
13 initiatives that complement our statewide building code.  
14 So just a really tremendous partnership across the state.

15 The Standards Compliance Branch, Lorraine and Joe  
16 are leading, implementing current and prior codes. You  
17 know, there's always multiple codes in play, and Joe Loyer  
18 helping to update our fuel verification protocols. And  
19 Chang Liao leading the rulemaking, the new rulemaking on  
20 the Voluntary Whole House Program, which is going to really  
21 I think refresh the efforts and buildings across the state.

22 The Existing Buildings Branch, the Energy  
23 Efficiency Action Plan, Owen Howlett and Dave Taylor and  
24 Christina Duloglo.

25 And Load Management and MIDA, Heather Bird,

1 Stephanie Wayland, Kenzo as well on that team. Amber Beck  
2 is really messaging support and our beautiful new website,  
3 which I encourage you all to check out. On public facing  
4 energy efficiency information and resources on  
5 benchmarking, Troy Dorai is really providing great  
6 leadership there.

7 In the Appliance Efficiency Branch, Peter Strait  
8 leads that branch and has done a great job leading in the  
9 flexible demand appliance standards. Nich Struven, Bruce  
10 Helft, they've navigated us across the finish line on the  
11 adoption of the first flexible demand appliance standard  
12 under SB 49, for pool controls, and much more to come  
13 there.

14 Soheila Pasha, Alex Galamez, (phonetic) Jessica  
15 Lopez, Carlos Baez are also doing really leading work on  
16 various supplements categories.

17 Cristina Autry (phonetic) leads the MAEDbS team,  
18 which is the database where all the compliance information  
19 sits, a really key infrastructure.

20 Support, you know, Corrine Fishman has been  
21 fantastic on rulemakings, so thanks to her. Thanks to you,  
22 Christine -- or Corinne rather. Tajanee and Michi for  
23 administrative support and just really, really great work.

24 And on the Building Electrification Summit,  
25 Natalie Lee is back. We're just having really happy to

1 have her focused on that and she pulled it off  
2 tremendously along with a broader team.

3 RREDI work, sort of partnering with, I think all  
4 of us worked somewhat with RREDI and Deana's team on the  
5 efficiency programs, the IRA and IGA efforts in the  
6 Equitable Building Decarb Program. Just doing amazing work  
7 developing those programs, this is big money. So Deana and  
8 Christine, Jen Nelson now in that, that now leads the  
9 existing building or the Equitable Building Decarb Branch  
10 have RREDI. Miriam Jaffee-Blocks (phonetic), Diana Maneta.  
11 And let's see, Hally and Carol Schmidt and Susan Mills,  
12 Tiffany, and Larry as well. I really appreciate all of  
13 you.

14 The Build, Cali-HP (phonetic) and ECCA teams,  
15 Christopher Meyer and the Camille Remy-Obad as well, just  
16 thanks for keeping all those trains running.

17 And CalSHAPE, we have an amazing team, a super  
18 successful program focused on schools: Jonathan Fong and  
19 Theresa Daniels and David Velazquez.

20 And then RD&D, just I won't go through everyone  
21 in every division that I work with, but it really just Joan  
22 and Angie, and Cammy. Cammy is relatively new, I think  
23 just great leadership pushing our initiatives there.

24 On Industry, Virginia and Ilia, Kadir Bedir on  
25 Demand Flexibility and Cyrus Ghandi on the FPIP Program.

1                   And then on Clean Hydrogen, Kevin Uy and Kaycee  
2 Chang, Bart Crows, (phonetic) and Miki Crowell. All  
3 providing tremendous leadership and interagency  
4 collaboration as well. You know, we're really in a key, I  
5 think, leverage position around hydrogen here at the  
6 Commission. So we have a great, you know, broad based team  
7 on that.

8                   EAD, also the Vice Chair mentioned Aleecia and  
9 David Erne, just tremendous knowledge and leadership and  
10 vision.

11                   We have a huge team of capable analysts. In  
12 particular, I want to highlight Ingrid and Nick on the  
13 demand side resource planning. And then Grace, Liz and  
14 Chris, on supporting me in my work with WIEB, the Western  
15 Interstate Energy Board, and just Western markets and other  
16 issues. Just we have a tremendous institutional knowledge,  
17 interagency collaboration with the CAISO and the CPUC and  
18 others on those issues.

