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### BUSINESS MEETING

#### BEFORE THE

### CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In	the Matter		) )17-BUSMTG-01
	Business	Meeting	)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

THE WARREN-ALQUIST STATE ENERGY BUILDING

ART ROSENFELD HEARING ROOM - FIRST FLOOR

1516 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017 10:00 A.M.

Reported by: Kent Odell

### APPEARANCES

## Commissioners

Robert Weisenmiller, Chair Karen Douglas Andrew McAllister Janea Scott David Hochschild

### Staff Present:

Rob Oglesby, Executive Director
Kourtney Vaccaro, Chief Counsel
Alana Mathews, Public Adviser's Office
Cody Goldthrite, Secretariat
Jared Babula, Staff Counsel
John Heiser
Keith Winstead
Cheryl Closson

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Susan Cochran	2	
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Monica Rudman	9	
David Weightman	10	
Pilar Magana	11	
Rizaldo Aldas	12	
Silvia Palma-Rojas	13	
Prab Sethi	14	
Kevin Mori	15	
David Stoms	16	
Michael Sokol	17	

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# Others Present (\* Via WebEx)

# Interested Parties

Stephen O'Kane, AES Huntington Beach LLC Melissa Foster, Stoel Rives LLP		2 <b>,</b> 2	3
Jeffery Harris, Ellison, Schneider & Harris,	LLP	3	
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Peter Christensen, California Air Resources	Board .	5	
Justin Ward, California Fuel Cell Partnershi		5	
Thomas Lawson, California Natural Gas Coalit	-	5	
Kent LeaCock, Proterra Inc.		5	
Jim Castelaz, Motiv Power Systems	ļ	5	
Colin Santulli, Center for Sustainable Energ	У,	8	
Ben Bartlett, California Clean Energy Fund		8	
Vince McDonell, UC Irvine	1	0	
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	Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e), the Energy Commission may also discuss any judicial or administrative proceeding that was formally initiated after this agenda was published; or determine whether facts and circumstances exist that warrant the initiation of litigation, or that constitute a significant exposure to litigation against the				

Commission, which might include:

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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 APRIL 12, 2017 10:02 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
- 6 was recited in unison.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good morning. We will
- 8 hold item one, so let's skip on to Huntington Beach, Item
- 9 2.
- Hang on, one second. Why don't you and you do
- 11 your disclaimers?
- 12 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yeah.
- 13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, so I just have
- 14 quick disclosures on Items 8, 16a and 16c. On Item 8, UC
- 15 Davis is a subcontractor and 16a and c, they're the prime.
- 16 My wife is a professor at King Hall, the law school at UC
- 17 Davis. I'm just disclosing that, there's no conflict of
- 18 interest, but just for the purposes of transparency I
- 19 wanted to disclose that.
- 20 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So I will join in this
- 21 disclosure. I teach a renewable energy law class at King
- 22 Hall at UC Davis, and while none of these contracts are
- 23 with the law school I still wanted to make this disclosure,
- 24 thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Please, go ahead.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Good morning. I'm
- 2 Susan Cochran with the Chief Counsel's Office and I'm very
- 3 pleased to be standing before you today to present the
- 4 Presiding Member's Proposed Decision, PMPD, and Committee
- 5 Errata for the Huntington Beach Energy Project Amendment,
- 6 which I will be referring to as the amended project.
- 7 The PMPD can be found in the docket at TN 216247.
- 8 An Errata has been prepared and was filed on April 11,
- 9 2017, as TN 216931. A Proposed Order was filed on April 11
- 10 as TN 216932.
- In October 2014 the Energy Commission approved
- 12 the Huntington Beach Energy Project. If built, that
- 13 project would have resulted in the creation of a 939-
- 14 megawatt natural gas facility on a portion of the existing
- 15 Huntington Beach generating station, located on the Pacific
- 16 Coast Highway in Huntington Beach, California. The power
- 17 would be generated by two independently operating 3-on-1
- 18 combined-cycle gas turbine power blocks.
- 19 In September 2015, AES Huntington Beach, LLC
- 20 filed a Petition to Amend seeking revisions to the 2014
- 21 license. The primary difference is a reduction in the
- 22 project size from 939 megawatts to 844 megawatts and a
- 23 change in the suite of equipment to produce power.
- 24 The amended project will be built in two phases
- 25 if approved. The first phase is a combined-cycle gas

- 1 turbine with related facilities to produce 644 megawatts.
- 2 That is subject to a Power Purchase Agreement with Southern
- 3 California Edison. The second phase is for 200 megawatts
- 4 from two GE simple-cycle gas turbines LMS-100 PBs.
- 5 The amended project will take approximately nine
- 6 years to construct. This length of time is necessary so
- 7 that the existing Huntington Beach generating station can
- 8 continue to provide voltage support to Southern Orange
- 9 County and San Diego. That voltage support is currently
- 10 provided by synchronous condensers, which will continue to
- 11 operate until the first phase is built and operational. At
- 12 that point, the synchronous condensers will cease
- 13 operations.
- We've had thoughtful and substantive
- 15 participation from many parties, including Applicant, staff
- 16 and Intervenor Rob Simpson, Helping Hand Tools. The
- 17 Committee and the Energy Commission have received several
- 18 public comments from interested individuals and agencies,
- 19 including the California Coastal Commission, the City of
- 20 Huntington Beach and three letters from members of the
- 21 public. And a joint letter from several public
- 22 organizations including the Sierra Club, LA WaterKeeper,
- 23 Surf and Surfrider Foundation.
- 24 The Coastal Commission provided comments that
- 25 were addressed in the PMPD. The Coastal Commission did not

- 1 submit any comments on the PMPD after its issuance. The
- 2 City of Huntington Beach was an active participation in the
- 3 project providing comments on the PSA, the FSA and the
- 4 PMPD. As with the 2014 project, the Applicant and the City
- 5 worked together on a visual screening and enhancement
- 6 program that are reflected in the visual Conditions of
- 7 Certification. The City does not oppose the project.
- 8 We received approximately letters from members of
- 9 the public and public interest groups. And responses to
- 10 those comments are included in the Errata.
- 11 As an amendment, the focus and analysis of this
- 12 project are different from an Application for
- 13 Certification. The primary question asked in our review of
- 14 this project is, does the proposed new project include so
- 15 many changes that new environmental review is required?
- 16 The PMPD concludes that for the majority of the topic
- 17 areas, no supplemental or subsequent environmental review
- 18 is required. The areas that we did include additional
- 19 information of an environmental nature are in visual and
- 20 biological resources.
- 21 The PMPD than makes the finding that with the
- 22 imposition and implementation of the Conditions of
- 23 Certification, the amended project will not result in any
- 24 significant unmitigated environmental impacts. In
- 25 addition, the PMPD finds that with the imposition and

- 1 implementation of the Conditions of Certification, the
- 2 project complies with all LORS, which are Laws, Ordinances,
- 3 Regulations and Standards. Therefore no overriding
- 4 considerations are required or necessary.
- I request that you adopt the Proposed Order
- 6 approving the Huntington Beach Energy Project amendment.
- 7 And I'm available for any questions that may arise.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Staff?
- 9 MR. BABULA: Jared Babula, Staff Counsel.
- 10 MR. HEISER: John Heiser, Project Manager for the
- 11 Project. No comment.
- MR. BABULA: Yeah, we don't have any comments,
- 13 unless there are specific questions from the Commission.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 15 Applicant?
- MR. O'KANE: Good morning. This is Stephen
- 17 O'Kane. I'm Vice President for AES Huntington Beach Energy
- 18 LLC, the Applicant. We do have a couple of items we'd like
- 19 to talk with the Committee about -- the Proposed Order --
- 20 and I'll let my Counsel, Melissa Foster, speak to those.
- 21 MR. FOSTER: Melissa Foster with Stoel Rives,
- 22 outside counsel for the Project Owner, AES Huntington Beach
- 23 Energy. Good morning, Commissioners. We appreciate the
- 24 opportunity to discuss this and have this before you today.
- 25 It's been a long road to get here and so we're looking

- 1 forward to this.
- There are two items that we'd like to discuss.
- 3 And we did provide yesterday in the docket, comments on the
- 4 Proposed Order and specifically the effective dates set
- 5 forth therein. As well as comments on the Errata and the
- 6 Condition of Certification GEO-3, as well as proposed
- 7 revisions we had made to WORKER SAFETY-1 and 2 that were
- 8 not addressed in the Errata. So we would like to discuss
- 9 those two topics today in whichever order you prefer.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Please, go ahead.
- MS. FOSTER: Okay. I'll start with the Proposed
- 12 Oder and the effective date in the Proposed Order. There
- 13 was a comment letter provided by myself yesterday, as well
- 14 as a letter provided by AES in the docket related to the
- 15 effective date in the Proposed Order, which is set forth as
- 16 April 17th. There are no regulations that require the
- 17 specific timeframe for a Proposed Order to take effect as
- 18 an Order adopted by the Commission, if a project is
- 19 approved. And AES would like to request and strongly urges
- 20 the Commission to make the effective date of the order
- 21 April 12th, today's date.
- 22 And I'll let Mr. O'Kane speak of that as to why
- 23 that is so important to the project.
- MR. O'KANE: Thank you. In short, every day is
- 25 critical to our schedule. When we went into a Petition to

- 1 Amend for a smaller project with minimal areas of
- 2 environmental analysis required, we certainly expected to
- 3 be further down the road in our schedule than we are today.
- 4 Seeing as how there are subsequent work to be done,
- 5 approvals to made from other agencies subsequent to the CEC
- 6 decision, every day that an order is not effective, affects
- 7 the orders and position permit to construct from the South
- 8 Coast Air Quality Management District. And even the
- 9 Conditions of Certification that we need to fulfill before
- 10 we can start construction. So this does impact our
- 11 construction schedule, which is slated to begin this year.
- 12 And so we're pleading for a effective date of
- 13 today as we are down the actual day-for-day analysis of our
- 14 schedule as we move forward.
- MS. FOSTER: And for the record, we would like to
- 16 indicate that the effective date of the Order approving the
- 17 original Huntington Beach AFC was the date of the approval,
- 18 October 29th, 2014. And we would just like to request that
- 19 that happen here as well.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Let's first turn
- 21 to the Hearing Adviser and staff. What's the precedent in
- 22 this area?
- 23 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: In general, and
- 24 historically, unless there's been a compelling reason to
- 25 give a decision an immediate effect making it effective on

- 1 the Monday following a business meeting maximizes the
- 2 number of days for the Chief Counsel's Office to analyze a
- 3 court petition and prepare and file the Commission's
- 4 response. But that has been the historical precedent, not
- 5 necessarily one that I can speak to, I've not been here
- 6 historically.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I was going to say my
- 8 impression is it's probably more of a recent precedent as
- 9 opposed to historic. Chief Counsel?
- MS. VACCARO: I think the Hearing Officer said it
- 11 correctly that I think in recent years that's been our
- 12 custom and practice, but it is not a precedent of the
- 13 Commission. And you have before you, I think, some
- 14 advocacy that's giving you I think some compelling reasons,
- 15 at least in the view of the Applicant for doing something
- 16 different. I think it's worth considering and from where I
- 17 sit I have no opposition, from a legal perspective, to the
- 18 date being moved to today's date to accommodate the
- 19 Applicant. But of course that's something that's for the
- 20 Commission to decide.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So I'll just make a brief
- 22 comment and then ask a question. As our Chief Counsel
- 23 noted, this is a date that we use that is to some degree
- 24 for our convenience in terms of maximizing the time that we
- 25 have to respond to petitions. And because the process has

- 1 a pretty tight timeframe for responding, that can be
- 2 helpful to us. And particularly when there might be
- 3 multiple approvals, for example, or multiple issues that
- 4 Chief Counsel's Office could be called upon to respond to
- 5 at the same time. And you never know that, but that's a
- 6 possibility.
- 7 Now, on the other hand as has been noted, it is
- 8 possible for us to go with today's date. And I think the
- 9 main question that I wanted to ask of the Applicant is
- 10 whether you have and can give us specific examples of how
- 11 you would be inconvenienced by this five-day longer
- 12 effective date, so that we could weigh that against our
- 13 considerations for preferring the 17th?
- MR. O'KANE: Specifically, the five days would
- 15 immediately mean that no other agency: the City, Air
- 16 Quality Management District could act on their approvals,
- 17 specifically our permit to construct and encroachment
- 18 permits in the City of Huntington Beach for an additional
- 19 five days. It would then also push out our time for
- 20 preparing all of our pre-construction elements as laid out
- 21 in the Conditions of Certification. And we have a fixed
- 22 time schedule for the new CCGT to be online in 2020 and we
- 23 have a 36-month construction schedule with no way to make
- 24 that up.
- 25 Per our Conditions of Certification, we have very

- 1 restrictive construction hours. So any loss at this point
- 2 in our schedule is an impact to us and a risk to us to
- 3 deliver the new power service in 2020.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You also have a existing
- 5 license (indiscernible).
- 6 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: You also have an existing
- 7 license and there are a number of things that you can do
- 8 today under that license. So are there specific issues
- 9 that you're waiting on for this amendment?
- MR. O'KANE: So the specific thing we cannot do
- 11 is commence with any sort of construction until we've
- 12 cleared our Construction Conditions of Certification.
- 13 There are Conditions of Certification for mobilization of
- 14 construction crews to the site, for ground disturbance such
- 15 as the initial grading, fencing, etcetera.
- But then there is a significant set of conditions
- 17 related to the start of construction, not the least being a
- 18 federal permit to construct, PSD permit to construct, which
- 19 cannot be issued from the AQMD until the Order is effective
- 20 here. So we are pushing all of our abilities to start
- 21 actual construction with every day lost. So today you're
- 22 right, we are doing work at the site. We have an existing
- 23 license, but none of that work goes beyond ground
- 24 disturbance of site mobilization type work. There is no
- 25 construction work authorized to proceed yet.

- 1 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So I have a question
- 2 for staff. I guess from my perspective rushing things more
- 3 often than not opens up the possibility for having errors,
- 4 which then need to get fixed. I mean, a part of our
- 5 caution here in giving ourselves a few days, as I
- 6 understand it, is to make sure that all the "I's" are
- 7 dotted, all the "T's" are crossed. We're going to talk
- 8 about a few other issues in addition to the effective date,
- 9 here. So making sure that everything is in place and has
- 10 been fully vetted, so that everything is in order, I think
- 11 is part of the reason that staff likes to give themselves a
- 12 few days.
- MS. VACCARO: Yeah. If I may answer?
- 14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I agree, go ahead.
- 15 Sure.
- MS. VACCARO: It's really the Legal Office, more
- 17 so than staff, just as a point of clarification of what
- 18 we're talking about here. Really this timeframe that's at
- 19 issue goes to the possibility of the Commission decision
- 20 being challenged whether it's a Petition for
- 21 Reconsideration directly to the Commissioners or something
- 22 that might be filed in court. And there are very specific
- 23 timeframes for that.
- 24 So really, what we're talking about here is more
- 25 on the legal side. How much time the attorneys who would

- 1 be representing the Commission, my office, and perhaps with
- 2 the assistance of the Attorney General's Office would have
- 3 to review whatever pleadings were filed. And then to have
- 4 ample time to respond, because a swift response is going to
- 5 be required. And I think, quite frankly, that's really
- 6 what's at issue here. It's not so much that there's
- 7 anything left to do with respect to the decision or the
- 8 completeness of the record. And that's why I spoke early
- 9 in this proceeding just to let all of you know that this
- 10 really is a matter of discretion for the Commissioners,
- 11 based on what you're hearing from the Applicant. And that
- 12 you are getting no opposition or pushback from the Chief
- 13 Counsel's Office, including the hearing officers to the
- 14 request.
- But it does seem to us, as Commissioner Douglas
- 16 has noted, there needs to be a reason for it. A reason for
- 17 us to deviate from what our custom and practice is and I
- 18 think that's the dialogue then that Commissioner Douglas
- 19 has just invited with the Applicant.
- 20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Thanks for the
- 21 clarification.
- 22 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: And I will add just for
- 23 the information of anyone who might, or might not be
- 24 interested, the reason why the original Huntington Beach
- 25 decision that we adopted had the effective date as the

- 1 business meeting date is that when we looked out at how may
- 2 extra days we would get, those extra days were over
- 3 Thanksgiving, or something like that. And we decided it
- 4 wasn't very valuable to us in that instance.
- 5 So I think we've had a good discussion of this.
- 6 I would be willing, especially given the Chief Counsel's
- 7 lack of overt unhappiness at this, to go with today's date
- 8 and I appreciate the explanation. Sometimes, really that's
- 9 what we need. It's not that every day matters, because it
- 10 does. It's helping us see the context that you're working
- 11 within and so that we can weigh it against the
- 12 considerations that are motivating us.
- 13 Shall we go --
- 14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh, yeah. So thanks to
- 15 the Chief Counsel for that and Commissioner Douglas as
- 16 well, so I have no opposition either.
- 17 MS. FOSTER: And before anything else happens I
- 18 just want to make sure we do have the discussion related to
- 19 GEO-3 on the record, as well.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: No, please go ahead. I
- 21 was just going to comment. I mean I had the same reaction
- 22 to the pleading last night was that you asked, but you
- 23 really didn't give the rational for it, so getting that on
- 24 record today helps understand your request.
- MS. FOSTER: We appreciate that. Thank you very

- 1 much.
- 2 Yesterday, we filed comments on the Errata
- 3 related to specifically staff and the proposed decision's
- 4 inclusion of GEO-3, which is a Tsunami Response Plan. We
- 5 had a discussion about this plan and this condition at the
- 6 PMPD conference back on March 9th. And AES filed follow-up
- 7 comments, proposing changes to WORKER SAFETY-1 and 2, to
- 8 incorporate language related to tsunami plans, similar to
- 9 what's in the Alamitos PMPD. And those comments were not
- 10 addressed in the Errata, so we provided those comments
- 11 again yesterday. And would like to have a dialogue or
- 12 information with the Hearing Officer and the Committee
- 13 related to those comments.
- 14 Specifically that there's no basis for GEO-3.
- 15 And we think that the proposed revisions we've made to
- 16 WORKER SAFETY-1 and 2, to include specific tsunami response
- 17 in the worker safety plans addressed the concerns that
- 18 staff initially raised. And that were carried over into
- 19 the PMPD, so we would like to have a discussion about that
- 20 as well.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: If I may, Chair?
- 22 The discussion on the condition GEO-3, which
- 23 concerns a Tsunami Mitigation Hazard Plan is addressed on
- 24 PMPD pages 5.4-2. And the same arguments that Applicant
- 25 raised in comments on the PMPD and in his letter of

- 1 yesterday are the same and that is their preference that we
- 2 amend WORKER SAFETY-1 and WORKER SAFETY-2.
- In this case while we tried to be as consistent
- 4 as possible with Alamitos, we determined that the unique
- 5 site characteristics here at Huntington Beach as well as
- 6 the existence of what the Committee has identified as a law
- 7 relating to tsunami hazardous plans, required us or
- 8 informed us, to adopt a Condition of Certification GEO-3,
- 9 for a separate Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Plan condition.
- Now yesterday was the first time that Applicant
- 11 had asked for any sort of questions regarding -- or any
- 12 changes to the verification from 60 days prior to ground
- 13 disturbance, as set forth in the PMPD, versus 30 days prior
- 14 to construction. Because the Committee had adopted staff's
- 15 position, I think that we would need to hear from staff on
- 16 whether that change is appropriate. But the Committee
- 17 believed that it had already addressed the substantive
- 18 arguments raised by petitioner in the PMPD, regarding the
- 19 imposition of this condition.
- 20 MR. BABULA: So this is Jared Babula Staff
- 21 Counsel. Staff's okay with the change in the timing that
- 22 they had suggested, so we would be okay with that. But we
- 23 agree with the PMPD and the layout and the arguments for
- 24 why we want to keep GEO-3.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: If the Commission were

- 1 interested in amending the decision as currently set forth
- 2 in the PMPD, then we would need to add a point to the
- 3 Errata under Appendix A. I don't have the correct number,
- 4 but it would be for Appendix A, page 123, change in the
- 5 language of the verification from, "30 days prior to ground
- 6 disturbance." Strike that language and insert, "30 days
- 7 prior to construction."
- 8 So the entire verification would then read, "The
- 9 Project Owner shall submit the THMP 30 days prior to
- 10 construction for CPM review and approval. The Project
- 11 Owner shall submit any subsequent updates to the THMP to
- 12 the CPM, within 90 days of an update to an applicable
- 13 THMP." And again that's page 123 of Appendix A to the
- 14 PMPD.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Applicant?
- MR. O'KANE: Thank you. Well, obviously we're --
- 17 it's not a preferred position. We thought it was well-
- 18 addressed in our worker safety plans and our existing
- 19 Huntington Beach generating station's worker safety plans
- 20 and emergency response times. We think that it's
- 21 adequately addressed for tsunami. However, I think this is
- 22 a compromise position and quite frankly it is the only
- 23 logical position, since we have already started "ground
- 24 disturbance" at the site. It would be actually impossible
- 25 to meet the language of this condition as written if it's

- 1 adopted today.
- 2 So we will be amenable to the change in leaving
- 3 in GEO-3 and taking "30 days prior to construction."
- 4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, so I think we've
- 5 vetted that issue. Any comment on that Commissioner
- 6 Douglas?
- 7 (No audible response.)
- 8 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Thanks and I
- 9 think I'm supportive of the compromise.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Let's go to the
- 11 Intervenor in the case for comments on the decision. And
- 12 is he in the room or on the phone? Please.
- 13 (Off mic colloquy to set up audio.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Sorry. While we are
- 15 waiting for the Intervenor, let's see if there are any
- 16 other public comment in the room, any public comment on the
- 17 line?
- 18 (No audible response.)
- 19 So again any -- first for the Intervenor, are you
- 20 either in the room or on the line, and then any other
- 21 public comment?
- 22 (No audible response.)
- I think we'll transition to the Commissioners,
- 24 then. Actually, Public Adviser, could you call the
- 25 Intervenor and see where they are? Thank you.

