

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



In the matter of,	)	Docket No. 13-IEP-1H
	)	
<i>2013 Integrated Energy Policy Report</i>	)	WORKSHOP
<i>(2013 IEPR)</i>	)	RE: Electricity Infrastructure Costs
_____	)	of Distributed Generation

## Notice of Staff Workshop on Distributed Generation: Electricity Infrastructure Costs

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to receive comments on a study of the costs and impacts on the electricity system associated with increased distributed generation (DG) installations in California, and how costs and impacts change based on interconnection location, distribution feeder characteristics, load types, and project size. The Energy Commission has contracted with Navigant Consulting to conduct the analysis, and has partnered with Southern California Edison (SCE) to use their system for the study. Preliminary study results and recommendations will be presented for discussion by stakeholders. Commissioners may be in attendance at the workshop.

**August 22, 2013**  
9 a.m.  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
1516 Ninth Street  
First Floor, Hearing Room A  
Sacramento, California  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**

**13-IEP-1H**

**TN 71779**

**AUG 01 2013**

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(Instructions below)

### Background

In his *Clean Energy Jobs Plan*, Governor Brown established a 2020 goal of 12,000 MW of localized renewable energy development in California.<sup>1</sup> The plan generally defines localized energy, or DG, as projects sized 20 MW or less, interconnected on-site or close to load, that can be constructed quickly with no new transmission lines, and, typically, with

<sup>1</sup> See [http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Clean\\_Energy\\_Plan.pdf](http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Clean_Energy_Plan.pdf).

no environmental impact. This is a policy definition of DG that identifies preferred project characteristics and is useful for setting procurement targets. However, due to a variety of reasons, the DG market does not align with the preferred policy definition and utilities are receiving interconnection requests for projects in locations that cause significant system costs and impacts. This issue was illustrated in a study conducted by SCE that shows the majority of interconnection requests they receive do not satisfy the preferred policy definition.<sup>2</sup> SCE's study proposes that utility system costs and impacts can be mitigated by guiding projects to areas of the system better equipped to accommodate DG resources.

The Energy Commission, in response to SCE's study, is using the state's localized energy goal as the back-drop for an analysis that is evaluating the costs and impacts of increased penetration levels of localized energy on the utility electricity system. The Energy Commission has contracted with Navigant Consulting to conduct the analysis, and has partnered with SCE to use their system for the study. The purpose of the analysis is to gain a better understanding of utility system costs and impacts associated with increased DG installations in California, and how those costs and impacts change based on interconnection location, distribution feeder characteristics, load types, and project size. Results of the analysis will be presented as a 2020 forecast of the costs and impacts of SCE achieving its fair share of the Governor's 12,000 MW localized renewable energy goal, and a methodology and framework that can be utilized by other California utilities to conduct similar analysis. Additionally, based on the results of this study, Energy Commission staff will author a white paper that explores potential regulatory and technical solutions to mitigate costs and impacts.

## Public Comment

**Oral Comments:** Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

**Written Comments:** Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **September 6, 2013**. Written comments will also be accepted at the workshop; however, the Energy Commission may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the workshop. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding. Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for this proceeding.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the docket number 13-IEP-1H and indicate *Electricity Infrastructure Costs of Distributed Generation*

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<sup>2</sup> Southern California Edison, *The Impact of Localized Energy Resources on Southern California Edison's Transmission and Distribution System*, (May, 2012).

in the subject line. Send comments to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov) and copy the technical lead staff at [matt.coldwell@energy.ca.gov](mailto:matt.coldwell@energy.ca.gov).

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 13-IEP-1H  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

## **Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts**

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If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at [LQuiroz@energy.ca.gov](mailto:LQuiroz@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please call Matt Coldwell, Electric Generation System Specialist I, at (916) 651-2070, or by e-mail at [Matt.Coldwell@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Matt.Coldwell@energy.ca.gov). For general questions regarding the IEPR proceeding, please contact Lynette Green, IEPR Project Manager, at (916) 653-2728, or by e-mail at [Lynette.Green@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Lynette.Green@energy.ca.gov).

The service list for the 2013 *IEPR* is handled electronically. Notices and documents for this proceeding are posted to the Energy Commission website at [www.energy.ca.gov/2013\\_energy\\_policy/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/2013_energy_policy/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 [www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html).

## **Remote Attendance**

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

## Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at: [www.energy.ca.gov/2013\\_energy policy/documents/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/2013_energy policy/documents/index.html).

Date: August 2, 2013

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Deputy Director

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