19                   Legal, it's hard to overstate just how important  
20 the team of CCO is but Linda and Lisa just tremendous  
21 people and professionals and legal minds. And in  
22 particular on efficiency-related, demand-side related  
23 issues Mike Murza, Christina Evola, thanks Christina, Brent  
24 Plater, Kirk Oliver, Josey Crosby, Matt Pinkerton, just all  
25 tremendous contract contributors.

1           And then the Hearing Office, Ralph and Renee and  
2 Chad as well.

3           So, more broadly, just supporting messaging and  
4 outreach Elaine and Michael in the media under Lindsay's  
5 incredible leadership. Thank you, Lindsay. And it just  
6 doesn't happen without that public messaging.

7           And then the Public Advisor's Office, you know,  
8 Mona, just can't reiterate how important what you do is and  
9 thanks for all your support. And Dorothy as well for the  
10 Summit. She was just amazing and just all around  
11 wonderful, just a star linebacker and team player.

12           Carousel, I just also really appreciate you,  
13 positivity and inclusiveness and just tremendous skills and  
14 just sensitivity. I think the touch is just tremendous to  
15 watch. I think you're an example really for all of us in  
16 terms of how to manage tricky issues.

17           And I also wanted to highlight the leader of our  
18 CEC, La CEC Familia, who's Guadalupe Corona is just really  
19 taking that on and it's just lovely to watch her thrive in  
20 that role.

21           And in Government Affairs just wanted to  
22 highlight Brady, just an incredible hire, really lifting  
23 the level of our engagement with the Legislature and  
24 others. And Forrest Pastrel (phonetic) who has left his  
25 gig in that office to head to another agency, but he was



1 great this year.

2 And then finally just wrapping up, our colleagues  
3 at the PUC and the CAISO. And our support and colleagues  
4 at the Governor's Office, lots of alignment just across the  
5 whole administration.

6 And again I'm just super grateful to be able to  
7 work with all of you in our CEC family and collaborators to  
8 make progress on all these issues that are so critical.

9 Thanks.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you,  
11 Commissioner Monahan.

12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, I'm going to start  
13 with just saying that I always have a little internal  
14 conflict during this time of thank yous, because it is so  
15 important to acknowledge the people around you and to  
16 really be good grateful. And I am really grateful to work  
17 here and to have colleagues that are top notch and bring  
18 their A game to work and are kind and thoughtful. And I  
19 feel like reading a laundry list of names isn't the way  
20 that I like to genuinely express my gratitude. So I'm  
21 coming at this with a little bit of internal cognitive  
22 dissonance around this process. And I wonder if we can  
23 also kind of work together to think about how we could  
24 maybe make this a bit more of an intimate process instead  
25 of just reading names off of the list, which is important

1 to do.

2           Okay, so with that baring my soul a little bit.  
3 I did, my team put together some of slides with names,  
4 because I also have like anxiety. Am I going to forget  
5 people and so writing this one is short, because it's just  
6 my office. But when we get to the next slide you'll be as  
7 overwhelmed as I am.

8           So first I wanted to say from the perspective of  
9 these folks up here on the on the dais just I do feel a lot  
10 of gratitude to all of you. And I just feel like everybody  
11 is coming at this with, you know, a lot of smarts and open  
12 heart. And really trying to be respectful to each other,  
13 and to the people we work with and so I just want to thank  
14 all of you for being such wonderful collaborators. And I  
15 feel supported by you, I hope you feel supported by me.

16           And I feel like it's important to have healthy  
17 discussions. We shouldn't always agree that's not healthy,  
18 but to be collegial, and respectful, and to listen, is  
19 really what I feel from all of you. So thank you.

20           On my team side I've had the same team for a year  
21 now and it's amazing. It's great to have a team that just  
22 works well together. It makes my job so easy. I always  
23 say like, I like to hire people who could take over my job  
24 and be better. And that's to me a good set of teammates.

25           So I do have that I have my Chief of Staff, Sarah

1 Lim, who's amazing, organized strategic, keeps us all on  
2 task, and definitely has been my thought partner around a  
3 lot of issues.

4 My lead on technical issues, Ben Wender is  
5 incredible. Such a wonderful, nice guy, but also dives  
6 deep in the weeds and then can elevate and bring the  
7 conversation up. And he's been our point on the IEPR, fun  
8 times. It's been a really great learning process.

9 Patricia Carlos, who's helping us with social  
10 media, thank God. That's not my strength at all, and event  
11 planning and a lot more she just steps in whenever we need  
12 help.

13 And of course, Catherine Cross. "My  
14 Administrative Assistant" is just too small. I don't know  
15 what that means, but she does so much more. And it helps  
16 us all and she's a great spirit on our team.

