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#### CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of:			
Joint Workshop	)	Docket No.	20-DECARB-01
	)		

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSIONER AND

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

JOINT AGENCY WORKSHOP ON BUILDING INITIATIVE

FOR LOW-EMISSION DEVELOPMENT (BUILD)

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 9:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Martha Nelson

#### APPEARANCES

## COMMISSIONERS

David Hochschild, California Energy Commission

Andrew McAllister, California Energy Commission

Liane Randolph, California Public Utilities Commission

Clifford Rechtschaffen, California Public Utilities

Commission

#### CEC STAFF

Natalie Lee

### **PRESENTERS**

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Geoffrey Dodson, California Energy Commission

Erica Chac, California Energy Commission

Tiffany Mateo, California Energy Commission

Abhi Wadhwa, California Public Utilities Commission

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Deanna Haines

Troy Bevilacqua, SunPower Corporation

Nick Young, Association for Energy Affordability

Scott Blunk, SMUD

Ruchi Shah, Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation

Shelly Lyser, California Public Utilities Commission

### APPEARANCES

## PUBLIC COMMENT

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Peter Turnbull

# <u>AGENDA</u>

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# 1 PROCEEDINGS

- 9:05 A.M.
- MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020
- 4 MR. SCAVO: My name is Jordan Scavo. I'm
- 5 the Project Manager for BUILD Implementation at
- 6 the Energy Commission. I'd like to thank
- 7 everyone for attending, as well as for your
- 8 patience as many of us are still learning the
- 9 technical ropes for conducting remote workshops.
- 10 I'll note up front that the presentation
- 11 slides used in this workshop have been posted to
- 12 our program webpage.
- Next slide please.
- 14 Before we get started, some brief
- 15 housekeeping.
- 16 This workshop is being conducted entirely
- 17 remotely via Zoom. This means that we're in
- 18 separate locations and communicating only through
- 19 electronic means. We are meeting in this fashion
- 20 consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-
- 21 29-20, and the recommendations from the
- 22 California Department of Public Health, to
- 23 encourage physical distancing in order to spread
- 24 the COVID-19.
- This is our team's first remote-only

- 1 workshop, as well as the first workshop using
- 2 Zoom. We've got multiple Staff on the line to
- 3 help address any technical issues that may arise,
- 4 but please bear with us if there are any hiccups.
- 5 This meeting is being recorded, as well
- 6 as transcribed, by a court reporter.
- 7 Everyone will be muted during the
- 8 presentation but, after the conclusion of the
- 9 presentation, we will have an opportunity for
- 10 clarifying questions and to take public comments.
- 11 To ask a question or provide a public
- 12 comment, please use the raise-hand feature in
- 13 your Zoom application to be called on to speak.
- 14 When you speak, please provide your name and
- 15 affiliation and the spelling of your name.
- 16 If you called in by phone, you will need
- 17 to dial star nine to raise your hand and star six
- 18 to un-mute yourself. And please spell your name
- 19 for the court reporter.
- 20 Please limit your comments to three
- 21 minutes to allow all parties to participate.
- There's also a Q&A window in the Zoom
- 23 application with which you can type your
- 24 questions. If you want to provide public comment
- 25 but are unable to raise your hand in the Zoom

- 1 application or by phone, then during the public
- 2 comment portion of the workshop, you may type
- 3 your comment into the Q&A window and we will read
- 4 it aloud. We'll call on folks with raised hands
- 5 first, then turn to parties on the phone, and
- 6 then read aloud questions from the Q&A window.
- 7 We'll go over these instructions again during the
- 8 time for questions and comments.
- 9 Please remember to stay muted until
- 10 you've been called on to speak.
- 11 We also have a chat function available
- 12 for logistics of tech questions, which is a
- 13 separate function from the Q&A window. Please do
- 14 not use the chat window for Q&A about the content
- 15 presented at the workshop or to make public
- 16 comments.
- 17 Written comments must be submitted by
- 18 May -- by Monday, June 29th. We great appreciate
- 19 comments submitted early and encourage you to
- 20 submit comments through the e-commenting system,
- 21 particularly during this time where the majority
- 22 of CEC Staff are teleworking.
- Next slide please.
- 24 SB 1477 outlines several facets of
- 25 program guidelines for the Energy Commission to

- 1 develop, including a list of eligible
- 2 technologies, a process for evaluating new
- 3 technologies, criteria for scoring and selecting
- 4 projects, and a process and set of metrics by
- 5 which to evaluate and track the program's
- 6 results.
- 7 We've designed the format of this
- 8 workshop to facilitate those responsibilities.
- 9 We'll discuss incentive structure and the design
- 10 process, equipment eligibility and evaluating new
- 11 technologies, the methodology for calculating GHG
- 12 emissions reductions and bill savings, technical
- 13 assistance and outreach, and program evaluation.
- 14 There will be time for comment during each
- 15 section of the public workshop. We've also set
- 16 aside additional time at the conclusion of the
- 17 last presentation for additional public comments.
- 18 At this time, I'd like to welcome Chair
- 19 Hochschild, Commissioner McAllister, Commissioner
- 20 Randolph, and Commissioner Rechtschaffen, and
- 21 invite them to provide opening remarks, if they
- 22 wish.
- 23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great.
- 24 Everybody, can you hear me? This is Andrew
- 25 McAllister.

- 1 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, we can hear you.
- 2 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Well,
- 3 welcome everybody. This has got really robust
- 4 participation, which is great. My name is Andrew
- 5 McAllister, Lead Commissioner on Energy
- 6 Efficiency, and also at the Energy Commission,
- 7 and also primary responsibility for this, for the
- 8 Energy Commission's piece of this program as
- 9 program administrator.
- 10 So I want to thank my colleagues at the
- 11 Energy Commission, Chair Hochschild, and
- 12 Commissioners Randolph and Rechtschaffen, for
- 13 their sort of leadership and support of this
- 14 program. It's really going to be, it already is
- 15 and is going to, I think, be an example of
- 16 collaboration across the agencies in our quest
- 17 for zero carbon, zero-carbon buildings and a
- 18 zero-carbon economy. And I just wanted to make a
- 19 few points highlighting that importance.
- 20 You know, I think this is actually the
- 21 start of something big. It's not the biggest
- 22 program that we've ever run in the state,
- 23 relatively modest to start in terms of the
- 24 resources that it's dedicating to decarbonization
- 25 of our buildings and, in particular, our heating

- 1 loads, but it is, I think, a structure that we
- 2 will find ways to build on going forward for the
- 3 coming years and decades.
- 4 Staff at both Commissions are working
- 5 together really, really well on this. And I
- 6 think that collaboration will be key to designing
- 7 and implementing a successful program, as well,
- 8 the stakeholder engagement today and going
- 9 forward.
- 10 We had a pretty compressed timeline on
- 11 this in terms of, you know, standing up the
- 12 program and starting -- and opening doors for
- 13 business and sort of making sure to follow a
- 14 process that ends up with a good quality
- 15 administrative structure for the program, one
- 16 that is transparent and flexible.
- 17 So part of, I think, the key
- 18 conversations today will be process. You know,
- 19 what does the marketplace need? What things are
- 20 we going to learn? How do we adapt and adjust to
- 21 those learnings along the way as the market
- 22 evolves? You know, the technology of this
- 23 program, I think, is really important.
- 24 But the main, I think, significance of
- 25 this program is its equity focus. Multifamily

- 1 buildings, in particular, low-income is really, I
- 2 think, one of the hardest nuts to crack and
- 3 probably the most essential one to getting where
- 4 we need to go.
- 5 You know, we have -- roughly a third of
- 6 our population is low-income. It doesn't have a
- 7 lot of disposable income and can't really be
- 8 expected to pay for a lot of these upgrades
- 9 themselves, so we need to put in place structures
- 10 that help the marketplace get where it needs to
- 11 go, you know, in a collaborative and collective
- 12 way. So this program is going to be key to
- 13 driving that section of the marketplace and then
- 14 broadening down the road as the program -- as the
- 15 opportunities expand and, particular or
- 16 hopefully, as additional funding comes into play.
- 17 So with that, I just wanted to highlight
- 18 a few of the ways that I see this as important.
- 19 It's really critical for the state. It's a
- 20 really important program. And I want to thank all
- 21 the stakeholders who have gotten us this far.
- 22 Certainly, the original legislation and
- 23 collaboration with the PUC in terms of
- 24 structuring how to go forward with both the BUILD
- 25 Program and the TECH Program.

- 1 So with that, I'll pass the baton to
- 2 Chair Hochschild --
- 3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I'm happy to say --
- 4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: -- or maybe our
- 5 colleagues --
- 6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: -- a few words.
- 7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: -- at the PUC?
- 8 I'm not sure.
- 9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go to
- 10 Commissioner Randolph or --
- 11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. There we
- 12 go.
- 13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: -- Commissioner
- 14 Rechtschaffen first.
- 15 COMMISSIONER RANDOLPH: Good morning
- 16 everyone. This is Commissioner Randolph from the
- 17 PUC. Thanks so much to CEC Staff and PUC Staff
- 18 for putting together this workshop.
- 19 I can't really add much more to what
- 20 Commissioner McAllister said because I think he
- 21 hit all the important points. I mean, I think
- 22 this program presents a huge opportunity to try
- 23 to understand how we can decarbonize the building
- 24 sector and ensure that low-income residents have
- 25 the opportunity to participate in these programs

- 1 and see what the residents are interested in,
- 2 what the market is interested in. And I'm pretty
- 3 excited about the collaboration between the CEC
- 4 Staff and the PUC Staff and excited to get this
- 5 program off the ground. So looking forward to
- 6 our discussion today.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Commissioner
- 9 Rechtschaffen?
- 10 Is he on? Okay. If not, then --
- 11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: He shows as
- 12 being on.
- 13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Are you there, Cliff?
- 14 Okay. If not, I'll just make a few --
- 15 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Can you hear
- 16 me?
- 17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Oh, yeah. Go ahead.
- 18 Go ahead.
- 19 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: There you are.
- 20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah.
- 21 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: You missed
- 22 what I just said. It was unbelievable. I
- 23 apologize that I was on mute but I'll repeat my
- 24 praise for my fellow Commissioners. That was the
- 25 main thing.

- 1 Good morning. I'm delighted to be here.
- 2 Along with Commissioner Randolph, I'm one of the
- 3 leads at the PUC on the building electrification
- 4 and decarbonization proceedings.
- 5 I also agree with Commissioner
- 6 McAllister's opening remarks. This is something
- 7 very, very big. It's one of our major clean
- 8 energy initiatives. Equity has to be the focus,
- 9 as Commissioner McAllister said. That focus is
- 10 even more imperative than every given the
- 11 economic dislocation and the economic disparities
- 12 laid bare by COVID.
- 13 I also very much appreciate the strong
- 14 collaboration of the CEC Staff and the CEC
- 15 Commissioners. And I look forward to a full day
- 16 today of discussion.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you,
- 19 Commissioner Rechtschaffen and Commissioner
- 20 Randolph, for your terrific leadership, and
- 21 Commissioner McAllister for your ongoing work on
- 22 this.
- 23 You know, I just want to say, it's been a
- 24 heartbreaking few weeks, heartbreaking few months
- 25 for our country. I can't remember a time when

- 1 there was this much bad news compressed into such
- 2 a short period. But I also feel some very, very
- 3 good things can be born out of this moment. And
- 4 California, in particular, has an opportunity to
- 5 lead and create things that I think are going to
- 6 change the future in a way that will have lasting
- 7 benefits.
- 8 And while it's true that we produce more
- 9 emissions from burning natural gas in our
- 10 buildings in California than from our entire
- 11 fleet of gas power plants, and that has, you
- 12 know, climate change impacts, I think it's a
- 13 mistake to view this only through the lens of
- 14 climate change and the benefits we can get on
- 15 that side. I think this is fundamentally, also,
- 16 a health issue in homes. Indoor air pollution,
- 17 particular in the COVID-19 crisis we're in,
- 18 matters a lot, and particular for low-income
- 19 homes.
- 20 What we've found in the research that's
- 21 happened so far, it's very clear that, often,
- 22 low-income households have very poor ventilation
- 23 and the health impacts are greater from indoor
- 24 air pollution. And so this is really about
- 25 making a positive contribution to make that

- 1 problem better and I think we can have a big
- 2 impact with this program, all of us together.
- 3 So, again, thanks to our colleagues to
- 4 the CPUC and to the staff and Commissioner
- 5 McAllister, the PUC. I look forward to the
- 6 discussion.
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Thank you so much, Chair
- 8 Hochschild and our Commissioners in attendance.
- 9 Okay.
- 10 The purpose of this workshop is to
- 11 discuss framing concepts and requirements for
- 12 BUILD implementation, and to solicit stakeholder
- 13 feedback to assist our work in developing the
- 14 Implementation Plan. We're keen to hear
- 15 technical insights from low-income housing
- 16 developers and advocates as those perspectives
- 17 will help ensure the program we create best meets
- 18 the objectives of SB 1477.
- 19 The legislature authorized BUILD in 2018
- 20 through Senate Bill 1477. Among other things, SB
- 21 1477 establishes the authority and funding to
- 22 develop the BUILD Pilot Program. SB 1477 also
- 23 authorized the TECH Pilot, which is a program
- 24 being developed by CPUC that will target upstream
- 25 market transformation of residential space and

- 1 water heaters. This workshop focuses on BUILD
- 2 but we'll be happy to direct inquiries about TECH
- 3 to the appropriate staff at CPUC after the
- 4 workshop.
- 5 The legislature's stated purpose of BUILD
- 6 is to emulate the success of the new Solar Homes
- 7 Partnership by providing incentives for new
- 8 residential buildings that result in bill savings
- 9 and significant reductions of GHG emissions with
- 10 a special focus on advancing the market for clean
- 11 heating technologies.
- 12 SB 1477 tasks the CPUC, in consultation
- 13 with the Energy Commission, to develop the BUILD
- 14 Program and allocated \$200 million of the
- 15 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the BUILD and
- 16 TECH Pilots, requiring that \$60 million of that
- 17 allocation be spent on new low-income housing
- 18 developments.
- 19 Through Decision 20-03-027, the CPUC laid
- 20 the groundwork for BUILD development. Among
- 21 other things, that decision identifies the CEC as
- 22 the BUILD administrator and assigned program
- 23 development to the CEC with CPUC oversight. In
- 24 the decision, CPUC allocated \$80 million to
- 25 BUILD, of which at least \$60 million must be used

- 1 for new low-income residential housing.
- 2 The CPUC decision enumerates additional
- 3 program requirements and guidance which we'll
- 4 address in each relevant section of this
- 5 workshop.
- 6 I'll lay out some of our key milestones
- 7 for development of BUILD. We'll consider public
- 8 feedback from this workshop as we continue to
- 9 draft the Implementation Plan, which we're
- 10 required to submit to the CPUC on July 24th.
- 11 When we submit the Implementation Plan, we'll
- 12 open a two-week public comment period. Based on
- 13 feedback we receive during that period, we'll
- 14 issue an addendum to the Implementation Plan in
- 15 August 2020.
- 16 Pending approval of budgetary authority,
- 17 we will issue a request for proposal for a third-
- 18 party technical assistance provider in the third
- 19 quarter of 2020.
- We will publish draft program guidelines
- 21 in the fourth quarter of 2020 and final
- 22 guidelines in the first quarter of 2021.
- 23 We plan to begin accepting and processing
- 24 applications under the BUILD Program before July
- 25 1st of 2021.

- 1 And here I'll pass it over to Geoff
- 2 Dodson to speak on the application process and
- 3 the incentive structure.
- 4 MR. DODSON: All right. Thank you,
- 5 Jordan, for providing that introduction to BUILD.
- I just want to make sure I'm un-muted.
- 7 All right, everyone, my name is Geoff
- $8\,$  Dodson and I am a staff member with the BUILD
- 9 Team. I will be overviewing a couple important
- 10 topics, that's the application process for BUILD,
- 11 as well as the framework for an incentive
- 12 structure.
- 13 I'm going to first cover the application
- 14 process in the next few slides and then I'll move
- 15 on to the incentive structure. And then at that
- 16 point I'll go ahead and allow some time for
- 17 comments on both topics.
- 18 There will also be time towards the end
- 19 of the workshop for general comments, if you also
- 20 realize that you have additional feedback on
- 21 either of these two topics, so there are multiple
- 22 opportunities to speak.
- 23 So the application process is an
- 24 important feature in both the effectiveness of
- 25 the program goals, as well as the integrity of

- 1 the funding. As far as the logistics of applying
- 2 goes, we do anticipate offering a web portal for
- 3 electronic submittals. In our new post-COVID
- 4 world, it may finally be possible to apply
- 5 completely electronically. We'll see.
- 6 A tried and true approach to the
- 7 application process would be a two-step process,
- 8 much like the New Solar Homes Partnerships, or
- 9 NSHP, which is in its final stages and
- 10 incentivizes solar PV on newly constructed
- 11 residential homes. The program is largely
- 12 successful and is specifically mentioned in SB
- 13 1477 statute. The basic premise involves
- 14 applying for and reserving funds prior to
- 15 construction. Funding would be set aside for a
- 16 given project. Following buildout, the applicant
- 17 would submit verification documentation and be
- 18 paid out following project completion.
- 19 In this two-step process scenario the
- 20 reservation process would ideally occur during
- 21 the building-design phase in order to ensure that
- 22 program requirements are incorporated into the
- 23 plan. The BUILD Program is required to provide a
- 24 technical function of serving interested
- 25 applicants, especially for low-income housing

- 1 developers. It is our intent that interested
- 2 applicants work closely with the technical
- 3 assistance provider in order to help guide the
- 4 developer through the process and limit
- 5 additional burden on developers who already have
- 6 plenty to worry about.
- 7 If a reservation application is approved
- 8 the incentive funding will be set aside
- 9 specifically for a given project for a reasonable
- 10 time period that allows for completion of
- 11 construction. We are interested in hearing from
- 12 developers on what the normal time range is from
- 13 building design to building completion.
- 14 Following project buildout, the applicant
- 15 would then submit their payment claim
- 16 application. This primarily allows program staff
- 17 to verify project requirements that are met.
- 18 And, at this point, payment would be issued. If
- 19 changes to the building design occur or installed
- 20 appliances change significantly the incentive
- 21 could still be adjusted based on new modeling, as
- 22 long as some of the requirements are still met.
- 23 So while this two-step process
- 24 application that I overviewed may be feasible to
- 25 market rate housing, Staff are aware that this

- 1 may be challenging for low-income building
- 2 developers. Our understanding is that many low-
- 3 income building developers operate on paper-think
- 4 margins and would struggle to implement these
- 5 above-code measures without funding readily
- 6 available.
- We would like to hear from low-income
- 8 building developers about their thoughts on this
- 9 two-step application process and what
- 10 considerations are important for Staff to be
- 11 aware of. We are open to exploring alternative
- 12 options if the two-step process poses a
- 13 significant barrier for low-income residential
- 14 development.
- 15 At this time, I'll go ahead and move on
- 16 to our outline of the incentive structure. And
- 17 then there will be time at the end for comments
- 18 on both of these topics.
- 19 Moving on to the incentive structure for
- 20 BUILD. Before presenting a potential approach to
- 21 the incentive structure, it is important to note
- 22 that this is an area in which the boundary is
- 23 somewhat narrow based on SB 1477 statute and
- 24 regulatory language.
- 25 A couple key items to note.

- 1 We must use a whole building approach,
- 2 rather than providing direct rebates for
- 3 individual pieces of equipment. Practically
- 4 speaking, this will likely manifest itself
- 5 through building performance modeling software.
- 6 The results of the whole building model will
- 7 correspond to an incentive total sum.
- 8 The source of the funds require that
- 9 incentives be tied to expected avoided greenhouse
- 10 gas, or GHG, emissions. Therefore, in addition
- 11 to requiring all-electric features, measures that
- 12 contribute to better performance in GHG reduction
- 13 will lead to better incentive totals.
- 14 As noted, a big focus of the program is
- 15 on low-income building developers. And if the
- 16 program eventually expands applicant eligibility,
- 17 the incentive structure will continue to
- 18 prioritize low-income residential housing.
- 19 And, lastly, we are not the only
- 20 downstream customer incentive program related to
- 21 building electrification efforts. As such, we
- 22 must account for applicants that participate in
- 23 other programs.
- In addition to our statute and regulatory
- 25 boundaries, there are some overarching principles

- 1 and goals that we hope to convey in our program
- 2 design. For starters, our incentives will only
- 3 apply to features that go beyond the prescriptive
- 4 standard for mixed-fuel residential buildings in
- 5 the California Building Energy Efficiency
- 6 Standards.
- 7 Projects in areas with REACH codes passed
- 8 by local governments that surpass the
- 9 requirements of the California Energy Code or any
- 10 other state requirement may still receive BUILD
- 11 Program incentives. So, therefore, this
- 12 principle may only apply to statewide
- 13 prescriptive standards for mixed-fuel residential
- 14 buildings.
- 15 While this is merely a pilot program, an
- 16 eventual goal of California is to fully
- 17 decarbonize buildings. Therefore, this program
- 18 is intended to push the market to be self-
- 19 sustaining so that incentives are no longer
- 20 needed in the long term.
- 21 The whole building approach recognizes
- 22 that we need to emphasize holistic design
- 23 measures that reduce GHG emissions. Building
- 24 electrification cannot simply be an energy
- 25 efficiency measure or a renewable energy

- 1 technology. Ultimately, there are many measures
- 2 that complement each other to produce a holistic
- 3 approach towards better results in GHG emission
- 4 reductions. An analogy that I like to use is
- 5 that we can't simply incentivize an all-electric
- 6 Hummer.
- 7 Lastly, a goal of ours is to communicate
- 8 the range of incentives that can be achieved for
- 9 various performance measures. We intend to show
- 10 examples of generic designs and their potential
- 11 incentive so that interested applicants can
- 12 assess the approximate incentive amount before
- 13 choosing to apply.
- On the note of total incentive amount, an
- 15 area that we would like feedback on is the total
- 16 funding threshold that could make or break a
- 17 decision to even bother applying for the program.
- 18 For example, you might be a developer with plans
- 19 to construct a 50-unit multifamily low-income
- 20 apartment building in the Central Valley. What
- 21 minimum incentive total would be necessary to
- 22 consider applying? Ultimately, we aim to find
- 23 the balance between pushing the market without
- 24 overpaying using ratepayer funding.
- 25 So to summarize, there are four key

- 1 elements that define a likely approach to the
- 2 incentive structure.
- First, we intend to set some minimum
- 4 standards necessary to participate. This
- 5 includes no gas hookup to new construction or
- 6 capped gas lines for residential conversions and
- 7 retrofits.
- 8 It also includes minimum Building Code
- 9 measures, such as minimum appliance standards for
- 10 water heating and HVAC systems.
- 11 From there, incentives are based on model
- 12 building performance, which may vary, based on
- 13 climate zone. Items that are not modeled easily
- 14 in CBECC but still contribute to whole building
- 15 GHG performance may receive a separate kicker
- 16 incentive to boost adoption. I'll touch on this
- 17 in the next slide.
- 18 And, lastly, we must factor in incentives
- 19 received from other similar programs. This is a
- 20 challenging requirement with no easy solution and
- 21 I will touch on this more in a few minutes.
- 22 One of the key elements of the incentive
- 23 structure is what we call a kicker incentive. So
- 24 what, exactly, do we mean by this?
- In the incentive structure approach that

- 1 I'm highlighting, the core of the BUILD incentive
- 2 comes from the results of modeling software that
- 3 uses the building design as the input, and the
- 4 output includes expected GHG emissions. Since
- 5 our funding must tie to avoided GHG emissions,
- 6 the software can provide a readily available tool
- 7 to convert to an incentive, which most builders
- 8 already must complete, making it a seamless
- 9 application process. However, at the moment, not
- 10 all software inputs drill down deep enough to
- 11 cover all contributing factors.
- 12 For example, CBECC modeling software only
- 13 models for gas or electric cooktop stoves.
- 14 However, since induction cooktop stoves perform
- 15 better than standard electric cooktops, we need a
- 16 way to encourage adoption of this feature. To
- 17 solve this, one approach is to offer an
- 18 additional kicker incentive to encourage the
- 19 installation of induction stoves.
- 20 Hypothetically, this might be a simple flat rate,
- 21 such as \$100 per installed cooktop on top of the
- 22 modeled incentive. The same logic could be
- 23 applied to other building design features and
- 24 Erica will cover this a little bit more later on.
- 25 For now, we just wanted to present the idea.

- 1 So as I mentioned, we need to account for
- 2 funding received from other programs. We want to
- 3 encourage applicants to leverage other sources of
- 4 funding and accommodate those that do. The main
- 5 challenge involved is finding a simple solution
- 6 that ensures that there is no double dipping of
- 7 funds but still minimizes the burden on the
- 8 applicant.
- 9 There are a few reasons for this
- 10 challenge. There are a variety of programs and
- 11 they do not all share identical goals and
- 12 requirements. This can sometimes make it
- 13 challenging as funding sources may not always be
- 14 an apples-to-apples comparison. Additionally,
- 15 without a simple solution to account for this, it
- 16 could pose administrative challenges if BUILD
- 17 staff needs to constantly track existing and
- 18 emerging programs, as well as changes to the
- 19 requirements within those programs.
- To highlight the difficulty in accounting
- 21 for funding received from similar programs, this
- 22 slide shows examples of some potential programs
- 23 that may come online and that may overlap in some
- 24 areas with BUILD. The potential variety is large
- 25 and some programs may or may not be able to

- 1 accommodate incentive layering.
- 2 Without getting into the weeds too much,
- 3 the point of showing this is to highlight that
- 4 there are many programs contributing towards
- 5 building electrification end goals but each
- 6 individual program may have different underlying
- 7 purposes, program rules, market targets, and
- 8 restrictions on incentive layering.
- 9 If a BUILD applicant is also applying to
- 10 one of more of these programs, it can quickly
- 11 become challenging to assess the degree to which
- 12 two pots of funding overlap and, therefore, must
- 13 be accounted for to avoid double dipping.
- In situations where there is a direct
- 15 overlap with funding from separate programs, here
- 16 is one possible approach that could be used to
- 17 factor in funding received from the same
- 18 applicant from multiple programs. The numbers
- 19 shown here are completely fictional, just for
- 20 demonstration purposes. In this approach,
- 21 funding received from other programs is simply
- 22 shaved off the top of a BUILD incentive resulting
- 23 in a net-neutral incentive total. This approach
- 24 is by no means fully baked and it is simply an
- 25 example of looking at how this issue could be

- 1 addressed.
- The main benefits to that approach that I
- 3 just highlighted are that it ultimately meets our
- 4 requirement of accounting for funding from other
- 5 programs and it is easily understandable for
- 6 applicants.
- 7 There are some significant drawbacks,
- 8 though, when you dig below the surface. For one,
- 9 it is unlikely that funding for multiple programs
- 10 will overlap so neatly that it results in a
- 11 simple calculation.
- 12 Secondly, it would likely have to be
- 13 self-reported by the applicant and could be
- 14 administratively burdensome to verify funding
- 15 that isn't reported.
- 16 Additionally, there could be challenges
- 17 in timing since an applicant may not apply to
- 18 multiple programs at the same time.
- 19 Ultimately, there are a lot of flaws but,
- 20 fortunately, there is an upcoming workshop
- 21 focused specifically on this issue.
- This is a difficult challenge. And while
- 23 we wanted to at least mention this as part of our
- 24 thinking in the program, we will defer everyone
- 25 to a CPUC workshop on June 30th, so in about two

- 1 weeks, specifically to discuss and address this
- 2 issue since it applies to all programs. So for
- 3 those interested in participating in this
- 4 discussion, please, mark your calendars and
- 5 engage to go deeper into this issue.
- 6 So at this time, before we move on to the
- $7\,$  next topic by Erica, this is a good time to pause
- 8 and take some public comments on the two topics
- 9 that I just presented. So I'm going to go ahead
- 10 and defer to Jordan to kind of moderate. And as
- 11 we mentioned earlier, we'll first go to comments
- 12 through the raise-hand function.
- MR. SCAVO: Thank you, Geoff.
- I see a raised hand.
- MS. CHAC: Yeah. Hey, this is Erica.
- 16 There is one raised hand from Deanna Haines,
- 17 D-E-A-N-N-A.
- 18 Deanna, you should be able to un-mute
- 19 yourself now.
- 20 MS. HAINES: I apologize. I must have
- 21 hit that raised hand inadvertently. I don't have
- 22 a question. Sorry.
- MS. CHAC: Okay. No problem.
- 24 There's another one -- oh, never mind.
- 25 There's one from Troy, T-R-O-Y.

