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California Energy Commission BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA



California Energy Commission

Business Meeting Agenda

July 10, 2025 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In-person at:

California Natural Resources Building 715 P Street, First Floor Auditorium Sacramento, CA 95814 (Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access via Zoom™

https://zoom.us/ Meeting ID: 886 5692 5780 Passcode: energy

Remote participation instructions are below, after the agenda items.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) aims to begin the business meeting promptly at the start time, and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda. The meeting may end sooner or later than the time indicated depending on various factors. Commissioners may attend remotely in accordance with Government Code section 11123.2(j). Agenda items may be taken out of order as needed.

Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 20, section 1104(e), any person may make an oral comment on any agenda item. To ensure the orderly conduct of business, such comments will be limited to two minutes or less per person.

Please visit the <u>CEC Business Meeting web page</u> for more information and backup materials for all voting items at https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings.

THE CEC WILL CONSIDER AND MAY TAKE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Public Comment.

Any person wishing to comment on information items (non-voting items) shall provide comments during this period.

2. Agency Announcements.

The Chair may announce relevant matters to the public and the CEC, including agency updates, events, and other opportunities. Discussion may follow.

3. Consent Calendar.

None.

4. Information Item – Vice Chair Gunda's Response to Governor's April 21, 2025 Letter Regarding the Transportation Fuels Industry.

The Vice Chair's Office will provide an update on the actions and policy recommendations described in the Vice Chair's June 27, 2025 response to the Governor's April 21, 2025 letter directing the Vice Chair to redouble the State's efforts to work closely with refiners on short- and long-term planning to help ensure that Californians continue to have access to a safe, affordable, and reliable supply of transportation fuels, and that refiners continue to see the value in serving the California market, even as demand for fossil fuels continues its gradual decline over the coming decades. Contact: Theresa Keates (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

5. Information Item – Department of Water Resources (DWR) to Provide an Update on Strategic Reliability Reserve Investments.

In accordance with Water Code section 80710(e)(2), DWR is required to provide a quarterly update to the CEC regarding current and planned investments being considered for California's Electricity Supply Strategic Reliability Reserve Program. DWR will present the status of its efforts in response to the legislation and the activities taken. Contact: Delphine Hou (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

6. Information Item – 2024 CEC Justice, Access, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JAEDI) Report.

Staff will provide an update on efforts under CEC's JAEDI initiative, a comprehensive commitment to advance the five JAEDI principles. JAEDI takes an outside and inside approach – focusing externally through JAEDI-Out to increase opportunities and benefits for more Californians under CEC's energy policies and programs, and internally through JAEDI-In to create a workplace of belonging and kindness. Contacts: Fabi Lao and Carousel Gore (Staff Presentation: 15 minutes)

7. Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) 2024 Annual Report.

Consideration and possible adoption of a resolution approving the draft commission report, EPIC 2024 Annual Report, to be submitted to the Legislature and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). This report is prepared pursuant to Section 25711.5(f) of the Public Resources Code and CPUC EPIC decisions including Decisions 12-05-037, 13-11-025, 15-04-020, and 23-04-042. This report provides an update on the progress and funding of CEC activities from the prior calendar year. EPIC invests in innovation to achieve California's clean energy goals and ensure equitable access to safe, affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable energy for electricity ratepayers. Contact: Fritz Foo (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

8. Silicon Valley Clean Water.

Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-001 with Silicon Valley Clean Water of an up to \$4,000,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This project will demonstrate and install a predictive biogas microgrid controller that flexibly dispatches 730 kilowatts of clean, renewable generation using three biogas-fueled linear generators at a municipal wastewater treatment facility in Redwood City. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Baldomero Lasam (Staff Presentation: 5 Minutes)

9. Advancing the Environmental Sustainability of the Clean Energy Transition (Enviro-SET) GFO-24-301.

This solicitation sought to fund best available science to achieve environmental sustainability of the state's clean energy transition. Topics included monitoring environmental and land use change in response to solar expansion, assessing wildlife risk from renewable energy generation and the built environment, and finding mitigation solutions. This item includes five projects totaling \$2,887,678. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Julia Harnad (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

- a. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-002 with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for a \$600,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will investigate and test the energy and bird-safety performance of up to ten different types of bird-friendly windows or insulated glazing units at a Berkeley lab and two out-of-state test facilities, and to disseminate the results of these tests to key stakeholders, including the CEC's Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards team, glazing manufacturers, and window designers/specifiers.
- b. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-003 with The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus for a \$599,812 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will research how ground photovoltaic infrastructure influences belowground processes, particularly soil carbon sequestration, and its relationship with native plant productivity and fossorial animal habitat utilization. By informing land management and integrating ecological restoration, this work aims to enhance soil health, biodiversity, and sustainable energy production for mutual ecosystem and climate benefits.
- c. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Merced Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-004 with The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Merced Campus, for a \$589,265 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will advance the understanding of solar-over-water systems with a regional cost-benefit analysis that includes co-benefits and technology readiness level

