

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Kevin Hughes
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STACK comments on SPPE Rulemaking

See attached letter.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

August 23rd, 2022

California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95815

RE: Rulemaking to Amend Regulations for Small Power Plant Exemptions

Dear California Energy Commissioners and Staff,

STACK Infrastructure appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Rulemaking to Amend Regulations for Small Power Plant Exemptions. We commend the CEC for its efforts to update the SPPE process to better align with current market conditions and support the proposed amendments.

STACK Infrastructure provides digital infrastructure to scale the world's most innovative companies. We deliver a comprehensive suite of wholesale build-to-suit, colocation, and powered shell solutions in markets throughout North America, including Silicon Valley, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, New Albany, Northern Virginia, Phoenix, Portland, Calgary, and Toronto. Our unparalleled flexible expansion capacity in the leading availability zones provides the scale and geographic reach that companies need to support the latest technologies from public cloud to 5G to edge computing and more.

STACK supports the broad objective of this rulemaking, including updating the regulatory provisions to remove the adjudicatory process that currently applies to SPPEs, and updating the requirements for applications to conform to changes in CEQA. The regulatory provisions subject to this rulemaking were first adopted in the late 1970s and have not been significantly amended or updated since then. However, since the 1970s, many changes have occurred in California's electricity sector and related regulatory and market environments, changes that are not reflected in the processes and procedures the CEC currently uses. The specific benefits of this rulemaking are to streamline the CEC SPPE proceedings to minimize cost and delay while maintaining a comprehensive environmental review and mitigation program with opportunities for public participation and input under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This streamlining of the SPPE process eliminates processes that are duplicative of CEQA as well as unnecessary adjudicative procedures, potentially reducing the time and cost associated with an SPPE. The proposed regulation will not adversely impact the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the state's environment.

For these reasons we strongly support the proposed amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Rulemaking to Amend Regulations for Small Power Plant Exemptions. We urge the Commission to move forward with adopting the proposed Rulemaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin R. Hughes'.

Kevin R. Hughes
Vice President of Policy