- 1 Troy, you should be able to un-mute
- 2 yourself now.
- 3 MR. BEVILACQUA: Thank you. Troy
- 4 Bevilacqua with SunPower Corporation. Last name
- 5 is spelled B-E-V-I-L-A-C-Q-U-A.
- A question on the no gas to property, is
- 7 that at the lot level or at the tract level? And
- 8 I ask that because a builder may acquire a piece
- 9 of property where the gas infrastructure has
- 10 already been installed.
- MR. DODSON: Hi Troy. Thank you for your
- 12 comment.
- 13 As far as the specific exact requirements
- 14 for that particular question go, I'm not sure
- 15 that we have an exact definition laid out. The
- 16 general intent, however, is that we're aiming for
- 17 just no gas being fed to the building. So
- 18 whether this means a capped gas line for
- 19 retrofits or things like that, or simply not gas
- 20 infrastructure being built out for new
- 21 construction, the general intent is not to have
- 22 gas fed. But we -- I, personally, don't have a
- 23 ready answer for you in terms of the exact nature
- 24 of how that works.
- MR. BEVILACQUA: Thank you.

- 1 MR. SCAVO: Yeah. This is Jordan.
- That's an issue we are considering. I
- 3 think we address it in a later presentation. But
- 4 it's just presented as options for consideration
- 5 at this point.
- 6 Erica, who do we have next on the raised-
- 7 hand queue?
- 8 MS. CHAC: We have Nick Young, N-I-C-K,
- 9 last name, Y-O-U-N-G.
- 10 You can now un-mute yourself.
- MR. YOUNG: Hi. Thanks this is Nick
- 12 Young with the Association for Energy
- 13 Affordability.
- 14 So it's not a ratepayer-funded program
- 15 but the various funding sources that low-income
- 16 housing projects have to apply to, to acquire the
- 17 majority of the funding for their projects, also
- 18 have energy requirements in their sustainable
- 19 building methods portions, primarily the Tax
- 20 Credit Allocation Committee and California Debt
- 21 Limit Allocation Committee, TCAC and CDLAC.
- 22 So I would just encourage the folks, and
- 23 maybe this will be covered later, but to consider
- 24 coordination with those agencies, as well, with
- 25 the Treasurer's Office to better align their

- 1 regulations and their sustainable building
- 2 methods portions with the goals of
- 3 decarbonization. That would help a lot.
- 4 MR. SCAVO: Excellent. Thank you for
- 5 your comment, Nick.
- 6 MS. CHAC: Okay. And then we have
- 7 another hand raised from Scott Blunk, S-C-O-T-T,
- 8 last name, B-L-U-N-K.
- 9 Scott, you can now un-mute yourself.
- MR. BLUNK: Hi. This is Scott Blunk with
- 11 SMUD.
- 12 And looking at the presentation today,
- 13 and I saw the presentation that was posted, I
- 14 would just want to encourage trying to make the
- 15 program simple. I've run new construction
- 16 programs throughout the state and worked with
- 17 SMUD's team on this.
- 18 And I guess I'm questioning whether a
- 19 modeling requirement is really necessary?
- 20 Because we kind of -- or at least, maybe by zone
- 21 or by climate zone or by, you know, bands of
- 22 house sizes, like 1,000 to 2,000 square feet, we
- 23 can run some model homes in a climate zone and we
- 24 know what the carbon savings is going to be, plus
- 25 or minus; right? But to have the requirement of

- 1 models for every single home, or even if
- 2 you're -- even every property, it just gets
- 3 really burdensome.
- 4 And the majority of the savings is the
- 5 fact that they're not doing gas. And it's just
- 6 much simpler to do it that way. And it's,
- 7 really, the carbon savings going from a nine HSPF
- 8 to a ten HSPF is minuscule compared to going from
- 9 gas to electric.
- 10 And just trying to make the program -- or
- 11 trying to hope the program can be as simple as
- 12 possible, so just some suggestions.
- Thanks.
- MR. SCAVO: Thank you for your comments,
- 15 Scott. We dig into this issue a bit more in the
- 16 presentation later this afternoon by Tiffany on
- 17 the bill savings methodology.
- 18 Erica, who do we have next?
- 19 MS. CHAC: We have Ruchi Shah, R-U-C-H-I,
- 20 last name, S-H-A-S -- -H, sorry.
- 21 Ruchi, you should be able to un-mute
- 22 yourself now.
- 23 MS. SHAH: Yeah. Hi. I'm with
- 24 Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation,
- 25 TNDC, in San Francisco.

- 1 Is the program neutral to what utilities
- 2 are we getting covered from in our portfolio? We
- 3 have both SFPUC and PG&E.
- 4 MR. DODSON: Hi. I think that question
- 5 is somewhat addressed in the next portion, so I
- 6 think that, hopefully, might be covered.
- 7 MS. SHAH: Okay. Thank you.
- 8 MS. CHAC: Okay. And we have another
- 9 question from Shelly Lyser, S-H-E-L-L-Y, last
- 10 name, L-Y-S-E-R.
- 11 You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 12 now.
- MS. LYSER: Hi. Thank you. This Shelley
- 14 Lyser with the Public Advocates Office at CPUC.
- I was looking through the slides and I
- 16 was wondering if there's an element in the
- 17 program design to address cost containment and
- 18 cost effectiveness of the various measures
- 19 proposed? I quess that's partly build into the
- 20 RFP review process to see, you know, which
- 21 applications are most viable. But I'm just
- 22 thinking in terms of sustainability, after the
- 23 pilots are completed, whether, you know, we'll be
- 24 using the most expensive mix of technologies or
- 25 choosing technologies that might be viable going

- 1 forward?
- 2 MR. SCAVO: Great. That's a good
- 3 consideration for us to have in mind. Thank you,
- 4 Shelly.
- 5 MS. CHAC: Okay. And we have another
- 6 question from Srinidhi Kumar, S-R-I-N-I-D-H-I,
- 7 last name, K-U-M-A-R.
- 8 You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 9 now.
- MS. KUMAR: Hi. Name is Srinidhi Sampath
- 11 Kumar. I work with the California Housing
- 12 Partnership.
- 13 I wanted to hear what Nick had said about
- 14 coordinating with housing agencies but, also,
- 15 specifically highlight one of the programs called
- 16 Affordable Housing in Sustainable Communities
- 17 Program. And it's also a new construction
- 18 program and it specifically addresses
- 19 sustainability issues funded by the
- 20 (indiscernible).
- 21 To be more specific on one your questions
- 22 around building design to completion timeline, it
- 23 takes anywhere between three and five years. And
- 24 on the incentives, the two-step process, I would
- 25 advise you all to look to the Low-Income

- 1 Weatherization Program because the incentives are
- 2 more phased in and that actually help affordable
- 3 housing providers to have more funding,
- 4 especially in a time like this where funding is
- 5 often more limited, and they're also navigating
- 6 other issues coming through rental income loss.
- 7 So really trying to phase in incentives will be
- 8 really helpful.

9

- 10 And one thing that's more general is just
- 11 making sure this presentation is -- this
- 12 recording is available really early on so we can
- 13 have specific comments passed on, based on
- 14 relistening to the recording.
- MR. DODSON: Thank you.
- MR. SCAVO: Great. Thank you for that.
- MR. DODSON: Sorry.
- MS. CHAC: Okay. And --
- 19 MR. SCAVO: Thanks so much for that
- 20 comment.
- MS. CHAC: -- we have another question
- 22 from Michael Colvin, M-I-C-H-A-E-L, last name, C-
- O-L-V-I-N.
- You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 25 now.

- 1 MR. COLVIN: Hi. Good morning. Michael
- 2 Colvin for Environmental Defense Fund.
- 3 The question is for you all to consider,
- 4 what are your metrics of success for a good BUILD
- 5 Program? Because when you're thinking about some
- 6 of the program design elements, you want the
- 7 program design to get you the results that you're
- 8 actually looking for. This goes back to an
- 9 earlier comment on some of the modeling, some of
- 10 the fund stacking, some of the cost containment
- 11 issues.
- 12 The goal here is not to, you know, ensure
- 13 that every single last dollar is the most
- 14 efficiently spent. The goal is not necessarily
- 15 to get every single last modeling to be
- 16 absolutely perfect. The goal is to treat as many
- 17 new home constructions and to remove as many
- 18 barriers to entry as possible.
- 19 And so as you're considering the program
- 20 design elements, really make certain that you're
- 21 going back to the root cause of what is it that
- 22 you're actually trying to accomplish? And then I
- 23 think a lot of the program design elements that
- 24 I'm seeing here will be -- the decisions will be
- 25 made for you and you'll say, well, that would be

- 1 nice to have if we have a different metric in
- 2 mind.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 MR. SCAVO: Thank you for your comment,
- 5 Michael.
- 6 We have a few prescriptive requirements
- 7 that are built into the statute. And we've got
- 8 additional parameters that we're considering for
- 9 developing program evaluation. That is covered
- 10 in the final presentation in this workshop, so
- 11 stay tuned.
- 12 Also, I'd just like to take a moment. I
- 13 know a lot of these topics overlap. But if you
- 14 can, try to focus your comments on the content of
- 15 each presentation. We will have time for more
- 16 general comments toward the end. But in terms of
- 17 organizing our comments, it would help us to keep
- 18 the conversation focused on the presentation that
- 19 just occurred.
- Thank you.
- MS. CHAC: And that's --
- MR. SCAVO: Erica, are there --
- 23 MS. CHAC: -- all the raised hands.
- MR. SCAVO: Okay. Let's turn to the
- 25 phones.

- 1 MS. CHAC: No raised hands from the
- 2 phones either.
- 3 MR. SCAVO: Okay. Let's go to the Q&A
- 4 window. We have a question from Rachel
- 5 Kuykendall, that's R-A-C-H-E-L
- 6 K-U-Y-K-E-N-D-A-L-L.
- 7 She's asked if we can confirm how propane
- 8 use factors into the program structure?
- 9 Tiffany, can you address this please?
- MS. MATEO: Hi. Jordan, can you hear me?
- MR. SCAVO: Yes.
- MS. MATEO: Okay. So the program is --
- 13 let me see what you're asking me. SB 1477 was
- 14 focused on advancing the state's market for low-
- 15 emission space and water heating equipment for
- 16 new and existing residential and nonresidential
- 17 buildings. And it doesn't particularize
- 18 infrastructure fuels. So I think (indiscernible)
- 19 more to the technologies that are eligible for
- 20 BUILD incentives but they won't be technologies
- 21 that use fuel.
- 22 And, hopefully, that answers that
- 23 question.
- MR. SCAVO: Thank you, Tiffany.
- We have an additional question from Ruchi

- 1 Shah, that's R-U-C-H-I S-H-A-H.
- 2 And they've asked, "Does it matter to the
- 3 program if we are getting power from SFPUC or
- 4 from PG&E?"
- 5 Tiffany or Geoff, jump in if I'm
- 6 mischaracterizing this, but I think it just
- 7 depends on which gas provider you have. So as
- 8 long as you're in one of the investment-owned gas
- 9 utilities --
- MR. DODSON: Yeah.
- MR. SCAVO: -- those are the ones we're
- 12 targeting. And it doesn't matter who your
- 13 electric utility is.
- MR. DODSON: Yeah. Hi, Jordan. That's
- 15 correct. And I believe Erica will cover that in
- 16 her very next portion.
- 17 MR. SCAVO: Great. Thank you. That
- 18 looks like it's it for comments and questions.
- 19 So let's go to Erica.
- 20 MS. CHAC: Great. Thanks everybody. Hi.
- 21 My name is Erica Chac and I'm one of the
- 22 supporting BUILD staff members. Today, I will be
- 23 discussing eligible applicants that can apply for
- 24 BUILD, eligible projects that qualify, and
- 25 eligible technologies for incentives.

