Notice of Staff Workshop on Present and Future Central Station Renewable Energy Facility Plant Costs

In support of the 2009 Integrated Energy Policy Report (2009 IEPR), the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff will conduct a workshop to receive comments on draft results from a study on the present and future costs of electricity generation from central station renewable energy facilities and other generation sources. Commissioner Jeffrey D. Byron is the Presiding Member and Vice Chair James D. Boyd is the Associate Member of the 2009 IEPR Committee. While this is a staff workshop, Commissioners from the Energy Commission may attend and participate in this workshop. In addition, Commissioners and staff from the California Public Utilities Commission may attend and participate. The workshop will be held:

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009**
9 a.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Attendance

**Web Conferencing** - Presentations and audio from the meeting will be broadcast via our WebEx Web conferencing system. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the “Participation through WebEx” section at the end of this notice.

**Webcast** - Audio from this meeting will be broadcast over the Internet through Windows Media. For details, please go to [www.energy.ca.gov/webcast/].
Purpose

Renewable energy (RE) deployment in California is expected to accelerate in the near term in response to legislation identifying supply portfolio targets and climate mitigation targets. Related policy development must be based on the best possible economic information, especially the cost of bulk RE electricity generation. To obtain this information, the Energy Commission has hired a consultant to examine these economic topics. This workshop will include a presentation by the Energy Commission’s consultant on the draft results from the research. The workshop will be an opportunity for public comments on the draft results of the study.

In addition to the RE technologies, two non-renewable energy (NRE) technologies with potential for expanded use in California are being examined in support of the Cost of Generation modeling of the Energy Commission’s Electricity Analysis Office and as comparisons to the RE technologies. The two NRE technologies included in this project are nuclear and integrated gasification combined-cycle technology (IGCC).1

Background

To provide cost of generation information, four topics are being addressed in the project:

- Identification of the commercially feasible RE technologies and of two NRE technologies likely to be deployed in California over the next 20 years, along with identification of the infrastructure scales at which they are likely to be deployed, for example, utility, community, and building.

- Analysis of cost drivers and trends for each likely contributing technology and quantitative analysis of factors that determine the range of expected costs.

- Modeling of current costs for recommended utility-scale RE technologies and two NRE technologies to find plausible minimum and maximum costs.

- Analysis of expected cost trajectories over the 20-year time frame for utility-scale generation technologies, along with the result of applying this analysis to current costs.

Background information on these topics is available on the Energy Commission’s website at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/2009_energypolicy/index.html].

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1 Integrated gasification combined cycle technology: Fuel, water, and oxygen are gasified to produce syngas, which is cleaned and fed to a gas turbine. The hot exhaust of the gas turbine and heat recovered from gasification are routed through a heat-recovery generator to produce steam, which drives a turbine to produce electricity.
Written Comments

Written comments on the workshop topics can be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on April 23, 2009. Please include the docket number # 09-IEP-1E and indicate “Present and Future Central Station Renewable Plant Costs” in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments. Please hand deliver or mail an original copy to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. # 09-IEP-1E
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA  95814-5512

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name or organization’s in the name of the file. Those submitting comments by electronic mail should provide them in either Microsoft Word format or as a Portable Document (PDF) to [docket@energy.state.ca.us]. One paper copy must also be sent to the Energy Commission’s Docket Unit.

Participants may also provide an original and ten copies at the beginning of the workshop. All written materials relating to this workshop will be filed with the Dockets Unit and become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser’s Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]. For technical questions on the subject matter, please call John Hingtgen, Energy Commission Specialist, at (916) 651-9106 or by email at [hingtge@energy.state.ca.us]. For general questions regarding the IEPR proceeding, please contact Lynette Estemon-Green, IEPR project manager, by phone at (916) 653-2728 or by e-mail at [lesterno@energy.state.ca.us].
Participation through WebEx, the Energy Commission's on-line meeting service

Computer Log on with a Direct Phone Number:
- Please go to [https://energy.webex.com](https://energy.webex.com) and enter the unique meeting number 923 012 719
- When prompted, enter your information and the following meeting password meeting@9
- After you log in, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide your phone number. In the Number box, type your area code and phone number and click OK to receive a call back on your phone for the audio of the meeting. International callers can use the "Country/Region" button to help make their connection.

Computer Log on for Callers with an Extension Phone Number, etc.:
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- After you log in, a prompt will ask for your phone number. CLICK CANCEL.
- Instead call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you log in. International callers can dial in using the "Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

Telephone Only (No Computer Access):
Call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the unique meeting number above. International callers can select their number from [https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php](https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php).

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at (866) 229-3239. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

Mail Lists: Energypolicy, DistGen, Electricity, Geothermal, Renewables, Research, RETI, Wind

Note: California Energy Commission's formal name is State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.