17 In the IEPR world, I want to just say a shout out  
18 to Heather who's just incredible. We always say nice  
19 things about Heather and that's because they're deserved.  
20 She really is amazing. The IEPR is very hard, lots of  
21 moving pieces, she keeps them all moving. And she does it  
22 with aplomb and charm and just effectiveness.

23 I want to thank Brady who kind of dived in with  
24 us on the Clean Transportation Program Reauthorization and  
25 Kat in the Chair's Office who I've got on speed dial. She

1 has really helped on a lot of difficult political issues,  
2 so.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That's why I can never reach  
4 her. She's always talking to you instead.

5 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, she's talking to me.  
6 She's talking to me all the time. So thank you, Kat.

7 And I want to move to the Fuels and  
8 Transportation Division slide. I think that's the next  
9 one. Okay, yeah, this is the overwhelming one. Sorry. So  
10 the Fuels and Transportation team has really expanded in  
11 numbers and the portfolio, and they just keep moving  
12 forward. I want to just highlight we've had all these  
13 first ever projects, first ever charger reliability  
14 standards being drafted on the street. First ever higher  
15 efficiency standards being considered. First ever  
16 community benefits definition being developed. First ever  
17 federal funding for chargers and in coordination with  
18 Caltrans. It's fun, fun times. And also the first ever  
19 report on hydrogen public truck refueling infrastructure  
20 needed.

21 So just a lot of first evers. These big grant  
22 programs, big grant programs for deploying chargers at  
23 scale, but also for highlighting some of the challenging  
24 areas that we're facing in terms of rural charges. And the  
25 whole Fuels and Transportation Division has been involved

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1 in this, so I don't feel comfortable just naming all the  
2 names. I just want to say thank you to all of them for all  
3 their hard work. And I'm going to be meeting with them  
4 tomorrow and I'll go through more on a personal basis then.

5 The Energy Assessments Division, Quentin Gee has  
6 been just a great partner on everything related to zero  
7 emission transportation, always questing, always curious,  
8 always willing to think about it from a different angle.

9 Energy Research and Development Division, as  
10 Commissioner McAllister said we have been outstanding new  
11 programs on hydrogen and industrial, decarbonization.  
12 Teams are great. And innovations on zero emission  
13 transportation.

14 For Communications, Lindsay, shout out to Lindsay  
15 and her team. They just keep us so much better than we  
16 were before. And Lindsay, you in particular, you have  
17 brought like video capability, you make us look good in  
18 pictures. I've never looked so good, so thank you for all  
19 you do.

20 And then on the Chief Counsel's side I just want  
21 to thank Linda Barrera who has helped me so many times on  
22 key issues. When I need help I call her, she helps me, and  
23 works late at night, works on weekends to help with  
24 questions I have. I want to thank Lisa who's really  
25 stepped into this leadership role at a time when we need

1 you. So thank you for all you're doing. And there's lots  
2 of complicated issues. I went through all the different  
3 things that FTD is working on, and CCO is there every step  
4 of the way, every step of the way. So thank you to all the  
5 CCO folks who are keeping us, checking the boxes, legal  
6 boxes to make sure we're doing things right.

7           Mona, our Public Advisor who's so wonderful, and  
8 just really wonderful to see her thrive in this role. And  
9 try to figure out ways that we can be better with the  
10 public, but also streamline and be just more efficient and  
11 how we do it and prioritize. So I just appreciate your  
12 leadership, Mona, in all the space of public engagement.

13           And in the Executive Office, I just want to start  
14 with Drew, because you're -- I have never actually  
15 encountered an Executive Director who's as good as you.  
16 And many days, I think, "Thank God we have Drew. Thank  
17 God, we have Drew." So and on a personal level you're  
18 always there to help me think through complicated,  
19 difficult issues. So just thank you for that.

20           And Jen, we welcome you to this position. And  
21 you have been, I think, such a bright light in your many  
22 roles at the CEC. And now to have you with Drew as his  
23 partner, and helping with these difficult issues around  
24 federal funding, just really appreciate you and what you're  
25 bringing. So thank you.

1           Okay, I'll stop there. Thank you.

2           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, that was beautiful.

3           Well, I'll just say one of the great pleasures in  
4 life for me is being part of a team. And being a part of a  
5 really high functioning team, which is what I feel we have.  
6 And just I want to begin with this dais. Every  
7 Commissioner here wakes up every day, you know, fully  
8 locked in and pushing to make things better and make things  
9 happen and I couldn't be prouder.