- 1 Next slide please.
- 2 Eligible applicants for the BUILD Program
- 3 are building owners or developers of new
- 4 residential housing. The CPUC decision further
- 5 requires that the first two years of the program
- 6 serve eligible applicants for developing low-
- 7 income residential housing. In the future, we
- 8 may consider expanding that (indiscernible).
- 9 Low-income residential housing is defined
- 10 as either, one, a multifamily residential
- 11 building of at least two rental housing units
- 12 that is deed-restricted and is either both
- 13 located -- and is either/or both located in a
- 14 disadvantaged or low-income community, according
- 15 to the statutory definitions, or at least 80
- 16 percent of the households living in the buildings
- 17 have incomes at or below 60 percent of the area
- 18 median income, or two, low-income residential
- 19 housing can be an individual low-income
- 20 residence.
- 21 The CPUC decision and BUILD outlines
- 22 specific eligibility project criterion. One of
- 23 them is eligible projects must be located in one
- 24 of the following gas territories, Southern
- 25 California Gas Company, PG&E, SDG&E, or Southwest

- 1 Gas Corporation. To comply with the CARB rules
- 2 regarding cap and trade funds, the programs must
- 3 proportionately direct funds to the gas
- 4 corporation service territories where the funds
- 5 are derived. After the initial two years of
- 6 implementation, the funds may be spent outside
- 7 the individual gas corporations territory if
- 8 there are any unspent funds.
- 9 SB 1477 requires that projects receive
- 10 incentives under the program must result in
- 11 utility bill savings for the tenants. And
- 12 eligible projects will need to follow the all-
- 13 electric prescriptive pathway or the performance
- 14 pathway to show compliance to the Energy Code as
- 15 projects are intended to beat the mixed-fuel
- 16 homes prescriptive approach.
- 17 Eligible projects must be new residential
- 18 housing. This is defined in the decision as a
- 19 building that has never been occupied, or an
- 20 existing building where at least 50 percent of
- 21 the exterior weight-bearing walls are removed, or
- 22 an existing building that has been repurposed for
- 23 housing and it's original use was not for
- 24 residential.
- The decision also mandates that eliqible

- 1 projects must be all-electric and have no hookup
- 2 to the gas distribution grid. For new homes that
- 3 have not been occupied, having no hookup to the
- 4 gas means no gas pipelines from the main pipeline
- 5 in the road to the house. And for existing homes
- 6 that meet the new residential housing definition
- 7 and have existing natural gas pipelines, we are
- 8 considering whether they must be capped at the
- 9 meter or capped to the gas line in the home.
- 10 So this table lists low-emission
- 11 technologies that lead to GHG reductions for
- 12 different energy end uses. These technologies
- 13 could be eligible for basic incentives as they
- 14 can be modeled through CBECC and, therefore,
- 15 their performance can be captured and
- 16 incorporated into a variable incentive structure.
- 17 In order for the equipment to be
- 18 eligible, they must also meet the criteria listed
- 19 in the minimum requirements column. We've
- 20 selected these requirements with the
- 21 considerations that they set a bar for higher
- 22 efficiency and are still feasible for developers
- 23 and builders.
- 24 The decision also states that there must
- 25 be a list of eligible equipment. We recognize

- 1 that there are existing lists that have been
- 2 established. And rather than creating a new list
- 3 and a new set of criteria, we're considering
- 4 using these existing lists listed in the last
- 5 column. These lists have already been well
- 6 established and continuously maintained by other
- 7 entities or the CEC.
- 8 For space conditioning, the eligible
- 9 technology is a heat pump that has a heating
- 10 seasonal performance factor, or HSPF, or greater
- 11 than ten. The HSPF is used to measure the
- 12 efficiency of air source heat pumps and is the
- 13 ratio of heat output over the entire heating
- 14 season to electricity use. The Northeast Energy
- 15 Efficiency Partnership, or NEEP, has established
- 16 a list of air source heat pumps that can function
- 17 in cold climates.
- 18 Water heating can also utilize heat pumps
- 19 that are at least NEEA Tier 3. These
- 20 specifications are established by the Northwest
- 21 Energy Efficiency Alliances, or NEEA, with
- 22 considerations to performance, comfort,
- 23 challenges to installation, and demand response.
- 24 NEEA has posted a qualified products list for
- 25 their NEEA Tier 3 and above heat pump water

- 1 heaters.
- 2 The other option for water heating can be
- 3 solar water heaters that have electric backup.
- 4 Onsite PV generation can also be included. And,
- 5 if so, PV modules and invertor models must be
- 6 listed on the Energy Commission's Solar Equipment
- 7 List. The PV system will need to be compliant to
- 8 Joint Appendix 11 of the Energy Code, which are
- 9 qualification requirements for photovoltaic
- 10 systems.
- 11 Onsite energy storage is another eligible
- 12 technology. And the battery or energy storage
- 13 device must also be listed on the Solar Equipment
- 14 List. The system must meet Joint Appendix 12,
- 15 the qualifications requirements for a battery
- 16 storage system. Keep in mind that J-12, for this
- 17 iteration, requires that an energy storage system
- 18 be paired with onsite PV systems.
- 19 Building envelope efficiency measures may
- 20 also be considered and they must be better than
- 21 the current prescriptive requirement in the
- 22 Energy Code. These could be roof, attic or wall
- 23 insulation, and windows. Depending on the
- 24 climate zone, the R value for the material will
- 25 vary.

- 1 Eligible projects must also utilize heat
- 2 pumps for space conditioning, or either heat
- 3 pumps or solar water heaters for water heating.
- 4 These are the targeted technologies for the BUILD
- 5 Program. However, other technologies may be
- 6 considered if they achieve comparable GHG
- 7 emission reductions.
- 8 It is important to note, also, that PV
- 9 and building envelope efficiencies may also be
- 10 required for certain projects to meet the BUILD
- 11 requirements that projects have to show bill
- 12 savings for tenants.
- 13 Kicker incentives will also be offered to
- 14 technologies that cannot be easily modeled in
- 15 CBECC but still offer further GHG reductions.
- 16 This table lists out technologies that we are
- 17 considering.
- 18 Heat pumps that utilize low global
- 19 warming potential refrigerants of less than 750
- 20 can qualify for a kicker incentive.
- 21 Additionally, we're considering kicker
- 22 incentives for load flexibility.
- Heat pump water heaters that are JA13
- 24 compliant can qualify for kickers.
- 25 And other appliances that are CT 2045

- 1 compliant or any other open source modular
- 2 interface standard can also qualify for kicker
- 3 incentives.
- 4 Induction cooktops may be considered.
- 5 And heat pump clothes dryers also offer
- 6 further energy efficiency than standard electric
- 7 dryers but they must be ENERGY STAR certified.
- 8 SB 1477 requires that BUILD develops a
- 9 process for evaluating new technologies that were
- 10 not listed in the tables I've shown previously.
- 11 We are taking into consideration existing
- 12 processes and possibly incorporating some new
- 13 processes. Adopting an existing process would
- 14 mean incorporating the new technology into CBECC.
- 15 And manufacturers would need to go through the
- 16 process to get their technology into CBECC.
- 17 There is, already, an existing process.
- 18 And we would need information on the technology
- 19 to add to CBECC, which may require designing
- 20 testing procedures, designing lab setups, and the
- 21 actually testing to gather the data. This
- 22 verification process can be timely and costly but
- 23 will provide assurance that the new technology is
- 24 working as expected.
- 25 If performance is not verified, the

- 1 product will not earn GHG credit under the BUILD
- 2 Program's basic incentive structures. We may,
- 3 however, consider these technologies for kicker
- 4 incentives. A new process may be developed for
- 5 these technologies and other unique technologies
- 6 that don't quite fit into the CBECC mold. These
- 7 may be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. And we
- 8 will need to understand the GHG reduction
- 9 potentials, performance, and possibly safety or
- 10 quality of the technology. However, there are
- 11 some resource constraints and we may have to rely
- 12 on processes developed in that industry to
- 13 evaluate the technology.
- 14 The TECH Initiative also has a
- 15 requirement to develop a process for evaluating
- 16 new technologies in space and water heating, so
- 17 there may be an opportunity to leverage some of
- 18 TECH's processes under development for
- 19 evaluating. However, we are open to suggestions
- 20 or comments you may have regarding this topic or
- 21 anything about eligibility.
- Okay. And it looks like we have one
- 23 raised hand from Ruchi Shah.
- You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 25 now, Ruchi.

- 1 MS. SHAH: Hi. This is Ruchi again from
- 2 TNDC. And thanks, Erica, for clarifying, but I'm
- 3 still a bit confused about in a scenario where we
- 4 have all-electric buildings, and if we are
- 5 getting funding from the City of San Francisco,
- 6 the first right to serve is from SFPUC. Does
- 7 that mean that we are not eligible for this
- 8 program?
- 9 MS. CHAC: As long as they fall within
- 10 one of the gas territories, then they should be
- 11 eligible.
- 12 And, Geoff, if you don't mind going back
- 13 up to slide 27 with the map of the natural gas?
- 14 There you go. Yeah.
- So you should be able to fall into one of
- 16 those categories.
- MS. SHAH: Got it. So you're saying we
- 18 just have to fall in the gas territory, even if
- 19 we are not getting gas service on our site?
- MS. CHAC: That's correct. Yeah.
- 21 MS. SHAH: Okay. Perfect. Thank you.
- MR. SCAVO: Are there any other raised
- 23 hands? It doesn't look like it.
- 24 MS. CHAC: No. It looks like that was
- 25 it.

- 1 MR. SCAVO: Anyone from the phones?
- MS. CHAC: No raised hand from the
- 3 phones.
- And just as a reminder, for phones, to
- 5 raise your hand, it's star nine.
- 6 Oh, there a question from Srinidhi Kumar.
- 7 You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 8 now.
- 9 MS. KUMAR: Hi. Thank you for the
- 10 presentation.
- 11 Really just curious about how you're
- 12 planning to calculate the savings, for instance,
- 13 as this topic? I know there's been a lot of
- 14 discussion in the background. If you could just
- 15 talk more about that part? That would be great.
- 16 MS. CHAC: Yeah. So there will be a bill
- 17 saving methodology presentation right after mine
- 18 from Tiffany. If you don't mind holding, maybe
- 19 she can cover that in her presentation. And
- 20 there will also be time for questions after HERS.
- MS. KUMAR: Um-hmm. Yeah.
- MS. CHAC: Great. And then we have a
- 23 question from Michael Colvin.
- You should be able to un-mute yourself
- $25 \quad now.$

- 1 MR. COLVIN: Hey, Erica, thank you again
- 2 so much.
- 4 alternatives to doing the full modeling into
- 5 CBECC for some of these new technologies,
- 6 especially recognizing that these are pilot
- 7 programs and, you know, the time and intensity
- 8 and expense, those words that you used, got me
- 9 very nervous. I'm especially worried about a
- 10 false perception as to this is really where we
- 11 want to be spending our time and efforts.
- In energy efficiency, we have new
- 13 technologies emerge all the time. And we do sort
- 14 of a deemed incentive before we do anything into
- 15 the DEER Database. And so I'm wondering if
- 16 there's some sort of alternative pathway to start
- 17 estimating greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- 18 that will get you close enough for the purposes
- 19 of what we're looking for this program that will
- 20 be far less time intensive and expensive for all
- 21 involves?
- 22 So I'm wondering if you considered
- 23 anything, or if there are other options, or if
- 24 getting stuff into CBECC is the only way to do
- 25 this?

- 1 Thanks.
- MS. CHAC: Thanks for --
- MR. SCAVO: Thanks for your comment.
- 4 MS. CHAC: Yeah.
- 5 MR. SCAVO: This is something we'll
- 6 address in more detail in Tiffany's presentation
- 7 on the bill savings methodology.
- 8 Do we have any other raised hands?
- 9 MS. CHAC: No. It looks like that's it.
- MR. SCAVO: Okay. We've got a few
- 11 questions in the Q&A window.
- 12 The first is from Nick Young, N-I-C-K Y-
- 13 O-U-N-G. They ask, "Under eligible water heating
- 14 systems the NEEA Standards are only for in-unit
- 15 HPWH systems, not central. How will the BUILD
- 16 Program incentivize central HPWH, the best
- 17 approach for many low-income multifamily
- 18 projects?"
- 19 MS. CHAC: Yeah. That's a good question.
- 20 I was wondering, this might be a little more in
- 21 Tiffany's wheelhouse.
- 22 By any chance, Tiffany, do you have more
- 23 insight on this one?
- MS. MATEO: Sure. So, yeah, like Erica
- 25 said, we are looking at other technologies, as

- 1 long as they have comparable GHG savings as what
- 2 was outlined in the table.
- 3 And then I, also, I think there's an
- 4 effort right now with NEEA to incorporate central
- 5 heat pump water heaters into their evaluation
- 6 process, so we're also staying tuned to that.
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Thank you, Tiffany.
- 8 Our next question comes from Scott Blunk,
- 9 that's S-C-O-T-T B-L-U-N-K. They say, "Slide 16
- 10 says the projects must meet minimum building
- 11 codes and have no natural gas hookup. Why then
- 12 in slide 29 does it require beyond code minimum
- 13 efficiencies? This adds costs with very little
- 14 carbon benefit. And if it is a bill savings
- 15 assurance that would be -- if it is a bill
- 16 savings assurance, that would be the reason for a
- 17 model to verify."
- 18 So I think slide 16 lays out minimum
- 19 requirements to demonstrate eligibility for the
- 20 program. And slide 29 identifies what types of
- 21 equipment or technology would actually qualify
- 22 for an incentive.
- 23 Geoff or Tiffany or Erica, feel free to
- 24 jump in if you'd like.
- MS. CHAC: Yeah. No, that's correct. So

- 1 slide 16 would be the minimum requirements that
- 2 every project must hit. And then slide 29 is
- 3 like for further incentives.
- 4 MR. SCAVO: Our next question comes from
- 5 Marshall Hunt, that's M-A-R-S-H-A-L-L H-U-N-To.
- 6 They ask, "Will there be an additional kicker for
- 7 GWPs below 150?"
- 8 MS. CHAC: Tiffany, correct me if I'm
- 9 wrong, but for now we're considering kickers for
- 10 below 750. But I see where you're coming from
- 11 and we may take that into consideration.
- MR. SCAVO: Thanks Erica.
- MS. CHAC: Um-hmm.
- MR. SCAVO: The next question comes from
- 15 Samantha Barden, S-A-M-A-N-T-H-A B-A-R-D-E-N.
- 16 They ask, "Would mini split/ductless heat pumps
- 17 or VRF systems be accepted as air source heat
- 18 pumps or will they need to be considered as new
- 19 technologies?"
- 20 MS. CHAC: I believe mini splits are
- 21 still considered for air source heat pumps. They
- 22 might already have some listed on their Eligible
- 23 Technologies List.
- MR. SCAVO: Thanks Erica.
- 25 And thanks for the question, Samantha.

