

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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| In the matter of, |) | Docket No. 18-IEPR-08 |
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| <i>2018 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update</i> |) | REQUEST FOR COMMENTS |
| <i>(2018 IEPR Update)</i> |) | |
| |) | RE: Barriers Study Implementation |

Request for Comments on Draft Staff Report: Tracking Progress for Energy Equity

Staff seeks public comment on the *Tracking Progress for Energy Equity* draft staff report. This report helps to identify opportunities to improve access to clean energy technologies for low-income customers and disadvantaged communities; increase clean energy investment in those communities; and improve community resilience to grid outages and extreme events. This report is intended to track progress on implementation of the recommendations put forth by the California Energy Commission’s December 2016 Low-Income Barriers Study mandated by Senate Bill 350 (de León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015), and monitor performance of state-administered clean energy programs in low-income and disadvantaged communities across the state. As this is the first implementation of the Barriers Study recommendation, the Energy Commission welcomes public feedback for consideration before a final draft will be published. The draft staff report is available at http://www.energy.ca.gov/2018_energy policy/documents/.

Background

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (SB 350) on October 7, 2015. The bill establishes new energy efficiency and renewable electricity targets by 2030. Achieving these targets will support California's long-term climate goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The bill also finds that there is insufficient understanding of the barriers for low-income and disadvantaged communities to access energy efficiency investments, solar photovoltaic energy generation, weatherization, other forms of renewable energy, clean transportation options, and contracting opportunities for small businesses located in disadvantaged communities.

For this reason, SB 350 directed the Energy Commission and California Air Resources Board (CARB) to complete and publish studies on the following topics:

- Barriers to and opportunities for solar photovoltaic energy generation, as well as barriers to and opportunities for access to other renewable energy by low-income customers.
- Barriers to contracting opportunities for local small businesses in disadvantaged communities.
- Barriers for low-income customers to energy efficiency and weatherization investments, including those in disadvantaged communities, as well as recommendations on how to increase access to energy efficiency and weatherization investments to low-income customers.
- Barriers for low-income customers to zero-emission and near-zero-emission transportation options, including those in disadvantaged communities, as well as recommendations on how to

increase access to zero-emission and near-zero-emission transportation options to low-income customers, including those in disadvantaged communities.

The Energy Commission adopted the Barriers Study, Part A, at the December 14, 2016, Business Meeting. The study contains twelve recommendations that encourage state agencies to pursue promising approaches to addressing the challenges faced by low-income customers, including those in disadvantaged communities, in accessing clean energy and the associated benefits it enables. This draft tracking progress report implements elements of recommendation five from the Barriers Study which states "...establish common metrics and collect and use data systematically across programs to increase the performance of these programs in low-income and disadvantaged communities..."

As part of an IEPR workshop held on May 16, 2017, the Energy Commission outlined a draft framework and series of proposed indicators that could be used to track progress on energy equity throughout California's programs (http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/17-IEPR-08/TN217611_20170515T154916_California_Clean_Energy_Equity_Framework_and_Indicators.pdf). Public comments were solicited on this draft framework and feedback was incorporated into the current draft track progress report, which focuses on a subset of indicators proposed in the original framework, and highlights energy equity performance for various regions of the state.

The Energy Commission now seeks public comment on the draft *Tracking Progress for Energy Equity Report* as part of the 2018 IEPR Update proceeding before finalizing and posting the inaugural version of this report. Subsequent updates will be posted on an annual basis.

How to Submit Written Comments

If you are interested in commenting on the report, written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **5:00 p.m. on March 16, 2018**. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding.

For the 2018 IEPR Update, the Energy Commission is using an electronic commenting system.

Visit the website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/2018_energypolicy/ and click on the "**Submit e-Comment**" link in the "Proceeding Information" box. From the drop down menu, please select the appropriate docket number, **18-IEPR-08 – Energy Equity**. This will take you to the page for adding comments to that docket. Please enter your contact information and comment title. You may include comments in the box titled "Comment Text" or attach a file with your comments. Attached comments must be in a Microsoft® Word (.doc, .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf) formatted file. The Energy Commission encourages use of its electronic commenting system, but written comments may also be submitted by e-mailing them to the Dockets Office, or by U.S. Mail to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 18-IEPR-08
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

If you choose not to use the electronic filing system, please include the appropriate docket number on any e-mailed or written comments. Comments may be emailed to docket@energy.ca.gov and copy the technical lead, Michael Sokol, by email at michael.sokol@energy.ca.gov.

Please note that your electronic, emailed, written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, address, phone, and email) become part of the viewable public record. Additionally, this information may become available via search engines such as Google and Yahoo.

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact Alana Mathews, Public Adviser’s Office at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489, or toll free at (800) 822-6228.

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Poneh Jones at poneh.jones@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4425 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the technical subject matter, please contact Michael Sokol at michael.sokol@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4516. For general questions regarding the IEPR proceeding, please contact Heather Raitt, IEPR program manager at heather.raitt@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4735.

The service list for the *2018 IEPR Update* is handled electronically. Notices and documents for this proceeding are posted to the Energy Commission website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/2018_energypolicy/.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those on the energy policy email listserv. We encourage those who are interested in receiving these notices to sign up for the listserv through the website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html>. The listserv is titled “energypolicy.”

Availability of Documents

Documents are available online at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/2018_energypolicy/.

Date: March 2, 2018

Original signed by

David Hochschild
Lead Commissioner
2018 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update

Original signed by

Robert B. Weisenmiller
Lead Commissioner
SB 350 Implementation

Mail Lists: energypolicy, diversity, barriers