- 1 We'll hold off until she --
- 2 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Just while we're
- 3 waiting, I just want to clarify, so there is a PPA for the
- 4 combined-cycle portion of the project, but there's not one
- 5 for the simple-cycle portion; am I understanding that
- 6 correctly?
- 7 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: That's correct. The
- 9 644 megawatts.
- 10 (Off mic colloquy.)
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sorry, I'm unable to
- 12 hear you. If you could please check your mute feature?
- 13 MR. CHANDAN: Unless the Commissioner has
- 14 something us, we don't have anything to say unless there
- 15 are some questions from the Commissioner.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Air District.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: I believe that's from
- 18 the Air District.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Thanks for being
- 20 on the line. We were just checking. We have an Intervenor
- 21 in the case and we're waiting for his public comment or
- 22 seeing if there's other public comments. But it's good to
- 23 know and thank you for being on the line and if we do have
- 24 questions when we get to the Commission conversation, we
- 25 will reach out to you.

- 1 MR. CHANDAN: Sure. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 3 (Off mic colloquy.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Actually, yeah if you
- 5 want to make the comment over where the (indiscernible) is,
- 6 that's probably the easiest way to get to a microphone.
- 7 MS. MATHEWS: Okay. Good morning, it's Alana
- 8 Mathews, the Public Adviser. And I directed my staff to
- 9 contact all the intervenors yesterday, who are on both
- 10 matters on the business meeting agenda, just to make sure
- 11 that they knew the item was on, and to see if they had any
- 12 questions about participating.
- So Rosemary in my office did speak to Mr. Simpson
- 14 at 2:48 to inquire if he was aware of the business meeting
- 15 and to see if he had any questions. And he said he did not
- 16 have any questions and he knew about the business meeting.
- 17 I have checked my personal email and we have also
- 18 checked the PAO email. We have not received any
- 19 communications of anyone having any trouble getting in,
- 20 accessing the WebEx to join remotely.
- 21 However, I did ask Rosemary to call and she was
- 22 actually actively listening. And so she actually heard
- 23 your request as well, so she is calling the Intervenor in
- 24 this matter just to double check. And she's also checking
- 25 the PAO email to see if anything has changed from the time

- 1 we started the business meeting as to whether or not anyone
- 2 has had trouble getting on to the WebEx.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. So let's
- 4 transition to the Commissioners.
- 5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So as the Presiding
- 6 Commissioner on this case, I want to thank all the
- 7 participants. Certainly Susan, the Hearing Adviser, and
- 8 staff working on this, Chief Counsel, certainly the
- 9 Applicant as there's been a lot of back and forth between
- 10 the Commission and the Applicant, obviously. All the
- 11 intervenors as well have provided a lot of input and
- 12 actually had some influence on the areas that they've been
- 13 open to commenting on. And then the City of Huntington
- 14 Beach as well, they've been a really positive, active
- 15 participant in a lot of, I think very relevant and cogent
- 16 points to the discussion.
- 17 So we can talk about details that the
- 18 Commissioners want to talk about, all the different issues
- 19 that came up. And we solicited some input from the ISO and
- 20 also we had an ongoing interaction with the Coastal
- 21 Commission. We also want to express appreciation for South
- 22 Coast for their participation as well. So everyone of
- 23 interest in this case has been involved.
- 24 And obviously this has been an amendment, it's
- 25 not an original application, so there was a pretty solid

- 1 basis to work from. So I'm satisfied with where things
- 2 have come down on this and would recommend approval. I
- 3 thank Commissioner Douglas as well for her leadership on
- 4 this, as Lead Siting Commissioner.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll just say briefly, and
- 6 I don't know if other Commissioners have questions or
- 7 comments, but I'll join in Commissioner McAllister's
- 8 comments and also thank him for his thoroughness and
- 9 leadership on this project. And I agree with him and
- 10 recommend this for the Commission's approval.
- 11 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: So I have two concerns.
- 12 First, I just want to be clear, we're being asked to
- 13 approve gas capacity for which there's not a contract,
- 14 okay? So the original needs assessment that we used to do,
- 15 which we no longer do after restructuring, the vision
- 16 behind that was to let the market basically determine what
- 17 comes to us through a contract. So I get that through the
- 18 simple-cycle -- for the combined-cycle portion, but we're
- 19 being asked to go beyond that and approve potentially
- 20 projects for which there is no contract and there is no
- 21 market-established demand yet, via PPA. That's a concern.
- 22 And then secondly, I want to just return to the
- 23 point I made when we had the discussion and vote on
- 24 Carlsbad, around clutch capacity. Because obviously the
- 25 standard for new gas capacity in California is high to

- 1 begin with now given our greenhouse gas goals. But if it's
- 2 going to be built, my very strong view is that it should be
- 3 built right with an eye towards doing everything possible
- 4 to minimize emissions. And to go back to my analogy there,
- 5 throwing the ball to where the receiver is going, and not
- 6 to where the receiver is.
- 7 And I think at that at that time, two years ago,
- 8 there was even some question about whether we would get to
- 9 50 percent renewables. I think that debate is settled.
- 10 We're on track, not just to hit it, but to blow by that
- 11 goal. We're headed towards a majority renewable grid.
- 12 And when we talk about what the question is with
- 13 a clutch, to recap, the issue is that today to get the
- 14 ancillary services from voltage regulation and inertia, you
- 15 need to operate the turbine and combust fuel to get those
- 16 services. The clutch allows you to decouple the generator
- 17 from the turbine, get the inertia, get the voltage
- 18 regulation without having to burn gas to do that. And it
- 19 is highly cost effective to do that. And we're talking
- 20 about for projects like this, in excess of a billion
- 21 dollars, a couple of million dollars to do a clutch.
- I participated in the fact-finding tour with a
- 23 number of Commissioners from the PUC, a number of members
- 24 of the Board of Governors at ISO, to go down to see the
- 25 clutch in operation at LADWP and understand it. And it

- 1 persuaded me even more that this is the right philosophy to
- 2 be pursuing. And I agree with President Picker and I agree
- 3 with agree with the ISO and I agree with NRDC and other
- 4 stakeholders, who have weighed in to that effect.
- 5 We got, in November of 2015, a letter from the
- 6 ISO saying that that should be the default option
- 7 basically, for all new gas capacity where it's feasible.
- 8 And I want to compliment Commissioner McAllister in
- 9 reaching out to ISO to confirm that that's still the case.
- 10 I did read the correspondence back and the
- 11 question was for Huntington Beach, does that recommendation
- 12 still apply? And ISO's response was, in considering the
- 13 longer view, we believe there is merit to having the clutch
- 14 capability at Huntington Beach as a prudent hedge for
- 15 future uncertainty. And to assist in minimizing gas
- 16 consumption and the corresponding greenhouse gas emissions
- 17 and criteria pollutants at times when synchronous condenser
- 18 capabilities would suffice in meeting local reliability
- 19 needs.
- They went on to say if we don't do that, as an
- 21 alternative and at a minimum essentially it should be
- 22 clutch ready, basically. So we're basically ignoring, from
- 23 my perspective, the default position of this for something
- 24 that relative to other requirements that we have put on
- 25 projects from land acquisition to limitations in operation,

- 1 the costs are still de minimis.
- I just would like your thoughts, Commissioner
- 3 McAllister, having lead on that, what your take is.
- 4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, so I agree with
- 5 most of what you've gone through there, which is why I
- 6 reached out to the ISO. And so they have an existing
- 7 transmission plan and it does not recommend the synchronous
- 8 condenser capacity in the area of Huntington Beach, within
- 9 the timeframe of the transmission plan, which is ten years.
- 10 And so there seems to be a conflict between that and their
- 11 letter.
- 12 Certainly, the plant's going to be around longer
- 13 than that, so I thought it was important to reach out to
- 14 them. So I did so and got the letter that you read part
- 15 of. And their analysis has not changed in the transmission
- 16 plan that they had, so the update won't include that
- 17 capacity in the timeframe of the transmission plan either.
- 18 We did then engage the Applicant in a
- 19 conversation about if there's room at the site for a
- 20 clutch, if that became an important thing in that area. If
- 21 it was needed in that area, which of course we don't gauge
- 22 that need. We don't look at PPAs or the need at this or
- 23 any other plant. We make sure that if it's built it's
- 24 fully mitigated relative to the baseline, which was the
- 25 existing permit.

- 1 So there is a record about the conversation that
- 2 we had, and that there is room in there for a clutch. The
- 3 site has space obviously for these single cycles that may
- 4 or may not get built. I think there's uncertainty about
- 5 that and the future's uncertain. And so I pushed that
- 6 conversation on the record here as much as really I think
- 7 was reasonable without forcing it into it. And forcing
- 8 what is an investment of I don't know that I'd call it de
- 9 minimis, but it would be an investment that we know is not
- 10 needed in the next decade according to the ISO.
- 11 So it is possible to put one in, in the future.
- 12 There's space at the site and we wanted to make sure of
- 13 that. But it came down short based on this discussion.
- 14 And then certainly the Applicant and the staff are welcome
- 15 to comment on this issue, short of imposing a clutch
- 16 itself.
- 17 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Please.
- MR. O'KANE: Okay. Thanks.
- 19 We did have a robust discussion about exactly
- 20 this through our alternative analysis and the planning.
- 21 And this is one area, you're touching on a couple of areas
- 22 that are particularly difficult for the public to follow,
- 23 let alone the professionals in the room to follow, because
- 24 we are starting to branch off into areas of different
- 25 jurisdictions. There's no need assessments within our

- 1 projects, but there is technological advances that we
- 2 should be looking at.
- 3 So we've got to be careful that we don't mix up
- 4 market need contracts, whether or not a contract is needed
- 5 or not with exactly a siting decision, so there's that
- 6 issue I think was partially touched on. But for the
- 7 specifics of clutches I think we have to be very specific
- 8 on what technology it could be installed on and then
- 9 secondly the nature of the site. First and foremost, is
- 10 when we're talking about clutches we're talking about the
- 11 simple-cycle Phase 2, if you like, for the latter part of
- 12 the project possibility.
- And then as we've always communicated to the
- 14 public right, in this market you really can't go forward
- 15 with significant investment on power generation and
- 16 capacity without a guaranteed contract. It is not a
- 17 merchant type of environment. We would not build a plant
- 18 on spec. It can't be done, so they won't be built without
- 19 a contract. And that contract is the one that's going to
- 20 specify exactly what technology is needed to meet the
- 21 specific need.
- Now why have we included it now? And I think the
- 23 number one reason we've included it now is the length of
- 24 time this takes. If it's needed it's going to be needed in
- 25 very short order and somebody's going to make that

- 1 decision.
- 2 This is really a broader discussion about the
- 3 need for the whole Western Los Angeles Basin. At the start
- 4 of this proceeding, the original proceeding, we had just
- 5 lost the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. We have
- 6 the rest of the once-through cooling stations are all being
- 7 retired. I know this is about reducing our dependence on
- 8 gas fired generation in the whole. Thousands of megawatts
- 9 are being retired over the next few years and only a couple
- 10 of plants are actually going to be built to meet that for a
- 11 very specific need. Now, if that need doesn't come forward
- 12 in the future that second phase will never be built and
- 13 something else, may instead, be built in its place.
- 14 So first and foremost putting too many specifics
- 15 on what that second phase would be -- your view of the
- 16 markets, our view of the markets, they're all just as
- 17 valid. So we think what we've got, if something is needed,
- 18 what we've presented is good. In terms of a clutch, yes, a
- 19 clutch could be added to that final design. We haven't
- 20 gotten into final engineering design for those units. That
- 21 could be something that could be easily be incorporated.
- 22 And then I think there's another point that we
- 23 missed here is that there's already synchronous condensers
- 24 in operation there, which is the most cost effective thing
- 25 and the best thing for the environment. If that's all we

- 1 need, voltage support is, we wouldn't build a gas plant.
- 2 We wouldn't build a gas turbine and a generator. We would
- 3 just use a synchronous condenser, in and of itself. And
- 4 there's going to be a sunset on those synchronous
- 5 condensers that are already in operation, so this may all
- 6 be a mute point in the future. There may not be a second
- 7 phase. We have the ability to add it.
- 8 And there's other options for providing extra
- 9 synchronous condenser and voltage support without a gas
- 10 driver, a gas-fired prime mover.
- 11 So I think there's a lot of issues we're touching
- 12 on, but I think the number one thing is that second phase,
- 13 there is space available to do it. That kind of level of
- 14 specification in the engineering design is not available
- 15 yet. We've only done the preliminary engineering for this
- 16 front, but it's certainly available to do in the future,
- 17 provided that's what is actually needed by the markets.
- 18 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Right. And so my basic
- 19 point is these facilities have up to a 40-year life, right?
- 20 And so a ten-year planning horizon is not sufficient to
- 21 retroactively go in and install a synchronous condenser
- 22 where a project is not clutch ready, or clutch installed is
- 23 about 10X the cost of doing it right the first time. And
- 24 so that's my main concern is I don't want to have to be in
- 25 a situation of putting an additional burden on ratepayers

- 1 to do something where we're not doing it right the first
- 2 time.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's clarify two things
- 4 for David. Were you talking about clutches on the combined
- 5 cycle?
- 6 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: No, just to be clear,
- 7 this is just for simple cycle. It's not a combined cycle
- 8 technology.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Just for the simple
- 10 cycle. And also, what's the duration of your contract for
- 11 the combined cycle?
- MR. O'KANE: Twenty years.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay.
- MR. O'KANE: So that's a good point about the
- 15 planning horizon. They have to overlay that with the
- 16 actual construction horizon and the retirement horizon. So
- 17 the second phase, the simple cycles, we wouldn't even start
- 18 construction on those for at least another three years, all
- 19 right? And only if there was a planning procurement
- 20 process that actually saw that happening, we would want to
- 21 see some more capacity built, gas-fired capacity built.
- 22 And if that's not started, if there's a gap in
- 23 construction, well the actual authorities to construct and
- 24 build actually expire if we don't stay in continuous
- 25 (indiscernible). So if there isn't a decision made on

- 1 that, that second phase will retire on its own. So we
- 2 don't foresee a case where we would ever be looking at
- 3 having to do a retrofit on the system.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Fair point.
- 5 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: I don't have anything to
- 6 add. I got a thorough briefing and have looked through
- 7 many of the materials, so I'm good.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I was just going to add
- 9 in terms of my decision. I mean, first as we all know that
- 10 we're driving on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the
- 11 state that the power sector, as of 2014 was 20 percent
- 12 below 1990. I suspect today's number would be much lower,
- 13 particularly with a good hydro year. And so we have to
- 14 keep our eye on that ball. I think this is part of that
- 15 process.
- And also I appreciate that we're talking about, I
- 17 was going to say -- well, either back relative to the
- 18 original or the amended project, but we're talking about at
- 19 least 100 good construction jobs in the L.A. Basin coming
- 20 out of this. So again, I think basically putting our
- 21 people to work is always important.
- MR. O'KANE: If I could? We kind of had a little
- 23 bit of a speech that I was going to wait for later. But I
- 24 wonder if I could touch on it now, because it's been a long
- 25 difficult process. We've had to evaluate these projects

- 1 within the siting regulations. And it's been difficult, at
- 2 times particularly with the public and others, to
- 3 understand the broader picture. And what both Huntington
- 4 Beach and Alamitos are, is not the building of new gas
- 5 plants. That's not what we should be thinking about.
- 6 These projects are the closing of plants or the reduction
- 7 of our reliance on gas-fired power plants.
- 8 And these simple cycles that we look for a later
- 9 stage of development, these are there as an option. That
- 10 AES is saying look, we don't have a lot of time with what's
- 11 happening. We're moving as fast as we can. We're closing
- 12 plants. We're trying to move into distributed energy,
- 13 reliance on more renewable energy. Our biggest growth
- 14 sector in the west now, is looking at distributed solar and
- 15 battery energy storage, which are other options that could
- 16 replace those second phase.
- Our goal is to provide those options to the state
- 18 to be the market provider, not to build gas plants. We are
- 19 an energy solutions provider and that's where we're trying
- 20 to get to. We're trying to be consistent with the state's
- 21 goal. We're closing the plants. We're being more
- 22 efficient. We're reducing greenhouse gases. We're
- 23 reducing our reliance on things, but not leaving the state
- 24 hanging.
- 25 The worst thing would be if we don't have options

