

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	2022 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update
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*Comment Received From: Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability  
Submitted On: 7/20/2022  
Docket Number: 22-IEPR-01*

**on June 29th 2022 IEPR Update Workshop in Salton Sea Region**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*



July 20, 2022

California Energy Commission  
Docket Unit, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 22-IEPR-01  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-5512

**RE: Comments of the Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability on June 29th 2022 IEPR Update Workshop in Salton Sea Region on Centering Equity and Environmental Justice [Docket No. 22-IEPR-01]**

Dear Vice Chair Gunda and Commission Staff,

Thank you for your efforts to update the Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) to center equity and environmental justice and engage with communities across California. In response to the IEPR workshop held on June 29th, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability offers our feedback to better reflect the needs and priorities of the communities in the Salton Sea region.

As a primary goal, we urge the California Energy Commission to continue centering environmental justice communities in this process and other statewide work. This includes ensuring that communities most susceptible to energy inequity are at the forefront to better identify the specific priorities related to energy policies and programs that vulnerable communities have. Activities for how to do this include: direct engagement with community-based organizations and residents; offering multiple opportunities for public input; prioritizing language and technical accessibility throughout the process; and providing clear goals and purpose to the public about the effort. Targeted workshops must be adapted to the needs of each local community. For the Eastern Coachella Valley, this means that the meeting and any related material must be made available in English, Spanish, and Purepecha; that the meeting is held after work hours or on the weekends; and held in an in-person location closer to the targeted audience.

For future workshops of this nature, we recommend beginning the meeting with a more detailed description of the IEPR, its purpose, and an explanation of how the materials developed as part of this docket will be used and by whom. This is important in order to set expectations and clearly communicate what the desired outcomes are for having the public engage in this process. Notably, the second portion of the workshop was more interactive and engaging and therefore more impactful. We suggest creating a more balanced approach in the agenda so there's a good mix of informational items and engaging activities that helps participants maintain focus and feel engaged. In addition, it is also important to create spaces directly designed to center

community voices, like community panels and meetings. The information and input gathered during these resident-centered conversations can then help guide all other actions and direction of the CEC's equity efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our feedback. We look forward to seeing these recommendations and other community input reflected in the report update to help inform future policy and programming efforts.

Sincerely,

Mariela Loera  
Policy Advocate  
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability