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| Docket Number: | 24-BUSMTG-01 |
| Project Title: | 2024 Business Meeting Agendas, Transcripts, Minutes, and Public Comments |
| TN #: | 260425 |
| Document Title: | Transcript of the November 13, 2024 Business Meeting |
| Description: | N/A |
| Filer: | Kristine Banaag |
| Organization: | California Energy Commission |
| Submitter Role: | Commission Staff |
| Submission Date: | 12/3/2024 3:31:30 PM |
| Docketed Date: | 12/3/2024 |

BUSINESS MEETING
BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of:

Business Meeting)
) Docket No. 24-BUSMTG-01
)
_____)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

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

In-person at:

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY BUILDING
FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM
715 P STREET
SACRAMENTA, CALIFORNIA 95814
(Wheelchair Accessible)

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.

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<https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings>.

Reported by:

Martha Nelson

APPEARANCESBOARD

David Hochschild, Chair

Siva Gunda, Vice Chair

Andrew McAllister, Commissioner

Noemi Gallardo, Commissioner

STAFF

Drew Bohan, Executive Director

Lisa DeCarlo, Acting Chief Counsel

Katerina Robinson, Chief of Staff, Chair Hochschild's
Office

Sara Miles, Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity,
and Tribal Affairs

Martine Schmidt-Poolman, Sustainability and Health Unit,
Energy Research and Development Division

Katelynn Dinius, the Energy Research and Development
Division

Paty De La Torre, Energy Research and Development Division

Lien Huynh, Grant Analyst

Diana Maneta, Equitable Building Decarbonization Branch,
Reliability, Renewable Energy and Decarbonization
Incentives Division

Esther Odufuwa, Energy Commission Specialist I,
Reliability, Fuels & Transportation Division

Adam Lokar, Commission Agreement Manager, Reliability,
Renewable Energy and Decarbonization Incentives Division

APPEARANCES

STAFF (cont'd)

Rhona Matthews, Commission Agreement Manager, Reliability,
Renewable Energy and Decarbonization Incentives Division

Maninder Thind, Air Resources Engineer, Energy Resource and
Development Branch

PUBLIC ADVISOR

Mona Badie

ALSO PRESENT

Mindy Graybill, Department of Water Resources

Cristy Sanada, California Independent System Operators

Michael Johnson, Berkeley Air Monitoring Group

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claire Zuma

Deric Wittenborn

Stephen Rosenblum, Climate Action California

Patrick Robinson, Hilmar Cheese Company

Ayn Craciun, Climate Action Campaign

Rocky Fernandez, Center for Sustainable Energy

Minh Le, County of Los Angeles

Nicola Steelnack, Leadership Counsel for Justice and
Accountability

APPEARANCESPUBLIC COMMENT (cont'd)

Edgar Barraza, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and
Central California Asthma Collaborative

Fatima Abdul-Khabir, Greenlighting Institute

Jacqueline Ramirez, Building Decarbonization Coalition

Grace Hut, Strategic Actions for a Just Economy

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P R O C E E D I N G S

10:01 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

(Whereupon an introduction video is played and not
transcribed.)

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

Joining me are Commissioner McAllister,
Commissioner Monahan, and Vice Chair Gunda is under the
weather today, but is joining us remotely. Commissioner
Gallardo is on travel for a work meeting. So we do have a
quorum.

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

(The Pledge of Allegiance is recited in unison.)

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Oh yeah, sorry. And if we
could invite the Vice Chair to make a statement.

VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. I just want
to confirm that there is no one 18 or older in the room
with me here. Thank you.

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, so we're going to
begin with a public comment, then move on to agency
announcements. The public comment we're taking at the

1 beginning of meetings for items that are not on the agenda.
2 So anyone who's here to comment on a specific item, hold
3 that comment until we get to that item.

4 Is there any public comment?

5 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

6 The Commission welcomes public comment at its
7 business meetings. And just a reminder, this is the open
8 public comment period. If you are commenting on a specific
9 agenda item, that's a voting item, we do ask that you
10 reserve your comments for that dedicated public comment
11 period.

12 So we'll, first, we'll go to folks in the room.
13 And we've got QR codes posted, and also Ryan at the Public
14 Advisor's table, if you need assistance. And then if
15 you're on Zoom, you can start raising your hand now.
16 You'll use the open-palm icon on your screen or star nine
17 if joining by phone.

18 And so we've got a commenter in the room, Claire
19 Zuma. If you could please approach the podium to make your
20 comment? Please spell your name for the record as well.
21 And we're asking for comments to be two minutes or less.
22 There will be a timer on the screen. Sorry, Claire, can
23 you hold one moment? We have to turn the microphone on.
24 Thank you.

25 MS. ZUMA: Okay, good morning. Claire Zuma,

1 C-L-A-I-R-E, then Z-U-M-A. And I'm a member of the public,
2 no special affiliation. I used to work for SMUD, but
3 that's it.

4 I have a comment that I just thought about that
5 I'm sure that others have thought about, but maybe not as
6 much in this crowd. And I know, you know, I could talk on
7 a lot of things, but power imbalances and stuff like that
8 may not be as appreciated, age.

9 So anyways, we all might hope for a really
10 prosperous future where we all can buy a fancy electric
11 car. And I might hope for that too. For many people, I
12 don't know that it's going to be possible. And I also know
13 there's a lot of personality differences that don't
14 necessarily show up in this room. And I hope that those
15 can be embraced as well.

16 I know people that have biked across the country
17 for tourism reasons, and younger adventurous people do
18 things that -- because of their income and their delight.
19 And I hope that when they want to stop and charge, if they
20 are in a position where they have an electric bicycle, and
21 even I might end up in this position, I hope that I'm
22 easily able to find a place to charge it.

23 If I were to like ride from Sacramento to Davis,
24 you know, I would expect there's places, but I don't even
25 know if that stuff exists. And I know that the car

1 infrastructure might be really different for EV charging.
2 It's not really like you expect to stop off of Highway 5
3 and charge your electric bicycle, but that could happen.
4 And it's not an unreal idea when you talk to some of the
5 bicycling crowd that are really into it.

6 So I just wanted to make that mention kind of
7 food for thought to not ignore that crowd, that adventurous
8 young without injury.

9 Thanks.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

11 MS. BADIE: Thank you. And I'm not seeing any
12 other comments in the room, so we're going to transition to
13 Zoom. Again, if you're on Zoom, you'll use a raise hand
14 for turn your screen or star nine of joining by phone.

15 And I'm not seeing any raised hands on Zoom, so
16 back to you, Chair.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, we'll get into some
18 agency announcements.

19 But first, I wanted to ask Commissioner
20 McAllister's Advisor, Houston, can you stand up? And let's
21 give him a round of applause. He just got married. Show
22 us that ring, Houston. Congratulations and have a
23 wonderful honeymoon.

24 I also wanted to just take a point of privilege
25 and thank my wonderful Chief of Staff, Kat Robinson, who'll

1 be leaving us in a few weeks and has just been spectacular.
2 The last few years that she has been here, she has brought
3 heart and integrity and an incandescent intelligence and a
4 deep sense of collaboration to the role. And I really feel
5 has played an instrumental role in helping all of us at the
6 Energy Commission meet our mission and really create the
7 most productive period in our agency's 50 years.

8 You came in, our budget increased about 8x. And
9 we took on all these big new responsibilities, tons of new
10 federal money. You helped get the Clean Transportation
11 Program reauthorized, another billion dollars there.
12 You've been instrumental in supporting everything across
13 all of our different programs and have been just wonderful
14 as a colleague too. I just heard that from so many people
15 at the Energy Commission. It's a super intense job and you
16 came at the most intense time of that.

17 So you're something of an Energy Commission
18 superhero to me. And I am eternally grateful and excited
19 to work with you in your new capacity going back to the
20 Senate.

21 But I just want to give the opportunity to my
22 colleagues to share any other comments they'd like to make.
23 Go ahead, Commissioner Monahan.

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thanks, Chair. And I was
25 going to chime in, even without your encouragement, because

1 I want to say, Kat was your Chief of Staff, is your Chief
2 of Staff, but she really did support my office
3 tremendously. And I was on speed dial for periods of time
4 with the Clean Transportation Program reauthorization and
5 just really like brought her best game to not just your
6 office, but to our office and, I would say, the entire
7 organization.

8 So, Kat, you're going to be sorely missed. And
9 really, I'm very grateful for all you've done to support me
10 and my office, both professionally and personally, so thank
11 you.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So just going on
14 briefly, Kat, it's been such a privilege really to work
15 with you. And, you know, you have such a highly developed
16 sense of sort of who needs to know what and how to put it
17 to them and sort of how to translate between different
18 personalities and people, and just doing that shuffle with
19 diplomacy and just sort of just figuring out how to connect
20 dots all the time.

21 And it's just, I know it's born of a lot of
22 experience in the legislature and just part of, you know,
23 part of your muscle memory a little bit, but it seems to
24 really be an innate sort of emotional intelligence that you
25 have. And I just really appreciate you bringing your whole

1 self to the job and your commitment because that's -- it
2 just really shines through.

3 So I'm looking forward to working with you in
4 your new spot and just really you've added so much to the
5 Energy Commission while you've been here, so I really
6 appreciate it.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to Vice Chair Gunda.

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. I just want
9 to reiterate what everybody said, but just want to call out
10 Kat again, but we'll all miss you.

11 I think, you know, a couple of things that really
12 set you apart from a lot of the colleagues that I got to
13 work with, one, your incredible experience with the
14 legislature. Given how much of our new responsibilities
15 had to think about economy-wide implications, it was
16 really, really helpful to, you know, have your experience
17 and insight into how to work on these complex issues.

18 You know, the thing, again, that, you know,
19 another thing that sets you apart is just your incredible
20 enthusiasm and energy to just keep solving problems, just
21 want to solve, you know, everything that you see in front
22 of you.

23 So the same thing I will put the other way
24 around. I really, really hope you are able to have a
25 little bit of slowdown in your work. You know, it's kind

1 of weird to say that you'll be a little slowing down at the
2 legislature versus CEC, but, you know, just, you know, you
3 are an absolute star, have a heart of gold, and I wish you
4 all the best to you and your family. And thank you for
5 your service to the state in this role.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

7 And, Kat, you're welcome, if you have any words
8 you want to share, we welcome it.

9 MS. ROBINSON: You are all so kind with your
10 words, so thank you very much. And I would just say, I
11 feel so much privilege and honor to have worked with each
12 of you. I do really feel like I worked so significantly
13 with each of the Commissioners and got to know you as
14 people.

15 And our Commissioners are really amazing people.
16 They're just really amazing humans that all are trying to
17 do the best for California that they can and help protect
18 this state and this world from some scary climate realities
19 in our future. And as a mom, I've got a four-year-old and
20 a seven-year-old at home, and it has given me great comfort
21 to be working toward this mission with each of you and just
22 to see how much passion you all bring to the table and how
23 much we support one another, too, because this is tough
24 work and it can be draining work. And just knowing that
25 I'm in the trenches with the likes of you all is very

1 inspiring.

2 And I'm just going to be across the pond back,
3 back in the legislature, and do hope to work with you all
4 and continue to work with you.

5 And I also just want to really thank each of the
6 directors and the leaders of our small offices, the heads
7 of our organization.

8 Drew, it's been such a pleasure working with you
9 and I've learned so much about organizational management
10 from you and just how to be a caring and good manager to
11 those that you work with.

12 And our directors are really special and it's
13 been a pleasure to work with them and support them through
14 the two years that I've been here. And just each staff
15 person that I've interacted with at the Energy Commission,
16 you've all been a joy and it's been such a pleasure working
17 with all of you. And I see so many of you here today.

18 And the last thing I would just say is, I think
19 what makes the CEC extra special is the kindness and the
20 collegiality we all show each other. And it's really a
21 great place to show up and work in sometimes tough
22 circumstances. So keep being kind to each other and keep
23 being there for each other and don't lose my cell phone
24 number.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Will you join me in giving a

1 round of applause to Kat?

2 (Applause)

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

4 So a few other announcements. This month,
5 November, is Native American Heritage Month. So thanks to
6 all of you who've participated in various events related to
7 that. I did go to the truth and healing session on Friday
8 and I'll share more about that at the end of the meeting.

9 Also, we just have celebrated Veterans Day and I
10 want to thank all the veterans at CEC and elsewhere for
11 their service. And we have a new veterans employee
12 resource group that just started at CEC, so I'm glad to see
13 that.

14 And we also have a new addition in our labor and
15 workforce development. Sarah Miles, do you want to come up
16 and introduce yourself and just say a few words? It would
17 be great. You're welcome.

18 MS. MILES: Certainly. Thank you, Chairman and
19 Commissioners. My name is Sarah Miles. I'm the new Labor
20 and Workforce Development Advisor in the Public affairs --
21 Advisor's Office, excuse me. That's a lot of advisors
22 happening there.

23 I'm really excited to be welcomed back to the
24 Energy Commission. I actually started my career here as an
25 intern in OGA before it was international affairs included,

1 but I was in the master's program at Sac State for
2 international affairs, so the tie-in is there. And from
3 that experience, I was able to move over into the state
4 Senate and work for the then Chair of the Energy Committee,
5 Christine Kehoe.

6 After that, I just fell into workforce
7 development, a passion of mine. I worked primarily at
8 first with the community college system as a consultant,
9 and then as a faculty coordinator at American River College
10 here in Sacramento. I was also very, very lucky to be able
11 to teach climate issues in the Geography Department at Sac
12 State, as well, where I got my undergraduate degree. So
13 there's a lot of tie-ins.

14 I have been spending the last five years up until
15 now building from the ground up a high road training
16 partnership with the largest private sector union in
17 California. So we've launched from nothing to having a
18 built out staff and really serving workers. And that's my
19 passion. And I look forward to bring it back here to the
20 Energy Commission. And I really feel incredibly welcomed
21 to come back and to give where I was given from, so thank
22 you very much.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, wonderful to have you
24 back. Yeah. Great.

25 MS. MILES: We won't say how long ago it was, but

1 we were very (indiscernible).

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, welcome. Welcome back.

3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Just one quick comment.
4 I mean, just, you called out Christine Kehoe and I just --
5 she's really, I think, maybe a not heralded enough, a kind
6 of lion of our energy history and our clean energy
7 transition, and was kind of a mentor, sort of visionary
8 that I was fortunate to interact with back in San Diego.
9 And then her sort of mentee was, you know, former pro-tem
10 Tony Atkins. And that whole ecosystem that the two of them
11 created was just so positive. And it's just really lovely
12 to know that you're part of that. So, yeah, great.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Great.

14 So, look, I did want to acknowledge we had a
15 really consequential election last week. And I wanted to
16 ask everyone, you know, there's been a lot of stress and
17 anxiety, and I want to just ask everyone to really be kind
18 to one another, support your colleagues, your teammates.
19 You know, we're going to get through whatever the next four
20 years brings. We will absolutely work in good faith with
21 the new administration, but we're going to continue on.
22 Our resolve is unwavering. Our mission is necessary, both
23 for the state and the country, to build a clean energy
24 future and to do that the right way.

25 And really, we're going to lean in and do

1 whatever's necessary to continue to move the ball forward.
2 That's the role California has always played. And we will
3 navigate whatever comes up. We'll navigate it together.

4 So I want to just ask everyone to really be as
5 supportive as you can to those who are experiencing anxiety
6 about whatever the issues might be. It's really important
7 to be supportive and be one team, one family here.

8 Having said that, a good way to come together
9 would be our fifth anniversary Hall of Fame ceremony, which
10 is coming up. That will be on December 4th, right here in
11 Sacramento. It says December 4th. Okay. This says 4th.
12 That's 5th? Which is it? 5th. Okay, show up on the right
13 day. Sorry, don't listen to me. December 5th, and that'll
14 be three o'clock here in the auditorium.

15 This year's honorees will include Gene Rodriguez
16 with the U.S. Department of Energy as our Lifetime
17 Achievement winner, who's Advanced Energy Efficiency and
18 Low-Income Programs, Julia Zeitlin from Palo Alto, who's
19 our Youth Game Changer Award winner, Liz Perez from the
20 North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians is our Tribal Energy
21 Champion.

22 And then we have three Clean Energy Champions,
23 Dr. Fan Dai from Berkeley, whose global leadership had
24 fostered a clean energy partnership between China and the
25 United States. Christine Viterelli-Busby from Arvin, who's

1 a grant-writing dynamo, transforming her rural town into a
2 hub for clean energy. And Patricia Watts from Cerritos for
3 her inspiring work to implement clean energy in Southern
4 California communities. So we look forward to seeing you
5 all then.

6 And then finally today, we are considering grants
7 that total \$619 million, another big infusion into our
8 state's economy.

9 Any other agency announcements from my colleagues
10 before we get into the agenda? Yes. Oh, do you want to do
11 yours now?

12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yes.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister,
14 please.

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, I just want to
16 make sure everybody's got on their radar the other event
17 we're planning right now, or one other event we're planning
18 right now, which is the Electrification Summit on March
19 11th and 12th. So just talk to -- well, definitely save
20 the date. And just kudos and thanks to my Chief of Staff,
21 Bryan Early, for running herd on all of that. It's a big,
22 big thing to put together an agenda for two solid days of
23 electrification talk. So that's going to be a huge amount
24 of fun, like the last one was last October. So I'm just
25 really looking forward to that.

1 And then I have a somewhat extended item that I
2 wanted to present today, which is, you know, the Chair just
3 talked about the election, you know, time marches on and we
4 have to respond. And I wanted to just have a fairly
5 detailed appreciation of the life of David Goldstein, who
6 died on October 18th at his home with his family around him
7 after a valiant struggle with cancer. And David, he's
8 worthy of, I think, some contemplation today because his
9 life was one of -- I can't imagine a life almost that has
10 more impact than his had.

11 And many of you may not know David or know of
12 him, but he was one of the elite group of, you know, mostly
13 reformed physicists that invented, in the early 1970s, the
14 practice and discipline of energy efficiency. It really
15 didn't exist before that. And the other two that are
16 really in this triumvirate are Art Rosenfeld, who we all
17 know and love, and who's sort of the emeritus, you know,
18 founder of energy efficiency, and Amory Lovins, who's still
19 at it. And those three really, I think, provide a division
20 that all together helped propel this industry that we now,
21 that now numbers in the tens of thousands and that it's
22 really integrated into our economy in California and has
23 saved the economy \$250 billion, you know, over the last 50
24 years.

25 So David was born -- I mean, his super skill

1 really was explaining complex topics in accessible language
2 to anybody like legislators, policymakers, students, you
3 know, family, friends. He had an incredible drive,
4 patience, persistence.

5 He was born in Cleveland and came West for his
6 undergrad at UC Berkeley, and he stayed, became a
7 Californian, went through his PhD at UC Berkeley in
8 physics. And not too many years after that, he joined the
9 Natural Resources Defense Council, where he was for 43
10 years. He just created the platform together with Ralph
11 Cavanagh, the sort of partner on the legal side of it, just
12 a platform for huge accomplishments in the energy sphere
13 and really for California's leadership.

14 He was among the first to understand the power of
15 codes and standards. A couple months ago, we adopted the
16 2025 Building Code, but that wouldn't really be in its form
17 that it is today and have the power that it has and have
18 the leadership potential that it has for California without
19 David.

20 Standards for appliances and industry, he pursued
21 them as he did all of his goals, relentlessly. David was
22 instrumental in developing the first appliance standards
23 for refrigerators in California, which gave rise to the
24 iconic graphic that showed that after 1972, fridges reduced
25 their energy consumption by three quarters, okay, and

1 reduced their price by two-thirds, this is in real dollars,
2 while slightly increasing their volume and vastly improving
3 their function and features, three-quarters energy savings,
4 two thirds price decline and better product.

5 And crucially, he led the institutionalization of
6 appliance standards from California to the nation through
7 the Department of Energy that now is where most of those
8 reside. The Golden Carrot, the famous Golden Carrot Award
9 was David's idea, right, that gave rise to this incredible
10 competition to produce the most efficient refrigerator.

11 He was instrumental in improving building
12 standards in China, India, Russia. He was awarded the 2002
13 MacArthur Foundation Genius Fellowship and the 1998 Leo
14 Szilard Award for Physics in the Public Interest, the
15 highest award for physicists.

16 He authored a seminal book, *Saving Energy,*
17 *Growing Jobs,* and *Invisible Energy.* I would definitely
18 recommend both of those to all of you.

19 He founded or co-founded some critical
20 organizations in the efficiency space. RESENT, the
21 Institute for Market Transformation, the Consortium for
22 Energy Efficiency, and the New Buildings Institute, all
23 still in existence, still thriving on both the
24 infrastructure, you know, side that we use, we incorporate
25 into, you know, statute and regulation. And then on the

1 advocacy side, enabling buildings to perform well and
2 reduce their footprint and care for all the people that
3 inhabit them.

4 It's really hard to overstate David's positive
5 impact on the world. Literally every person on the planet
6 breathes cleaner air because of him.

7 But all these accomplishments pale in comparison
8 to his personal impact on those around him. His signature
9 kindness, inclusion, frequent smile, his focus on
10 mentorship of his junior colleagues. His closest friends
11 point out his numerous interests. Number one, absolutely,
12 was his family. But also travel, photography, classical
13 and rock and roll music, the arts, and his Judaism.

14 He met his wife, Julia, on public transit. The
15 story goes that he decided to miss his stop so that he
16 could keep talking to her. And then he never left her side
17 and he just paid attention to his intuition. And then he
18 shared the rest of his life with her. And they had kids
19 and grandkids that were at the center of his universe.

20 We can all learn from David's legacy as
21 beautifully expressed in his obituary, quote, "by
22 performing innovative and creative work, listening with
23 intention, loving fully, and developing further ways to
24 reduce carbon emissions and repair the world."

25 So finally, I want to relate just a couple

1 stories that illustrate David's genius and his kindness in
2 equal measure.

3 First is from Carl Bloomstein over at UC
4 Berkeley, who was definitely part of that extended group
5 that invented energy efficiency back in the early days and
6 sort of made it a deal.

7 So quote, "One early morning at about 1:00 a.m.
8 in 1976 in Art Rosenfeld's office, David sketched out the
9 core idea for an end-use model of electricity demand. This
10 led to a successful LBL proposal, which led in turn to the
11 CEC's first end-use model and changed forever the way we
12 think about forecasting electricity demand."

13 Very relevant for the Energy Commission,
14 obviously.

15 The second is from Deborah Wang, who is a friend,
16 a longtime friend, and whom I want to thank for stimulating
17 an email chain that over the time after David's death has
18 stimulated a beautiful sort of group appreciation and
19 celebration of his life among his friends and colleagues.

20 So when interviewing Deborah for a position at
21 NRDC 22 years ago, David, according to Deborah, quote,
22 "Asked an interview question that has stuck with me
23 throughout my career. He asked, what is the Venn diagram
24 intersection between what the world needs, what you are
25 passionate about, and your greatest strengths? A pretty

1 complicated interview question. If I were out of college
2 and somebody asked me that, I would be terrified, okay?
3 But of course, it stuck with me as the hardest interview
4 question, but also because it was so profoundly important.
5 I've rarely encountered anyone who has thought so precisely
6 about how to focus their career and then pursued it with
7 such vigor and success."

8 So, you know, I could relate a lot of different
9 stories. And, you know, I was fortunate to work with him
10 kind of periodically or sporadically over, you know, a big
11 chunk of my career, most recently at the ACEEE Conference
12 down in Sylmar (phonetic) in August. He was still at it.
13 He really never retired. He sort of, he'd nominally
14 retired, but he really never retired.

15 And he was famous for his walking speed when he
16 was doing hikes. And so he would leave people in the dust
17 and solve problems and talk about energy.

18 Anyway, many here at the Energy Commission,
19 including myself, have been fortunate to work with and be
20 inspired by David for many, many decades. And we send
21 heartfelt condolences to David's wife, Julia, their
22 children, Eliana and Abraham, and the entire Goldstein
23 family. Peace to all.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much,

1 Commissioner McAllister.

2 We'll turn now to item three, consent calendar.

3 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair. The Commission
4 welcomes public comment on item three at this time. If you
5 are in the room, you'll use the QR code or raise your hand.
6 And if you're on Zoom, you use the raise-hand feature or
7 star nine if joining by phone.

8 And I'm not seeing anyone in the room, so I'm
9 going to transition over to Zoom. And again, this is for
10 item three.

11 Deric Wittenborn, I'm going to open your line.
12 If you could please spell your name for the record? We're
13 asking for comments to be two minutes or less. There will
14 be a timer on the screen.

15 MR. WITTENBORN: Yeah, this is Derek Witterborn.

16 MS. BADIE: Yes.

17 MR. WITTENBORN: Yeah, my comment was basically
18 to be brought up during public comment period. And I just
19 wanted to get clarification if the community -- if
20 community choice aggregators are eligible to apply for
21 funding under the California Electric Vehicle Charge or
22 Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program? That's
23 the solicitation GFO-24-603. That was my question.

24 MS. BADIE: Thank you for your comment. I'll put
25 our Public Advisor email in the chat and you can send us

1 that question and then we can follow up with staff.

2 MR. WITTENBORN: Perfect, thank you.

3 MS. BADIE: All right, there are no further
4 raised hands for this item. Back to you, Chair.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, is there a motion on
6 item three from Commissioner Monahan?

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve item
8 three.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second,
10 Commissioner McAllister?

11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.
13 Commissioner Monahan?

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

18 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
20 three passes four-zero with Commissioner absent.

21 We'll turn out item four, Regents of University
22 of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus. Welcome to
23 Martine Schmidt-Poolman.

24 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: Good morning. All right.
25 Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners online here.

1 I'm Martine Schmidt-Poolman and I'm in the Sustainability
2 and Health Unit of the Energy Research and Development
3 Division. And Today, I'm requesting approval of a research
4 grant agreement to advance precipitation enhancement in
5 California.

6 Next slide, please.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: If you can speak a little
8 closer to the mic, that would be great. Thanks.

9 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: A little far? All right.

10 So the proposed agreement will benefit
11 Californians by advancing our understanding of the optimal
12 conditions and strategies for precipitation enhancement,
13 which will ultimately advance our hydropower augmentation.
14 The proposed research will foster cost-effective, robust
15 approaches to manage the anticipated needs for sustainable
16 hydropower in the context of a rapidly evolving energy
17 system and in changing climate. This is important as
18 California moves to 100 percent zero-carbon energy because
19 hydropower is a zero-carbon fast ramping resource.

20 Next slide, please.

21 All right, so the purpose of the grant funding
22 opportunity is to fund applied research to advance the
23 scientific basis for California's hydropower generation
24 through precipitation enhancement.

25 Now, precipitation enhancement is commonly known

1 as cloud seeding. And since the early 1950s, winter
2 orographic cloud seeding has been practiced in California.
3 This is the introduction of ice nucleating particles known
4 as glaciogenic particles into an orographic cloud causing
5 water vapor to freeze onto the particles and then to
6 enhance precipitation, which could be rain or snow in a
7 targeted region. So orographic clouds are formed when
8 moist air is forced by winds to rise over mountain ranges,
9 causing the air to cool and condense into water droplets.
10 And that's a common phenomenon in California.

11 So the research will advance the scientific basis
12 for the operational practice of glaciogenic seeding of
13 orographic clouds and will demonstrate how cloud seeding
14 operations can be improved by applying the proposed
15 scientific approach.

16 Next slide, please. Great.

17 So the research proposed will explore the optimal
18 conditions for that orographic cloud seeding in California
19 by modeling the physical processes required to stimulate
20 glaciogenic seeding from the dispersal of the seeding agent
21 and ice nucleation through all the phases that lead to the
22 springtime runoff into hydroelectric reservoirs.

23 So the regents of the University of California,
24 on behalf of the Davis, campus will bring to bear state-of-
25 the-art modeling tools which will include a cloud seeding

1 model, a hydrological model and snow melt model, and
2 complement these by new and existing observations.

3 So by combining new process-informed
4 Observation -- observational analysis, sorry, with the
5 utilization of these modeling tools, the research team will
6 be able to simulate the impacts of seeding all the way from
7 that precipitation phase to the melt and runoff phase. And
8 by doing that, they'll provide us with an enhanced
9 understanding to improve the cloud seeding efficacy,
10 including under which conditions and at what locations in
11 California, cloud seeding would be most effective to
12 augment snowpack and runoff.

13 They will provide us with additional observations
14 and model-based guidance for new ways on how to evaluate
15 cloud seeding impacts, including improved understanding of
16 the role of background aerosols in cloud condensation
17 nuclei concentrations.

18 And the team will provide estimates of how
19 precipitation enhancement and the increase in snowfall
20 actually translate into an increase in snow melt runoff and
21 then into hydrological production.

22 So additionally, to fine tune and disseminate the
23 game knowledge and the guidance regarding how to optimize
24 cloud seeding operations, the research team will partner
25 with local stakeholders to co-create the scientific

1 research and to ensure that it meets societal needs and
2 especially in the precipitation enhancement, electricity,
3 and water sectors. They will also build capacity for
4 broader participation in the field of cloud seeding
5 research.

6 Next slide, please.

7 So with this, staff recommends the Commission to
8 approve EPC-24027 with UC Davis for almost two-and-a-half
9 million dollar grant and to adopt staff's determination
10 that this project is exempt from CEQA. And staff,
11 including myself, are available for any questions that you
12 have.

13 This concludes my presentation. Thank you.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.

15 Any Commissioner discussion or --

16 MS. BADIE: Oh, sorry, can we do public comment
17 first?

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Oh, sorry, that's my mistake.
19 Public comment.

20 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I apologize.

22 MS. BADIE: The Commission welcomes public
23 comment on item four at this time. If you're in the room
24 with us, you'll just raise your hand or use the QR code.
25 And if you're on Zoom, you'll use the raise-hand feature on

1 your screen or star nine if joining by phone. And I'm just
2 giving a quick check and I'm not seeing any raised hands
3 for this item.

4 Back to you, Chair.

5 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Martine, can I just ask a
6 question? So cloud seeding, so this is where there are
7 pre-existing clouds and you're seeding to increase the
8 precipitation from already formed clouds, is that right, so
9 that it would be very much like -- I'm trying to figure out
10 like, wouldn't this be -- could this be a disperse thing or
11 would it evaluate how much of this water will actually fall
12 in California?