- 1 available to us in a tight timeline. And we have to leave
- 2 the 60-year old plants to continue to operate and we were
- 3 close to that situation as it is. And that would be the
- 4 most dire effect when we look at greenhouse gases and
- 5 environmental impact, to leave these old units -- the ones
- 6 that we rely on, which are horribly inefficient -- need to
- 7 be left on for days at a time just for a very small service
- 8 they provide us for a few hours a day. We don't want to be
- 9 in that position.
- 10 We want to make sure the options are available
- 11 for the state. And so we look at one project that has
- 12 combined cycles and some simple cycles. We talk about
- 13 synchronous condensers. But they are really part of the
- 14 bigger puzzle of battery energy storage, of distributed
- 15 energy. They all fit together and it's difficult for us to
- 16 address these in these siting cases.
- 17 And I'm glad you raised this, Commissioner
- 18 Hochschild, because it touches on exactly that. How do we
- 19 move forward with all of these goals, stopping OTC,
- 20 reducing our reliance on water, reducing greenhouse gases
- 21 and maintain a reliability at all times? I mean that's the
- 22 other key piece of it.
- COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, well look your
- 24 point is well taken, both that there's another bite at the
- 25 apple when the contracts come before the PUC. My point is

- 1 we are losing our leverage, because at that point it won't
- 2 need to come back to us.
- But secondly, that what you mentioned with
- 4 renewables, I mean there is no question in my mind we're
- 5 going to be in situations all over the state where what is
- 6 needed is not more power out of the grid, what's needed is
- 7 voltage regulation. And we don't want to ever be in a
- 8 situation of unnecessarily having to combust gas to provide
- 9 those services.
- 10 And we know the cost difference between putting
- 11 it in right the first time versus having to retrofit that
- 12 in. That's my only point, so I do hear you. There will
- 13 have to be another contract process that goes through the
- 14 PUC, but it will not have to come back before us, so which
- 15 is why I'm raising it now.
- No further comments from me.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, so I quess I just
- 18 want to make one -- did you want to make some comments,
- 19 Commissioner Douglas?
- 20 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I was going to say
- 21 something briefly at risk of anyway -- just two thoughts as
- 22 we have this discussion.
- COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Go ahead, I'll
- 24 wrap up after.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: One is I think it would

- 1 trigger an amendment to add a synchronous condenser. It
- 2 would come back before us, but it would be in the form of
- 3 an amendment.
- 4 The second is that I just wanted to say that it's
- 5 not merely that there's another bite at the apple at the
- 6 CPUC, where there's an opportunity to look at the role of
- 7 these simple cycles in the context of all of the system
- 8 alternatives and should they be contracted at all? Should
- 9 they be contracted, but with the synchronous condenser?
- 10 Should something else be done? But I think more broadly
- 11 that I think that's the more appropriate place for the bite
- 12 to be taken and it is very hard in our siting proceedings.
- 13 They're really not designed to be the place where
- 14 we implement procurement policy. And it's not to say that
- 15 procurement-related or policy-related issued don't come up.
- 16 They very often do, and they particularly come up where we
- 17 deal with projects that might have either unmitigated
- 18 impacts or the need for an override, where the Energy
- 19 Commission really does have to look at the importance of
- 20 the project in the context of the environmental or land use
- 21 or other issues that might be implicated.
- But in the absence of that I do think after
- 23 having been through many, many, many of these cases that
- 24 siting cases are not the right place to make procurement
- 25 policy in general. Although these procurement issues or

- 1 these policy issues do come up, and they are important to
- 2 be given their place, in the discussion around these
- 3 projects.
- 4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So great discussion and
- 5 these are all very important issues for the whole state.
- 6 And again I think a lot of our collective frustration is
- 7 that we have a very small sliver of the overall discussion
- 8 within this very highly stylized environment.
- 9 Most of my time is actually working energy
- 10 efficiency to try to avoid the need for new generation.
- 11 And basically a megawatt is still the most cost effective
- 12 and optimal resource that we have in this state.
- I do think we at the Commission have a very
- 14 important broader role of characterizing the non-generation
- 15 technologies out there such as energy efficiencies, such as
- 16 demand response that I'd like think could step in and
- 17 really replace basically one-to-one traditional generation.
- 18 And as technology and as modern informational and
- 19 electronic resources, basically technology and information
- 20 can step in and help us develop markets for those then I
- 21 think those actually will provide -- they do, but they will
- 22 provide even more -- alternatives for traditional supply
- 23 and just supply in general.
- 24 So I think creating that context and
- 25 understanding what the true breadth of the alternatives are

- 1 for generation. Maybe not in the definitional arena of the
- 2 siting realm, but just more broadly what can we do with
- 3 efficiency, demand response, and other types of resources
- 4 that are distributed? And defuse I think is really kind of
- 5 the challenge of our time. So we don't get to have those
- 6 conversations as deeply as we would like in the siting
- 7 context. But I want to just highlight those as really
- 8 important to bring, in terms of knowledge and context, to
- 9 the siting work that we do, do.
- 10 So we're all committed to having reliable and
- 11 cost effective energy and the context is complicated. So I
- 12 think we do the best we can within the siting context, but
- 13 it has a lot of constraints around it. So I appreciate
- 14 everyone's insight on that.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let me just wrap up with
- 16 two observations. One is we actually do influence the
- 17 procurement decisions in our demand forecast, which
- 18 includes every drop of energy efficiency we can find. And
- 19 maybe a little bit more than is there, but certainly and
- 20 renewables, so we do set that context. And I would also
- 21 just note that AES's original name was Applied Energy
- 22 Services and with Roger Sant back in the late '70s.
- 23 And the notion was that you weren't just buying
- 24 hardware. You were buying -- you want lighting and it can
- 25 come from LEDs. It can come from any number of things.

- 1 The same people want the basic energy services, so that's
- 2 certainly -- Roger was always a real visionary in
- 3 foreshadowing where we are not. So again, it goes really
- 4 back to the roots of this company and I'm certainly looking
- 5 forward to them being a partner with the state and helping
- 6 us in our evolution here.
- 7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. So maybe Chief
- 8 Counsel can guide the statement that we make to propose
- 9 adoption of this item.
- MS. VACCARO: Yes, so Hearing Officer Cochran has
- 11 for you proposed motion language to capture all of the
- 12 different decisions that are before you this morning.
- 13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: So I believe that it
- 15 should be a motion to adopt the Proposed Adoption Order TN
- 16 216932, changing the effective date from 4-17 to 4-12,
- 17 adopting the Commission's final decision consisting of the
- 18 PMPD, as amended to change the verification of Condition of
- 19 Verification GEO-3 to "30 days prior to construction,"
- 20 instead of, "60 days prior to ground disturbance," and the
- 21 Errata.
- 22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Rather than
- 23 repeat that I will say, "So moved for Item 2."
- 24 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

- 1 (Ayes.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those opposed?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you very much.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Sure. Thank you.
- 6 MS. FOSTER: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Alamitos.
- 8 MS. MATHEWS: Chair, if I could make a brief
- 9 announcement? It seems that we didn't have anyone on the
- 10 phone lines, so we have a number of participants on WebEx.
- 11 And I just want to remind anyone on WebEx if you want to
- 12 participate on the telephone, there is a notice that's
- 13 visual on the screen. And it says if you wish to
- 14 participate, you dial the number that's listed, 888-823-50
- 15 -- and my vision is failing -- so we'll leave that for
- 16 everyone to read that.
- 17 But if you want to make a public comment, it is
- 18 not enough. And I do believe we have representatives who
- 19 may be interested in making public comment on this item.
- 20 So again, I just want to make sure everyone knows to call
- 21 the number to be able to participate.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: Good morning, Chairman
- 24 Weisenmiller and Commissioners. Kenneth Celli, appearing
- 25 on behalf of the Alamitos Energy Center Application for

- 1 Certification Committee. Commissioner Douglas is the
- 2 Presiding Member and Commissioner Scott is the Associate
- 3 Member of the Committee.
- 4 The Presiding Member's Proposed Decision, which I
- 5 refer to as the PMPD, reflects the Committee's careful
- 6 consideration of all evidence submitted by the parties as
- 7 well as all public comments received. The PMPD recommends
- 8 that the Commission grant certification, because the
- 9 Alamitos Energy Center is consistent with laws, ordinances,
- 10 regulations, and standards. And pursuant to CEQA, will
- 11 have no significant adverse effects on the environment.
- 12 The Alamitos Energy Center would be a nominal
- 13 1,040 megawatt natural gas-fired combined-cycle and simple-
- 14 cycle air-cooled electrical generating facility, consisting
- 15 of two power blocks.
- 16 Power Block 1 would consist of two natural gas-
- 17 fired GE 7FA combustion turbine generators, in a combined-
- 18 cycle configuration with two unfired heat recovery system
- 19 generators, one steam turbine generator, and an air-cooled
- 20 condenser, an auxiliary boiler and related ancillary
- 21 equipment, capable of producing a nominal 640 megawatts.
- 22 Power Block 2 consists of four simple-cycle GE
- 23 LMS 100 combustion turbine generators with fin-fan coolers
- 24 and ancillary facilities capable of producing a nominal 400
- 25 megawatts.

- 1 The Alamitos Energy Center is located at the
- 2 southern-most tip of Los Angeles County. The project site
- 3 is bounded on the north by State Route 22, on the east by
- 4 the San Gabriel River, on the south by 2nd Street and on
- 5 the west by North Studebaker Road in the City of Long
- 6 Beach, Los Angeles County, California.
- 7 The project would occupy 21 acres within the
- 8 existing 71-acre Brownfield site of the Alamitos Generating
- 9 Station, which I refer to as the AGS. The AGS facility was
- 10 built between 1955 and 1969. Currently, AGS Units 1
- 11 through 6 are in operation with a net generating capacity
- 12 of 1,950 megawatts.
- 13 AGS Unit 7 was decommissioned in 2003. AGS
- 14 Units 1 through 6 are scheduled to be decommissioned by
- 15 2020, under the State Water Resources Control Board's phase
- 16 out of the use of once-through cooling.
- 17 No new offsite transmission lines or gas lines
- 18 will be needed for the Alamitos Energy Center and no new
- 19 offsite water pipelines are needed for fire protection.
- The Alamitos Energy Center will construct a new
- 21 1,000 linear foot process/sanitary wastewater pipeline to
- 22 the first point of interconnection with the existing Long
- 23 Beach Water District Sewer system, which will eliminate the
- 24 current practice of discharging treated process and
- 25 sanitary wastewater to the San Gabriel River.

- 1 Stormwater will be collected in the existing
- 2 south basin where oil containing sludge will be removed and
- 3 disposed of as hazardous waste. The remaining separated
- 4 stormwater runoff would outflow to the San Gabriel River.
- 5 The total maximum annual water consumption of the Alamitos
- 6 Energy Center will be 130-acre feet per year. The project
- 7 will continue to use the existing water main connection at
- 8 Studebaker Road. However, a new 340,000 gallon de-ionized
- 9 water tank will be constructed within the site footprint.
- 10 The Committee took evidence at two separate
- 11 evidentiary hearings. The fist evidentiary hearing on
- 12 November 15th, 2016 covered all subject areas except air
- 13 quality, greenhouse gases and public health. After the
- 14 Final Determination of Compliance was published, evidence
- 15 on air quality, greenhouse gases and public health was
- 16 taken at the second evidentiary hearing on December 20th,
- 17 2016.
- 18 The only intervenor in this proceeding was the
- 19 Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust. The Intervenor raised
- 20 several issues, mostly regarding the treatment of the
- 21 demolition of the AGS Units 1 through 6, whether a need for
- 22 the Alamitos Energy Center had been established, and
- 23 whether a 640 megawatt in the RFO, awarded by the CPUC
- 24 should have been considered to be a maximum capacity.

25

- 1 The Intervenor's issues are addressed in project
- 2 alternatives, facility design, project reliability, air
- 3 quality, hazardous materials management, waste management,
- 4 biological resources, soil and water resources, traffic and
- 5 transportation and noise and vibration.
- 6 As usual, the public was presented a full
- 7 opportunity to participate at every stage of these
- $8\,$  proceedings. The Committee received public comments. The
- 9 PMPD, Presiding Member's Proposed Decision, considered and
- 10 addressed all timely filed public comments.
- 11 A couple of issues arose from the docket
- 12 yesterday that I would like to speak to at this time.
- 13 First, the Applicant filed additional comments on the
- 14 Errata. The Committee had either already accepted these
- 15 changes in the PMPD, or considered them to be too minor to
- 16 include in the Errata, or were otherwise rejected by the
- 17 Committee. Therefore, there are no changes or further
- 18 Errata for the Commission to consider today.
- 19 Secondly, regarding the Applicant's request to
- 20 change the effective date of the Final Decision, unless
- 21 there is a compelling reason to give your decision
- 22 immediate effect, making the Final Decision effective on
- 23 the Monday following a business meeting, maximizes the
- 24 number of days for Chief Counsel's Office to analyze a
- 25 court petition and prepare and file the Commission's

- 1 response.
- 2 Finally, the Proposed Order needs a change on
- 3 page 3, Order Number 1, because the Errata was filed on
- 4 April 11th, not April 4th. And also the footnote on page 1
- 5 should be TN 216938, which currently shows as an underscore
- 6 which is the Errata, which is the same as footnote number
- 7 four.
- 8 The Committee recommends that the Commission
- 9 adopt the PMPD on the Alamitos Energy Center, along with
- 10 the Committee Errata, which was docketed on April 11th,
- 11 2017. The Errata incorporates the parties and public
- 12 comments on the PMPD and includes clarifications of the
- 13 record.
- 14 With that, the matter is submitted and I am
- 15 available to answer any questions on procedural matters, or
- 16 the PMPD. Otherwise, the parties are here to address the
- 17 Commission.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Staff, do you
- 19 have any comments?
- MR. BABULA: Yeah, thanks. This is Jared Babula,
- 21 Staff Counsel. I'm here with the Project Manager, Keith
- 22 Winstead. There's three things I just want to quickly
- 23 highlight from this project. So first, originally this
- 24 project was filed as a much larger project at 1,936
- 25 megawatts, but due to the changing energy landscape it was

- 1 downsized to its current size of 1,040.
- 2 The other thing I want to point out as the
- 3 Hearing Officer mentioned in this summary of the project,
- 4 that there was an issue regarding how to treat the
- 5 decommissioning and potential demolition of the existing
- 6 Alamitos Generating Station Units 1 through 6. In this
- 7 case, staff filed a Motion for Summary Adjudication to
- 8 allow for a robust discussion through briefing and oral
- 9 argument for all the parties to discuss exactly the
- 10 consequences of the decommissioning, in relation to this
- 11 project.
- 12 And after a full briefing and oral arguments, a
- 13 Committee decision was issued that crystallized the proper
- 14 scope of analysis. So we went through a specific process,
- 15 just to engage all the stakeholders on that issue.
- And third as you may be aware, we had done some
- 17 updates to our regulations, and a lot of them touched on
- 18 the siting process. This project was under initially the
- 19 older version, but when the Preliminary Staff Assessment
- 20 came out we were under the new regs, so it was fully vetted
- 21 through a 30-day comment period. And staff responded with
- 22 detailed responses to those comments in the FSA. And so
- 23 all the critical issues that you may hear today from the
- 24 intervenors have been addressed in a number of different
- 25 venues as we went through this process.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Applicant?
- 3 MR. O'KANE: Stephen O'Kane with AES Alamitos
- 4 Energy, the Applicant. I'll let my Counsel speak to a
- 5 couple of items. I'll answer the question when it comes
- 6 up, because I know what's coming.
- 7 MR. HARRIS: Yeah, if I could just a little
- 8 clarification from Mr. Celli on the Applicant's comments on
- 9 the Errata, which is number 216967, our comments about
- 10 yesterday.
- I agree with you that on the first pages, those
- 12 are all just kind of textual things, I think they don't
- 13 matter. But I want to ask you about two of those changes
- 14 to conditions that are on page 2 of our comments. Do you
- 15 have that document in front of you?
- 16 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: Yes.
- 17 MR. HARRIS: So the two I'm concerned about, Mr.
- 18 Celli, are the first one where there's actually some
- 19 proposed language change on Condition SOIL & WATER-6. And
- 20 the language there is again a timing thing, but it say, "No
- 21 later than 60 days prior to commissioning of either power
- 22 block," was the requested change there. That one, I feel
- 23 is substantive.
- 24 And I'll give you the second one and you can
- 25 address them in order. The other one is the last one,

- 1 again down on the very bottom for Condition VIS-3. The
- 2 word "verification" does not appear in the PMPD and I think
- 3 it's important to break the verification, so can you
- 4 address -- those are the only two I'm really worried about
- 5 in our filing and I want to know what your thoughts are on
- 6 those.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: Thank you, yes. The
- 8 Commission as to the, "No later than 60 days prior to the
- 9 commissioning," of either power block -- the Commission is
- 10 going to insert, "No later than 60 days prior to
- 11 commissioning the project," etcetera.
- MR. HARRIS: And that's acceptable. Thank you.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: Okay. As to Appendix A,
- 14 page 188, that verification, the Committee considered that
- 15 to be clerical and just inserted the verification.
- MR. HARRIS: Those are the only two things that I
- 17 had in our comments. I just wanted to clarify the record
- 18 on that.
- 19 So this project has not begun construction. This
- 20 is not an amendment. It's a new AFC, so we have even less
- 21 time than Huntington Beach. And so I'll try to be short,
- 22 even though some people think I get paid by the word.
- We really need two things. Number one, the
- 24 clarification we just received from the Hearing Officer.
- 25 And number two, we would like the same consideration on the

- 1 effective date. I will not take you back through that
- 2 debate. I think I know where you're going to end up on
- 3 that, but if you're so inclined, I will stop there and
- 4 thank you for your time.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So let's ask the Chief
- 6 Counsel again on the effective date.
- 7 MS. VACCARO: Oh, it's exactly the same as what
- 8 came up in the prior matter. Chief Counsel's Office again
- 9 has no objection or concern with the date of the Proposed
- 10 Order being moved to today's date. Again though, it still
- 11 leaves the question for the Commissioners as to whether or
- 12 not the explanation that you received for the request
- 13 satisfies you, so that you're willing to change custom and
- 14 practice.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So O'Kane, do you want to
- 16 address that?
- 17 MR. O'KANE: Schedule again is extremely tight
- 18 and important for us to meet our obligations to the state
- 19 and to our off-taker and the utility in 2020.
- 20 And in the Alamitos case it's actually a much
- 21 tighter schedule. The effective date will affect when the
- 22 permit to construct can be issued. It also affects the
- 23 date from which the Conditions of Certification begin
- 24 effective date.
- 25 And unlike Huntington Beach no work has begun on

- 1 the site. There is no ground disturbance. There is no
- 2 mobilization yet. I still need to clear the site, prepare
- 3 a large section of an existing power plant with existing
- 4 buildings and things onsite before I even get into
- 5 construction. So the effective date, our timeline to make
- 6 it at Alamitos is even tighter, so each day counts. And
- 7 all the subsequent items that come from the effective date
- 8 are impacted by these five days.
- 9 MR. HARRIS: And I just want to add one thing to
- 10 respond to a comment that was from the dais. Ordering
- 11 paragraph 10 says that the Hearing and Policy Unit shall
- 12 incorporate the PMPD and Errata under a single document.
- 13 And publication of that compilation shall not affect the
- 14 adoption, effective issuance, or final days of the Order
- 15 established in paragraph 4.
- 16 So as to the concerns about getting it right, I
- 17 think this is brilliant, paragraph 10. I wish I'd have
- 18 written it myself. It says basically that staff has time
- 19 and probably will need the transcripts, frankly, to make
- 20 sure that they're 100 percent sure they've got everything
- 21 in place. So I think administratively, that process can
- 22 proceed and with sufficient time to make sure that things
- 23 are done in a way that's not rushed.
- 24 So I just wanted to point out that paragraph 10,
- 25 for your consideration too.

- 1 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll just say that I think
- 2 that Mr. Harris's instincts that if we were satisfied with
- 3 the explanation on Huntington Beach, we probably should be
- 4 on Alamitos, is correct. Given that they don't have an
- 5 amendment and that they are not able to do some of the
- 6 activities that Huntington Beach is able to do, because
- 7 they don't have an approved decision. So I am personally
- 8 satisfied that we can move the effective date to today.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So I'll turn to the
- 10 Intervenor, either in the room or on the line, please come
- 11 forward.
- 12 Public Adviser, could you check email, voice mail
- 13 find out?
- MS. MATHEWS: (Indiscernible)
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Again please intervenors,
- 16 just to reiterate if you're on it, you have to call in, and
- 17 the number is 888-823-5065. And please, if you're
- 18 listening on WebEx, please call in at that phone number.
- 19 (No audible response.)
- 20 Okay. Let's I quess transition to the dais.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Well, I'll keep my
- 22 comments brief, I think, while we see if we can get the
- 23 intervenors speaking if they're indeed here or on the phone
- 24 and wish to speak.
- I want to thank all of the parties and absolutely

- 1 this was a -- every siting case is a big undertaking.
- 2 There's a lot of information. There's a lot of back and
- 3 forth. We had an Intervenor participating in this, a local
- 4 group, and it was very helpful to have their participation.
- 5 And I'll thank the Associate Member on the
- 6 Committee, Commissioner Scott, who may have some comments
- 7 as well.
- 8 In a lot of ways many of the issues raised as we
- 9 looked at Alamitos, paralleled to some degree, Huntington
- 10 Beach. And that's probably not too surprising in terms of
- 11 the context of once-through cooling and the combined-cycle,
- 12 which does have a PPA and the single cycles, which do not.
- 13 Like Huntington Beach, the single cycles, should they be
- 14 built, are proposed with space for synchronous condensers.
- 15 The synchronous condenser itself is not proposed in what is
- 16 before us today.
- 17 You know there was thorough and hard work by
- 18 South Coast Air Quality Management District. They're on
- 19 the phone and I'll thank them as well for being on the
- 20 phone today and for their work with us throughout this
- 21 process. And I recommend this for the Commission's
- 22 support.
- CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Actually, just to be safe
- 24 I asked for the Intervenor, either in the room or on the
- 25 line and obviously any public comment either in the room or

- 1 on the line. We'll be happy to hear from them now.
- MR. BABULA: This is Jared Babula. I'm a little
- 3 concerned, because they did indicate the Intervenor was
- 4 going to be present or at least call in and make some
- 5 statement. So I just want to make sure we give ample
- 6 effort.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Well, again I keep asking
- 8 the Public Adviser to check and call out.
- 9 MS. MATHEWS: Well, I'll state on the record
- 10 (indiscernible) --
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Please come up to the
- 12 microphone.
- MS. MATHEWS: So we've already checked. We've
- 14 let them know. I did visually see that Ms. Lamb is on the
- 15 WebEx and I wasn't sure if she did not understand whether
- 16 or not she should call in, so I made that announcement.
- 17 And email has also been sent to her and we have left
- 18 messages. So there is no messages in our PAO email.
- 19 So we have reached out to make sure that everyone
- 20 is aware.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay.
- 22 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Sure, I just wanted to echo
- 23 Commissioner Douglas's thanks to all of the parties and
- 24 also say thanks to her. She's a fantastic Presiding Member
- 25 to get to work with on these.

- I also wanted to highlight that I really
- 2 appreciate the discussion that we had on Huntington about
- 3 the broader context in which we work and the fact that the
- 4 Commission siting process really does look at this small
- 5 sliver. And I just wanted to highlight that and underscore
- 6 that, because that is I think also important and relevant
- 7 to Alamitos as well and that's pretty much it. Just kind
- 8 of echo what you heard from Commissioner Douglas.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I was going to note that
- 10 one of the things is that even though we lost San Onofre as
- 11 part of the OTC we got a substantial reduction in the IOU
- 12 generation in the L.A. Basin. And that can be contrasted
- 13 with LADWP, which while facing the same OTC, basically did
- 14 a one-for-one or was doing a one-for-one replacement.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All right. I will make a
- 16 motion on this then. I think it doesn't suffice for me to
- 17 move to adopt the Adoption Order, because I think we have a
- 18 change or two.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: That's correct,
- 20 Commissioner Douglas. We need to make the changes that at
- 21 the bottom of page 1 there's a footnote with an underscore
- 22 and that underscore is just TN 216938, which is the Errata
- 23 filed April 11th.
- 24 On page 3 of the Order, the second sentence where
- 25 it says filed on April, I think it said 4th, it should read

- 1 "April 11th, 2017."
- 2 And then the Commission needs to be rule on the
- 3 effective date of the Order, because we have it as April
- 4 17th as Item 4 in the Order.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Thank you. So I will
- 6 move to adopt the Adoption Order for this item, with the
- 7 changes read into the record by the Hearing Officer and
- 8 with an effective date of April 12th; is that sufficient?
- 9 MS. VACCARO: And I believe there's also an
- 10 Errata to approve; is that correct Hearing Officer Celli?
- 11 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: The Errata, that's
- 12 correct, the Errata was filed on 4-11-17. Given our
- 13 discussions today that the Errata is sufficient in itself
- 14 and so the Errata filed April 11th needs to be adopted as
- 15 well.
- 16 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Oh, I thought it was
- 17 incorporated by reference in the Adoption Order?
- 18 HEARING OFFICER CELLI: It is, but I just wanted
- 19 to be clear that there were no further changes, based upon
- 20 the filing from the Applicant yesterday.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All right, so my motion
- 22 includes the Errata, which is incorporated by reference in
- 23 the Adoption Order anyway.
- 24 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

- 1 (Ayes.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those opposed?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: 5-0. Thank you.
- 5 Let's go on to Item 4.
- 6 MS. SMITH: Good morning, Commissioners, members
- 7 of the public. I'm Courtney Smith, Deputy Director of the
- 8 Renewable Energy Division. The Renewable Energy Division
- 9 has recently pursued a variety of strategies to improve the
- 10 efficiency of our program administration and also to
- 11 provide better customer service. And I'm here today to
- 12 provide you a brief update on that effort.
- In particular, our Division has focused on
- 14 streamlining our administration of the New Solar Homes
- 15 Partnership Program, or NSHP Program, as well as the
- 16 Renewables Portfolio Standard Program, or RPS Program.
- 17 As you know, the New Solar Homes Partnership
- 18 Program provides incentives to builders to install solar on
- 19 new residential homes in California. The RPS Program
- 20 requires utilities to procure a certain percentage of
- 21 renewable energy to meet program targets. Next slide.
- 22 From better leveraging technology, to
- 23 specializing staff assignments, we have and continue to
- 24 pursue a variety of strategies to simplify stakeholder
- 25 participation in our programs and to improve the use of

- 1 staff resources. By expanding the use of online tools and
- 2 systems, both the NSHP Program and the RPS Program have
- 3 benefitted by simplifying the submittal of data and
- 4 applications by stakeholders.
- 5 The most noteworthy example of this was the RPS
- 6 Program's transition this past January to a new online
- 7 system that replaces the previous paper reporting system
- 8 used in collecting information for both the certification
- 9 of renewable energy facilities, as well as for the
- 10 verification of renewable energy procurement by RPS
- 11 participants.
- 12 Since this transition, staff has already
- 13 identified an improved success rate for initial facility
- 14 certification applications. And has recently experienced
- 15 simplified staff review, which reduces delays for
- 16 stakeholders.
- 17 Similarly, the NSHP Program recently adopted the
- 18 use of an updated incentive calculator that cuts down the
- 19 time needed to calculate project incentive amounts for both
- 20 staff and program participants. This tool is created
- 21 solely by staff after stakeholders had raised concerns with
- 22 the previous approach.
- 23 Another strategy staff has and continues to
- 24 employ is to create an update protocols for staff to follow
- 25 when reviewing program applications. The use of these

- 1 protocols brings about more consistent and efficient
- 2 reviews among many staff and also allows new staff to be
- 3 trained more quickly.
- 4 As renewable energy markets evolve, there's also
- 5 an opportunity to remove or to simplify program
- 6 requirements to reflect a more mature market, which we have
- 7 done both in the NSHP Program as well as the RPS program.
- 8 A great example of this comes from our NSHP
- 9 program. After conducting several focus groups and
- 10 meetings with industry experts and program participants,
- 11 staff significantly consolidated and simplified the amount
- 12 and type of information requested of program applicants to
- 13 shorten the process, while still upholding integrity of the
- 14 program.
- 15 Another key strategy has been specialization.
- 16 Specializing staff in administrative tasks and on key
- 17 program topics have shortened staff application review time
- 18 and have made reviews more thorough.
- 19 Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, staff are
- 20 developing creative solutions to program administration
- 21 challenges. This has really required them to think beyond
- 22 how things have always been done, and to be willing to try
- 23 new approaches to problems. For example, in the NSHP
- 24 Program staff recognized that we had a majority of
- 25 applications for new projects submitted by a small group of

- 1 very experienced program participants. Leveraging this
- 2 experience, staff created a new designation, called the
- 3 "established installer," which provides these trusted high-
- 4 volume participants with streamlined processes, while
- 5 ensuring the same level of stringency in program
- 6 requirements. Next slide.
- 7 Staff has already seen the benefits of these
- 8 streamlining efforts. For the NSHP Program, the delay in
- 9 application review time last year was four months. As a
- 10 result of our streamlining efforts, the delay is currently
- 11 about six weeks and decreasing, with many payment claims
- 12 being reviewed even shorter than this timeframe.
- In addition, the simplification of NSHP Program
- 14 forms and the use of the RPS online system, with its
- 15 immediate feedback to participants has already resulted in
- 16 a reduction of errors by stakeholders significantly
- 17 increasing the success rate for initial submissions and
- 18 reducing staff time associated with making corrections.
- 19 The use of more automated tools is improving
- 20 program data management and stakeholders are pleased with
- 21 both the simplified requirements and the quicker
- 22 communication from staff.
- 23 Moving forward, the Renewable Energy Division
- 24 will continue to implement the streamlining opportunities
- 25 identified. And will turn its aim on improving the

- 1 efficiency of the other programs that it administers.
- 2 Ultimately, designing and administering programs in a way
- 3 that's efficient, accountable, and best serves the public
- 4 is not a discrete set of efforts, but it's a mindset.
- 5 For each decision we make as program
- 6 administrators, whether big or small, we must be willing to
- 7 evaluate and challenge the previous approach. And if
- 8 needed have the boldness to do something a little
- 9 different. Only with this boldness can we achieve the full
- 10 ambition of public service.
- 11 Thank you for your time. I'm happy to answer any
- 12 questions.
- 13 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Thank you, Courtney.
- 14 Let me thank you, and Natalie, and the whole team for this
- 15 progress. I asked for this item to be put on the agenda
- 16 just because there's been actually a lot of ongoing work in
- 17 many, many different parts of the Division that have
- 18 yielded real results.
- 19 We started off with certifications, when I
- 20 started, were as long as 60 days. We're now averaging 3
- 21 days. And the NSHP processing time, as you mentioned has
- 22 gone from four months to six months. (sic) Verification
- 23 report has been a challenge as well. We're working on all
- 24 fronts, but the goal is really to make a friction-free
- 25 process, make use of technology. And I particularly want

- 1 to compliment some of the line staff, who are actually
- 2 processing stuff and figured out faster, better ways to do
- 3 it. So let's keep it up and I'm really proud of all you
- 4 guys.
- 5 With that, if I could ask Cheryl Closson to come
- 6 up? I just wanted to take this moment, Cheryl has been
- 7 running our GRDA Program and is going to be retiring in a
- 8 few weeks after 29 years with the State, the last stint
- 9 with the Energy Commission.
- 10 And working on geothermal, I received on the
- 11 Energy Commission's behalf, this award for the GRDA Program
- 12 at the recent Geothermal Conference some time ago, which is
- 13 really that's a tribute to you, Cheryl. And you have been
- 14 at this with great diligence. And I hear great feedback
- 15 about your work from folks I interact with in the
- 16 geothermal community. So we just want to say, "Thank you
- 17 and congratulations for all your service. And we wish you
- 18 well."
- MS. CLOSSON: Thank you.
- 20 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: And anything you'd like
- 21 as you retire?
- MS. CLOSSON: Oh, thank you very much. I've had
- 23 a really wonderful time working for the Energy Commission.
- 24 It was actually my first job in state service back in 1987.
- 25 And then I went on to work on with CalEPA and then came

- 1 back and have really enjoyed especially working with the
- 2 Geothermal Program. So thank you very much.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: We'll be doing a
- 4 workshop, which we timed before Cheryl leaves, so and I
- 5 think that's in two weeks here?
- 6 MS. CLOSSON: Next Wednesday.
- 7 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: It's next Wednesday
- $8\,$  with the number of Legislators and we'll look back at what
- 9 we've done on GRDA and what opportunities there are going
- 10 forward, so glad you can participate.
- 11 So thank you, Cheryl.
- 12 (Applause.)
- MS. CLOSSON: Thank you, very much. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, I also wanted to
- 15 thank Cheryl for her public service and thank you for your
- 16 vision here. I know when I came on board, one of the
- 17 things that was most concerning was obviously we had sort
- 18 of manual certification processes. And as you know,
- 19 verification and just looking at the explosion we were
- 20 going to have of renewable contracts and resources, it was
- 21 going to be like, "Oh my God. We need to get this to the
- 22 21st Century fast." You know? So again, thanks for
- 23 pushing that along. Thanks, thanks a lot.
- Any public comment on this? I don't think so,
- 25 but just in case.

- 1 (No audible response.)
- 2 Thanks. Let's go on to Number 5, the Investment
- 3 Plan.
- 4 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: And right before Jacob
- 5 starts, I just wanted note that the Commission has a
- 6 handful of vehicles that we are demonstrating and they're
- 7 out front. I hope that you saw them as you came in. We're
- 8 excited to have both the all-new Chevy Volt, thanks very
- 9 much to Commissioner Hochschild for that. A FIAT BATTERY
- 10 ELECTRIC for folks to take a look at. We've got the Honda
- 11 Clarity, kind of hot off the lines and the Toyota Mirai for
- 12 people to be able to test drive. And so there are some
- 13 great displays and vehicles out front that are related to
- 14 ARFVTP.
- And I'll turn it to Jacob.
- MR. ORENBERG: Good morning, Chairman and
- 17 Commissioners. My name is Jacob Orenberg and I'm the
- 18 Project Manager for the 2017-2018 Investment Plan Update
- 19 for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle
- 20 Technology Program or ARFVTP.
- 21 Today, we are seeking your approval of this
- 22 Investment Plan Update. If approved, the current Lead
- 23 Commissioner Report version will be reissued as a Final
- 24 Commission Report and this will serve as a guide for our
- 25 funding solicitations and awards in the coming fiscal year.

- 1 The Energy Commission's ARFVTP Program was
- 2 developed to provide funding support for projects that
- 3 reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the transportation
- 4 sector, which is responsible for about 37 percent of
- 5 statewide greenhouse gas emissions. The projects we fund
- 6 also contribute to other complementary state goals,
- 7 including improved air quality, increased alternative fuel
- 8 use, reduced petroleum dependence and economic development.
- 9 To date, the program has awarded over \$748
- 10 million in funding to more than 585 projects. Our statutes
- 11 call on us to develop a diverse portfolio of alternative
- 12 fuels without adopting any one preferred option.
- Accordingly, we fund a broad range of project
- 14 types including alternative fuel production, alternative
- 15 fuel infrastructure, advanced vehicle demonstrations and
- 16 other related needs. The projects funded by the ARFVTP are
- 17 expected to accrue significant benefits for the state from
- 18 reduced greenhouse gas emissions, petroleum use and air
- 19 pollution.
- This chart provides a visualization of ARFVTP
- 21 projects to-date, with each column representing a component
- 22 of the transportation sector funded through our program.
- 23 The Fuel Production category represents about \$167 million
- 24 divided between ethanol, biodiesel, renewable diesel, and
- 25 biomethane. The infrastructure investments total \$248

- 1 million, consisting largely of hydrogen refueling stations
- 2 and electric vehicle charging stations. This category also
- 3 includes natural gas, E85, and biodiesel infrastructure.
- 4 The funding for vehicles totals \$230 million and
- 5 primarily consists of vehicle deployment incentives for
- 6 natural gas trucks and advanced technology hybrid, plug-in
- 7 hybrid, and electric truck demonstration projects. We've
- 8 also have funded projects in supporting areas such as in-
- 9 state manufacturing facilities, workforce training,
- 10 regional readiness planning, and fueling standards
- 11 development.
- 12 For the 2017-2018 Investment Plan Update, we
- 13 published a Draft Staff Report in October, which was
- 14 followed by the first Advisory Committee meeting held in
- 15 Sacramento. Based on the feedback we received, we then
- 16 released a Revised Staff Report in January. And held a
- 17 second Advisory Committee meeting in Fresno in February for
- 18 additional public input. Last month, we released the
- 19 proposed Lead Commissioner Report, which is what we are
- 20 seeking approval for today.
- 21 As we mentioned, we hosted two Advisory Committee
- 22 meetings, in which we received guidance and input from
- 23 member organizations and state agencies. Many other
- 24 interested stakeholders also participated in those meetings
- 25 and provided public comment. We received and considered 32

- 1 comments via our public docket, and continue to participate
- 2 in meetings with stakeholders.
- 3 This slide lists all of the Advisory Committee
- 4 members for the 2017-2018 Investment Plan, who we thank for
- 5 their contribution and dedication to our program. The
- 6 membership of the Advisory Committee includes
- 7 representatives of fuel and vehicle technology groups,
- 8 environmental and public health groups, academic
- 9 institutions, and partnering state agencies.
- I do need to highlight one particular change in
- 11 the Lead Commissioner Report compared to the two prior
- 12 versions of the 2017-2018 Investment Plan Update. And that
- 13 is a \$2.8 million reduction in available funding for ARFVTP
- 14 funding allocations. This change is necessary, because
- 15 beginning with fiscal year 2017-2018 the ARFVTP funding
- 16 appropriation will be required to fund program staff costs
- 17 that traditionally have been paid for from the Energy
- 18 Resources Programs Account, which is more frequently known
- 19 as ERPA.
- 20 As a result \$2.8 million less will be available
- 21 for the Investment Plan funding allocations. The funding
- 22 reduction has been applied equally across every category,
- 23 with all of the allocations being reduced by 2.8 percent
- 24 compared to the draft and revised staff report versions of
- 25 the Investment Plan.

