

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-OPT-02
<b>Project Title:</b>	Darden Clean Energy Project
<b>TN #:</b>	259538
<b>Document Title:</b>	Environmental Scoping and Informational Meeting - PowerPoint Presentation
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	Marichka Haws
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	10/15/2024 2:25:52 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	10/15/2024



# California Energy Commission

Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Environmental Scoping and Informational Meeting

Eric Knight, Program Manager, Siting and Environmental Branch

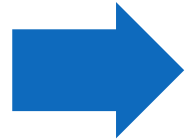
October 16, 2024



# CEC Authority

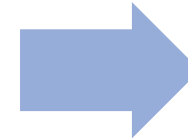
June 30, 2022

- Governor Newsom Signs Assembly Bill 205



October 12, 2022

- CEC Adopts Emergency Regulations

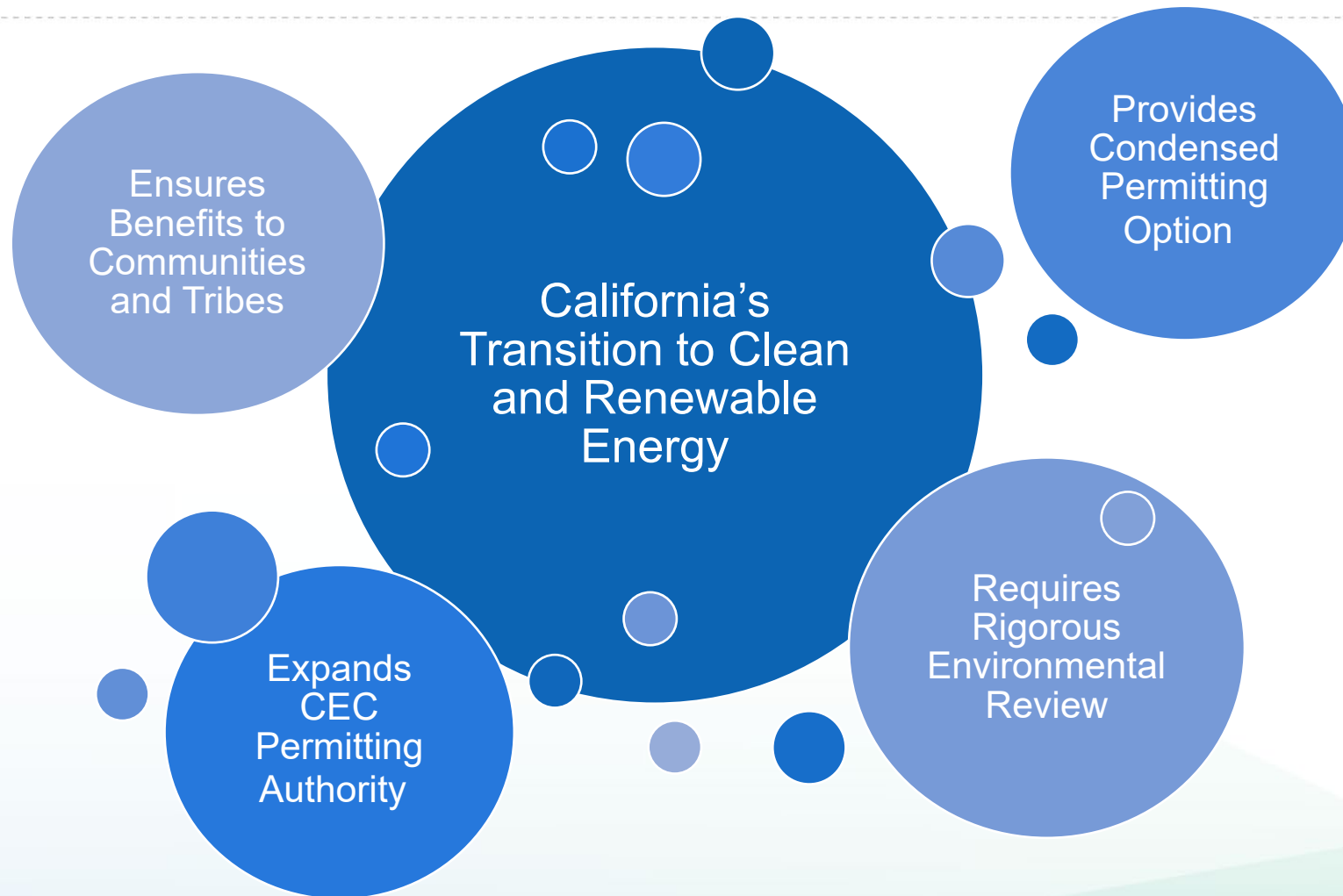


October 24, 2022

- Office of Administrative Law Approves the Emergency Regulations



# Opt-In Certification Intent







# Opt-In Certification Program Eligible Projects



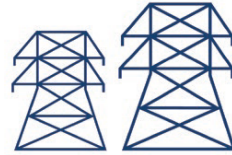