13 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: Well, we're measuring how
14 you could plan where to disperse so that it would fall in
15 certain areas, so --

16 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Ah, near reservoirs to be
17 able to enhance?

18 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: -- or near watersheds --

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah.

20 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: -- or areas of interest.
21 So because, of course, you can't just cloud seed anywhere,
22 and so it's really trying to pinpoint how would this work
23 optimally for purposes of that generation.

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Great. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So thanks very much for

1 the presentation. I enjoyed the briefing and I think I got
2 my questions answered in the briefing.

3 But, you know, it sort of reminded me that
4 there's so many, you know, links in that chain. We get
5 water from sort of the clouds all the way down into a
6 reservoir and through a turbine or wherever it's going.
7 And so, you know, the more we can know about that process,
8 I think the better, so I'm very supportive of this.

9 And so I'll move.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Oh, no, the Vice Chair.

11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh. Oh. Oh, sorry.

12 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

13 Thank you, Martine, for the presentation. Just a
14 quick question, you know, followed by a couple of comments
15 here.

16 In terms of the research, obviously, you know,
17 having more hydropower would be extremely beneficial given
18 the intermittency of the grid that we're going to have
19 moving forward and any firm generation would be great. But
20 just wanted to understand, what are the non-energy impacts
21 of, you know, cloud seeding? You know, are they -- I mean,
22 do we -- is that something that is well established? Is
23 that something that we'll be studying as a part of this?

24 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: Yeah, there's a lot of
25 potential non-energy benefits, I think, if you just look at

1 what happens when it falls and where that goes. Not all of
2 that falls under the purview of this research. But through
3 use of a number of the models, we can gain some insight.
4 And so we have, of course, as we always do, we point our
5 researchers to focus very much on the energy side. At the
6 same time, as they've indicated with some of their
7 outreach, there will be more than just that. And we'll
8 have to also explore what areas we think are really
9 important that they uncover or know about already.

10 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Just to follow up, I mean, are
11 there downsides, Martine, that are established now, risks,
12 down sides?

13 MS. SCHMIDT-POOLMAN: Yeah. The science versus
14 what you read on Google is sometimes a little dispersed,
15 but I think that happens all the time. And so the
16 downsides, I mean, cloud seeding has been around in
17 California for 50 years or over, I think, since the '50s,
18 so 70 years, so there's a lot of research there. And I
19 think the nice thing about this modeling with that, it
20 would show us potentials. And so we could examine flows
21 without it actually flowing and to make the determination
22 whether that's okay and meets our societal needs as well.

23 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thanks, Martine.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

25 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Back to you, Chair.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda, would you be
2 willing to move item four unless there's further
3 discussions?

4 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Yes. Yeah, move item four.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second for
6 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 Monahan?

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
16 four passes four to zero. Thank you.

17 We'll turn now to item five, Grid-Supportive
18 Transportation Electrification. Welcome to Katelynn
19 Dinius.

20 MS. DINIUS: Good morning, Chair and
21 Commissioners. My name is Katelynn Diniz and I work on the
22 Transportation Team in the Energy Research and Development
23 Division. Today, I'm presenting the first round of awards
24 from the EPIC solicitation, Grid-Supportive Transportation
25 Electrification.

1 Next slide.

2 As California's transportation sector transitions
3 to plug-in electric vehicles, charging demand on the
4 electricity grid is expected to grow. The California
5 Public Utilities Commission forecasts that without measures
6 to reduce costs and manage load, substantial investments in
7 distribution grid upgrades will be needed to meet this
8 increasing demand.

9 This EPIC-funded solicitation included three
10 focus areas, manage charging in response to local grid
11 conditions, improving the efficiency and scalability of
12 high-power charging, and enabling flexible siting of
13 charging stations. All three areas share common goals to
14 maximize the use of existing electrical infrastructure,
15 minimize the need for panel and grid upgrades, accelerate
16 energization projects, and reduce rate payer costs.

17 Today, I will propose awards for two projects
18 under Group 1 and two projects under group two. The
19 remaining projects will be presented at a future business
20 meeting.

21 Next slide.

22 There are many potential benefits to utilizing
23 existing electrical infrastructure, including faster
24 installation and energization of chargers, cost savings
25 from avoided upgrades, and reduced energy losses. For this

1 solicitation, it was especially important that the
2 demonstrations implement replicable charging solutions in
3 under-resourced communities facing grid capacity
4 constraints, with the goal of increasing equitable access
5 to clean energy resources.

6 Next slide.

7 The first project led by NeoCharge Incorporated
8 will develop software designed to manage residential
9 electric vehicle charging loads and will demonstrate at 200
10 homes across California.

11 This smart load management software integrates
12 with the sensor installed on the home's electrical panel
13 and utility data to dynamically adjust charging based on
14 real-time grid conditions, consumer preferences, and
15 available panel capacity. The integration with the sensor
16 ensures that the homes stay within 80 percent of their
17 panel capacity, complying with electrical standards and
18 avoiding costly upgrades. As a result, homeowners can save
19 up to \$3,500 per installation by mitigating the need for
20 upgrades.

21 The project is also partnering with Grid
22 Alternatives, a nonprofit focused on renewable energy
23 access in under-resourced communities. The demonstration
24 will prioritize these communities and provide workforce
25 development opportunities.

1 Next slide.

2 The second project led by Intertie will develop
3 and demonstrate a novel microgrid technology that
4 integrates solar energy storage and a bidirectional power
5 converter to supply one megawatt of charging power to fast
6 chargers at a gas station along Highway 5 in Fresno County.
7 Compared to conventional charging, Intertie solution
8 reduces the required grid capacity for installing fast
9 chargers by 85 percent.

10 The system will be managed by Intertie energy
11 management software, which will continuously monitor the
12 grid and disconnect the system during an outage. These
13 modifications will help mitigate the need for utility
14 upgrades, improve grid efficiency, and enable the
15 deployment of DC fast chargers that are both powerful and
16 cost-effective enough to keep up with EV adoption rates.

17 Next slide.

18 The third project led by RockeTruck will develop
19 and demonstrate an innovative power conversion architecture
20 for charging electric drayage trucks at a cargo transfer
21 facility serving the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.
22 The demonstration focus on electric drag trucks is critical
23 as rapid electrification of medium and heavy-duty trucks is
24 expected over the next decade.

25 The system will charge up to 100 electric trucks

1 per day, utilizing a solid-state transformer to convert
2 grid power to usable power for the site. The project's
3 power conversion architecture offers several key
4 advantages, a smaller site footprint, increased efficiency,
5 and streamlined integration with distributed energy
6 resources. Additionally, the system will improve
7 reliability and reduce maintenance costs by eliminating
8 complex power conversions at each charger. Next slide.

9 The final project led by GoPowerEV will develop
10 an automated load management system to control electric
11 vehicle charging and prevent grid equipment overload. The
12 system will be demonstrated at four multi-unit dwellings
13 facing capacity constraints in Ontario, Redwood City, and
14 South San Francisco.

15 The system uses an on-premises controller that
16 monitors charging loads, allowing or restricting charging
17 based on local electrical equipment limits. If grid
18 conditions change and loads become unsafe, the system
19 performs rapid load reductions to restore safety.

20 A key innovation of the system is its integration
21 with a distribution transformer monitor, which utilities
22 already use to monitor transformer health. These DTMs
23 provide real-time measurements and alerts to help prevent
24 overloading. This approach defers the need for costly
25 distribution upgrades, reducing energization timelines by

1 up to 16 months.

2 Next slide.

3 Staff recommends adoption of staff's
4 determination that these projects are exempt from CEQA and
5 approval of these grant awards. I'm available for any
6 questions as are representatives from each project team.

7 Thank you. And that concludes my presentation.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

10 Is there any public comment on item five?

11 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

12 The Commission welcomes public comment on item
13 five at this time. If you're in the room, you'll use the
14 QR code or raise your hand this time. And if you're
15 joining by Zoom, you'll use the raise-hand feature on your
16 screen or star nine if joining by phone.

17 And I'm not seeing anyone in the room, so I'm
18 going to transition over to Zoom.

19 Stephen Rosenblum, I'm going to open your line.
20 If you could please spell your name for the record? We're
21 asking for comments to be two minutes or less. There will
22 be a timer on the screen.

23 MR. ROSENBLUM: Yeah, my name is Stephen
24 Rosenblum, R-O-S-E-N-B-L-U-M. I am a member of Climate
25 Action California. I'd like to commend the Commission for

1 this really interesting set of pilot programs that will try
2 and expand or make better use of our existing grid.

3 I think one thing that should be considered very
4 soon is to use bidirectional charging of vehicles. I think
5 that's something that would be a huge step in the right
6 direction of maximizing the use of the grid so that when
7 there's excess power, it can be stored in the vehicles, and
8 then when there's a need for power, it can be taken back
9 out of the vehicles in the same way that these programs
10 control the charging of the vehicles, depending on how
11 heavily their local site is loaded and how heavy the grid
12 demand is versus grid capacity.

13 Thank you again.

14 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

15 That concludes public comment for this item.

16 Back to you, Chair.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to Commissioner
18 discussions, starting with Commissioner Monahan.

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Katelynn, I wonder if you
20 can -- I know you were involved with Redwood's responsive,
21 easy charging products with the dynamic signals.

22 MS. DINIUS: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Can you talk about how
24 grid supportive transportation electrification intersects
25 with Redwood's and the distinction?

1 MS. DINIUS: The Redwood's project was really
2 focused on responding to dynamic rates, which a lot of our
3 projects for Group 1, we try to incorporate that into their
4 management software. Our solicitation was really focused
5 on monitoring like panel or distribution equipment to make
6 sure that there's no overloading and prevent upgrades, so
7 definitely compatible with responding to dynamic rates,
8 just adding on that element.

9 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thank you. And I just
10 want to commend you and the team for just this thoughtful
11 set of targeted challenges that you're trying to overcome
12 through this solicitation. And I thought it was really
13 creative and that you're really like targeting key
14 roadblocks to be able to scale up. So I just, I really am
15 excited about these projects and excited to see them come
16 to fruition.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

18 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay, thanks so much
19 for the presentation.

20 Yeah, this is so compatible with just all of the
21 suite of things we're doing around load flexibility and
22 making sure that, you know, buildings and vehicles and
23 everything that we're electrifying industry, we'll hear a
24 little bit later about INDIGO, they can be part of the
25 solution for managing the grid, you know, 100 percent free

1 grid.

2 And, you know, load flexibility is something
3 there. There are a lot of interesting things going on.
4 And just sort of to Commissioner Monahan's comment, the
5 distribution system by its nature, you know, the grid edge
6 is very diverse. And so we have to find ways to
7 systematize how we manage loads actively to improve load
8 factors, to, you know, improve reliability, to manage
9 costs. And I think this goes right to that managing costs,
10 and all of it really but managing costs and making sure
11 that we can, that the utilities can manage, can stage their
12 upgrades to the distribution grid in a way that takes care
13 of affordability for the next couple of decades.

14 And so really, I think this -- I love this
15 solicitation. It's super compatible with Redwood's,
16 totally agree. And we just really commend the whole team
17 for thoughtfulness and engagement with all the stakeholders
18 and kind of pushing the envelope just enough where we get
19 good proposals and good responses to the solicitations, but
20 also really inspirational. This is just a big example of
21 that, so super supportive. And again, really, as
22 Commissioner Monahan is, really interested in the results.
23 Looking forward to it.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair?

25 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair.

1 I also want to just say my thanks, Katelynn, to
2 you. Really good presentation, you know, overall kind of
3 figuring out, you know, these kind of projects that are
4 ultimately helpful in good, supportive transportation
5 electrification and, you know, moving forward with the most
6 affordable and efficient way of electrifying at a
7 distribution level is awesome. And I just kind of wanted
8 to maybe ask, you know, a question again. We can take it
9 offline if you're not ready to discuss that.

10 You know, in terms of the scale, I'm kind of
11 going off from what Commissioner McAllister said, we have
12 this demand flexibility goal, right, so about 7,000
13 megawatts goal. One of our hopes, I think, you know, with
14 a project like this is, one, it reduces the distribution
15 upgrades required, but also has these indirect benefits of,
16 you know, hopefully faster electrification, right, so
17 you're not having to delay, but also on the supply side.
18 You know, if we have better managed load, hopefully we
19 don't have to build as much on the supply side.

20 Could you kind of give a scale of the opportunity
21 here? So, for example, one of the CPUC's study, you know,
22 kind of laid out some dollar amounts, about \$50 billion, I
23 believe, of unmanaged distribution upgrades. Do we have a
24 sense of the scale of opportunity here? Are we talking
25 about, you know, a billion of the \$50 billion? You know,

1 are talking about \$10 billion? You know, any ideas of just
2 general levels of scale with these kinds of successes that
3 we could have?

4 MS. DINIUS: We wouldn't be able to give you a
5 figure in terms of like scale of distribution grid-saving
6 costs right now. What's cool about our demonstrations is
7 they're a large group of them. So one of the projects is
8 in 200 sites. So we're getting a good amount of data
9 collection to where I think we can start to estimate that
10 during the projects.

11 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: That's great. Katelynn, just
12 encourage us, I mean, are we having IOU partners on this?
13 Any LSE partners with these projects?

14 MS. DINIUS: Sorry, can you repeat that?

15 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Any IOU partners or load
16 serving entities partners on these projects?

17 MS. DINIUS: Yeah, definitely. For our Group 1
18 projects, they're partnering with utilities, especially if
19 they're going to be installing monitors on their
20 transformer equipment.

21 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Great. Look forward to the
22 data that we collect and continue to move forward these
23 kinds of projects, so thank you again, Katelynn. Much
24 appreciated.

25 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Can I --

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yes, Commissioner Monahan.

2 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: -- sort of tie in what
3 Vice Chair Gundu was saying with what Commissioner
4 McAllister was saying, especially for Category 1, which is
5 avoiding customer electrical service upgrades?

6 I'm assuming that technology is transferable
7 beyond just transportation, that this could be a way for
8 homes, even if you are not using an electric vehicle but
9 you want to get an electric appliance, that this same
10 technology could be transferable. Is that the case or is
11 this very specific to transportation electrification?

12 MS. DINIUS: I believe that it could be
13 transferable. One of our projects, NeoCharge, looks beyond
14 EV charging loads. So that's definitely something that I
15 believe they would consider.

16 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thanks.

17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: It seems like another
18 area that this is really relevant. I mean, I like the DC
19 to DC, like focusing on DC sort of as much as possible to
20 integrate renewables and batteries and everything with the
21 chargers themselves so you don't have to do a lot of
22 switching back and forth between AC and DC. And that
23 saves, you know, that can save a lot of energy just in
24 efficiencies right there. That piece of it seems like it
25 would be transferable. And there's other work going on in

1 buildings with DC and even grids, building for loads, you
2 know, other than EVs. So hopefully we can get some of
3 those dots. Interesting. Thanks.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a motion on item five
5 from Commissioner Monahan?

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve item
7 five.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from
9 Commissioner McAllister?

