

DOCKETED

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BUSINESS MEETING

BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
)24-BUSMTG-01
Business Meeting)
_____)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

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™

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. Commissioners may attend remotely in accordance with Government Code section 11123.2(j).

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

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUNE 12, 2024

10:03 a.m.

3 (Start of Introductory Video.)

4 MS. MURIMI: Welcome to the California Energy
5 Commission Business Meeting. Closed captioning via Zoom is
6 available for today's meeting. Attendees can use this
7 feature by clicking "CEC Closed Caption" or "Live
8 Transcript" and then selecting either "Show Subtitle" or
9 "View Full Transcript."

10 You can find the agenda for today's meeting,
11 presentation materials, and other links on the business
12 meeting event page. A Zoom recording of today's business
13 meeting will also be made available on the event page.
14 Please visit energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings to
15 find the event page for this business meeting.

16 Approved orders, resolutions and court reporter
17 transcripts will also be made available in this year's CEC
18 business meeting docket.

19 The CEC welcomes public comment at its business
20 meetings. To ensure the orderly and fair conduct of
21 business, public comments will be limited as announced and
22 a timer will be shown on the screen. To make a comment
23 please follow the instructions provided by the Public
24 Advisor's Office during the meeting. We ask that all
25 commenters spell their name and state any affiliation for

6

1 the record before making their comment.

2 Welcome to the California Energy Commission's
3 business meeting. The meeting will now begin.

4 (End of Introductory Video.)

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Good morning friends. I'm
6 David Hochschild, Chair of the California Energy
7 Commission. Today is June 12, 2024. I call this meeting
8 to order. Joining me are Vice Chair Gunda, Commissioner
9 McAlister, Commissioner Monahan, and remotely, Commissioner
10 Gallardo. We do have a quorum.

11 Let's begin by standing for the Pledge of
12 Allegiance.

13 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. We'll begin with
15 Public Comment and then move to Agency Announcements. Go
16 ahead, Mona, for the instructions.

17 MS. BADIE: Good morning. My name is Mona Badie.
18 I'm the Public Advisor here at the Energy Commission. This
19 is an open public comment period, and there will also be
20 dedicated public comment periods for the voting items on
21 the agenda today.

22 This is the open public comment period, so any
23 voting or non-voting items, you can comment at this time.
24 And we'll take comments in the room first, and then we'll
25 transition to Zoom.

1 There's a few ways to let us know you'd like to
2 make a comment. If you're in the room, we have a QR code
3 that's available at the entrance, and we have staff from
4 the Public Advisor's Office to assist. And also we'll take
5 a show of hands if for some reason the QR code is not
6 working for you.

7 And then if you're on Zoom, there'll be an open
8 palm sign on your screen. You can press that to let us
9 know you'd like to make a comment or you can press *9 if
10 you're joining us by phone to let us know you'd like to
11 comment.

12 And so just giving that a moment. Okay, there is
13 one person joining us from Zoom. Sofi, I'm going to open
14 your line if you could please unmute on your end we are
15 asking for comments to be two minutes or less. Hi, Sofia,
16 you may begin.

17 MS. MAGALLON: Hi, good morning. Good morning,
18 Members of the Energy Commission. My name is Sofia
19 Magallon, and I am a resident of Oxnard speaking on behalf
20 of my organization, CAUSE. And we are deeply disappointed
21 that our detailed recommendations that were submitted
22 alongside statewide environmental justice organizations,
23 were not included in the Commission's strategic plan for
24 offshore wind and energy development.

25 The transition to offshore wind requires

1 meaningful engagement with environmental justice
2 communities and indigenous tribes. This includes
3 considering recommendations given by organizations and
4 community members on adopting the final draft.
5 Historically low-income communities of color have been
6 excluded from the benefits of renewable energy
7 developments. It's vital that these communities are at the
8 forefront of planning and decision making processes.

9 I ask that offshore wind energy must be leveraged
10 to retire gas fired power plants, particularly those in
11 disadvantaged communities. Thousands of families in Oxnard
12 have suffered from the extended operation of the Ormond
13 Beach Generating Station, which worsens air pollution in my
14 community already heavily burdened by other environmental
15 hazards nearby. Transitioning our energy grid to clean
16 energy will significantly reduce exposure to harmful
17 pollutants and improve public health for these residents.

18 Additionally, I also ask that this strategic plan
19 ensures that port and waterfront facilities supporting
20 offshore wind development do not harm underserved
21 communities. While offshore wind projects offer clean
22 energy their construction may rely on fossil fuels,
23 increasing pollution in portside areas that already face
24 pollution such as Humboldt, Long Beach, Los Angeles, and
25 the Port of Hueneme.

1 Community Benefit Agreements are essential to
2 ensure that the offshore wind projects provide meaningful
3 benefits to local communities. The strategic plan must
4 include clear recommendations for strong legally binding
5 CBAs that empower and protect underserved communities. For
6 example, CBAs in the strategic plan should prioritize
7 ensuring that prevailing wage and union labor are utilized.
8 And local and state agencies should be directed to develop
9 and enforce targeted hiring practices within underserved
10 communities. These practices should guarantee living wage
11 benefits and provide accessible job training opportunities.

12 Thank you for your time and consideration. We
13 highly urge the Commission to integrate our recommendations
14 and work collaboratively with us to achieve a just and
15 equitable energy transition for all Californians. Thank
16 you for your time.

17 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

18 Next we'll hear from Theral Golden. Theral, I'm
19 going to open your line. We're asking for comments to be
20 two minutes or less.

21 MR. GOLDEN: Thank you. My name is Theral, T-H-
22 E-R-A-L, Golden, G-O-L-D-E-N. I'm a resident of West Long
23 Beach, and will be directly affected by the proposed
24 manufacturing facility for offshore winds here in the
25 harbor or Port of Long Beach.

1 That facility will increase the amount of
2 pollution for this area. We are already disproportionately
3 a 617 community that have extraordinarily negative health
4 impacts already from pollution and the goods movement
5 industry. This is another addition to that. And in the
6 strategic plan I urge you not to allow that to further
7 break or injure our community and our children. This is
8 about our next generation.

9 I agree with having offshore winds, but where
10 they are going to the construction and assembly of these
11 instruments should not be in these communities that are
12 already disproportionately burdened from pollution. There
13 is no way that you can build these things without
14 increasing that burden. And in some manner, reports think
15 that because they're doing other things to reduce the
16 burden that they can put this in. That is only keeping the
17 burden at the same level that we are already experiencing
18 these negative health impacts.

19 The main thing, and I ask you, urge you to
20 consider, is that those communities that are
21 disproportionately burdened should be removed from
22 consideration of such a risk to the population. There's
23 2.1 million people in and around the ports facilities here
24 in Los Angeles County. And each and every one of them are
25 affected already. We experience more than 1,200 deaths a

1 year; 4,000 deaths regionally from the pollution of the
2 ports alone. And adding another burden to that or
3 maintaining the same burden is unconscionable.

4 Thank you for your time.

5 MS. BADIE: Thank you for those comments.

6 That concludes public comment. Back to you,
7 Chair.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much. And thanks
9 to the commenters for those comments.

10 I should say we are going to be pulling Items 5
11 and 8 today. And so the offshore wind strategic plan will
12 not be voted on today. That will be at a later meeting.

13 And I also wanted to note that last month, May,
14 was Mental Health Awareness Month, Asian American Pacific
15 Islander Heritage Month, and Military Appreciation Month.
16 And this month in June we're celebrating both Pride and
17 Juneteenth.

18 I also wanted to point out that at the meeting
19 today we're considering for adoption in excess of \$37
20 million of investments contributing to California's
21 economic recovery. And within that is about 24 million for
22 tribes. And that puts our total tribal energy project
23 investments from the Energy Commission if all these it was
24 approved today in excess of \$100 million. Okay.

25 I want to just pause on that, because it's been

12

1 now about a year since we had our Joint Tribal En Banc.
2 The first en banc meeting we did in collaboration with the
3 tribal community, and the Public Utilities Commission last
4 spring. And it was at that meeting that we adopted the
5 first Tribal Energy Sovereignty Resolution in support of
6 tribal energy sovereignty in California.

7 These investments, in my mind, really put meat on
8 the bones of that money. Really, you know, there's a quote
9 I really liked. I can't remember which president said it,
10 but it might have been Roosevelt who said, " Don't tell me
11 what your values are. Show me your budget and I'll tell
12 you what your values are," right? And I really am proud of
13 this, because I think this is reflective of the Governor's.
14 One of the first things he did when he came into office was
15 issue the first apology to the tribes. And while nothing
16 can make up for the loss of lives, and land and language, I
17 really do believe in our time we can take steps together
18 that are going to bend the arc of history in the right
19 direction.

20 And these projects we're supporting -- solar and
21 EV charging and micro grids, battery storage -- these are
22 good for the tribes. They're good for the state. They're
23 good for the innovation economy, and good actions that we
24 can take together to confront the challenge of our time,
25 which is climate change.

1 And so I want to especially welcome Chairman
2 Simon from the Middletown Rancheria Tribe of Pomo Indians
3 that we met with this morning. Thank you for being here.
4 And thank you for the good work, sir, you and your tribe
5 are doing. We're happy to help and support and partner
6 with you in that.

7 And I also want to lift up the terrific work of
8 Sierra Graves has been spectacular in her role as Tribal
9 Advisor to the Energy Commission.

10 And so I just wanted to begin by marking this is
11 a really significant milestone. We're not done. We're
12 just getting started. But it's exciting to be able to get
13 to reach the \$100 million threshold. And I just invite any
14 other colleagues who wanted to comment on that or to add
15 anything else for agency announcements.

16 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I would.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Go ahead, Commissioner
18 Monahan.

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Oh. Well, Chair, I just
20 want to say we were talking earlier about how the events
21 last year, and the Tribal Energy Sovereignty Resolution was
22 to me the most emotionally impactful thing that I've
23 witnessed on the Energy Commission. And it was visionary
24 and ambitious, but also appropriate given the challenges
25 faced by many tribal communities to have access to

1 reliable, safe, affordable energy. And the long history of
2 challenges and abuses that have been -- the tribes have
3 suffered as a result of colonist behaviors by us and
4 others. And I just want to say, you know, it's deeply
5 moving personally to be able to move forward with so many
6 of these different projects that are really focused on
7 tribes.

8 I lead the transportation work. We just closed
9 our first ever tribal solicitation for EV charging, and it
10 was wildly oversubscribed. So we'll be talking about that.
11 But just that there's a lot of interest, I think, by tribes
12 and getting access to clean energy resources. And it's
13 just an honor to be able to work for an organization that
14 is striving to support that.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

16 Vice Chair?

17 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. I just
18 wanted to associate myself with the words that you and
19 Commissioner Monahan just mentioned. I also kind of re-up
20 the sentiment at the tribal en banc we had. And I think it
21 was a very profound day for everybody who was in
22 attendance.

23 And in being a part of the path to recovery
24 through acknowledgement, you know, I think any problem --
25 for it to be even remotely addressed -- need to be

1 acknowledged in a faithful, respectful, and then honor the
2 people who lived here. So I just want to say from the
3 Administration, the Governor's leadership on doing that,
4 and I would applaud, Chair, you at the top of this agency.
5 I don't think we do what we do without your leadership. So
6 I just want to acknowledge your leadership and the
7 incredible staff we have here that advocate for the rights
8 that we have to do. And I just want to say Drew, Sierra,
9 and a number of other people in this room that have been
10 advocating for us as an agency to do the right thing. So I
11 just want to say thank you to everybody.

12 And I'm looking forward to voting on the item and
13 thank you for especially the tribal engagement we had.
14 Only what I can say is its graceful. Thank you for your
15 generosity in helping us get on a good path and helping us
16 recover towards a future I think we would all be proud of.
17 So thank you.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Vice Chair.
19 Commissioner McAllister.

20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So I couldn't agree
21 more with Vice Chair Gunda's and Commissioner Monahan's and
22 the Chair's comments. And thanks, Chair Simon for being
23 with us. It's really lovely to meet with you this morning,
24 and looking forward to visiting you up in Lake County. I
25 think the en banc, and the resolution process, was deeply

1 touching to me too and I think all of us.