10           I just wanted to especially lifted up  
11 Commissioner Gallardo, because it was a big deal to have  
12 you join and be on this dais this year. Our first Latina  
13 Commissioner, but more than that I just love what you bring  
14 to the Energy Commission, to the communities. Every place  
15 you and I've had a chance to travel quite a bit, and seeing  
16 you engage with communities all over the state, with  
17 tribes, especially with Salton Sea this last year just  
18 bringing so much heart to the work. And I just was so  
19 conscious of it, especially with the Energy Hall of Fame  
20 Awards again this year. It's just wonderful to have you on  
21 the dais and couldn't be more grateful.

22           I want to just begin with Drew, just echo what  
23 Commissioner Monahan just said, just incredible, your motor  
24 never stops. And it's a delight. You and I are on the  
25 phone every day, multiple times. And, you know, I think

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1 we're a well-oiled machine. I think we're -- I mean I  
2 don't mean to overstate it, but I just think it's true. I  
3 think we're more productive than we've ever been in our  
4 nearly 50 year history. We're probably averaging over \$10  
5 million a week of great projects and grants we're pushing  
6 out for water efficiency standards and motion and tire  
7 efficiency and so much else. And you know, you're just  
8 helping us orchestrate the whole thing.

9           And Jen, what a what a tremendous addition to  
10 this role, incredibly proud of you.

11           I wanted to just thank CCO as well: Linda Barrera  
12 and Lisa and the whole team. I feel generally very  
13 protected by you guys keeping us on the straight and narrow  
14 with processes. And I just really want to thank all the  
15 work you do to make sure things don't get unwound. There's  
16 many ways things can go off the rails, so I want to lift  
17 that up.

18           And then, Mona, thank you for stepping into this  
19 role as well this year. And just keeping our public  
20 process going really well. We're all just phenomenal.

21           Lindsay, still hiding in the back there. I think  
22 we have the best comm shop in the state. And it is really,  
23 really important that we tell the story of what we're  
24 doing, because it's so significant. And having now this  
25 year traveled to Norway, Japan, Korea, China, France, UAE,



1 you know, they are looking -- the international community  
2 is looking to California and how we get the word out. And  
3 you've been phenomenal and creative and inventive and  
4 collaborative.

5 I wanted to just also recognize Elizabeth Huber  
6 in particular. She's not in the room right now, but super  
7 glad that she is recovering well. And she's been just  
8 tremendous on offshore wind especially among many, many big  
9 priorities she's handling.

10 Damien on budget has been tremendous. Brady, and  
11 so many others.

12 My team, Kat, I'm not sure what I did to deserve  
13 having you as Chief of Staff, an absolute delight. And you  
14 do complete me. We really have so many, so many different  
15 skill sets that come together and you keep us on the  
16 straight and narrow. And just it feels like you've been  
17 here five years, and it's just been a year. And I couldn't  
18 be more grateful every day.

19 My new assistant Lyndsay Jackson-Ross had been  
20 sent from the heavens. I have great empathy for the boss  
21 she has to work with every day, but she's been amazing.  
22 And I'm so lucky to have her.

23 I also want to just recognize Terra Weeks who had  
24 a six-year run in my office ending a few months ago. We're  
25 still very close in touch and delighted to have her.

1 Ken Rider has been phenomenal on so many issues.  
2 Lorraine Gonzalez, Nancy Ander. And I just you know the  
3 kind of thing like Nancy coming back as a retired  
4 annuitant. You know, she engaged with your team with DGS.  
5 And now we have this new option for state employees to rent  
6 an electric vehicle with Enterprise. I mean, that's the  
7 kind of thing when you lean into a project like that. And  
8 then Alejandro (phonetic) and everyone else who's been a  
9 Science Fellow.

10 And everyone else that was mentioned, I just a  
11 second thunderously.

12 So what I'd like to do if we could, yes? Yeah,  
13 what I was going to do is this, I need to go to a meeting.  
14 I was going to ask Commissioner McAllister, could you  
15 preside over this and just get us through the Executive  
16 Director's Report and Public Advisor's Report and Public  
17 Advisor's Report? Then we'll adjourn for lunch and  
18 reconvene and take up Item 13 at 1:30. Would that be  
19 agreeable everybody? Okay. Thanks, everyone. Thanks.

20 (Chair Hochschild leaves the room.)

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great, all right let's  
22 move to --

23 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Commissioner McAllister?