10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

12 Commissioner Monahan?

13 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

17 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
19 five passes four to zero. Thank you so much.

20 We'll turn now to item six, Deployment of
21 Decarbonization Technologies and Strategies for California
22 Industrial Facilities.

23 MS. DE LA TORRE: Good morning, Vice Chair, Chair
24 and Commissioners. My name is Paty De La Torre and I work
25 in the Energy Research and Development Division. Today,

1 I'll be presenting three recommended awards for from the
2 first round of the INDIGO Program solicitation for the
3 deployment of decarbonization technologies and strategies
4 for California industrial facilities.

5 Next slide, please.

6 The solicitation is funded by the Industrial
7 Decarbonization and Improvements to Grid Operations
8 Program, or INDIGO, established by AB 209 to fund
9 decarbonization projects at existing industrial facilities
10 to reduce emission of greenhouse gases, provide benefits to
11 the electric grid and achieve the state's clean energy
12 goals. This grant funding opportunity targeted deployment-
13 ready technologies at a minimum technology readiness level
14 of eight that promote electrification and have the
15 potential for cross-cutting impact on other industrial
16 facilities.

17 The three projects awarded under the solicitation
18 represent a total of \$20.5 million NCEC funds with \$23.2
19 million in match funds.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Projects will increase electrification of
22 industrial equipment, reduce grid energy usage, decrease
23 use of fossil fuels, reduce air pollution, energy costs and
24 water usage while helping meet California's decarbonization
25 goals for industry.

1 California's industrial sector provides domestic
2 and global economic benefits by providing jobs and
3 manufacturing a wide range of goods, including food and
4 beverage, minerals, cement and glass. In many cases, these
5 facilities have high process heat and other energy
6 requirements that rely on fossil fuel combustion, which is
7 a major source of GHG emissions and criteria air pollutants
8 at burden neighboring communities.

9 The recommended projects will provide measurable
10 progress towards more efficient and cleaner energy usage at
11 industrial facilities and benefit priority populations.

12 Next slide, please.

13 The first project with Searles Valley Minerals
14 will reduce the coal and gas usage of their utility-scale
15 boilers by converting coal-powered steam turbines to
16 electric motors. The motors will be equipped with variable
17 frequency drives for optimal energy efficiency and the new
18 system will be supported by 2.4 megawatts of solar energy
19 generation and a battery energy storage system.

20 This approach will reduce the electric load
21 required to electrify the boiler fans and provide grid
22 stability during peak periods. The project expects to
23 reduce facility emissions by over 100,000 metric tons of
24 CO2 per year, reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 800 tons
25 per year, and reduce water usage by 100 million gallons per

1 year.

2 The minerals at Searles Valley include soda ash
3 and borates, which are essential in the manufacturing of
4 glass used in solar panels, lithium carbonate in batteries,
5 and sodium carbonate that scrubs flue gas of sulfur.

6 Reducing reliance on coal provides air quality
7 and water security improvements to Trona and will
8 demonstrate effective steam turbine decarbonization, which
9 can benefit existing users of fossil-powered turbines, such
10 as pulp, paper and chemical manufacturing.

11 Next slide, please.

12 The second project with Renewable Technology
13 Developments, Inc. will eliminate 250,000 therms per year
14 of fossil gas usage at an industrial laundry facility by
15 replacing packet boilers with a steam-generating heat pump.
16 This process heat electrification will be coupled with
17 (indiscernible) of plant upgrades and supported with 100
18 kilowatts of solar energy generation.

19 The project expects to reduce its emissions by
20 1,200 metric tons of CO2 per year, reduce nitrogen oxide
21 emissions by over two tons per year, and reduce water usage
22 by 14 million gallons per year.

23 Abundant low-grade waste heat sources at the
24 laundry facility, and upgrades such as water lines and
25 sidearm heat exchangers, will enable the steam-generating

1 heat pump to operate with high efficiency and supply heat
2 to dryers and ironers. Effective demonstration of this
3 approach can impact adoption of electrically powered
4 alternatives to gas-fired boilers used in small to medium
5 industrial settings.

6 The laundries workforce and neighboring
7 communities of Patterson will benefit from cooler ambient
8 air in the facility, improved air quality, and water
9 savings.

10 Next slide, please.

11 The third project with Hilmar Cheese Company will
12 electrify their lactose milk solid concentration process by
13 implementing high-pressure reverse osmosis and an
14 industrial heat pump for product temperature control. The
15 new approach will use variable frequency drives and
16 advanced motors and controls to maximize energy efficiency,
17 and the system overall will reduce both fossil gas and grid
18 electricity usage at the facility.

19 The project expects to reduce its emissions by
20 1,600 metric tons of CO₂ per year, reduce nitrogen oxide
21 emissions by over two tons per year and reduce water usage
22 by 7 million gallons per year.

23 High-pressure reverse osmosis uses polymeric
24 membranes to concentrate lactose permeate from 5 percent to
25 30 percent, separating the lactose from minerals and water

1 without thermal energy. This, along with electrification
2 of temperature control with a heat pump, represents the
3 state of the art for decarbonized liquid concentration
4 systems, which can impact over 100 other dairy processing
5 facilities in California and other industries, including
6 wastewater treatment and other food processors.

7 Next slide, please.

8 Staff recommends approval of these three grant
9 agreements and adoption of staff's determination that these
10 projects are exempt from CEQA.

11 I'm happy to take any questions. Thank you.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thanks so much, Paty.

13 Let's go to public comment on item six.

14 MS. BADIE: Thank you. The Commission welcomes
15 public comment on item six at this time. If you're in the
16 room with us, you use the QR code or raise your hand. And
17 if you're on Zoom, please use the raise hand feature on
18 your screen or press star nine.

19 And we do not have anyone in the room, so I'm
20 going to transition over to Zoom.

21 Patrick Robinson, I'm going to open your line.
22 If you could please spell your name for the record? We're
23 asking for comments to be two minutes or less, and there
24 will be a timer on the screen.

25 MR. ROBINSON: Hello. My name is Patrick

1 Robinson, R-O-B-I-N-S-O-N. I'm the Senior Manager,
2 Environmental and Sustainability, for Hilmar Cheese
3 Company, located in Merced County.

4 Improving lives together, this is Hilmar Cheese
5 Company's purpose. Hilmar is committed to responsible
6 dairy production and improving the communities we serve.
7 We are determined to be leaders in the dairy and farming
8 effort to reach greenhouse gas neutrality and use our
9 expertise to create innovative solutions that contribute to
10 ensuring a sustainable future.

11 Enabling decarbonization of the dairy industry at
12 scale is important to protect critical and affordable
13 nutrition for future generations in California and the
14 world. Programs like INDIGO make it possible to develop
15 and deploy innovative technologies at scale to reduce
16 greenhouse gases generated by California's \$20 billion
17 dairy economy. These new technologies are necessary to
18 electrify processes that have used fossil fuels while
19 enhancing electrical grid reliability. Combined, this
20 makes significant advances in energy efficiency.

21 Hilmar has a proven record of delivering on our
22 commitments with programs like INDIGO. We take our
23 leadership responsibility within our industry very
24 seriously. Hilmar and the dairy industry thank you for the
25 opportunity to implement pioneering solutions that will

1 help decarbonize the dairy industry in California.

2 I want to thank Tara Schuelke for leading the
3 effort for Hilmar Cheese Company. And we want to thank all
4 the people within industry and the Commission, all our
5 stakeholders that have collaborated on this project.
6 Together, we improve lives.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

9 Next, we'll hear from Stephen Rosenblum.

10 Stephen, I'm going to open your line. And we're asking for
11 comments to be two minutes or less.

12 MR. ROSENBLUM: Stephen Rosenblum again,
13 R-O-S-E-N-B-L-U-M.

14 I'd like to commend the Commission and the staff
15 on this really excellent program to reduce fossil fuel and
16 carbon emissions from industry. I think the sector they're
17 attacking in this program is really important.

18 As we try to move to an all-electric economy,
19 it's really critical that we provide pathways to industries
20 that require modest process temperature, such as the ones
21 described in these proposals, with well-tested and well-
22 qualified methods of conversion of their facilities from
23 burning fossil fuels or burning carbon of any kind,
24 actually, and to use actual electricity that comes from
25 renewable sources, which we hope will be the case with the

1 California grid going forward, that as we transition to
2 wind and solar and batteries that fossil fuels like natural
3 gas will not be burned anymore to produce electricity, and
4 that when these sectors have viable paths to
5 electrification of their process heat, the process will
6 accelerate.

7 Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to
8 comment again.

9 MR. VENTURA: Thank you.

10 That concludes public comment for this item.
11 Back to you chair.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, let's go to
13 Commissioner discussion.

14 Commissioner Monahan?

15 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, first, I want to
16 just commend the team, and I want to start with Virginia
17 Lew who I think is here, but she's really been like a
18 leader for a long time in this space, has educated me
19 extensively about this, and Commissioner McAllister, as
20 well, and just want to acknowledge her role in all of this.
21 And this is a long time coming. It's been quite a process,
22 I think, to get to the finish line on this first
23 solicitation. There's more to come.

24 And I want to just commend the companies that
25 applied for this and, you know, starting with Searles

1 Valley Minerals, which I think is a really interesting case
2 of moving from coal to the trifecta of clean energy, solar,
3 storage, plus electrification. And, you know, really it is
4 quite a -- just emblematic of the kind of the change that
5 we're trying to move towards, which is away from the most
6 polluting fossil fuels to fuels that are going to be fully
7 zero-emission, at least on the electrification, side in the
8 future. And it's a risky thing for companies to make this
9 shift. And we're trying to incentivize heat pumps, so
10 great to see that as part of the solution set.

11 And yeah, just excited to move forward on these
12 and commend the team for their diligence in pulling this
13 together.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Definitely
16 would just reinforce those comments. Thanks, Paty, for the
17 great presentation. Really appreciate it and enjoy the
18 briefing and got my kind of technical questions answered.

19 But just to highlight, you know, large
20 industrial-scale heat pumps, high temperature heat pumps,
21 we need a lot of innovation there and we need to get the
22 temperatures up and the efficiencies up as we do that. And
23 these projects really, the, you know, B and C, the
24 Renewables Technology Developments Inc., and then Hilmar
25 Cheese, really appreciate those applications.

1 And Mr. Robinson, I just really appreciate your
2 comments and your commitment, Hilmar's commitment. The
3 dairy industry is such an integral part of our economy and
4 there are huge heat needs. And, you know, the use of heat
5 is critical throughout much production across the dairy
6 industry, and so we're just really excited to look for more
7 and more applications for heat pumps and just shuttling
8 heat around rather than producing it from scratch is just a
9 fundamental part of the solution. And so heat pumps are
10 going to help us do that and we really appreciate your
11 leadership and partnership in doing so.

12 And then on Searles, I just really appreciate the
13 retirement of steam powered vans. Seems like it's time to
14 do that. And I really appreciate your, you know,
15 commitment to reducing your footprint and trying to ramp
16 down the use of coal and really looking for electric
17 solutions to what is a pretty difficult sector to
18 electrify. So really appreciate your commitment as well.

19 So thanks and very supportive.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thunderous agreement to
21 all of those comments, so thunderous that we'll move right
22 to a vote.

23 So Commissioner Monahan, would you be willing to
24 move the item?

25 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve item

1 six.

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

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor, say aye.
6 Commissioner Monahan?

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner McAllister?

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

11 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
13 six passes four to zero.

14 Thank you, Paty.

15 We'll turn now to item seven, Local Government
16 Building Decarbonization Challenge.

17 MS. HUYNH: Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair and
18 Commissioners. My name is Lien Huynh and I am the Grant
19 Analyst for the Efficiency Division. Today, I will be
20 presenting item seven. This is a request to approve grant
21 agreements with two local government awardees, County of
22 Nevada and Town of Truckee. These are the first two of
23 four total grant agreements awarded under the Local
24 Government Building Decarbonization Challenge, also known
25 as GFO-23-403.

1 Next slide, please.

2 The purpose of Local Government Building
3 Decarbonization Challenge was to fund planning grants for
4 local governments not eligible to receive direct federal
5 energy efficiency and conservation block grant funding,
6 abbreviated as EECBG, from the United States Department of
7 Energy. This solicitation also prioritize rural low-income
8 and disadvantaged communities, what the CEC is now
9 referring to as justice communities.

10 Next slide, please.

11 Eligible project activities for this solicitation
12 included supporting climate planning with a buildings
13 component, decarbonization planning, and improving
14 municipal operations to support building decarbonization
15 and decarbonization education. They also included
16 supporting workforce development and creating or updating
17 local codes, ordinances, and volunteer decarbonization
18 measures.

19 Next slide, please.

20 Grants awarded under this solicitation will
21 provide the following benefits to Californians: supporting
22 local government planning; reduced carbon emissions and
23 energy use; improved energy efficiency; and increased
24 community investment in local workforce development.

25 Next slide, please.

1 The first project proposed for award is with the
2 County of Nevada. Through this agreement, the CEC will
3 award federal EECBG funding totaling \$700,000. The match
4 funds for this agreement totals \$40,000. The project will
5 focus on three core tasks, developing an educational
6 campaign for zero-emission vehicles, designing zero-
7 emission vehicle charging infrastructure at 16 county and
8 community partner facilities, and adjusting county agency
9 permitting processes, codes and statutes.

10 Next slide, please.

11 The second project proposed for award is with the
12 Town of Truckee. Through this grant agreement, the CEC
13 will award federal EECBG funding totaling \$700,000. The
14 match funds for this agreement totals \$110,000. The
15 project will focus on four core tasks, which include the
16 development of an Energy Resilience Plan, Municipal
17 Building Decarbonization Plan, Municipal Electric Vehicle
18 Charging Infrastructure Plan, and Building Decarbonization
19 Program.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Staff recommends approval of both grant
22 agreements and adoptions of staff recommendation that these
23 projects are exempt from CEQA.

24 Thank you for your consideration. I'm available
25 for questions.

1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thanks so much.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to public comment.

3 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

4 The Commission now welcomes public comment on
5 item seven. If you're in the room with us, we're asking
6 folks to use the QR code or raise their hand. And if
7 you're on Zoom, use the raise hand feature on your screen.
8 It looks like an open palm or star nine if joining by
9 phone. And I'm just giving that a moment.

10 And I'm not seeing any hands in the room or on
11 Zoom, so back to you, Chair.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, let's go to
13 Commissioner discussion, starting with Commissioner
14 McAllister.

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, Lien, thanks so
16 much for the presentation. As you know, I love this
17 program. And just a reminder for everybody, we started the
18 Local Government Challenge back in the ARRA days, back when
19 we had reflows from the Obama period of sort of the Obama
20 version of the IRA as we have it now. And as the lending
21 resources came back into the Commission, as local
22 governments and entities paid back their loans that we'd
23 made with those resources, we started to sort of filter
24 those back into local governments.

25 And really, local governments, counties and

1 cities across the state just really do not have, especially
2 the small ones, they just don't have the resources to do
3 the kind of climate planning that's necessary to figure out
4 where they can innovate. And all the local governments can
5 innovate, but they need resources and they need some
6 ability to take the time and invest in figuring that out.