2 And I want to just highlight, like the length of
3 the period of kind of repairing relationships is something
4 that I think will be generations. It has been generations
5 in the making, and it will be generations in the repairing.
6 And so we have to do everything we can and with the highest
7 urgency in the near term, each moment when we have
8 opportunities to make decisions in that journey, to do the
9 right thing.

10 But I want to just acknowledge the cadence, the
11 difference in cadence across cultures of decision making
12 and planning. And I think just manifest a deep respect for
13 the sort of generational long-term, multi-century kind of
14 view that the tribes bring to their decision making that is
15 alien to the way the colonial culture operates. And so I
16 think we sort of stepping back and sort of taking stock and
17 sort of adjusting to that reality, and respecting that.
18 And coming to that with an open heart is something that
19 takes kind of constant reminders to adjust our normal way
20 of doing business, you know. And in government say, and in
21 the private sector across much of the state and country and
22 world, that we need to bring our open hearts to this and
23 really adjust the way we think, and put ourselves in
24 others' shoes, in the tribes' shoes.

25 And so I just want to -- I think the resolution

1 process really highlighted the importance of approaching
2 our collaboration with that level of openness. And I just
3 want to really just thank the tribes for bringing their
4 selves to the table to help us get to that point. So thank
5 you.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, just to close that out I
7 mean, I think a lot of what I feel we're endeavoring to do
8 collectively here is to get back to that basic Native
9 American wisdom of always asking the impact of every
10 decision on the seventh generation. And to move beyond
11 very short-term decision making, and plant the seeds for a
12 healthier future. So we're incredibly blessed to have so
13 many tribes in California, about 20 percent of the tribes
14 in the United States are here in California. And we need
15 to get back to that tribal wisdom.

16 And I think lifting up tribal energy sovereignty
17 as one of our principal goals to support. You know, that
18 can be something that spreads nationally. A lot of what
19 we've done on wind and solar, and electric vehicles and the
20 vision of moving to 100 percent clean energy, are goals
21 that have been adopted now at the national level. And I
22 think this energy equity is in there as well. But I think
23 the tribal energy sovereignty piece is something that is
24 really ripe to grow and be supported.

25 So I really, really want to thank all the teams

1 that are working on this. The ECCA Program, the Clean
2 Transportation Program, the Long Duration Storage Program,
3 all of the micro grid teams, and all the rest at the Energy
4 Commission who've been able to support this work.

5 So with that let me go to Commissioner Gallardo.
6 I believe you had an announcement you wanted to share.

7 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes. Buenos Dias, good
8 morning, everyone. I'm in the City of Imperial today at
9 City at their city hall. I want to give a big shout out to
10 them for enabling me to be in this office and join the
11 business meeting. I'm out here for some Lithium Valley
12 work. I just wanted to note too that no one is in the room
13 with me at this time.

14 So I also wanted to celebrate the big milestone
15 on our investment with the tribes and highlight what
16 tremendous partners they have been in educating us and
17 helping us get to a 100 percent clean energy future. And
18 we recognize at the Energy Commission that we can't do it
19 alone. And so I'm connecting that to our Clean Energy Hall
20 of Fame Awards. If you could bring back that slide.

21 It is one of the ways that we are able to
22 recognize the folks throughout the state who are partnering
23 with us and helping us get to that 100 percent clean energy
24 future. We do have a Tribal Champion category, because we
25 saw and have seen and experienced what the tribes are able

19

1 to do, and have done so much work and investment. And so I
2 wanted to connect those dots that we are reopening the
3 nominations period for the Clean Energy Hall of Fame
4 Awards.

5 Nominations are now due June 21st, so if you are
6 excited about nominating someone in your local area who has
7 done tremendous work, you have time. And so please get
8 those nominations in by June 21st. So aside from the
9 Tribal Champion category, we also have a Lifetime
10 Achievement Award, a Youth Game Changer Award, and Clean
11 Energy Champion Awards. So again, please get those
12 nominations in. We would really appreciate it.

13 And the reason we open this up is because we
14 heard from members of the public who didn't get a chance to
15 submit, but were excited to so we wanted to give them that
16 chance.

17 That's it, Chair. Thank you so much. Really
18 appreciate it.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Thank you so much,
20 Commissioner.

21 With that, we'll move to Item 3, the Consent
22 Calendar. Are there any public comments on Item 3?

23 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

24 So the Commission welcomes public comment on Item
25 3 at this time. That's the Consent Calendar. If you're

1 joining us in the room, we're asking folks to use the QR
2 code. Anyone can use the QR code to sign up for any
3 comment period today in advance. And then also if you're
4 joining us by Zoom, please use the raise hand feature on
5 your screen. And if joining by phone press *9 to let us
6 know you'd like to make a comment.

7 And so just giving that a moment. All right, on
8 Zoom we have Kendra. Kendra, I'm going to open your line.
9 If you could please unmute on your end we're asking for
10 comments to be two minutes or less.

11 MS. MOORE: Hello, my name is Kendra Moore. And
12 on behalf of Momentum, we are representing National Core on
13 Item f on the agenda today. And we just appreciate the
14 Commission's review and support of this project.

15 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Kendra.

16 MS. MOORE: Thank you.

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

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

20 Unless there are any Commissioner comments I'd
21 welcome a motion from the Vice Chair on Item 3, Consent.

22 MS. BADIE: Sorry, Chair. We have a --

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Oh, sorry. There's a recusal.
24 My apologies. Commissioner Monahan?

25 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thanks to our Public

1 Advisor for the reminder. On Items 3c and 3g I will recuse
2 myself from any discussion, consideration and vote. Item
3 3c is a proposed contract amendment that lists UCLA as a
4 subcontract contractor. Item 3g is a proposed contract
5 that involves the University of California Institute of
6 Transportation Studies I currently -- I'm sorry, I misread
7 this -- that involves transportation matters and lists UC
8 Davis as a subcontractor. I currently serve as a member on
9 the Board of Advisors for the University of California
10 Institute of Transportation Studies. In that role I do not
11 make governance decisions on behalf of the institute, but
12 the Board exists to provide guidance and oversight on
13 transportation research projects at UCLA and UC Davis.

14 Additionally, I do not receive any compensation
15 in any form including reimbursement of per diem or
16 expenses. Therefore, there is no financial interest in
17 which there would be a conflict of interest under the
18 Public Reform Act or Government Code section 1090.

19 However, in an abundance of caution I will recuse myself in
20 order to avoid any perception of a conflict of interest. I
21 am stepping out of the room and I'm going to take my cell
22 phone, so the Public Advisor can tell me when to return.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, what we're going to do
24 is take a vote on Items 3c and 3g. And then after
25 Commissioner Monahan returns we'll vote on the remainder of

22

1 Item 3. Commissioner Monahan has left the room. Unless
2 there's any Commissioner discussion, I'd work on motion
3 from the Vice Chair on Items 3c and 3g.

4 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Okay, Chair. I move Items 3c
5 and 3g.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

9 Vice Chair Gunda.

10 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

14 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Items
16 3c and 3g pass 4-0 with Commissioner Monahan recusing.

17 Let's welcome her back if we could, Madam Public Advisor.

18 All right, Commissioner Monahan has returned.

19 Unless there's any further discussion is there a motion
20 from Commissioner McAllister on Items 3a through b, d
21 through f and 3h?

22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I move Items 3a, b, d,
23 e, f and h.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from
25 Commissioner Gallardo?

1 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I second.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

3 Commissioner McAllister.

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

6 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

10 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Those

12 items pass 5-0.

13 Thank you. We'll turn now to Item 4,

14 Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California. I

15 welcome Stephen Banister to present.

16 MR. BANISTER: Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair

17 and Commissioners. My name is Stephen Banister and I

18 supervise the Energy Conservation Assistance Act Program,

19 also known as the ECAA Program in the Reliability,

20 Renewable Energy & Decarbonization or RREDI Division.

21 Today we are joined by Chairman Moke Simon from Middletown

22 Rancheria of the Pomo Indians of California. Next slide,

23 please.

24 I'm excited to be here today for this historic

25 event. This agenda item marks the very first tribal loan

1 application for discussion and approval under the ECCA
2 Program. This tribal loan represents a multi-year effort
3 of collaboration with California Native American tribes.

4 In 2022 Assembly Bill 33, authored by Assembly
5 Member Ting expanded ECCA Program access to Native American
6 tribes. With this new authority, the CEC set aside \$4
7 million exclusively for tribal loans.

8 This project supports resiliency during high
9 demand periods. The facilities will offer shelter during
10 times of emergency as Middletown Rancheria did during the
11 Valley Fire. The project fosters relationships and
12 collaboration with tribes. Middletown Rancheria has
13 ambitious energy goals, and this loan will support them
14 moving forward with the very first phase of their plans.

15 While this is the first loan under the expanded
16 authority, staff continues to work with the Public Advisor
17 and tribal liaisons to build relationships and create more
18 partnership opportunities into the future. Next slide,
19 please.

20 This specific \$3 million loan agreement is to
21 support the construction of three solar photovoltaic arrays
22 totaling 700 kilowatts in size. The energy produced will
23 offset first year consumption costs by \$200,000 per year.
24 The system will support existing infrastructure and
25 expansion to include EV charging infrastructure and backup

1 power. Next slide, please.

2 ECAA staff is excited to record or recommend
3 approval of the Middletown Rancheria loan agreement and
4 adoption of the determination that this project is exempt
5 from CEQA requirements.

6 This concludes my presentation and I would like
7 to close with welcoming Chairman Moke Simon of Middletown
8 Rancheria to speak.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

10 Welcome, Mr. Chairman.

11 CHAIRMAN SIMON: Thank you very much, Chairman
12 Hochschild, for the invitation today.

13 CHAIRMAN SIMON: Thank you very much, Chairman
14 Hochschild for the invitation today. I stand before you
15 today really humbled here about the \$100 million investment
16 in tribal country here in California and to be a part of
17 that, obviously. I want to thank you for the hard work
18 that's being done.

19 The day I sat under the tree with the Governor
20 and we heard the apology, the first words out of my mouth
21 were, "Thank you very much." That's heartfelt, especially
22 with our tribal elders, the generations before me. But I
23 also said actions are really going to, you know, prove that
24 these words are worth something. So today obviously that's
25 a testament to those words being taken into action. So

1 thank you very much. I greatly appreciate that.

2 I want to introduce myself in our tribal
3 language. [Speaking Native American greeting]. My name is
4 Moke Simon. That's the Sokotsatal (phonetic) language
5 that's been spoken for over 18,000 years here in
6 California.

7 Today, I stand before you for the ECCA loan. And
8 this is going to be something that really helps us propel
9 these projects forward on the Middletown Rancheria. We
10 have 80 acres in trust. We have 269 tribal members. We're
11 a small rural tribe that has a lot long term vision that's
12 really going to help our community and others.

13 As it was stated in the Valley Fire, it was
14 devastating to our communities. But we knew it was an
15 opportunity also to help us move forward. So we started
16 looking on these projects for reliable energy, affordable
17 energy costs, and opportunities to help us move forward to
18 become a resilient center for all, not just our tribal
19 community but our surrounding communities.

20 So today, the ECAA loan approval will just help
21 us with our solar first steps. But the overall project is
22 really to become an overall island or micro grid in our
23 area, including electric vehicle charging stations. It
24 will be one of the first ones that you see when you come
25 over the Bay Area, out of the Bay Area on Highway 29 into

27

1 Lake County. Saying we are here for that infrastructure
2 and we're ready to help transition into the new age of
3 power in this country.

4 The long-term vision, as you said for the next
5 seven generations, is just to continue this growth in those
6 manners, and really help us do it in a responsible way.
7 The partnership that's going to be grown today will
8 continue to build. And we are honored to be the first ones
9 through the ECAA loan program to help us move that forward.
10 You saw some of the projects up there that we have in
11 place. It is really going to put us on the map as far as a
12 tribal nation that is willing to step up. And I know that
13 the other 110 tribes in California are also working in that
14 direction.

15 We also do it mindfully. Because we know as
16 we're creating battery, solar, and other things, the
17 natural resources will probably be harvested on tribal
18 nations throughout the country and some of the larger
19 lands. Doing it responsibly and looking at other
20 technology development, is really important as we move
21 forward to help us all survive in this changing world.

22 So today, I'm honored. It'll be great to hear
23 the vote and I want to thank you for the hard work. And
24 once again, I will not leave it to say these are actions
25 that are really going to be generational change between our

1 nation and your governments as we move forward.