- 1 I'll now give a brief summary of this Investment
- 2 Plan's proposed funding allocations starting with biofuel
- 3 production and supply. To date, the program has funded 59
- 4 projects to expand the in-state production capacity of
- 5 ethanol, biomethane and diesel substitutes for
- 6 transportation fuel. For this Investment Plan, we have
- 7 removed landfill biogas projects from consideration, and
- 8 this has been done for consistency with California state
- 9 policies to divert organic waste from landfills.
- 10 Similar to prior Investment Plans this allocation
- 11 is open to all project stages and a variety of biofuel
- 12 types. And we will continue efforts to support innovative
- 13 and transformative biofuel technologies. For this
- 14 category, we're proposing a \$19.4 million allocation for
- 15 fiscal year 2017-2018.
- 16 For electric charging infrastructure, we are
- 17 expecting other programs to begin offering significant
- 18 funding, most notably from utility programs and the
- 19 Volkswagen diesel emission settlement. These other funding
- 20 sources should complement ARFVTP funding in this area, and
- 21 we expect to focus our own efforts on project types and in
- 22 areas that aren't addressed by these other programs. We
- 23 will also continue to monitor the deployments by the
- 24 investor owned utilities, charging station networks, and
- 25 automakers to avoid duplication. Based on the anticipated

- 1 need for funding, we are proposing a \$16.6 million
- 2 allocation for this category.
- 3 For hydrogen refueling infrastructure, one of the
- 4 goals guiding this category is to have a network of 100
- 5 refueling stations throughout the state to support the
- 6 initial deployment of hydrogen vehicles. California is
- 7 making progress towards this goal, and we estimate that 48
- 8 stations will be operational by the end of 2017, and the
- 9 ARFVTP has provided funding for an additional 16 stations.
- 10 That said, the California Air Resources Board
- 11 predicts that there may be statewide capacity shortfalls
- 12 for hydrogen refueling as soon as 2021. This reinforces
- 13 the need to continue funding hydrogen refueling
- 14 infrastructure, and for the coming fiscal year we are
- 15 proposing a \$19.4 million allocation for these purposes.
- 16 This should be able to provide funding for about eight or
- 17 nine new stations, as well as funding for operations and
- 18 maintenance necessary to support the initial stations.
- 19 To complete the infrastructure investments, we
- 20 are proposing funding for natural gas fueling stations to
- 21 provide an opportunity to increase the use of this proven,
- 22 readily available alternative fuel. The focus of this
- 23 allocation is on local governments without access to
- 24 private capital, who could not otherwise utilize natural
- 25 gas fuel without this funding. We expect this category to

- 1 emphasize projects at school districts in order to achieve
- 2 maximum health benefits among vulnerable populations by
- 3 displacing older diesel buses. And we may also consider
- 4 co-locating natural gas fueling stations at biomethane
- 5 production facilities to encourage the use of this low-
- 6 carbon fuel. For this, we are proposing a \$2.4 million
- 7 allocation.
- 8 Moving from infrastructure to vehicles, we are
- 9 also proposing funding for natural gas vehicle deployment
- 10 incentives. These vehicles offer opportunities for
- 11 achieving immediate greenhouse gas emission and petroleum
- 12 use reductions.
- In addition, the recently released low-NOx
- 14 natural gas engines reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 90
- 15 percent compared to the current diesel emission standard,
- 16 and we may place an emphasis on the deployment of these
- 17 specific engines.
- 18 We continue to see expressed demand for natural
- 19 gas vehicle incentives, and for the coming fiscal year, we
- 20 are proposing a \$9.7 million allocation.
- 21 For this year's Investment Plan Update, we've
- 22 renamed and reconfigured the former Medium and Heavy-Duty
- 23 Vehicle Technology Demonstration and Scale-Up category into
- 24 the new Advanced Freight and Fleet Technologies category.
- 25 This was done to better fit the needs and opportunities in

- 1 the medium and heavy-duty vehicle sector, given the
- 2 changing project opportunities and the complementary
- 3 efforts being undertaken by the Air Resources Board.
- 4 As in previous years, this funding is open to a
- 5 broad range of vehicle technologies and vehicle application
- 6 types. And the focus for the coming fiscal year is
- 7 expected to continue to be on sustainable freight and goods
- 8 movement projects. We may also consider funding enabling
- 9 technologies and non-propulsion projects, such as
- 10 intelligent transportation systems, as well as fueling
- 11 infrastructure specifically for the vehicles funded under
- 12 this allocation. And we are proposing a \$17.5 million
- 13 allocation for this category.
- We are also reintroducing the Manufacturing
- 15 category in this Investment Plan Update. The category was
- 16 merged with the Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Technology
- 17 Demonstration category in the 2015-2016 Investment Plan,
- 18 which was done in an effort to streamline combined
- 19 demonstration and manufacturing projects. The absence of a
- 20 dedicated manufacturing category, however excluded
- 21 manufacturing projects for standalone manufacturing -- I'm
- 22 sorry, standalone? I've lost my place, bear with me --
- 23 excluded manufacturing projects for alternative and
- 24 renewable light-duty vehicles, vehicle components,
- 25 infrastructure, and standalone manufacturing projects.

- 1 For the coming fiscal year, we are proposing a
- 2 \$4.9 million allocation to reintroduce this category, which
- 3 we expect will be able to fund one or two projects. These
- 4 projects will indirectly support the other ARFVTP
- 5 categories, as well as the general goals of the program,
- 6 and are expected to create jobs and economic benefits in
- 7 the state.
- 8 In addition to funding for alternative fuel and
- 9 vehicle projects, our program also funds related activities
- 10 that contribute to their market success. In this
- 11 Investment Plan we are proposing \$3.9 million for the
- 12 Emerging Opportunities category, which has traditionally
- 13 been reserved for federal cost-sharing opportunities as
- 14 well as for projects that weren't anticipated during the
- 15 development of the Investment Plan.
- We are also proposing a \$3.4 million allocation
- 17 for workforce training and development, based on estimated
- 18 funding needs from our partnering state agencies.
- 19 This final slide summarizes all of the proposed
- 20 funding allocations for the 2017-2018 Investment Plan
- 21 Update. At this point, I'd be happy to answer any
- 22 questions you may have. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 24 Let's start with public comment, both in the room
- 25 and then we'll go to the line. First, I was going to start

- 1 with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic
- 2 Development. Taylor, please?
- 3 MS. JONES: Hi. Thank you. Good morning,
- 4 Commissioners and Energy Commission staff, and thank you
- 5 for the opportunity to comment. My name is Taylor Jones.
- 6 And I'm the Policy Manager for Zero Emission Vehicle
- 7 Infrastructure at the Governor's Office of Business and
- 8 Economic Development, GO-Biz. I am here on behalf of our
- 9 whole team and most importantly Tyson Eckerle, our Deputy
- 10 Director, who unfortunately can't make it today.
- 11 We would like to voice our strong support for the
- 12 2017-'18 ARFVTP Investment Plan. The Plan is well balanced
- 13 and funding provided by this program remains critical to
- 14 the transformation of California's fuel and vehicle types
- 15 in support of our climate change and air quality goals.
- Given our focus at GO-Biz, on zero emission
- 17 vehicles, or ZEVs, we are most interested in the hydrogen
- 18 fueling and plug-in charging infrastructure investments,
- 19 both of which provide fundamental support for the
- 20 Governor's aggressive ZEV targets.
- 21 For hydrogen, the 19.4 million in funding remains
- 22 critical and we are already seeing major benefits from past
- 23 investment cycles. The funding provided by this program,
- 24 coupled with the private sector investment continues to
- 25 enable significant growth and development of our hydrogen

- 1 station network. We now have 27 stations open today. We
- 2 actually had South Pasadena open earlier this week.
- 3 In pairing this with the upwards of 300 miles in
- 4 driving range, it really unlocks most of the state of
- 5 California. The 1,300 fuel cell electric vehicle drivers
- 6 on the road today can easily travel between and around San
- 7 Diego, Orange County, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, the Bay
- 8 Area, Sacramento and Lake Tahoe.
- 9 For plug-in electric vehicles, the 16.6 million
- 10 in investment remains equally critical to fill key
- 11 infrastructure gaps, which was recently witnessed by
- 12 efforts to install charging at key corridor locations that
- 13 enable inter-regional travel and inspire confidence for
- 14 folks that drive across jurisdictions, ultimately resulting
- 15 in acceleration of ZEV adoption in California.
- New on the horizon, we're very excited to work
- 17 with the Energy Commission on the Block Grant Program for
- 18 plug-in electric vehicle charging stations, which we
- 19 believe with this more nimble structure will have increased
- 20 ability to respond to this rapidly changing market.
- 21 So again, in conclusion, this program continues
- 22 to provide much needed strategic infrastructure support for
- 23 our zero emission vehicle goals in California and we
- 24 recommend adoption of the Investment Plan. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Let's go on

- 1 to the ARB, Peter?
- 2 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Good morning, Peter
- 3 Christensen, with the Air Resources Board. Pleased to be
- 4 here today to support the Investment Plan and encourage
- 5 your adoption today.
- 6 This Investment Plan again, is a critical and key
- 7 complement to the investments that the Air Resources Board
- $8\,$  is making through California Climate Investments as well as
- 9 our part of the AB 118 Program, the Air Quality Improvement
- 10 Program. Jacob, in his presentation, went through many of
- 11 the different ways that our programs complement each other.
- 12 I just want to give two examples that we don't often talk
- 13 about too much, and that's the manufacturing, which I think
- 14 is timely today.
- 15 One specific example, are the investments that
- 16 you've made in the past that support the Proterra
- 17 manufacturing facility in Burlingame. That's critically
- 18 important to what we're doing today by deploying those
- 19 vehicles. We are just now beginning a zero emission
- 20 transit bus pilot project that includes Proterra buses in
- 21 the San Joaquin Valley. That's a very exciting project
- 22 that's moving forward right not.
- 23 Another example are the investments that you've
- 24 made in the Motiv manufacturing facility. Ironically
- 25 enough, we have a vehicle right outside today as

- 1 Commissioner Scott pointed out, the AmeriPride Project,
- 2 which is another pilot project that we're moving forward
- 3 with. We're very excited about that along with many other
- 4 projects.
- 5 The landscape in advanced heavy-duty technologies
- 6 is very robust. There's strong market demand right now.
- 7 In our HDVIP Program that you're familiar with incentives
- 8 for hybrid and zero emission trucks and buses, the demand
- 9 far exceeds available funding. Right now we're on a
- 10 waiting list, but we are accepting applications and we're
- 11 encouraging fleets to apply for funding. We'll be able to
- 12 meet those funding requests with future funding.
- 13 We have \$13 million available right now for low
- 14 NOx engines. We're starting to see demand for the 8.9
- 15 liter low NOx engine especially, among the refuse haulers.
- 16 And as well with the transit fleets and we're very excited
- 17 looking forward to the 12 liter engine, which is going to
- 18 have a significant application in the freight sector. So
- 19 that funding is available today, \$13 million, and again
- 20 we're encouraging fleets to come in and access those funds
- 21 through our HDVIP Program.
- Before I close, if you don't mind, I wanted to
- 23 just put a plug out there. We have three exciting events
- 24 coming up, and I would invite any Commissioner, staff or
- 25 members of the public that are interested. These are kick-

- 1 off celebrations, media events for a few specific projects,
- 2 a couple are located in Sacramento.
- The first one though is SunLine Transit. This is
- 4 a fuel cell bus pilot project coming up on April 21st. If
- 5 you'd like to join us in Thousand Palms down south that's
- 6 going to be one of our next media events.
- 7 Second up is the Sacramento Community CarShare
- 8 Pilot Project. This is one of our light-duty equity
- 9 projects that's bringing cleaner transportation to
- 10 disadvantaged communities. This is a really exciting
- 11 project here locally in the Sacramento area. That event is
- 12 on May 5th at 11:00 o'clock at the Elder Grove Apartments.
- 13 And then the last one that I want to mention is
- 14 the Sacramento Zero Emissions School Bus Pilot Project.
- 15 That's going to be on May 12th at 10:00 o'clock at Martin
- 16 Luther King Junior Technology Academy, again here in
- 17 Sacramento.
- 18 So encourage anyone to join us for those exciting
- 19 events and I really thank you for your time and great work
- 20 on the Investment Plan. Congratulations to Jacob and the
- 21 team. And again ARB encourages your adoption of the
- 22 Investment Plan. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thanks for being here and
- 24 thanks for the announcements of the events, they sound
- 25 interesting.

- 1 Let's go on to Proterra. Actually, excuse me,
- 2 let's go to the Fuel Cell Partnership first.
- 3 MR. WARD: Great. Thank you everyone. My name
- 4 is Justin Ward. I'm an Executive Manager within Toyota
- 5 Motor, North America and today I stand here as a
- 6 representative of the California Fuel Cell Partnership.
- 7 First, I'd like to thank everyone at the Energy Commission
- 8 for your continued leadership to improve California's
- 9 environment and the great example it sets for others within
- 10 the country.
- 11 Speaking specifically regarding the 2017 through
- 12 '18 Investment Plan, we at the Partnership are very
- 13 encouraged to see the continued commitment to fund hydrogen
- 14 infrastructure at levels that have real tangible benefits
- 15 to the marketplace today. Although fuel cell vehicles,
- 16 maybe from a volume point of view is small compared to
- 17 conventional vehicles at this moment, the feedback from
- 18 fuel cell vehicle drivers today show the great potential of
- 19 the technology to expand rapidly across the market and
- 20 effectively change transportation forever, as more players
- 21 bring their vehicles, stations and infrastructure
- 22 technologies into California.
- The funding allocation defined in the Investment
- 24 Plan provides confidence to companies that the public will
- 25 have easy and convenient access to fueling. And that's one

- 1 of the key pieces to really allow this technology to take
- 2 off. As with any program, there are opportunities for
- 3 improvements the processes and procedures and as such as
- 4 the market evolves. So we would like to continue to
- 5 encourage that dialogue that's already happening today with
- 6 industry, but just keep it going as I'm sure things will
- 7 evolve as you move forward.
- 8 Speaking more broadly about the Investment Plan,
- 9 I feel the approach shows a very good balance in support of
- 10 a portfolio of technologies, which I think is very
- 11 important to really meet the state's needs to improve our
- 12 environment.
- I'm only taking up a short time, so I'll give you
- 14 back a minute. Thanks again for giving me this opportunity
- 15 to say thanks to everyone and to recognize that great
- 16 effort of the writers and the supporting staff that
- 17 authored the 2017 and '18 Investment Plan.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah. Thank you for
- 19 being here.
- 20 Let's go to Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition.
- 21 MR. LAWSON: Good morning, Commissioners and
- 22 staff and everyone here. I want to take this opportunity
- 23 to thank you for, I think, putting together a great plan.
- 24 My name is Thomas Lawson, President of the California
- 25 Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition. And as an Advisory

- 1 Committee member, participating in these calls and having
- 2 staff really facilitate as much interaction input from all
- 3 of the varied technologies, has been a great experience,
- 4 especially as we navigate some of our WebEx technical
- 5 issues that's been really appreciative.
- I did want to highlight a couple of points. One,
- 7 I think that this is a great plan, because it provides a
- 8 really great overview, not just in funding vehicle
- 9 incentives, but also funding infrastructure, which I think
- 10 is important. We have that conversation in California
- 11 about increasing the share of alternative fuels and
- 12 transportation. And you have to do both, right? You have
- 13 to fund the vehicles, but you also have to provide the
- 14 infrastructure. So the public knows that these are viable
- 15 options and there are contributions to getting to our
- 16 climate goals.
- I also want to strongly support, I think three
- 18 particular pieces, which is the school bus piece. I think
- 19 we have way too many dirty diesel school buses on the road.
- 20 And we need to work really diligently as a state with all
- 21 the alternative fuels in trying to get that number way
- down.
- 23 And also the workforce development piece I think
- 24 is key. Trying to train that next generation of kids,
- 25 especially for those communities of color where college may

- 1 or may not be an option, to be able to have those skills,
- 2 to be able to work on some of this new technology I think
- 3 is going to be key. And so we really appreciate that
- 4 inclusion.
- 5 And again the support specifically for natural
- 6 gas vehicles and the infrastructure is also welcome. And
- 7 we really appreciate all that everyone's done. And again,
- 8 we offer our strong support for the Plan. Thank you.
- 9 Oh, and kudos to Commissioner Scott, she's been
- 10 amazing.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. She is. Thank
- 12 you. Thanks for being here.
- 13 Let's go to Proterra.
- MR. LEACOCK: Good morning, Chairman Weisenmiller
- 15 and Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity to
- 16 provide comments today. My name is Kent Leacock and I'm
- 17 the Director of Government Relations and Public Policy for
- 18 Proterra, the leading U.S. manufacturer of zero emission
- 19 battery electric commercial transit buses. Proterra
- 20 greatly appreciates the work of the California Energy
- 21 Commission. And I'll blend in with Peter Christensen's
- 22 comments.
- In fact, the grant that Proterra received to
- 24 establish our manufacturing facility in Southern
- 25 California, which recently Commissioner Hochschild visited,

- 1 is now up and running and building buses. We've gone from
- 2 zero to a hundred rapidly. We currently have a large
- 3 number of openings and we're working with a variety of
- 4 workforce development local community colleges: Rio Hondo,
- 5 Mt. San Antonio College, etcetera, in conjunction with
- 6 Holda Alysses (phonetic) office to get the word out,
- 7 holding job fairs, etcetera.
- 8 And Proterra strongly supports the Energy
- 9 Commission's renewable, the ARFVT Program and the 2017-2018
- 10 Investment Plan. Specifically the allocation to expand in-
- 11 state manufacturing, because what many people don't realize
- 12 is that what the Commission did a couple of years ago, by
- 13 helping Proterra establish a manufacturing plan for our
- 14 buses led Proterra to relocate their corporate headquarters
- 15 to Northern California.
- And as a result of a business decision, we ended
- 17 up developing a second business unit manufacturing line for
- 18 the battery packs that will go into our buses. We were
- 19 previous sourcing them from Michigan and taking the modules
- 20 from that source in Michigan and building the battery
- 21 packs. But now we'll be building them from scratch out of
- 22 the manufacturing facility in Burlingame. And in fact that
- 23 facility has gone from a plan of 10 to 20 employees to now
- 24 over 70 employees and we have had to purchase land in back
- 25 of our facility to alleviate parking issues, we've had such

- 1 dramatic growth in employees there.
- 2 Developing those extended battery packs that are
- 3 going to be being built in Burlingame will help the goal of
- 4 the accelerated deployment of zero emission heavy-duty
- 5 vehicles as it relates to goods movements at the ports and
- 6 drayage.
- 7 This technology transfer has become a reality.
- 8 We've been approached by multiple truck manufacturers and
- 9 even other international bus manufacturers that are
- 10 interested in our technology that would be built right
- 11 there in Burlingame and then licensed to some of these
- 12 other folks out there.
- We look forward to continuing to work with the
- 14 Energy Commission. There are many, many additional -- I'd
- 15 just say scaling options that are available out there that
- 16 this Investment Plan would allow Proterra to take advantage
- 17 of.
- 18 And thank you again for the opportunity to
- 19 provide comments and our support.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 21 Any other public comments in the room? Okay. So
- 22 identify yourself for the court reporter.
- MR. CASTELAZ: Yes, Jim Castelaz, Founder and CEO
- 24 of Motiv Power Systems, so good morning Commissioners,
- 25 Chairman Weisenmiller. Thank you for giving me the

- 1 opportunity to speak here. I want to speak in favor of
- 2 this Investment Plan and of the ARFVTP Program in general.
- Motiv has been lucky and privileged to
- 4 participate in six programs or projects within that program
- 5 and some of the results Peter had already mentioned. Our
- 6 manufacturing facility in Hayward produces electronic
- 7 controllers for all electric trucks and buses.
- 8 There are a couple of others to highlight, one of
- 9 our earlier projects did a pilot of shuttle buses in
- 10 Mountain View, California. Three vehicles, there are now
- 11 six on the road there, and they just crossed 200,000 miles.
- 12 They move 15,000 people a month around the City of Mountain
- 13 View. And that's no longer a CEC project. It's completely
- 14 funded by Google and the City of Mountain View at this
- 15 point.
- 16 Another highlight, one of our more recent
- 17 projects put our technology -- again Motiv is a powertrain
- 18 provider, think something like Cummins but for all electric
- 19 -- and so putting that technology into refuse trucks. I'm
- 20 happy to say that Sacramento, the City of Sacramento, will
- 21 have one of those refuse trucks in the near future so your
- 22 trash can be collected with zero emissions.
- 23 And another program we're doing, putting that
- 24 same powertrain technology into school buses with a school
- 25 bus partner. They went from having no electric zero