7 And so each local government kind of has to start
8 where they are. And I think we see that in these two
9 grants. Nevada County really appreciate, you know, the
10 educational component and the focus on transportation. And
11 then Truckee has been an innovator in this space for a long
12 time and I'm really happy to support what they're doing.

13 So it's great to have some refreshing, some new
14 funds, you know, refresh the sort of the bank account there
15 with some EECBG funds, and really appreciate your working
16 through the proposal process and vetting everything and
17 getting this to us in a meeting, so very supportive of both
18 of these projects.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Unless there's further
20 discussion, I welcome a motion from --

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: -- Commissioner McAllister.

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I move item seven.

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

1 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I second.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

3 Commissioner McAllister?

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan?

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

8 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item
10 seven passes four to zero. Thank you so much.

11 MS. HUYNH: Thank you.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We'll turn now to item eight,
13 Equitable Building Decarbonization Program Direct Install.
14 Welcome, Diana Mineta, to present.

15 MS. MANETA: Thank you and good morning Chair,
16 Vice Chair and Commissioners. My name is Diana Mineta. I
17 am in the Equitable Building Decarbonization Branch of the
18 Reliability, Renewable Energy and Decarbonization
19 Incentives Division. And today, I'll be presenting three
20 grant agreements for regional administrators for the
21 Equitable Building Decarbonization Direct Install Program.

22 Next slide, please.

23 The CEC was directed by Assembly Bill 209 in 2022
24 to create the Equitable Building Decarbonization Program,
25 including a Direct Install Program to provide

1 decarbonization upgrades at minimal or no cost for low- to
2 moderate-income households with a preference for under-
3 resourced communities and for homes owned by California
4 Native American tribes, tribal organizations and tribal
5 members.

6 Building decarbonization means reducing or
7 eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from buildings through
8 strategies such as replacing gas appliances with efficient
9 electric appliances and making buildings more energy
10 efficient. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas
11 emissions, these upgrades can also make buildings safer,
12 more comfortable, and more affordable to heat and cool.

13 The Equitable Building Decarbonization Program
14 will have numerous benefits to Californians. It will
15 reduce greenhouse gas emissions from existing buildings,
16 thereby helping to avoid the worst impacts of climate
17 change and contributing to California's goal of carbon
18 neutrality by 2045.

19 It will advance energy equity by directing
20 benefits to low-income households, under-resourced
21 communities and tribal communities.

22 It will also improve resiliency to extreme heat,
23 air quality and energy affordability, support grid
24 reliability and support the creation of local, good-quality
25 jobs in participating communities.

1 Next slide, please.

2 The Equitable Building Decarbonization Program is
3 needed because there are significant challenges to
4 decarbonizing buildings. These include the cost of the
5 upgrades, split incentives between landlords and renters,
6 workforce availability and infrastructure constraints,
7 particularly electrical capacity in buildings.

8 These challenges are especially acute in low-
9 income, disadvantaged and tribal communities, the very
10 communities that are most in need of building upgrades as
11 they often bear the highest energy burdens and have
12 suffered the most from historical environmental injustices,
13 economic disparities, and the current climate crisis. The
14 Equitable Building Decarbonization Direct Install Program
15 is designed intentionally to address these challenges by
16 providing decarbonization upgrades to low-income households
17 in under-resourced communities.

18 Next slide, please.

19 The state initially allocated \$922 million to the
20 Equitable Building Decarbonization Program. As a result of
21 last year's state budget deficit, the funding for this
22 program was reduced to \$525 million and the primary funding
23 source shifted from the General Fund to the Greenhouse Gas
24 Reduction Fund. The total budget will be divided into
25 three subprograms.

1 The bulk of the funds, about \$413 million, will
2 support the Statewide Direct Install Program, which is the
3 focus of the grant agreements I'm presenting today. To
4 mitigate the impact of the state budget reduction, the CEC
5 plans to supplement these funds with an additional \$154
6 million from the Federal Inflation Reduction Act Home
7 Efficiency Rebates Program, also known as HOMES, for a
8 total Statewide Direct Install Program budget of about \$567
9 million. The federal funding is contingent upon the U.S.
10 Department of Energy's approval of the CEC's HOMES Program
11 application.

12 The second subprogram is the \$30 million Tribal
13 Direct Install Program. The CEC recently conducted Tribal
14 Roundtables and is currently developing the guidelines for
15 this program. Tribal members will also be eligible to
16 participate in the Statewide Direct Install Program in
17 addition to the Tribal Direct Install Program.

18 The third subprogram is the \$30 million Statewide
19 Incentive Program, which is being implemented through
20 GoGreen Financing, administered by the California
21 Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing
22 Authority, which is housed in the State Treasurer's Office.
23 The GoGreen Financing Program leverages private capital to
24 expand access to decarbonization upgrades to more
25 California households, providing low-interest unsecured

1 financing through credit unions throughout the state. The
2 Equitable Building Decarbonization funds allow this
3 successful program to expand beyond customers of investor-
4 owned utilities to customers of publicly-owned utilities as
5 well.

6 Next slide, please.

7 The Statewide Direct Install Program has been
8 designed through a collaborative public process, and CEC
9 staff are grateful to the hundreds of individuals and
10 organizations who have provided input that has shaped the
11 design of the program. We held numerous public workshops
12 during the development of the program guidelines, including
13 regional workshops throughout the state that were planned
14 collaboratively with local stakeholders and included
15 translation and interpretation services.

16 In addition, CEC staff continue to meet regularly
17 with environmental justice groups and other stakeholders to
18 provide an active venue to discuss program development and
19 implementation.

20 Following the adoption of the guidelines in
21 October of last year, the CEC conducted a competitive
22 solicitation to select three regional administrators.
23 While the solicitation was under development, the January
24 State Budget Proposal was released, and we learned of the
25 likelihood of budget cuts to the program.

1 To mitigate the impact of the likely cuts, the
2 CEC developed the plan to braid Federal Homes Program
3 funding into the Statewide Direct Install Program. So the
4 solicitation was developed to include Federal Homes Program
5 requirements as well as state requirements.

6 We're here today to recommend the approval of
7 grant agreements with the three regional administrators
8 selected through that competitive solicitation. Following
9 the approval of these grant agreements, we're excited for
10 the program to launch and begin retrofitting homes in the
11 spring.

12 The initial launch will be in what we're calling
13 rapid start communities, which will involve partnerships
14 with existing Direct install programs in each region to
15 allow retrofits to begin as quickly as possible while the
16 full program ramps up.

17 Moving forward, we'll continue to invite
18 stakeholder input through the formation of an advisory
19 group, which will be formed in the coming weeks and begin
20 meeting in early 2025.

21 Next slide, please.

22 Before presenting the proposed grant agreements,
23 I'll give a brief overview of the design of the Statewide
24 Direct Install Program according to the program guidelines.

25 The program will serve low-income households

1 located in under-resourced communities. Low-income
2 households are defined as households earning up to 80
3 percent of the area median income. Participating
4 households may be single-family homes, multifamily
5 buildings, or manufactured or mobile homes. They may be
6 owner-occupied or rented, and the program includes
7 protections against rent increases and eviction for tenants
8 in participating buildings. The program is limited to
9 existing buildings, not new construction.

10 Under-resourced communities include disadvantaged
11 communities, as defined by CalEnviroScreen 4.0, and low-
12 income census tracts. Overall, 59 percent of Californians
13 live in under-resourced communities. Though the funding
14 for this program is significant, it's far from enough to
15 serve every under-resourced community in the state.
16 Therefore, the initial phase of the program will serve
17 specific communities, called initial community focus areas.

18 Next slide, please.

19 Initial community focus areas will be identified
20 based on several criteria, including the presence of local
21 organizations with which the regional administrator can
22 partner for effective outreach and engagement in the
23 community, communities in which households are most likely
24 to experience utility bill savings as a result of
25 decarbonization, communities particularly vulnerable to

1 extreme heat, high fire risk, and high levels of ambient
2 air pollution, communities underserved by existing
3 decarbonization and weatherization programs, and
4 communities with high energy burdens.

5 The solicitation for regional administrators
6 required applicants to recommend initial community focus
7 areas based on these criteria. Initial community focus
8 areas in each region will be finalized once the grant
9 agreements with the regional administrators are in place.

10 In addition, within initial community focus
11 areas, the program will use household-level utility meter
12 data to identify homes that are the best candidates for
13 decarbonization, including those most likely to experience
14 savings on their energy bills as a result of
15 decarbonization upgrades, as well as those most in need of
16 such upgrades, for example, homes in hot regions that lack
17 cooling. This will be accomplished through an existing
18 contract the CEC has with Recurve Analytics to develop a
19 screening dashboard for the Equitable Building
20 Decarbonization Program, building on an existing screening
21 tool developed for the California Public Utility
22 Commission's Tech Clean California Program.

23 Next slide, please.

24 Participating households will receive
25 decarbonization upgrades at no cost to the building owner

1 or occupant. Measures that are eligible to be funded
2 through the program are listed on this slide. They include
3 heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, other efficient
4 electric appliances, weatherization upgrades, electrical
5 wiring and panel upgrades, and remediation and safety
6 improvements.

7 Not every household that participates in the
8 program will receive every measure on this list. Some
9 measures will be more appropriate for certain homes than
10 others based on climate zone, building type, and other
11 factors. At a minimum, each household served will receive
12 a heat pump for space heating and cooling or a heat pump
13 water heater or both. In addition, at the conclusion of
14 the retrofit, at least two of the following four end uses
15 in the home must be electric, space heating, water heating,
16 cooking, and clothes drying.

17 Next slide, please.

18 The program will be administered by three
19 regional administrators serving Northern, Central, and
20 Southern California. Funds are allocated among the three
21 regions according to the population of under-resourced
22 communities in each region, which comes to 23 percent to
23 the Northern Region, 19 percent to the Central Region, and
24 58 percent to the Southern Region.

25 Next slide, please.

1 As I mentioned, we conducted a competitive
2 solicitation to select the three regional administrators.
3 The proposed awardees are the Association for Energy
4 Affordability for the Northern Region, the Center for
5 Sustainable Energy for the Central Region, and the County
6 of Los Angeles for the Southern Region.

7 All three proposed awardees have assembled teams
8 consisting of community-based organizations and other
9 partners. The solicitation encouraged applicants to
10 assemble broad-based teams for effective implementation of
11 the program tailored to the needs of each region. On the
12 following slides, you'll hear more about the unique
13 approach developed by each proposed awardee.

14 The table on this slide shows the total state and
15 federal funds that we propose to award to each regional
16 administrator to implement the program. Note again that
17 the federal funding is contingent upon the U.S. Department
18 of Energy's approval of the CEC's HOMES program
19 application. The program is expected to retrofit about
20 20,000 homes across the three regions of the state.

21 I'd now like to introduce Esther Odufuwa, the
22 Commission Agreement Manager for the Northern Region, to
23 share a little more information about the proposed
24 agreement with the Association for Energy Affordability.

25 MS. ODUFUWA: Thank you, Diana, for the

1 introduction.

2 Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, and
3 Commissioners. My name is Esther Odufuwa, and I'll be
4 presenting the proposed award for the Northern Region.

5 Next slide, please.

6 If this agreement is approved, the Association
7 for Energy Affordability, AEA, will serve as the Northern
8 Region program administrator.

9 In partnership with AEA, who will be leading
10 multifamily-focused activities in this region, is a network
11 of subcontractors and vendors that will support these
12 efforts and bring specialized expertise. This includes The
13 Ortiz Group, who will be leading efforts on single-family
14 activities. Other subcontractors include Frontier Energy,
15 California Housing Partnership Corporation, Podia, Asian
16 Pacific Environmental Network, GRID Alternatives, Rising
17 Sun, and Vermont Energy Investment Corporation. Together,
18 they'll provide essential capabilities ranging from
19 community engagement to direct project implementation.

20 AEA has identified and established relationships
21 with a network of community-based organizations.

22 Specifically, Odia (phonetic) and APEN will serve as co-
23 leads in community outreach, recruiting, and training
24 additional community-based organizations to support local
25 outreach and intake activities.

1 Lastly, on the bottom right are the key partners.
2 These partners are crucial in providing resources,
3 technical support, and valuable community insights, which
4 will enable them to deliver meaningful impacts across the
5 Northern Region.

6 Thank you for your consideration. I will now
7 pass it on to my colleague, Adam Lokar, the Commission
8 Agreement Manager for the Central Region.

9 MR. LOKAR: Great. Thank you, Esther.

10 Next slide, please.

11 Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, and
12 Commissioners. My name is Adam Lokar, and I am the
13 Commission Agreement Manager for the Central Region.

14 The Center for Sustainability -- the Center for
15 Sustainable Energy is the proposed awardee for the Central
16 Region. The Center for Sustainable Energy brings
17 experience administering energy programs in California, and
18 if this agreement is approved, will oversee the entire
19 project team shown here to ensure successful
20 implementation.

21 Joining the Central Region team, we have Franklin
22 Energy, who will play a critical role leading the direct
23 install efforts and overseeing installation vendors for all
24 housing types, community-based organizations, including
25 Self-Help Enterprises and the Fresno Economic Opportunities

1 Commission, who will lead outreach efforts by supporting
2 the creation of culturally appropriate marketing materials,
3 and by making contact with prospective program
4 participants, Earth Advantage, who will provide technical
5 assistance and develop quality assurance and quality
6 control policies and procedures, and Peninsula Clean
7 Energy, who will serve as the rapid start community
8 partner, helping roll out the equitable building
9 decarbonization program in the Central Region through the
10 existing Peninsula Clean Energy Home Energy Upgrade
11 Program.

12 Rounding out the rest of the team, there are a
13 number of other organizations, companies, key partners
14 shown here that bring their own expertise and products to
15 support with implementing the equitable building
16 decarbonization program in the Central Region.

17 With that, I'll hand it over to Rhona Matthews,
18 the Commission Agreement Manager for the Southern Region.

19 MS. MATTHEWS: Thank you for the introduction,
20 Adam.

21 Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair, and
22 Commissioners. My name is Rhona Matthews, and I am the
23 Commission Agreement Manager for the Southern Region.

24 The proposed awardee for the Southern Region is
25 the County of Los Angeles. Los Angeles County works

1 collaboratively to develop a team consisting of community-
2 based organizations, community choice aggregators, regional
3 energy networks, local government councils, tribal
4 organizations, and implementation experts that have been
5 actively engaged in residential decarbonization efforts
6 over the past several years. Los Angeles County will be
7 implementing a broad regional approach, which I'll provide
8 more details on in the next slide.

9 If this agreement is approved, Los Angeles County
10 will provide strategic direction, and ICF will oversee
11 program implementation. Community energy partners are
12 local government organizations active in delivering energy
13 and decarbonization services to communities.

14 Lastly, community outreach partners are liaisons
15 into communities with the trust and recognition to support
16 program participants.

17 The organization chart highlights the diverse
18 range of community-based organizations, stakeholders, and
19 partners involved in the EBD Program showcasing, one, the
20 depth of collaboration among different organizations to
21 ensure outreach to initial community focus areas and, two,
22 that program participants receive the best possible
23 support.

24 Next slide, please.

25 The outreach approach is centered around

1 community-based organizations who are best positioned to
2 provide culturally appropriate outreach, education, and
3 support. Community-based organizations will be conducting
4 outreach in nine sub-regional teams across six counties.

