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# RESTRUCTURING ENERGY EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIOS TO MEET CALIFORNIA'S CARBON AND EQUITY GOALS



*August 27, 2019*  
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# Efficiency Portfolios Aim to Meet Multiple Objectives







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- Meet load growth
- Research on emerging technologies
- Administer low- and middle-income
- Workforce training
- Long-term market transformation efforts
- Codes-and Standards
- Other recent policy requirements (SB350, SB100, AB793, AB802...)

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# These Objectives have Different End-Goals

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- Meet load growth  EE as a grid resource
- Research on emerging technologies  Market development
- Administer low- and middle-income  Equity
- Workforce training  Develop best practices in the market
- Long-term market transformation efforts  Market Transformation
- Codes-and Standards  Final Stage of Market Transformation
- Other recent policy requirements (SB350, SB100, AB793, AB802...)

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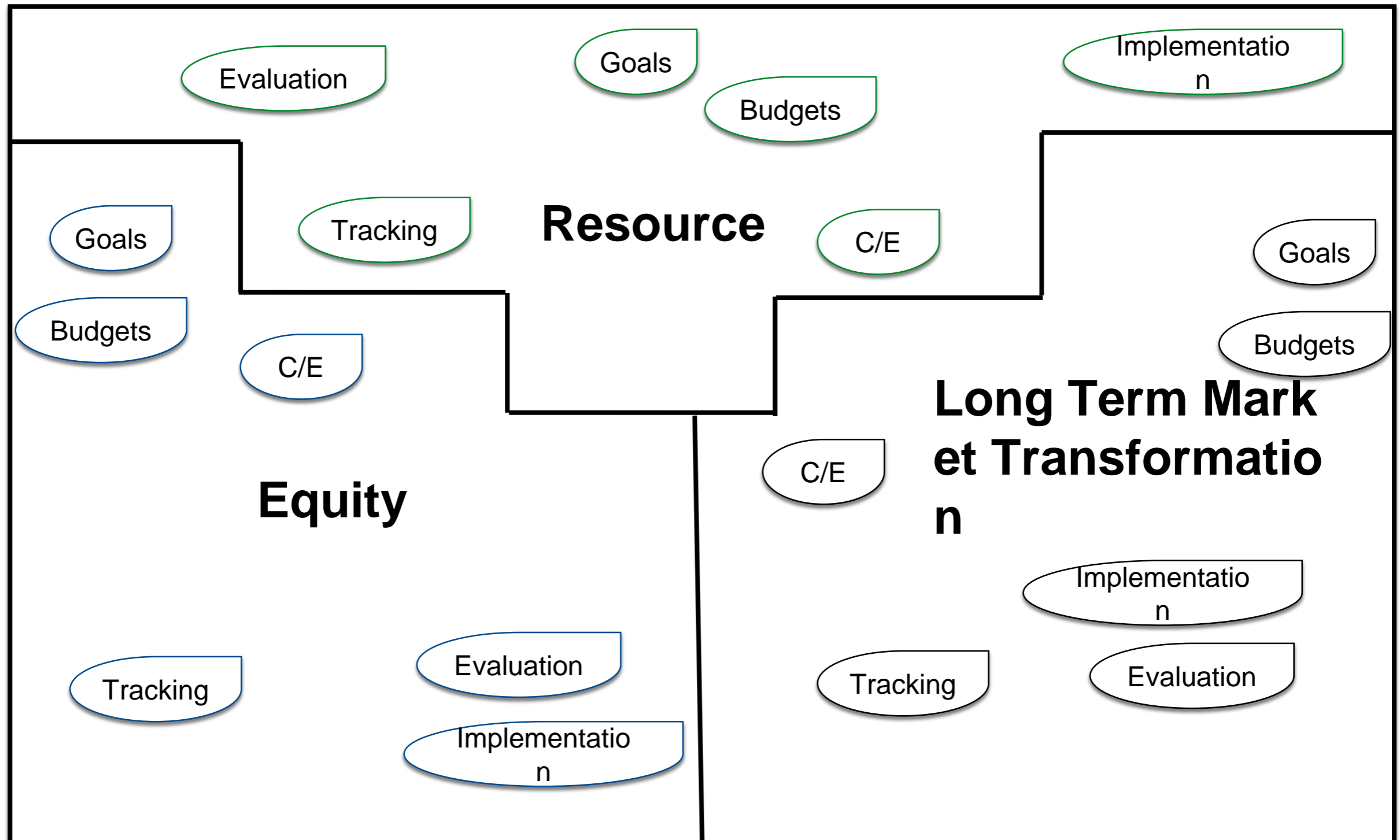
# Why Restructure?