- 1 That's something we can keep in mind as we get
- 2 further along in designing the program.
- 3 We have another question from Nick Dirr,
- 4 N-I-C-K D-I-R-R. They ask, "As you mentioned, it
- 5 will be important to have a pathway for all
- 6 electric measures, in addition to those listed in
- 7 the table. For example, some heat pump HVAC
- 8 equipment does not receive an HSPF value based on
- 9 its appliance classification, such as VRF systems
- 10 or PTHP systems, as well as" -- oh, sorry, "as
- 11 well as commercial-sized HVAC and water heating
- 12 equipment which do not have residential
- 13 efficiency values. Thank you for keeping these
- 14 options open."
- 15 Thank you for your comment, Nick. We'll
- 16 keep it under consideration.
- 17 Our next question comes from Randall
- 18 Higa, R-A-N-D-A-L-L H-I-G-A. They ask, "To
- 19 follow up on central systems, how will the
- 20 program treat a multifamily building that is all-
- 21 electric but have units served by a central gas
- 22 water heating system? Will this be eligible for
- 23 BUILD?"
- MS. CHAC: So per the decision, all
- 25 eligible projects have to be all-electric, so a

- 1 gas water heating system wouldn't qualify.
- 2 MR. SCAVO: Thanks Erica.
- MS. CHAC: Um-hmm.
- 4 MR. SCAVO: And the last question from
- 5 Don Price, it's D-O-N P-R-I-C-E. "Is it possible
- 6 that, in the future, natural gas pipelines may be
- 7 used to provide hydrogen for fuel cell vehicles?
- 8 Has this possibility been considered?"
- 9 MS. CHAC: Yeah. I'm sorry.
- 10 MR. SCAVO: I'm sorry. Go ahead.
- MS. CHAC: Go ahead, Jordan.
- 12 Yeah, so for this one, again, per the
- 13 CPUC decision, we're required that all projects
- 14 must be all-electric at the moment. But thank
- 15 you for the comment. We'll keep that in
- 16 consideration.
- MR. SCAVO: And in terms of considering
- 18 these alternative fuels, yeah, I don't know if
- 19 we've looked at this in particular but this is
- 20 something we can keep in mind. Thank you.
- 21 We have a question from Zainab Badi,
- 22 Z-A-I-N-A-B B-A-D-I. They've asked, "For
- 23 buildings located in low-income communities, is
- 24 there a requirement for how many units within
- 25 that building must be affordable units reserved

- 1 for low-income households?"
- 2 There are -- there's a statutory
- 3 definition for what qualifies as a low-income
- 4 community located in SB 1477. We use
- 5 CalEnviroScreen to identify those communities. I
- 6 can't speak in detail about that now but we do
- 7 have a working statutory definition for how to
- 8 define these communities. Thank you for your
- 9 question.
- 10 Do we have any other comments or
- 11 questions? Okay.
- 12 Let's pause here for folks to stretch
- 13 their legs and we'll come back at 10:20.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 (Off the record at 10:10 a.m.)
- 16 (On the record at 10:20 a.m.)
- MR. SCAVO: Okay. We're back.
- 18 The next presentation is by Tiffany Mateo
- 19 on the bill savings methodology.
- 20 Tiffany, go ahead and take it away.
- 21 MS. MATEO: Thank you. Hi. My name is
- 22 Tiffany Mateo and I'm on the BUILD Team. I work
- 23 in the Efficiency Division at the Energy
- 24 Commission. And today I will present the bill
- 25 savings methodology section.

- 1 SB 1477 directs the CPUC to ensure that
- 2 incentives reserved for low-income residential
- 3 housing does not result in higher utility bills
- 4 for the building occupant. Proving bills will
- 5 not increase is challenging during to
- 6 uncertainties in how occupants will use a
- 7 building, varying weather conditions, et cetera.
- 8 In SB 1477, one of the intents of the
- 9 legislature of the BUILD Program is bill savings
- 10 for the building occupants. It will be up to the
- 11 program implementor to define how and by how
- 12 much. In Staff's we will need to specify
- 13 sufficient savings as a safety factor to ensure
- 14 the resulting projects comply with the law. Some
- 15 estimated bill savings is logical to ensure that
- 16 there is no bill increase.
- 17 In order to ensure that incentives that
- 18 are reserved for new low-income housing do not
- 19 result in higher utility bills for the building
- 20 occupant, the CPUC is directing the CEC to
- 21 develop or adopt a tool on methodology to measure
- 22 bill savings. This bill savings tool or
- 23 methodology will be reviewed by the program
- 24 evaluator and CEC will make changes based on the
- 25 evaluators recommendations. I will refer to the

- 1 bill savings tool as the bill savings
- 2 methodology.
- 3 Staff believes that the methodology, and
- 4 not necessarily a distinctive separate tool, is
- 5 sufficient to calculate bill savings for building
- 6 occupants.
- 7 An important part in developing a bill
- 8 savings methodology will be defining exactly what
- 9 constitutes bill savings. Does this mean that
- 10 there will be no utility bill increase on a
- 11 monthly energy utility bill or no utility bill
- 12 increase quarterly or annually, meaning the
- 13 energy utility bill may increase in one month, so
- 14 long as it decreases by at least the same amount
- 15 in another month?
- 16 Also, how many years should be analyzed
- 17 for bill savings? Is 15 years an appropriate
- 18 time frame to assess bill savings? Usually,
- 19 after the initial 15 years of occupancy, deed-
- 20 restricted affordable housing projects undergo
- 21 the tax credit re-certification (phonetic)
- 22 process. And multifamily owners closely examine
- 23 and evaluate necessary major building
- 24 improvements. We are asking for input on these
- 25 options.

- 1 Once those questions are answered, we
- 2 need to decide what utility rates to use. The
- 3 California Alternative Rates for Energy Program,
- 4 or CARE Program, offers discounts on electric and
- 5 natural gas rates to qualifying low-income
- 6 (indiscernible) customers. Since the bill
- 7 savings methodology will be used specifically for
- 8 low-income housing, should we use CARE rate or
- 9 standard rate? And within those rates there may
- 10 be different rate tiers. Is it appropriate to
- 11 use the lowest tier rate?
- 12 Also, utility rates change. How often
- 13 should the utility rates be updated for use in
- 14 this bill savings methodology, quarterly,
- 15 annually? Would updating the rates with
- 16 provisions to the bill's Implementation Plan,
- 17 which will be every two years, be appropriate?
- 18 We're seeking in put on these parameters for the
- 19 bill savings methodology.
- 20 And, right, the utility rate is
- 21 important, so using accurate rate projections
- 22 will be important for the long-term bill savings
- 23 analysis. The rate projection shown here will
- 24 use the Utility Integrated Resource Plan. The
- 25 short-term rate projections are based on

- 1 currently filed general rate cases. And further
- 2 rate projections are based on historic rate
- 3 increases and estimates provided by electric
- 4 utilities. We are open to looking at other
- 5 suggestions for utility rate change projections
- 6 that may be more appropriate to use for the bill
- 7 savings analysis under the BUILD Program.
- 8 Now, onto establishing baselines. The
- 9 focus of the BUILD Program will be on new low-
- 10 income housing and mainly newly constructed
- 11 housing. Since these buildings will be newly
- 12 constructed, there will be no historic data of
- 13 utility bills. In order to calculate bill
- 14 savings, we will need to set a baseline for these
- 15 projects. Staff prefers us to use the mixed-fuel
- 16 building meeting the 2019 Title 24 prescriptive
- 17 standards as a baseline. This is consistent with
- 18 the requirements for setting a GHG emissions
- 19 baseline within the BUILD Program.
- In order to make the baseline scalable
- 21 for projects with a range of sizes, we have
- 22 identified an option to set the bill savings
- 23 baseline on a unit or bedroom level. By setting
- 24 the baseline this way, projects of any size can
- 25 be compared to a single baseline, instead of

- 1 having to set an individual specific baseline for
- 2 each project.
- 3 The main goal of the bill savings
- 4 methodology is to accurately estimate utility
- 5 bills for building occupants. This means that it
- 6 should project-specific. The main pathway for
- 7 doing this is to estimate the energy use of the
- 8 designed building and use results with the
- 9 applicable utility rates to determine utility
- 10 bills.
- 11 Staff has identified the following
- 12 methodology options. One, Staff evaluates many
- 13 of decarbonization measure packages to show bill
- 14 savings and carbon savings, or applicants prepare
- 15 detailed modeling of each project to document
- 16 bill and carbon savings.
- 17 Under the first option, CEC Staff will do
- 18 analysis with CBECC and set performance
- 19 requirements to achieve bill savings. CBECC is
- 20 the California Building Energy Code Compliance
- 21 software and takes input on building envelopes
- 22 and mechanical system design and calculates
- 23 energy usage of a building.
- 24 CEC Staff can do up-front analysis to
- 25 determine what building performance criteria must

- 1 be met by climate zone to show utility bills
- 2 savings. This could include performance
- 3 efficiency of mechanical systems, additional PV
- 4 generation beyond what is required in code and/or
- 5 building envelope performance. These performance
- 6 criteria may differ in different climate zones.
- 7 This would eliminate the need for the applicant
- 8 to do model runs and submit their own bill
- 9 savings analysis.
- 10 Under the second option the BUILD Program
- 11 applicant will use building modeling software and
- 12 utility rates to determine bill savings of their
- 13 proposed all-electric building, compared to a
- 14 mixed-fuel baseline. This may include using the
- 15 California Utility Allowance Calculator, or the
- 16 CUAC. The CUAC is used by the affordable housing
- 17 industry and the California Tax Credit Allocation
- 18 Committee, or TCAC, to determine utility
- 19 allowances for deed-restricted properties.
- 20 However, major updates to CUAC software are
- 21 needed to satisfactorily maintain it. And any
- 22 changes to or utilization of the CUAC should be
- 23 approved by TCAC.
- 24 And now I will invite participants to
- 25 comment or ask clarifying questions.

- 1 MS. CHAC: We have two raised hands. One
- 2 of them is from Merrian.
- 3 You should be able to un-mute yourself
- 4 now.
- 5 MS. BORGESON: Hi. This is Merrian with
- 6 NRDC.
- 7 I wonder if you could describe how or if,
- 8 when a building goes through the modeling process
- 9 with CBECC's currently, if rates are in there at
- 10 all? I'm still not understanding if this would
- 11 be a normal part of going through the performance
- 12 path of Title 24 or like how much additional work
- 13 would be required for the building owner
- 14 themselves or the building designer/developer?
- 15 Could you just outline that a bit more so we
- 16 understand that?
- MS. MATEO: Sure. So, currently, the
- 18 rates are not included in CBECC. But what we
- 19 would use are the hourly energy consumption
- 20 output. And then we have rates, hourly rate
- 21 tables, available --
- MS. BORGESON: Um-hmm.
- 23 MS. MATEO: -- to us, so we would
- 24 apply -- it's called the AD 760 (phonetic)
- 25 profile -- to rates.

- 1 MS. BORGESON: Got it.
- MS. CHAC: Thanks Tiffany.
- 3 We have another question from Michael
- 4 Colvin.
- 5 Michael, you should be able to un-mute
- 6 yourself now.
- 7 MR. COLVIN: Tiffany, can you go back to
- 8 slide 38? I just have a clarifying question on
- 9 something on that slide.
- MS. MATEO: Um-hmm.
- MR. COLVIN: So for the CARE rates, the
- 12 low-income customers program, I'm confused why
- 13 you have these discount rates here. By statute,
- 14 the natural gas discount rate for CARE is 20
- 15 percent. And for the large investor-owned
- 16 utilities, right now the current discount rate is
- 17 30 to 35 percent, for the small utilities it's 20
- 18 percent.
- 19 So I'm trying to figure out if you're
- 20 proposing something different for bill savings
- 21 parameters or what you're trying to accomplish
- 22 here? And it's not clear to me why these aren't
- 23 just what the actual CARE discount rates are.
- MS. MATEO: Oh, okay. Yeah. This --
- 25 we're not proposing a new rate or anything. This

- 1 must be a typo. Apologies.
- MR. COLVIN: Okay. I have one other,
- 3 since I have the microphone, one other clarifying
- 4 comment, which is when you're considering bill
- 5 savings, there's both the building stock, there's
- 6 also the expected useful life of the product.
- 7 And that might be a far easier way to do a
- 8 comparison on bill savings. There's so many
- 9 other factors of the life of the building, that
- 10 15-year time horizon, that you might want to be
- 11 thinking about the product. What's the amount of
- 12 gas use versus the amount of electric use? And
- 13 then just look at the deltas and you can limit
- 14 that to the average expected life of the gas
- 15 product. And that way you can, you know, contain
- 16 your bill savings to a much narrower set of
- 17 factors.
- MS. MATEO: Okay. Great. Thanks for the
- 19 suggestion. And any comments or specific data
- 20 you have, we would really appreciate sending our
- 21 way during the comment period.
- MR. SCAVO: Do we have any other raised
- 23 hands?
- MS. CHAC: No more raised hands.
- MR. SCAVO: Anyone on the phone?

- 1 MS. CHAC: No one on the phone.
- 2 MR. SCAVO: And no questions in the Q&A
- 3 chat app.
- 4 We are pretty well ahead of schedule, so
- 5 I think we will just advance to the next
- 6 presentation, if you wouldn't mind moving the
- 7 slide deck forward, Geoff?
- 8 MS. CHAC: Oh, Jordan, there's one
- 9 question in the Q&A that just popped up.
- 10 MR. SCAVO: Great. Let's cover that.
- 11 This question is from Samantha Barden,
- 12 S-A-M-A-N-T-H-A B-A-R-D-E-N. Her question is:
- 13 "Would existing home energy modeling softwares be
- 14 allowed to demonstrate bill savings? For
- 15 example, REM rate or other HERS softwares?"
- MS. MATEO: So I'm not personally
- 17 familiar with the softwares. But as long as the
- 18 modeling capability is at the same level as CBECC
- 19 and other Energy Code-compliant software, that
- 20 should be okay.
- 21 MR. SCAVO: Thanks Tiffany.
- 22 Samantha, this may be one where it would
- 23 benefit to go into a bit more detail in written
- 24 comments to help us consider these. Thank you.
- 25 Are there any other questions on the last

- 1 presentation? Okay.
- We'll move into the next presentation,
- 3 which on the technical assistance provider and
- 4 the outreach plan. This section will provide an
- 5 update on technical assistance and outreach in
- 6 support of BUILD.
- 7 We don't have prescriptive statutory or
- 8 regulatory requirements pertaining to technical
- 9 assistance, other than that the BUILD Program
- 10 must offer such assistance to prospective
- 11 applicants and that details for technical
- 12 assistance must be included in the Implementation
- 13 Plan.
- 14 The underlying purpose of the technical
- 15 assistance is to increase program participation
- 16 and funding among residential projects located in
- 17 disadvantaged communities or low-income
- 18 communities.
- 19 As the BUILD administrator, the Energy
- 20 Commission will issue an RFP that specifies
- 21 technical and programmatic forms of assistance
- 22 for the third-party contractor to provide. As we
- 23 noted earlier this morning, however, the Energy
- 24 Commission must receive budgetary approval to
- 25 issue an RFP for a technical assistance provider.