24 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'm sorry, yes go ahead  
25 Commissioner Gallardo.

1                   COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yeah, we had one more  
2 thank you that we wanted to do for the Clean Energy Hall of  
3 Fame awards.

4                   COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay.

5                   COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I just wanted to mention  
6 this year's Hall of Fame awards was phenomenal. It's the  
7 best one we've had. And I think that had a lot to do with  
8 the big team of volunteers that we had helping us, so I  
9 wanted to express gratitude on behalf of the Chair and  
10 myself for all of the people who stepped up for that day.  
11 We had a lot of help.

12                   And then also throughout we had tremendous help  
13 from the Media and Public Communications Office. So  
14 Lindsay, I also wanted to thank you on this front in  
15 particular, because it's such a special event. It means a  
16 lot to the Chair, and to me, and it was wonderful. And I  
17 encourage everybody to watch the recording of the event if  
18 you weren't able to attend. It will pull on your  
19 heartstrings.

20                   And there is one person in particular here that I  
21 wanted to highlight who's Andrew Rosales. He's doing a  
22 tremendous job. He's so receptive and responsive and is  
23 kind of behind the scenes, but just willing to help out.  
24 And he helped me with the Hall of Fame throughout the year  
25 and other things as well. And the date of he always makes

1 sure he doesn't -- you know, nothing falls through the  
2 cracks. So I wanted to highlight Andrew and thank him for  
3 all of his efforts, and everybody else who's listed here on  
4 this slide. Thank you again, so much.

5 Commissioner McAllister, thank you for that.

6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Thank you,  
7 Commissioner Gallardo.

8 And let's see, we can move to I believe we're on  
9 Item 11, the Executive Director's Report.

10 MR. BOHAN: Thank you, Acting Chair. Let me  
11 start by thanking you all for your leadership and for your  
12 acknowledgments of so many of the people who make this  
13 place tick. I second all those comments. I don't want to  
14 repeat them, but I do want to call out some of the people  
15 that I work with on a daily basis.

16 Let me first acknowledge the Executive Office.  
17 Jen got called out a couple of times, and she's only been  
18 in this role for a couple of months, but it feels like  
19 she's been in the job for a whole lot longer. She has a  
20 rare combination of extremely high IQ and EQ. And on top  
21 of that, she's a joy to work with every day. So thank you.

22 Gaylene, who is sitting back here, I'm pleased to  
23 report was recently promoted and will shift her talents  
24 more to CEC systems improvements. She will thankfully  
25 remain in the Executive Office, but she's been an anchor in

1 this office as long as I've been in the job. And I really  
2 couldn't do without her.

3 Victoria took on a new role as Travel Coordinator  
4 this year and she's really gotten things running smoothly  
5 for us. Thank you, Victoria. She also pitches in  
6 elsewhere whenever needed.

7 Kimberly and Susan both started this year and  
8 have contributed mightily to the EO to keep us a well-run  
9 machine. And they also can plug in when there are needs on  
10 for Commissioners and others.

11 And finally within the Executive Office, Greiana.  
12 The question about her is what she can't do. She works  
13 closely with Jen on a suite of projects too long to list,  
14 but I want to acknowledge particularly her leadership on  
15 the Mentorship Program. This has been huge for our  
16 organization. We've talked about it for a long time we  
17 finally with Greiana's assistance turned talking to action.  
18 The feedback I'm getting from both the mentors and the  
19 mentees so far has been all positive.

20 Deputy Directors, these are the ones who keep our  
21 policy and funding work moving forward. And I just want to  
22 give a shout out to each of them.

23 We did a reorg recently and is the first full  
24 year of the reorg where we shifted some of the more policy  
25 centric work to some divisions and then have three

1 divisions that are focused chiefly on investments. Hannon  
2 manages our transportation investments that are the most  
3 advanced in the country. And we're soon going to unveil  
4 the 100 thousandth direct current fast charger. This is  
5 pretty exciting. I think that total must be somewhere in  
6 the neighborhood of the rest of the country combined.  
7 Maybe that's an exaggeration, but it's close.

8           Jonah manages the best state energy research  
9 program in the country and one of the best in the world.  
10 Innovation happens here in California in a large measure,  
11 due to he and his team.

12           Deana manages our Renewable Energy and  
13 Reliability Funding. The Equitable Building Decarb Program  
14 is aimed at two huge state goals: electrifying residential  
15 energy uses and focusing on those Californians who most  
16 need financial assistance to participate in the clean  
17 energy revolution. So thank you, Deanna.