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- Balancing so many objectives, maximizing energy savings, and maintaining a cost-effective portfolio may not be feasible
  - Most highly cost-effective measures aren't available anymore (e.g., lighting)
  - Very low EE 2020 -2021 goals for investor owned utilities (IOU)
    - ~0.5% of electricity sales
- At the same time California's climate goals are getting more stringent
- Guiding Principle: What is the right EE investment to meet our climate goals in an equitable and cost-efficient manner?



# NRDC's Proposed Restructure



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# APPENDIX SLIDES

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## And Some More Recent State Requirements

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- AB802: targeting stranded potential, energy-use benchmarking, metered data to estimate savings
- AB793: incentivize home energy management technologies for low-income households as feasible
- SB350: set targets for greenhouse gas reductions in the electric sector and recommends doubling\* EE savings goals in existing buildings by 2030
- SB100: carbon neutrality by 2045; need to determine EE's role in this objective

\* With conditions of cost-effectiveness and feasibility.

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# Balancing Multiple Objectives Is Hard

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- Maximizing energy savings, balancing these multiple objectives, and maintaining a portfolio level cost-effectiveness ( $TRC \geq 1.25$ ) is hard
  - Highly cost-effective measures that portfolios relied on aren't available anymore (e.g., lighting)
  - A reaction to this challenge has been to shrink the size of EE portfolios; this ignores underlying issues with EE and results in unfulfilled policy objectives (e.g., achieving all cost-effective savings, reaching disadvantaged and hard-to-reach customers, etc.)
- Latest potential and goals study recommended very low EE goals for investor owned utilities (IOU)
  - ~0.5% of electricity sales

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# Understanding EE's Role in a Decarbonized, Equitable Grid

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As California's carbon reduction goals increase in ambition (SB350, SB100's carbon neutrality goal), programmatic energy efficiency potential continues to decrease

- This is a counterintuitive trend
- Is EE being accurately valued as we plan for a carbon-neutral electric grid?
- How can EE make this transformation equitable?
- What is the right amount of investment in EE to address the above questions?

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## A Solution: Align EE Portfolio Structure with Policy Objectives to Truly Determine the *Right* Amount of EE Investments

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Reorganize the EE portfolio into three separate sub-portfolios.

- Resource Energy Efficiency (e.g., those primarily intended to save energy and carbon)
- Long-term Market Transformation (e.g., research, emerging tech, programs to bring technologies to market, codes and standards, etc.)
- Equity (e.g., low/middle income, rural, hard-to-reach, multifamily, small business, etc.)

For each sub-portfolio, design a policy objective-aligned approach to develop goals & budgets, cost-effectiveness framework, tracking metrics, implementation strategies, and evaluation guidelines.

\*\*Note: this is NRDC's initial thinking. The intention is to outline the concept here, working with a wide variety of stakeholder to fully develop the proposal\*\*

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# Resource Energy Efficiency Sub Portfolio

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Same constraints as supply side resources (i.e., meet future electric demand and comply with California's environmental goals)

- Goals and budget set through integrated resource planning (IRP)
  - CPUC IRP has co-equal goals of reliability, affordability, and emissions reduction; truly integrate EE into IRP for 2030 and 2045 alongside renewables
  - Provides analytical basis for determining right amount and type of EE we need to acquire
  - Truly determine marginal value of EE in an electric grid that meets SB350 and SB100's goals.
  - This can be done administratively during the next IRP cycle
- Re-think what costs and benefits of EE should be applied to be able to compare EE with supply side resources in the IRP
  - The TRC does not accomplish this
- Resource EE program implementation should be aligned with resources chosen in IRP
  - First step: Align avoided cost calculator with the IRP

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# Long Term Market Transformation

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Create lasting change in market by removing barriers and/or exploiting opportunities to accelerate adoption of cost-effective EE

- Consistent framework to connect research development, emerging technologies, existing market intervention programs, and codes & standards initiatives
  - Currently disconnected from each other
- Long-term view of cost-effectiveness (e.g., what spending is cost-effectiveness over the lifetime of an initiative? Value to society? Other?)
  - Not suited for valuation through the IRP model
- The CPUC is working on a market transformation framework



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# Equity Programs

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- Accomplish more than energy savings.
  - The non-energy benefits are critical to participants, such as affordability, health, comfort, resiliency.
- Work with CPUC to determine how to maximize energy savings and equity benefits for low- and middle-income residents
  - Help us define this part of the EE reorganization plan!
- Food for thought: given the importance of these programs' non-energy benefits, is there a need for additional programs funded from and implemented independent of the energy sector that focus on climate resiliency and adaptation?

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# QUESTIONS?

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