2 So thank you very much today. And I would love
3 to have you come visit the Middletown Rancheria in Lake
4 County. It's open to all the Commissioners or anyone else
5 that needs to come. We ain't going nowhere, so we're
6 always going to be there. But please come out. And we
7 were looking to really emphasize these projects as we're
8 moving forward. Being from a small rural county that has
9 seven tribal nations, it's really important that not only
10 local government and the state government work together to
11 lift everybody up to through the tribal nations.

12 So greatly appreciate it today. I don't know if
13 you have any questions for me, but it's an honor to be here
14 standing in front of you today as a tribal leader. *Koweka*
15 (phonetic) means thank you.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much, Mr.
17 Chairman. And I will absolutely commit to come visit. I
18 know my colleagues are interested as well. And we just
19 want to congratulate you for the good work.

20 And just open it up to any questions or comments.
21 Commissioner McAllister?

22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, sure. Chair
23 Simon, thank you so, so much and just for doing what you do
24 and being such a pillar of Lake County, which is a rural,
25 relatively poor county that just needs that kind of

1 leadership. And it's really amazing what you're doing and
2 your neighboring tribes and other Pomo. I'm really happy
3 to support this item. I think the ECAA program is perfectly
4 cut out for this kind of work and sort of opening up to
5 tribes is something we probably should have done a long
6 time ago.

7 And especially now that interest rates are
8 higher, I think it's really a very attractive place to come
9 for very low interest funds. And really glad to be able to
10 get them to work in a place where they're going to do a lot
11 of good and really help you and your team reach the vision
12 that you're striving for. And we want to do everything,
13 everything we can to help. I'm really happy to support
14 this, this project. But really, thanks for all of your
15 leadership.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair.

17 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

18 Thank you, Chair Simon. Making comments from
19 this dais on items that have to do with data analysis is
20 probably the easiest for me to talk about. It's easy to
21 draw lines and do the analysis and stick behind it. The
22 enormity of an item like this, it's hard for me to find
23 words. And all I can say as an immigrant to California and
24 as an immigrant who enjoys the privilege of living here,
25 and have the honor and privilege to be a part of this vote

30

1 today, I just want to say "Koweka." Thank you for giving
2 us an opportunity to be a part of this journey to bring
3 justice to the State of California, justice to communities
4 and nations that have for so long been burdened through
5 discrimination, and the violence that we have seen happen
6 in the state. I want to say both thank you for giving us
7 the opportunity to be a part of this journey. And also
8 apologies for the part that, you know, we have stood aside
9 with inaction. And look forward to continuing to act in
10 making this good, that making the promise of a collective
11 journey good. Thank you.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

13 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: My colleagues have been so
14 articulate, I'm not going to repeat. I just have a
15 question for you, Mr. Chairman, a kind of maybe pedestrian
16 question which is, how did you learn about the ECAA loan?
17 And how did you get inspired to apply for it? But
18 hopefully like a short story.

19 CHAIRMAN SIMON: A real short story. Obviously,
20 I've been a tribal leader since 1997 for the Middletown
21 Rancheria. So this is a long-term vision, how do we get
22 solar on our buildings? What are we doing as we're moving
23 forward? There's been a lot of talk, but not real
24 pathways.

25 So in initial conversations obviously with our

1 team partner, Site Logic (phonetic), and Seirra Graves who
2 really just gave us opportunities in just general
3 conversations as we're working through the process. You
4 see an email come through. You make a phone call, and then
5 you start the conversation from there. So that's really
6 how it's done. I will call anybody, anytime. There's not
7 a door that I can open. And I will try and do that, so it
8 was just general conversation. "Hey, this is coming down.
9 What can we do?" And we got with the right folks and the
10 right partners. Just all right, here's the vision, here's
11 the path. Let's go for it and we'll work from there.

12 And one thing that was spoken earlier, this is
13 not only just an opportunity to do the projects that we've
14 had on mind. This is also the first step of the sovereign
15 opportunity for us create our own utility authority for the
16 Middletown Rancheria. Tribal Utility Sovereignty is very
17 important to us, not only with power, but wind, water,
18 everything else that we're going to be doing. Controlling
19 our lands is really important. We haven't had that
20 opportunity as a nation. And we're really stepping into
21 that right now.

22 So yeah, that was probably too long. You said
23 short and it was long.

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: No, that was beautiful.
25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I appreciate that. But before
2 we go to -- yeah, no. Yeah, go ahead Commissioner
3 Gallardo, you had a comment to make?

4 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes, can I make a
5 comment?

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Please, please.

7 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Chairman Simon, I am so
8 disappointed I didn't get to see you in person today. It
9 was such a pleasure and an honor to visit you not too long
10 ago. We just were there, a month, two months ago probably.
11 And I really take to heart what you said earlier about
12 actions prove words have value. Because when we had that
13 meeting, you expressed your excitement about going after
14 all of the possible opportunities to bring clean energy to
15 the tribe and to the area where you reside. And here you
16 are doing that, making it happen.

17 And so I am just so excited about all the things
18 that you, as the leader of the Middletown Rancheria tribe
19 are doing. And I saw the enthusiasm from the tribal
20 members as well, whom we got to meet. And I just really
21 appreciate that and the partnership that you're creating
22 here. So thank you so much.

23 And I will say, *mil gracias*, in my native
24 language, Spanish, which means a thousand thank yous and
25 expresses the deepest of gratitude for all of your work.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Commissioner.

2 Okay, with that let's go to public comment. And
3 then we'll make some final remarks and vote. Are there any
4 public comments on Item 4?

5 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

6 The Commission welcomes public comment on Item 4
7 at this time. If you're joining us in the room you can
8 raise your hand, or use our QR code, or visit the Public
9 Advisor table in the back of the room. And if you're
10 joining by Zoom, please use the raise hand feature on your
11 screen or *9 if joining by phone. And I'm just giving that
12 a moment.

13 All right, not seeing any public comments for
14 this item. So back to you, Chair.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, just the final comment.

16 Mr. Chairman, I really appreciate you
17 acknowledging the CEC staff. All these projects require an
18 incredible amount of diligence and vigilance to make sure
19 they're set up to be successful. We don't want to fund
20 things that don't work. And there's a lot of diligence
21 that goes into setting them up for success. And the
22 projects that we have funded have been really successful.
23 And that's really attributed to the professionalism across
24 the team.

25 Again, you know, Steve, Sierra, the whole team

1 across many, many programs, people work incredibly hard.
2 The dedication of the Energy Commission staff is amazing.
3 And it's what I think all of us in this position as
4 Commissioners, is you realize when you have superstars in
5 your team, our main job is just to support them and lift
6 them up so that this good work can continue.

7 I wanted with your permission just to share the
8 list of the other tribes that have been funded that got us
9 \$200 million. That includes the Chemehuevi Tribe, Blue
10 Lake Rancheria, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians; Viejas Band
11 of Kumeyaay Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians,
12 Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Paskenta Tribe of the
13 Nomlaki Indians, Barona Band of Mission Indians, San
14 Pasqual Band of Mission Indians, and today Middletown
15 Rancheria. So an incredible list in a relatively short
16 period of time.

17 And really happy to welcome Middletown to this
18 list of projects and look forward to supporting your
19 success.

20 Yeah, one more -- go ahead, please, Commissioner.

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So Chair Simon, thanks
22 so much again. And I look forward to bringing other
23 opportunities to work together as we roll out different
24 programs. You know, we have some big, equitable building,
25 decarbonization investments that we're going to be making

1 that focus on tribes and really want to make sure that you
2 and your colleagues are in the mix to help design and
3 develop and roll out the terms for those investments that
4 are directed at tribes. And just make sure that they
5 achieve the success that we all know is possible and
6 support your vision.

7 So I'm really looking forward to many, many
8 future opportunities to work together.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair?

10 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

11 I just wanted to join you in lifting up the
12 staff, Sierra to you and Stephen, a wonderful presentation.
13 I think the seeds of change is your advocacy and your
14 inspiration. I think taking the vote is very easy after
15 all the great work that you all do. So I just wanted to
16 honor your work in helping us move towards more justice
17 through our state agency. Thank you.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Vice Chair.

19 With that, Commissioner Gallardo, would you be
20 willing to move Item 4?

21 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes, I would be honored
22 to do so. I had the privilege and honor of also doing --
23 at the tribal en banc speaking out the Resolution for
24 Tribal Energy Sovereignty. And I'm just as honored to move
25 to approve Item 4.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from
2 Commissioner McAllister?
3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second Item 4.
4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.
5 Commissioner Gallardo.
6 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.
7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.
8 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.
9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.
10 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.
11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.
12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.
13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
14 4 passes unanimously. Congratulations. All right.
15 CHAIR SIMON: Thank you.
16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you for being here.
17 With that we will turn now to Item 6. We are
18 moving Item 5 to another business meeting, so let me pull
19 up Item 6. We'll move to Item 6, Disadvantaged Communities
20 Advisory Group Appointment and welcome Dorothy Murimi to
21 present.
22 MS. MURIMI: Thank you. Good morning, Chair,
23 Vice Chair, and Commissioners. I am Dorothy Murimi,
24 Outreach Specialist with the Office of the Public Advisor,
25 Energy Equity and Tribal Affairs. I am here to present for

1 your consideration, an appointment to the Disadvantaged
2 Communities Advisory Group. Next slide.

3 The extensive expertise of the DACAG assists the
4 CEC in designing and implementing effective statewide
5 policies and programs.

6 As many of you are aware, this 11-member advisory
7 group, established by SB 350, advises the CEC and CPUC on
8 developing and executing equitable and inclusive policies
9 and programs. These initiatives are designed to better
10 serve the disadvantaged communities they represent, helping
11 us all work toward the state's clean energy and pollution
12 reduction goals.

13 When a vacancy occurs, the CEC and CPUC aim to
14 select individuals from diverse regions, areas of
15 expertise, and community perspectives. Next slide.

16 This is the current makeup of the DACAG.

17 Today, I am seeking your approval for the
18 appointment of a new member to fill the vacancy left by
19 Sahara Huazano, who resigned from the DACAG. CPUC will
20 consider the same appointment at their June 20th meeting
21 later this month. Next slide, please.

22 The proposed new member to the DACAG, Senait
23 Forthal, is the founder and Executive Director of OC Goes
24 Solar, OCGS for short, a 501c3 non-profit organization with
25 a mission to make solar energy and other clean technologies

1 accessible and affordable for all residents throughout
2 Orange County, especially in underserved communities.

3 Senait is based in Orange County which is a
4 region that has never had representation on the DACAG
5 outside of regional representation with members from Los
6 Angeles

7 Senait also brings expertise and interest in
8 social and climate justice with a focus on renewable
9 energy, and workforce development. Next slide, please.

10 With that, the CEC and CPUC DACAG Lead
11 Commissioners, and staff recommend the approval and
12 appointment of Senait Forthal presented before you today.

13 That concludes my presentation. I am happy to
14 answer any questions.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thanks, Dorothy.

16 Let's go to public comment on Item 6.

17 MS. BADIE: Thank you. The Energy Commission
18 welcomes public comment on Item 6 at this time, if you're
19 joining in the room, we'll take a show of hands. We've
20 also asked for folks to use the QR code to let us know we'd
21 like to make a comment in the room. And if you're joining
22 on Zoom, please use the raise hand feature on your screen
23 or *9 if joining by phone. And just giving that a moment.

24 All right, I'm not seeing any comments for this
25 item. Back to you, Chair.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to Commissioner
2 discussion starting with Commissioner Gallardo.

3 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Thank you, Chair. I'm
4 really excited about this opportunity to have this
5 candidate, Senait Forthal, join the DACAG. I think that
6 representation from Orange County would be really helpful
7 to ensure we have geographic diversity. And additionally,
8 she just has tremendous expertise as you heard from
9 Dorothy, so I am excited about this opportunity to approve
10 another member of the DACAG.

11 And I also wanted to thank Sahara Huazano, who
12 had has resigned from the DACAG and left a vacancy as she
13 is pursuing her graduate degree. And so we wish her the
14 best of success in those pursuits. And thank her. She
15 represents Alianza Coachella Valley, so it was great to
16 have that representation from the Salton Sea region. But
17 again, we wish her tremendous success on her career and her
18 education.

19 And Dorothy, I wanted to highlight too, you did a
20 tremendous job here with the presentation. Very thorough,
21 very accurate. And I know you have been committed to
22 supporting the DACAG since I was Public Advisor and before
23 that even. So thank you, Dorothy, for doing an excellent
24 job. And to the rest of the Public Advisor's Office for
25 your diligence on the work to make sure that the DACAG has

1 all they need to do their work.

2 So it's a big effort, big lift. But you all do
3 it so smoothly and really appreciate you for doing that.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Commissioner.
5 Unless there are -- Commissioner Monahan, did you have a
6 comment?

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, just wanted to add a
8 few things to what Commissioner Gallardo said, all of which
9 I heartily agree with. But I also now as the second to the
10 DACAG I'm seeing all the work that the Public Advisor and
11 the Public Advisor's Office including Dorothy is doing to
12 support the DACAG. And it's very impressive, the amount
13 that you do and that you do it so kindly and with such
14 thoughtfulness. So I know it took a while to go through.
15 This is a long process to get applications, to review them,
16 to make sure as Commissioner Gallardo said that we're
17 attentive to all areas of the state, and looking at diverse
18 areas of expertise. So it just takes a lot of work to do
19 this. So thank you all for doing that. And I just welcome
20 Senait Forthal. I think she's going to be a great addition
21 to the DACAG.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair?

23 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Hi, Chair, I just want to keep
24 it brief. Thank you, Chief and Dorothy, for all the work
25 you do. And I just want to uplift both Commissioner

1 Gallardo and Commissioner Monahan. Thank you for leading
2 this important work for the agency. And Mona Badie, you
3 know, for her spectacular work. That's usually tries to
4 stay behind the scenes. But Mona, thank you for all the
5 work you do and the CCO support that we have on the DACAG.

6 I think just it's good to just uplift. The DACAG
7 is such an important voice in bringing equity and framing
8 both all of our diction through that lens. So just think
9 all the deck members and I look forward to working with the
10 new member looking forward to support thank you.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

12 Unless there's other comments, Commissioner
13 Gallardo, would you be willing to make a motion on Item 6?

14 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Absolutely. I move to
15 approve Item 6.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Was there a second from the
17 Vice Chair?

18 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Second.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

20 Commissioner Gallardo.

21 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

23 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

2 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
4 6 passes unanimously. Thank you, Dorothy.

5 We'll turn now to Item 7 Renewable Portfolio
6 Standard Verification Results Reports for Local Publicly
7 Owned Utilities. Welcome, Kevin Chou.

8 MR. CHOU: Good morning, Chair Hochschild, Vice
9 Chair Gunda, and Commissioners. I am Kevin Chou, program
10 staff for the Renewables Portfolio Standard Verification
11 and Compliance Unit of the Siting, Transmission and
12 Environmental Protection Division. Today, staff are
13 presenting the second group of verification findings for 15
14 Publicly Owned Utilities (POUs) with Verification Results
15 Reports for Compliance Period 3, which are ready for your
16 consideration and adoption. Next slide, please.

17 Californians are benefitting as increasing
18 renewable generation is procured by utilities to meet the
19 requirements of California's Renewables Portfolio Standard,
20 commonly known as the RPS program. The reports presented
21 here today for adoption benefit both the public and policy
22 makers by providing verified data conclusions on renewable
23 energy procurement amounts made by California load-serving
24 entities to serve ratepayers in the state.

25 These reports also benefit the state by providing

1 verified renewable energy data that can be used in
2 determining whether California is on track for its
3 renewable energy goals. Next slide, please.

4 California, representing the 5th largest economy
5 in the world, has a track record of having the nation's
6 largest and most ambitious RPS program. The RPS program is
7 a key driver for achieving the decarbonization of the
8 energy sector and the reports presented today represent the
9 work done in the program for Compliance Period 3, for years
10 2017 to 2020.

11 The compliance period officially began on January
12 1st of 2017 and ended on December 31st 2020. The final
13 year of claims data needed for staff analysis was submitted
14 the following year, by September 2021.

15 During the initial claims eligibility analysis
16 for all load-serving entities, the CEC completed its
17 responsibilities for retail sellers specifically with the
18 adoption of the retail sellers report in January 2023. At
19 that point, the report was transmitted to the California
20 Public Utilities Commission or CPUC, where final analysis
21 and compliance determinations for retail sellers would be
22 made.

23 For publicly owned utilities, adoption of the
24 first group of 28 draft POU Verification Results Reports
25 took place on December 13th, 2023. The proposed adoption

1 of the remaining 15 draft POU reports are presented with a
2 resolution for adoption today, June 12th. Next slide,
3 please.

4 This bar chart shows the amount of renewable
5 energy credits reported by POUs, by year and compliance
6 period, with Compliance Period 3 the subject of the
7 reports, being the bar on the right. Each compliance
8 period is 3 or 4 years in length. In Compliance Period 1,
9 POUs reported over 35,000 GWhs of renewable energy.
10 Reporting increased to over 42,000 GWhs in CP 2, and our
11 findings for CP 3 show over 78,000 GWhs of renewable
12 energy. This increase can be attributed to an increase in
13 procurement requirements and an additional year of data
14 reporting with Compliance Period 3 being a 4-year
15 compliance period. Next slide, please.

16 The steps outlined in this Verification Process
17 flowchart were completed to generate the second group of
18 Verification Reports for the 15 POUs mentioned.

19 Starting from the top left, the annual claims
20 data needed for analysis was not fully received from POUs
21 until the fall of 2021. Staff responsible for verification
22 activities will first receive the retirement claims from
23 all LSEs and proceed to an in-depth, three-level analyses
24 to determine compliance with RPS obligations.

25 This begins with Level 1 analysis for all LSEs to

1 determine the eligibility of the claims received. You may
2 recall a separate verification report for the retail
3 sellers that was adopted by the Energy Commission in
4 January 2023. That report was then transmitted to the CPUC
5 for further compliance determination.

6 Next, the responsibilities are split with the
7 CPUC completing analysis for retail sellers and the Energy
8 Commission completing the analysis for POUs. Verification
9 Levels 2 and 3 are POU-specific analyses that determine the
10 classification of renewable energy credits and how the
11 reported data compares to the procurement requirements.
12 Once those analyses are complete, verification results
13 reports are drafted for each POU, which is what's presented
14 to the commission today for consideration.

15 After Commission adoption, the draft reports will
16 become finalized, and a compliance determination letter
17 issued to each POU that met the RPS obligations. For those
18 that failed to meet the RPS requirements, staff analyze any
19 optional compliance measures which are alternate off-ramps
20 a POU may take that are a part of their board-approved RPS
21 procurement plan that were applied by the POU before
22 issuing their compliance determination letter. Next slide,
23 please.

24 The first of the two RPS obligations POUs shall
25 comply with is the renewable energy procurement target.

1 For Compliance Period 3, represented by the green shaded
2 area in this graph, load serving entities are required to
3 procure at least 33 percent electricity from eligible
4 renewable resources by end of year 2020. The RPS
5 procurement target increases over time, until it reaches 60
6 percent by 2030 as set by SB 100.

7 The additional blue line shows the trajectory of
8 reaching 100 percent clean energy by 2045, also set by SB
9 100. Although we cannot guarantee whether the state will
10 reach 60 percent renewables by 2030, RPS verification data
11 can be used to show how load-serving entities have
12 overwhelmingly complied with state RPS mandates to date.
13 Next slide, please.

14 California's RPS defines all renewable
15 procurement from contracts executed after June 1, 2010,
16 into three portfolio content categories or PCCs.
17 Additional to the procurement target requirement, POUs are
18 required by the RPS to meet portfolio balance requirements,
19 which are minimum and maximum percentages of PCC 1 and PCC
20 3 products that POUs procure and apply toward their RPS
21 targets. The minimum requirement for PCC 1 products has
22 increased each compliance period from 50 percent in
23 Compliance Period 1 to 75 percent in Compliance Period 3
24 and remains at 75 percent thereafter. The maximum amount
25 of PCC 3 products allowed to be applied to the RPS

1 decreased over time from a maximum of 25 percent in CP 1 to
2 10 percent in CP 3 and thereafter. Next slide, please.

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

13 The second group of draft verification results
14 reports were docketed and posted on May 8th, 2024 with a 2-
15 week public comment period. Each POU presented here today
16 has reviewed and accepted staff's findings prior to the
17 business meeting and did not submit public comments. We
18 received two set of comments during the 2-week comment
19 period that are being addressed and warrant no changes to
20 the final verification reports presented here today. Next
21 slide, please.

22 Presented here are a summary of staff's findings
23 for POUs in Compliance Period 3. Forty-three POUs are
24 subject to California's RPS requirements. Twenty-eight
25 POUs' verification results reports were adopted in December

1 2023. Of the 15 POUs presented today, 13 met or exceed
2 their procurement target and met the portfolio balance
3 requirements. Two POUs did not meet one or more of the RPS
4 requirements and have elected to apply optional compliance
5 measures. The two POUs' application of optional compliance
6 measures will not affect the proposed resolution to adopt
7 the 15 reports today. Next slide, please.

8 Energy Commission staff finds that the analysis
9 results and conclusions outlined in the Verification
10 Results Reports for the 15 POUs listed below to be true and
11 accurate, ready for next steps in providing compliance
12 determinations to each POU. We request that the Energy
13 Commission adopt the resolution adopting the RPS
14 Verification Results Reports of the forementioned POUs.

15 We thank you for your consideration of this
16 request, and I'm happy to respond to any questions. Thank
17 you.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.

19 Let's go to public comment on Item 7.

20 MS. BADIE: Thank you. The Commission welcomes
21 public comment on Item 7 at this time. If you're in the
22 room with us, you can raise your hand or use the QR code to
23 let us know you'd like to comment. And if you're joining
24 by Zoom, please use the raise hand feature on your screen
25 or *9 if joining by phone. That'll let us know you'd like

1 to comment.

2 And I'm just giving this one moment, Chair. All
3 right, I'm not seeing any raised hands or commenters for
4 this item. So back to you.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Let's go to
6 Commissioner discussion starting with Commissioner
7 Gallardo.

8 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Thank you, Chair.

9 First, Kevin, you did a wonderful presentation,
10 very thorough. I really appreciate the detail. I also
11 want to acknowledge you and the entire RPS team for the
12 diligent work and verifying this RPS procurement claims for
13 Compliance Period 3.

14 The RPS program, in terms of its administrative
15 activities, operates really quietly behind the scenes, but
16 it is such important work for the Energy Commission. And
17 for our state to facilitate investment and economic
18 benefits in California as we are continuing to decarbonize
19 electric sector, including transportation and buildings,
20 and through our SB 100 efforts.

21 So I want to acknowledge that addressing RPS, as
22 you can probably tell from the presentation is very nuanced
23 and complex. And Kevin, in his presentation alluded to
24 some of the challenges we face administering the RPS
25 program including the time lag in the verification. So for

50

1 example, it's now June 2024. And we are still working on
2 the compliance period for years 2017 to 2020. RPS
3 verification and compliance results will always lag the
4 actual utility performance, because of the program
5 evaluation being backward looking and there are multiyear
6 compliance periods that provide flexibility for load
7 serving entities as well.

8 However, I want to appreciate the leadership of
9 the STEP Director Elizabeth Huber, and Deputy Director Sean
10 Simon in the commitment of staff to identify even more
11 opportunities that we can take to close that gap. So my
12 team will be working really closely with staff to support
13 that effort.

14 And I also wanted to thank Vice Chair Gunda and
15 his team, especially Raja, (phonetic) for being great
16 partners to us on these RPS efforts. So those are my
17 comments.

18 And then I also wanted to see, Kevin, if just
19 related to the RPS if you're able to give us an update on
20 the WREGIS progress. At our last meeting, we had an
21 information update from Andrea Coons, the Director of
22 WREGIS, which is the Western Renewable Energy Generation
23 Information System that's used to track and report, you
24 know, renewable energy credits for the RPS program. Are
25 you able to provide an update for us at this time, just so

1 my fellow Commissioners can also hear what's happening?

2 MR. CHOU: Yes, sure. I can do that.

3 Great. Well, hello, Commissioners. Kevin Chou,
4 again with the STEP Division. WREGIS has been providing
5 periodic updates to the Energy Commission regarding the
6 three categories of issues that have been persisting.
7 Those include e-Tag issues, transfer issues, and the
8 remainders issues.

