BUSINESS MEETING

BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
Duginogg Mooting)
Business Meeting)

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
13-RPS-01
TN # 2965

JUN 28 2013

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

HEARING ROOM A

1516 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2013 9:00 A.M.

Reported by:
Tahsha Sanbrailo

Commissioners Present

Robert B. Weisenmiller, Chair Karen Douglas Andrew McAllister Janea Scott

Staff Present:

Rob Oglesby, Executive Director Michael Levy, Chief Counsel Harriet Kallemeyn, Secretariat

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Joe O'Hagan	12
Simone Brant	13
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Also Present (* Via WebEx)

Interested Parties

Randy Howard, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Tim Tutt, Sacramento Municipal Utilities District Darren Bouton, CYRQ Energy Dario Frommer Michael Boccadoro, Dolphin Group Anthony Andreoni, California Municipal Utilities Association Andy Schwartz, Solar City *Rachel Gold, Large Scale Solar Association *Oscar Herrera, Southern California Public Power Authority Yihwa Kim, LA Unified School District, Transportation Division Juan Josse, Anaergia Services Valerie Winn, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

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- 2 APRIL 30, 2013 9:05 a.m.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good morning. Let's
- 4 start the Business Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
- 6 recited in unison.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good morning. I was
- 8 going to note that this is my first Business Meeting with
- 9 Commissioner Scott. It's a pleasure to have you on
- 10 board.
- 11 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning. Thank you
- 12 very much.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, so let's start
- 14 with the Consent Calendar.
- 15 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Move the Consent Calendar.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. All those in favor?
- 18 (Ayes.)
- 19 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Could we ask somebody
- 20 to turn off their -- we're getting a lot of feedback
- 21 here.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMMILLER: Okay, let's go on to
- 23 Item 2. Energy Commission Committee Appointments. And I
- 24 want to announce that Commissioner Scott is Lead
- 25 Commissioner on Transportation. And with that said,

- 1 Commissioner Douglas and I will continue in
- 2 Transportation through the adoption of the Investment
- 3 Plan, so we have continuity there similar to what we're
- 4 doing on the Renewables, but that it's great to be able
- 5 to hand that off to someone.
- 6 Item 3. Bottle Rock Geothermal Power Plant
- 7 Project, 79-AFC-4C. Paul Kramer.
- 8 MR. KRAMER: Good morning, Chair Weisenmiller
- 9 and Commissioners, I'm Paul Kramer, your Chief Hearing
- 10 Advisor.
- 11 Bottle Rock's Petition to Amend follows a
- 12 Committee decision on a complaint that was filed by David
- 13 Coleman. In that case, the Committee decided that Bottle
- 14 Rock's conditions required that it maintain a \$5 million
- 15 bond to secure the remediation of its project site after
- 16 the project was decommissioned.
- 17 That decision was appealed by Bottle Rock and
- 18 it is before your Commission, but it's been stayed until
- 19 after this Petition to Amend is resolved.
- The complaint sought to have the bond
- 21 reinstated and the amendment proposes to eliminate the
- 22 requirement for the bond, two very opposite things. So
- 23 it's likely to be controversial and requires some time
- 24 for hearings, discussion, arguments, and gradually a
- 25 legal briefing. So my recommendation is, rather than

- 1 have the full Commission conduct those proceedings, that
- 2 you appoint a committee to do so and that committee would
- 3 prepare a proposed decision for eventual consideration by
- 4 the full Commission.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 6 Commissioners, I suggest we appoint a committee by the
- 7 Board, and that the committee be chaired by Commissioner
- 8 Douglas and the second member be Commissioner Scott. A
- 9 motion?
- 10 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll move approval of
- 11 that committee.
- 12 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 14 (Ayes.) That passes 4-0. Thank you, Mr.
- 15 Kramer.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Items 4, 5 and 6. Our
- 17 next item is going to be the Renewable Portfolio Standard
- 18 and we're going to have a presentation that covers Items
- 19 4, 5, and 6, although we'll consider motions on each of
- 20 the items separately. So with that, Kate Zocchetti, do
- 21 you want to make your presentation?
- MS. ZOCCHETTI: Thank you, Chair Weisenmiller.
- 23 Good morning, Chair and Commissioners. I'm Kate
- 24 Zocchetti, the Technical Lead for the RPS Program in the
- 25 Renewable Energy Office. To my right is Gabe Herrera,

- 1 Legal Counsel. I'll be covering Items 4, 5 and 6
- 2 consecutively, but on which you may wish to vote
- 3 separately.
- 4 Agenda Items 4 and 5 address staff's proposed
- 5 revisions to the Renewables Portfolio Standard
- 6 Eligibility Guidebook, or RPS Guidebook, and the Overall
- 7 Program Guidebook for the Renewable Energy program.
- 8 Agenda Item 6 addresses a resolution to lift
- 9 the Energy Commission's suspension of eligibility for
- 10 electric generating facilities using biomethane for the
- 11 RPS. Staff proposes lifting the suspension because
- 12 adoption of the 7th Edition of the RPS Guidebook will
- 13 implement Assembly Bill 2196 and establish new
- 14 requirements for the eligibility of these facilities.
- 15 For Agenda Items 4 and 5, staff proposes that
- 16 the Energy Commission adopt revisions to the RPS and
- 17 Overall Guidebooks, both of which the Energy Commission
- 18 adopted last August 2012. Staff proposes changes to
- 19 these Guidebooks to implement new legislation and
- 20 policies and to respond to lessons learned during
- 21 administering the program.
- The initial staff draft of the RPS Guidebook
- 23 was released on March 4th, followed by a staff workshop
- 24 on March 14th; 33 attendees participated in person with
- 25 an additional 100 via WebEx. Public comments were

- 1 received on March 25th, and there were 42 sets of
- 2 comments.
- In response to stakeholders' requests in those
- 4 comments, staff released Draft RPS reporting forms on
- 5 April 8th and received comments on those. The Final
- 6 Draft Guidebook was released April 19th and we received
- 7 nine sets of comments on the Final Draft.
- 8 On April 26th, the Energy Commission released
- 9 proposed Errata to the proposed revisions to the RPS
- 10 Guidebook to address changes that are not substantive in
- 11 nature and provide staff clarifications to the text and
- 12 related forms since the Final Draft was released.
- In addition to the Errata, staff may make minor
- 14 grammatical, punctuation, or formatting edits to the text
- 15 and related forms before publishing the final Guidebook,
- 16 if adopted.
- 17 The RPS Program will no longer make reference
- 18 to the Overall Program Guidebook, which the Energy
- 19 Commission plans to phase out by the end of this year.
- 20 We have incorporated pertinent elements of the Overall
- 21 Program Guidebook into the RPS Guidebook, including
- 22 applying for RPS certification, reconsideration of RPS
- 23 certification, enforcement actions, glossary of terms,
- 24 and we have deleted those elements in the Overall Program
- 25 Guidebook, which will remain in effect to govern

- 1 administration of the New Solar Homes Program until it is
- 2 phased out.
- 3 And with your permission, I'd like to go over
- 4 at a high level staff's proposed changes to the major
- 5 issues?
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Please do so.
- 7 MS. ZOCCHETTI: Thank you. So the Energy
- 8 Commission's roles for administering the RPS are three-
- 9 fold: our first is to certify eligible renewable energy
- 10 resources and to track and verify procurement for RPS
- 11 compliance; those two tasks are accomplished via the RPS
- 12 Guidebook and the Overall Program Guidebook.
- 13 The Energy Commission was recently also tasked
- 14 with developing regulations for the enforcement of the
- 15 RPS for the publicly-owned electric utilities. That task
- 16 is being done in a separate proceeding and Final Draft
- 17 Regulations are expected to be considered on May 8th, so
- 18 that is separate from my presentation today.
- 19 So getting into the proposed revisions to the
- 20 RPS Guidebook, we have added a new section called "What's
- 21 New in this Guidebook" to help participants see if there
- 22 are new changes that are relevant to them at a glance.
- 23 It's just a very high level summary of the proposed
- 24 changes. So I will be going through the issues as they
- 25 appear in the Guidebook, in that order.

- 1 Another section is called "Outstanding Issues,"
- 2 that has always been in the Guidebook, and right now we
- 3 have three Outstanding Issues that are teed up, and this
- 4 means that we understand that they're important, or
- 5 stakeholders have brought them to our attention, but that
- 6 we're not necessarily addressing them now, we want to let
- 7 people know that we are planning to consider them in a
- 8 future revision. And those are: storage for the RPS,
- 9 station service, whether and how changes in law affect
- 10 already certified RPS facilities and then, lastly,
- 11 although there's been no change, the topic of
- 12 precertification remains in the Outstanding Issues
- 13 section.
- One of the major pieces of legislation that
- 15 we're addressing in this Guidebook edition and proposed
- 16 changes is the passage of Assembly Bill 2196 in September
- 17 of last year which changed the RPS eligibility
- 18 requirements for electric generating facilities using
- 19 biomethane. AB 2196 was signed into law in September and
- 20 became effective January 1st of this year. Biomethane is
- 21 now defined as natural gas or digester gas used onsite or
- 22 offsite, using a dedicated pipeline or a common carrier
- 23 pipeline.
- 24 I'm going to go into just a little bit of
- 25 detail regarding AB 2196 because the whole section is

- 1 new. So the bill and, now, the Energy Commission would
- 2 implement the eligibility criteria for existing
- 3 biomethane contracts, and those are executed by a retail
- 4 seller or a publicly owned electric utility and reported
- 5 to the Energy Commission before March 29th, 2012. And as
- 6 you may recall, that was the date that we suspended
- 7 biomethane eligibility.
- 8 The biomethane sources must produce and inject
- 9 biomethane into a common carrier pipeline by April 1,
- 10 2014. So I should point out that this slide just
- 11 addresses the common carrier pipeline, not onsite or
- 12 dedicated pipeline.
- 13 Third, biomethane may not be used at a
- 14 different electric generating facility than was reported
- 15 to the Commission prior to our suspension. And specific
- 16 adjustments that are identified in the Guidebook to
- 17 existing contracts, or incremental generation due to any
- 18 elements that don't meet the existing contracts
- 19 eliqibility criteria trigger having to meet the new
- 20 biomethane procurement contracts eligibility criteria --
- 21 which is on the next slide.
- 22 So new biomethane contracts, or those executed
- 23 by a retail seller or POU on or after March 29, 2012
- 24 would fall into this category. They must have at least
- 25 one direct benefit to the environment in California,

- 1 either to criteria air pollutants, to pollutants that
- 2 could have an adverse impact on the state's waters, or a
- 3 local nuisance associated with the emissions of odors in
- 4 the state. Also, the pipeline used must either flow in
- 5 California or flow toward the electric generating
- 6 facility.
- 7 There are also new requirements regarding the
- 8 attributes associated with the biomethane that's injected
- 9 into the common carrier pipeline, or that is used onsite
- 10 or in a dedicated pipeline. This applies to all of those
- 11 facilities and that is that renewable and environmental
- 12 attributes associated with the production, capture, and
- 13 injection of biomethane must be transferred to the
- 14 electric generating facility, and that's what becomes
- 15 part of the REC.
- 16 Also, there is another attribute stream that is
- 17 associated with the destruction of the methane due to the
- 18 biomethane being injected into the pipeline. Any
- 19 attributes associated with that cannot be used as a
- 20 marketing, regulatory, or retail claim, first, if it's
- 21 required by law to destroy the methane, but second, if
- 22 those claims are made, that is fine as long as those
- 23 attributes are likewise transferred to the generator.
- 24 And it must be retired for the utility's customers.
- 25 So the application process for all biomethane,

- 1 so again this is onsite, using a dedicated pipeline or a
- 2 common carrier pipeline, we have new application forms
- 3 for all these facilities. Facilities with existing
- 4 biomethane contracts, which are sometimes called the
- 5 grandfathered contracts, those will only be certified
- 6 until the allowable quantities of biomethane have been
- 7 used by the generators. If some of those have production
- 8 that is not yet flowing to the pipeline, but will flow by
- 9 April 2014, Applicants must amend their applications to
- 10 let us know when those new sources begin producing and
- 11 injecting into the pipeline.
- We have a truncated application form, I think I
- 13 talked about that coming up for these grandfathered
- 14 facilities.
- 15 The procurement requirements for biomethane,
- 16 meaning the RPS count-in-full or portfolio content
- 17 categories or buckets, the classification of those will
- 18 be done by the Energy Commission for the publicly-owned
- 19 electric utilities and by the CPUC for the retail
- 20 sellers.
- 21 The reporting and accounting will be that the
- 22 monthly data must be reported to the Energy Commission by
- 23 March 31st for generation for the previous calendar year.
- 24 Information will be used to determine eligibility, but
- 25 also will be used in the verification process that the

- 1 Energy Commission conducts after the end of each -- not
- 2 compliance period, but each year we're going to be
- 3 getting reports from all the utilities, and it will also
- 4 be used for that process.
- 5 So moving on to other sections, the renewable
- 6 facilities using multiple energy resources, biomass
- 7 facilities that were previously participating in the
- 8 existing Renewable Facilities Program, that is no longer
- 9 active, those may continue to use up to five percent non-
- 10 renewable fuel and count all of their output as RPS
- 11 eligible until the end of their procurement contracts, or
- 12 the end of this year, whichever is later. They will be
- 13 subject to the standard de minimus requirements
- 14 thereafter, which is facilities may use up to two percent
- 15 non-renewable fuel and may use up to five percent if they
- 16 can show that certain environmental benefits are met.
- 17 Solar thermal facilities previously in the
- 18 existing program may continue to use up to 25 percent
- 19 non-renewable fuel. The issue for how the solar thermal
- 20 facilities are treated going forward is also teed up in
- 21 the Outstanding Issues section, as I mentioned earlier,
- 22 and that falls under the umbrella of how facilities that
- 23 are certified are treated if the law changes regarding
- 24 their eligibility.
- 25 Under Generation Tracking and Accounting, that

