

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	21-AFC-02
Project Title:	Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
TN #:	246310
Document Title:	Notice of Willow Rock Energy Storage Center Workshop
Description:	October 11, 2022; 10:00 a.m. - workshop to discuss applicant objections to CEC staff data requests
Filer:	Lon Payne
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION715 P Street
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CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)

*IN THE MATTER OF:**Willow Rock Energy Storage Center*

DOCKET NO. 21-AFC-02

NOTICE OF REMOTE-ACCESS
WORKSHOP

RE: Data Request Objections

**Notice of Willow Rock Energy Storage Center Workshop
October 11, 2022**

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Remote Access Only

See Attendance Instructions Below.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a remote workshop to discuss the applicant's objections to various CEC staff data requests for the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center (WRESC) project. The purpose of this workshop is to clarify the applicant's objections, seek compromise on acceptable responses, and ideally limit the number and scope of issues to be presented to the Committee¹ in a potential motion to compel a response by staff. The public can participate in the workshop consistent with the attendance instructions below.

Background

CEC staff is currently engaged in discovery efforts as part of its analysis of the Application for Certification (AFC) for the WRESC. CEC staff docketed Data Requests Set 1 on July 26, 2022. In a filing dated August 15, 2022, the applicant objected to various data requests from Set 1, including data requests in the topic areas of Alternatives, Biological Resources, Geological Resources, Land Use, and Transmission System Engineering. In its scheduling order filed August 26, 2022, the Committee advised CEC staff and the applicant to hold a workshop to discuss and seek resolution on applicant's objections, and to subsequently submit a joint filing capturing any agreements reached by the parties.

¹ The Committee consists of two CEC Commissioners assigned to oversee the WRESC proceeding. Commissioner Kourtney Vaccaro is the Presiding Member and Commissioner Andrew McAllister is the Associate Member.

The following documents provide useful context for the issues to be discussed at the workshop; to review the documents, click on the links:

Staff Data Requests Set 1:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=244203&DocumentContentId=78128>

Applicant Objections:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=245050&DocumentContentId=79178>

Committee Scheduling Order:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=245754&DocumentContentId=79959>

Agenda

A detailed workshop agenda will be posted prior to the workshop at

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02>.

The workshop will generally consist of discussions between CEC technical staff and representatives of the applicant to clarify the reasonable basis for staff data requests and the grounds for applicant's objections. The order of topics to be discussed will be set (and may change) based on the availability of technical staff and representatives of affected stakeholder agencies. Although it was not part of the direction included in the Committee's scheduling order, the applicant has also requested an opportunity to discuss the overall proceeding schedule and staff's intention to file a motion extending the discovery period—this will be accommodated to the degree that time allows. Staff and the applicant will also need to discuss the logistics associated with preparing a joint filing describing the outcome of the workshop, including any agreements reached at the workshop to resolve the applicant's objections, as directed by the Committee in the scheduling order.

Given the number of data requests being objected to and their grouping by technical area, it is difficult to predict the overall duration of the workshop. The CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted. The end time is an estimate based on the anticipated topics of discussion--the workshop may end sooner than the posted end time. Should additional time be needed to complete the agenda beyond the allotted five hours (including a break for lunch), the workshop would likely be continued to a subsequent date.

Remote Attendance Instructions

Participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone.

- **To join via Zoom.** Click on <https://energy.zoom.us/j/99955220293?pwd=T3IxSHRrSnB6bCszYlFFFT1lwVzJSdz09> or login in at <https://zoom.us/> and enter the Webinar ID 99955220293 and passcode 175312 and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call toll-free at (888) 475-4499 or toll at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the Webinar ID 999 5522 0293 and passcode 175312.

Zoom Difficulty. Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

Public Comment

Should a member of the public, an organization, a tribe, a representative of a stakeholder agency, or any other entity wish to comment on the subject matter of the workshop (specifically, the reasonable basis for staff's data requests and the grounds for applicant's objections) or the WRESC proceeding generally, the CEC encourages the use of its **electronic commenting system**. Comments submitted prior to the workshop are most useful because they can be considered by the participating parties before the workshop.

To submit a comment, visit the e-commenting page for this docket <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

Written comments may also be submitted to the Docket Unit at any time via email or regular mail. When using email, commenters should include the docket number (21-AFC-02) and Willow Rock Energy Storage Center in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

Written comments submitted by regular mail should be mailed to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 21-AFC-02
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The workshop will also include an opportunity to provide **oral comments**, although the time to provide oral comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker depending on the number of people wishing to make comments. When prompted by the workshop administrator, those wishing to make oral comments should use the "raise hand" feature on Zoom so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. For those wishing to comment via telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute.

Please note that all written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

Public Advisor. The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

Direct media inquiries to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

Direct general and technical subject inquiries to project manager Leonidas Payne at leonidas.payne@energy.ca.gov or (916) 838-2124.

Availability of Documents: Documents associated with this workshop will be made available at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center subscription topic, which can be found under "Project Under Review Topics." To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions), at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: September 30, 2022, at Sacramento, California.

/s/

Leonidas Payne
Project Manager

Subscriptions:
Willow Rock Energy Storage Center