9 WREGIS staff compiled a list of all functionality
10 and data updates needed for program compliance, and the
11 list was broken into multiple priority releases scheduled
12 to be completed before the end of May. Those releases were
13 completed on May 7, and May 31st. Between those two dates
14 functionality on e-Tag and transfers was completed. There
15 are still a few select customers that still need data
16 releases to resolve their e-Tag and transfer issues.
17 Progress continues to be made on resolving the remainders
18 issue. Fixes for additional groups of generators were
19 released on May 30 and June 3rd.

20 WREGIS anticipates another fix to be released for
21 another group of generators next week. At this point,
22 there are roughly 65 generators remaining with significant
23 impacts that may or are likely to affect faculty of
24 California entities, tests, or related programs. WREGIS
25 will provide another update to CEC staff on or about June

1 18th, on these issues. Thanks.

2 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Thank you, Kevin.

3 Okay, I really appreciate that. And just so my
4 fellow Commissioners are aware, I've been engaging also
5 with staff and reaching out to Director Coons to ensure
6 that we have those updates. And then also to determine if
7 there are backup plans. We also want to see what their
8 backup plans are if the fixes aren't made.

9 So I'll turn it back to you, Chair. Thank you.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, let's go to Vice Chair
11 Gunda.

12 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

13 Thank you, Commissioner Gallardo. I think you
14 did an excellent job kind of providing the kind of the
15 status and the opportunities for improvements. I do want
16 to associate myself with all the comments you've made. And
17 thank you for the opportunity to work with you on this item
18 more actively, and just really enjoying getting to know the
19 RPS team.

20 So Kevin, thank you for the presentation. It was
21 very kind of clear, and also all the briefings that you did
22 trying to bring me up to speed on these issues. So thanks
23 on that.

24 And I think you know, as Commissioner Gallardo
25 mentioned, the RPS statute has a lot of power in kind of

1 influencing the clean energy investments and reaching that
2 ideal for targets, as well as our workforce, our transition
3 in California. So I think you know, just kind of proud of
4 the work you guys are doing.

5 I feel like just tracking this over the last
6 several years, there has been a lot of enhancements in the
7 ability to automate certain processes to clean up data
8 better. So I think we have done a lot of good work. But I
9 also want to associate myself with what Commissioner
10 Gallardo said, in terms of the opportunities for us to
11 challenge ourselves and the timeliness of this work. And
12 so I would just kind of put it as a challenge to us at CEC,
13 in what else do we have to do to provide that certainty for
14 the market players and the POUs.

15 And I want to thank the POUs for their engagement
16 with both of our offices, providing information on some of
17 the implications of the delays, right. So thank you again
18 for acknowledging them and trying to work on the process
19 improvements. So with that looking forward to supporting
20 the item, and thanks again for all the work.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Vice Chair.
22 Commissioner McAllister.

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I just kind of really
24 agree with both Commissioners Gallardo and Vice Chair
25 Gunda.

1 And, Kevin, thanks for the briefing on this. I
2 appreciate you and Elizabeth and the whole team. And I
3 also just wanted to acknowledge all the POU's for sort of
4 their engagement as well. I mean it's a diverse bunch,
5 many of them fiercely independent, representing regions of
6 the state that really have unique characteristics. And I
7 just appreciate all the effort that it goes to track down
8 all the different details and you know, as Commissioner
9 Gallardo said, and all the nuances. It's a big group of
10 utilities and sort of have broken them up into different
11 herds of cats. And really going down a lot of rabbit holes
12 to make sure that you're well-grounded and well documented.

13 So I really appreciate that and agree that
14 looking for areas to improve is essential. And I really
15 appreciate also the update on WREGIS. Obviously, it's a
16 concern near the end of the current compliance period.
17 We've really got to have all the ducks in a row there in
18 order to use that resource. So I think, yeah, that's just
19 gratitude to you and the team and looking forward to kind
20 of seeing how RPS as it matures and goes into future
21 compliance period dovetails into SB 100. And we can sort
22 of align with our longer term goals. So thank you.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Commissioner.

24 Unless there's further Commissioner comment,
25 Commissioner Gallardo, would you be willing to move Item 7?

1 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Yes, I move to approve
2 Item Number 7.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from
4 Commissioner McAllister?

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

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

8 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister.

10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

12 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
16 7 passes unanimously. Thank you, appreciate it.

17 As mentioned earlier, we have pulled Item 8 from
18 the agenda today. So we'll turn now to Item 9, Optimizing
19 Long-Duration Energy Storage to Improve Grid Resiliency and
20 Reliability for Disadvantaged And Low-Income Communities
21 and California Native American Tribes.

22 Welcome to Zoe Higgerson.

23 MS. HIGGERSON: Thank you, Chair.

24 Good morning Chair, Vice Chair, and

25 Commissioners. My name is Zoe Higgerson and I work as a

1 Utilities Engineer in the Grid Innovation Unit of the
2 Energy Research and Development Division. Today I will be
3 presenting on Item 9, Optimizing Long-Duration Energy
4 Storage to Improve Grid Resiliency and Reliability for
5 Disadvantaged and Low-Income Communities and California
6 Native American Tribes. Next slide.

7 So the purpose of this solicitation is to fund
8 technology demonstration and deployment projects to improve
9 grid reliability and resilience in disadvantaged and low-
10 income communities, and tribes. This solicitation required
11 100 kW minimum capacity and 24 hours of duration utilizing
12 either electrochemical or thermal battery energy storage
13 technologies with a goal of accelerating commercialization
14 and validating the capability of demonstrated technologies.
15 Next slide, please.

16 The proposed projects will provide several
17 benefits for California's disadvantaged, low-income, and
18 tribal communities, such as increased safety and resiliency
19 during outages and PSPS events, hundreds of MW hours per
20 year of avoided solar energy curtailment, millions of
21 dollars in energy cost savings, and metric ton levels of
22 emission reductions of CO2 and NOx. Next slide, please.

23 For the three proposed agreements, we are
24 leveraging about \$26.7 million in CEC funds and bringing in
25 about \$12.2 million in match funding. Two of the projects

1 will be located in Southern California in SDG&E service
2 territory, with the third in Northern California in PG&E
3 service territory. Next slide, please.

4 The first project proposed for award is the
5 Barona Community LDES Project with the Barona Band of
6 Mission Indians, benefitting both a tribe and disadvantaged
7 community. This project will utilize a Redflow zinc
8 bromine flow battery to provide 275 kW for 24 hours or 100
9 kW for 66 hours. The battery will be connected to 912 kW
10 of existing PV, as well as a 3 MW inverter to allow for up
11 to 3 MW of discharge.

12 The project will demonstrate MWh-scale
13 hibernation functionality in an integrated microgrid
14 environment, so that it can be used ultimately without
15 degradation as well as needed.

16 The system will provide resilient and economical
17 energy supplies for essential tribal facilities, such as
18 emergency public sheltering facilities capable of
19 accommodating more than 1,000 people in a short-term
20 emergency, as well as fresh water pumping and sanitation
21 facilities. Next slide.

22 The second project recommended for award is
23 Thermochemical Energy Storage for Disadvantaged Communities
24 with RedoxBlox, located on the UC San Diego medical campus.
25 This project uses thermochemical energy storage system

1 charged by passing an electrical current directly through
2 the packed bed of mixed metal oxide storage material, which
3 causes the material to heat up to 1500°C and undergo an
4 endothermic reduction reaction. The 3MWh thermo system
5 vessel will be paired with a commercially available Ansaldo
6 Green Tech microturbine for an output of 100 kW for 24
7 hours. This project has proven successful in previous
8 demonstrations up to 600 kWh with a prior ARPA-E award and
9 is ready to be scaled up further. This project is located
10 in a low-income community and will serve disadvantaged
11 communities that use the critical medical facilities.
12 Next slide, please.

13 The third and final project recommended for
14 funding under this solicitation is Thermochemical Energy
15 Storage for Disadvantaged Communities with Noon Energy.
16 This project will utilize a 100 kW/10 MWh carbon-oxygen
17 battery with an ultra-small footprint of 320 square feet,
18 paired with an existing 7 MW solar field in Yolo County.
19 This technology stores energy by splitting CO₂ into solid
20 carbon and oxygen in a flow battery configuration, seen in
21 the image on the slide. It utilizes abundant materials and
22 a simple reaction chemistry similar to that seen in
23 photosynthesis.

24 Noon Energy has shown successful scaling of their
25 technology, demonstrating a 1 kW/50 kWh system as part of a

1 CEC BRIDGE grant, in addition to previously awarded ARPA-E
2 and CalSEED grants. This project will provide low cost,
3 locally available and resilient energy supplies to
4 disadvantaged and low-income communities, benefitting the
5 George Kristoff Water Treatment Plant, a critical facility
6 that provides water to underserved communities in West
7 Sacramento. As well as the Next Move Homeless Services, a
8 homeless shelter serving local underserved communities in
9 Sacramento. Next slide, please.

10 Staff recommends adoption of staff's
11 determination that these projects are exempt from CEQA, as
12 well as approval of the three grant agreements. I, along
13 with the proposed project recipients, are available to
14 answer any questions. That concludes my presentation,
15 thank you so much.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

17 Let's go to public comment.

18 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

19 The Commission welcomes public comment on Item 9
20 at this time. If you're joining us in the room, you just
21 need to raise your hand. We're also asking folks to use
22 the QR code if convenient. And if you're joining us by
23 Zoom, you'll use the raise hand feature on your screen if
24 you're Zoom online. And if you're joining us by phone,
25 please press *9.

1 All right, we have Josh Simmons on Zoom. Josh,
2 I'm going to open your line. We're asking for comments to
3 be two minutes or less.

4 MR. SIMMONS: Right. Thank you, Commissioners.
5 So I am commenting on behalf of the Barona Band of Mission
6 Indians. So I am President and Principal Consultant with
7 Prosper Sustainably. On this project I am serving as
8 Owner's Representative and the Lead Project Manager for
9 this and other Barona clean energy projects. I'm also a
10 Co-Director of the Southern California Tribal Chairman's
11 Association Tribal Energy and Climate Collaborative and
12 serving a similar role for other tribes on various clean
13 energy projects.

14 So first, I want to read a statement from
15 Chairman Welch.

16 "The Barona Community Long-Duration Energy
17 Storage Project will accelerate the Barona Band's progress
18 toward greater energy resiliency and sustainability. And
19 will help the Band achieve greater energy sovereignty
20 through control over our own energy resources. The Barona
21 Band appreciates the CEC support for this important
22 investment in sustainable energy infrastructure."

23 So from my perspective as Barona's Owner's Rep
24 and the Lead PM on this, I'm excited about the resiliency,
25 energy cost savings, and increased energy independence that

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1 this project is going to provide to multiple critical
2 facilities on the reservation, as in the industry
3 professionals supporting other tribal energy storage and
4 flow battery projects throughout Southern California and my
5 role in my role with tech serving tribes throughout the
6 region.

7 I'm particularly excited about partnering with
8 Redflow and using their zinc bromine flow battery
9 technology for this project and demonstrating its unique
10 capabilities. So, you know, it provides similar resiliency
11 capabilities of other flow battery technologies. However,
12 Barona like most other tribes, you know, at least for
13 during outages Barona like most other tribes is facing
14 increased energy costs. So this is going to provide energy
15 resilience, I'm sorry, energy arbitrage.

16 This technology uniquely offers the opportunity
17 to offset demand charges in this technology versus other
18 flow battery technologies that I've seen. So ultimately we
19 need LBS solutions that can provide value and solutions for
20 all scenarios in which they're operating, not just during
21 outages, and blue sky scenarios for the vast majority of
22 time that these integrated flow battery systems are
23 operating. So this type of solution that's going to allow
24 demand charge reduction is going to make this type of
25 technology more commercially viable and hopefully accepted

1 and adopted throughout the market and California.

2 Thanks again, Commissioners, for this
3 opportunity.

4 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

5 Next, we'll hear from Chris Graves. Chris, I'm
6 going to open your line if you can unmute on your end.
7 We're asking for comments to be two minutes or less.