- 1 section clarifies that generation that meets station
- 2 service loads is not eligible for California's RPS for
- 3 facilities with the first point of interconnection --
- 4 this is a mouthful -- to a non-California Balancing
- 5 Authority outside of California, or facilities located
- 6 outside the U.S. The facilities that meet that category
- 7 that serve multi-jurisdictional utilities are subject to
- 8 the eligibility requirements of this section -- we
- 9 clarify that with this Guidebook.
- 10 We also removed the requirement in this section
- 11 that they must address the effects of their facility on
- 12 socioeconomics or worker safety. We determined that
- 13 those are really not environmental criteria.
- We have added a new section; as I mentioned in
- 15 the Outstanding Issues portion, Energy Storage is there
- 16 because we understand we're going to be looking into this
- 17 further, but for now we are adding a new section called
- 18 Energy Storage, and we say that an energy storage device
- 19 will be considered an addition or an enhancement to
- 20 renewable electrical generation facility if it meets one
- 21 of these classifications. An integrated energy storage
- 22 device is an enhancement if it stores the energy
- 23 potential before actual electricity generation such as a
- 24 battery, or a directly connected energy storage device
- 25 which is not integrated can be considered, or is an

- 1 addition to the facility if the storage device and
- 2 renewable energy facility are directly connected and are
- 3 operated as part of the renewable energy facility.
- 4 In our initial staff draft, we addressed how
- 5 facilities that were certified for the RPS by the
- 6 contracting utility would be addressed, and we got a lot
- 7 of comments on that. And so now we are proposing that
- 8 the certification deadline which would have been -- we
- 9 were proposing before that all those facilities must come
- 10 to us and reapply by the end of this year -- but in
- 11 response to their comments that many of these contracts
- 12 are ongoing, we are now modifying that to say that the
- 13 certification deadline with expired contracts remains,
- 14 but they must reapply for RPS certification on their own
- 15 behalf by the end of the adoption of this Guidebook if
- 16 their contract is already expired.
- Because of this, we're asking utilities to now
- 18 give us information regarding when their contracts expire
- 19 so that we can better track them in the future, and then
- 20 once their contract expires they must reapply on their
- 21 own behalf. And this is mostly to get more information
- 22 directly from the facility. We only got minimal
- 23 information initially from the utilities.
- 24 Under the Certification section, the RPS
- 25 Eligibility date begins when the complete application for

- 1 certification or precertification is received, except
- 2 under specific conditions that would incur a later date,
- 3 and those are outlined in the Guidebook.
- 4 There are special cases for counting generation
- 5 prior to the eligibility date and those are under
- 6 facilities that are under a net surplus generation, under
- 7 an AB 920 net surplus compensation program; also existing
- 8 40 megawatt hydroelectric units that are part of a water
- 9 supply or conveyance system; it's also for facilities
- 10 serving POUs as they get up to speed with the RPS; and
- 11 also facilities using biomethane. Because of our
- 12 suspension, we didn't want to create kind of a Catch 22
- 13 for those. And as I mentioned earlier, for the
- 14 "grandfathered" biomethane contracts, we have developed a
- 15 Response to Comments for the requirement to reapply. We
- 16 have developed a truncated application form and two
- 17 supplemental forms for them to fill out. And due to
- 18 their request, that form and those two supplemental
- 19 forms, we plan to post those by close of business today
- 20 so that they can immediately apply tomorrow, so that
- 21 those can get moving forward. The website is provided
- 22 there on that slide where they will be posted.
- 23 Also under the Certification section, we've
- 24 covered historic carryover for POUs, and this is
- 25 generation that occurred before the POUs were brought

- 1 under the Energy Commission's purview under its
- 2 regulations. And this is generation that occurred from
- 3 2004 to 2010, and for them to apply for certification the
- 4 generation must have been procured under a procurement
- 5 contract or ownership agreement with the POU that was
- 6 executed before June 1st, 2010, and it must be from
- 7 resources that were RPS eligible under the Energy
- 8 Commission's rules for the retail sellers at the time
- 9 that their contract or ownership agreement was executed,
- 10 with the exception that they did not have to participate
- 11 in WREGIS at that time.
- 12 This slide just discusses that we continuously
- 13 try to provide more transparency regarding where
- 14 facilities are in our review process and what status they
- 15 have, whether they're received, incomplete, returned,
- 16 approved, withdrawn, or suspended, and so forth. And
- 17 those are provided in the Guidebook, as well.
- 18 We get a lot of inquiries from interested
- 19 parties wanting to know the status of the facilities that
- 20 have applied for RPS certification, and that website
- 21 provides this information.
- We've very much expanded our exception on RPS
- 23 tracking, reporting and verification. We've discussed
- 24 the interim tracking system and WREGIS, the Western
- 25 Renewable Energy Generation Information System. We've

- 1 discussed REC retirement and reporting requirements, for
- 2 example, reporting RECs and how to retire them and use
- 3 them for RPS compliance, how to name them in the WREGIS
- 4 system so that we can begin our verification process. We
- 5 discuss the verification methodology using the inter-
- 6 tracking system for those that are still using that, but
- 7 we are phasing that out and transitioning to WREGIS. We
- 8 also discuss the Energy Commission's process for
- 9 finalizing the verified data and the reporting that we
- 10 will do as a result of that process.
- 11 Under the RPS Procurement Requirements, we
- 12 discuss the agency's roles between the Energy Commission
- 13 and the CPUC, which is our sister agency for implementing
- 14 the RPS. We discuss count-in-full and the portfolio
- 15 content categories and the requirements that we need
- 16 everyone to submit to us so that we can make that
- 17 determination for the POUs; again, the CPUC will make
- 18 that determination for the retail sellers. And we
- 19 describe our verification process and how applicants or
- 20 utilities can contest or correct erroneous
- 21 classifications in that process.
- The statute prohibits a retail seller from
- 23 claiming RECs that it is has procured from a POU unless
- 24 the POU has basically met its own RPS, so we lay out how
- 25 that will be determined.

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- 2 Administration and this is bringing over information from
- 3 the Overall Program Guidebook regarding information on
- 4 cancelling RPS certification, audits, how the Energy
- 5 Commission retains records, and the use and disclosure of
- 6 information and records by the Energy Commission.
- 7 We have added an option that the Executive
- 8 Director may extend a due date for a report submission
- 9 for good cause.
- 10 Another new section brought over from the
- 11 Overall Program Guidebook is a glossary of terms. We've
- 12 brought over definitions that are only relevant to the
- 13 RPS and added them to the RPS Eligibility Guidebook. In
- 14 addition, some terms that were already in the Guidebook
- 15 or brought over from the Overall Program Guidebook were
- 16 either revised, deleted, or edited.
- 17 We also have four Appendices to the RPS
- 18 Guidebook that contain our forms and reporting
- 19 instructions, we have a history of the RPS legislation,
- 20 and a summary of reporting requirements and deadlines in
- 21 the table, and those are found in the four appendices.
- 22 And that concludes my presentation and, with
- 23 that, I would propose that the Commission adopt staff's
- 24 proposed revisions to the RPS Eligibility Guidebook and
- 25 the Overall Program Guidebook, and we would be happy to

- 1 address any questions from the Commissioners. I think we
- 2 want to discuss Errata at this time.
- 3 MR. HERRERA: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 4 Before you act on it or accept public comments, I just
- 5 want to clarify for the record, so on Friday the 19th,
- 6 yes, this past Friday, Energy Commission staff went out
- 7 -- twenty-something, I apologize -- went out -- the 26th
- 8 -- went out with an Errata which were minor, non-
- 9 substantive changes, these were minor fixes that we
- 10 discovered after we went out with the staff final, and we
- 11 felt it was appropriate to go out with the public notice
- 12 informing the public of these additional minor changes.
- 13 So when the Commission accepts the -- or acts on the
- 14 staff's recommendation, it is with these proposed Errata
- 15 that it will be acting.
- 16 In addition, it looks like our Errata, which we
- 17 went out with in haste, unfortunately, missed a couple of
- 18 points, so there are some typos and some formatting fixes
- 19 that we'll need to make, and we've also -- it's also been
- 20 brought to our attention that one of the footnotes
- 21 included language that was not necessary. And what I'm
- 22 going to do is I'm going to read that footnote into the
- 23 record because it's not identified in the Errata that
- 24 went out Friday, so that the Commission can consider
- 25 that, as well. It's a little bit unorthodox, but I

- 1 figured it was more important to address it now at one
- 2 time rather than to postpone it, and this footnote is on
- 3 page 26 and it is footnote 39, and it deals with
- 4 biomethane. And what this footnote was intended to do is
- 5 to clarify that, with respect to grandfathered biomethane
- 6 contracts under Assembly Bill 2196, that it is possible
- 7 for a POU affiliate entity, or retail seller, or
- 8 affiliate entity to have entered into this contract, this
- 9 biomethane contract, on behalf of a POU or the retail
- 10 seller. And for that purpose, it will be okay to accept
- 11 that contract for the purpose of 2196. We also in that
- 12 footnote reference an agent of a retail seller or a POU,
- 13 and we think that language is unnecessary; again, our
- 14 intent was to try to capture those entities such as
- 15 another department within the City that might be acting
- 16 on the POU's behalf, or perhaps an affiliate entity of a
- 17 retail seller that was acting on behalf of the retail
- 18 seller, to enter into the contract on the retail seller
- 19 or POU's behalf. So we would propose that that language
- 20 referring to an agent be stricken and be considered at
- 21 this time.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, so that is on
- 23 line 3?
- 24 MR. HERRERA: That's on line 3 of the footnote,
- 25 that's correct.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: And so if we strike
- 2 after "entity?"
- MR. HERRERA: We strike after "entity or agent"
- 4 so that the affiliate --
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: We strike the words "or
- 6 agent."
- 7 MR. HERRERA: Right.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So the comma and the
- 9 "or agent" are stricken from footnote 39 on page 26.
- 10 MR. HERRERA: That's correct.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay.
- MR. HERRERA: And what we would propose to do
- 13 if the Commission accepts these changes, as well as the
- 14 other Errata, we would go out with a notice informing the
- 15 public that these changes were made and considered by the
- 16 Commission.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Now, in terms of the
- 18 other changes to the Errata, do you want to walk through
- 19 those right now?
- 20 MR. HERRERA: Those were noticed. We can walk
- 21 through them if you like. I think Kate is prepared to do
- 22 that.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Would you please do
- 24 that so we have a complete record?
- MR. HERRERA: That would be great.

- 1 MS. ZOCCHETTI: Would you like me to read them
- 2 in their entirety into the record?
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, if you could
- 4 point out where they are and read them?
- 5 MS. ZOCCHETTI: Certainly, I would be happy to
- 6 do that. The first one is on page 32. It just adds a
- 7 phrase to the title of that section for clarity. "3:
- 8 RPS procurement requirements for utilities using
- 9 biomethane, we propose to add 'delivered through a common
- 10 carrier pipeline.'"
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Actually, what I was
- 12 hoping is, to the extent you have any changes to the
- 13 Errata --
- MS. ZOCCHETTI: Oh, changes to the Errata,
- 15 sorry.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: To the Errata, that you
- 17 indicate those now, as opposed to re-reading the Errata,
- 18 per se.
- MS. ZOCCHETTI: I see, thank you.
- 20 MR. HERRERA: I think that was the only one.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Thank you.
- 22 Okay, so let's go to comments now and then we will have
- 23 questions for you after that.
- 24 So first commenter, Randy Howard, LADWP. And
- 25 anyone who has comments, get a blue card from the back,

- 1 and anyone in the room, anyone on the phone, please
- 2 notify Harriet.
- MR. HOWARD: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
- 4 Commissioners. Randy Howard, Los Angeles Department of
- 5 Water and Power. I'm the Director of Power System
- 6 Planning and Development for the Los Angeles Department
- 7 of Water and Power.
- 8 LADWP is committed to the long term procurement
- 9 of renewable energy and we want to thank all of the CEC
- 10 staff, as well as the Commission for their work in
- 11 implementing SB 21% into the RPS Eligibility Guidebooks.
- 12 I am thankful for some of the changes that have been made
- 13 and the working relationship that we've had. I wish
- 14 there would still be a little bit more in the Errata and
- 15 I want to highlight a couple issues that remain
- 16 outstanding to LADWP.
- 17 In general, we still get concerned in reading
- 18 the Guidebook that the document remains relatively
- 19 restrictive in some of the criteria. We think there
- 20 needs to be more flexibility. We think we continue to
- 21 move in the procurement of renewables and operating at
- 22 levels of renewables that we've never operated at before.
- 23 Some of the proposed -- or the staff's proposals are
- 24 quite restrictive as to how you count and the approach
- 25 related to the activities. Most of the renewables aren't

- 1 intermittent, they're hard to predict, and that includes
- 2 even some of the biomethane issues when you're dealing
- 3 with landfills and other types of criteria, the levels
- 4 change frequently depending on temperature and other
- 5 criteria on a landfill. So that's just a general comment
- 6 that we've continued to work with staff on, is that we
- 7 don't think there's enough recognition as to the
- 8 flexibility the utilities need to be successful, and I
- 9 think the objective here is to be successful in achieving
- 10 the goals of the RPS.
- 11 LADWP continues to disagree with the staff
- 12 proposal on the retroactivity application of the 3rd
- 13 Edition for the RPS Eligibility Guidebook for the pre-
- 14 2010 POU RPS projects. Prior to 2010, our governing
- 15 authority, we have a five-member Board of Commissioners,
- 16 we have 15 full-time Council Members and a Mayor in the
- 17 City of Los Angeles, they put together an RPS policy
- 18 based on the law in place at the time. They made
- 19 decisions, they approved in public forums all of our
- 20 procurement activities prior to the 2010; we think those
- 21 should count in full, we think that the statutory
- 22 language is clear. We think even in AB 2196 the language
- 23 is clear that those decisions made prior to the
- 24 moratorium on the biomethane count in full to the extent
- 25 that those decisions were made. We believe that still is

- 1 a difference as to the staff's proposal versus what we
- 2 believe statutorily should apply.
- 3 We also have continued concerns related to
- 4 distributed solar, the behind the meter. We've discussed
- 5 this before related to the metering requirement, the plus
- 6 or minus two percent metering requirement versus what was
- 7 installed prior to the SB 21X and LADWP's procurement
- 8 where we have a plus or minus five percent meter. We do
- 9 not think that just because we do not have a plus or
- 10 minus two percent meter that those should no longer count
- 11 towards the requirements of RPS would be eligible. We
- 12 think the cost of going out and changing all those meters
- 13 on the existing systems, many of them have been installed
- 14 for a number of years, is not a good use of Ratepayer
- 15 money, nor a good use of the utility resources. So we
- 16 would ask for a change in consideration there. We have
- 17 committed to the CEC that all of our new installations
- 18 certainly will have the metering requirements that are
- 19 necessary, but we still need on the table a number of
- 20 solar systems that have the previous metering
- 21 configuration.
- Related to that, as well, is we believe and we
- 23 have paved under SB 1, we have two incentive programs at
- 24 LADWP, one for those that want to retain the value of
- 25 their RECs, those customers can choose one level of