5 Below the sub-regional teams on the table are the
6 community energy and outreach partners that will be
7 conducting outreach and education to initial community
8 focus areas. The sub-regional teams include South and
9 North San Diego, Orange County, Los Angeles Ports and South
10 Bay, Los Angeles San Gabriel and San Fernando Valley, Los
11 Angeles Gateway Cities, Inland Empire San Bernardino and
12 Riverside, and Imperial County.

13 I'll now pass it back to Diana Mineta for staff
14 recommendations.

15 MS. MANETA: Thank you, Rhona, Esther, and Adam.

16 Commissioners, as you can see, the three proposed
17 awardees have each assembled a strong and diverse team of
18 partners to support meaningful community engagement and
19 successful program implementation in the three regions of
20 the state.

21 Next slide, please.

22 At this point, I'd like to recommend that the
23 Commission approve the three grant agreements with the
24 Association for Energy Affordability, the Center for
25 Sustainable Energy and the County of Los Angeles and adopt

1 staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA.

2 Thank you, Commissioners. We'd be happy to
3 answer any questions. And representatives of the three
4 proposed awardees are also present and available for
5 questions.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you all for that really
7 comprehensive presentation.

8 Let's go to public comment on item eight.

9 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

10 The Commission now welcomes public comment on
11 item eight. If you're in the room, you can raise your hand
12 or use the QR code. And if you're joining by Zoom, you'll
13 use the raise hand feature on your screen, it looks like an
14 open palm, or star nine if joining us by phone.

15 So I'm going to start with folks that use the QR
16 code that are in the room.

17 Ayn Craciun, If you could please approach the
18 podium? And if you could please spell your name before
19 making your comment? We're asking for comments to be two
20 minutes or less and there will be a timer on your screen.
21 Thank you.

22 MS. CRACIUN: Thank you. My name is Ayn, A-Y-N,
23 last name Craciun, C-R-A-C-I-U-N. I'm the Orange County
24 Policy Director with Climate Action Campaign. Climate
25 Action Campaign is a nonprofit organization based in

1 Southern California with a simple mission to create a zero-
2 carbon future through effective and equitable policy
3 action.

4 I'm here to voice our support for the Equitable
5 Building Decarbonization Program, which is sorely needed in
6 Southern California. Our team is excited to work with the
7 County of Los Angeles as part of the coalition they have
8 built to deliver decarbonization for households across
9 Southern California, particularly in the areas where we
10 will be working, San Diego and Orange counties.

11 I want to underscore the importance of those
12 counties, the fifth and sixth most populous counties in the
13 United States, which includes some of the most impoverished
14 areas in the state where implementation of this program
15 will bring major benefits to thousands of families in the
16 communities which are impacted by climate change.

17 We look forward in particular to conducting
18 outreach to local contractors, which is sorely needed, as
19 was underscored in recent research from the Clean Tech
20 California Program. There's a lack of contractors in our
21 area and engagement with potential participants to drive
22 direct household level action. By doing this, we will
23 protect our most vulnerable communities and set them up for
24 future success by supporting the development of a local
25 electrification workforce.

1 So thank you so much for your leadership on this
2 program.

3 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

4 Next, we're going to hear from Rocky Fernandez.

5 Rocky, if you'd like to approach the podium? And
6 again, just please spell your name for the record before
7 you begin. We're asking for comments to be two minutes or
8 less.

9 MR. FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Rocky Fernandez,
10 R-O-C-K-Y F-E-R-N-A-N-D-E-Z. I'm the Director of
11 Government Affairs for the Center for Sustainable Energy.

12 We want to thank the Commission for working with
13 us on this program. And we're in strong support of item
14 8A, as well as B and C. But we look forward to making sure
15 that a program like this is going to reach a lot of
16 communities that haven't been able to access a lot of the
17 amazing technologies that exist out there that make homes
18 more comfortable, that lower energy bills, and lower
19 pollution in some of the most important areas to reduce it
20 in.

21 As a data-led organization, with the simple
22 mission of decarbonize, we look forward to coming back to
23 you in the coming months and years to give you progress on
24 the things that are working, sometimes the things that
25 aren't working, and how we can maximize the effectiveness

1 of this program and reach the most families possible.

2 I'd like to point out that in the room we have
3 Junsu (phonetic), my colleague from CSE, who will be Senior
4 Project Manager, as well as Gina Melekh from Franklin
5 Energy. We and our entire team look forward to working
6 with you on this program, and we'll see you soon.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

9 Next, we're going to hear from Minh Le. And if
10 you'd like to approach the podium, just a reminder to
11 please spell your name for the record. Thank you so much.

12 MR. LE: Minh Lee, M-I-N-H L-E. My name is Minh.
13 I represent the County of Los Angeles. Good morning,
14 Commissioners.

15 I want to thank each of you and your dedicated
16 staff at the CEC for selecting the County of Los Angeles to
17 administer the EBD Direct Install Program for the Southern
18 Region. We are honored that you have entrusted L.A. County
19 and our coalition of more than 50 partners to lead this
20 transformative initiative.

21 This groundbreaking program is a crucial step
22 towards reducing carbon emissions and empowering our most
23 vulnerable communities. It sets a precedent for future
24 Direct Install Programs both statewide and nationwide. In
25 particular, it upends the historical theory of change where

1 incentives are provided to early adopters who tend to be
2 more affluent. And that drives the creation of a market
3 and economies of scale. EBD turns that upside down and
4 starts with communities that need these resources the most.
5 We are incredibly grateful and proud to play a role in
6 bringing CEC's bold vision to life.

7 We are dedicated to building trust within the
8 communities that we serve and delivering on that trust
9 throughout the participant journey. Working closely with
10 our CBO partners, we will ensure that the EBD Direct
11 Install upgrades are installed efficiently and effectively.

12 The EBD Direct Install Program will drive the
13 creation of new jobs, helping to prepare the local
14 workforce for the clean energy transition. We look forward
15 to coordinating with local workforce investment boards to
16 recruit and support skilled workers throughout our local
17 communities.

18 We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute
19 to this important work and are committed to leading
20 California towards a clean energy future. Thank you.

21 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

22 Are there any other comments in the room? If
23 not, I'm going to transition over to Zoom.

24 First, we'll hear from Stephen Rosenblum.
25 Stephen, I'm going to open your line. We're asking for

1 comments to be two minutes or less and there will be a
2 timer on the screen.

3 MR. ROSENBLUM: Hi, my name is Stephen Rosenblum,
4 S-T-E-P-H-E-N R-O-S-E-N-B-L-U-M. Thanks again for the
5 opportunity to speak.

6 I'd like to commend the Commissioners and the
7 staff for this really outstanding effort to provide
8 electrification opportunities to underserved communities.
9 I think we need to be sure that they are brought along in
10 the conversion of our economy to electricity. And the fact
11 that these awards bring together such a huge group of
12 disparate community groups to make the process work, I
13 think is a side benefit of this award program, which is
14 really outstanding.

15 One of the issues I think that's really going to
16 raise its head during this process is the question of
17 whether the panels, electrical panel service in many of
18 these older homes in these communities, are going to be
19 able to handle the load. And I hope that this will lead to
20 innovative activities such as circuit splitting, which
21 allows a panel, which is an anomaly insufficient to carry
22 the load, to be able to do so without requiring expensive
23 panel upgrades and time-consuming applications to
24 electrical distribution systems to get these panel upgrades
25 approved.

1 Also, I think the fact that heat pumps are being
2 proposed as one of the solutions for these communities is
3 really absolutely necessary in light of global warming,
4 where as we're already seeing in California, we're having
5 extended periods of really deadly high temperatures. And
6 if people can retreat to their homes for cooling, life-
7 saving cooling, I think that will really help people cope
8 with climate change a little better.

9 Thank you again for the opportunity to speak.

10 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

11 Next, we're going to hear from Nicola Steelnack.
12 I'm going to open your line. If you could please spell
13 your name for the record? We're asking for comments to be
14 two minutes or less.

15 MS. STEELNACK: Good morning, Nicola Steelnack,
16 that's N-I-C-O-L-A S-T-E-E-L-N-A-C-K. Thank you so much
17 for the opportunity to comment this morning. I'm here on
18 behalf of Leadership Counsel for Justice and
19 Accountability. We work in the Central Valley and the
20 Eastern Coachella Valley.

21 We are in strong support of the Equitable
22 Building Decarbonization Program and the multiple benefits
23 that it offers to climate and lower-income Californians,
24 especially through the Direct Install Program. We applaud
25 the CEC's continued commitment to this critical program and

1 the steps taken today to begin implementation and look
2 forward to working with the CEC on continued
3 implementation.

4 Thank you so much.

5 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

6 Next, we're going to hear from Edgar Barraza.
7 Edgar, I'm going to open your line. We're asking for
8 comments to be two minutes or less. Edgar, if you could
9 please unmute on your end and begin?

10 MR. BARRAZA: My name is Edgar Barraza and it's
11 spelled E-D-G-A-R, last name is Barraza, B-A-R-R-A-Z-A.
12 I'm here on behalf of Physicians for Social Responsibility
13 and the Central California Asthma Collaborative, and I'd
14 like to voice our support to the CEC for finalizing the
15 Equitable Building Decarbonization Program and for
16 selecting the chosen implementers.

17 As an environmental justice advocate, I would
18 also like to thank Commissioner McAllister and all of the
19 CEC staff who developed the program for meaningfully
20 engaging in environmental justice communities, for
21 including our priorities and concerns into the program, and
22 for going above and beyond in addressing the unintended
23 consequences of building decarbonization to ensure the
24 program serves the most vulnerable and protects them as
25 well.

1 This program has the potential to start
2 rectifying the decades of historical wrongs of
3 disinvestments in our communities, and I'm extremely
4 grateful for the energy, housing, climate, and public
5 health benefits to reach our communities.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

8 Next, we're going to hear from Fatima Abdul-
9 Khabir. I'm going to open your line. If you could please
10 state and spell your name for the record? We're asking for
11 comments to be two minutes or less.

12 MS. ABDUL-KHABIR: Good morning. My name is
13 Fatima Abdul-Khabir, first name F-A-T-I-M-A, last name
14 A-B-D-U-L hyphen K-H-A-B-I-R. I'm representing the
15 Greenlighting Institute.

16 First, I just wanted to recognize Commissioner
17 McAllister's leadership on the EBD Program, as well as the
18 significant work the CEC staff has done coordinating this
19 program with advocates. Like Edgar stated, we do truly
20 uphold this process over the past couple of years as a best
21 practice for state agencies working with communities and
22 organizations and collaboratively designing programs for
23 communities.

24 We strongly feel that the program guidelines and
25 the awarded program administrators have set this program up

1 for success as far as delivering decarbonization benefits
2 to households that need it the most. We do strongly
3 applaud the CEC's decision to focus on low-income priority
4 households to enable a whole home retrofit approach
5 inclusive of home remediation repairs and to include tenant
6 protections among other elements.

7 We also recognize that in a program like this,
8 working directly in priority communities, we need to stay
9 on top of making sure that the benefits are actually being
10 received by folks that need them and that no harm is being
11 done, you know, whether that's increased bills or undue
12 displacement.

13 So I'm going to end today really just by
14 reiterating the need for the CEC to have a robust and
15 constant evaluation and feedback process on, you know, how
16 program implementation is going, especially, you know, with
17 equity metrics and evaluations kind of falling short at the
18 federal level nowadays.

19 And particularly for the EBD Program, the CEC can
20 support evaluating if there's a need to find more concrete
21 authorities to enforce tenant protections and ensure that
22 program participants can remain in their new healthy homes.

23 Thank you again for taking the time to hear
24 comments.

25 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

1 Next, we're going to hear from Jacqueline.
2 Jacqueline, I'm going to open your line. If you could
3 please state and spell your name for the record? We're
4 asking for comments to be two minutes or less.

5 MS. RAMIREZ: Thank you. Good morning. My name
6 is Jacqueline Ramirez, J-A-C-Q-U-E-L-I-N-E R-A-M-I-R-E-Z.
7 I'm here on behalf of the Building Decarbonization
8 Coalition calling in to support the grant agreements for
9 the Equitable Building Decarb program.

10 In order for California to meet its goals of 3
11 million primary (phonetic) ready homes and 6 million heat
12 pumps by 2030, it is essential to prioritize support for
13 low-income households. And that is exactly what the EBD
14 Program does by providing families with funding to cover
15 upfront costs. This innovative program is critical to
16 achieving an equitable transition.

17 I want to thank the CEC staff for all their work
18 on the program and their thoughtful engagement with
19 stakeholders. We look forward to the opportunity to
20 continue supporting this program and staff.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

23 Next, we're going to hear from Grace Hut. Grace,
24 I'm going to open your line. If you could please state and
25 spell your name for the record? We're asking for comments

1 to be two minutes or less.

2 MS. HUT: Hi, good morning. My name is Grace
3 Hutt, G-R-A-C-E H-U-T, and I am here on behalf of Strategic
4 Actions for a Just Economy. SAGE is a community-based
5 organization in Los Angeles with a focus on tenants' rights
6 and housing justice.

7 And I want to express my strong support for the
8 EBD Program, which creates a critical pathway for providing
9 wholistic home retrofits to low income Californians while
10 protecting them from displacement. Unlike other
11 decarbonization programs, which prevent low income
12 households from accessing retrofits, the EBD Program
13 promises to improve health, comfort and energy efficiency
14 for communities that are most impacted by environmental
15 injustices.

16 We applaud the CEC for its commitment to this
17 program and for its collaboration with community-based
18 organizations and encourage the Commissioners to move
19 forward today with selecting regional administrators for
20 the EBD Program. These administrators, buoyed by the
21 expertise of community-based organizations, will be central
22 to ensuring that the EBD Program lives up to its promise of
23 delivering equity in the building decarbonization process.
24 And as an organization, SAGE remains deeply committed to
25 the equitable implementation of the program, particularly

1 developing a sound approach to enforcing the tenant
2 protections established in the program.

3 So thank you all so much and we look forward to
4 continued collaboration.

5 MS. BADIE: Thank you.

6 I'm not seeing any further raised hands, so back
7 to you, Chair.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you so much.

9 Let's go to Commissioner discussions, starting
10 with Commissioner McAllister.

11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: All right. Well, thank
12 you, Chair. And thanks for all the commenters. I really
13 appreciate it.

14 This is actually a huge day. I have been looking
15 forward to this. I'm looking across, we got staff in the
16 audience that have been working overnight, over many nights
17 for many, many months on this. And that sort, that sweat,
18 I think, really comes from a place of trying to do the
19 right thing, trying to implement with justice as an
20 organizing principle, as we sort of started to really
21 transition the CEC to do back in the SB 350 days and really
22 trying to incorporate that into our DNA. And I think this
23 is a huge step in that direction. And I particularly want
24 to just thank all the advocates that chimed in as well.

25 But I do have a few comments here. And first

1 off, I always want to start with thanking staff. This has
2 been just a massive lift and with a few twists and turns
3 along the way, but fundamentally, we've always approached
4 this as a team focused on really trying to do what, Minh,
5 you said, I really appreciate your being here, which is
6 starting with where the most need is and using a program
7 investment in those communities to build markets and scale
8 up from there.