8 MR. GRAVES: Okay, thanks. Great. Yeah, hi,
9 this is Chris Graves, Co-Founder and CEO at Noon Energy.
10 We just wanted to say we're very excited and honored to
11 work with the CEC on this project to provide community
12 reliability and resilience in California with our novel
13 long-duration energy storage technology.

14 A couple of quick things about our technology.
15 Our system will be sited as to store energy for multiple
16 days and can balance seasonal variability to enable 100
17 percent solar and wind power by making intermittent
18 supplies available 24/7 year round, and removing our need
19 for fossil fuels. And it's able to do this cost
20 effectively by storing energy in air abundant elements
21 carbon and oxygen, rather than the relatively expensive
22 metals used in conventional batteries.

23 CEC support has been key to Noon's progress so
24 far. And this project will enable us to build and deploy
25 our first of a kind product scale demonstration system and

1 provide community benefits. We wanted to call out some of
2 the community partners we were working with on this
3 project. They were mentioned on the previous slide, but we
4 have NextMove Homeland Services; (phonetic) the City of
5 West Sacramento Water Treatment Plant, which serves West
6 Sacramento, including multiple disadvantaged communities
7 will be providing reimbursement for electricity costs
8 during the demonstration project.

9 And we'll also develop a workforce training
10 curriculum consistent with requirements of the
11 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers local 340
12 and the National Electrical Contractors Association of
13 Greater Sacramento. And work with our community partner,
14 Northern California Construction Training to provide
15 workforce training efforts in these underserved communities
16 in West Sacramento.

17 So thanks again to the CEC.

18 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

19 Next we'll hear from James Klausner. James, I
20 want to open your line, if you can unmute on your end, and
21 we're asking for comments to be two minutes or less.

22 MR. KLAUSNER: Right. This is James Klausner
23 from RedoxBlox. RedoxBlox established its headquarters in
24 San Diego since 2022. We're incredibly excited for an
25 opportunity to work with the California Energy Commission,

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1 which we consider the gold standard for state energy
2 agencies. RedoxBlox is a startup company that was spun out
3 of Michigan State University. And we moved our
4 headquarters to California, because of the state's
5 commitment to decarbonization.

6 Cleantech San Diego led by Jason Anderson,
7 University of California, San Diego and the Electric Power
8 Research Institute, had provided essential public-private
9 partnerships to help navigate the numerous opportunities to
10 serve the communities in California.

11 RedoxBlox technology has the potential to convert
12 existing gas fired power plants into clean energy storage
13 facilities, thus making use of cleaning up existing power
14 assets in the journey towards a zero carbon economy in
15 California.

16 We encourage community organizations and tribes
17 who might be on the call to reach out to us. We exist to
18 serve communities. Thank you for supporting RedoxBlox's
19 long-duration energy storage technology. And we're
20 grateful for your support. Thank you.

21 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

22 And we don't have any other raised hands, so back
23 to you, Chair.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, go ahead. Vice Chair,
25 you had a question?

1 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yes. Thank you for the
2 excellent presentation. So I just have a question,
3 particularly on the RedoxBlox. I just wanted to
4 understand, does the technology allow for VAR (phonetic)
5 and inertial support on the grid?

6 MR. KLAUSNER: Indeed, it does. And that's one
7 of the big advantages is that we're making use of existing
8 inertial assets. And rather than providing energy to those
9 assets through burning natural gas, we're just using heat
10 from our storage facility to power those assets. And so
11 indeed it's inertial support for the grid, which we look at
12 as being essential for stable realization of the grid.

13 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: I thank you so much, James.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, any other questions from
15 my colleagues? Yeah, okay. Go ahead.

16 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: All right, thank you. So just
17 kind of going back to more of a comment I wanted to make.
18 So thank you, Zoe, that was really helpful, super
19 appreciative of the work that both the RDD is doing. But
20 the overall perspective of the investment strategy for the
21 long duration storage, I think it's just the excellent work
22 that RDD is doing.

23 I think I wanted to make a couple of points on
24 just the importance of the long duration storage and where
25 it kind of intersects in our energy planning. I think much

1 of the speakers noted as we have seen the decarbonization
2 of the grid over the last 10 years, even though we had a
3 20x increase in the solar, almost 80 percent increase in
4 wind, we had only 20 percent reduction on the natural gas,
5 right? Especially because of the ramping needs, the
6 inertial support that we just talked about. Setting the
7 kind of niche that the long duration storage both supports
8 in terms of those ramping needs in the evening, and further
9 amplifying the opportunity and creating the conditions
10 necessary for retiring those thermal assets, especially in
11 low-income and disadvantaged communities I think is really
12 important.

13 So I'm super excited about the work. I look
14 forward to seeing these technologies scale and support the
15 product goals.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

17 Just to add on to the Vice Chair's comments here,
18 one I do believe long duration storage has a really
19 important role to play. And we are playing an essential
20 role at the Energy Commission in seed planting what is
21 really a new industry. And I think one that wouldn't
22 happen without this kind of state intervention.

23 But the ability to surge, you know, when the
24 demand is high is important. I think not just for
25 conventional use of power, but also ultimately for fast

1 charging of vehicles. And I really do see a future where
2 we're doing a lot more of this type of storage
3 infrastructure to support fast charging of vehicles.

4 And I really think this has a nice nexus with
5 that, looking ahead, particularly with heavy duty and
6 electric school buses and other heavy-duty electric demand.

7 So I just wanted to highlight that and to thank
8 all the team for the work. And there's some new stuff here
9 I've not seen. You know, thermo chemical redox, like
10 that's definitely new territory and great to see us
11 pioneering in that in that area.

12 Commissioner McAllister.

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, thanks so much
14 for the briefing and for the presentation today. And I
15 really enjoyed it. And I think I'm very supportive of all
16 three of these technologies. They are diverse. I think
17 they collaborate or they complement one another well.

18 And James, thanks for calling in. I visited
19 RedoxBlox not long ago, and really kind of got the lowdown
20 on that technology. And in particular, it's the one of the
21 three that I visited so maybe I'll just manifest a little
22 excitement about that now for that reason. But I think it
23 is also kind of a new class of storage, that I think is
24 really interesting both in in being able to take clean
25 electricity when it's in excess and create thermal and

1 thermal chemical storage. And then put that back out as
2 heat, which can then be utilized to generate electricity.
3 Or for the high temperature thermal loads that the
4 industrial sectors say and other sectors need.

5 And so I think it really does inhabit kind of a
6 sweet spot of storage technologies in the mix of all the
7 different storage technologies that we're supporting. And
8 that are needed to bridge between thermal and electricity
9 in a much more kind of organic way than figuratively
10 organic, or not actually -- sort of non-organic I guess
11 you'd say since we're trying to avoid carbon.

12 But really the materials innovations that they've
13 done, and kind of the experimentation and the real kind of
14 heavy thinking that they've done. And a lot of the IP
15 they've developed has really I think, a huge future. So
16 I'm super excited about that project in particular. So
17 James, thanks for all your -- thanks for decamping Michigan
18 to California and bringing your team to Southern California
19 where I think I agree that the ecosystem is really ripe to
20 help you succeed and to help California. So thanks.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And Commissioner, are you
22 excited enough to move Item 9?

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, I think after
24 (overlapping colloquy).

25 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Everybody's excited about

1 these grants. Well, I just want to say that we have seen
2 the transformative power short-duration energy storage in
3 California. You know, to go from 1 to 10 gigs, over 10
4 gigs today, is just amazing progress. And to think about
5 California again leading when it comes to long-duration
6 energy storage. I mean, these grants are really putting a
7 marker around California's commitment to ensuring we're
8 going to get long-duration energy storage to complement
9 battery storage on the grid to meet our goals.

10 And I want to say, Chair, I hadn't even thought
11 about EV charging. So I was like, oh yeah, that's true.
12 That could be really beneficial. So I'm going to put my
13 thinking cap on around that.

14 But also, the fact that you connected it to lower
15 income, disadvantaged and tribal communities, is just
16 really heartening. And I want to say I think we all are
17 committed to making sure that this is a clean energy future
18 for all. And to really show through these grants, direct
19 benefits to communities that are too often left behind is
20 really a critical element of them. So thank you.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair, if you would like
22 --

23 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I'd like to make a
24 comment too. It'll be quick, though.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, go ahead. Commissioner

1 Gallardo, please yes go ahead.

2 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: I'm also excited about
3 the innovation in terms of technology, and really
4 appreciate the speakers highlighting the impact on humans.
5 And, like, you know, Commissioner Monahan is saying that is
6 so important to have that focus. And I want to emphasize
7 to everybody, the importance of intentionality. And I
8 think it was Noon Energy who talked about the workforce
9 aspects, and that is vital. And I think that should be
10 done, you know, throughout our programs and for developers
11 to think about that ahead of time and incorporate that as
12 you're going. So that it becomes something embedded and
13 not a side note or something afterwards, or you know, not
14 at all. So I wanted to highlight that.

15 And also, you know, the wastewater treatment
16 plant, and also the homeless shelter. I mean, those are
17 major facilities of great importance for communities. So
18 I'm also really excited to see how those go. And on the
19 tribal impact of course. We've highlighted that a lot
20 today. But anyway, I just wanted to make sure we focus
21 also on the human impact we're making with these
22 investments. Thank you.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Commissioner.
24 Vice Chair.

25 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

1 Just a recommendation to the ERDD team. Last
2 time, I think the first SB 100 report, ERDD played an
3 important role in having an assessment of technologies
4 available, upcoming technologies available. So as a way to
5 bridge the different scenarios we ran in SB 100, kind of
6 whether it's a high demand flexibility scenario or in a
7 kind of a high long hybrid storage scenario, this would be
8 really helpful either as an appendix. Or a standalone
9 document to help understand waive the optimism (phonetic)
10 for SB 100 comes.

11 And I think these kind of resources we're
12 investing in really kind of sets the stage of yes, this
13 scenarios is not just a dream, right? It's possible under
14 these technology improvements. So I just want to highlight
15 that opportunity for the ERDD team to just put an appendix
16 that allows for the discussion.

17 Second, I think in terms of key attributes like
18 the VAR support, the inertial support, it's also good to
19 understand the energy density of these products. One of
20 the things that we will struggle moving forward is the
21 amount of land use impacts. So to the extent that we're
22 able to have some sort of a summary, ongoing summary on the
23 potential improvements of energy density, and the space
24 constraints, I think would be really helpful to have as a
25 document that's being tracked. So thank you.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, just one final comment
2 before I ask Commissioner McAllister move this item, which
3 is that when you think about getting to a 100 percent clean
4 energy future, to me it's not just that it's possible.
5 It's that it's inevitable. But the haste that we get there
6 matters a lot.

7 And you know, across every single technology
8 category the trend on price is downward. And within
9 storage, the trend on energy density is upward. And those
10 are good trends. And this space, long-duration storage is
11 just a really critical piece of the puzzle.

12 You know, we announced recently that we're now at
13 61 percent clean electricity on the grid, which is
14 incredible, closing in on two thirds. But it gets harder
15 as you increase that percentage, because the needs you have
16 to meet get tougher. And getting that last bit of gas out
17 of the system gets harder. This is really the capabilities
18 offered by the suite of technologies within the long-
19 duration storage portfolio are especially attractive. So I
20 just wanted to lift up that whole program and really happy
21 to see this move forward and especially again the tribal
22 dimension of this.

23 So with that I'd invite Commissioner McAllister
24 to move Item 9.

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, I move Item 9.

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

3 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yes, I second the item.

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

6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda.

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

10 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

12 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
14 9 passes unanimously. Thank you so much, Zoe, I appreciate
15 it.

16 With that we'll turn to Item 10, minutes from the
17 May 8 2024 business meeting. Any public comments on Item
18 10?

19 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

20 The Commission welcomes public comment on Item
21 10, the minutes from last month's meeting. If you're in
22 the room with us you can raise your hand. And if you're on
23 Zoom please use the raise hand feature on your screen or *9
24 if joining by phone. And just giving that a moment.

25 All right, I'm not seeing any raised hands for

1 this item. Back to you, Chair.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: No comments. Okay.

3 Vice Chair, I think maybe you should recuse since
4 you weren't here for the whole meeting.

5 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yes. I was not here for the
6 entirety of the of the business meeting, I had to leave
7 early so I will recuse.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Thanks.

9 Commissioner McAllister, would you be willing to
10 move Item 10.

11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Move Item 10.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan, would
13 you be willing to second?