18           On the policy centric side I want to call out the  
19 three leaders there. (Sounds like) Mike and Lee are our  
20 efficiency experts. We recently adopted the world's first  
21 flexible appliance standard for pool pumps. A small  
22 technological fix will permit pool pumps to operate when  
23 electricity is abundant and cheap and stop when it's not.  
24 And now as Commissioner McAlister is leading us we're  
25 moving on to lots of other appliances and this should soon

1 be the norm.

2           This year, Aleecia has led one of the most  
3 complicated and important projects we've ever faced,  
4 overseeing the refining industry, and planning for one of  
5 the largest transformations in human history from one  
6 powered by fossil fuels, especially petroleum to one  
7 powered by clean energy.

8           And Elizabeth. She is at the helm of our first  
9 ever opt-in project, which is located in Shasta County.  
10 The project is important for California's grid, but it has  
11 significant local opposition. Her team dispassionately  
12 analyzes the facts and will make a recommendation to the  
13 Commission on how best to proceed.

14           And then there's Rob who's got one of those jobs  
15 that largely can go unnoticed, but without which we'd have  
16 chaos. He's built a very strong team that manages all of  
17 our business needs, from budgets to IT, to HR, to contract  
18 management, to accounting, to business services. It's a  
19 lot.

20           The Small Office Directors, I just want to  
21 highlight the ones that again I work with most closely.  
22 Heather is nearly finished with this year's Integrated  
23 Energy Policy Report. We have people who are deeper than  
24 she is in some of the subjects but she probably has the  
25 broadest policy expertise of anybody in the organization.

1 On top of it, we've got a lot of strong writers. She's  
2 probably the best writer in the organization, so thank you,  
3 Heather.

4 Jason has built one of the largest energy  
5 consumption databases in the world, and has spearheaded the  
6 effort to increase our energy dashboards from a small  
7 handful a year and a half ago to about 30.

8 Carousel, who's been mentioned a couple times,  
9 she's got one of the toughest jobs in the building. One of  
10 her main roles is to referee disputes. Her broad smile and  
11 calm demeanor conceal a very diligent referee who resolves  
12 problems in a fair and unbiased manner consistently.

13 Maunee quietly manages our Appliance Enforcement  
14 Program that keeps non-compliant energy wasteful appliances  
15 out of California. Next quarter she's going to present at  
16 a business meeting and illustrate how much her team's  
17 efforts have contributed to energy savings for  
18 Californians.

19 Mindy just started this year, but has already  
20 built up her team and audited and investigated numerous  
21 projects. She had really big shoes to fill with Lisa's  
22 departure, but she has stepped in quickly and risen to the  
23 occasion.

24 And Brady just started a few months ago, but he's  
25 already established himself as a legislative leader who



1 builds and maintains relationships with all of our key  
2 legislative partners. His extensive experience working in  
3 the Capitol has been already in a short time a huge asset  
4 for our organization.

5           The traits these leaders all share are strong  
6 leadership, subject matter expertise, strategic and  
7 creative thinking, and humility. We don't establish the  
8 policies. You do, and we provide our opinions. But our  
9 job is to execute on the decisions that get made.

10           And finally, every one of them and this goes  
11 throughout the organization, are committed to public  
12 service, to excellence and accountability in all we do.  
13 Our leaders understand that assisting employees is their  
14 chief role. Their job is to manage teams and bring them  
15 up. And we do it to try to realize the best we can get for  
16 the organization, but also to help each of them realize  
17 their potential.

18           In closing, let me just say that my focus has  
19 been on our leaders, but we get nothing meaningful  
20 accomplished in this organization without the dedication of  
21 the 700 staff who call this place their work home. So I  
22 just can't express my gratitude enough for all of them and  
23 the work that they do. And we can't mention 700 names, but  
24 we should. And to your point, Commissioner Monaghan, but a  
25 more intimate way of doing this I think is called for.

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1 It's a great honor to serve you, this organization, and the  
2 public we represent. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Thank you very much,  
4 Drew. Here, here. I think we all couldn't agree more. So  
5 thanks for your leadership.

6 Moving to Item 12, Public Advisor's Report.  
7 Mona?

8 MS. BADIE: Thank you. I also have some thank  
9 yous.

10 I just want to recognize the team and the Office  
11 of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs.  
12 Their dedication and hard work supports the Commission's  
13 service to the public, and also our work with our equity  
14 and tribal partners throughout the state.