- 1 incentive, and then we pay a premium incentive related to
- 2 those that want to provide those RECs to LADWP. We
- 3 believe that those that have made those decisions, that
- 4 the value that we have placed on it is a Bucket 1 value.
- 5 To provide it as anything other than a Bucket 1 is
- 6 generated in California -- generated on the utility grid
- 7 systems, they're beneficial, we think we should get the
- 8 full value for that, we think it's detrimental to small
- 9 solar systems and to the state by not providing that
- 10 within the Eligibility Guidebooks.
- I'll try to wrap up here, but substitute
- 12 electricity for firming and shaping. LADWP made a number
- 13 of decisions for wind development in the Pacific
- 14 Northwest, we've talked before, we cluster our projects
- 15 based on different wind profiles, we made a number of
- 16 investments in the Pacific Northwest, we do firm and
- 17 shape those projects up there because there's great
- 18 benefit in doing that. The Pacific Northwest peaks in
- 19 the winter, we peak in the summer, doing firming and
- 20 shaping with the Pacific Northwest makes a lot of sense,
- 21 it's economical for our Ratepayers and it's going to help
- 22 us act to meeting the renewal goals. By not allowing us
- 23 to take what we firm and shape and rolling it in a 12-
- 24 year rolling process for counting it towards RPS, we
- 25 think, is detrimental to those investments that have been

- 1 made. Right now, the staff proposal is you have to
- 2 retire all those RECs you generate within a calendar
- 3 year. So in the winter months, we have good wind
- 4 production out there, November/December, they're saying I
- 5 have to use those and retire those RECs, receive the firm
- 6 and shape in those months for the production in those
- 7 months; we'd rather roll that into the season that best
- 8 fits us and leave that energy up there for them during
- 9 their peak. We think it helps the entire western grid.
- 10 So we think this is detrimental towards the benefits that
- 11 we invested in initially at LADWP.
- 12 And in closing, some of the changes in the
- 13 biofuels, the amount of time that we had to go through
- 14 that not quite sufficient, but one of the comments on
- 15 moving to a de minimus of 2 percent versus a 5 percent is
- 16 a concern to us, and it comes out of some of the
- 17 facilities where we have some production that's related
- 18 to biofuels. We do think the 5 percent is a more
- 19 reasonable number, going to the 2 percent, we're not sure
- 20 why that is necessary and we don't think it's part of the
- 21 statute or a requirement of the statute. Thank you for
- 22 the opportunity to comment.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Tim Tutt.
- 24 MR. TUTT: Good morning, Commissioners, welcome
- 25 Commissioner Scott. SMUD stands here in support of

- 1 adopting the 7th Edition of the Renewable Guidebook
- 2 today. We think it's a milestone in the implementation
- 3 of the RPS, one that's been delayed for a while, and has
- 4 actually progressed pretty quickly here at the end, and
- 5 that's one of the things that I want to bring up as we
- 6 move forward.
- We do think it's important for the market to
- 8 have the certainty of having the Guidebook in place and
- 9 having the RPS rules adopted very quickly next month.
- 10 However, as I mentioned, things have moved very quickly
- 11 in the last month or so on the RPS Guidebook and we
- 12 actually think there's been insufficient time for
- 13 stakeholders to comment and for staff to really
- 14 understand or consider those comments completely, and to
- 15 have interaction with stakeholders to achieve the best
- 16 policy possible for the RPS. Don't get me wrong, staff
- 17 has worked very hard on this and I really appreciate the
- 18 hard work and the work that they've done, and you guys as
- 19 well. We just think that, as we move forward after
- 20 adoption, there needs to be some reconsideration of some
- 21 of the aspects of the RPS.
- 22 And let me give you a few examples, some of
- 23 them that Randy mentioned from LADWP. Let's look at
- 24 behind the meter distributed generation. The Guidebook
- 25 says that that distributed generation has to be procured

- 1 as bundled, but there's nothing in SB X12 that requires
- 2 those resources to be bundled, it merely says they have
- 3 to be interconnected to a distribution system within
- 4 California. If they're not procured bundled, and in many
- 5 cases it's difficult to prove that because the energy is
- 6 often used on-site, sometimes shipped back and forth,
- 7 what's the consequence? Are those resources Category 3
- 8 resources? And if so, what happens to an entity that
- 9 happens to do very well in fostering those resources,
- 10 which the State also supports policy-wise? Let's say
- 11 that they get 15 percent of their energy from distributed
- 12 solar; by 2020 they won't be able to count five percent
- 13 of it for the RPS. That doesn't make sense. These
- 14 resources are located within California, they're
- 15 renewable, they don't have to be bundled, and the Energy
- 16 Commission should take another look at that whole issue
- 17 of the bundling and unbundling of the Category 1 and
- 18 distributed generation resources.
- 19 We also think that the metering requirements
- 20 for these smaller resources, particularly with
- 21 aggregation, as they're required to be included in the
- 22 RPS don't need to be as strict as they are for larger
- 23 generators. They trade off between accuracy and
- 24 bureaucracy here, and we think that the cost of doing all
- 25 the metering to that level of degree for these smaller

- 1 aggregated resources is unnecessary.
- 2 A couple of other small things. One thing in
- 3 terms of we're very pleased and we hope in item 6 that
- 4 you'll will remove the biomethane suspension, but one of
- 5 the -- there's a lot of material in the Guidebook about
- 6 how biomethane now is eligible or not eligible for the
- 7 RPS. And one of the criteria that we've commented on in
- 8 the past is that you should be able to move this viable
- 9 renewable resource from one generating facility to
- 10 another. AB 2196 doesn't have any prohibition on that
- 11 movement that we see and we see circumstances where it
- 12 really makes sense to be able to move this, or you lose
- 13 value and lose procurement. So we would recommend that
- 14 that be removed from the Guidebook. It's a requirement
- 15 that you guys, your staff, or you guys seem to have
- 16 imposed, but it doesn't seem to us to be in the law, and
- 17 we don't understand why. Part of the reason we don't
- 18 understand why is we haven't had time for the interaction
- 19 with staff, with you, to really understand why they came
- 20 down the way they did when parties commented in a
- 21 different way.
- 22 So I'll sum up there and I just appreciate that
- 23 the work is proceeding, we're moving forward, and the
- 24 market is going to, you know, have a little bit more
- 25 certainty going forward. Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Darren
- 2 Bouton.
- MR. BOUTON: Mr. Chair and Commissioners,
- 4 welcome Commissioner Scott, I would actually respectfully
- 5 request if possible to be deferred to the end of the
- 6 comments simply because my client is hustling over here
- 7 and if possible if it would be okay to allow them to
- 8 comment in person?
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Sure. Anthony
- 10 Andreoni.
- MR. ANDREONI: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 12 Anthony Andreoni from the California Municipal Utilities
- 13 Association. Thanks for the opportunity to come up and
- 14 address the Commission. The CMUA members are very
- 15 supportive and have been working very closely with CEC
- 16 staff on this. We appreciate the amount of effort that
- 17 they've been putting in to address even the concerns that
- 18 have been raised. CMUA, as you are aware, represents
- 19 over 40 municipal electric utilities in California and we
- 20 do support what L.A. and SMUD mentioned a few minutes ago
- 21 as far as a few additional issues.
- I'm just going to speak broadly for a few other
- 23 points. And that is on the Outstanding Issues that were
- 24 mentioned, we suggest that staff consider four workshops,
- 25 for example, dealing with storage, four workshops on

- 1 addressing some of those issues as they're integrated
- 2 into the guidance document.
- 3 We also have some concerns that pre-
- 4 certification has still not really been addressed and
- 5 that's something that we would also recommend continuing
- 6 dialogue with the staff on. Many of our members have
- 7 already said that the certainty aspect of being able to
- 8 use the Guidebook and understanding exactly what resource
- 9 is going to count in the product content category is
- 10 extremely important to our members, given the fact that
- 11 verification on the utilities for those resources is not
- 12 going to occur for quite a few months or years later.
- 13 For example, if our members are using biomethane,
- 14 depending on the date that it was actually brought into
- 15 service, if it is upon our content Category 1, it would
- 16 be great to know upfront that that's going to be counted
- 17 as a Category 1.
- And, again, this is something I raised in some
- 19 of the workshops with staff, this is kind of a pseudo
- 20 regulatory process and not necessarily all the comments
- 21 that we've submitted were addressed, or at least
- 22 explained why they may not be addressed at this point,
- 23 and one of the particular issues is the fact that some of
- 24 the decisions made within the Guidebook do affect our
- 25 members on a cost perspective. And I would just look in

- 1 the future that, as changes are made in this Guidebook,
- 2 and in moving forward as the RPS regulation becomes
- 3 closer to being adopted, that the two kind of come
- 4 together and cost, as far as what has changed in this
- 5 Guidebook, and in the future regarding RPS, is looked at
- 6 very closely for our members, so our members aren't
- 7 impacted as we continue to implement and bring in new
- 8 resources. So with that, I appreciate providing
- 9 comments. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Andy
- 11 Schwartz.
- MR. SCHWARTZ: Chairman Weisenmiller,
- 13 Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak
- 14 today. I'm here on behalf of Solar City and I'll keep my
- 15 comments fairly brief. I'm here to express support for
- 16 the language in the revised Guidebooks specifically
- 17 related to energy storage. I think the language provides
- 18 much needed regulatory certainty and circumstances or to
- 19 determine what circumstances are required for a storage
- 20 system to be considered an addition or enhancement for
- 21 the systems that Solar City is in progress on. This
- 22 status has significant implications on interconnection
- 23 costs and process under the Net Energy Metering Program.
- I think what we're seeing with the language in
- 25 the Guidebook, coupled with efforts at the PUC related to

- 1 AB 2514 implementation, changes that now I guess are
- 2 probably on the order of two-years-old related to the
- 3 Self-Generation Incentive Program, we're really starting
- 4 to see some policies coalesce, are really supportive of
- 5 policies that coalesce around storage, and I think the
- 6 changes to the Guidebook represent sort of the next step
- 7 in that evolution of the regulatory environment and can
- 8 really help some of these technologies gain some
- 9 important traction in the market.
- 10 I don't want to spend too much time on the
- 11 language because, as I said, I do believe it ended up in
- 12 a very positive place there. I do specifically want to
- 13 recognize both the Commissioner offices, as well as staff
- 14 for all their efforts, given the time constraints that
- 15 everybody is operating on, to really sit down with
- 16 affected stakeholders regarding energy storage, and
- 17 really at least understanding and listening to us on what
- 18 our concerns are. I think some of the important nuances
- 19 are captured in the language, in particular preserving
- 20 the jurisdictional authority of the PUC on metering
- 21 issues. You know, obviously when you are impacting or
- 22 changing a Guidebook like this that is relied upon by
- 23 other programs that are jurisdictional, other agencies,
- 24 that kind of coordination is critical and I understand
- 25 that the CEC just does pretty commendable outreach to the

- 1 PUC to make sure that the agencies weren't stepping on
- 2 each other's toes. So I think with that, that's really
- 3 all I have to say. I do again want to thank you for your
- 4 time and staff's efforts on this, and look forward to
- 5 adoption of the Guidebook today. Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Valerie
- 7 Winn.
- 8 MS. WINN: Good morning. Valerie Winn with
- 9 Pacific Gas & Electric Company. I wanted to express
- 10 PG&E's support for the Guidebook adoption today. We were
- 11 very pleased to see two areas in particular where updates
- 12 have been made from previous versions of the draft,
- 13 specifically in the area of certification of QF contracts
- 14 and also in some of the count in full provisions and the
- 15 clarity on the eligibility of the resource at the time
- 16 the contract was executed, those were two good updates
- 17 for us.
- 18 PG&E has provided a number of comments on the
- 19 draft. There are still a few other areas where we would
- 20 like to see some additional changes, and those have to do
- 21 with the ability to procure prior period RECs for
- 22 compliance, also with the eligibility of small DG
- 23 programs, and some additional clarity in the biomethane
- 24 area. First, on the ability to buy prior period RECs,
- 25 when I say prior period RECs, these would be RECs that

- 1 said, for the compliance period from 2011 through 2013,
- 2 our compliance reporting wouldn't be due until June of
- 3 2014. Once the books had closed on 2013, though, you may
- 4 find that, oh, because you don't know what your sales
- 5 were up through the end of the year, you might not have
- 6 quite enough, and there may still be some RECs in the
- 7 marketplace that were generated in 2011 to 2013, and we
- 8 think we should have the authority to be able to buy
- 9 those in 2014 to count towards our earlier obligation,
- 10 our compliance obligation period. That would be
- 11 something that would give people additional flexibility
- 12 and, of course, you know, the generation was created in
- 13 the time period for compliance. So we think that
- 14 flexibility would be important.
- 15 And the second area with respect to eligibility
- 16 of small DG facilities, that's an area where we have
- 17 commented on many occasions that the metering
- 18 requirements are very burdensome for small customer
- 19 generators, and we would like to continue working with
- 20 the CEC staff in those areas to try to come up with a
- 21 program that's balanced and that will help accommodate
- 22 the different sized generators that are in our system.
- 23 Lastly, in the biomethane area, because when we
- 24 sign our contracts we want to be sure that our customers
- 25 are getting the full benefit of the contracts that we

- 1 sign, so additional clarity on what will be used to
- 2 demonstrate eligibility of deliveries will be helpful.
- 3 In particular, as we're looking at physical flows, some
- 4 people who are getting the deliveries of that gas may not
- 5 actually get physical flow information and we would like
- 6 to be able to use gas schedules to demonstrate that we
- 7 have taken delivery of the gas. So those sorts of things
- 8 would still need to be worked out, but we certainly want
- 9 to make sure that, if we're spending money in procuring
- 10 biogas, which is eligible RPS fuel, that our customers
- 11 get the benefit of that, so some clarity there.
- 12 And then there is an element that requires, I
- 13 believe, load serving entities to provide the biomethane
- 14 contracts to the CEC so that they can verify the green
- 15 attributes that have been conveyed. We would like the
- 16 IOUs to be exempt from that provision because the CPUC
- 17 reviews and approves all of our biomethane contracts and
- 18 there are non-modifiable provisions in those CPUC
- 19 approved contracts about the conveyance of green
- 20 attributes. So we'd like to eliminate that.
- 21 Lastly, we think there is a definition that
- 22 seems to be missing from the Guidebook and that is on the
- 23 delivery path, and that seems to be a term that's not
- 24 specified for biomethane contracts. And PG&E would like
- 25 that to be defined as really being the delivery path as

- 1 between the point of injection and the ultimate point of
- 2 delivery, that it doesn't need to be, you know, a very
- 3 detailed descriptive definition, but that it should be
- 4 defined in the Guidebook.
- 5 And we look forward to working with the team on
- 6 the 8th Guidebook update, as I'm sure we will have one,
- 7 and thank you very much.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. I'm going
- 9 to go to a couple parties on the phone. Let's start with
- 10 Rachel Gold.
- MS. GOLD: Yes, good morning. Can you hear me?
- 12 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yes.
- MS. GOLD: Great, thank you. This is Rachel
- 14 Gold from Large Scale Solar Association. I'm a Policy
- 15 Director and have a couple comments this morning. We
- 16 appreciate staff's hard work in issuing the revised
- 17 Guidebook quickly. But we continue to have some concern
- 18 with some of the proposed revisions and feel that the
- 19 rush to get the Guidebook out has not given the time
- 20 necessary to fully develop or consider some of the
- 21 changes, and I think that's been reflected in some of the
- 22 earlier comments here this morning.
- 23 Specifically, we're concerned with some of the
- 24 proposed revisions in actually the new biomethane section
- 25 and the requirement of the delivery of new biomethane

- 1 procurement contracts via common carrier pipeline. Of
- 2 particular concern is the new 50 percent flow test. It
- 3 is unclear to where this standard came from and why and
- 4 how it meets the requirements of AB 2196. We feel that
- 5 setting a standard that from an annualized percentage of
- 6 flow, in the place where we're relying on displacement to
- 7 meet the statutory flow requirement and that that does
- 8 not comply with the statutory language of AB 2196, which
- 9 was intended to ensure the biomethane would be burned at
- 10 the designated facility.
- In addition, the section as written, the 50
- 12 percent flow requirement, doesn't appear to be easily
- 13 verifiable, and we are concerned about the implementation
- 14 of that section. We do really appreciate some of the
- 15 other clarifications and changes that staff has made to
- 16 this section in response to our comments and others, and
- 17 look forward to continuing to working with the staff
- 18 going forward on the next iteration. And with that, I
- 19 appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments.
- 20 Thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, thank you. Oscar
- 22 Herrera from SCPPA.
- 23 MR. HERRERA: Hello. This is Oscar Herrera and
- 24 I am the current Interim Director of Regulatory Affairs
- 25 here at Southern the California Public Power Authority,

- 1 or SCPPA. SCPPA is a Joint Powers Authority that
- 2 consists of 11 municipal utilities in Socal and one
- 3 Irrigation District. SCPPA would like to echo and
- 4 support the verbal comments provided by LADWP, SMUD and
- 5 CMUA. First and foremost, we would like to thank CEC
- 6 staff for their hard work with this iteration of the
- 7 Guidebook. However, SCPPA believes that this iteration
- 8 of the Guidebook needs to be further revised. In
- 9 general, the current draft of the Guidebook has not been
- 10 fully vetted and assumes that the POU enforcement
- 11 procedures have already been adopted. First of all,
- 12 SCPPA does not believe that ample time was provided to
- 13 fully review the Guidebook. The first comment period of
- 14 this guidebook was twelve business days and was issued
- 15 while the POUs were still reviewing the draft RPS
- 16 enforcement procedures, which also requires our full
- 17 attention. The second review period was approximately
- 18 four business days and the Errata had a review period of
- 19 two days. These documents are again being reviewed in
- 20 parallel with the RPS enforcement procures. There are
- 21 sections in the quidebook which state that if a
- 22 biomethane resource has already been certified a utility
- 23 only needs to submit that certification to the CEC. Yet
- 24 there are other sections that state that a utility needs
- 25 to resubmit all biomethane resources regardless if such

- 1 resources are already certified in the past. SCPPA wants
- 2 a clarification in the guidebook that if a biomethane
- 3 resource has been certified or pre-certified that the
- 4 resource will remain certified or pre-certified.
- 5 Another issue is the metering formula for small
- 6 solar installations, and this issue has been raised by
- 7 all the parties as well. The current metering requirement
- 8 is burdensome and we would appreciate the Commission's
- 9 reconsideration of this requirement.
- 10 Lastly, SCPPA is concerned about the PUC's
- 11 grandfathering provision of SB 2 1X which is an integral
- 12 part of this guidebook as well as the RPS enforcement
- 13 procedures. The current interpretation retroactively
- 14 applies the utility guidebooks to utilities that were not
- 15 subject to the guidebooks before SB 2 1X, an integral
- 16 part of retroactively applying such rules to procurements
- 17 that predate the RPS. SCPPA does not believe that the
- 18 intent of the Legislature was to advocate to override the
- 19 decisions of boards and councils that were made prior to
- 20 SB 2 1X
- 21 Again, SCPPA would like to thank the CEC staff
- 22 for their hard work on this iteration of the Guidebook.
- 23 We thank you for your time and consideration of these
- 24 comments.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. So there

- 1 are a couple parties in the room now, I was going to go
- 2 to Darren?
- MR. BOUTON: Mr. Chair, thank you for your
- 4 flexibility and attempting to accommodate that. So my
- 5 name is Darren Bouton and I represent CYRQ Energy, and I
- 6 just have a couple of really quick points to make. CYRQ
- 7 urges the Commission to create a definition for station
- 8 service, rather than simply deferring to WREGIS, whose
- 9 definition, we believe, is somewhat arbitrary. We
- 10 propose using the FERC definition for station service so
- 11 that all renewable technologies are treated similarly and
- 12 can be on a level playing field in regards to what is and
- 13 what is not considered station service. Specifically
- 14 from our perspective, CYRQ is concerned that binary
- 15 geothermal is singled out and treated differently in the
- 16 WREGIS document that is referenced in the Guidebook
- 17 changes.
- 18 And finally, it's our understanding, and this
- 19 is more of a philosophical issue, but it's our
- 20 understanding that WREGIS was not really intended to be a
- 21 policy setting entity necessarily, and as a result of
- 22 that we tend to believe that we should rely on existing
- 23 policy setting entities such as FERC and/or the
- 24 Commission to define requirements that apply to our
- 25 industry.

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- 2 through the CEC's process, there have been a variety of
- 3 stakeholders who have commented on this one little
- 4 specific issue of station service, and so we ask that you
- 5 please consider that. And then, finally, if the CEC does
- 6 intend to revisit the issue of station service, we would
- 7 hope that maybe as a starting point you would consider
- 8 using the existing FERC definition of station service as
- 9 opposed to referring to WREGIS. With that, thank you for
- 10 the opportunity, I appreciate your time.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Dario
- 12 Frommer. Good to see you today.
- MR. FROMMER: Good to see you, Chair
- 14 Weisenmiller and Commissioners. Very very brief
- 15 comments. I'm Dario Frommer. I'm representing JRE and
- 16 Element Markets (ph), two vendors who have contracts
- 17 executed and submitted prior to March 29, 2012. I really
- 18 want to first and foremost thank the Commission and staff
- 19 for working so quickly on this. For my clients, who have
- 20 been waiting for more than a year for some certainty
- 21 about this process, the speed with which this has been
- 22 handled after AB 2196 has been passed, it's very
- 23 heartening and we appreciate all the good efforts.
- I do want to make a couple of comments still on
- 25 the Guidebook, and some questions in the Guidebook with

- 1 regard to adjustments to existing biomethane procurement
- 2 contracts. This would be on page 27. There is a
- 3 provision here about quantities of biomethane, this is
- 4 number 3, from sources that are identified which may be
- 5 optional to the buyer. We believe that the intent of the
- 6 law was to say, if there's an option in the contract for
- 7 the Buyer, it's okay as long as the amount of gas on that
- 8 option does not exceed the total amount contemplated
- 9 under the contract. What this does is, any option in the
- 10 contract, even if it does not exceed the total amount of
- 11 the contract, is not permissible unless the Commission
- 12 says okay. I'd like to work with the staff and talk to
- 13 the Commission on revisiting that, we don't think that
- 14 was the spirit of 2196. I think there was some legal
- 15 issues inherent in that, the interference with the
- 16 contract there, but we'd like to work with you on that
- 17 further as things go forward. And again, thank you very
- 18 much for the good work on this. We look forward to
- 19 continuing to work with the staff and the Commission in
- 20 implementing 2196.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Michael
- 22 Boccadoro.
- 23 MR. BOCCADORO: Thank you. Michael Boccadoro
- 24 with the Dolphin Group on behalf of two clients today,
- 25 Biofuels Point Loma, LLC, and the Agricultural Energy

- 1 Consumers Association. And we're in support of the
- 2 revised guidebook. I would be remiss if I didn't take a
- 3 moment to thank Ms. Zocchetti and Mr. Herrera for working
- 4 with Biofuels Pt. Loma, it's one of the first and among
- 5 the only biomethane injection projects in California
- 6 currently operating in San Diego, and it was
- 7 unfortunately caught in sort of a gray area, and we
- 8 appreciate the work that staff did to resolve that issue,
- 9 so we retreated in the spirit of AB 2196.
- 10 And then finally, on behalf of the Ag Energy
- 11 Consumers Association, we are encouraging a lot of dairy
- 12 biomethane injection projects in California. We
- 13 unfortunately, where collateral damage is probably in the
- 14 moratorium, and we are looking forward to having the
- 15 ability to once again inject biomethane into California
- 16 pipelines that can be utilized either for transportation
- 17 fuel or for energy production at directed facilities.
- 18 And we look forward to the lifting of the moratorium,
- 19 which I know is a separate agenda item on the
- 20 Commission's docket today. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Staff,
- 22 we've had a lot of comments, and I just wanted to ask if
- 23 there's any that you feel compelled to respond to. I'm
- 24 thinking you don't have to, but just give you the
- 25 opportunity.

- 1 MR. HERRERA: There were a lot of comments and
- 2 we appreciate all the public comments that we received.
- 3 I do note that there are some comments that overlap into
- 4 the POU Regs and I think in that context that the
- 5 Commission will be obligated in its Final Statement of
- 6 Reason to respond in writing to some of those concerns.
- 7 I know CMUA has raised this issue before in the past, and
- 8 so the Energy Commission will be providing and, in fact,
- 9 has to respond to the Responses in its Final Statement of
- 10 Reasons, that will be part of the rulemaking package that
- 11 is submitted to the Office of Administrative Law, so some
- 12 of these points, again, it may raise, I believe, SCPPA,
- 13 and LADWP, some of those points would be addressed in
- 14 that context.
- 15 MS. ZOCCHETTI: Thank you. I did just want to
- 16 take the opportunity to clarify Valerie Winn from PG&E's
- 17 comment regarding submitting the biomethane contracts,
- 18 whether it be to the CEC or the CPUC, and I appreciate
- 19 that comment and opportunity to clarify. I believe that
- 20 we will be working with the CPUC and I understand that
- 21 they do already have the requirement to transfer the
- 22 renewable attributes as one of their non-modifiable terms
- 23 and conditions, and that they review the IOUs' contracts,
- 24 and I'm aware of that. I just want to clarify, however,
- 25 that the Energy Commission staff will still need the

- 1 biomethane contract because we need the execution date in
- 2 order to determine eligibility. So we can -- we would be
- 3 happy to have contracts with information that we do not
- 4 need if parties want to check with us and they can redact
- 5 that information, and just provide the contract
- 6 information that we do need. So we would be happy to
- 7 work with PG&E to clarify that.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, thank you.
- 9 MR. HERRERA: Chairman, just also on that
- 10 point, there's a process obviously, the Energy
- 11 Commission's confidential designation regulations, where
- 12 the IOUs can submit information to the Energy Commission
- 13 and have it held confidential, so if there's not a way
- 14 that PG&E and the other utilities could submit that
- 15 information to us without redacting information, they
- 16 feel it's sensitive, then they can certainly make a
- 17 request to designate the entire document as confidential
- 18 pursuant to our regulations.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Okay. With
- 20 that, I will, since I've stood out for comments and
- 21 questions, and then I'll turn to my other Commissioners,
- 22 first I'd like to note that it has been a push, we've
- 23 sort of committed to get this done guickly and we have,
- 24 and that's my recommendation today to the Commission is
- 25 that we move forward on this, recognizing that for every

- 1 update, there will be a pending update later, and for
- 2 every update we do, there are outstanding issues, and we
- 3 can talk a little bit about the process on this. But
- 4 generally, I've been working off the draft Guidebook put
- 5 together by Commissioner Peterman and her staff, Saul
- 6 Gomez, and I certainly want to thank them for that, we'll
- 7 get to acknowledgements later. But I think certainly as
- 8 we move forward, the basic intent is to implement the
- 9 Legislature, and certainly my Governor's direction on
- 10 renewables is that we all look at 33 percent as a floor,
- 11 not a ceiling, and that the intent is to move forward in
- 12 that direction, and obviously as we go forward part of
- 13 the intent is that we certainly trust the POUs, but we're
- 14 certainly in the job of verifying.
- 15 So with that note, when I'm talking about the
- 16 Outstanding Issues, certainly on station service we
- 17 received lots of comments concerning what we had tried to
- 18 do some minimal clarification and basically it's pretty
- 19 clear that what staff is recommending is one of the
- 20 Outstanding Issues. And at this point, where I want to
- 21 go is basically to leave the status quo language, but to
- 22 set up a process moving forward where we -- staff put out
- 23 an issue paper on this, that we really workshop it, and
- 24 that people come back with something which really gets to
- 25 the heart of the issues. I mean, these turn out not to