- 1 emission school bus offering to hearing about incentives
- 2 available through CARB and the South Coast AQMD. And
- 3 becoming interested in developing an electric school bus.
- 4 And in the third and early fourth quarter last
- 5 year we started working with them. And through one of our
- 6 projects with the ARFVTP they were able to get a pilot
- 7 school bus on the road. And over the course of one month,
- 8 they demoed it to 40 school districts. And they received
- 9 order requests that they submitted to South Coast for over
- 10 200 buses. And that's with three to four weeks of a demo
- 11 of one vehicle.
- 12 And so that's how this money gets leveraged and
- 13 gets scaled up and it was just hugely successful. And I
- 14 think the South Coast and the school bus manufacturer were
- 15 kind of blown away by those results. So this program is
- 16 key to, I think California's climate goals. And to really
- 17 leading the global stage when it comes to electrification
- 18 in the future of transportation, especially in one of the
- 19 hardest segments of our economy to gain energy
- 20 independence, which is medium and heavy-duty vehicles.
- 21 And so I would certainly encourage this
- 22 Investment Plan, which I think really sets up ARFVTP for
- 23 taking the next steps and for growing with all these
- 24 complementary programs that Peter and others have spoken
- 25 to. So I just wanted to encourage your adoption and thank

- 1 you for the support that this program has given to Motiv
- 2 and to the industry.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Thank you.
- 4 Anyone else in the room? Anyone on the line?
- 5 (No audible response.)
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All right, Commissioner
- 7 Scott.
- 8 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Well, this is great. It's
- 9 great to get some really good examples too of how the
- 10 program money is being used and then also how it's
- 11 leveraged. So I appreciate everyone who came made some
- 12 comments for us this morning.
- I just want to start by thanking Jacob for his
- 14 excellent presentation and all of the great work that he's
- 15 put in to the 2017-'18 Investment Plan. Thank you very
- 16 much, Jacob. He always does a great job.
- 17 I've mentioned it before and I'll say it again
- 18 just because it's a nice time to put the program into
- 19 context, but as you all know, the transportation sector
- 20 here in California is almost 40 percent of the greenhouse
- 21 gas emissions. It's 80 percent of the nitrogen oxides that
- 22 form smog and that's bad for people's lungs and 95 percent
- 23 of the diesel particulate matter. And so anything that we
- 24 can do, any investments that we can put in place that
- 25 accelerate a transition to cleaner zero and near-zero fuels

- 1 and technologies is really important. And so I'm excited
- 2 about the nearly \$100 million that we have to invest again
- 3 this year.
- 4 I will note that the ARFVTP has, and will
- 5 continue to invest in impactful projects that help us
- 6 address barriers, and demonstrate technologies that
- 7 accelerate the commercialization of low carbon fuels and
- 8 technologies.
- 9 And another part that's really exciting to me
- 10 about the program is that we've been able to support
- 11 Governor Brown's zero emission vehicle goals. We were able
- 12 to help support the Sustainable Freight Action Plan and all
- 13 of our over-arching goals on air and on climate here with
- 14 our program. I really appreciate the team being creative
- 15 and innovative and flexible, so that we can mold the
- 16 program to take advantage of where we are. And these
- 17 technologies are changing really quickly, so the
- 18 flexibility that we're able to put into the program, I
- 19 think really helps us to stay cutting edge.
- 20 So I also wanted to say thank you to Kyle and the
- 21 team and all of the folks who brought their technologies
- 22 here for the showcases, which I hope we'll all take a
- 23 minute to look at when we break for lunch.
- 24 And I also wanted to just make note of our
- 25 acknowledgement page. We have the report in our binders.

- 1 Hopefully other folks have had a chance to pick it up or
- 2 download it off of the Web, but its Page I has
- 3 acknowledgements of all the fantastic staff who helped
- 4 Jacob to put the report together.
- 5 And then page II has all of the Advisory
- 6 Committee Members and our thanks to them for their lending
- 7 their expertise and their time to make sure we really shape
- 8 and get our program right. So that's all I have to say
- 9 about that.
- If you all don't have questions, I'll heartily
- 11 recommend this for your approval.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: I just wanted to share
- 13 my experience. I had this meeting in Southern California
- 14 and I was very close to the Proterra factory. I dropped in
- 15 as I know Commissioner Scott had visited and said good
- 16 things about it. And it was just remarkable to see the
- 17 scale -- I really want to encourage my colleagues if you
- 18 have a chance to drop by. I know (indiscernible) been to
- 19 the Tesla factory.
- 20 But they're building these buses, which I think I
- 21 saw the very first one. Kent led me (indiscernible) and
- 22 it's interesting. It has a 350-mile range, but also
- 23 rooftop capacity to even extend the range still further.
- 24 And this is I think a very exciting breakthrough. And it's
- 25 just great to see the stuff being built in California and

- 1 just a real tribute to the program.
- 2 So congratulations, Commissioner Scott.
- 3 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll just say briefly as
- 4 well, and this will allow me to be even more brief later
- 5 when we do Commissioner reports, that I had the opportunity
- 6 to go to the Sustainable Energy For All event in New York
- 7 and speak on a panel and represent California. And the
- 9 to meet climate goals in the transportation sector.
- 10 So while I do my best to remain up to date on
- 11 transportation issues I had the privilege of spending quite
- 12 a lot of time getting myself very up to date on those
- 13 issues. And I will just say that the progress in this area
- 14 is really impressive in both the work at the ARB as well as
- 15 the Energy Commission, and other agencies in just the
- 16 incredible scale of transformation that we're really
- 17 starting to see.
- 18 So nice work to you, to the Advisory Committee
- 19 Members and speakers today and to ARB. It's quite a good
- 20 thing to see.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I would point out that
- 22 Karen was in charge of our Transportation Committee back in
- 23 the older days, so she has some perspective of the change.
- 24 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yes, that's true.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: And that also she was

- 1 substituting for Mary Nichols, so not necessarily an easy
- 2 act to follow there.
- 3 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: That's true, I felt the
- 4 need to study up quite a bit actually.
- 5 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: I move approval of Item 5.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 7 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second. (Laughter.)
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Second, good, good. It's
- 9 time for lunch, I can tell. All those in favor now?
- 10 (Ayes.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: 5-0, congratulations.
- 12 Let's break. Let's come back at 1:00 and
- 13 everyone go out and have some fun.
- 14 (Off the record at 12:05 p.m.)
- 15 (On the record at 1:05 p.m.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: We'll begin with Item 6
- 17 on the Agenda presentation. Thank you.
- MS. MORAN: Good afternoon, Chair and
- 19 Commissioners. My name is Amber Moran and I am a student
- 20 intern with Commissioner Scott's Office. I wanted to take
- 21 a few minutes this afternoon to provide a brief update to
- 22 the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology
- 23 Program's "Driving to Cleaner Transportation Tour" webpage.
- 24 The Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle
- 25 Technology Program provides annual funding to develop and

- 1 deploy innovative clean transportation technologies to help
- 2 meet the state's ambitious climate goals and clean air
- 3 standards. Each year, dozens of projects funded through
- 4 the program are successfully completed, and are bringing
- 5 additional clean transportation options to California.
- 6 To showcase the diversity of successful projects
- 7 this program supports, each year we select a handful of
- 8 projects to feature on a section of the Commission's
- 9 website called the Driving to Cleaner Transportation Tour.
- 10 We have recently gone through the process of
- 11 adding some new projects, and I thought I would briefly
- 12 highlight a few here today, starting with City of Torrance.
- 13 The Energy Commission awarded a \$406,000 grant to
- 14 the City of Torrance to expand EV infrastructure within the
- 15 city. The City of Torrance undertook the One Mile, One
- 16 Charger project, making charging stations accessible within
- 17 a mile of almost anywhere in the City. As a result 14
- 18 Level 2 and 6 DC fast chargers were installed throughout
- 19 the City. The One Mile, One Charger approach was designed
- 20 to encourage residents and commuters to adopt an all-
- 21 electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle. And as a result the
- 22 City of Torrance has observed over a 300 percent increase
- 23 in the number of charges at city chargers.
- 24 The next project, the CR&R. The Energy
- 25 Commission awarded CR&R Incorporated with a \$5 million

- 1 grant to expand their waste transfer facility in Perris,
- 2 California with a state-of-the-art anaerobic digestion
- 3 system. The grant funded the first of four planned project
- 4 phases. Each phase will build a modular anaerobic digester
- 5 capable of processing 200 tons per day of municipal solid
- 6 waste, such as green waste and food scraps from residential
- 7 curbside waste collection.
- 8 This waste, which would otherwise be landfilled,
- 9 is now processed into a low carbon renewable natural gas
- 10 that is being used to fuel CR&R's fleet of natural gas
- 11 waste haulers. CR&R's project is unique in that the excess
- 12 renewable natural gas will be injected into the natural gas
- 13 pipeline, representing the first time renewable natural gas
- 14 will be interconnected with Southern California Gas
- 15 Company's natural gas system.
- 16 The next project is Proterra. The Energy
- 17 Commission awarded a \$3 million grant to Proterra to fund
- 18 the design, development, and construction of Proterra's new
- 19 zero-emission battery-electric bus manufacturing facility
- 20 in the San Gabriel Valley. Proterra's fast charge bus
- 21 features a battery pack that recharges in less than 10
- 22 minutes, with a nominal range of up to 50 miles between
- 23 charging events. Also, a newly introduced battery pack has
- 24 a nominal range of 251-350 miles per charge, with recharge
- 25 taking 3.5 to 5 hours.

- 1 During the term of the Energy Commission grant,
- 2 Proterra is estimated to manufacture and sell 424 buses,
- 3 resulting in a reduction of more than 900 million pounds of
- 4 carbon dioxide over the lifetime of the buses.
- 5 And the last project is the Los Angeles Harbor.
- 6 The Energy Commission awarded the Port of Los Angeles \$4.5
- 7 million to demonstrate zero and near-zero emission freight
- 8 technology for loading and unloading cargo at the terminal.
- 9 As part of the demonstration, the Port of Los Angeles will
- 10 equip five yard tractors with all-electric zero-emission
- 11 propulsion systems, and 20-yard tractors with a near-zero
- 12 low NOx natural gas engine that will be fueled with
- 13 renewable natural gas.
- 14 Additionally, the Port will outfit 100 trucks
- 15 with an advanced Intelligent Transportation System to
- 16 improve mobility and congestion in and around the port.
- 17 This project is anticipated to reduce 300,000 gallons of
- 18 petroleum and 1,100 tons of greenhouse gas emissions
- 19 These are just a handful of the many successful
- 20 ARFVTP projects to date. Across the board there are
- 21 projects that are motivating fleets to expedite their
- 22 transition to lower carbon fuel options, providing zero-
- 23 emission technologies in areas hardest hit with pollution,
- 24 and collectively are helping to achieve California's
- 25 climate and clean air goals.

- 1 To learn more about these four projects, as well
- 2 as the other projects funded through ARFVTP, we invite you
- 3 and the public to visit the Driving to Cleaner
- 4 Transportation Tour on the Energy Commission website.
- 5 Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, thank you.
- 7 Commissioner Scott?
- 8 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Thank you. Yeah, so this
- 9 got a little bit separated from the item. It was just as
- 10 along with the showcase an opportunity to show examples of
- 11 the types of projects that ARFVTP funds. And it's great to
- 12 have this up on our webpage, because that's a way for the
- 13 public to get -- and it's great, it's got pictures and
- 14 little dialogues that go along with it. So the public has
- 15 a chance to see the types of projects that we fund.
- And I just want to say thank you very much to
- 17 Amber, she's very brave. This is a great project for an
- 18 intern to take on, really get the fully Energy Commission,
- 19 what it's like to be an Energy Commission staff and do a
- 20 presentation for the Commissioners. So thank you so much
- 21 for your work on that, and also to Katie and Melissa and
- 22 Sandy and Yee who helped us put this together and get it up
- 23 on the webpage. So thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great, any public
- 25 comment?

- 1 (No audible response.)
- Okay. Again, thanks again, let's go on to Item
- 3 7.
- 4 MS. PUREWAL: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
- 5 name is Sharon Purewal and I'm a staff member in the Fuels
- 6 and Transportation Division's Zero Emissions Vehicle and
- 7 Infrastructure Office. Today staff is seeking approval of
- $8\,$  two agreements submitted under Grant Funding Opportunity-
- 9 16-601, which supports new and existing planning efforts
- 10 for Zero Emission Vehicles. Funding is provided through
- 11 the Alternative and Renewable Fuels and Vehicle Technology
- 12 Program.
- The first item, 7(a), is a proposed agreement
- 14 with the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control
- 15 District for nearly \$300,000. This proposal aims to
- 16 utilize their award to implement key recommendations from
- 17 the Central Coast region's EV Readiness Plan and the
- 18 Alternative Fuel Vehicle Readiness Plan.
- 19 Activities for this project include creating a
- 20 Zero Emission Vehicle ombudsman position, analyzing
- 21 strategic electric vehicle charger siting opportunities,
- 22 accelerating medium and heavy-duty Zero Emission Vehicle
- 23 adoption, hydrogen refueling station siting, Zero Emission
- 24 Vehicle safety training for first responders, Electric
- 25 Vehicle Charging Station siting, and promoting Zero

- 1 Emission Vehicle awareness through test-drive events,
- 2 demonstrations, workshops, and green car shows.
- The next item is 7(b), this proposed agreement
- 4 with the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control
- 5 District for just under \$300,000, will implement an updated
- 6 Zero Emission Vehicle Regional Readiness Plan.
- 7 Implementation activities will relate to electric vehicles,
- $8\,$  and will target disadvantaged communities within the
- 9 region.
- 10 Activities for this project are to assess
- 11 Electric Vehicle Charging Station siting, conduct Zero
- 12 Emission Vehicle Awareness activities through workplace and
- 13 community events, support staff and elected leaders in the
- 14 CALGreen code adoption process, develop and adopt upgraded
- 15 building codes to enable Electric Vehicle Charging Station
- 16 ready stub-outs, and to accelerate Zero Emission Vehicle
- 17 deployment in major fleets.
- 18 With that, I would like to thank you for your
- 19 time and consideration of these items. And I'm available
- 20 for any questions you may have.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- Let's start, is there any comment from anyone in
- 23 the room or on the line?
- 24 (No audible response.)
- 25 Okay. So let's transition to Commissioner Scott.

- 1 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: No, I don't have any
- 2 additional comments on this one. I think you guys have a
- 3 good context for ARFVTP and the types of things it funds.
- 4 So if you don't have questions I'll move approval of Item
- 5 7.
- 6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- $8 mtext{(Ayes.)}$
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This item is approved 5-
- 10 0. Thank you.
- MS. PUREWAL: Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 8,
- 13 the Center for Sustainable Energy.
- MR. FAUBLE: Good afternoon, Commissioners. I am
- 15 Brian Fauble with the Fuels and Transportation Division,
- 16 which is responsible for implementing the Alternative and
- 17 Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program or the
- 18 ARFVTP. I am today seeking approval for an agreement with
- 19 the Center for Sustainable Energy, or CSE, for up to \$200
- 20 million to design, implement and fund with Energy
- 21 Commission oversight, the various electric vehicle charger
- 22 incentive projects throughout California.
- 23 Initially, the Energy Commission is putting just
- 24 over \$15.25 million into this agreement. The \$200 million
- 25 authority under this agreement will allow additional funds

- 1 to be added either from the Energy Commission or other
- 2 public/private funding sources seeking to incentivize
- 3 electric vehicle charging infrastructure in California.
- 4 CSE had the highest-ranking proposal submitted
- 5 under Grant Funding Opportunity 16-603, the Block Grant for
- 6 Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive Projects. This
- 7 agreement will help identify electric vehicle incentive
- 8 projects by geographical regions and locational
- 9 requirements that at a minimum shall include:
- 10 The type or types and numbers of EV charging
- 11 equipment required for the target region.
- 12 Minimum technical requirements of EV charging
- 13 equipment such as the equipment specifications, the
- 14 warranty requirements, operational requirements, etcetera.
- The type of incentive structure to be used such
- 16 as a voucher system using reservations, a rebate system
- 17 disbursing incentives after chargers are installed or other
- 18 appropriate incentives.
- 19 How much incentive should be provided per
- 20 charger; and the total funding required to complete the
- 21 proposed project or projects.
- 22 CSE will develop simple and user-friendly
- 23 application documents and will develop a plan for outreach
- 24 and advertisement to generate interest in applying. The
- 25 outreach and advertisement plan will maximize participation

- 1 by targeted markets and areas.
- 2 CSE will also develop user-friendly, public-
- 3 access webpages, which will include at a minimum online
- 4 application forms; the ability to submit online incentive
- 5 applications; applicable documents and forms; the ability
- 6 to track the total funds, both available and expended, in
- 7 real time. And the ability to provide information on
- $8\,$  disbursements, such as a heat map representations or where
- 9 the funds are being disbursed.
- 10 ARFVTP staff will work with CSE and their
- 11 subcontractors to develop the individual incentive
- 12 projects' specifications. And then CSE will be responsible
- 13 for accepting, reviewing, and approving the incentive
- 14 applications, verifying installations, and issuing the
- 15 incentive payments. The agreement is designed to reduce
- 16 the gaps of regional EV charging needs and speed up the
- 17 deployment and installations of EV charging stations in
- 18 California toward meeting the Governor's goals of 2025.
- 19 The initial funding for this agreement is
- 20 provided through the ARFVTP program.
- 21 And I would like to thank you for your time and
- 22 consideration of these items. I'm available for any
- 23 questions. We also have staff from CSE available for
- 24 questions. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Thank you.

- 1 So I've got two blue cards. First, CSE, Colin,
- 2 come on up.
- 3 MR. SANTULLI: Hi. Thanks Commissioners, for the
- 4 time. My name's Colin Santulli. I oversee our clean
- 5 transpirations programs for CSE.
- 6 We've been administering or are running ARFVTP-
- 7 funded projects since 2011, primarily the readiness
- 8 projects and now the readiness implementation projects.
- 9 And that worked coupled with the work we've been doing with
- 10 the Air Resources Board on vehicle incentives. It makes us
- 11 very excited and very qualified we think to do the same in
- 12 the infrastructure space for the Energy Commission.
- So we're very excited to be here today and have
- 14 you all consider this. And we are very committed to make
- 15 it a successful project for California. Thanks.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Thanks. Thanks
- 17 for being here.
- 18 Okay. California Clean Energy Fund, please.
- 19 MR. BARTLETT: Hello, Commissioners, thank you.
- 20 My name is Ben Bartlett with the California Clean Energy
- 21 Fund and it is with great, great pleasure and excitement
- 22 that I urge you to approve this Item Number 8, the block
- 23 grant for the CEVs.
- 24 At CalCEF, the California Energy Fund, we believe
- 25 that the proper use of our resources can be magnified

- 1 through the implementation of private funding sources,
- 2 which are called for in this item. And there's a
- 3 specialty. And we also want to thank the Public Adviser
- 4 for her outreach efforts and that's how we learned of this
- 5 program. And also that this body's commitment to
- 6 diversity, which we feel we embody and will also serve. So
- 7 I want to thank you so much and I'm here if you have
- 8 questions.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Thank you. Thanks
- 10 for being here.
- 11 Anyone else in the room or on the line who have
- 12 comments?
- 13 (No audible response.)
- Okay. So transition to Commissioner Scott again.
- 15 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Well, I'll just say thank
- 16 you to Colin for being here and our other commentator as
- 17 well. And I will move approval of Item 8.
- 18 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 20 (Ayes.)
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This passes 5-0. Thank
- 22 you.
- MR. SANTULLI: Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Let's go on to Item 9,
- 25 Berryessa Union School District.