15 I also want to thank all the teams that support  
16 the business meetings. It takes a lot of work to ensure  
17 the success of our business meetings and they would not be  
18 successful if every one of the teams you see on the screen  
19 hopefully -- let me make sure, yeah -- you see on the  
20 screen were not bringing their absolute best to work each  
21 day.

22 So that's the Public Advisor's Office. We have  
23 BSO, IT and Webwork, CCO. We also have division liaisons  
24 from all of our divisions. And of course our leadership  
25 offices, Executive Office and Commissioner row, so a big

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1 thank you to those teams.

2           And I just wanted to also reflect that I continue  
3 to be inspired and grateful for the dedicated,  
4 collaborative, and caring culture we have at the Energy  
5 Commission. Every day I come to work I'm witness to CEC's  
6 excellence in the state energy landscape, agency landscape  
7 excuse me. And I don't think this would be possible if  
8 everyone at the Commission including our Commissioners, and  
9 our executive leadership weren't dedicated to nurturing and  
10 exemplifying this collective culture of teamwork, respect,  
11 appreciation, hard work and dedication. So I just want to  
12 express my gratitude for that.

13           And that concludes my comments.

14           COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Well, thank you. Thanks  
15 very much, Mona.

16           So with that -- oh no, Item 13, Chief Counsel's  
17 Report. Oh, I'm sorry. Oh, right. Okay, so are we --

18           MS. DECARLO: We're going to save that for when  
19 we come back.

20           COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay, so we want to  
21 adjourn now?

22           MS. DECARLO: Yes, although I do have one. I do  
23 have a thank you, but I can save that for when we come  
24 back. Because then we have to go into closed session.

25           COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER Yeah. So how do you

1 want to stage the closed session? Do you want to just come  
2 back for your item and then go into closed session?

3 MS. DECARLO: Yeah.

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Great. Perfect.

5 All right. Well, so we're going to adjourn until  
6 1:30, so we can all go get some lunch. Thanks.

7 (Off the record at 12:36 a.m.)

8 (On the record at 1:33 p.m.)

9 MS. BADIE: We are back from break, Chair.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, I'm just still off  
11 video. If you can -- (indiscernible) thing that you're  
12 doing. It's fine. We can get it going.

13 Why don't we -- the last item we had was Chief  
14 Counsel's Report, so let's begin with that. Item 13, over  
15 to you, Lisa.

16 MS. DECARLO: Thank you, Lisa DeCarlo, Acting  
17 Chief Counsel. For Item 13 I will be proposing that we go  
18 into a closed session. But before I do I wanted to present  
19 some thank yous on behalf of the Chief Counsel's Office.

20 And first I would just like to say ditto and  
21 uplift all of your thank yous. I mean, the Commission is  
22 definitely made up of a phenomenal group of people and  
23 we've heard that in buckets today. So I definitely want to  
24 uplift your thank yous.

25 Then I want to also thank our CCO staff. Our

1 team in the Legal Office is made up of a phenomenal group  
2 of individuals. And they are fabulous attorneys and they  
3 are fabulous people and it's just great to see how they  
4 support one another and help the Commission wade through  
5 the complex issues we're presented with each day.

6           So first I'd like to thank the management team  
7 led by our fearless leader and tireless leader at that,  
8 Linda. And then supported also by Blanca, Christina, and  
9 Jared, and Mike have stepped into Acting Assistant Chief  
10 Counsel roles seamlessly and with great gusto. And then  
11 Jacquie Moore, who helps us with all manner of things.

12           Next, I'd like to thank our Administrative Unit.  
13 They handle the administrative needs of not only the Chief  
14 Counsel's Office, but also CEO as a whole through their  
15 management of the docket system. They have been  
16 instrumental in helping us satisfy the new requirement  
17 imposed by AB 205 of creating an administrative record  
18 concurrently with the review of our opt-in applications.  
19 This is no small feat. And with administrative staff and  
20 attorneys having to sort through and manage hundreds and  
21 hundreds of records every week. Ngoc Tran has been  
22 particularly instrumental in helping us organize this  
23 workload. And so I'd like to just specifically call out  
24 (indiscernible) -- sorry, the Administrative Unit.

25 Kristine Banaag, Chester Hong, Pam Fredieu, Patty Paul and

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1 Ngoc again.

