

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	24-OIIP-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Order Instituting Informational Proceeding on Justice, Access, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**OPENING AN INFORMATIONAL  
PROCEEDING ON JUSTICE,  
ACCESS, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND  
INCLUSION**

Docket No.: 24-OIIP-01

**ORDER INSTITUTING  
INFORMATIONAL PROCEEDING**

## I. BACKGROUND

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is required to adopt the Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) every two years and to prepare an energy policy review to update analyses from the IEPR every two years. On February 28, 2023, the CEC published the *2022 IEPR Update*, which provides updates on a variety of energy issues facing California, including advancing equity and addressing disparities. Through the *2022 IEPR Update*, the CEC sought input and guidance from the public to develop and produce a comprehensive framework to align the agency on the shared values, principles, and best practices it should apply to embed equity and environmental justice further in CEC efforts. “Environmental justice” is defined in Government Code section 65040.12(e) as: “the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”<sup>1</sup> As stated in the *2022 IEPR Update*, “[a]ligning with Executive Order N-16-22, the CEC must take action to address existing disparities in opportunities and outcomes by designing and delivering services and programs consistent with federal and state constitutional requirements to address unequal starting points and drive equal outcomes so all Californians may reach their full potential and lead healthy and rewarding lives.”<sup>2</sup> The *2022 IEPR Update* recommended a number of actions for the CEC “to advance equity and environmental justice in a clean energy future that contributes to all Californians living with dignity and security prosperity” including “[o]pen an informational proceeding on equity and environmental justice to continue formal dialogue with the public.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Gov. Code § 65040.12(e).

<sup>2</sup> Bailey, Stephanie, Jane Berner, David Erne, Noemí Gallardo, Quentin Gee, Akruiti Gupta, Heidi Javanbakht, Hilary Poore, John Reid, and Kristen Widdifield. 2023. *Final 2022 Integrated Policy Report*. California Energy Commission. A-4, appendix. Publication Number: CEC-100-2022- 001-CMF.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 131.

The CEC has “a history of taking action to embed equity and environmental justice throughout its work,”<sup>4</sup> and in the *2022 IEPR Update*, the CEC renewed its commitment to its Justice Access Equity Diversity Inclusion (JAEDI) Initiative, which started in 2019, to focus on embedding equity and environmental justice in its external and internal efforts. JAEDI’s vision is to “achiev[e] an energy system of the future — one that is clean, modern, reliable and ensures our economy continues to thrive while serving all Californians regardless of their race, income, or location.”<sup>5</sup> By using the JAEDI framework, “the CEC will continue its journey to diligently and intentionally improve its internal operations and workplace to ensure its workforce feels welcome and supported (JAEDI-in) and to improve what goes out of the CEC in the form of our programmatic and policy work (JAEDI-out).”<sup>6</sup>

## **II. IDENTIFICATION OF LEAD COMMISSIONER AND SCOPE**

Through this Order Instituting Informational Proceeding (OIIP), the CEC seeks to establish a proceeding focused on justice, access, equity, diversity, and inclusion, have an associated docket to receive public comment, and have resources to support related efforts. This OIIP seeks to continue formal dialogue with the public and establish a record of stakeholder input from multiple perspectives, including those of California Native American tribes, local government, community leaders, environmental justice and environmental groups, and the public. CEC staff will use the input received through this OIIP to develop recommendations for further embedding the JAEDI principles into its efforts, programs, policies, and projects. Examples include implementing the JAEDI Framework, continuing the Communities of Practice effort, building out workforce development in clean energy, advancing the Energy Equity Indicators tool and creating a JAEDI action plan for the CEC.

Commissioner Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo shall be the Lead Commissioner.

## **III. HEARINGS AND WORKSHOPS**

The Lead Commissioner will issue notices at least 14 days before the first hearing. The first hearing for this proceeding will be held in the first or second quarter of 2024. Additional hearings will be held and separately noticed. Notices of additional hearings will be issued at least ten days in advance of the respective hearings and workshops and will identify at that time when written comments and testimony will be due, as well as the manner of the filing.

Any person may make oral comments on the subject of this proceeding at these hearings and workshops; the notice for each workshop will identify further details and any limitations surrounding the provision of such comments. The written public

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 1.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at A-2, appendix.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at A-1, appendix.

comment periods for this proceeding, and the manner in which they will be required to be filed, will be established by separate notice.

#### **IV. AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25210 and California Code of Regulations, Title 20, section 1220(b), informational proceedings allow the CEC to hold hearings and take other actions to gather and assess information needed to assist it in formulating policies. Instituting an informational proceeding with the adoption of this Order ensures that the CEC commissioners and staff can implement some of the recommendations focused on energy equity and environmental justice adopted through the *2022 IEPR Update*.

#### **V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The CEC encourages public participation in this proceeding. Any person participating in a hearing or workshop shall be afforded reasonable opportunity to make comments. Petitions to intervene are not necessary.

To foster public participation in this proceeding, the Executive Director, in conjunction with the Public Advisor, shall ensure that information regarding this order and notices of hearings and workshops are distributed to all interested persons via the list serv and posted on the CEC website. To stay informed about this proceeding and receive documents and notices of upcoming workshops and hearings as they are filed, interested persons may subscribe to the proceeding listserv (Commission General Topics> Order Instituting Informational Proceeding on Justice, Access, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion), which can be accessed here:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>. The listserv emails notifications and direct links when documents and notices are filed in the proceeding docket. There will be opportunities for providing written comments before and during these hearings, the details of which will be specified in the notice issued for each hearing.

For additional information about how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the CEC's Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs at (916) 957-7910, or via email at [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov). Media questions should be directed to the CEC's Media Office at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4989.

#### **VI. CONCLUSION AND ORDER**

The CEC therefore orders the institution of an informational proceeding on justice, access, equity, diversity, and inclusion to continue the CEC's formal dialogue with the public about the JAEDI framework developed in the *2022 IEPR Update* and about other efforts.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CEC held on January 24, 2024.

AYE: Hochschild, McAllister, Monahan, Gallardo

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: Gunda

ABSTAIN: NONE

Dated: January 25, 2024

**SIGNED BY:**

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Ngoc Tran  
Secretariat