

June 6, 2012

California Energy Commission
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DOCKET	
12-IEP-1D	
DATE	JUN 06 2012
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Re: California Energy Commission Docket No. 12-IEP-1D Lead Commissioner
Workshop on Jobs and Renewable Energy in California

To Whom It May Concern:

On May 30, 2012 the California Energy Commission (“Energy Commission”) held a Lead Commissioner Workshop on Jobs and Renewable Energy in California (“the Workshop”). The Workshop was part of the Energy Commission’s 2012 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (“2012 IEPR Update”) process. Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”) participated in the Workshop and appreciates the opportunity to provide these written comments.

The Governor’s Clean Energy Jobs Plan asserts that the clean energy industry will produce half a million new jobs in California in the next decade.¹ This includes jobs related to renewables development and its associated infrastructure, energy efficiency, combined heat and power and energy storage. Many studies have attempted to quantify the number of jobs resulting from the transition to a clean economy. The general consensus is that in the long run, there is some permanent local job growth but one study performed for the California State Senate has estimated lower levels of job growth than the half a million estimate in the Governor’s Clean Energy Jobs Plan.² SCE recommends one of the State’s workforce agencies (e.g., California Labor and Workforce Development Agency) perform a reassessment using a collaborative process to determine a reasonably-achievable value.

The Energy Commission’s current focus is on jobs created by new renewable energy projects. With the greater and greater intermittency anticipated in association with higher and higher penetrations of wind and solar energy onto the grid, enabling technologies will be needed to efficiently manage the grid. Optimizing electric systems with high renewable energy portfolios will require better performance management from communications, measurements, monitoring, production simulations, and voltage control. Advancements in these areas require development of a new generation of analytics.

Colleges and universities are the perfect places for development of these new technologies and applications to enhance grid performance. Colleges and universities have the

¹ Jerry Brown’s Clean Energy Jobs Plan, at p. 2 (June 15, 2010) available at:

http://www.jerrybrown.org/sites/default/files/6-15%20Clean_Energy%20Plan.pdf

² Finding the Sweet Spot: Green Energy Incentives and Job Creation (April 26, 2012) available at:

http://sooo.senate.ca.gov/sites/sooo.senate.ca.gov/files/Finding%20the%20Sweet%20Spot.pdf_p.2 (demonstrating that the growth in manufacturing jobs will be small and many jobs related to green technology are likely to be located out of state.)

ability to advance technology and develop simulation tools for future states to be able to assess the system needs in advance. Market assessments of the new technologies could be included as part of the studies to determine the most appropriate for commercialization and future job growth. California is the leader in renewable energy development and its education system and the existing research infrastructure makes it perfectly poised to identify the new commercial opportunities. By encouraging development and manufacturing of the control systems in the State, California will have the technologies that will be necessary, not just for California but for other states as well, to implement high renewable energy portfolios.

SCE is currently supporting training of a green energy workforce through, along with other programs, efforts like our \$1 Million Green Jobs Education Initiative.³ In addition SCE has partnerships with the California Institute of Technology and California Polytechnic Institute – Pomona to support technology development and workforce readiness for future infrastructure needs. SCE recommends that the Energy Commission take advantage of the opportunities that higher education environments have to offer by developing partnerships with the goal of advancing technology development and positioning for commercialization.

As always, SCE appreciates the opportunity to participate in the Energy Commission's IEPR process. Feel free to contact me for any questions in this matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Manuel Alvarez

Manuel Alvarez

³ \$1 million Green Jobs Education Initiative to help train and prepare students at 10 California community colleges for jobs in the fast-growing "green" sector. Green jobs include fields such as solar panel installation, water and wastewater management, transportation and alternative fuels, biofuels production and farming, environmental compliance and sustainability planning. <http://www.sce.com/sceandyou/greenjobs.htm>