- 1 MS. RUDMAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
- 2 Commissioners. I'm Monica Rudman with the Local Assistance
- 3 and Financing Office of the Efficiency Division. I'm here
- 4 to request your approval of a \$911,000 ECAA-ED loan at zero
- 5 percent to the Berryessa Union School District.
- 6 Berryessa Union School District will use this
- 7 loan to upgrade three schools: Cherrywood Elementary,
- 8 Piedmont Middle and Sierramont Middle. The scope of the
- 9 retrofit will be to upgrade the existing interior lights to
- 10 more efficient LEDs, to install occupancy lighting controls
- 11 and to upgrade the existing exterior lights to LEDs.
- 12 When the project is completed, the first year
- 13 electricity savings will be over 202,000 kilowatt hours.
- 14 By the end of 20 years, Berryessa Union School District
- 15 will have saved over \$1 million in utility costs. Based on
- 16 the loan amount, the simple payback is 17.8 years. This
- 17 loan fulfills the ECAA-ED Loan Program requirements, so I
- 18 recommend and request your approval.
- 19 I'm happy to answer any of your questions. Thank
- 20 you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Any comments
- 22 from anyone in the room or on the line?
- 23 (No audible response.)
- Okay, transition to Commissioners, Commissioner
- 25 McAllister?

- 1 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Nothing super
- 2 (indiscernible) to say, but obviously lighting technology
- 3 has come a long way lately. And it's good to see
- 4 integration of the lighting itself with the controls,
- 5 because that's pretty key for getting savings. And, you
- 6 know, we need to see that marketplace developed and get the
- 7 costs down, so this is a great project.
- 8 So I'll move.
- 9 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Sorry, just to -- what
- 10 is the backlog on the ECCA Program in general? Do you know
- 11 offhand how many --
- MS. RUDMAN: What is the backlog?
- 13 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: -- in the program?
- MS. RUDMAN: There's currently no loans in the
- 15 waiting list.
- 16 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Okay.
- 17 MS. RUDMAN: And the amount of funding available
- 18 right now, if all of the potential and pending loans are
- 19 approved, is about \$3.75 million.
- 20 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Good to know.
- 21 MS. RUDMAN: That's for both ECCA and ECCA-Ed.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Good to know.
- 23 Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: All right, so I'll move
- 25 Item 9.

- 1 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Second. Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 3 (Ayes.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: It passes 5-0. Thank
- 5 you.
- 6 Let's go on to Item 10.
- 7 MR. WEIGHTMAN: Good Afternoon Commissioners,
- $8\,$  Directors and Attendees. My name is David Weightman. I'm
- 9 an Energy Generation Systems Specialist with the Research
- 10 Division's Energy Efficiency Research Office.
- 11 The agreement for which I am seeking your
- 12 approval today is a request for a \$250,000 grant to support
- 13 testing of biogas fuels when used in small appliances to
- 14 evaluate how the use of these fuels affect flame stability,
- 15 operational performance and emissions. The emissions
- 16 impacts will be quantified and evaluated in terms of their
- 17 effect on indoor and outdoor air quality. The results of
- 18 these tests will help facilitate the design of residential
- 19 and commercial appliances that can safely operate using
- 20 biogas fuels in the United States.
- 21 This project builds on two previous research
- 22 grants that developed and demonstrated simulation methods
- 23 that when used, they correctly predicted trends in
- 24 emissions and combustion stability as a function of fuel
- 25 composition. One of the previous contracts tested the

- 1 methodology on six burner configurations that use
- 2 relatively large amounts of natural gas in California.
- 3 These validated methodologies will be applied to
- 4 residential and small commercial appliance burners using
- 5 existing experimental data available from Lawrence Berkeley
- 6 National Labs.
- 7 Different types of fuel mixtures will be tested
- 8 based on input from Technical Advisory Committee members
- 9 that are part of this project. The results can be used to
- 10 guide operational modifications to existing equipment that
- 11 allow them to operate use alternative fuels to natural gas
- 12 safely, while generating lower amounts of pollutants and
- 13 greenhouse gas emissions.
- So in summary, the goals of this project are to
- 15 help overcome barriers to the achievement of state energy
- 16 goals by helping facilitate the adoption of biogas and
- 17 other alternative fuels to natural gases in the use of
- 18 appliances and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 19 I'm here to answer any questions that you may
- 20 have.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Let's start
- 22 with are there any comments from anyone in the room?
- 23 (No audible response.)
- Okay. Let's go to the line, I believe UC
- 25 Irvine's there? Please, Mr. McDonell? Please speak?

- 1 MR. MCDONELL: Yeah, this is Vince McDonell.
- 2 Yes, I'm here to help answer any questions if there are
- 3 any.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Thank you.
- 5 Then I guess I'll transition and basically
- 6 encourage -- I'm the Lead Commissioner on Research -- and
- 7 was going to encourage the Commission to support this. I
- 8 think basically we're obviously trying to understand
- 9 better, some of the characteristics going forward. We have
- 10 a workshop coming up in the summer on this, generally on
- 11 the renewable gas issue.
- But basically I think starting to collect data on
- 13 this aspect will at least be helpful with the longer term.
- 14 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Yeah, move approval of Item
- 15 10.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 18 (Ayes.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This passes 5-0. Thank
- 20 you.
- 21 Let's go on to Number 11, Off-Road Heavy-Duty
- 22 Natural Gas Vehicle Research and Development.
- 23 MS. MAGANA: Okay. Good afternoon, Chair and
- 24 Commissioners. I'm Pilar Magana with the Research and
- 25 Development Division's Transportation Office. And I'm here

- 1 to present for approval three agreements proposed for
- 2 awarding under a competitive grant funding opportunity to
- 3 develop, integrate and demonstrate heavy-duty natural gas
- 4 off-road vehicles.
- 5 The off-road vehicle sector is one of the primary
- 6 sources of emissions in both the South Coast and San
- 7 Joaquin Valley air basins, yet few options exist for fleets
- 8 to transition to low-emission vehicle options given the
- 9 vehicle complexity and lifespan of these niche vehicles.
- The solicitation sought to take existing on-road
- 11 natural gas vehicle technologies and strategies for
- 12 integration into these off-road applications in order to
- 13 tackle emission issues faced by the off-road market.
- 14 The first agreement is with Gladstein, Neandross
- 15 & Associates to demonstrate off-road vehicles in the Port
- 16 of Los Angeles. They will be integrating the 6.7 liter
- 17 near-zero Cummins Westport engine into two yard hostlers,
- 18 which are used for cargo handling in the ports.
- 19 This project will include the use of renewable
- 20 natural gas in the yard hostlers as well as an innovative
- 21 fuel censor being developed by UC Riverside. The UC
- 22 Riverside fuel censor will measure gas composition and
- 23 adjust certain engine parameters to compensate for unusual
- 24 variations that can sometimes be found in renewable natural
- 25 gas thereby optimizing emission performance.

- 1 By integrating both the low NOx engine and
- 2 renewable natural gas this project can provide data showing
- 3 the significant emission performance benefits of combining
- 4 and utilizing two low emission options. Additionally,
- 5 while these port vehicles are being demoed specifically in
- 6 the South Coast Air Basin, they can be used in any other
- 7 ports throughout California.
- 8 Also, while the ports aren't considered a
- 9 disadvantaged community, the surrounding communities are
- 10 affected by port emissions and therefore benefit from
- 11 advanced vehicle activities.
- 12 The second agreement, with Olson-Ecologic Testing
- 13 Laboratories is for the demonstration of two heavy-duty
- 14 off-road construction vehicles. For the first vehicle,
- 15 Olson-Ecologic will be integrating and demonstrating a
- 16 near-zero CWI 8.9 liter engine into a Caterpillar wheel
- 17 loader, which is typically used to move aside or load heavy
- 18 materials such as asphalt.
- 19 The second portion of the project will consist of
- 20 converting an 18 liter diesel engine into natural gas and
- 21 then integrating this engine into a scraper construction
- 22 application, which is used for earth-moving construction
- 23 activities. Both of these vehicles will be demonstrated in
- 24 the South Coast Air Basin.
- 25 The third agreement will be led by Terzo Power

- 1 Systems to develop, integrate and demonstrate a natural gas
- 2 hybrid system on an agricultural tractor. Terzo Power will
- 3 converting a Kubota natural gas engine or a Kubota engine
- 4 to natural gas for this system. The hybridization of this
- 5 tree maker's machine will improve safety and increase fuel
- 6 efficiency, thereby reducing fuel consumptions and
- 7 improving emission performance.
- 8 The demonstration of this orchard vehicle will be
- 9 located at Richard lest Dairy in Madera in the San Joaquin
- 10 Valley. This project is also located in a disadvantaged
- 11 community that is directly impacted by agricultural vehicle
- 12 emissions.
- 13 Thank you for your consideration and I'd be happy
- 14 to answer any questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. First, are
- 16 there any comments from anyone in the room or on the phone?
- 17 (No audible response.)
- Okay. We'll transition. I was just going to
- 19 remind the Commissioners this morning when we adopted the
- 20 Investment Plan there were a number of parties who talked
- 21 about basically the use of natural gas in heavy-duty and
- 22 the importance. Because certainly we all know that for our
- 23 low-income consumers, that there are substantial health
- 24 risks from living adjacent to freeways. I guess there's
- 25 some recent research that indicates that if you're within

- 1 the sort of 500-foot band on either side, it's particularly
- 2 severe.
- 3 So in terms of trying to respond to that and at
- 4 the same time recognizing this movement is 20 to 30 percent
- 5 of the economy in Southern California this type of research
- 6 is critical. And I think, compliments some of the longer
- 7 term efforts of the Air Board on electrifying or hybriding
- 8 (indiscernible) heavy-duty vehicles.
- 9 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: It's a really nice
- 10 complement as well to ARFVTP, which typically focuses more
- 11 on the on-road sector and the off-road sector is also very
- 12 important as you mentioned. And so I agree it's quite
- 13 complementary. I had an excellent briefing on these
- 14 projects and I think they sound great.
- I will move approval of Item 11.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 18 (Ayes.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This passes 5-0. Thank
- 20 you.
- Let's go on to Item 12.
- MR. ALDAS: Good Afternoon Chair Weisenmiller and
- 23 Commissioners. I am presenting this item in place of Mrs.
- 24 Snyder who cannot be here today. My name is Rizaldo Aldas,
- 25 I'm with the Energy Generation Research Office of the

- 1 Energy Research and Development Division. And I'm here to
- 2 seek your approval of the proposed agreement EPC-16-035
- 3 with Sunpreme, Inc. for a \$2,430,000 grant.
- 4 This project was selected under the Federal Cost
- 5 Share Opportunity Solicitation PON-14-308 of the Electric
- 6 Program Investment Charge. The purpose of that
- 7 solicitation was to provide cost share funding to eligible
- 8 applicants that apply for and receive an award from
- 9 eligible funding opportunity from the Department of Energy
- 10 and meet the requirements of the particular solicitation.
- 11 So on top of the EPIC grant award we're providing
- 12 to Sunpreme, the recipient has secured a DOE award for
- 13 \$4,999,999 and further contributes \$4,540,310 in match
- 14 funding to the project.
- 15 Under the proposed agreement, the grant recipient
- 16 will develop a next-generation manufacturing tool for low-
- 17 cost, high-performance copper patterning on silicon-PV
- 18 using technologies from printed circuit board
- 19 manufacturing. This manufacturing tool will reduce costs
- 20 by up to 35 percent, and increase efficiency by about 15
- 21 percent for solar PVs.
- 22 Lower costs and better performance of silicon-
- 23 based solar cells will be achieved through the substitution
- 24 of silver used on the front side of industrial silicon
- 25 solar cells by copper. Silver metal is one of the

- 1 important cost drivers in manufacturing of a PV cell. A
- 2 metallization scheme, which is the application of a
- 3 conductive metallic layer on top of the silicon layer based
- 4 on all-copper plating, has the potential to lower these
- 5 costs while improving the overall efficiency of the PV
- 6 cells.
- 7 So if successful, the recipient will accomplish
- 8 the following milestones by the end of the agreement. They
- 9 will establish a pilot manufacturing line for production of
- 10 copper-metalized solar modules. They will produce 750 test
- 11 modules to be tested by a third party. Establish the
- 12 process for at least 25 megawatts of manufacturing capacity
- 13 and complete an economic analysis of the manufacturing
- 14 costs.
- 15 With that, I recommend approval of the proposed
- 16 agreement and am ready to answer your questions. And I
- 17 believe a representative of the recipient is also here
- 18 ready to answer any questions you have. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. I was going to
- 20 say is there anyone in the room who wants to comment on
- 21 this, certainly the recipients or anyone on the line?
- 22 (No audible response.)
- No. I was going to say to at least kick off the
- 24 Commissioner discussion, this is an interesting one. I
- 25 particularly like the idea that it's a match fund.

- 1 Obviously, at this point as we remind people last year
- 2 China installed 120 gigawatts of solar in China. I don't
- 3 how much they export it, so basically anyone trying to do
- 4 manufacturing has got a pretty heavy lift on the -- well it
- 5 tips the scale of the Chinese manufacturing. But I think
- 6 certainly continuing to see if we can make manufacturing
- 7 viable here is good.
- 8 Anyone else?
- 9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll move Item 12.
- 10 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thanks. All those in
- 12 favor?
- 13 (Ayes.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This passes 5-0. Thank
- 15 you.
- Let's go on to 13.
- MS. PALMA: Good afternoon, Chair and
- 18 Commissioners. My name is Silvia Palma from the Energy
- 19 Research and Development Division. I'm here to request
- 20 your approval of two grant agreements recommended for
- 21 funding under Grant Funding Opportunity GFO-16-301. The
- 22 purpose of this solicitation was to fund applied research
- 23 and development projects that develop technologies and
- 24 tools to enable higher penetration of renewable energy and
- 25 that reduce technological and economic barriers to small

- 1 hydropower, geothermal, and wind power generation.
- The agreements I am presenting today are
- 3 recommended for funding under the in-conduit hydropower
- 4 group of the solicitation. The group was focused on
- 5 expanding the use of in-conduit hydropower in California,
- 6 advancing the pre-commercial development and demonstration
- 7 of in-conduit hydrokinetic turbines and generators.
- 8 The first project is with Amador Water Agency.
- 9 The purpose of the project is to advance the pre-commercial
- 10 development and demonstration of an innovative, redesigned
- 11 high-head Pelton turbine runner technology. This
- 12 demonstration project will design, test, demonstrate, and
- 13 validate a 417 killowatt in-conduit Pelton turbine runner
- 14 at an existing pressure reducing station site located in
- 15 Ione, California.
- 16 Amador Water Agency is also the site host and
- 17 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for
- 18 the work funded under this Agreement. The Water Agency
- 19 adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration on September 22,
- 20 2016 that reviewed the potential environmental impacts of
- 21 the work to be performed under the proposed grant
- 22 agreement.
- 23 As a responsible agency, the Energy Commission
- 24 must consider the environmental effects of the project.
- 25 Staff has reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration and

- 1 recommends that the Commission find, based on the back-up
- 2 materials for this agenda item, that the potential impacts
- 3 of the project have been avoided or mitigated to a less
- 4 than significant level.
- 5 The project will demonstrate the ability to
- 6 maximize the capture of wasted energy at a pressure
- 7 reducing station and contribute to the integration of in-
- 8 conduit small hydropower into the existing state energy
- 9 mix. If successful, this project will increase the turbine
- 10 efficiency by 1 to 1.5 percent over the current design and
- 11 improve the energy generation of in-conduit hydroelectric
- 12 stations.
- 13 The second project is with Natel Energy. The
- 14 purpose of the project is the design and demonstration of
- 15 an innovative modular, cost-effective and scalable civil
- 16 works design for in-conduit, low-head hydropower projects,
- 17 using the recipient's hydroEngine® turbine technology to
- 18 deploy an over-the-canal plant design.
- 19 This demonstration project will site this design
- 20 at up to three Yolo County Flood Control and Water
- 21 Conservation District locations. The site host and CEQA
- 22 lead agency for this project is the Yolo County Flood
- 23 Control and Water Conservation District.
- On March 7th, 2017 the District Board of
- 25 Directors adopted an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative

- 1 Declaration for the canal-based, small in-channel
- 2 hydroelectric power plant co-located solar project. As a
- 3 responsible agency, the Energy Commission must consider the
- 4 environmental effects of the project. Staff has reviewed
- 5 the Mitigated Negative Declaration and recommends that the
- 6 Commission find, based on the back-up materials of this
- 7 agenda item, that the potential impacts of the project have
- $8\,$  been avoided or mitigated to a less than significant level.
- 9 If successful, this agreement will lower
- 10 construction and civil works costs of in-conduit projects
- 11 across irrigation canal drops, because of the significant
- 12 drop in excavation, formwork, and bracing, as well as
- 13 improve construction scheduling flexibility and inlet
- 14 design.
- 15 I am requesting your approval for these
- 16 agreements, and I am ready to answer the questions you may
- 17 have. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 19 First, is there any comments from anyone in the
- 20 room or on the line?
- 21 (No audible response.)
- Okay. I just want to make a couple of points,
- 23 when it first was in actually 1978, I set up the Energy
- 24 Commission's Small Hydro Office. And the notion was
- 25 obviously no one wanted to see any new hydro facilities in

- 1 California, but to see if there were ways to increase the
- 2 energy production of existing facilities. Obviously, power
- 3 plants have changed quite a bit in the '70s, so it's a good
- 4 time to go back and relook at those.
- 5 And under the EPIC (indiscernible) investment we
- 6 had a workshop and basically the water agencies came in and
- 7 really asked us to try now to push some of the conduit
- 8 technology. And so again, we'll see how it works out, but
- 9 I think it's a good opportunity to explore this. I would
- 10 note that we've just had PG&E announcing it was actually
- 11 giving up one of its licenses to sort of changing wholesale
- 12 prices and mitigation costs. So we may be at a different
- 13 stage at hydro, but it's interesting to see what comes out
- 14 of this. All right.
- 15 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Well, 13. I'll move
- 16 approval of Item 13.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 19 (Ayes.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This is approved 5-0.
- 21 Thank you.
- Let's go on to 14.
- MR. SETHI: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
- 24 name is Prab Sethi, and I am a Senior Mechanical Engineer
- 25 in the Energy Generation Research office.

