

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

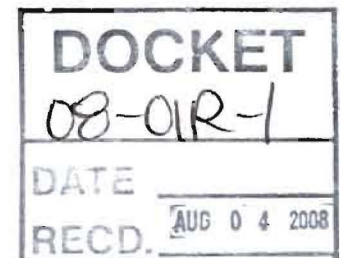


In the Matter of,)	Docket No. [08-OIR-1]
Proposed Adoption of Regulations for the)	
Administration of the Alternative and)	NOTICE OF STAFF MEETING
Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology)	
Program)	

Notice of Staff Meeting of the Assembly Bill 118 Sustainability Working Group

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) is forming a Sustainability Working Group (SWG) to solicit technical information from a broad array of interested stakeholders as it develops regulations and an Investment Plan for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (Program) established by Assembly Bill (AB) 118 (Núñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007). The first formal SWG meeting will be held:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2008
9:00 a.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)



Presentations and audio from this meeting will be broadcast via our WebEx web conferencing system. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the "Participation through WebEx" section at the end of this notice.

Background

AB 118 created the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (Program). The legislation authorizes the Energy Commission to spend approximately \$120 million per year for over seven years to develop and deploy innovative technologies that transform California's fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state's climate change policies. The emphasis of this program is to deploy alternative and renewable fuels in the marketplace, without adopting any one preferred fuel or technology, and in doing so to decrease, on a life-cycle basis, greenhouse gas emissions, air and water pollutants and multimedia environmental impacts, and to maintain the sustainability of the state's natural resources.

Purpose

The AB 118 statute requires the Energy Commission to develop sustainability goals for this Program. Staff has proposed four goals that will be used to guide investment strategies and set boundaries on the types of projects eligible for funding. A series of sustainability “characteristics” or measures are also proposed. These characteristics will be used to identify project attributes that would best further each sustainability goal. The draft characteristics will likely form the foundation for the evaluation criteria that the Energy Commission will use to assess specific solicitations once the Investment Plan is adopted.

To date, the Energy Commission has hosted two public workshops, two Advisory Committee meetings, an informal stakeholder meeting on sustainability, and numerous informal stakeholder meetings on its Program, the Investment Plan, and proposed regulations, including the sustainability goals. Additional technical discussions on the sustainability goals are necessary. Therefore, the Energy Commission is forming the SWG to allow for more focused dialog.

In particular, the Energy Commission is seeking comment on: 1) the proposed sustainability goals and concepts; 2) examples of how they would affect various industry segments; and 3) how they might meet stakeholder interests. Benchmark examples of other sustainability programs, supply chain management systems, and certification systems are of keen interest, as well as information on how the Energy Commission proposals comport with other sustainability programs from around the world.

There are two associated documents on the Energy Commission’s AB 118 website that provide additional information for the meeting. The first is the *Sustainability Concepts for AB 118* PowerPoint presentation from the informal stakeholder meeting discussion. The second is the draft staff paper *Concepts on Sustainability Goals for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program* that was posted in support of the July 8, 2008, staff workshop. Based on stakeholder discussion at the informal stakeholder meeting, the goal for the August 15, 2008, SWG meeting is to begin a series of case-studies of biofuel projects in California.

Note that the Air Resources Board is also charged with developing sustainability goals for its Air Quality Improvement Program, also established by AB 118, and is in the process of developing sustainability criteria for the Low Carbon Fuel Standard. Although the two sets of sustainability goals do not need to be identical, they need to be complementary and consistent.

Schedule

The Energy Commission must adopt the Investment Plan and complete its regulations before funds can be awarded. We expect that the Investment Plan will be adopted in late fall 2008 and that regulations will be approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and published by the Secretary of State in March 2009.

An ongoing series of monthly or biweekly meetings of the SWG is proposed while the regulations, Investment Plan and initial solicitation are developed. The Energy Commission is proposing to adopt the sustainability goals initially in the regulations, and continue working on developing the goals and characteristics in the Investment Plan and solicitations. The Energy Commission seeks the ongoing support of the SWG Group throughout this process.

The draft schedule for adopting sustainability goals in the regulations is:

August 15, 2008	First Sustainability Working Group Meeting
August 25, 2008	Energy Commission Posts Draft Sustainability Regulations
September 9, 2008	Public Workshop to Review Draft Sustainability Regulations
September 19, 2008	Written Comments Due on Draft Sustainability Regulations
October 7, 2008	Draft Regulations Submitted to OAL

Membership

The SWG is open to all interested stakeholders.

The Energy Commission is seeking representatives from the following stakeholder groups:

- Advisory Committee members interested in sustainability issues
- Biofuels Industry Producers – Ethanol, Biodiesel, Waste-to-Energy, Second/Third Generation Fuels
 - Growers
 - Processors
 - Distributors
- Government
 - California Energy Commission, California Air Resources Board, California Department of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Academia
 - University of California (UC) Davis, UC Berkeley
- Environmental non-governmental organizations
- Automotive Industry and Fleet Representatives

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [pao@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media Office, at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this forum, please call Jim McKinney, Staff Team Leader for AB 118 Sustainability Goals, at (916) 654-3999 or by e-mail at [jmckinne@energy.state.ca.us].

Participation through WebEx, the Energy Commission's on-line meeting service

For computer logon with a direct phone number go to [<https://energy.webex.com>] and enter the unique meeting number **922-557-126**, when prompted, enter your information and the password **meeting@9**

After you login, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide your phone number. In the Number box, type your area code and phone number and click OK to receive a call back on your phone for the audio of the meeting. International callers can use the "Country/Region" button to help make their connection.

Participation for callers with an extension phone number

Go to [<https://energy.webex.com>] and enter the unique meeting number **922-557-126**. When prompted, enter your information and the meeting password **meeting @9**. After you login, a prompt will ask for your phone number. CLICK CANCEL. Instead call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login. International callers can dial in using the "Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

Participation through audio only (no computer access)

Call (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the meeting number above. International callers can select their number from [<https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>].

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at (866) 229-3239. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

Note: California Energy Commission's formal name is State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.