9 And that really is a different program model than
10 historically we've used in the state. And it's meaningful,
11 I think, in a way that it's helping to meet a lot of
12 different needs, not just to sort of get equipment out
13 there and see how it goes, but really make sure that the
14 human element, the economic development element, the
15 justice, the air quality, the sort of all of those elements
16 are rolled up integrally.

17 And Diana, I just want to thank you. Your sort
18 of fearless leadership on this has been amazing. You can
19 hear it already in the stakeholders that you've been
20 working with. But a big team behind you. So leadership in
21 the division, Deana, Jen, really thank Jennifer Nelson,
22 Deana Carrillo, thanks a lot for your leadership at the
23 division level. Susan Mills, Halle Kasai (phonetic), my
24 God, I don't see -- I haven't picked out everybody. I see
25 Halle there, but there's Susan, there she is. And Katie

1 Webster, Rhona Matthews, Adam, thanks very much for your
2 part of the presentation. Esther, as well, for you. I
3 really appreciate your efforts. Prince Addison (phonetic),
4 Hugo Martinez, Margaret Phipps, Matthew Omogo, Miriam Jaffe
5 Block on the HOMES part has just been incredible. Jacob
6 Wahlgren, also on HOMES and sort of the financing expertise
7 that he brings, and Andrea Hoppe. So really appreciate all
8 of you.

9 On CCO, Christina Evola, thanks Christina, I saw
10 you earlier. Oh, there you are there. Thanks. Eric
11 Lazarus, Eric Codug (phonetic), and Chad Punch, really
12 appreciate all of you.

13 From Contracts, Grants and Loans, Marissa Sutton,
14 Cynthia Rodriguez, and Laura Williams, thanks Laura, I
15 really appreciate you.

16 And our Budget and Accounting Office, the, you
17 know, requirements of a program like this at the state
18 level and particularly one that's grafted, that's got some
19 federal funds grafted into it, satisfying all of those
20 program needs is incredibly complicated. And I don't think
21 you really understand how complicated until you actually
22 have to do it. And our team is just so on top of all those
23 details.

24 So there's a little bit of like, sort of
25 lighthearted laughing here to that comment. But, you know,

1 that's a commitment going forward to really administer this
2 program that does put all the right, you know, pieces of
3 data in the right boxes and really tracks many, many
4 elements of this program going forward. And so we have to
5 have our eyes wide open working with the administrators to
6 help that happen.

7 And then on the scoring, so some of the team,
8 I've mentioned already, but also, Yu Hou and Ken Rider in
9 the Chair's Office, really appreciate Ken's input and just
10 sort of guidance along the way as well.

11 And then, as well as my office, Bryan Early,
12 also, has been really helping to guide, and Houston and
13 Maggie as well in my office.

14 So really a lot, big team behind this. I think I
15 particularly heard this in some of the comments, I'm
16 particularly proud of the process that we've used to get
17 where we are. The team really invested and really leaned
18 into listening. Those workshops across the state were
19 foundational to hear what people had to say. And the
20 advocates and just all the local experts in their
21 communities stepped forward and helped us inform the sort
22 of information gathering, the listening phase, and that's
23 reflected in the guidelines.

24 I think a while back, you know, we -- some -- not
25 quite a year ago, maybe we adopted the guidelines before

1 going into the RFP process. And I think that was also a
2 milestone because they projected the kind of new approach
3 that we're taking to try to really be accountable here.

4 And I'm also really proud of the solicitation
5 process. You know, this really does incorporate. You saw
6 in the graphics with all the local organizations, it really
7 put the CBO engagement and the linkages with actual
8 communities at the center of the RFP process. And we've
9 got proposals that actually did that. And so I just want
10 to commend the applicants and the awardees that we'll --
11 administrators that we'll vote on here in a little bit.

12 A couple other elements of the program, just
13 looking forward, we're going to do a lot of learning in
14 this program. So the data elements that Diana mentioned
15 are -- you know, we're going to use the sort of
16 unprecedented amount of consumption data and other data we
17 have from the communities, from the individual properties,
18 actually, to be able to anticipate some of the impacts and
19 some of the needs of those properties and work with the
20 administrators and local contractors, local governments,
21 partners to operationalize that on the ground, you know,
22 actually touching buildings and talking with residents.

23 So that's something that really has never been
24 done to this level in a program and so -- but we really
25 need to do that and we can do it in order to be good

1 stewards of these public funds to really make sure that
2 they go where they're most needed and where they're less
3 likely to cause any sort of unintended consequences. And
4 so I think that's really important sort of on the front
5 end.

6 But that same work is going to really pay off on
7 the back end when we sort of see what happens and we're
8 able to really pay attention almost in real time or at
9 least, you know, in pretty near-term time to see where we
10 might need to change things and where the guidelines might
11 need an update and sort of what's happening on the ground.

12 And so we're really going to depend on our
13 administrators and just the partnership with them and the
14 CBOs and everybody involved in each region to make sure
15 that our ears are really pressed to the ground and that
16 we're really able to see what's going on and adjust because
17 this is going to be over the next -- this is the foundation
18 for a couple of decades of market transformation. I mean,
19 this is a huge, big step in that direction.

20 But we have to get scale. So we're asking these
21 programs to do a lot; right? \$600 million or so, you know,
22 not quite, sounds like a lot of money, but we need well
23 over two orders of magnitude more than that to touch the
24 buildings that need to be touched in the next couple of
25 decades. And so a lot of that's going to have to be

1 private capital and so we have those bridges. So these
2 programs are setting the stage for that.

3 And I think I did want to highlight the
4 collaboration with the PUC. You know, the Energy
5 Commission funded many of these methodologies of how to
6 really get into granular analysis to support building
7 electrification and decarbonization, load flexibility. We
8 invested in that, now like a decade plus ago, more than a
9 decade ago, really, and those methodologies are now in the
10 public domain and being applied in the tech program. And
11 we're going to take those methodologies and really apply
12 them here in the EBD and HOMES.

13 And so I'm super excited about that. I think
14 that's another place that California is really doing the
15 world a big favor in figuring this out and sort of taking
16 the arrows and figuring out all the complexities and really
17 putting that into a box that others can use. So really,
18 really excited about that.

19 So we're going to have a lot of challenges in
20 these programs, okay? And that's why I'm particularly
21 happy with the way this program opportunity turned out and
22 the administrators that we have been selected. And I
23 think, you know, and the many dozens of partners, you know,
24 the majority of the money is going down to Southern
25 California with L.A. County as the primary administrator.

1 And you saw the many dozens of partners they have on the
2 ground. That's really quite an amazing proposal. So thank
3 you for that, you know, Minh in your team.

4 And in Northern California, AEA is going to -- I
5 think, they have incredibly deep experience in all this and
6 they bring a ton to the table. I think, you know, the sort
7 of oversight group that we're going to put together I think
8 is really going to help knit together lessons across the
9 whole state.

10 And then the Central Region, CSE obviously brings
11 a lot to it and their partners. Franklin, you know, you
12 have a ton of experience as well.

13 So really hoping that everybody can sort of lean
14 in and get in the same boat and start rowing and sharing,
15 you know, successes and failures and challenges and worries
16 and just the whole gamut of the experience.

17 So I think, let's see, so Esther and Adam and
18 Rhona, just really appreciate your stepping up. These
19 contracts are not going to be simple to administer. So as
20 CAMs, you really have a lot of responsibility, so thanks
21 for being up for that challenge.

22 And then finally, I want to -- you know, we are
23 in difficult budget times and I want to just recognize the
24 legislature and the governor's office and our budget folks,
25 Damien and the whole team, for making sure that this

1 remained a priority and really is able to become a
2 structure, hopefully, that will be with us for a long time
3 that we can build on going forward and really build markets
4 across the whole state and get to the scale that we need.
5 So just really, really proud of everyone and thanks a lot.

6 And I don't have any questions. I've been kind
7 of up in your business all this whole time, so thanks for
8 letting me do that. But, you know, this is important. I
9 think it's a really landmark program for California and is
10 a place where the success of many of our -- of the most --
11 some of the most public facing efforts funded by the IRA
12 are going to reside.

13 And so really, there's a lot riding on the
14 success and both for the Commission, but really more than
15 that for the state, so I really appreciate the team that
16 we've got. You're just fantastic, so lots of optimism.

17 And I'll wrap it up there. Thank you.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you,
19 Commissioner.

20 Let's go to, yeah, Commissioner Monahan.

21 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, I love these, the
22 set of administrators and the way that you guys have
23 tailored this program to really, you know, listen to
24 communities and focus on the, you know, families that
25 really need it. And I think it's one of these like feel-

1 good programs.

2 So I thank Commissioner McAllister for his
3 leadership and the full -- I mean, all the folks that
4 Commissioner McAllister referenced to thank. It's just,
5 it's really heartening when we feel like our funds are
6 going to support families in need and to help reduce their
7 electricity load, help increase the cleanliness in terms of
8 inside their indoor air quality potentially, and just it's
9 really inspiring. So thank you for this moment of
10 inspiration today.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to Vice Chair Gunda.

12 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Thank you, Chair. I think
13 both Commissioner McAllister and Commissioner Monahan
14 really summed up the comments, but I do want to just add my
15 appreciation too.

16 First, you know, really good presentation by
17 Diana. And thanks, Diana, for your leadership, you know,
18 on this really landmark, you know, effort, as Commissioner
19 McAllister mentioned.

20 I also want to, you know, second what
21 Commissioner Monahan said in terms of Commissioner
22 McAllister's, you know, leadership, you know, his diligence
23 and his, you know, dedication. And I really continue to
24 reiterate his method of just sticking to a really good
25 process and, you know, the outcomes flow from that, you

1 know, well articulated but really well engaged process. So
2 just want to say thanks to Commissioner McAllister.

3 I don't want to repeat all the staff. I was
4 taking notes here. But I do want to say thanks to, you
5 know, again, Diana and the CAMs that are going to work on
6 this, but at the Division level, leadership, both Deana and
7 Jen.

8 And also just want to commend our Public
9 Advocates [sic] Office, Mona, and all that they have been
10 bringing to our processes, you know, under Commissioner
11 Gallardo's leadership to really make sure our programs are,
12 you know, more responsive to the needs of California. And,
13 you know, when we hear community voices like we just heard
14 today, you know, it's just such a heartwarming place to be
15 in when, you know, the people that we are here to serve
16 feel like we are doing a good job reflecting their
17 priorities.

18 So overall, again, to Commissioner Monahan's
19 point, wonderful day. Thank you all. And Commissioner
20 McAllister, congratulations to you and the entire team.
21 Looking forward to supporting the item.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Well, thank you for
23 those comments.

24 Let me first just thank the team. This is a big
25 day. It's not often we approve a half a billion dollars in

1 one go here. And this is a down payment on much more to
2 come.

3 You began today, Commissioner McAllister, with a
4 tribute to David Goldstein for being one of the godfathers
5 of energy efficiency. I think someday people will look
6 back at this moment, and you and your role here building
7 decarbonization to the next level and bringing it
8 mainstream.

9 And really, at the end of the day, it's about
10 making people's lives better and the health impacts we've
11 seen of, you know, inside homes can improve if we move
12 beyond fossil fuels. And so I am, for many, many reasons,
13 really excited to support this.

14 And I just want to say, you know, that wonderful
15 African proverb, "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If
16 you want to go far, go together." And so it's great to be
17 going together with these three wonderful organizations,
18 Center for Sustainable Energy, Association for Energy
19 Affordability in the County of Los Angeles. Really looking
20 forward to the progress ahead.

21 And with that, I would invite Commissioner
22 McAllister to make a motion on item eight.

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'm very happy to make
24 a motion for Item 8.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from

1 Commissioner Monahan?

2 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I second.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor, say aye.

4 Commissioner McAllister?

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan?

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Vice Chair Gunda?

9 VICE CHAIR GUNDA: Aye.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well.

11 Congratulations. That's a big one.

12 You know, if it's okay, Maninder, I think we'll
13 take you after lunch, I want to because I have, I believe,
14 a hard stop at 12:15. So I want to do a couple quick items
15 if we could.

16 If we could go to item 11, Executive Director's
17 Report.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOHAN: Thank you, Chair.
19 I'll be brief.

20 Proposition 4, you're all aware, is a \$10 billion
21 bond to invest in climate, water, wildlife, and
22 environmental issues. It passed last week with nearly 60
23 percent of the vote. So the public really expressed their
24 interest in doing this.

25 The legislature still needs to appropriate funds

1 for Prop 4, and the proposition gives them discretion to do
2 so and how to do so.

3 However, what I wanted to share with you is what
4 amount of money the Energy Commission is eligible for and
5 what we will actually get based on what the legislature
6 does is not known. But just the numbers are for
7 transmission, for clean energy, \$325 million. For long-
8 duration energy storage or our Demand Side Grid Program or
9 DEBA Program for virtual power plants, a whole suite of
10 things, there's \$50 million assigned. For offshore wind
11 development, \$475 million. And finally, for wildlife
12 protection through the advancement of non-combustion
13 biofuels is another \$50 million.

14 Add those together, you get \$900 million. Again,
15 it's not certain that these funds will be directed to the
16 CEC. Some are specifically earmarked for the CEC. Others,
17 the legislature has granted authority.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Sorry, all together it was
19 \$900 million?

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOHAN: \$900 million.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: \$900 million. Okay.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOHAN: Yeah. And some of
23 them are directed to the Energy Commission. Some of them,
24 the legislature has discretion to grant to one agency or
25 another, it could be us, it could be somebody else.

1 We are, you know, in this uncertain phase, but
2 staff are kind of working through what role we might play
3 in each of these areas and trying to get a little ahead of
4 it should the funds come to us.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you, Drew.
7 Super helpful.

8 Let's turn to item 12, Public Advisors Report.

9 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to
10 announce that the CEC-CPUC Disadvantaged Communities
11 Advisory Group, also called DACAG, will have a meeting this
12 Friday at 1:00 p.m. It'll be conducted via Webex, and also
13 at the in-person location in San Francisco. And among the
14 agenda items, CPUC will be presenting on its societal cost
15 test for resource procurement. DACAG will also discuss the
16 Governor's Executive Order N-524 regarding affordability of
17 customer energy bills. And they will also be discussing
18 goals and options for providing broad awareness of their
19 revised new DACAG equity framework.

20 That's all I have to report. Thank you.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Thank you. Let's turn
22 to item 13, Chief Counsel's Report.

23 MS. DECARLO: Thank you. For my report, I
24 propose that the Commission go into closed session as
25 specified in agenda item 13C to deliberate on a decision to

1 be reached in the three application for certification
2 proceedings listed. I expect it to be about 45 minutes.
3 And we've got the Lake Tahoe Room reserved for that.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. So let's do this.
5 Why don't we recess for closed session and lunch and then
6 reconvene at 1:15 to take up items nine and ten, which are
7 the last remaining ones. Sound good? So back here at
8 1:15. Thanks.

9 (Off the record at 12:11 p.m.)

10 (On the record at 1:17 p.m.)

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you and welcome back.
12 There is nothing to report from our closed session.

