

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	19-ERDD-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Research Idea Exchange
<b>TN #:</b>	224845
<b>Document Title:</b>	Notice of Staff Workshop - Research Needs on Ignition Prevention
<b>Description:</b>	October 16, 2018 - Notice of Staff Workshop - Research Needs on Ignition Prevention and Utility System Vegetative Intrusion Detection and Suppression
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<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
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**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)

CEC-70 (Revised 06/18)



In the matter of:	)	Docket No. 19-ERDD-01
	)	
Research Idea Exchange	)	STAFF WORKSHOP
	)	RE: Electric Program Investment
_____	)	Charge Triennial Investment Plan

## Notice of Staff Workshop Research Needs on Ignition Prevention and Utility System Vegetative Intrusion Detection and Suppression

The California Energy Commission will conduct a public working group meeting to seek input on potential research topics on ignition prevention and utility system vegetative intrusion detection and suppression to increase grid resilience and improve public safety.

The public may participate in person or online. The meeting will be held on:

October 16, 2018  
9:00 a.m.  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
1516 Ninth Street  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Imbrecht Hearing Room  
Sacramento, California  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™  
(Instructions below)

### Agenda

The Energy Commission plans to discuss the following topics at this public working group meeting to inform implementation of the *2018-2020 Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Triennial Investment Plan*:

1. The most cost-efficient mitigations that will have the greatest impact on reducing utility infrastructure related ignitions

2. Alternative or improved vegetative intrusion detection and suppression
3. Improved de-energization performance, including circuit breaker, recloser, advanced technology sensing, and proactive de-energization practices
4. Weather preparedness and situational awareness
5. Overhead conductor failure causation and failure mitigation

## Background

Only 5 percent of vegetative ignitions in California occur from power lines.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, the probability of ignitions from power lines increases with wind speed. Greater wind speed means conditions are more favorable for vegetative ignition, and suppression is less effective. Risks from vegetation coming into contact with utility power equipment are expected to increase as a result of climate change through hotter temperatures, greater moisture deficits (even in wetter years), and greater likelihood of prolonged drought, possibly associated with beetle-caused tree mortality. Ignition and combustion of material contacting the power system is a significant concern to homes and businesses, state government, local communities, and electric utilities.

Acknowledging these urgent threats to grid resilience and public safety, Energy Commission staff and a working group of selected topical experts will discuss the latest science and technologies to reduce and eliminate combustive ignition events and improve vegetative intrusion detection and suppression measures. They will also work to achieve consensus on near-term research needs by priority order. The information developed from this public working group meeting will be used in preparation for an EPIC solicitation.

## Public Comment

**Oral comments.** Oral comments will be accepted during the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

**Written comments.** Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2018**. Written comments will be also accepted at the workshop, however, the Commission may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the meeting.

Please note that your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone number, email address) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://riskcenter.wharton.upenn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Wildfire-Cost-in-CA-Role-of-Utilities-1.pdf>

The Energy Commission encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the website at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=19-ERDD-01>.

This will take you to the page for adding comments to this docket. Please enter your contact information, any organization name, and a comment title describing the subject of your comments. Please include **“Ignition Prevention”** in the box titled “Subject.” You may include comments in the box titled “Comment Text” or attach a file in a downloadable, **searchable format** in Microsoft® Word (.doc, .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Maximum file size is 10 MB.

Written comments may also be submitted by emailing them (include the docket number 19-ERDD-01 and Research Idea Exchange in the subject line) to the Docket Unit at [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov).

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission  
Docket Unit, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 19-ERDD-01  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

## **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 the Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, at [publicadviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto: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 Erica Rodriguez at [erica.rodriguez@energy.ca.gov](mailto:erica.rodriguez@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4314 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4989. If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact David Erne at [david.erne@energy.ca.gov](mailto:david.erne@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 327-1399.

## **Remote Attendance**

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

## **To join a meeting:**

VIA COMPUTER: Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **922 285 044**.

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1. To call into the meeting: Select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
2. International Attendees: Click on the "Global call-in number" link.
3. To have WebEx call you: Enter your phone number and click "Call Me."
4. To listen over the computer: If you have a broadband connection, and a headset or a computer microphone and speakers, you may use VoIP (Internet audio) by going to the audio menu, clicking on “Use Computer Headset,” then “Call Using Computer.”

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number above.

International callers may select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>.

VIA MOBILE DEVICES: Access to WebEx meetings is now available from your mobile device. To download an app, go to [www.webex.com/products/web-conferencing/mobile.html](http://www.webex.com/products/web-conferencing/mobile.html).

Please be aware that WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded. WebEx Technical Support is available at 1-866-229-3239.

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## **Availability of Documents**

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/>.

Mail Lists:

EPIC listserv

Research listserv

CPUC EPIC proceedings:

R.11-10-003; Application

A.12-11-001 et. al.;  
A.14-04-034 et. al.;  
A.14-11-003 et. al.;  
A.15-09-001;  
A.16-09-001; and  
A.17-04-028