- 1 be easy issues, we're certainly not trying to
- 2 disadvantage some of the resource types, but it's really
- 3 important that we maintain the integrity of the program
- 4 here. And that's certainly been one of our guiding
- 5 principles is always that one of our obligations, the
- 6 State has a lot of policies promoting renewables, and our
- 7 job is to make sure that it is really renewable, it's
- 8 really green in terms of what we're certifying. So
- 9 moving forward, an outstanding issue, workshop it, and I
- 10 want the staff to start out with an issue paper and to
- 11 come back, work with the Presiding Commissioner, and sort
- 12 of come up with a fair resolution here.
- On energy storage, again, this has been one
- 14 which -- this is certainly an area where we have
- 15 pioneered and moved forward a little bit. It's an
- 16 interesting topic because storage, per se, does not
- 17 change non-renewable power to renewable, you can't just
- 18 put a battery at a coal plant and claim it's now green.
- 19 But having said that, certainly storage has a lot of
- 20 valuable attributes and we've all pointed to Skinner's
- 21 Bill, AB 2514, and that what we're doing certainly to the
- 22 extent the battery is storing renewable power, that's a
- 23 good thing. And storage provides other benefits to the
- 24 grid. In terms of reliability, we want to encourage it,
- 25 but like I said, we were sort of taking a cautious first

- 1 step because there are -- again, this is an area that
- 2 needs to be thought through in a lot of respects and,
- 3 again, this may well be one where certainly workshopping
- 4 is necessary and we could talk about whether there's an
- 5 issue paper or not. But again, the fundamental principle
- 6 is that storage certainly is some addition for
- 7 enhancement to the renewable technology, but as I said,
- 8 it's not something that converts black power to green,
- 9 you know, or brown power to green, it just really is an
- 10 enhancement there and we want to maintain the integrity
- 11 of the program. I think certainly there's been a lot of
- 12 work, and when we get to the acknowledging part, we can
- 13 put it together, but I think we have a pretty good first
- 14 step, certainly the least regrets, certainly again one
- 15 where I think particularly we worked very closely with
- 16 the PUC, and so I think with clarifications in the Errata
- 17 that we basically can take the first step. And again,
- 18 certainly going forward, I'm sure this will be visited
- 19 more and more in the future Guidebooks.
- In terms of biomethane, again, I think
- 21 generally it's been a push, but I think we got it right.
- 22 I think certainly Environmental Benefits section really
- 23 conveys the spirit of the law that what we're trying to
- 24 do in the area of biomethane is basically make sure that
- 25 it's providing the environmental benefits to us going

- 1 forward. I know there's been a lot of question over the
- 2 physical flow part, and flow towards the facility, and
- 3 the 50 percent, and we certainly struggled with it. That
- 4 being said, I think it's the best cut at this stage, you
- 5 know, where everyone really wants to move forward is to
- 6 get some experience, see how it's working, see how to
- 7 adjust it. Sometime, in another year or two, we can
- 8 certainly play around more in that section, but at this
- 9 point going to experience, certainly the direction to the
- 10 staff is to be ready, I mean, we certainly appreciate
- 11 that staff has pointed people to where the occupations
- 12 are and we basically want to make sure that we start
- 13 processing them tomorrow and that we move forward in a
- 14 timely fashion, that's certainly the top priority is to
- 15 get those through in a timely fashion. And as I said,
- 16 certainly as we get experience, a year or two from now we
- 17 can go back and revisit some of the flow questions.
- 18 So with that, again, it's hard work and a lot
- 19 of time and energy, we can talk about that after we go
- 20 through the various measures here in terms of the
- 21 acknowledgements, but I do think, again, these things are
- 22 never perfect and there's always a tradeoff between
- 23 timing and perfection, but I think generally we've done
- 24 pretty well on this one.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I just have a few

- 1 comments to add to that. As Chairman Weisenmiller noted,
- 2 this is a package that Commissioner Peterman presided
- 3 over pulling together and in the process of moving to put
- 4 this out and to enable the Energy Commission to move
- 5 forward and act in a timely fashion, of course, we all
- 6 looked into these issues in great detail; I certainly
- 7 did, I know the Chair did, and the other Commissioners
- 8 did, as well.
- 9 And I think that this is an area where there
- 10 are future conversations that are going to be needed and
- 11 needed even possibly sooner rather than later in some
- 12 cases. I reached a level of -- I reached a reasonably
- 13 high level of comfort with the package in terms of being
- 14 ready to move forward and ready to adopt today. And at
- 15 the same time, I think we're giving the new Presiding
- 16 member for Renewables an immediate set of issues to start
- 17 looking into and to start seeing whether there's some
- 18 calibration, or some additional work, or where there's
- 19 some additional work that needs to be done.
- 20 So given the timeframe that we're working
- 21 within, I think that this is a strong package, I think
- 22 the Energy Commission should adopt it today. There were
- 23 a lot of hard issues that we had to confront on this and
- 24 that we will be back in not too long -- I won't try to
- 25 say how many days, but back in relatively short order to

- 1 discuss when the RPS Reg package comes before us. And so
- 2 this is a really important time for us in Renewable
- 3 Energy. Our new lead Commissioner on Renewable Energy is
- 4 going to be stepping into a very loud issue with very
- 5 strong and, in some cases, differences of opinion that
- 6 have to be heard, understood, and managed in a reasonable
- 7 way to the maximum extent that we can. So I think those
- 8 are my comments right now if other Commissioners would
- 9 like to speak.
- 10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So thank you all for
- 11 being here and those of you who spoke, and also for the
- 12 Chair's and Commissioner Douglas' leadership on this
- 13 issue, and certainly Commissioner Peterman, as well, who
- 14 is sort of here in spirit at the moment.
- 15 You know, my time so far at the Commission has
- 16 really shown me that this is a very difficult bunch of
- 17 issues and also that staff, you know, Kate and her team
- 18 and Gabe are really struggling with these issues because
- 19 many times there are various viewpoints on any one issue,
- 20 and it is difficult to resolve, as Commissioner Douglas
- 21 said. And there are many many issues bundled up in this
- 22 package, right, so you really do have to take it one
- 23 issue at a time, and each issue tends to have its own set
- 24 of stakeholders and set of viewpoints.
- 25 You know, I think a couple issues here seem to

- 1 have jumped out as ones that we definitely need to be
- 2 looking at going forward, in particular. So I think that
- 3 the sort of -- the fact that our state has a large group
- 4 of publicly-owned utilities and, you know, the obvious
- 5 group of investor-owned utilities does make it
- 6 challenging because on the one hand we do want
- 7 consistency, but on the other hand we want to respect the
- 8 local autonomy of those jurisdictions, of the POUs, so
- 9 there's a balance there, as well. But fundamentally, we
- 10 want compliance and we need statewide compliance with the
- 11 RPS, and so we have to have, I think, rules that balance
- 12 that appropriately and there need to be really good
- 13 reasons for any exceptions to sort of the, you know,
- 14 anything near a consensus on any of these issues because
- 15 we know that when there are exceptions everybody runs
- 16 through that door. So I think there are ongoing issues
- 17 here and we're going to talk about the Regs here pretty
- 18 soon, but I do think fundamentally we need more green
- 19 energy and the legislative intent, I think, on that
- 20 general point is pretty clear.
- I do want to highlight the metering issue and
- 22 maybe ask Kate or Gabe to talk a little bit more about
- 23 that because it's something that both PG&E and the POUs
- 24 brought up. And, you know, I think that the net metering
- 25 -- there are lots of issues in the net metering in the

- 1 state, I think we're going to see some evolution in the
- 2 net metering landscape in the next few years, but the
- 3 sort of idea that, you know, the need for that two
- 4 percent versus five percent, I think the perception out
- 5 there that that's burdensome, and at least going
- 6 backwards -- I guess my question is, are we talking about
- 7 retrofit -- or are we only talking only about looking
- 8 backwards, or looking forward for the two percent
- 9 necessarily requiring retrofits? But a little bit more
- 10 history of the discussions on that issue would be kind of
- 11 interesting to have at this moment. I have a couple
- 12 other questions, but go ahead.
- 13 MS. ZOCCHETTI: So I'll probably ask Mark to
- 14 chime in on the numbers if he has them in his head. I
- 15 think right when you first came, Commissioner McAllister,
- 16 we were addressing this at the Business Meeting about a
- 17 year ago and I think we addressed it at the previous
- 18 Business Meeting, and staff were asked to look into it
- 19 further, get more data, get more stakeholder comments,
- 20 and so I think you heard the result of that before. To
- 21 answer your question, it does apply to every facility
- 22 that participates in the RPS, not just going forward,
- 23 which I appreciate LA's comments that they are doing the
- 24 two percent meter, you know, on a going forward basis,
- 25 but they've asked for an exception for facilities that

- 1 have had meters installed in the past, many of which
- 2 probably -- well, as most of you know, the State has a
- 3 lot of incentive programs, one of which uses five percent
- 4 meter, but those programs are for expected performance
- 5 and they are not based on incentives paid for
- 6 performance. Those incentive programs do require a two
- 7 percent meter because of the revenue exchange and because
- 8 of the need for accuracy. So generally speaking, without
- 9 the details, the reason is just accuracy and, as the
- 10 Chair was saying, integrity for the RPS Program. WREGIS
- 11 requires a two percent meter, we explored the exception
- 12 that is available there, and looked at all the data, and
- 13 brought a proposal to the Commission that we maintain the
- 14 two percent metering requirement for all facilities using
- 15 the RPS. I don't know if at this time you want to see if
- 16 Mark's memory bank is holding any data, or if you'd like
- 17 to have a private meeting on that.
- 18 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, the key point
- 19 I'm hearing --
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I was going to suggest
- 21 you may want to -- I sort of focused in on the same
- 22 issue, and actually some of these things are not even
- 23 metered.
- 24 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh, no, absolutely,
- 25 no, I'm very very familiar with that meter --

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So the more I dived
- 2 into it, the more I got comfortable, frankly, that this
- 3 was the way to go. But again, you always sort of have
- 4 that twinge of "are we stuck there?" But it's so
- 5 important in maintaining the integrity.
- 6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: No, absolutely, I
- 7 mean, I'm extremely familiar with that metering landscape
- 8 and was involved in developing those rules on the
- 9 incentive program side for five percent meters, so that's
- 10 kind of why I'm digging in a little bit on this now. But
- 11 the point being, one key point here seems like that if
- 12 you don't have a two percent meter, you actually can't
- 13 get your RECs certified by WREGIS.
- MS. ZOCCHETTI: That's correct.
- 15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Is that correct?
- 16 Okay, well, that seems like kind of a point to support.
- MS. ZOCCHETTI: And I think for net metering,
- 18 they do use two percent meters. Is that --
- 19 MR. KOOTSTRA: The facilities that are metered
- 20 by the utility are able to get a portion of their RECs
- 21 certified, so any facility participating in an AB 920
- 22 surplus arrangement are able to get that surplus
- 23 certified. Any facility that is even not participating
- 24 in that but uses a utility meter and can demonstrate that
- 25 there is a measure of output that exceeds the amount of

- 1 importation of electricity, they can use that because
- 2 those utility meters are two percent. I will admit that
- 3 it is significantly less than the total output of the
- 4 entire facility, but they are still able to get a
- 5 portion.
- 6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: They're only
- 7 measuring the access production, right?
- 8 MR. KOOTSTRA: Yes.
- 9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Anyway, I
- 10 might actually go for a little bit more detail on this
- 11 going forward, but it seems like one issue that the
- 12 burdensomeness, just making sure that it's really
- 13 necessary, if we have to sort of make a docket list of
- 14 things going forward, we should. So I guess I'm
- 15 interested in hearing from the other Commissioners and
- 16 staff about the processes for keeping some of these
- 17 issues alive where there has been debate and there's
- 18 clearly been a perception that the time pressure has been
- 19 challenging and, you know, some perception that we may
- 20 not have come down at the right place on specific issues.
- 21 So what's our sort of process -- after we given
- 22 Commissioner Scott an opportunity -- just hopefully we
- 23 can talk about the process of what the options are for
- 24 keeping the issues alive on a timeframe that's meaningful
- 25 for stakeholders.

1	1 MR	. HERRERA:	Veah	so Commissioners.	this
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- 2 document obviously is a living document and we've made a
- 3 number of changes and the Commission can direct staff to
- 4 explore issues and to come back within the spirit of a
- 5 certain timeframe with proposed changes if they feel
- 6 changes are warranted, and that's certainly an option
- 7 that's available to the Commissioners. So on any one of
- 8 these issues, for example station service, the Chair has
- 9 already directed us to prepare an issue paper and
- 10 workshop it, and storage, same thing. So those will be
- 11 issues that we will come back to the Commission with
- 12 suggested changes and those changes will probably need to
- 13 be reflected in Guidebook changes, so there will
- 14 certainly be an opportunity at that point to make
- 15 additional changes.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So we don't have to
- 17 wait for version 8, right, we can do this on the fly? Or
- 18 do we have to wait for version 8, is that what you're
- 19 saying?
- 20 MR. HERRERA: Well, but version 8 can come at
- 21 any time.
- 22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: At any time, got it.
- 23 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: I didn't have too much to
- 24 add. I could see that the thought and the care and the
- 25 diligence that has gone into crafting this updated

- 1 version of the Guidebook, and so I just wanted to echo my
- 2 fellow Commissioners' thanks to the staff and all the
- 3 others who did all this hard work on this.
- 4 MR. HERRERA: So, Chairman, before you vote on
- 5 this matter, I just wanted to clarify what you meant when
- 6 you suggested that on station service you believe what
- 7 the status quo, or what you're proposing is that we not
- 8 adopt any of the changes that have been proposed, but
- 9 rather go back to the language in the 6th edition of the
- 10 Guidebook that referred to an obligation by participants
- 11 to be members in WREGIS and that requires compliance with
- 12 WREGIS rules. If that's the proposal, I just want to
- 13 make sure we're clear on the record.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yes.
- MR. HERRERA: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Correct. Okay, so we
- 17 have dealt with these three items collectively and so now
- 18 we need motions on each of them, and the motions need to
- 19 reflect the Errata.
- 20 MR. HERRERA: Chairman, I think this item is
- 21 just the RPS Eligibility Guidebook and the Overall
- 22 Program Guidebook, and I think we should consider the
- 23 lifting the resolution -- or, excuse me -- the lifting of
- 24 the suspension separately.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, so we will deal

