

## DOCKETED

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# California Low-Income Barriers Study Overview

**March 20, 2017**

**Michael Sokol**

Special Coordinator – SB 350 and AB 802 Implementation  
California Energy Commission





## **Senate Bill 350 – The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015**

- **50% renewable energy by 2030**
- **Doubling of energy efficiency by 2030**
- **Encourages widespread transportation electrification**
- **Shift toward integrated resource planning to reduce GHG emissions**
- **Low-Income / Disadvantaged Communities focus**



# BARRIERS STUDY REQUIREMENTS

➤ **Photovoltaics and renewable energy**



➤ **Energy efficiency and weatherization investments**



➤ **Contracting opportunities for small businesses**

➤ **Clean transportation access**





## **STRONG LEADERSHIP**

**Gov. Brown: “California has made bold commitments to sustain our environment, help the neediest and build for our future.”**

**Chair Weisenmiller: “How do we make sure all Californians have access to essential energy services, particularly clean and affordable ones, including energy efficiency and renewables.... We’re trying to really broaden the participation, and it’s going to require a rethink.”**

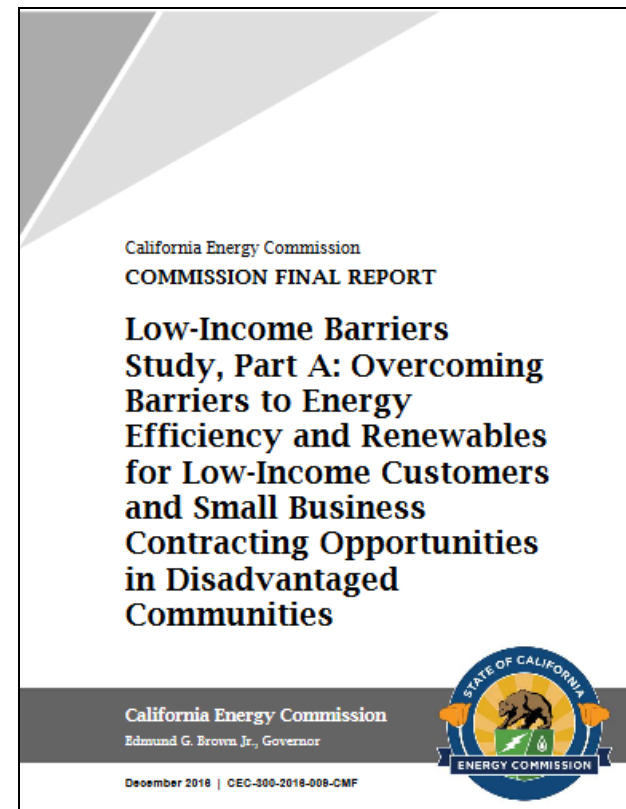


# BARRIERS STUDY FINAL REPORT

“Low-Income Barriers Study, Part A: Overcoming Barriers to Energy Efficiency and Renewables for Low-Income Customers and Small Business Contracting Opportunities in Disadvantaged Communities”.

Adopted on December 14, 2016

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb350/barriers\\_report/](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb350/barriers_report/)





# **SB 350 BARRIERS STUDY PROCESS**

## ➤ **Literature Review**

**100+ articles**

## ➤ **Community Meetings**

**7 meetings, 150+ participants**

## ➤ **Technical Public Workshops**

**Agencies, Industry, Advocates**

## ➤ **Extensive Outreach**

**Fact Sheets, social media, translation**



## **BARRIER CATEGORIES:**

- **Structural Barriers**
- **Policy and Program Barriers**
- **Small Business Barriers**





## **STRUCTURAL BARRIERS:**

- **Low home ownership rates**
- **Complex needs, ownership, and financial arrangements for low-income multifamily housing**
- **Insufficient access to capital**
- **Building age**
- **Remote or underserved communities**



## **PROGRAM/POLICY BARRIERS:**

- **Market delivery**
- **Program integration**
- **Data limitations**
- **Unrecognized non-energy benefits**



## **SMALL BUSINESS BARRIERS:**

- **Lack of access to information**
- **Technical assistance and workforce development needs**
- **Lack of access to financial resources**
- **Lack of access to support, opportunity**



# **PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- **Establish a coordinating task force**
- **Enable the economic advantages for community solar**
- **Strategize on effective green workforce and education goals in disadvantaged communities**
- **Continue developing a series of energy upgrade financing pilot programs**
- **Collaboration to establish common metrics and collect and use data systematically across programs**



## **ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- **Expand opportunities for renewable energy**
- **Enhance affordable housing tax credits/credit enhancements supporting clean energy upgrades**
- **Establish a pilot program for multiple regional one-stop shops**
- **Heightened consumer protection**
- **Collaboration with qualified CBOs**
- **Research, development, demonstration, and market facilitation programs include targeted benefits**
- **In-depth study to increase contracting opportunities**



## **RD&D RECOMMENDATION (#11)**

**“direct research, development, demonstration, and market facilitation programs to include targeted benefits for low-income customers and disadvantaged communities”**

- **25% of demonstration funding for DAC projects**
- **Forums to share best practices**
- **Analyze potential business models**
- **Sponsor prize competitions**
- **Other IOU funding for DAC projects**



## NEXT STEPS

- **Scope out interagency task force**
- **Implementation plans for each recommendation**
- **Stakeholder workshops**
- **Additional community outreach meetings**
- **Tracking progress over time**



# QUESTIONS?

**Michael Sokol**

Special Coordinator – SB 350 & AB 802 Implementation  
California Energy Commission

[Michael.Sokol@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Sokol@energy.ca.gov)

916-654-4516