- 1 We expect to hear back on our budgetary request
- 2 sometime this summer. Should we receive approval
- 3 to issue a request for proposal from a third-
- 4 party technical assistance provider, we will
- 5 issue it in the third quarter of 2020.
- 6 In addition to helping applicants with
- 7 BUILD documentation requirements, the technical
- 8 assistance provider will assist interested
- 9 stakeholders in navigating industry and
- 10 regulatory barriers to low-income housing
- 11 development. We're interested to hear
- 12 recommendations from stakeholders of what
- 13 specific forms of technical assistance might best
- 14 serve the program?
- 15 As with technical assistance, we're also
- 16 required to provide details on outreach in the
- 17 Implementation Plan. Outreach is necessary to
- 18 facilitate a program awareness campaign to target
- 19 audiences as needed. The outreach plan shall
- 20 encourage applicants -- shall encourage
- 21 applications from low-income residential housing
- 22 located in disadvantaged or low-income
- 23 communities, as well as provide basic information
- 24 to interested parties on related programs that
- 25 may be of interest to the applicant.

- 1 To approaches are under consideration.
- 2 We can either combine outreach and technical
- 3 assistance, creating a sort of one-stop-shop for
- 4 information and program support for prospective
- 5 applicants, or we can retain outreach activities
- 6 in-house, leveraging Energy Commission Staff
- 7 expertise to reach out to the developer
- 8 community. We'd appreciate hearing from
- 9 stakeholders whether one approach or the other
- 10 would be more beneficial?
- 11 So now we will open the floor to public
- 12 comments. Please restrict comments to three
- 13 minutes. And use the raise-hand feature if
- 14 you're on Zoom, then we'll get to the phones, and
- 15 then the Q&A window.
- 16
- 17 Are there any comments or questions?
- MS. CHAC: We have a question from Sean
- 19 Armstrong.
- 20 Sean, you should be able to un-mute
- 21 yourself now.
- MR. ARMSTRONG: Good morning. Thank you.
- 23 So affordable housing can't accept
- 24 rebates after a project's construction loan has
- 25 been closed, which is usually the case with

- 1 rebates. In affordable housing, the consequence
- 2 of that is that the development company itself
- 3 accepts the rebate. But because it's too late,
- 4 it's generally not influential in the design
- 5 because all the design happens at, you know, the
- 6 application stage, draft design stage. The
- 7 rebates don't arrive during that period of time.
- 8 So this is true for Peoples' Self-Help Housing.
- 9 Their rebates do not go to the developments.
- 10 This is true for Danker (phonetic) Communities.
- 11 This is true for the Pacific Companies. I've
- 12 seen this consistently, that there aren't rebates
- 13 for the developments.
- 14 And the funding, the funding,
- 15 functionally, goes to the developer. Like the
- 16 really, really rich person gets the
- 17 rebate as opposed to low-income housing
- 18 development gets it, or maybe the nonprofit gets
- 19 it, but there's lots of for-profits that do
- 20 affordable housing.
- 21 So when I made comments, I suggested that
- 22 you split up the rebate so that some of it's
- 23 given at the commitment to go all-electric stage,
- 24 which would allow the money to actually help the
- 25 affordable housing development.

- 1 Did I not -- did I hear that you guys are
- 2 only providing rebates at the very end, after
- 3 proof of the project? And if so, can you justify
- 4 why you would not give the rebate earlier in the
- 5 development to actually help the low-income
- 6 housing?
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Yeah. Geoff, you spoke to
- 8 this in your presentation. Would you like to
- 9 respond to Sean's inquiry?
- 10 MR. DODSON: Yeah. Hi. Thanks Sean.
- 11 So the outline of the application process
- 12 that I did earlier was just an approach that we
- 13 could use. And what I was presenting was, you
- 14 know, pretty much based off of kind of tried and
- 15 true approach from a previous program. I did,
- 16 however, specifically note in one of my slides
- 17 that we are aware that this can pose an issue for
- 18 low-income building developers. And so we do --
- 19 you know, part of this intent on this workshop is
- 20 specifically to get feedback on alternative
- 21 approaches that would better suit our low-income
- 22 building developers.
- 23 And so your comment is something that we
- 24 do want to hear and it's something that we are
- 25 taking into consideration strongly. And we do

- 1 want to explore opportunities that are helpful to
- 2 our participants and not a burden, so --
- 3 MR. ARMSTRONG: That's terrific.
- 4 MR. DODSON: Yeah.
- 5 MR. ARMSTRONG: I appreciate it because,
- 6 functionally, it ends up undermining the
- 7 sustainability consultants. This is a very
- 8 frequent situation where the sustainability
- 9 consultants try to advocate for the efficiency
- 10 measures but there's no money that's dependable.
- 11 And the developers don't make decisions based on
- 12 speculative funding that shows up. As you're
- 13 also saying, it's too late. It actually causes
- 14 problems with the financing to have additional
- 15 money, like \$100,000 show into develop. It's
- 16 kind of illegal. You're supposed to announce all
- 17 funding that comes into a development because
- 18 there's a lot of investors who want to claim the
- 19 money.
- 20 So the current situation is just making
- 21 affordable housing developers do workarounds that
- 22 don't favor the development and don't reinforce
- 23 electrification. So thanks for taking that
- 24 comment.
- MR. DODSON: Yeah. And thank you for

- 1 providing that comment. And like I said, you
- 2 know, those are the types of things that we do
- 3 want to hear so that we can, you know, take this
- 4 fully into consideration and make sure that, you
- 5 know, we're building a program that satisfies
- 6 concerns from all levels.
- 7 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thanks.
- 8 MR. DODSON: Yes. Definitely.
- 9 MR. SCAVO: Do we have any other raised
- 10 hands?
- MS. CHAC: We do. We have another one
- 12 from Merrian.
- 13 Merrian, you should be able to un-mute
- 14 yourself now.
- MS. BORGESON: Great. Thank you. So I
- 16 think that this is going to be one of the most
- 17 important elements of getting this right for low-
- 18 income developers. I think that there's a few
- 19 elements that are going to be really important.
- 20 There's definitely, what you mentioned, like the
- 21 regulatory barriers, helping people through the
- 22 paperwork, getting people's attention so they
- 23 actually know about it. That's going to be a
- 24 huge part of just making this program successful.
- 25 But the other part is going to be the

- 1 actual technical assistance where there's support
- 2 provided directly to the mechanical engineers,
- 3 designers, and architects who are actually
- 4 working on the design of these buildings early
- 5 on.
- 6 And I'd encourage the CEC to consider a
- 7 joint RFP to an organization, or perhaps it might
- 8 be more than one organization that works
- 9 together, that, A, already knows the affordable
- 10 housing development community and knows who to
- 11 get the word out to, already has those
- 12 relationships and connection, working in
- 13 partnership with the CEC, because I know you guys
- 14 have many of those relationships too. But I
- 15 think it will be important to have an advocate
- 16 that is really charged with this, along with the
- 17 technical expertise. That is really going to be
- $18\,$  what enables many of the developers who may or
- 19 may not have experience with all-electric
- 20 developments to do it more quickly.
- 21 One of the things that NRDC worked with a
- 22 number of organizations to host a few weeks ago
- 23 was a listening session that highlighted just
- 24 four developers in the state, all of whom are
- 25 doing all-electric buildings. And it was a

- 1 conversation that focused on new buildings.
- 2 We'll put this on the record, just to it's
- 3 accessible to everyone. We have it recorded.
- 4 But it was really emphasizing that conversation
- 5 that many of those developers are just starting
- 6 this. It's new for them.
- 7 The first time is often more expensive,
- 8 just because they're not familiar with how to do
- 9 all-electric yet. They're trying new
- 10 technologies. Their mechanical engineers may
- 11 have never done this before. So there's sort of
- 12 this direct technical, and by technical I mean
- 13 like engineering side of the building that will
- 14 be really important to provide direct support for
- 15 to make sure that they have the right sorts of
- 16 skills and expertise and guidance from folks who
- 17 have done this in other buildings, and not just
- 18 on the outreach side. And so we'll provide more
- 19 detail on this in our comments.
- 20 The other thing that came up through that
- 21 conversation that we had with developers was the
- 22 need for a coordinator, at least for the first
- 23 few projects, and maybe more. An employee of the
- 24 Fresno Housing Authority had a really wonderful
- 25 example, where they've been doing this for longer

- 1 than most developers in the state and have been
- 2 able to have sort of a coordinator role within --
- 3 that they hire for their projects that allow them
- 4 to put all the pieces together in a way that
- 5 really made a difference for them to do these
- 6 fast and affordably.
- 7 So there may be even support for like a
- 8 coordinator role, maybe even for the first
- 9 project or two for each developer that has not
- 10 done all-electric yet. I think there's a number
- 11 of ways you can structure it. But talking to
- 12 developers and getting their advice on,
- 13 specifically, what targeted investments, targeted
- 14 technical assistance will make the most
- 15 difference for them, I think is going to be vital
- 16 to making this work for the audience you're
- 17 seeking to serve.
- Thanks.
- 19 MR. SCAVO: Thank you so much for those
- 20 insights, Merrian.
- 21 We have a raised hand from the dais.
- 22 Commissioner Rechtschaffen, would you
- 23 like to speak?
- 24 COMMISSIONER RANDOLPH: Thank you,
- 25 Jordan. This may follow up on what Merrian just

- 1 said.
- I don't know if you were already planning
- 3 to do that, but I would suggest, in crafting the
- 4 outreach plan, you consult with the CEC-CPUC
- 5 Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group and get
- 6 their input and advice. They're meeting this
- 7 Friday, in fact, but you can also just direct
- 8 inquiries to them off meeting cycle as well.
- 9 MR. SCAVO: Excellent. Thank you for
- 10 that guidance.
- 11 Do we have any other raised hands?
- MS. CHAC: No other raised hands.
- MR. SCAVO: Is there anyone on the phone
- 14 that would like to raise their hand? Okay. And
- 15 we --
- 16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Hey, Jordan,
- 17 this is Andrew McAllister. I'd like to make a
- 18 comment here.
- MR. SCAVO: Please do.
- 20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Hey. So
- 21 thanks, everybody, for those comments and for
- 22 your engagement.
- 23 I definitely wanted to -- I was thinking
- 24 the same thing about the DCAG, so glad to hear
- 25 Commissioner Rechtschaffen suggest that. That's

- 1 a resource that we need to use, not just in this
- 2 forum but in others. And, you know, whenever we
- 3 reach out to them and get that put on the agenda,
- 4 you know, an item like this, they really
- 5 appreciate it. And they have insights, and they
- 6 are plugged into the local communities and the
- 7 CBOs that actually work locally, and those are
- 8 going to be critical, along with the developers,
- 9 as well, to make something big out of this
- 10 initial effort.
- 11 And then I wanted to actually build on
- 12 the question right after the prior presentation
- 13 about utilizing the HERS softwares to possibly do
- 14 the savings calculations. So without coming down
- 15 on whether, you know, I think that's a good idea
- 16 or not, I want to just suggest that anything we
- 17 can do to get compliance efforts done within the
- 18 workflow of projects is going to be -- you know,
- 19 is going to lower costs for everybody, lower
- 20 transaction costs, make it easier to apply if we
- 21 can sort of, you know, make compliance or, you
- 22 know, application to this program, just in the
- 23 regular workflow as much as possible so that it's
- 24 not an added burden.
- 25 So I want to just suggest to the

- 1 stakeholders and everybody on the phone, you
- 2 know, think about that, particularly those that
- 3 are in the low-income housing community, and get
- 4 the delicate financing structures that are needed
- 5 to get these projects done, that you sort of, you
- 6 know, look in your bag of tricks, you know, along
- 7 the way. Like what's the project flow?. All the
- 8 different steps, all the different criteria that
- 9 have to be met along the way when a project --
- 10 (clears throat) excuse me -- is being formulated
- 11 and see how we can leverage that process without
- 12 adding new requirements to, you know, check the
- 13 right boxes for the program, make sure the
- 14 statute is being complied with, but do it in a
- 15 way that's organic and integral to the process.
- 16 MR. SCAVO: Thank you so much for that,
- 17 Commissioner McAllister.
- MS. CHAC: Hey, Jordan, there's a hand
- 19 raised from Srinidhi Kumar.
- 20 Srinidhi, you should be able to un-mute
- 21 yourself now.
- MS. KUMAR: Hi. I just had a question
- 23 about why the CEC is drafting the outreach plan
- 24 without having an outreach expert or a technical
- 25 assistance provider onboard?

- 1 MR. SCAVO: I think that's something
- 2 we're thinking about now. So we mentioned that
- 3 we're debating whether to include outreach as
- 4 part of the scope of activities from a technical
- 5 assistance provider, but these are issues we
- 6 haven't, you know, fully baked yet. We're
- 7 considering a variety of options but I appreciate
- 8 the comment. Thank you.
- 9 MS. KUMAR: Yeah. I wanted to highlight
- 10 was Merrian said. I think there are two reasons
- 11 why it's really important that these properties
- 12 get targeted at the onsite.
- 13 So one is they pay a lot for the -- most
- 14 affordable housing providers pay a lot for the
- 15 designers they higher. And a lot of designers
- 16 and engineers, and Merrian pointed out, don't
- 17 have expertise in all-electric construction, so
- 18 it is important that this outreach happens early
- 19 on. And those contacts are available and readily
- 20 available. And, also, the technical assistance
- 21 provider is able to get in when the project
- 22 starts so they are able to coordinate between the
- 23 CEC, maybe even the local city agency that has
- 24 the (indiscernible) that's eventually going all-
- 25 electric and coordinating with the design staff

- 1 within the property construction site.
- 2 I just want to highlight how important
- 3 both the outreach and the role of the technical
- 4 assistance provider is and how it will be
- 5 important to input them when we are planning the
- 6 outreach plan.
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Thanks so much for that
- 8 perspective. That's very helpful.
- 9 I think Natalie Lee, the Director for
- 10 Renewables Division at the Energy Commission,
- 11 would like to speak.
- Natalie?
- MS. LEE: I just wanted, really quickly,
- 14 to address that last comment because we certainly
- 15 do recognize the importance of public input and
- 16 our outreach and technical assistance provider
- 17 roles.
- I just wanted to mention that, largely,
- 19 why we're moving forward at this pace is a
- 20 requirement of the decision, of the CPUC
- 21 decision, for the timing. And as Jordan spoke
- 22 to, we are awaiting budget authorization for us
- 23 to be able to implement certain elements of this
- 24 program, including bringing an outreach and
- 25 technical assistance provider onboard.