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I second.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

16 Commissioner McAllister.

17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan.

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Gallardo.

21 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Aye.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well with
23 the Vice Chair Gunda recusing.

24 We'll turn now to Item 11, Lead Commissioner and
25 Presiding Member Reports starting with the -- sorry, you

1 would like to start Commissioner McAllister?

2 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll try to be brief
3 against type. So first of all, I just wanted to say it's
4 such a pleasure to have returned mostly to the office. I
5 think it's been just having everybody here a couple days a
6 week, it's been so wonderful to see everybody. I want to
7 just give super-duper kudos to Drew and Jen and the whole
8 team, Chair, for leading kind of the implementation and
9 just working out of details. And being true to the spirit
10 of the Governor's desire for us to come back to work. And
11 really taking advantage of that.

12 But also helping be flexible enough that we're
13 working with our new staff, many of whom are not from the
14 Sacramento area at this point, in sort of really figuring
15 out how to make it all work and all the pieces and parts,
16 which I'm sure I and the rest of us on the dais don't have
17 full visibility into. But lots of detail or just aware
18 that you're doing your best to work it out. So thanks a
19 lot, Drew, I really appreciate that.

20 And it's just wonderful to see staff and just
21 reconnect and get reacquainted. And lots has happened
22 during COVID. You know, I think our family got bigger by
23 some measure as folks had new kids and lots of life-
24 changing events that take place. So really great to get
25 back into this rhythm again. And in this new, beautiful

1 building.

2 So I wanted to let everybody know that thanks to
3 our wonderful RREDI staff we did receive approval from DOE
4 for the Phase One Application for the HEEHRA. That's the
5 Home Energy Rebate Program under the Inflation Reduction
6 Act. So we're moving on to the next steps, so kudos to
7 Deana and Savvy (phonetic) and Christine Collopy, some of
8 her legacy was working on this as well. So just the whole
9 team has put in countless hours on that to get to yes with
10 DOE. And get the approval to then move on towards the
11 implementation phase, so that's a big one. That all told
12 is about \$280 million for the two phases that'll come to
13 the state in the next few years. So that's a big
14 milestone.

15 And the next application will be the HOMES
16 Program, which is about the same amount of money. And
17 that'll be getting submitted here in the coming weeks. So
18 progress on IRA, so thanks to Deana and team.

19 I did want to thank on IRA issues as well I just
20 wanted to call out that Daniel Wong and the team from the
21 Efficiency Division, Mike Sokol and that whole team, Will
22 Vicent, for getting applications in to the DOE Codes
23 Improvement Program. We've done multiple applications.
24 We've supported a bunch of applications from other
25 stakeholders and partners. And so we just submitted one on

77

1 compliance improvement, working with local governments. So
2 fingers crossed that that gets funded. And we should hear
3 about that in a month or two.

4 And then finally I just wanted to also give big
5 kudos to the Building Codes Team, Parts 1 and 6, the Core
6 Energy Efficiency Code, Building Energy Efficiency
7 Standards. Those are finishing up the 45-day language,
8 moving into 15-day language, hoping to bring those to all
9 of you for a vote in the August business meeting.

10 But it is a monumental task to update the
11 Building Code every three years. And it has global
12 implications, certainly very direct national implications.
13 Hundreds and hundreds of partners, thousands of hours and
14 comments from stakeholders. It's just a really, really big
15 lift. We're the adopting agency, so it's a great
16 responsibility. So the Part 6 is the core piece of the
17 Energy Code.

18 And then CALGreen has an energy piece as well.
19 That's now about two move into the 45-day language period.
20 It's about a month delay a month behind the Part 6. So
21 between those two lifts, it's just a massive effort.

22 And we have the best staff on this not only in
23 the development of the code, but also the enforcement
24 implementation, all aspects that comprise, you know, the
25 Building Energy Code in California. We are just the global

1 experts on this really I would say. It's fair to say that.
2 So I see Mike in the audience, so thanks Mike. I
3 appreciate all your leadership on this.

4 And just excited about the innovations. We're
5 getting really to the majority of our new -- the vast
6 majority, I would say, of our new construction being all
7 electric. It's going to be the best way to build buildings
8 in California going forward. And I just really feel
9 gratified to be working with the team that I'm working with
10 and that we're all working together on trying to make that
11 happen. So great things to come on the Building Code.

12 So thanks. That is all my comments. Thanks.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great.

14 Commissioner Monahan.

15 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, I want to talk for a
16 minute about our Advisory Committee for the Clean
17 Transportation Program. I've think I mentioned to you all
18 that we have three-year rotations, so it was newly
19 reconstituted. And the team did a great job doing outreach
20 and getting new members.

21 Some of the new members I just want to highlight.
22 We have two members of the religious community who are on
23 and which is a great new voice to have. So we have
24 Reverend Dr. Charles Dorsey, as well as Pastor Vaughn who I
25 just want to a quick vignette. So he is building

1 affordable housing on church parking lots. And his logo
2 is, "Yes, in God's Backyard," which I just love. And he's
3 really trying to think through so how do we add clean
4 energy to the work that he is doing, and especially around
5 EV charging. So it's just wonderful voices to have.

6 We also have Luis Olmedo, who some of you
7 probably know, from Comite Civico del Valle who is bringing
8 real-life experience deploying chargers to a low-income
9 disadvantaged community, rural community. Those are all
10 very special challenges. So just excited that we had this
11 kickoff meeting and looking forward to the advisory
12 committee members really giving us good sage advice as we
13 move forward with our investment plan.

14 And I think this importance of having term limits
15 actually, and having new voices and new ideas, because
16 equity is always evolving. And we never really reach it,
17 we just strive for it. And we'd strive to get better and
18 better and better and diverse voices, new voices, I think
19 help us all put on our thinking caps about new and
20 innovative ways to think about moving forward with this
21 clean energy economy.

22 I just want to thank the team that pulled
23 together the advisory committee meeting, hard, hard work as
24 we all know. Now that we do partially remote, partially in
25 person, it's hard. So thanks to the team that has worked

1 on that. Benjamin Tuggy is the lead but Mabel Lopez was
2 involved, Marissa Williams, Charles Smith, so just thanks
3 to all of those folks for helping out.

4 Last month, I had a number of different
5 engagements with China. And I just want to say, you know,
6 the Governor with his visit to China and commitment to
7 California to working as part of a global community to
8 accelerate clean energy. One of the events was with
9 Chinese Minister Liu who is the Special Envoy for Climate
10 Change. And that was a really fascinating discussion with
11 other agencies and CalEPA Secretary Yana Garcia was there.

12 And then UC Davis hosted a New World Energy
13 Vehicle Conference that was focused with China coming to
14 California. It was a U.S., not just California, but
15 California had a strong presence. And the big focus was
16 hydrogen. And I want to say I am really hopeful that China
17 could be a partner in accelerating fuel cell vehicles,
18 helping drive down cost of fuel cells, but also ensuring
19 that the hydrogen is clean. And you know, that's
20 particularly important, I think, in China where you can
21 make hydrogen from anything. That's its beauty and its
22 risk. But the opportunity for California to work with
23 China and providing some more assurance that that hydrogen
24 is truly clean, I think is going to be important.

25 China has the most fuel cell vehicle sales in the

1 world right now. And medium and heavy-duty, leading on
2 medium and heavy duty. And they are blowing everybody else
3 out of the water. I mean, it's still kind of very small
4 numbers compared to battery. But still the fact that they
5 had 7,000, most of them medium and heavy-duty sold last
6 year. And they're committed, they're increasing their
7 commitment to fuel cells, gives me a lot of hope for
8 scalability globally. And I think I'll just stop there. I
9 did a number of presentations around hydrogen.

10 Maybe just one last thing. I did a number of
11 presentations around hydrogen. I think one of the messages
12 I'm really putting forth and very strongly publicly is we
13 have to make sure that people who have bought fuel cell
14 vehicles have a place to refuel those vehicles. And job
15 number one is like making sure stations work, helping
16 stations work, which we provided funding for. And being
17 creative about ways to improve the customer experience at
18 hydrogen stations that exist today. Their performance just
19 like with chargers, we have a reliability challenge. And
20 so we need to just kind of up the game generally on
21 reliability when it comes to ZEV refueling.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

23 Commissioner Gallardo, I know you have to leave.
24 So do you want to go next?

25 COMMISSIONER GALLARDO: Hi, everyone. Yeah, I

1 actually do not have a report today. And so I'll just be
2 quick. I wanted to let everyone know I'm very grateful for
3 the partnership we've heard throughout this meeting. And
4 fellow Commissioners, I really appreciate all of you. So I
5 apologize I have to drop off early. But thank you so much.
6 Thank you, Chair.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

8 Commissioner McAllister, you had one more thing?

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. I realized I
10 meant to mention on Monday I went to the first
11 groundbreaking for the first project that has received, or
12 is receiving funding from our BUILD Program. And that is
13 our program to fund new construction, all electric, single
14 and multifamily affordable housing. And so this was a
15 project near downtown Riverside. A really beautiful story,
16 lots of different elements.

17 You know, affordable housing is incredibly
18 challenging to build. Just generally the financing is like
19 a house of cards. And it really has to hold together. The
20 timing is really important in our piece. So they had about
21 \$865,000, out of about a budget of \$40 million. It was
22 really important and it's been really important to help the
23 project succeed.

24 I was there at the groundbreaking with Ana Lasso,
25 the head of DGS. And with Gustavo Velasquez, the head of

1 HCD. And with a really innovative builder, Eden Housing.
2 And another interesting thing about this project. It'll be
3 209, I believe, units. About 50 of them are senior housing
4 and the rest or the remainder is one, two, and three
5 bedroom apartments for affordable, that are the 100 percent
6 affordable.

7 But the site actually used to be a CAL FIRE
8 facility that the state decommissioned and then essentially
9 gave the land to the City of Riverside to develop as
10 affordable housing. And the location is great. It's in
11 North Riverside. It's near downtown. It's really -- it's
12 going to, I think, really increase the vibrancy of that
13 neighborhood. Just really is everything that you know, we
14 imagine that we know that affordable housing can be. And
15 so just really a pleasure to represent and to be there for
16 that groundbreaking. It's going to take a couple of years
17 to develop. And then there'll be 209 units of affordable
18 housing in Downtown Riverside. So it was really nice to
19 see that happen.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great.

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: And kudos to Deana and
22 the team, Jonathan Fong, Camille Remy-Obad, Jen Nelson, I
23 think the RREDI staff really made that program happen and
24 be a success.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great to hear.

1 Vice Chair.

2 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

3 I just want to acknowledge that I think for most
4 of us, probably we have our kids getting on the summer
5 break. So it looks like we have to change our work
6 schedules a little bit to give some family time and
7 support. So my kids are done with school as of yesterday
8 and so looking forward to spending some time with them
9 going into summer.

10 As an office, I think you know first of all just
11 a big thanks to the other four Commissioner officers for a
12 continued kind of collaboration and kind of this always
13 kind of a problem solving mentality. So I just wanted to
14 say thanks to all the Commissioners, because the things we
15 work on in our office that we are either leading or
16 supporting, broadly require all of us to work together in
17 one way or the other. So I just really appreciate that.

18 I'm particularly in a reflective mood, because as
19 of this month it will be three-and-a-half years on this
20 job. And I don't know where it all just feels like
21 yesterday I was asking Drew if this is a good move for me
22 to be a Commissioner. And he was the one who encouraged
23 me, along with the Chair, to kind of step on this process.
24 So thank you. I just wanted to honor both of them for kind
25 of getting me on this path.

1 And I am beginning to now look at the next 18
2 months of what needs to be done as I kind of go through
3 this. So I wanted to just elevate I think as an office we
4 work on broadly the resource planning element, whether it's
5 SB 100 transmission planning, so a couple of points on
6 that.

7 We have a new transmission page that we have now
8 at the CEC. I want to thank the STEP team for putting that
9 up. It's a long time coming. It really articulates some
10 clear ecosystem of how transmission planning is done in the
11 state, but also in collaboration with PUC and Kaiser. And
12 much of the initial work was done by PUC.

13 It really dug into a fact sheet that lays out the
14 timing, how long each of these different pathways to
15 building transmission takes. So I just wanted to give a
16 big thank you to CPUC and CAISO's leadership there. And
17 Sean Simon and Elizabeth from the CEC.