2           Next, I would like to give a shout out and a  
3 thank you to the Hearing and Advisory Unit. They've taken  
4 on added responsibilities this year by providing critical  
5 legal support to the Commission's petroleum regulation  
6 efforts, as well as work on electricity reliability, and  
7 western grid regionalization. This is on addition to their  
8 valuable support of the tire efficiency and EV charger  
9 rulemakings. And this team was also responsible for  
10 organizing and running the Commission's first ever three in  
11 one informational hearing down in Salton Sea. They've been  
12 doing an amazing job and this unit is made up by Renee  
13 Webster-Hawkins, Deborah Dyer, Ralph Lee, Chad Oliver and  
14 Rachel Shuen.

15           Next, I'd like to thank our Advocacy and  
16 Compliance team made up by Kari Anderson, Mariah Ponce,  
17 Kirk Oliver, Alex Mayer, and Briana Ziff and currently led  
18 by Jared Babula. They are advising the Commission as it  
19 navigates its very first opt-in application with several  
20 more waiting in the wings and they're doing a remarkable  
21 job handling some very contentious participants and issues.

22           They're also providing instrumental support to  
23 staffs' critical offshore wind work that is very important  
24 for realizing the state's clean energy goals.

25           Next, I'd like to thank the Regulatory and

1 Advisory Unit. They're made up of Josey Crosby, Isaac  
2 Serratos, Ana Gonzalez, and currently led by Mike Murza.  
3 They continue to provide valuable support to the flexible  
4 demand appliance standards rulemakings. They've helped  
5 obtain OAL approval for the load management standards at  
6 the beginning of this this year, and have been a key  
7 partner in its implementation.

8           The unit also provided valuable support on  
9 equitable building decarbonization, which was approved in  
10 October. It has been working tirelessly on the RPS  
11 Verification Reports that were approved today. They're  
12 helping support the 2025 Building Standards rulemaking,  
13 which should be making its way to the Commission for  
14 approval in the next few months. And they have provided  
15 significant input into the evolution of the HERS Program.

16           Lastly, for the CCO's Office, I'd like to thank  
17 the Transactions Unit made up of Kathryn Colson, Samantha  
18 Arens, Matt Pinkerton, Cory Irish, Bill Dietrich, Raj  
19 Dixit, Elizabeth Flores, Chadrick Punch, Sonia Reasor, Aric  
20 Codog, and Kelli Nishimori, led by Christina Evola, another  
21 tireless member of our office.

22           They've helped support a record breaking number  
23 of programs, contracts, grants and loans this year. The  
24 unit has seen a tripling in the number of programs it  
25 supports, and has valiantly kept pace with the increased

1 workload.

2           Lastly, on behalf of CCO we would like to thank  
3 you Commissioners for your leadership and your guidance.  
4 We'd like to thank Drew and his office for being such a  
5 great partner in problem solving and talking through these  
6 very complicated issues the Commission handles on a daily  
7 basis.

8           We'd like to thank Mona and her team for their  
9 work ensuring these business meetings run smoothly and for  
10 their public and tribal outreach efforts.

11           And we'd like to thank Division staff including  
12 directors and deputy directors for welcoming our legal  
13 advice and input and welcoming us as part of their teams.

14           You all make it a pleasure to show up for work in  
15 the mornings. And we're lucky to call you all colleagues  
16 and friends. And that is the sum of my thank yous. Thank  
17 you for the time.

18           CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you.

19           We have a closed session. Is there anything else  
20 you wanted to say?

21           MS. DECARLO: Yes. Yes, I now propose that the  
22 Commission go into a closed session as specified in Agenda  
23 item 13i and ii. The agenda provides notice that the  
24 Commission may adjourn to a closed session with its legal  
25 counsel pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e)(1)



1 discuss pending litigation. The two matters we propose to  
2 discuss in closed session are Shasta County and *Pit River*  
3 *Tribe v CEC*, Case Number 23CV-0203737. And a proposed  
4 settlement agreement with CalCERTS, Inc. Concerning  
5 implementation of the 23-HERS-02 proceeding.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, thank you. All right,  
7 we'll go to the third floor conference room and reconvene  
8 when it's done.

9 (Off the record at 1:40 p.m.)

10 (On the record at 2:01 p.m.)

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Good afternoon, everyone. We  
12 are back from closed session joined by Commissioner  
13 Gallardo and Commissioner McAllister. Nothing to report,  
14 so we are adjourned.

15 I did want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and  
16 Happy New Year and we'll see you all in January. Great,  
17 thanks guys.

18 (The Business Meeting adjourned at 2:01 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.

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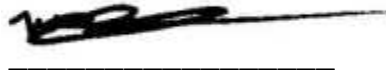
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And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of December, 2023.



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