Solar photovoltaic or terrestrial wind electrical generating power plants 50 megawatts (MW) or greater



Energy storage systems capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours (MWh) or more



A stationary power plant using any source of thermal energy, excluding fossil or nuclear fuels, 50 MW or greater



Certain transmission lines associated with these generating and storage facilities



Specified facilities that manufacture or assemble clean energy or storage technologies or related components



Hydrogen production facility (not derived from fossil fuel feedstock) and associated onsite storage and processing facilities



# Opt-In Coordination Plans



*Source: CDFW*



*Source: State Water Board*



*Source: DTSC*



# Opt-In Process Outline

## Pre-Filing Meeting

- **30 Days Prior to Filing Application**
- **Project Docket Established**
- **Fees Submitted with Application**

## Data Completeness Review

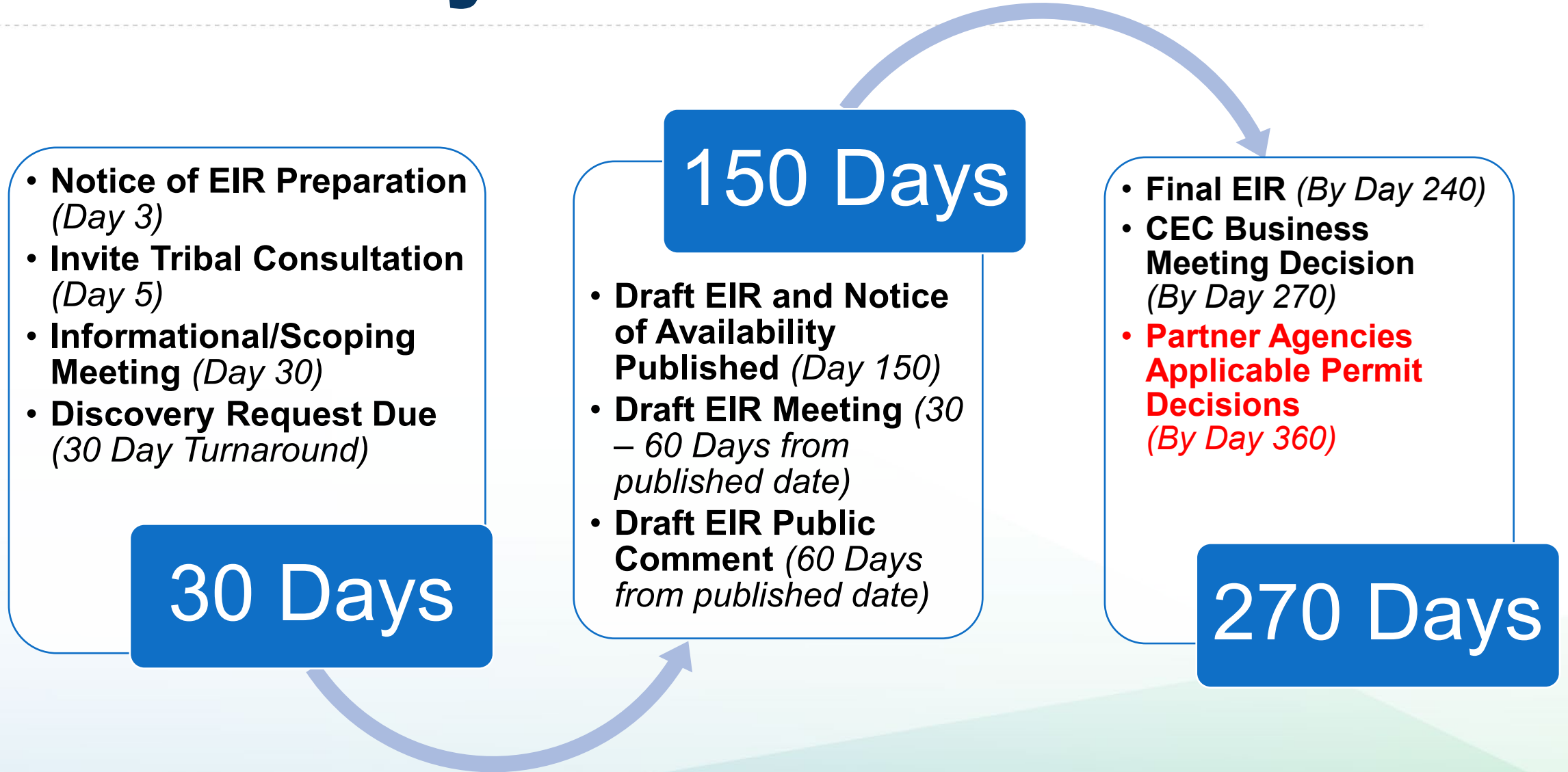
- **30 Days to Conduct Application Completeness Review**
- **Additional Data and Information Can Be Requested**
- **Notice and Application Shared with Local Government, Other Public Agencies, and Tribes**
- **Deem Application Complete**