- analyses and modeling of solar-over-water technology designs deployed on reservoirs and water conveyance systems in California.
- d. The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-005 with The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus, for a \$498,601 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will advance the scientific understanding of how species respond to outdoor lighting and propose biologically appropriate external lighting standards that balance nature conservation, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability in a laboratory in Davis.
- e. Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Council. Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-25-006 with Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Council for a \$600,000 grant, and adopting staff's recommendation that this action is exempt from CEQA. This research develops adaptively managed translocation and propagation programs for the Mohave Ground Squirrel, a state-threatened and petitioned Endangered Species Act species affected by renewable energy development. This project aims to provide the most technologically advanced and modern methods of relocating squirrels to ensure their continued survival while also supporting renewable energy development in California.

10. Lead Commissioner and Presiding Member Reports.

Lead commissioners on policy matters and presiding members on delegated committees may report to the CEC on relevant matters and discussion may follow.

11. Executive Director's Report.

12. Public Advisor's Report.

13. Chief Counsel's Report.

- a. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(a)(1), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against that employee by another person or employee.
- b. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e)(1), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to discuss the following pending litigation:
 - Shasta County and Pit River Tribe, et al. vs. California Energy Commission (Shasta County Superior Court, Case No. 23CV-0203737).
 - ii. California Fuels and Convenience Alliance v. California Energy Commission, et al. (Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 24WM000058).
 - iii. Interlink Products International, Inc., v. California Energy Commission (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000001)
 - iv. CASE v. California Energy Commission (SPB Case No: 24-0015(b))

- c. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(c)(3), Commissioners may adjourn to closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached in the following proceedings the state body is required by law to conduct:
 - Morton Bay Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-01
 - ii. Elmore North Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-02
 - iii. Black Rock Geothermal Project, Docket 23-AFC-03
- d. Pursuant to Government Code section11126(e), the CEC may also discuss any judicial or administrative proceeding that was formally initiated after this agenda was published; or determine whether facts and circumstances exist that warrant the initiation of litigation, or that constitute a significant exposure to litigation against the CEC, which might include personnel matters.

In-Person Instructions

Visitors to the California Natural Resources Agency building attending the business meeting held in the first-floor auditorium should proceed directly to the auditorium and do not need to sign in at the lobby security desk. Please note that visitors are solely permitted in the auditorium, restrooms, and cafeteria without a visitor badge or staff escort.

Remote Access Instructions

Remote access is available online or by phone.

Zoom: Click the link below to participate and provide public comment via Zoom. https://energy.zoom.us/j/88656925780?pwd=py3OLuObci5rwPpagkvKQ6I1hefubk.1
Zoom may also be accessed at https://zoom.us/join. To join, enter the meeting ID 886 5692 5780 and the password energy. To participate by phone, dial (213) 338-8477 or toll free at (888) 475-4499 and enter meeting ID 886 5692 5780. For Zoom technical support dial (888) 799-9666 ext. 2 or contact the CEC's Public Advisor for help at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or (916) 269-9595.

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Public comments are welcomed at the business meeting during announced times. Comments may be limited to two minutes or less per speaker and one speaker per entity depending on the proposed agenda and number of commenters.

If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you would like to make a comment. CEC staff will open your line to speak. Please restate and spell your name for the record, indicate any affiliation, and begin your comments.

If participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute. CEC staff will announce the last three digits of the phone number listed and open your line. Make sure to unmute your phone before speaking, restate and spell your name for the record, indicate any affiliation, and begin your comments.

Zoom's closed captioning service will be enabled for the CEC business meetings. Attendees can use the service by clicking on the "live transcript" CC icon and then choosing either "show subtitle" or "view full transcript." The closed captioning service can be stopped by exiting the "live transcript" or selecting the "hide subtitle" icon. If using a phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A full and formal transcript rendered by a professional court reporter will be docketed in the CEC business meeting docket.

Public Advisor Assistance. Direct questions about how to participate in the business meeting or requests for interpreting services or other reasonable modifications and accommodations to the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 269-9595. Requests for interpreting services, reasonable accommodations, and other modifications should be made as soon as possible and at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on the availability.

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Adjournment. Depending on time and the orderly management of proceedings, the CEC may adjourn, recess, or postpone any noticed hearing or meeting to be continued the next day, another specific date or time, or the next business meeting. Any such adjournment will be noticed at the time the order of adjournment is made. (Government Code sections 11128.5, 11129)