- 1 with 4 and 5 collectively, and then go to 6.
- COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All right, so I'll move
- 3 to approve Items 4 and 5 with the Errata and with Mr.
- 4 Herrera's corrections to the Errata, the footnote,
- 5 correct?
- 6 MR. HERRERA: Footnote 39, correct.
- 7 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Footnote 39 of the
- 8 Errata in Item 4, correct?
- 9 MR. HERRERA: That's correct.
- 10 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: And maintaining the
- 11 status quo on station service. So, in other words, not
- 12 adopting any new language on station service at this
- 13 time.
- 14 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in
- 16 favor of this motion?
- 17 (Ayes.) This item passes 4-0.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Now let's go to Item 6,
- 19 lifting the suspension.
- 20 MR. HERRERA: So, Chairman, would it be helpful
- 21 for me to provide a little background, a little context,
- 22 before you consider this matter?
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Sure.
- 24 MR. HERRERA: Okay. So this item will be
- 25 Commission's approval to lift the suspension of the RPS

- 1 Eligibility Guidelines related to biomethane, and that
- 2 suspension was put in place by the Energy Commission on
- 3 March 28, 2012, and the suspension was memorialized in
- 4 Resolution 12-0328-3.
- 5 A little background. So the RPS Eligibility
- 6 Guidebook, the 4th Edition, which was adopted by the
- 7 Commission in December of 2010, identified biomethane as
- 8 an eligible renewable energy resource and it allowed
- 9 power plants that utilized biomethane delivered through
- 10 the natural gas pipeline system to be RPS certified
- 11 subject to the requirements and conditions in the
- 12 Guidebook.
- 13 With the enactment of SB 1X2 in 2011, the
- 14 Energy Commission was forced to reevaluate the RPS
- 15 Eliqibility Guidelines for biomethane delivered through
- 16 the natural gas pipeline and the reason it did was
- 17 because, even though SB 1X2 did not change the law with
- 18 respect to the RPS Eligibility of the renewable fuels
- 19 that are used to derive biomethane or specify how those
- 20 renewable fuels should be delivered, or used by a power
- 21 plant. SB 1X2 did established preferences for
- 22 electricity generation that provided more environmental
- 23 benefits to the state. Those environmental benefits
- 24 could come by displacing in-state fossil fuel
- 25 consumption, reducing air pollution within the state, and

- 1 helping the state meet its climate change goals by
- 2 reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with
- 3 electrical generation.
- 4 It wasn't clear to Commission staff whether and
- 5 to what extent the rules in the 4th Edition of the RPS
- 6 Eligibility Guidebook advanced the environmental goals of
- 7 SB 1X2 since the Guidebook did not require, for example,
- 8 that the biomethane that was eligible displaced in-state
- 9 fossil fuel consumption, that it would result in air
- 10 pollution reduction within the state. And also, they did
- 11 not establish the degree of requirements to verify this
- 12 quantity of biomethane that was claimed as being used by
- 13 a power plant, or that the necessary biomethane
- 14 attributes were transferred from the biomethane producer
- 15 to the power plant operator. So in order to evaluate
- 16 these issues and ensure that the intended benefits of SB
- 17 1X2 were being realized, the Energy Commission suspended
- 18 the RPS Eligibility Guidelines dealing with biomethane to
- 19 give it a chance to evaluate these issues. At the same
- 20 time, the Commission was informed that the Legislature
- 21 was also concerned about these very issues and had
- 22 expressed an interest in clarifying the RPS eligibility
- 23 of biomethane. The Legislature subsequently enacted
- 24 Assembly Bill 2196, which clarified the RPS Eligibility
- 25 of biomethane in light of changes in the law in SB 1X2,

- 1 and also established RPS Eligibility requirements for
- 2 biomethane, gave it some (indiscernible).
- 3 These new requirements for biomethane are now
- 4 implemented in the adopted Guidebook by the Energy
- 5 Commission, the RPS Eligibility Guidebook, and so
- 6 therefore the Energy Commission staff now recommends the
- 7 suspension on biomethane eligibility be lifted and our
- 8 recommendation would be that the suspension be lifted at
- 9 5:00 today, and that parties be allowed to submit new
- 10 applications, or revised applications, for the RPS
- 11 Eligibility of facilities using biomethane once the Final
- 12 Guidebook is adopted and posted on the Energy
- 13 Commission's website. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you very much,
- 15 Gabe.
- 16 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Move Item 6.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in
- 19 favor?
- 20 (Ayes.) Item 6 is moved and it's adopted 4-0.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So with that, I wanted
- 22 to give a few acknowledgements. First of all, I
- 23 certainly want to thank all the stakeholders for their
- 24 participation in this process, particularly those of you
- 25 who have been here today to share your perspective on the

- 1 issues. And I'd like to really thank the staff for their
- 2 hard work on this. I think in the past year, I believe
- 3 we've gone through three guidebook revisions, so this is
- 4 one which is sort of -- it is a living document and, you
- 5 know, as we go forward, and part of the reasons
- 6 (indiscernible) find new issues emerge that affects the
- 7 process. And certainly I want to thank them, I mean, for
- 8 their expedited process to implement Assembly Bill 2196.
- 9 That bill went into effect January 1, we have a staff
- 10 paper out on the issues, workshopped it, and draft
- 11 language within four months. So, again, that's a pretty
- 12 heroic effort, essentially responding to the challenges
- 13 of the times. And I think the thanks for that in part go
- 14 to managers, obviously Rob Oglesby, Dave Ashuckian, Tony
- 15 Gonzalez, by again, obviously a special thanks to Kate
- 16 Zocchetti and her team, Mark Hofstra, Gina Barkalow, and
- 17 Christina Crume, certainly thanks to all of you for your
- 18 hard work on this. And of course, Gabe. I mean, Gabe
- 19 always sets the bar for legal service. And as I noted
- 20 before, certainly Commissioner Peterman and her Adviser
- 21 really helped us get positioned for this, although as
- 22 Commissioner Douglas indicated, we certainly had our fair
- 23 share of digging into the issues; this thing really took
- 24 a village to get to where it is.
- 25 And again, I think also in terms of talking

- 1 about the assistance on this, I really need to thank the
- 2 PUC Commissioners, too. You know, we worked very closely
- 3 with Commissioners Peevey, Ferron, and Florio, and
- 4 separately of course (indiscernible), and their Energy
- 5 Division staff to make sure that we could go through all
- 6 the issues in the Guidebook, I mean, getting consistency
- 7 means you really have to work at it and we really had a
- 8 lot of work back and forth. As Andy said, certainly a
- 9 lot of work on the issues revolving on the storage. And
- 10 obviously I want to thank my Chief of Staff, Kevin
- 11 Barker, who really helped me through this, and he had
- 12 some assistance from dealing with Andy, too, on sort of
- 13 working through the nuts and bolts. So, again, a huge
- 14 team effort, certainly a lot of improvements on the
- 15 existing Guidebook. At the same time, as I said, I think
- 16 it's important to get the Guidebook on the street to deal
- 17 with market certainty issues for a lot of people, and at
- 18 the same time, as I said, this bus will be back and we'll
- 19 pick up some of the areas, particularly station service
- 20 and storage where we need to keep digging into the issue
- 21 and get it right. So with that, let's go on to Item 7.
- 22 So, again, thanks.
- 23 So Item 7 is Walnut Valley Unified School
- 24 District. Possible approval of Agreement ARV-12-040 with
- 25 the Walnut Valley Unified School District for \$278,261.

- 1 And this is ARFVTP funding. Akasha Kaur Khalsa, please.
- MS. KAUR KHALSA: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 3 My name is Akasha Kaur Khalsa, I'm from the Emerging
- 4 Fuels and Technologies Office, the Fuels and
- 5 Transportation Division. Staff requests approval of
- 6 Agreement ARV-12-040 with the Walnut Valley Unified
- 7 School District for a \$278,261 grant to upgrade and
- 8 expand their existing compressed natural gas fueling
- 9 station with two new compressors to fuel 16 buses
- 10 simultaneously, overnight. This project will allow the
- 11 district to reliably refuel their existing fleet of
- 12 compressed natural gas busses and continue replacing
- 13 their older diesel buses with lower emission CNG buses.
- 14 The District expects to save approximately
- 15 \$49,500 annually from fuel purchase and reduce emissions
- 16 by 14 times the carbon dioxide equivalent annually once
- 17 11 more buses are replaced within the next two years.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 19 Commissioners, any questions or comments?
- 20 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: No. I move approval of
- 21 Item 7.
- 22 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in
- 24 favor?
- 25 (Ayes.) Item 7 passes 4-0. Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go to Item 8, Los
- 2 Angeles Unified School District. Possible approval of
- 3 Agreement ARV-12-041 with the Los Angeles Unified School
- 4 District for \$300,000. James Zhang.
- 5 MR. ZHANG: Good morning, Commissioners. My
- 6 name is James Zhang and I work in the Emerging Fuels and
- 7 Technologies Office. Today staff is seeking your
- 8 approval of a grant for \$300,000 to the Los Angeles
- 9 United School District, responding to PON-11-602 with the
- 10 intention to support alternative fuels infrastructure.
- 11 The Los Angeles Unified School District will install 30
- 12 single slow-fill compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensing
- 13 units at the San Julian Bus Lot. Currently, there are no
- 14 dedicated CNG fueling in the downtown area for the school
- 15 district, thereby limiting the school district's ability
- 16 to replace this existing diesel fleet with CNG vehicles.
- 17 South Coast Air Quality Management District will be
- 18 significantly expanding its school bus replacement,
- 19 therefore encouraging CNG infrastructure and dispensing
- 20 units at the school district will accelerate the
- 21 conversion of 92 diesel buses into CNG vehicles which
- 22 serve public schools within the downtown area of the
- 23 school district. The beneficiaries of the proposed
- 24 project are the students and the operations of the School
- 25 District's Transportation Service Division. The project

- 1 will provide continued support for students by providing
- 2 safe dependable transportation services for students.
- 3 As the diesel buses are replaced, it is
- 4 estimated that it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by
- 5 600 metric tons per year and eliminate emissions of 1,400
- 6 pounds of particulate matter per year, thereby reducing
- 7 the harmful effects of diesel emissions for the students.
- 8 In closing, staff asks the Commission to
- 9 support approval of Agenda Item 8 for a grant agreement
- 10 with the Los Angeles Unified School District in the
- 11 amount of \$300,000.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. I believe
- 13 we have a representative of the School District on the
- 14 phone.
- 15 MS. KIM: My name is Yihwa Kim. Good morning,
- 16 Commissioners. The Transportation Services Division of
- 17 the Los Angeles Unified School District would like to
- 18 thank this Commission for the opportunity to install 30
- 19 single slow-fill CNG dispensing units at the San Julian
- 20 Bus Lot. This would really help facilitate the
- 21 District's efforts on environmental stewardship and the
- 22 use of alternative fuel vehicles by expanding our CNG
- 23 fueling infrastructure. Thank you very much.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I will move Item 8.

- 1 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 3 (Ayes.) Item 8 passes 4-0. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go to Item 9.
- 5 Anaergia Services LLC. Possible approval of Agreement
- 6 PIR-12-002 for \$395,121, and this is PIER natural gas
- 7 funding. David Effross.
- 8 MR. EFFROSS: Good morning, Commissioners. As
- 9 you already know, I'm David Effross from PIER
- 10 Transportation and staff requests approval of this
- 11 agreement with Anaergia Services. This agreement came
- 12 out of the solicitation PON-12-506, which was a
- 13 solicitation for technologies that produce renewable
- 14 natural gas with value added co-products or co-benefits.
- 15 The reason those value added co-products and co-benefits
- 16 were specifically targeted is because, as everyone knows
- 17 now, natural gas that comes out of the ground is hitting
- 18 historical prices, and for renewable natural gas to
- 19 compete, we need to find ways to lower the prices and
- 20 such ways would of course include additional revenue
- 21 streams. This assisted project uses pyrolysis to reduce
- 22 green waste through a condensate which can later be fed
- 23 into a digester to produce natural gas and also to
- 24 utilize biochar which is a soil amendment, which is the
- 25 value-added revenue stream.

- I also have with us here Juan Josse, who is the
- 2 Chief Engineer of Anaergia Services, to answer any
- 3 specific and technical questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Thank you. Mr.
- 5 Josse, do you want to come forward?
- 6 MR. JOSSE: Thank you very much. Good morning
- 7 and thank you for the opportunity to be here.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thanks for being here.
- 9 Commissioners, any questions or comments for either of
- 10 these gentlemen?
- 11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'd kind of like to
- 12 know a little bit about the site and the sort of facility
- 13 they're going to be doing this work in.
- 14 MR. JOSSE: Sure. We have had conversations
- 15 with the City of Anaheim, it handles 400 to 600 tons of
- 16 green waste per day, and the idea is in that facility to
- 17 locate a smaller Priority 6 unit in order to get 300 to
- 18 600 tons per day, a smaller demonstration, but it would
- 19 handle approximately 400 pounds an hour, and the concept
- 20 is to generate the condensate there (indiscernible) 250
- 21 gallon to demonstrate the digestibility of this
- 22 condensate. We have been working in our labs and have
- 23 been obtaining an excellent biogas yield from the
- 24 pyrolysis and green waste pyrolysis liquid. So the
- 25 objective is to demonstrate up there and we can generate