## Environmental Review

- **270 Days to Conduct Environmental Review and Bring Staff Recommendation to a CEC Business Meeting**



# 270 Day Process Milestones







# CEC Findings Required to Approve Opt-In Projects

Project Provides an Overall Net Positive Economic Benefit to the Local Government

Applicant Signed a Community Benefits Agreement

Applicant Paying Prevailing Wage to Skilled and Trained Workforce

Project Complies with Applicable Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards or Required for Public Convenience or Necessity

Significant effects of the project will be avoided or mitigated, or statement of overriding considerations for significant effects found infeasible to avoid or mitigate



# CEC Website

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program>

CA.GOV Share: f X in e

About Careers Contact Events Newsroom Resources Translate Settings

 **CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

Enter keywords, e.g. Energy Code

HOME PROCEEDINGS RULES AND REGULATIONS PROGRAMS AND TOPICS FUNDING DATA AND REPORTS

California Energy Commission > Programs and Topics > All Topics > Power Plants > Opt-in Certification Program



## Opt-in Certification Program

Permitting is crucial to deploy renewable energy power plants, which are essential to meet the state's climate goals. With half a century of permitting experience under the California Environmental Quality Act, Assembly Bill 205 (2022) has broadened the California Energy Commission's (CEC) authority. This expansion allows the CEC to oversee the permitting of clean and renewable energy facilities, including solar photovoltaic, onshore wind, and energy storage systems, and facilities that produce or assemble clean energy technologies or their components. Known as the Opt-In Certification Program, this permitting process offers developers an optional pathway to submit project applications, facilitating faster deployment of renewable technologies.

**POWER PLANTS**

- Alphabetical Power Plant Listing
- Power Plant Compliance and Siting
- Licensing and Compliance Fees for Facilities
- Opt-in Certification Program**

## Opt-In Certification Program

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program>

- Projects Under Review
- Opt-In Fact Sheet
- Opt-In FAQ
- Opt-In Process Timeline



# Thank You

**Eric Knight, Program Manager, Siting and Environmental Branch  
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division**

**[STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov](mailto:STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov)**