- 1 So right now, moving forward, is largely
- 2 just a timing requirement, but it doesn't
- 3 minimize our absolute intent to hear that input
- 4 from an outreach consultant in the final program
- 5 design and as we move forward, beyond the
- 6 Implementation Plan.
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Sorry, Natalie, I lost a
- 8 little bit of that audio. Was there -- was that
- 9 a question or just a comment at the end there?
- 10 MS. LEE: No, that was just -- I just
- 11 wanted to speak to that last question and comment
- 12 we received.
- MR. SCAVO: Okay. Thanks so much.
- Do we have any other questions or
- 15 comments?
- MS. CHAC: No other raised hands and none
- 17 from Q&A.
- 18 MR. SCAVO: Okay. We're still well ahead
- 19 on the schedule, so let's proceed to the last
- 20 presentation, which is a pretty short one, like
- 21 my one was.
- Abhi, are you ready to present?
- MS. WADHWA: Can you here me?
- MR. SCAVO: I can.
- 25 MS. WADHWA: Okay. Great. Good morning

- 1 everyone. My name is Abhi Wadhwa. I'm with
- 2 California Public Utilities Commission. And I am
- 3 the BUILD Project Lead from the CPUC side. So my
- 4 slides will be very minimal. And I just wanted
- 5 to give you an overview of how we are thinking of
- 6 evaluating the 1477 programs. For this workshop,
- 7 I'm going to focus on BUILD, but just generally
- 8 give you an overview of timing and what the
- 9 decision lays out for evaluation, and spitball
- 10 some ideas with you regarding how we should be
- 11 thinking about this.
- Next slide please.
- 13 So the decision, after a lot of good
- 14 input from our stakeholders, decided that it's
- 15 best to have a single evaluator for both TECH and
- 16 BUILD, both for program simplicity and ease of
- 17 coordination. There's a combined \$5 million
- 18 budget over the duration of both programs, \$2
- 19 million out of that comes from the BUILD budget
- 20 and \$3 million from the TECH budget.
- 21 The way it would work contractually is
- 22 that CPUC would be leaning on SCE as the
- 23 contracting agent. That means SCE will be the
- 24 one doing the request for proposal for the
- 25 evaluator with CPUC oversight. And what we do

- 1 ask in the decision is that the data collection
- 2 be coordinated between the TECH implementor and
- 3 the program administrator for BUILD, which is
- 4 CEC. So there is already an emphasis in the
- 5 decision that there should be some seamlessness
- 6 and some best practices to be followed with
- 7 regard to how program design works, along with
- 8 evaluation.
- 9 The decision, as Tiffany pointed out in a
- 10 previous slide, also requires that the evaluator
- 11 look at the bill savings tool or methodology,
- 12 wherever that lands, and recommend changes, if
- 13 any are needed.
- Next slide please.
- 15 Some of the recommendations we would have
- 16 for the evaluator and that we would stress in the
- 17 RFP process is to follow best practices for
- 18 market transformation initiatives. We are very
- 19 cognizant that 1477 is envisioned as a market
- 20 transformation program and has a longer-term
- 21 goal, longer-term vision than just these pilots,
- 22 so what are those best practices, looking at some
- 23 of -- you know, outside of California, examples
- 24 like NEEA, and using those approaches as we get
- 25 into the evaluation framework?

- 1 Some of these means that you have to work
- $2\,$  hand in hand with the program designer so that
- 3 the evaluator is designing their metrics logic
- 4 model and program goals to be completely in line
- 5 with what the program designer may have thought
- 6 of and vice versa. Sometimes the evaluator can
- 7 feed into the program design. And we want to
- 8 make sure that relationship is established and
- 9 prioritized from the get-go.
- 10 The evaluator would also be in charge of
- 11 establishing program baselines. And one of the
- 12 things, again, the decision emphasizes is to use
- 13 embedded measurement and evaluation approaches
- 14 within the programs. Learning from our lessons
- 15 in EE, we understand that the better embedded
- 16 these approaches are the sooner programs are able
- 17 to react to any changes that may be needed for
- 18 improvement.
- 19 We also recommend, of course, that the
- 20 evaluator propose any program design
- 21 modifications and, again, just be as robust and
- 22 real-time feedback as possible, as opposed to,
- 23 you know, longer two-year or three-year type of
- 24 cycles.
- Next slide please.

- 1 So far as the program metrics go, there
- 2 are three metrics that are required by statute.
- 3 So either way, these are definitely top of our
- 4 list to track the number of low-emission systems
- 5 installed in each building type, projected
- 6 utility bill savings, and the cost per metric ton
- 7 of avoided GHG emissions. So that's just right
- 8 off the bat from the statute. That is something
- 9 that the evaluator absolutely has to track. And
- $10\,$  both the TECH implementor and CEC are aware and
- 11 would be at least basing the code program around
- 12 these.
- In addition to that, we just wanted to
- 14 brainstorm some ideas with you at the workshop
- 15 today. As Michael Colvin mentioned earlier,
- 16 program metrics help us kind of quantify what are
- 17 the program goals? And so we wanted to invite
- 18 your feedback on what do you think these metrics
- 19 should be? We are only presenting a few sketch
- 20 ideas here but look forward to hearing more from
- 21 you in the comments.
- Next slide please.
- 23 So, for example, the total avoided GHG
- 24 emissions, perhaps that is a pretty straight
- 25 deviation of the statutory metrics that have been

- 1 provided. Probably a good idea to track based on
- 2 the natural gas hookups being clipped, how much
- 3 do we think we would be saving in emissions
- 4 because of this program effort?
- 5 Another one could be -- and, again, maybe
- 6 this is a bad idea but we want to hear from you.
- 7 Do you think it's important to track the number
- 8 of new technologies funded?
- 9 Is it important to us that it's not just
- 10 about all-electric, but we are trying to also
- 11 push the market for heat pump dryers and
- 12 induction stoves because that's now, you know,
- 13 new technology, other than just space and water
- 14 heating, or is that not important to us? Is this
- 15 first two years not the time period where we
- 16 should be counting that, counting the number of
- 17 new technologies we are promoting in the market?
- 18 Another one could be the number of low-
- 19 income electric -- all-electric projects funded.
- 20 So if, say, for example, 8,000 total units get
- 21 constructed in a year, which accounts to, and I'm
- 22 just making up numbers here, if it accounts to
- 23 400 projects in a year, do we -- is our metric
- 24 that 60 percent of those or 70 percent of those
- 25 should be all-electric from the time the project

- 1 gets launched? Is that an important metric for
- 2 us?
- 3 So in line with that, we appreciate your
- 4 feedback and how you feel the program should be
- 5 shaped around these metrics.
- 6 And that's it from me.
- 7 MR. SCAVO: Thank you, Abhi.
- 8 Do we have any comments or questions?
- 9 MS. CHAC: No raised hands at the moment.
- 10 Oh, we have one raised hand from Nick Young.
- Nick, you should be able un-mute yourself
- 12 now.
- MR. YOUNG: Hi. Just on the metrics, I
- 14 think it would be good to track the number of
- 15 low-income units served by low-GWP systems, so
- 16 served by low-GWP water heating systems or served
- 17 by low-GWP heating systems, or vice versa. That
- 18 could sort of neutralize the -- like if you have
- 19 a central plant, is that just one piece of
- 20 equipment, versus a water heater in every
- 21 apartment? Would that be like 50 pieces of
- 22 equipment? Whereas, really, what's important is
- 23 the number of homes that are served by this low-
- 24 GWP equipment.
- MS. WADHWA: Great. Thank you, Nick.

- 1 That's a great comment. Please also leave it in
- 2 your written comments. Appreciate it.
- 3 MR. SCAVO: Are there other raised hands?
- 4 MS. CHAC: No other raised hands at the
- 5 moment.
- 6 MR. SCAVO: Is there anyone on the phone
- 7 who would like to raise their hand to speak?
- 8 Okay.
- 9 We have a question in the Q&A. Its from
- 10 Scott Blunk, that's S-C-O-T-T B-L-U-N-K. They've
- 11 commented that, "The number of people served may
- 12 also be a good metric to track, using bedrooms as
- 13 a proxy."
- 14 Thank you for that comment, Scott.
- 15 Are there any other comments or
- 16 questions? Okay.
- We're close to the end of the workshop.
- 18 Are there any general comments or questions?
- 19 MS. CHAC: We have a question from
- 20 Michael Colvin.
- 21 Michael, you should be able to un-mute
- 22 yourself now.
- 23 MR. COLVIN: Thank you again so much for
- 24 organizing a really important day for this BUILD
- 25 Program.

- 1 I guess my overall comment is to go back,
- $2\,$  is to take a step back and say, what is it that
- 3 we're trying to accomplish with the next four
- 4 years in this pot of money? And is it to get a
- 5 certain number of units built? Is it to get a
- 6 certain number of decarbonized units built that
- 7 are more cost effective than before? Is it to
- 8 help get lessons learned within the developer
- 9 community?
- 10 You know, I have to admit that I am very
- 11 concerned, from what I've heard today, that we
- 12 are going to overengineer this problem and we are
- 13 going to spend too much time on modeling and too
- 14 much time on doing some false precision of, well,
- 15 what would this have been in this modeling, in
- 16 this database, and in this effort?
- 17 And I think we need to, especially in the
- 18 economic situation that we're in right now where
- 19 new construction is going to be very difficult
- 20 regardless, we have to start framing the question
- 21 of how do we actually, you know, remove as many
- 22 barriers as possible to getting all-electric and
- 23 decarbonized homes available, you know, and get
- 24 that building stock out into, you know, out
- 25 there? And if we can focus on that as our

- 1 primary objective, then I think some of the
- 2 program design elements that we've bumped up
- 3 against today will then be put into the proper
- 4 context.
- 5 MR. SCAVO: Thank you so much for that
- 6 comment. And that's, you know, something we're
- 7 grappling with. I would recommend reading the
- $8\,$  CPUC decision that interprets and builds on SB
- 9 1477 because we have put some thought into this
- 10 and that may help shape any written comments you
- 11 want to submit. But, again, thank you for the
- 12 comment.
- We have another raised hand.
- 14 Ariel, would you -- or, I mean, Erica,
- 15 would you please tee that up?
- 16 MS. CHAC: Yeah. This one's from Peter
- 17 Turnbull, T-U-R-N-B-U-L-L.
- 18 Peter, you should be able to un-mute
- 19 yourself now.
- 20 MR. TURNBULL: Okay. Thanks for taking
- 21 my question. Excuse me.
- 22 I'm just looking at some housing stats.
- 23 And it looks to me that there's around 50,000
- 24 multifamily units started per year, this -- in
- 25 recent years. About the same number of single-

- 1 family units. Over the next four years, that's,
- 2 I guess, 200,000 of each. And maybe a third of
- 3 those, something like that, would be low-income,
- 4 which would be \$60,000 or \$70,000.
- 5 Do you guys have an estimate of how many
- 6 units you're going to serve with this program?
- 7 And then maybe the other part of my
- 8 question/comment is over the next four years,
- 9 that's, you know, about 16 or 18 percent of the
- 10 time between now and 2045, which is when the
- 11 goals are really -- well, have been stated.
- 12 So in terms of scale, how much of this
- 13 are you going to impact?
- MR. SCAVO: I think that's a good
- 15 question. It's not one that we've refined our
- 16 analysis sufficiently to answer at this point but
- 17 it's something we are definitely keeping in the
- 18 backs of our minds.
- 19 Tiffany or Geoff, if you've got more to
- 20 say on this, feel free to do so. Okay. I think
- 21 this is one that is definitely useful feedback.
- 22 It's something we're considering but we haven't
- 23 drilled down to that level of specificity as
- 24 we're --
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, just with all

- 1 respect here, I think that it's pretty important
- 2 for you to have a quantitative picture of what
- 3 will be accomplished here. And is that making
- 4 any kind of a dent in getting these buildings to
- 5 full electric?
- 6 MR. SCAVO: Yeah. Sorry. I didn't mean
- $7\,$  to imply that I'm pushing back on the suggestion.
- 8 I think it's --
- 9 MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- MR. SCAVO: -- well, we need to do that,
- 11 we just haven't gotten there yet. We're kind of
- 12 framing some conceptual approaches to the program
- 13 but we haven't refined out analysis sufficiently
- 14 to drill down on how many we're targeting yet,
- 15 but we will.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. SCAVO: Thank you.
- 18 MS. WADHWA: This is Abhi, Jordan. If
- 19 you don't mind, I'd like to react to that last
- 20 question?
- 21 I think, in just looking at the dollars
- 22 and cents here on the table, at least from our
- 23 perspective as CPUC Staff, we don't have any
- 24 disillusions that we'll be able to capture, you
- 25 know, 100 percent of the market. I think in our

- 1 thinking and writing the decision, our biggest
- 2 concern or vision, so to speak, has been that the
- 3 initial barriers, and even the lack of awareness
- 4 that builders may have in the marketplace
- 5 currently, needs to be removed and to get that
- 6 snowball effect started.
- 7 As Commissioner McAllister mentioned in
- 8 his opening remarks, you know, if we show those
- 9 incremental successes now, there may be a better
- 10 opportunity for us to seek additional funding
- 11 from the legislature as we try to scale this up
- 12 to the 2045 goals. But so far as the pilots
- 13 themselves go, I think there is a general
- 14 understanding that the technical assistance and
- 15 removing the barriers for builders, and on the
- 16 other hand, using TECH to make the case for these
- 17 products being viable as much as they are, you
- 18 know, more GHG-intensive counterparts, is
- 19 probably the core goal.
- MR. SCAVO: Thank you, Abhi.
- 21 MS. CHAC: We have another question from
- 22 Merrian.
- 23 Merrian, you should be able to un-mute
- 24 yourself now.
- 25 MS. BORGESON: Hi. I just wanted to make

- 1 a comment. And Abhi's comments just now I think
- 2 are spot on. I do think that especially the low-
- 3 income housing market is sort of on the cusp of
- 4 being ready to do those themselves going forward
- 5 and they sort of need that initial push and
- 6 support. And, you know, they need to have that
- 7 experience with a new way of building, at least
- 8 for some of the systems in their buildings.
- 9 Another metric that will be important to
- 10 look at was sort of hinted at by Peter, as well,
- 11 that when you look back and see what percentage
- 12 of those 50,000 units a year, or at least the
- 13 low-income portion of those 50,000 units were
- 14 all-electric versus going forward, that will be a
- 15 really important metric, just in terms of are you
- 16 transforming the market? Is there experience out
- 17 there? Are we starting to create demand for both
- 18 the central and unitary hot water systems, for
- 19 example, that go in those buildings?
- 20 But another really important metric
- 21 that's a bit different, and I think this
- 22 distinction is really important, is which of the
- 23 developers that have never built all-electric
- 24 before, or maybe have one building, are now
- 25 trying it or doing it more regularly?