- 1 (indiscernible) 250 gallons per day of this liquid that
- 2 we will store over the week, and then it would be part of
- 3 our concept to introduce that into a large digester. We
- 4 have a digester demonstration in Victorville, of the
- 5 Imperial Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority, and our
- 6 concept is that we want to demonstrate at the location in
- 7 Anaheim (indiscernible). We will take basically 3,000
- 8 gallons every week to this digester in Victorville and we
- 9 will feed that to this digester, co-digesting with sewage
- 10 and with food waste to further demonstrate a larger scale
- 11 the digestibility of this condensate.
- 12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Interesting. Where
- 13 is the match coming from?
- MR. JOSSE: Excuse me?
- 15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Where is the match
- 16 funding coming from? Is it coming from the company
- 17 itself, or from a different source, the match funding?
- MR. JOSSE: Oh, the match funding is from our
- 19 company, our company's energy services, we are in
- 20 Carlsbad, California, and we are an anaerobic digestion
- 21 and waste to value company. We develop our own
- 22 technologies and also develop projects, energy projects,
- 23 and so the match funding which is about \$440,000, is from
- 24 us.
- 25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Any
- 2 questions or comments? A motion?
- 3 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: I move Item 9.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 6 (Ayes.) Item 9 passes 4-0. Thank you. Thanks
- 7 for being here.
- 8 MR. JOSSE: Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 10,
- 10 which is Foresight Renewable Solutions. Possible
- 11 approval of Agreement PIR-12-004 for \$1,749,000. This is
- 12 PIER Electric Funding. Mike Kane.
- MR. KANE: Good morning, Commissioners. I'm
- 14 Mike Kane with the Energy Generation Resource Office.
- 15 This project of Foresight Renewable Solutions is one of
- 16 the recommended projects from our recent grant
- 17 solicitation named Community Scale Renewable Energy
- 18 Development Deployment and Integration, or REDDI. This
- 19 project falls under the research area of Community-Scale
- 20 Renewable Integration Demonstration of the REDDI
- 21 solicitation. In this project, Foresight Renewable
- 22 Solutions will partner with light-scale energy in the
- 23 Naval Facilities Engineering Command at Naval Base
- 24 Ventura County to deploy and demonstrate solar PV
- 25 integrated with an innovative energy source system and

- 1 microgrid management capability at the Navy's Engineering
- 2 and Expedition Worker Center. Key features of the
- 3 project will include installation of approximately 150
- 4 kilowatts of solar PV at the Center's Mobile Utility
- 5 Support and Equipment, or MUSE facility, deployment of a
- 6 beta version of an above-ground compressed air energy
- 7 storage system, also known as CAESS. The system will be
- 8 sized at approximately 300 kilowatts and have about one
- 9 megawatt hour storage capacity. The real world
- 10 demonstration of light-scale's unique thermal compressor
- 11 work expander that it uses water injection during the
- 12 compression and expansion phases and microgrid capability
- 13 sufficient to enable the solar storage system to support
- 14 critical MUSE facility loads for up to 24 hours in fully
- 15 islanded mode. This project will highlight for the first
- 16 time the bulk storage capability of above-ground CAESS
- 17 technology, which has the potential to achieve high
- 18 energy density at low cost, to enable intermittent
- 19 distributor renewable electricity to support community-
- 20 scale applications requiring high energy security and
- 21 high demand. If successful, this project will be a
- 22 significant step towards shaping the dispatch
- 23 characteristics of intermittent renewables to effectively
- 24 mimic conventional generation.
- 25 This grant is for \$1,749,000 with match funding

- 1 of \$1,243,570 in the form of cash and in-kind services
- 2 from Foresight and its partners. We are requesting your
- 3 approval of this grant agreement. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 5 Commissioners, any questions or comments?
- 6 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: No. I move approval of
- 7 Item 10.
- 8 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 10 (Ayes.) Item 10 passes 4-0. Thank you.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item
- 12 11. Electricore, Inc. Possible approval of Agreement
- 13 PIR-12-005 with Electricore for a \$750,000 grant. Rhetta
- 14 DeMesa, please. And this is PIER Electricity Funding.
- 15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I will recuse myself
- 16 from this item because a former employer of mine is
- 17 actually settling (ph) this contract, so I won't vote.
- MS. DEMESA: Good morning, Chairman and
- 19 Commissioners. My name is Rhetta DeMesa with the Energy
- 20 Generation Research Office. And we are seeking approval
- 21 today of the \$750,000 grant to Electricore, resulting
- 22 from a solicitation that focused on plug-in electric
- 23 vehicle battery standardization recycling.
- 24 Under the agreement, Electricore will work in
- 25 collaboration with the California Center for Sustainable

- 1 Energy (indiscernible) gas and electric and Ricardo (ph)
- 2 to complete an in-depth study of the potential impacts of
- 3 the design and process changes required for PEV system
- 4 standards, including manufacturing and design vehicle
- 5 competitiveness with other technologies and battery
- 6 removal and manufacturing costs, and the economic
- 7 benefits that would result from those.
- 8 To complete this, Electricore will survey the
- 9 PEV marketplace, including OEM and battery manufacturers
- 10 and utilities and propose design options for
- 11 standardization of battery modules for vehicle and
- 12 (indiscernible) applications.
- 13 Also, they will use lessons learned from
- 14 previous standardization efforts and techno-economic
- 15 modeling to identify barriers of having standard battery
- 16 system design, and provide recommendations of potential
- 17 paths to commercial adoption. Information resulting from
- 18 this effort will be used to inform industry of the market
- 19 value of the standardization of battery systems, develop
- 20 battery standardization strategies, and identify the cost
- 21 and benefits associated with developed strategies, as
- 22 well as the overall impacts making the commercial PEV
- 23 market in California more economically viable.
- 24 In closing, staff recommends approval of this
- 25 agreement.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 2 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So thank you for that.
- 3 This looks like another really good project. I'll move
- 4 approval of Item 11.
- 5 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in
- 7 favor?
- 8 (Ayes.) This item passes 3-0. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 12.
- 10 Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation.
- MR. O'HAGAN: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Hang on two seconds.
- 13 So first of all, this is Agreement 500-12-005. This is
- 14 \$200,000. This is Pier Electricity Funding, with Joe
- 15 O'Hagan, and I just needed to let Commissioner McAllister
- 16 to come back on the dais.
- 17 MR. O'HAGAN: Thank you, Chairman Weisenmiller.
- 18 Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Joe O'Hagan.
- 19 I'm in the Energy Generation and Research Office in the
- 20 R&D Division. A major issue for wind and solar energy
- 21 permitting in the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation
- 22 Planning area has been a lack of information on the
- 23 population's status and dynamics of Golden Eagles. This
- 24 is a protected species under the Bald and Golden Eagle
- 25 Protection Act, and there's also a need for information

- 1 on their demographic status to inform mitigation and
- 2 management strategies to be identified in the DRECP plan,
- 3 itself. There's also a need for information on how
- 4 renewable energy development in the DRECP will affect the
- 5 species.
- 6 The proposed project before you is to address
- 7 information on the status of the species by conducting a
- 8 series of aerial transects, by having aircraft identify
- 9 the age and abundance of Golden Eagles within the DRECP
- 10 and adjacent areas in Imperial County. A large number of
- 11 transects will be conducted, the first set will be early
- 12 in the year during the breeding season, and then the
- 13 second set will be conducted late summer, early fall,
- 14 when the flood zone has left in that.
- 15 This project was developed through a working
- 16 group of Federal and State agency staff in trying to
- 17 identify research priorities addressing the Golden Eagle
- 18 and the DRECP, and this project and a companion project,
- 19 which is on the May 8th Business Meeting agenda also
- 20 addresses the Golden Eagle.
- 21 I'm available for any questions, and thank you
- 22 very much.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I will raise a comment
- 25 first. Thank you for that presentation and thanks for

- 1 your work in this area. This is really important work
- 2 because issues related to the possibility of take of the
- 3 Bald and Golden Eagle, particularly the Golden Eagles in
- 4 many of the areas where we work, are a real and present
- 5 concern with permitting renewable energy projects, both
- 6 wind and sometimes solar thermal. Projects have
- 7 encountered that issue and increasingly photovoltaic
- 8 projects that are proposed are also having to analyze
- 9 potential impacts on Golden Eagles, particularly due to
- 10 potential loss of forage. So there are a number of
- 11 different ways that renewable energy projects can affect
- 12 eagles and this research will be extraordinarily valuable
- 13 for the State in partnership with the Federal agencies
- 14 and stakeholders to really improve our handle on eagle
- 15 populations, on ways of thinking about eagle
- 16 conservation, and within the context of thinking about
- 17 eagle conservation understanding better what types of
- 18 mitigation and what types of investments in conservation
- 19 are best placed to really support eagle populations. So
- 20 I see this as very important and very timely work, and so
- 21 appreciate you bringing this forward. I look forward to
- 22 moving the item, unless there are any other questions. I
- 23 don't see any. So I move approval of Item 12.
- 24 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

- 1 (Ayes.) Item 12 passes 4-0. Thank you.
- 2 MR. O'HAGAN: Thank you very much.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 13.
- 4 U.C. Davis. Possible approval of Agreement 500-12-06.
- 5 This is for a \$900,000 Interagency Agreement, and this is
- 6 PIER natural gas funding. Simone Brant.
- 7 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Chairman Weisenmiller,
- 8 before we continue with this item, I just wanted to make
- 9 one disclosure. On Item 13, the Regents of the
- 10 University of California is an interested party; I'd like
- 11 to disclose for the record that I'm an Adjunct Professor
- 12 at the University of California. This is at King Hall,
- 13 the U.C. Davis School of Law, where I am teaching a
- 14 Renewable Energy Law seminar. King Hall is a different
- 15 department than the department interested in this
- 16 contract, therefore our Chief Counsel advises that
- 17 there's no conflict of interest. For the record, I'll
- 18 also disclose that I am teaching this seminar with Chief
- 19 Counsel Michael Levy, so this disclosure relates to him,
- 20 as well.
- 21 MS. BRANT: Good morning, Commissioners. I'm
- 22 Simone Grant from the Energy Generation Research Office.
- 23 Staff requests approval of this agreement with U.C. Davis
- 24 for \$900,000. Our greenhouse gas emissions inventory
- 25 estimates that 1.6 percent of natural gas is lost through

- 1 fugitive methane emissions. There's evidence that this
- 2 figure is un-estimated; for example, a recent study in
- 3 Los Angeles estimated methane emissions at 3 percent.
- 4 In terms of meeting the State's greenhouse gas
- 5 (indiscernible), it's important to get a better estimate
- 6 of the volume of fugitive emissions for the natural gas
- 7 infrastructure and where the leaks are located. This
- 8 will provide a more reliable baseline from which to
- 9 measure and reduce emissions and enable identification of
- 10 mitigation options. The study will survey methane
- 11 emissions from key sectors of the natural gas system,
- 12 including production, processing, transmission,
- 13 distribution, and end-uses in buildings, air base, land
- 14 base, and building level measurements will be taken to
- 15 quantify emissions at building neighborhood facilities at
- 16 reasonable levels.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. I was just
- 18 going to say this is extremely important for a couple of
- 19 reasons, obviously we need to understand the fugitive
- 20 emissions, the other thing is obviously, as we've all
- 21 looked at safety issues, and I guess May 6th, a lot of
- 22 that comes together in the PUC context, that at least the
- 23 EPA recently reported this week that obviously, in terms
- 24 of technological challenges, you know, reducing leaks on
- 25 pipes, is less than some of the other things we're

- 1 dealing with, and to the extent that adds both economic
- 2 and environmental value, and safety issues, that
- 3 presumably we're going to see more progress on this issue
- 4 over time, but at least study at the baseline, identify
- 5 where the leaks are so we can come up (indiscernible) is
- 6 just critical. Any other questions or comments?
- 7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, I would just
- 8 echo what Chair Weisenmiller said. This is a really
- 9 critical effort to generate baseline information to
- 10 understand our infrastructure, our aging infrastructure
- 11 in many cases, and particular as this relates to climate
- 12 change, you know, obviously a huge deal with lots of
- 13 differing opinions and not as much factual basis as we
- 14 would like to understand what the fugitive emissions
- 15 actually are, and if it turns out there they're a couple
- 16 percentage swing either way, that's actually really
- 17 critical for understanding the common impact of our
- 18 natural gas systems. So I'm really excited about this
- 19 and I feel like it's a good project.
- 20 So I will move Item 13.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 23 (Ayes.) Item 13 passes 4-0. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Items 14, 15 and 16
- 25 will have at least a common presentation on that. So

- 1 these are contracts with PG&E, San Diego, and Edison.
- 2 These are amendments to contracts from the New Solar
- 3 Homes Administration. And these all have RRTF and ERPA
- 4 funding. And for PG&E, it's \$685,562; for San Diego,
- 5 it's \$360,087; and for Edison, it's \$454,351. And Le-
- 6 Guyen Nguyen is going to give this presentation today.
- 7 MS. NGUYEN: Good morning, Chairman and
- 8 Commissioners. My name is Le-Guyen Nguyen. I'm the
- 9 program lead for the New Solar Homes Partnership Program.
- 10 I will be presenting Items 14, 15 and 16 today. All
- 11 three items are amendments to existing contracts for the
- 12 administration of the New Solar Homes Partnership Program
- 13 at Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California
- 14 Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric.
- 15 The New Solar Homes Partnership Program, also
- 16 known as NSHP, began in January 2007 and has the goals on
- 17 selling 400 megawatts of solar electric capacity by the
- 18 end of 2016. The program is designed to offer incentives
- 19 to builders and homeowners for the installation of
- 20 eligible solar energy systems on new and energy efficient
- 21 residential construction.
- In 2007 and 2008, the Energy Commission entered
- 23 into agreements with PG&E, SCE and SDG&E for the
- 24 administration of the New Solar Homes Partnership Program
- 25 in their respective electric service territories. Under

- 1 these agreements, the administration and duties include
- 2 the day-to-day processing of reservation applications and
- 3 payment claims to the operations of a call center and
- 4 various other customer service activities.
- 5 All three administration agreements are
- 6 scheduled to expire on June 30, 2013. The proposed
- 7 amendment adds additional time and funding to each
- 8 agreement and includes minor changes in the scopes of
- 9 work to allow for continued administration of the program
- 10 by PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E.
- 11 Item 14 is a contract amendment for PG&E. The
- 12 proposed amendment adds \$685,562 and extends the
- 13 agreement by 18 months; Item 15 is a contract amendment
- 14 for SDG&E, the proposed amendment adds \$360,087 and
- 15 extends the agreement by 18 months; and Item 16 is a
- 16 contract amendment for SCE, and this proposed amendment
- 17 adds \$454,351, and also extends the agreement by 18
- 18 months.
- 19 I respectfully request your approval of Items
- 20 14, 15 and 16, and I would be happy to take any questions
- 21 or comments you may have.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. We also
- 23 have Valerie Winn who would like to speak, so we'll take
- 24 Valerie's comments and then we'll take questions or
- 25 comments for both of them.