18 There's a million things to talk about SB 100,
19 but I think we are in the middle of now really finalizing
20 the scenarios for SB 100 and how do we develop them and get
21 them ready by the end of the year.

22 A second topic that we work on is reliability,
23 electric reliability at large. So we had a couple of
24 workshops, a bunch of media briefings, legislative
25 oversight hearings. But as a different forum here, I just

1 want to note that given the incredible amount of new
2 resources we have been able to add to the grid over the
3 last four years, and better hydro conditions and embedded
4 resource mix, especially in terms of storage going into the
5 summer we are, I think this has become like a new word for
6 us, cautiously optimistic. It looks much better than the
7 last couple of years. But really looking forward to the
8 summer being more of a turning the curve on planning better
9 and better for reliability under extreme events.

10 Another important element that our office works
11 on is the petroleum bill, the SB X1-2, the special session.
12 I want to say a big thanks to the Chief Counsel's Office,
13 the Executive Office, Drew. In our office Aria Berliner,
14 who's our main advisor on that, and the Energy Assessments
15 Division who's been taking the lead on that, much of it.

16 We recently have done a workshop, I think it was
17 last Friday. It really kind of set the stage of how the
18 summer is looking. I think it's these elements, most of
19 the things we work on, could become really political. And
20 it's important for the Energy Commission to always be in
21 its posture of the most trusted state agency, when you go
22 for objective information. And I think what came out of
23 that workshop was very clear that the price spikes that
24 happened in the summer are primarily related to how much
25 fuel we have on hand in the state. The less fuel we have,

1 and that scarcity is witnessed by the marketplace, the
2 price spikes happen and the consumers are impacted.

3 And there's a number of things that the industry
4 can do, the traders can do, to help improve that slack.
5 And that's something that we are working with the industry
6 on a good faith basis this summer. And again, another
7 cautiously optimistic. I think we're hoping that it won't
8 from where we are today in terms of the amount of outages
9 that the refineries are reporting, or the inventory levels,
10 it looks like we are in a much better trajectory than the
11 last two years. But again another cautiously optimistic
12 and looking forward to working with the industry closely on
13 that.

14 The last part is regional evolution of markets.
15 We have been attending a number of events on the continued
16 work on PATHWAYS, which is this west wide stakeholder-
17 driven process in ensuring that the market, the energy
18 market, represents the largest footprint. And I think a
19 couple of taglines I heard, which is really important, is
20 if there is an energy market that is supporting
21 optimization around rates and reliability the market size
22 should be larger than the extreme event footprint. So
23 that's kind of the call for action.

24 There have been a number of works. I'm really
25 impressed and thankful for the stakeholder group that has

1 been driving this process. And we're working on that,
2 along with Commissioner McAllister's office to really help
3 shape that conversation. And our role as a state agency
4 primarily is to make sure the consumers of California are
5 protected in the end no matter where it goes. So I just
6 want to say that.

7 So those are the four pieces we broadly work on.
8 One piece I wanted to just mention, going into the summer
9 we are going to begin the conversation around non-energy
10 benefits. For those of you who are tracking CEC's work, we
11 have been petitioned to start a non-energy benefits
12 proceeding to really understand the externalization of some
13 of the costs to specific communities. And how can we begin
14 to honor those costs to really do the energy planning from
15 an equitable lens. And so we are looking forward to
16 starting that and the engagement.

17 So in kind of the totality of all that we also
18 work on the India engagement here through our office. And
19 thanks to Commissioner McAllister for being a partner on
20 that one too. I think overall, you know, just looking at
21 the last three-and-a-half years, it just continues to
22 affirm for me that the solutions that we can bring to the
23 table require people to come to the table together and
24 honor each other, and work from a place of good faith.

25 I think the best, best ingredients of success

1 seems to be when we are not doing these things for
2 ourselves and for our own credit, but for the benefit of
3 Californians. I think that that really is an important
4 ingredient to be a little bit self-absorbed. And more, you
5 know, thinking about I'm so grateful for this team, and our
6 staff who put us constantly -- remind us in the mirror,
7 that we need to be more selfless in that work.

8 I think too, it's competence. And we have been
9 able to really build the necessary competence in CEC. I am
10 in one word proud, proud of our staff. They are
11 incredible. The heart they bring to the table, they work
12 through tough decisions, and don't lose ground. So I just
13 want to say thank you to our staff for their perseverance,
14 and then just kind of getting that done.

15 And I think the third is our ability to lift each
16 other up. You know it doesn't come to people easily. I
17 think that we have gone into this idea that when somebody
18 wins, we lose. And it's really important to cheer the kind
19 of constantly talked about, one dream, one team. You know?
20 It's just important to understand that the success of our
21 collaborators and the success of our partners inherently
22 improves our success in getting to the mission. So I just
23 continue to be honored and just privileged to be in this
24 role.

25 And one of the taglines I have recently heard is

1 this job over the last three-and-a-half years, it's all
2 about persistence of pain. How do you get through painful
3 decisions over and over, without losing hope? And that the
4 mission kind of, of trying to do the best we can and
5 honoring our own weaknesses and inadequacies. And trying
6 to invite friends and colleagues to help us grow, so thank
7 you.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thunderous agreement
9 with those comments. And I would like to associate myself
10 with everything you just said. It is incredibly tough work
11 we're all engaged in, but we're making a huge impact. And
12 I share the pride in our work. And I know my colleagues do
13 as well. And just to reflect back to you, you know what an
14 incredible contribution you've made in this role and with
15 your humble and selfless leadership in taking on some of
16 these colossal challenges and moving the ball forward. You
17 know, it's just a privilege to serve with you, Vice Chair.

18 So I want to start off with something personal,
19 which is that I climbed Mount Shasta last week. I am 53.
20 I still think I'm in my 30s. And I'm feeling every year of
21 those turning 53 next week, those years. But that was an
22 incredible epic hike. I've wanted to do that my whole
23 life.

24 Didn't get to the top, what you do is actually
25 it's a two-day climbs. So the first day you go from 7,000

1 to 9,000. It's all in crampons with a helmet, ice axe, and
2 then you camp at the base camp at 9,000. And you wake up
3 at 2:00 in the morning to start the ascent. So we got up
4 to about 11-5 and then we were hit. So you're -- it's
5 incredible, you're in this super steep grade hiking in snow
6 and then we got hit with 45-mile-an-hour gusts. And this
7 total whiteout conditions at the top. And I was with a
8 group of seven guys. And we're like, "I think this is as
9 high as we're going to go." So we made, I think, the right
10 decision to turn around.

11 But it was an incredible, incredible hike. And
12 I've been feeling every muscle in my body since then. So
13 that was a real treat to be able to do that. And, you
14 know, honestly, to take a break. This work is incredibly
15 intense and unending and so we all need to do things to
16 recharge our souls and our bodies. And I'm really glad
17 you're about to take some family time, Vice Chair. I'm so
18 glad. And I hope we can all remember how important that
19 is.

20 So I want to just share a couple of site visits
21 I've done recently. You know we support at the Energy
22 Commission, 340 clean energy startup companies. It's the
23 best clean energy ecosystem innovation ecosystem in the
24 world. We operate the best clean energy research and
25 development program in the world. And I say that, you

1 know, with confidence. I really have seen what's happening
2 elsewhere in the world. There's great stuff. But what
3 we're doing here in California, in particular, through EPIC
4 is totally path-breaking.

5 And so yesterday I dedicated a new company in St.
6 Carlos called Electric Fish. And what they do is a 350
7 kilowatt hour battery that is designed to support fast
8 charging for electric vehicles. They are going to do 200
9 miles of charge in 10 minutes. And so this solves the
10 problem of how do you get fast charging in places where you
11 can't easily do a distribution system upgrade or trench
12 easily, but just to make fast charging easy.

13 And they're scaling here in California because of
14 our program. And it was launched by an incredibly diverse
15 group of founders, four founders from four different
16 continents, you know, Nigeria, and India and so forth in
17 Brazil. And it was just incredible to see. And it really
18 was a delight. And I again pay tribute it to New Energy
19 Nexus. They were a CalSEED-funded initiative. And then
20 they got another 1.7 million I think, from our clean
21 transportation program.

22 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: So why are they called
23 Electric Fish?

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: For the reference to electric
25 eel, which charges quickly. So that was the origin story.

1 I also recently visited Moxion, another very
2 innovative company. They are going after replacing
3 conventional diesel fired backup generators, again with a
4 mobile battery that's on a chassis. They have 360
5 employees. They're scaling to 500. They made their
6 decision to build their expansion factory in California,
7 because of our \$15 million grant from the Clean
8 Transportation Program.

9 And this is actually a very historic site. It's
10 at Richmond where really the industrial part of where World
11 War II was won, all the shipbuilding there. And
12 incredible to see that. And that's a much needed solution.

13 And then went as well with Commissioner Gallardo
14 recently to visit Voltpost, which is another charger
15 company that makes an electric vehicle charger that wraps
16 around conventional city light posts. So you can have
17 charging, it takes about an hour to install this thing, on
18 public charging on major throughways where you have an
19 electric light. And because of the efficiency, much of
20 which the Energy Commission is funding, in movement to LEDs
21 you're using less power for the lights. So there's a
22 surplus power capacity that can provide charging for
23 (indiscernible) products. So it's just great to see that
24 activity.

25 Also, we had a very big week last week with

1 something called the California China Climate Institute,
2 where we hosted the largest Chinese climate delegation ever
3 to come to the United States, over 200 Chinese officials.
4 The Governor was there, Secretary Crowfoot and others --
5 three days of really intense engagement on climate
6 solutions: lots of talk on offshore wind, transportation
7 electrification.

8 And really this is following the Governor's
9 historic trip to China in October. He is the first
10 Governor to visit China since COVID. Just really ramping
11 up the climate diplomacy with China, which is so essential.
12 So I was honored to be to be a part of that.

13 And then finally I'll just highlight something
14 that, you know, follows from the Building Electrification
15 Summit that Commissioner McAllister and I have been working
16 on which happened. The first one was last fall. The next
17 one will be in March of next year. And the Heat Pump
18 Partnership, which is an initiative that came out of that
19 was launched last week. Really an initiative to help us
20 reach the 6 million electric heat pump goal that the
21 Governor has set for 2030.

22 And so that's underway with a big collaboration
23 between utilities and heat pump manufacturers and other
24 stakeholders to do a public awareness adoption campaign
25 about electric heat pump technology. We're at about 1.5

1 million electric heat pumps in California today, and
2 ramping up to 6 million as the goal by 2030.

3 A critical piece of that will be the energy code
4 that Commissioner McAllister has been leading on. We plan
5 to vote on adoption of Part 6 in August and Part 11 in
6 September. And that will do a lot as well, so good
7 momentum there.

8 And with that, I will stop. And we'll turn now
9 to Item 12, the Executive Director's Report.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Thank you, Chair,
11 Commissioners. Three brief things, your timing is
12 excellent. It's 12:03. We have a lunch set where you are
13 the honored guests in the third floor in the conference
14 room. I hope you can make it.

15 We have gotten a lot of staff in the office for
16 the last few weeks. It's been really nice to see. There
17 are kinks. There are problems. There are challenges, but
18 I think overall it's working out really, really well. And
19 I'm so, so excited to see so many people in the office.

20 Second, we have a second June business meeting we
21 will be noticing this Friday to entertain one of the items
22 that was taken off of this week's agenda, the offshore wind
23 report. We are nailing down the day. It'll either be two
24 weeks from today or two weeks from tomorrow and we will
25 publish on Friday.

1 Finally, I am taking my high school kids to
2 Slovenia and Croatia and elsewhere the first two weeks of
3 July. And I will miss the next business meeting. Thank
4 you.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

6 Let's go to Item 13, the Public Advisor's Report.

7 MS. BADIE: No report from the Public Advisor's
8 Office.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

10 Item 14, Chief Counsel's Report.

11 MS. DECARLO: No report from the Chief Counsel's
12 Office.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, everybody. We're
14 adjourned.

15 (The Business Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of June, 2024.



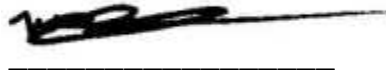
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TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

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 transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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Myra Severtson
Certified Transcriber
AAERT No. CET**D-852