

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



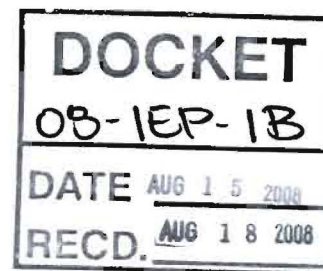
In the matter of:)	Docket No. 08-IEP-1B
)	
Preparation of the)	NOTICE OF JOINT COMMITTEE
<i>2008 Integrated Energy Policy Report</i>)	WORKSHOP
<i>Update and the 2009 Integrated Energy</i>)	
<i>Policy Report</i>)	

Notice of Joint Committee Workshop

Achieving Higher Levels of Renewables in California's Electricity System

The Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Committee and the Renewables Committee will hold a joint workshop to discuss key issues that must be addressed to support higher levels of renewable energy in California. Commissioner Jeffrey Byron is the Presiding Member and Chairman Jackalyne Pfannenstiel is the Associate Member of the IEPR Committee. The Renewables Committee is presided over by Commissioner Karen Douglas with Chairman Pfannenstiel as the Associate member. Other Commissioners from the Energy Commission or California Public Utilities Commission may attend and participate in this workshop. The workshop will be held:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2008
1 p.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)



Audio from this meeting will be broadcast over the Internet.
For details, please go to: www.energy.ca.gov/webcast/

To participate in the meeting by phone,
please call **888-566-5914** by 1 p.m.
Passcode: **IEPR** Call Leader: **Suzanne Korosec**

Purpose

The goal of the workshop is to determine what analysis is needed to identify and evaluate the major hurdles for attaining higher levels of renewables in California. Energy Commission staff held three workshops on this topic in July that focused on (1) physical, operational, and market changes necessary for California's electric system to support a minimum of 33 percent renewables by 2020; (2) removal of major transmission barriers associated with higher levels of renewable penetration; and (3) identifying emerging technologies that can aid and increase the integration and use of renewable energy resources in the state.

The IEPR Committee has identified the topic of how the 2020 electricity system could be structured to accommodate higher levels of renewables as a high priority. To meet the goal of 33 percent renewables by 2020, the Committee believes California will have to fundamentally change the way it operates its grid to enable the state to reduce its use of carbon-based fuels while maintaining grid reliability and stability.

The analyses and evaluations identified in the *2008 IEPR* Update will take place as part of the *2009 IEPR*. While the focus is on 33 percent renewables by 2020, the IEPR Committee believes it should also be considering even higher renewable goals, perhaps as much as 50 percent by 2050, given the urgency to address climate change impacts by reducing the electricity sector's greenhouse gas emissions.

Attachment A to this notice provides a summary of the three staff workshops held on this topic¹ and identifies potential areas of analysis. Given the complexity of this issue, the IEPR Committee is seeking public comments on which key variables should be the focus of the *2009 IEPR* analyses. The Committee also seeks input on how best to incorporate results from other analyses currently underway at the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Independent System Operator, the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, and other venues into the *2009 IEPR* analyses.

Background

Public Resources Code Section 25300, et seq., directs the Energy Commission to develop the IEPR every two years, with updates in the intermediate years, and directs state government entities to carry out their energy-related duties and responsibilities using the information and analyses contained in the adopted IEPR reports.

California currently has a mandate to achieve 20 percent of retail electricity sales from renewable resources by 2010, and the Governor and the state's energy agencies have identified a further goal of 33 percent renewable by 2020. This higher goal is a key strategy for meeting the state's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

¹ Workshop agendas, presentations, transcripts, and written comments are available at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/2008_energypolicy/documents/index.html

Under the IEPR Committee's direction, the Energy Commission staff held three workshops in July to begin the discussion on what changes will be needed to incorporate higher levels of renewable energy in the state's electricity mix with the goal of achieving 33 percent renewables by 2020.

The first workshop summarized findings from existing reports and sought input regarding additional studies related to issues such as contract delays; potential price impacts for electricity; operational and physical changes needed to integrate renewables while maintaining reliability; potential impacts on natural gas demand, supply, and price; and environmental concerns.

The second workshop focused on transmission issues and provided additional discussion of the impacts of 33 percent renewables on operation of the electricity system, as well as environmental concerns.

The third workshop focused on the state of technologies, research and development needs, and the availability of technologies to enable integration of high levels of renewable energy into the electricity system.

At these workshops, parties identified areas of concern and potential analyses on topics associated with increasing renewables in California. In Attachment A, Energy Commission staff have also identified areas where additional analysis may be needed.

Comments

The Committee will take comments both at the workshop and in writing. The Committee requests that written comments on workshop topics be submitted by 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 28, 2008. Please include the docket number 08-IEP-1B and indicate "*2008 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update*" in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name or organization's name in the name of the file. Those submitting comments by electronic mail should provide them in either Microsoft Word format or as a Portable Document File (PDF) to [docket@energy.state.ca.us]. **One paper copy** must also be sent to the Energy Commission's Docket Unit at the address shown below.

Parties may also submit comments in hard copy. Please hand deliver or mail an original copy to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 08-IEP-1B
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Participants may also provide an original at the beginning of the workshop. All written materials relating to this workshop will be filed with the Dockets Unit and become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser, Elena Miller, 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.

The service list for the *2008 IEPR Update* is handled electronically. Notices and documents for this proceeding are posted to the Energy Commission website at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/2008_energypolicy/index.html]. When new information is posted, an e-mail will be sent to those on the energy policy e-mail list server. We encourage those who are interested in receiving these notices to sign up for the list server through the website [<http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html>].

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]. Questions on the subject matter of this notice should be directed to Suzanne Korosec, Assistant Director for Policy Development, at (916) 654-4516 or by e-mail at [skorosec@energy.state.ca.us].

JEFFREY D. BYRON
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Integrated Energy Policy Report Committee

JACKALYNE PFANNENSTIEL
Chairman and Associate Member
Integrated Energy Policy Report Committee
and Renewables Committee

KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Renewables Committee

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