- 1 MS. WINN: Good morning again. Valerie Winn
- 2 with Pacific Gas & Electric Company. We wanted to
- 3 express our support for the approval of this contract.
- 4 We have a long history of working with the Energy
- 5 Commission and the administration of the New Solar Homes
- 6 Partnership, and this contract will have us continuing to
- 7 do that work for some time going forward. We have been
- 8 trying to work with staff to have some additional
- 9 flexibility added to the contract, particularly where
- 10 there are changes in the program scope and where our team
- 11 has been asked to take on additional tasks that may not
- 12 have been envisioned in the original program agreement.
- We certainly believe we'll be able to continue
- 14 to administer the program with the funds that will become
- 15 available over the next 18 months, but certainly it
- 16 really highlights our need to move forward with
- 17 streamlining of the program so that we'll be able to
- 18 continue our administrative functions within the projects
- 19 that have been authorized.
- 20 So thank you for your support on this program,
- 21 and we do look forward to continuing to work with the CEC
- 22 on this program.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. I mean,
- 24 obviously I was going to say, I mean, certainly one of my
- 25 hopes is that we can figure out ways to streamline the

- 1 program and I think Commissioner McAllister, I mean, who
- 2 is certainly responsible for the streamlining, we'll talk
- 3 about that --
- 4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I share that hope.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: -- and at the same
- 6 time, you know, it is true that we do get the calls from
- 7 whatever angry constituents about the administration of
- 8 it, so if we can get this simpler, either through
- 9 streamlining, flexibility, or whatever, that would be
- 10 very good.
- 11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So thank you,
- 12 Valerie, for your comments. As everyone may know, but
- 13 I'll say it, staff is going to have a workshop here in
- 14 the next month or so on -- could you remind us of the
- 15 date, Le-Guyen?
- 16 MS. NGUYEN: We don't have it scheduled yet --
- 17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh, we haven't
- 18 scheduled it yet, okay --
- MS. NGUYEN: But we're hoping for the end of
- 20 June, beginning of July.
- 21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay, so a little bit
- 22 further up in the month, but there's a staff workshop
- 23 coming out to highlight some of the issues that we
- 24 definitely know that we definitely want to get on the
- 25 table to resolve, and then I am planning after that very

- 1 likely to open up a proceeding, a (indiscernible) process
- 2 for the NSHP really with an eye to streamline and making
- 3 the program more useable really, now that we have a
- 4 healthy market, we have development going on, that's a
- 5 very good thing, the numbers are much bigger than they've
- 6 ever been, another great thing, and we have a program
- 7 that was designed for sort of a different reality, I
- 8 mean, and we need to update that program design and make
- 9 sure that what we're asking of the marketplace makes
- 10 sense and is doable for them in a reasonable timeframe.
- 11 And so that's the overall goal. We're very much looking
- 12 forward to all the stakeholders jumping on that and
- 13 particularly to the investor-owned utilities who have
- 14 been administering the program, so we can highlight any
- 15 issues, both between the Commission and the
- 16 administrators and between both the stakeholders who want
- 17 to participate and avail themselves of the resources that
- 18 the program brings. The interaction, the relationship
- 19 between energy efficiency and solar is obviously one of
- 20 the key areas where we need to really talk through what's
- 21 appropriate, so I'm looking forward to doing that. And
- 22 the overarching goal is to make it useable for the
- 23 participants and also make the most effective use of
- 24 state resources that we possibly can. And I think we are
- 25 fortunate in that we have a lot of uptick in the

- 1 marketplace and we can use that to our favor to make sure
- 2 that we're doing the right thing for that marketplace.
- 3 So a lot of people are interested in this who are going
- 4 to bring good ideas to the table, so I'm excited to get
- 5 that going. So I would support all three of these items.
- 6 So I'll just go ahead and move Items -- should
- 7 I do them one-by-one?
- 8 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All three.
- 9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. So I will
- 10 move Items 14, 15 and 16.
- 11 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 13 (Ayes.) Items 14, 15 and 16 are approved 4-0.
- 14 Thank you.
- MS. NGUYEN: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 17,
- 17 Minutes. Possible approval of April 10th Business
- 18 Meeting Minutes.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Move approval.
- 20 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I'm going to abstain on
- 22 this issue.
- 23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: All in favor?
- 24 (Ayes.)
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So it's 3-0, approved.

- 1 Let's go on to Lead Commissioner and Presiding
- 2 Member Reports.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I just want to
- 4 highlight a couple of things. The week before last, I've
- 5 been to a couple of events that I wanted to highlight,
- 6 one was a Fall (ph) Leaders event over at the PUC about
- 7 data, nominally -- mostly about the use of customer
- 8 consumption data for analysis purposes and established
- 9 baselines, and the main presentation was from UCLA,
- 10 they've been doing quite a bit of work with DWP on
- 11 establishing energy consumption baselines and
- 12 understanding patterns in the LADWP area, not at the
- 13 individual customer level, but at a slightly more
- 14 aggregated level, and there's a lot of discussion there
- 15 about the possibilities -- well, the need for and the
- 16 possibilities for better information both for the
- 17 agencies, ourselves, and for researchers certainly to ask
- 18 the important questions of the day to help inform policy,
- 19 then more broadly what kinds of information should be
- 20 acceptable, more publicly. Obviously lots of discussion
- 21 and caveats about the security and the customer privacy
- 22 issues involved, but -- and I was a panelist there really
- 23 to talk about it from the agency's perspective, from the
- 24 CEC's perspective, what we need going forward. We've
- 25 learned a lot with ARRA funds and sort as we have moved

- 1 into a more -- as we have been apt to be more of a
- 2 program administrator over time and also we really --
- 3 California is moving towards a more distributed energy
- 4 future and, as we should be, as we get asked by the
- 5 Legislature, by the individual members, and others in the
- 6 Capitol and beyond, to be accountable for our program
- 7 decisions and what we're doing out there in the world, we
- 8 also need -- and I absolutely want to answer those
- 9 questions, as I'm sure the other Commissioners do as well
- 10 -- we do need data commensurate with the questions being
- 11 asked, and in order to have transparency and
- 12 accountability. And to inform good policy going forward,
- 13 we really do need a higher level and more consistent and
- 14 longitudinal information about how people are using
- 15 energy and how people are participating in the programs
- 16 that we design and implement, we have different ways
- 17 there, but specifically to the Commission. So I thought
- 18 that was a really good start to the discussion. The PUC
- 19 has a number of proceedings that are relevant for the
- 20 data question, certainly the Smart Meter proceeding is
- 21 one of those, but really this is not even primarily, I
- 22 would say, about Smart Meter data, it's really about just
- 23 having more longitudinal data, even if it's just monthly
- 24 billing data, and kind of project program-related
- 25 information that then can actually help us move the

- 1 mountains that we need to move going forward, as we have
- 2 incredibly aggressive goals for energy efficiency. We're
- 3 trying to do Demand Response, we're trying to understand
- 4 how those interact with local small-scale generation, and
- 5 how those impact the electricity grid, just a lot of
- 6 important questions that we need to more granular
- 7 information to appreciate it. So I offered to assist and
- 8 possibly host a follow-up discussion here in Sacramento,
- 9 it might happen here, it depends on how it takes shape,
- 10 but this issue is particularly important and we're teeing
- 11 it up in the AB 758 context to enable -- establish some
- 12 of the metrics and to let us really understand how the
- 13 marketplace is evolving over time with the existing
- 14 building upgrades. So I wanted to highlight that.
- 15 And then the next thing, I actually did an
- 16 event in LA, the LA Sustainability Summit, organized by
- 17 the LA Business Council, and it was a really excellent
- 18 day long set of panels, and I was able to moderate one
- 19 with Ron Nichols from LADWP, with Nancy Skinner,
- 20 Assemblywoman Skinner, Senator Pavley (indiscernible),
- 21 and Richard Maulin, so it was really a fun panel, sort of
- 22 looking towards the future of the energy system. So I
- 23 thought it was really excellent and from that, I think LA
- 24 is its own thing, it really is a unique entity, large
- 25 large lots of different stakeholders, unique politics to

- 1 that particular area, and so that generates a lot of
- 2 interesting discussions that I think often are going to
- 3 always make it up to Sacramento. And one in particular I
- 4 would like to highlight is the LA FIT, the Feed-In Tariff
- 5 Program, it started out with 17 cents, and that tranche
- 6 got eaten up pretty much immediately, they're going to go
- 7 down to I think 15 or 13 cents, and the 13 cents, and
- 8 then they're going to revisit and see whether those
- 9 prices could even be lowered further. So I think they
- 10 have had incredible success in a very short period of
- 11 time with -- it's the largest FIT in the state that's
- 12 currently in operation, and I think it's an extremely
- 13 valuable example to look at broadly as a policy community
- 14 and I would just end by saying that companies who have
- 15 been reticent to come to California to develop solar,
- 16 when the LA FIT came out, they dropped everything and
- 17 they rushed out here and opened offices, and put in bids
- 18 and they're now building projects, and I think that's a
- 19 really good demonstration of how a program like that can
- 20 stimulate the marketplace in a good way. So I enjoyed
- 21 that and look forward to it next year.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, I was going to
- 23 say the last couple of events I've been to in LA, I've
- 24 had the similar feeling that, you know, we do need to
- 25 actually have a presence there, you know, that it is as

- 1 you know a very large sophisticated area that the PUC has
- 2 the luxury of having an office in LA, we don't, so I
- 3 think that makes it more incumbent on the Commissioners
- 4 to spend some face time down there.
- I was going to mention, in terms of stuff that
- 6 I've done the last couple of weeks, obviously I missed
- 7 the last Business Meeting, first I'll start with CFEE, at
- 8 least so far, they had their annual meeting on energy
- 9 which is their opportunity to sort of provide a very
- 10 broad context for new Legislators on energy, and there
- 11 are a substantial number of new Legislators this year,
- 12 and a fair number of those -- and actually quite
- 13 experienced Legislators who were there -- I was there,
- 14 Kevin Barker was there for a day, Commissioner McAllister
- 15 was there, Rob Oglesby was there also for a day, pretty
- 16 good sessions, so far none of us have made it in the
- 17 Chronicle for having attending it, but it was sort of a
- 18 good event. I actually spoke on two panels, one was
- 19 Commissioner Peevey, President Peevey, on loading order,
- 20 and then started off the next day with Mary Nichols,
- 21 Steve Berberick (ph) and Peevey again on coordination
- 22 across the agencies. And both of those were fun
- 23 discussions, and Andrew was on a panel on Energy
- 24 Efficiency, so again we've sort of covered the waterfront
- 25 for the new Legislators, and a good chance to talk. I

- 1 would point out in passing that Mary Nichols made the New
- 2 York Times list of top 100 Influential People for her
- 3 public service in the environment, in quite a -- well,
- 4 she's done quite a lot and it's quite a testimony to what
- 5 she's done.
- 6 The other thing I was going to mention was
- 7 obviously I've been to China with the Governor. That was
- 8 a wonderful opportunity. There was a small handful of
- 9 State officials, a delegation of about 90 people, so you
- 10 can imagine at one point I got the email which ultimately
- 11 went through the number of miles, the number of cities,
- 12 the number of banquets, we didn't try the number of times
- 13 Mike Rossi (ph) got lost, you know, the number of high
- 14 speed rail trips, we did one from Beijing to Shanghai,
- 15 and then we did one from Shanghai to Nanjing. Obviously
- 16 at some point it became more the smaller -- along with
- 17 the stuff with the delegation, the Governor had a very
- 18 active series of meetings with Chinese officials ranging
- 19 from the Premier of China through national officials who
- 20 obviously some of the cities, having said that, for
- 21 scale, if you're in a city of 23 million people, that's
- 22 not quite California, but in fact there's a city of 33
- 23 million people, so even going from the experience in
- 24 China, I think some of the new initiatives are more
- 25 likely at a provincial or city level, so again we really

- 1 covered the waterfront on meetings and, beyond that, Matt
- 2 Rodriguez and I did a series of meetings with different
- 3 both local officials and with NGOs, so I think in terms
- 4 of seeing the sites, I had a 45-minute sprint through the
- 5 Forbidden Cities, you know, and in Shanghai I managed not
- 6 to get caught up in one afternoon at another banquet and
- 7 at least saw some of the city, but it was a pretty
- 8 intense period of time, but we got a lot accomplished and
- 9 certainly the Administration's position is we will
- 10 follow-up on stuff. And I should also mention certainly
- 11 we offered -- we opened up a trade mission in Shanghai
- 12 and, as part of the Shanghai event there, there was
- 13 another event in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, basically
- 14 Rossi announced several -- basically some substantial
- 15 deals that were pulled together as a result of our trip.
- 16 So, again, it was pretty successful ranging from the
- 17 business development side to the conversations with the
- 18 Chinese on this, and energy issues, and basically at the
- 19 same time certainly it's always fun to listen to the
- 20 Governor particularly in the conversations we were having
- 21 with the Chinese officials, they really liked it at the
- 22 end because actually the Shanghai newspaper commented
- 23 that, along with other things, he's sort of talking about
- 24 the cultural issues that, you know, China has such a long
- 25 legacy of culture, he sort of quoted Confucius at various

- 1 times and sort of tried to connect back to the more human
- 2 element along with business issues and environmental
- 3 issues that we're struggling with. So, anyway, it was a
- 4 fascinating -- I've been asked to basically worry about
- 5 follow-up. So anyway, there will be more work in China.
- 6 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I have no report.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Item 19. Let's go to
- 8 Chief Counsel's Report.
- 9 MR. LEVY: Good morning, Commissioners. I do
- 10 not have a report today.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Item 20. Executive
- 12 Director's Report.
- MR. OGLESBY: Well, nothing too entertaining,
- 14 but more of a nuts and bolts report, kind of a warning.
- 15 We are approaching the end of the fiscal year and I
- 16 wanted the public and the Commissioners to be aware that
- 17 our next couple of meetings, one on the 8th, one on June
- 18 12th, are likely to have longer than usual agendas, so
- 19 folks wanting to participate should plan their activities
- 20 accordingly and their logistics because we will have a
- 21 number of items that need to be completed and acted upon
- 22 before the end of the fiscal year.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Thank you.
- 24 Item 21. Public Advisor's Report.
- 25 MR. ROBERTS: I have nothing to report.

1		CHAIF	NAMS	WEISEN	MILLER	: It	tem 22.	Public	
2	Comment?	This	meet	ing is	adjou	rned			
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