- 1 So there's both volume, but you don't
- 2 want just three top developers to have all the
- 3 volume; right? You want to also look at how many
- 4 new developers? How many developers are trying
- 5 this for the first time or are in the first few
- 6 years of trying all-electric?
- 7 What we've heard, just a little bit in
- 8 our initial conversations, and again, NRDC is not
- 9 a leader in affordable housing, there are so many
- 10 other organizations that have deep experience in
- 11 this, but just from the initial conversations
- 12 we've had is that doing this the first time is
- 13 hard or complicated, just because you're asking
- 14 your mechanical engineers and others to do
- 15 different things. So it will be really important
- 16 to think about, especially, how you target the
- 17 technical assistance to folks who are doing this
- 18 newly that need support for those first few
- 19 projects.
- 20 And I think then, if you look at the
- 21 metrics of both total units that were likely
- 22 going to be mixed fuel and now are all-electric,
- 23 and then also the numbers of developers who are
- 24 trying projects for the first time, those will be
- 25 really important metrics for market

- 1 transformation. And I believe many developers,
- 2 at least, are looking forward. And they sort of
- 3 see this as the future; right?
- 4 So it's going to be self-sustaining.
- 5 Once they try it, they like it, they experience
- 6 it, they realize that it's the same or lower
- 7 cost, the same or lower bills, which is what some
- 8 of the initial folks have found.
- 9 So I think using both those metrics and
- 10 thinking about it, really, as Abhi, I think, and
- 11 a few others mentioned, as a market
- 12 transformation piece around, essentially, you
- 13 know, spurring this market to get ready for the
- 14 future that many of them already see is where the
- 15 state's going.
- 16 So thanks to everyone for this workshop
- 17 today. It's been really helpful.
- 18 MR. SCAVO: Great. Thank you, Merrian.
- 19 MS. CHAC: We have another comment from
- 20 Nick Young.
- Nick Young, you should be able to un-mute
- 22 yourself now. Sorry. Now you should.
- 23 MR. YOUNG: Hi. This is Nick Young with
- 24 AEA.
- 25 Just building off of Merrian's comment,

- 1 this is, like she said and like others have said
- 2 and sort of built into the program, this is for
- 3 market transformation. And the market we're --
- 4 maybe think about the like components of the
- 5 market that we're transforming. We're -- we want
- 6 to transform the market for, in many ways, how
- 7 these projects are designed. So the design teams
- 8 are a critical -- like they're the ones who are
- 9 designing it, and it is based off of their
- 10 designs that the projects pencil as cost
- 11 effective or not or financeable or not.
- 12 And so tracking, sort of to Merrian's
- 13 point, the developers who are doing this for the
- 14 first time, but I think also architects who are
- 15 involved in all-electric projects, and plumbing
- 16 engineers, so the actual design engineers, you
- 17 know, mechanical engineers on the heating and
- 18 cooling side, plumbing engineers on the water
- 19 heating side, so you can really track like who is
- 20 -- who are the design firms?
- 21 Because, ultimately, when an affordable
- 22 housing developer is developing a project,
- 23 they're not the ones designing their hot water
- 24 system. They ask for a hot water system, they
- 25 may have design quidelines, but it's ultimately

- 1 their consultants who design the systems. And so
- 2 making sure that this sort of tracking which
- 3 consultants that are working in this space in
- 4 California, are involved and participating in
- 5 this program, will be really important.
- 6 MR. SCAVO: Thank you for that comment,
- 7 Nick.
- 8 Do we have any other raised hands?
- 9 MS. CHAC: No more raised hands.
- MR. SCAVO: And how about our
- 11 participants on the phone, would anyone like to
- 12 raise their hand there?
- MS. CHAC: No raised hands on the phone
- 14 either.
- Just as a reminder, folks on the phone,
- 16 you can raise your hand by pressing star nine.
- MR. SCAVO: Thanks Erica.
- MS. CHAC: Um-hmm.
- 19 MR. SCAVO: We do have some questions in
- 20 the Q&A window.
- 21 The first is from Scott Blunk, that's
- 22 S-C-O-T-T B-L-U-N-K. They've written, "I agree
- 23 with Michael Colvin. This is seeming to be a very
- 24 complex program. For the pilot, at least, the
- 25 only requirements should be no gas hookup to the

- 1 property and to be legally constructed and code
- 2 compliant. We have to get the ball rolling and a
- 3 simple program would help the most."
- 4 Scott, thank you for your comment.
- 5 Simplicity and accessibility are important. And
- 6 we, I think, are trying to prioritize that as
- 7 much as we can while balancing other program
- 8 needs. But we definitely take that comment to
- 9 heart and are striving to make this as simple and
- 10 accessible as we can. Thank you.
- 11 Our next comment is a follow-up point
- 12 from Scott Blunk, that's S-C-O-T-T B-L-U-N-K.
- 13 They've written, "This may become a central HPWH-
- 14 focused program because it focuses on low income
- 15 and low income focuses on multifamily, and in
- 16 multifamily, there is very little gas used
- 17 currently, except in water heating. Just
- 18 something to consider when designing the
- 19 program."
- Scott, thank you for that comment.
- 21 We have another comment from Srinidhi
- 22 Kumar, that's S-R-I-N-I-D-H-I K-U-M-A-R. They've
- 23 written, "It would be great to track developers
- 24 for whom a BUILD-funded project is their first
- 25 all-electric building or for whom this is the

- 1 first time hearing about these technologies.
- 2 "Tracking first cost differentials would also
- 3 be great if there is -- if there are any, and
- 4 specifically" -- I'm sorry, let me start that
- 5 over. "Tracking first cost differentials will
- 6 also be great, if there are any. And
- 7 specifically seeing how BUILD helps reduce those
- 8 first costs will be helpful.
- 9 "First costs could also be related to
- 10 soft costs associated with building and all-
- 11 electric construction and may not just be about
- 12 the equipment costs.
- 13 "This is probably harder, but any
- 14 measurement around health, comfort, and safety
- 15 will also be helpful."
- 16 Thank you so much for that comment.
- 17 Those are good things for us to bear in mind.
- 18 Do we have any other comments? Okay.
- 19 Well, I thank everyone for the feedback
- 20 we've received so far and additional feedback
- 21 that we will receive during written comments.
- 22 At this point, I would like to invite
- 23 Chair Hochschild and our Commissioners in
- 24 attendance to provide closing remarks.
- 25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Hey, Justin

- 1 [sic], this is Andrew McAllister. I'll defer to
- 2 our -- I guess I'll take up the rear and defer to
- 3 our colleagues at the CPUC to start if they would
- 4 like.
- 5 COMMISSIONER RANDOLPH: This is
- 6 Commissioner Rechtschaffen. I don't have
- 7 anything specific to say. I very much appreciate
- 8 the comments. They raised a lot of good
- 9 questions that go to the core of what we're
- 10 trying to do, keep things workable, simple,
- 11 attract new participants, make it easy for people
- 12 meeting the statutory criteria. We will take
- 13 those -- all take -- take all of those and others
- 14 into account.
- I very much appreciate the great
- 16 efficiency of the CEC Staff in presenting the
- 17 materials and getting us through so quickly. And
- 18 we look forward to continued collaboration with
- 19 you.
- 20 COMMISSIONER RANDOLPH: And this is
- 21 Commissioner Randolph from the PUC. I'll echo my
- 22 thanks to Staff for a great, organized, and
- 23 technically well run workshop.
- I'm appreciative of the comments of all
- 25 of the stakeholders. And I understand that

- 1 simplicity is always a goal, but recognizing
- 2 that, you know, we do have a pretty specific
- 3 statutory program, so we need to make sure that
- 4 we follow all of the statutory framework as best
- 5 we can.
- 6 And I appreciated the discussion about
- 7 sort of the scope of the program. I think we all
- 8 recognize that these two BUILD and TECH Programs
- 9 alone aren't going to get us where we need to be
- 10 but they will provide a jumpstart and provide an
- 11 opportunity for learning what the best ways to
- 12 make builders aware of these opportunities and
- 13 technologies and potential savings.
- 14 So thank you everyone for all of your
- 15 comments and thoughts. And I look forward to the
- 16 written comments as well.
- 17 Thanks.
- 18 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'm wondering
- 19 if, Chair Hochschild, do you want to make any
- 20 final comments?
- 21 All right, well, I'll just, I'll wrap up
- 22 as well.
- 23 So, yeah, thanks. It's a rare workshop
- 24 where we actually are significantly early, so I
- 25 think everybody gets some free time on their

- 1 schedule that they didn't anticipate, which is
- 2 good. But thanks for all of the stakeholder
- 3 comments.
- 4 And I want to also acknowledge, well,
- 5 acknowledge Staff, first of all, Jordan and the
- 6 whole team, Geoff and Abhi, Eric, Tiffany, across
- 7 both Commissions. Thanks for organizing a great
- 8 day.
- 9 And, you know, I think the balance we
- 10 have to find is -- it's going to have some tough
- 11 issues to work through because we do have -- you
- 12 know, if you look at the PUC decision, look at
- 13 the statute, there are some requirements. I
- 14 agree with, generally, the tenor that we want to,
- 15 you know, not overengineer the program if we can
- 16 avoid it, make it easy to participate, and find a
- 17 right balance, you know, the sort of program
- 18 expediency, easy to apply, but also keeping the
- 19 statute in mind.
- 20 And also focusing on, you know, the long
- 21 term, we're talking -- I think there's some tough
- 22 issues to work through in terms of what does it
- 23 take to -- you know, if we want to get on early
- 24 into a given project, you know, I think the
- 25 comments were right spot on, that at the design

- 1 phase is the time you need to really build this
- 2 stuff in and potentially even, you know, provide
- 3 some up-front rebate, as Sean Armstrong said.
- 4 But then that's a whole project cycle that takes
- 5 three to four years or more to develop the
- 6 project.
- 7 And so we want to push the marketplace as
- 8 quickly as possible. As Peter Turnbull said, you
- 9 know, there's urgency and we want to acknowledge
- 10 that as well. So we need to find that balance
- 11 and really try to move the market in a very
- 12 intentional way with this program. And,
- 13 hopefully, build on a little more resources down
- 14 the road but, certainly, we've got to focus on
- 15 low income and bring as many resources to that as
- 16 we can in this and other arenas.
- 17 So I really think this is an area where
- 18 learning by doing is going to solve a lot of the
- 19 market barriers and that's what market
- 20 transformation is all about. So that back and
- 21 forth that we're having today and, hopefully, the
- 22 iteration can be really quick with, you know,
- 23 fast interaction between stakeholders, Commission
- 24 Staff, CPUC, and really getting the process moved
- 25 forward and the program guidelines and opening

- 1 doors for business to work directly with the
- 2 marketplace and provide those incentives.
- 3 So I'm looking forward to continuing this
- 4 process. And thanks a lot, everybody, again, for
- 5 your attention.
- 6 MR. SCAVO: Thanks so much for those
- 7 concluding remarks, Commissioners Rechtschaffen,
- 8 Randolph, and McAllister.
- 9 I have a few last pieces of business to
- 10 cover and then we will close the workshop. I'll
- 11 reiterate our next steps before we wrap today.
- 12 Public comments are due on June 29th. We
- 13 will submit the Implementation Plan to CPUC on
- 14 July 24th. And at that point we'll open up a
- 15 two-week public comment period for folks to
- 16 provide feedback on the Implementation Plan.
- 17 Based on that feedback, we may issue an addendum
- 18 that addresses or incorporates stakeholder
- 19 perspectives. And that would be August 2020,
- 20 maybe September 2020.
- 21 Upon receiving budgetary approval, we
- 22 will issue an RFP for a third-party technical
- 23 assistance provider in the third quarter of 2020.
- 24 We'll publish draft program quidelines in the
- 25 final quarter of 2020 and final guidelines in the

- 1 first quarter of 2021. And we plan to begin
- 2 accepting and processing applications under the
- 3 BUILD Program on or before July 1st of 2021.
- 4 As I said, the public comments on this
- 5 workshop are due on June 29th. This slide
- 6 provides a link to submit them through the e-
- 7 commenting system. You can also find additional
- 8 information on our program webpage. And I
- 9 provided contact information for myself and for
- 10 Abhi at the CPUC.
- 11 And this concludes the workshop. I want
- 12 to thank our Commissioners who joined us today.
- 13 And I want to thank all of the participants for
- 14 the comments and the feedback that we received.
- I'd also like to thank our colleagues at
- 16 CPUC for joining us and for their assistance in
- 17 developing this workshop.
- 18 Stay safe out there and thank you for
- 19 helping California pursue its clean energy and
- 20 low-income housing goals.
- 21 (The workshop concluded at 11:25 a.m.)
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25

## 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 30th day of June, 2020.

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT\*\*367

Martha L. Nelson

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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

Martha L. Nelson

June 30, 2020