13 So with that, we will resume with the agenda and
14 pick up where we left off which was item nine, Quantifying
15 Exposures to Indoor Air Pollutants in Multifamily Homes
16 that Cook with Gas or Alternatives.

17 And I welcome Maninder to present.

18 MR. THIND: Good afternoon, Chair, Vice Chair --

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I'm sorry, the Vice Chair is
20 not joining for this, so it's just us. Yeah, thanks.

21 MR. THIND: -- yeah, and Commissioners. I'm
22 Maninder Thind, an Air Resources Engineer in the
23 Sustainability and Health Unit of Energy Research and
24 Development Division. Today, I'm requesting approval of
25 two research agreements intended to quantify and

1 characterize residents' exposure to indoor air pollutants
2 generated from kitchen stoves including gas, electric, and
3 induction in multifamily homes.

4 This solicitation is focused on multifamily homes
5 because these multifamily housing, such as apartments, tend
6 to be smaller with higher occupant densities and are often
7 occupied by low-income residents, thus are associated with
8 higher pollutant concentrations, occupant exposures, and
9 environmental justice issues.

10 While previously funded research by Gas R&D
11 Program has supported development of new building energy
12 efficiency standards that improve human health protections
13 in new homes through ventilation requirements, the issue of
14 vulnerable populations' exposure to air pollutants in
15 existing homes requires further exploration to support
16 appropriate interventions.

17 Next slide.

18 So there are two awardees, Lawrence Berkeley
19 National Laboratory and Berkeley Air Monitoring Group.
20 With \$4 million CEC funding and more than \$2.2 million
21 match commitment combined for two agreements, this research
22 will benefit Californians by providing pollutant exposure
23 data and analysis needed to improve indoor air quality in
24 homes, support multifamily residential building
25 electrification, inform the ventilation standards in

1 multifamily homes in the next iterations of building energy
2 efficiency standards and their direct equity benefits as 80
3 percent of the field measurement sites will be located in
4 justice communities. And one of the projects that I'll
5 talk about in the next slides includes direct kitchen
6 electrification interventions in the homes of these
7 communities.

8 Next slide, please.

9 All right, so the proposed Lawrence Berkeley
10 National Laboratory study will quantify air pollutant
11 concentrations and exposures in apartments with low-income
12 and disadvantaged households that cook frequently with gas,
13 conventional electric and induction technologies, and homes
14 with varying qualities of kitchen ventilation. Exposure
15 data will be collected for health-damaging pollutants
16 including fine particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, carbon
17 monoxide, ultra-fine particles, and volatile organic
18 compounds.

19 Actual measurements will take place in a
20 meaningful sample of 140 homes proposed to be located in
21 Bakersfield, Fresno and San Francisco Bay Area. The study
22 will include surveys of cooking and ventilation practices
23 among a large sample of 500 households in justice
24 communities that will provide additional important context
25 about the frequency of hazardous exposures and potentially

1 also enable targeting of interventions to households and
2 buildings with the greatest need.

3 The pictures on this slide on the right-hand side
4 show examples of different sensors including air quality
5 sensors and temperature sensors that will be employed in
6 the study and are currently being used in the CEC-funded
7 Cooking Electrification and Ventilation Improvements for
8 Children's Asthma study.

9 Next slide.

10 The second proposed study is with Berkeley Air
11 Monitoring Group. Berkeley Air's project will
12 strategically leverage Ava Community Energy's gas-to-
13 induction stove intervention to quantify and characterize
14 residents' exposure to indoor air pollutants generated from
15 gas and induction stoves in multifamily homes. The study
16 will apply a rigorous stepped wedge study design with a
17 large sample size of 300 homes with repeated measurements
18 of adults, children and kitchens, which will provide more
19 than 1,200 samples. Sample sites are proposed to be
20 located in Alameda and San Joaquin counties.

21 The project will evaluate exposures for each
22 participant to pollutants such as PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide,
23 carbon monoxide, black carbon, and PM2.5 elemental
24 composition and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene,
25 collectively called BTEX compounds, in a subsample of

1 homes.

2 So finally, the project will create a user-
3 friendly interactive dashboard to visualize exposure
4 results tailored to the user's needs.

5 Next slide.

6 So staff recommends approval of these agreements
7 and adoption of staff's determination that this project is
8 exempt from CEQA. Staff, including myself, are available
9 for any questions.

10 This concludes the presentation and thank you for
11 your consideration.

12 And also, I want to mention that we have the PIs
13 of Berkeley Air Monitoring Group, Michael and Dana, in
14 person present here, so very happy to have them here. And
15 also Brett Singer is joining virtually for his PI of
16 Lawrence Berkeley National Lab.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

19 Let's go to public comment on item nine.

20 MS. BADIE: Thank you, Chair.

21 If you'd like to comment on item nine, please
22 raise your hand if you're joining us in the room. And if
23 you're on Zoom, you'll use the raise-hand feature on your
24 screen or star nine if you're joining by phone. That will
25 let us know you'd like to comment. And I'm just giving

1 that a moment.

2 I'm not seeing any comments for this item, so
3 back to you, Chair.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right. Let's go to
5 Commissioner discussion, starting with Commissioner
6 McAllister.

7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, great. And we
8 invite the principals to say anything they want to say if
9 you'd like to, but no requirement, obviously.

10 But, Maninder, thanks a lot for the presentation
11 just now and the briefing. I think there's a huge need to
12 sort of get more knowledgeable about indoor air quality,
13 and in particular linked to gas, and just how our programs
14 and interventions can be best tailored to solve what we
15 know are pretty pervasive air quality challenges,
16 particularly multifamily and tight quarters and low-
17 ventilation type of residents or units. So it's a public
18 health issue that we really need to dig into and help
19 solve.

20 So I'm very supportive of these items. And also
21 just point out there, as we talked about, there is great
22 opportunity to link up with the programs that we just
23 approved earlier today. And, you know, I don't want to
24 necessarily weigh programs down with more sort of process
25 and sort of, you know, create any more chaos than is

1 already going to happen on site in these projects because
2 they're going to be relatively complex projects, some of
3 them. But I think there will be opportunities to do it in
4 a streamlined way and really take advantage of those
5 investments to get better data and really help tailor those
6 programs to biggest impact on the air quality side as well,
7 so really excited about that opportunity.

8 But no further comments. Thanks a lot.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I wanted to just ask, you
10 know, I'm very interested in the different impacts on
11 different income levels. Because obviously in smaller
12 units, there's less airspace and so you have the same
13 pollution, you know, contained in a smaller area. A lot of
14 times the vent hoods are quite loud or they're really
15 cheap, such that people don't even opt to use the hood if
16 they have one, or they're recessed so that they're not as
17 well built.

18 So I'd be very interested in kind of a little bit
19 more granular exploration by income level on health as we
20 do this. But overall, really happy to see this focus and,
21 you know, look forward to learning whatever we can from
22 this research, so thank you, Maninder.

23 And I don't know, is there any comments you want
24 to add to my point?

25 MR. THIND: Right. Yeah, I think those are some

1 excellent points. While this effort won't explicitly look
2 at health endpoints by different, you know, income levels,
3 it will dive more into concentrations and exposures. But
4 we have more research and pipeline that you will see in
5 which we will look at the health endpoints evaluated with
6 different the levels of income of all sorts.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah.

8 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I just want to also
9 point out, just California has incredible expertise in this
10 area. And it's just really great to be leading and pushing
11 envelope on this. I mean, we have UC Berkeley and the Air
12 Resources Board itself and just so much. And then our
13 staff, you know, in the R&D Division, just so much. Our
14 team on air quality is just top notch.

15 So really excited to build on that legacy of air
16 quality research in general because, you know, California
17 is kind of where that started in a lot of ways back when we
18 were dealing with the in the '60s and '70s, when we were
19 dealing with the pollution we had then. So just really
20 think we have all the tools we need in the toolbox.

21 So really optimistic about this. Thanks for
22 bringing it forward.

23 MR. THIND: And --

24 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: And, yeah, go ahead.

25 MR. THIND: -- just adding to that point there,

1 our existing EPIC-funded works, the BTEX study, Children's
2 Health study is looking at asthma and health endpoints.

3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. Yeah.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah.

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah.

6 MR. THIND: It's wrapping gas stoves with
7 electric stoves. LBNL is leading it, it's leading that
8 work.

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Actually, come forward
10 and speak if you want. But I think the, you know, one
11 thing I think we need to try to figure out a way to build
12 is a big bridge into the health care industry itself so
13 that, you know, if I'm one of the big health care providers
14 or insurers, you know, or, you know, Medi-Cal or I mean,
15 it's there's a lot of money at stake here.

16 And anything that can be done to reduce the cost
17 of, say, emergency visits due to asthma by kids, you know,
18 and just as communities say, or anywhere, that if we could
19 show that linkage in a rigorous way, then, you know, that
20 could be an intervention that a health care provider might
21 want to pay for, like switch out to an induction cooktop or
22 something. And, you know, working that out and sort of
23 creating a case for that with a rigorous body of work seems
24 like it's something that we should be aiming for.

25 So please go ahead.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. Michael Johnson, the
2 Technical Director from Berkeley Air Monitoring Group, and
3 that has been an interest. I'm a PI for this project,
4 along with a co-PI, Ajay Pillarisetti, who's at UC
5 Berkeley.

6 But one of the things that you're mentioning
7 about looking at the health effects, something that's
8 really unique about the Electrification Program that we're
9 studying from Ava Energy, Ava Community Energy, is that
10 it's specifically targeted for households where somebody
11 has an underlying health condition. So in order to qualify
12 it for being in that program, you have to have somebody in
13 the house that has a respiratory condition or some other
14 condition, as well as they're trying to prioritize homes
15 that are lower income as well. So it's a really, I think,
16 uniquely and smartly targeted program.

17 The other thing that is exciting is we have
18 additional funding from the Department of Housing and Urban
19 Development for which we will be doing longitudinal health
20 surveys. So even though CEC isn't directly funding the
21 information to get that health feedback, we are actually
22 going to be able to measure that at least with surveys. So
23 there are some additional components of the study that,
24 again, we're leveraging.

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: That's great. Is that

1 part of the match funding, the \$2 million of match funding
2 that's listed there?

3 MR. JOHNSON: No, we didn't have the funding when
4 we put in the proposal, so we couldn't list it then. We
5 found out later.

6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh, great.

7 MR. JOHNSON: So, you know, that's a situation
8 where everybody wins, yeah.

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Fantastic. Well,
10 thanks a lot.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right.

12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: All right.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Unless there's any other
14 discussion, Commissioner McAllister, would you be willing
15 to make a motion on item nine?

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I move item nine.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second from
18 Commissioner Monahan?

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I second.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.
21 Commissioner McAllister?

22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Aye.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner Monahan?

24 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Aye.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And I vote aye as well. Item

1 nine passes unanimously. Let's turn now to -- thank you,
2 Maninder.

3 Let's go now to item 10, Lead Commissioner and
4 Presiding Member Reports.

5 Commissioner Monahan?

6 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, last month I was
7 speaking at -- I was the keynote for an airport
8 electrification conference in L.A. And there was a lot of
9 interest by various airports on how to move to mostly
10 electrification wherever they can on the ground support
11 equipment side and on the drop-off of passengers. But
12 there was also a lot of interest in the ports collaborative
13 that we, the Energy Commission, leads that I helped
14 convene. And they're interested in doing something
15 similar, I think, from the airport side about what more
16 they can do.

17 So it was an interesting conversation and I think
18 a bridge to what the Chair will talk about with Joe B.
19 (phonetic) and an event that his team convened.

20 And I also want to say, last month I was at a
21 number of different China-related events, one of which was
22 China-U.S. Green Energy Summit at Stanford. Steven Chiu
23 (phonetic) was involved in this. John Kerry was a keynote
24 speaker. And there was a lot of trepidation at this
25 conference about the election, the national election.

1 And I just want to comment, like Governor
2 Newsom's leadership on the global stage when it comes to
3 clean energy and the fact that he's kind of told all the
4 agencies through MOUs to engage on this I think gives me
5 just a lot of just pride that we're in a state that really
6 takes climate change from a global perspective seriously.
7 No matter who's in the White House, we're resolute in that.
8 And Governor Newsom has kind of given us that charge.

9 So the folks in the room were really excited
10 about that, especially the folks coming from China. And I
11 think that's an opportunity for us to continue as a state,
12 this global leadership.

13 And I'm just going to stop there.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commission McAllister?

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I think I'll keep it
16 really short.

17 And just, you know, congrats again to Houston for
18 getting married, really on his new marriage, so all the
19 luck.

20 And again, just the RREDI Division, the whole
21 team for the Equitable Building Decarb Program just, you
22 know, knocked it out of the park. A lot of work ahead of
23 us. I think we're pretty sanguine about the challenges,
24 but also really optimistic about being able to really make
25 progress.

1 And then that's not the only IRA funding that's
2 coming down the pike through, you know, the Efficiency
3 Division and RREDI Division. The HERA grants, you know, we
4 rolled those out a couple weeks ago for multifamily for
5 rebates for electrical appliances and other measures in
6 multifamily. The single-family version of that that will
7 focus mainly on HVAC, that we'll be rolling out soon. So
8 look for an announcement quite soon on that.

9 But we're really excited to be moving all these
10 programs forward after a lot of preparation and effort on
11 the part of staff, so thanks.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right. I just had two
13 events I wanted to share about. One was a meeting we had
14 in L.A. with Chair Randolph from the Air Resources Board
15 and a number of officials from L.A. around the Olympics.
16 So California's going to be hosting the Olympics in 2028.
17 We want to make that the greenest Olympics in history. And
18 I had a roundtable with all the local and state and city
19 leaders around that just beginning to plan. There's also,
20 I think, a World Cup game in '26 there. So I guess we're
21 hosting some events up in Northern California as well.

22 But I think it's a great chance to kind of
23 elevate clean energy, climate solutions and green practices
24 with these global events. So that conversation has gotten
25 going. I think philanthropy will play an important role

1 trying to make all the expectations of air emission for
2 that event.

3 The other thing I just want to share about, I
4 spent all day Friday with Commissioner Gallardo at the
5 California Truth and Healing Mission. This is with all the
6 Native American tribes. And it was held here in
7 Sacramento, not far from where we are now, maybe 10, 15
8 minutes away on the river under an oak tree where Governor
9 Newsom had given the first apology from the governor to the
10 tribes. And it was a full day. Very, very powerful,
11 incredibly poignant testimony.

12 And we stayed the whole day. There were six of
13 us. Sierra Graves, our tribal advisor, organized our
14 participation. And, you know, it was just incredibly,
15 incredibly powerful, but just really an affirmation of the
16 work we're doing to engage and support tribes on these
17 tribal energy sovereignty projects, which is now over \$100
18 million and more on the way.

19 So very honored to be able to participate in
20 that. My first time going to one of those. There were
21 tribes from all over the state who came.

22 So thanks to Sierra, and especially thanks to
23 Christina, the Governor's Tribal Advisor, who was
24 organizing that. That was the final sort of tribal truth
25 and healing ceremony.

1 And I think with that, we are adjourned. Thanks,
2 everybody.

3 (The meeting adjourned at 1:36 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 2nd day of December, 2024.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber 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.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

December 2, 2024