- 1 GFO-16-302 competitive solicitation was released
- 2 to fund applied research and development projects to
- 3 advance breakthrough energy generation technologies and
- 4 piezoelectric-based systems to increase efficiencies,
- 5 reduce costs and enable generation from additional
- 6 renewable resources for distributed generation. The
- 7 following five projects from this solicitation are proposed
- 8 to be EPIC funded for a total of \$7 million.
- 9 The first project, EPC-16-036, is with AltaRock
- 10 Energy, Inc. for a \$1,280,000 grant to demonstrate use of a
- 11 thermoelectric generator for a pilot-scale project. This
- 12 project will produce up to 20 killowatts of electricity at
- 13 the Bottle Rock geothermal power plant at the Geysers, and
- 14 help determine how thermoelectric technology could be used
- 15 to develop distributed energy production up to 5 megawatt
- 16 from a geothermal resource, without using mechanical
- 17 infrastructure such as turbines.
- 18 The goal of this technology is to reduce the cost
- 19 of small scale geothermal energy production and increase
- 20 its distribution.
- 21 The second project, EPC-16-042, is with Lawrence
- 22 Berkeley National Laboratory for a \$2 million grant to
- 23 develop a thermoelectric waste heat recovery process by
- 24 creating advanced thermoelectric materials constructed from
- 25 silicon nanowire arrays.

- 1 The project will create a cost-effective system
- 2 that will recover high temperature waste heat at 300 degree
- 3 to 800 C available in industrial facilities, such as
- 4 refineries, cement plants, and oil and gas operations to
- 5 generate supplemental electricity and help reduce energy
- 6 use in the industrial sector. The process is targeted to
- 7 be 2.5 times more efficient compared to the state-of-art
- 8 thermoelectric generators. This project is providing
- 9 approximately \$3.5 million as match funding.
- 10 The third project, EPC-16-049, is with The
- 11 Regents of the University of California, Merced campus for
- 12 \$1,270,000 grant to design and test a piezoelectric roadway
- 13 energy harvesting system, consisting of multi-layer stack
- 14 generators and power electronics, to capture over 50
- 15 percent of the compression mechanical energy as electricity
- 16 from passing vehicles. This project will demonstrate
- 17 electric power generation, in the lab and on a section of a
- 18 road at the UC Merced campus, and will determine
- 19 feasibility for future large-scale demonstrations on
- 20 highways and streets with piezoelectric under-pavement.
- 21 The fourth project, EPC-16-050 is with The
- 22 Regents of the University of California, San Diego campus
- 23 for \$1,450,000 grant to develop a low-cost, and high-
- 24 efficiency next-generation perovskite solar cells. The
- 25 proposed solar cells can be fabricated at low temperatures

- 1 around 100 C in contrast to crystallization of high-purity
- 2 silicon above 1,400 degrees C. And will lead to more than
- 3 a 50 percent reduction in \$/Watt cost of solar modules over
- 4 traditional silicon cells.
- 5 And the last project is EPC-16-052 with Pyro-E,
- 6 LLC for a \$1 million grant to demonstrate piezoelectric
- 7 technology that harvests energy by roadway deflection and
- 8 vibration from over-passing motor vehicles. The system
- 9 consists of piezoelectric materials with objective to
- 10 advance generation of clean electricity from untapped
- 11 resources.
- 12 This project has a target of power density equal
- 13 to 300 watts per square foot. The proposed piezoelectric
- 14 technology was developed at NASA Langley Research Center,
- 15 Hampton, Virginia and has been licensed by Pyro-E LLC.
- I request approval of funding for these five
- 17 projects. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 19 Well, first is there anyone either in the room or
- 20 on the phone who want to comment on this?
- 21 (No audible response.)
- 22 All right, then I'll transition to the
- 23 Commissioners. I think most people will recall that this
- 24 was something that Goddard (phonetic) was very interested
- 25 in and sort of Goddard's looking at the feasibility. And

- 1 we continue to march into it, it certainly has a lot of
- 2 interesting applications. This has probably been, of all
- 3 of our research activity, the one who's gotten the most
- 4 press as you probably know, Mike Gravely being our
- 5 spokesman on it.
- 6 So anyway, I certainly encourage us to continue
- 7 this explanation.
- 8 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. I'll move Item
- 9 14.
- 10 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 12 (Ayes.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This is approved 5-0.
- 14 Thank you. Thanks, Mike.
- 15 Let's go on to 15.
- Oh, sure. Come on up, I forgot to call for
- 17 public comment.
- 18 MS. WARD: Hi, Mr. Chair and Commissioners. I
- 19 just wanted to thank you on behalf of Berkeley Lab and
- 20 Robbie Persher (phonetic) who's our PI on that project, on
- 21 piezoelectric and our partner in that endeavor, AltaRock
- 22 Energy, for your support of that project. And we're
- 23 excited and interested to see what the outcomes are for
- 24 you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: That's great. I was

- 1 going to encourage you to go back to try and un-clutter
- 2 some of the red tape on contracting. Fortunately when I
- 3 was LBR I never met an attorney there, but somehow you've
- 4 gone over to the dark side and hired some, so.
- 5 MS. WARD: We're working on it.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 7 MS. WARD: Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Please.
- 9 MR. MORI: All right, cool. Good afternoon,
- 10 Commissioners. I am Kevin Mori from the Energy Efficiency
- 11 Research Office. Today staff is recommending approval of
- 12 the following five research agreements. Please note that
- 13 the CEC 270 from the backup materials for Item 15a has been
- 14 updated this morning. Copies have been provided to the
- 15 Commissioners and have also been placed on the entry table
- 16 for the public. The material changes to the CEC 270 were
- 17 to include the CEQA exemption analysis and reflect a
- 18 demonstration nature of the project, which is consistent
- 19 with the Business Meeting agenda item description for this
- 20 item.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great. Thank you.
- MR. MORI: All right, so moving on Item a is a
- 23 hyper-efficient pump motor unit with a fully integrated
- 24 permanent magnet motor and motor controls with combined
- 25 liquid cooling with Terzo Power Systems. Hydraulic power

- 1 units are used in numerous industries and currently use
- 2 induction motors and energy-wasting valves that are
- 3 inefficient. Terzo Power Systems will be integrating the
- 4 newest permanent magnet motor technology with the most
- 5 efficient motor controls in a simple liquid cooling loop.
- The system is estimated to be approximately 80
- 7 percent more efficient than the conventional system and
- 8 will reduce size and costs for improved cost effectiveness.
- 9 Item b is development of new technologies for
- 10 agricultural loads to participate in renewables
- 11 integration, RTP programs, and/or new Time of Use rates
- 12 with Polaris Energy Services.
- 13 With the abundance of solar that has been
- 14 deployed California is experiencing over-generation in the
- 15 middle of the day. With a shift towards real-time pricing
- 16 growers need a way to participate and respond to the newer
- 17 market. Polaris will work with the farmers to develop
- 18 strategies for participating in demand response programs.
- 19 They will advance technology that can shed loads when
- 20 necessary, improve reliability, and improve data and
- 21 equipment accessibility.
- Item c is pilot testing of isothermal compression
- 23 with Gas Technology Institute. Air compressors produce a
- 24 lot of heat during the compression cycle and require more
- 25 energy as the air gets hotter. GTI will be testing a NEAR

- 1 isothermal compressor that will use a liquid to compress
- 2 air and simultaneously extract heat out of the compressing
- 3 air. This process has the potential to reduce electricity
- 4 use by approximately 50 percent compared to the
- 5 conventional air compressor types.
- 6 Item d is development and testing of an energy
- 7 efficient ultralow charge ammonia refrigeration system in a
- 8 food processing plant with Electric Power Research
- 9 Institute. HFC refrigerants will most likely be phased out
- 10 in the near future and ammonia has been a proven
- 11 refrigerant. However, most ammonia-based cooling systems
- 12 used today require not only large amounts of ammonia, but
- 13 are also prone to leakage from the mechanical shaft seal
- 14 between the motor and compressor and require special
- 15 handling and management plans.
- 16 EPRI will pilot test their low-charge and
- 17 practically leak-free ammonia refrigerant system in a
- 18 micro-channel air-cooled condenser. The system has the
- 19 potential to save approximately 20 percent of electrical
- 20 usage compared to the conventional refrigerants.
- 21 Item e is increased energy efficiency via
- 22 programmable irrigation and fertigation with PowWow Energy.
- 23 Current energy efficiency programs do not address the
- 24 complexity of farming and can potentially have components
- 25 conflicting with one another. PowWow will be integrating

- 1 their cloud-based data analytics and data provided by on-
- 2 farm censors to give the user alerts, weekly
- 3 recommendations, and more.
- 4 This integrated system has a potential to save
- 5 over 20 percent of energy and 15 percent of water compared
- 6 to existing energy efficiency program or commercial
- 7 irrigation offerings.
- 8 I recommend approval of these projects and thank
- 9 you. I'm happy to answer any of your questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 11 First, any comments from anyone in the room or
- 12 anyone on the line?
- 13 (No audible response.)
- Okay. Then let me at least start off the
- 15 conversation. I mean, obviously the Energy Commission is
- 16 focused on buildings for decades and probably we can point
- 17 a lot of that inspiration to Art Rosenfeld. As you go
- 18 outside of buildings into more industrial and agricultural
- 19 uses, it's a lot more variety there although some common
- 20 themes like pumps or motors and stuff. So I think it's
- 21 really important as we move forward on doubling energy
- 22 efficiency we've got to get a better handle on this side,
- 23 outside of the building context.
- 24 And certainly, I've heard from ARB on their
- 25 concern on the refrigerants of basically move to more

- 1 advanced refrigerants that are kinder to the environment.
- 2 So these are all I think, very good projects that we'll
- 3 continue to push along. Although again I think more over
- 4 time, I think -- certainly Commissioner McAllister and I
- 5 have talked about trying to really figure out how to go
- 6 outside of buildings into other areas. I think the last
- 7 scoping plan required a lot of audits to be done by
- 8 industrial customers, but at this point everyone's trying
- 9 to figure out what to do with them.
- 10 So anyway, I certainly would recommend people go
- 11 forward with these.
- 12 Commissioner McAllister?
- 13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, so I mean first
- 14 of all I want to congratulate the R&D Division on just a
- 15 really great fleet of projects bringing forward for this,
- 16 and previous ones. I think we have another coming up after
- 17 this. But this one in particular, you know, SB 350 the
- 18 doubling really incorporates more than just buildings. You
- 19 know, we started out looking at buildings and when SB 350
- 20 came down it amplified that and expanded it to new areas.
- 21 And agriculture and industry are two large sources of
- 22 carbon, large energy consumers, big parts of our economy.
- 23 And really deserve a good look in this R&D.
- 24 This suite of projects is really great, so I want
- 25 to just echo really what the Chair said. It's important

- 1 that we find ways to develop technologies, partner with the
- 2 stakeholder group or many groups throughout the state. And
- 3 maybe we don't have as deep a relationships with or the
- 4 same kinds of relationships that we do with the builders
- 5 and the stakeholders around our Appliance and Building
- 6 Efficiency Standards. So this is a little bit of new
- 7 territory for us and a lot of it starts with R&D and that's
- 8 the sort of beginning of the transformation curve.
- 9 So hopefully we'll get some good technologies out
- 10 there and really create a foundation to fund along the
- 11 lines of what we're seeing with getting implementation
- 12 done, infrastructure built, really getting hardware out
- 13 there down the line. So thanks for your efforts on this,
- 14 to Lori and the team as well.
- So I will move Item 15.
- 16 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Second.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 18 (Ayes.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So Item 15 is approved 5-
- 20 0.
- 21 Let's go on to Item 16.
- MR. STOMS: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
- 23 name is David Stoms from the Research Division. And I'll
- 24 be giving the presentation on behalf of Katherina Snyder
- 25 today.

- 1 Under EPIC grant funding opportunity GFO-16-306
- 2 the Energy Commission staff selected eight proposals for
- 3 funding. And today we're seeking your approval on five of
- 4 those proposed grant agreements for a total proposed
- 5 funding of about 3.3 million.
- 6 The first proposed agreement is with the Regents
- 7 of the UC Davis. This project will explore the
- 8 effectiveness of the so-called "head-starting" method for
- 9 threatened Mojave Desert tortoises and determine the
- 10 optimal duration for this mitigation procedure. Under a
- 11 head-starting procedure, juvenile tortoises are raised in
- 12 captivity until they are large enough to be less vulnerable
- 13 to threats and increase their survival, which occurs after
- 14 disturbance from energy projects among other things.
- In addition, the project will test whether the
- 16 indoor rearing of tortoises could shorten the length of
- 17 that head-starting procedure. And thereby increase the
- 18 number of tortoises that can be treated and lower the
- 19 mitigation costs for developers, energy developers.
- The second proposed agreement is with UC Irvine.
- 21 This project will perform a comprehensive life-cycle
- 22 assessment of environmental and human health impacts and
- 23 resource utilization associated with the deployment of
- 24 emerging grid-scale energy storage technologies. The
- 25 project will focus on different chemistries of flow

- 1 batteries: Vanadium Redox, Zinc-Bromide, and Iron-Sodium.
- 2 The third project or proposed agreement is with
- 3 UC Davis. This project will measure and compare
- 4 particulate matter emissions PM2.5 and PM10 across the
- 5 spray drift plume of two separate power plant cooling
- 6 towers that use fresh water or brackish water respectively.
- 7 A model of power plant PM2.5 and PM10 emissions that will
- 8 be developed based on the collected data could inform power
- 9 plant operators on how to minimize the particulate matter
- 10 emissions associated with the use of brackish water in
- 11 cooling towers.
- 12 The fourth proposed agreement is with Lawrence
- 13 Berkeley National Lab to develop and test alternative low
- 14 global warming potential A3 refrigerants for flammability,
- 15 GHG reductions and reduced electricity consumption. And to
- 16 identify barriers and opportunities for their adoption in
- 17 residential and commercial cooling equipment. The
- 18 refrigeration and AC units will be tested at LBNL's test
- 19 facilities. Elicitation will be provided by an
- 20 industry/expert advisory panel to provide information on
- 21 current barriers to greater adoption of A3 refrigerants,
- 22 key design issues, potential for larger charge size limits,
- 23 and existing flammability testing and characterization
- 24 studies.
- 25 And the fifth proposed agreement is with Humboldt

- 1 State University to develop a methodology addressing
- 2 critical knowledge gaps in the assessment of the carbon
- 3 neutrality of forest and agriculture residues when used for
- 4 the production of electricity and process heating. The
- 5 recipient will develop a life-cycle assessment framework
- 6 specific to California, and at a higher spatial resolution
- 7 and with greater empirical data on diverse supply chains
- 8 than has been available in the past.
- 9 The results from this project will inform state
- 10 policy, support future potential ratepayer benefits derived
- 11 from reduced environmental public health and air quality
- 12 impacts associated with the electricity generation from
- 13 woody biomass and field residues.
- 14 Staff recommends the approval of all five
- 15 proposed agreements. And I'm here to answer your questions
- 16 if you have any.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 18 First, any comments come on up, or of anyone in
- 19 the room or on the line. Come on up, yeah.
- MS. WARD: Alecia Ward again, on behalf of
- 21 Berkeley Lab. Our researchers, as you know, have been
- 22 working originally on CFCs and now on HFCs and the Kigali
- 23 Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is such a driving force
- 24 behind this. We are very honored for the CEC to have
- 25 awarded this section of this EPIC solicitation to the Lab,

- 1 so that we can continue that important research. And that
- 2 California can accrue the benefits associated with
- 3 compliance to those kinds of agreements.
- 4 So thank you for your consideration of this and
- 5 I'm hopeful that it will be approved.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Well, thanks for
- 7 being here. We appreciate the feedback. And yeah, we
- 8 agree. I mean, it's as I said, in the Scoping Plan as you
- 9 read it's dealing sort of with climate pollutants in this
- 10 area is very important. So I think -- and I know they've
- 11 talked about different things and (indiscernible) Andrew
- 12 would adopt standards tomorrow requiring different
- 13 refrigerants. But anyway, we need some research done.
- 14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Get the costs way down
- 15 and we'll (indiscernible) --
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Well, yeah. I
- 17 (indiscernible) \$15 a million is always fine, you know, so
- 18 anyway. But it's really important to try to push this. I
- 19 think it all is, although I would note that one of the
- 20 things to check on the first one, the Desert Tortoises. I
- 21 believe it's Fort Irwin, but there are bases that have like
- 22 little Desert tortoise nurseries that try to deal with not
- 23 just power plants, but if you can imagine if you're rolling
- 24 tanks or other things around the desert you could have
- 25 effects on Desert tortoises. And they obviously have to

- 1 compensate for those effects.
- 2 So certainly reach out to the military on some of
- 3 the things they're doing there.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yeah, I just wanted to say
- 5 that I'm very supportive of this work. And I think it'll
- 6 be really valuable, so I'll move approval of this item.
- 7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 9 (Ayes.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: 5-0, thanks.
- 11 So we're now up to 17.
- MR. SOKOL: All right. Good afternoon, Chair and
- 13 Commissioners. I'm Michael Sokol and here today to provide
- 14 an update on SB 350 implementation. So in contrast to
- 15 previous business meetings where we do a little more of a
- 16 deep dive on some of the specific topics, I thought today
- 17 would be useful to provide a high-level overview of some of
- 18 the major events and activities associated with SB 350.
- 19 Especially given that there's a flurry of workshops and
- 20 events over the next couple of months here. And I should
- 21 note that this is not comprehensive. There's lots of SB
- 22 350 things happening, but again just kind of the high-level
- 23 snapshot for you and for stakeholders to see here.
- 24 So just starting off right up at the top I think
- 25 the integrated resource planning. You know, Energy

- 1 Commission is tasked with developing guidelines for the
- 2 largest publicly owned utilities to develop their
- 3 integrated resource plans and submit them to the Energy
- 4 Commission starting in January 2019.
- 5 So you'll see that to support that effort there's
- 6 actually four workshops planned over the month of April.
- 7 Starting with next Monday there's a joint agency workshop
- 8 with the Energy Commission and the Air Resources Board to
- 9 continue the discussion of the greenhouse gas emission
- 10 targets that should be used for integrated resource
- 11 planning. And this workshop on next Monday is really
- 12 looking at getting into the POU-specific target discussion
- 13 and describing methodologies that could be used to come up
- 14 with those targets. It builds off the workshop that was
- 15 held on the morning of February 23rd here with the Public
- 16 Utilities Commission.
- 17 So after that, the next day we have a specific
- 18 workshop on the light-duty transportation sector for use in
- 19 the integrated resource plans for publicly owned utilities.
- 20 And so that will help fill in some of the discussion of
- 21 what will go into the guidelines specifically for
- 22 transportation and electrification.
- 23 And I should note, just to connect that, there's
- 24 on April 27th there's a similar workshop that's focused on
- 25 the medium and heavy-duty sector for transportation

- 1 electrification.
- 2 And sandwiched in between there is a staff level
- 3 webinar that's really going to get into the weeds of some
- 4 of the specifics around inputs, assumptions, and
- 5 administrative review process for POUs to submit their
- 6 integrated resource plans. So that will be a good sort of
- 7 pretty lengthy discussion with some of the technical staff
- 8 from the utilities and here at the Energy Commission to
- 9 make sure that there's clear understanding and really have
- 10 a good dialogue around some of those inputs and
- 11 assumptions.
- 12 So all of that is leading up to the development
- 13 of draft guidelines for publicly owned utilities. And that
- 14 will be put together in the mid-May timeframe to lead up
- 15 for a May 25th workshop to present those draft guidelines.
- 16 And then have a discussion focused on any comments that
- 17 come up on the specific content in the draft quidelines,
- 18 which is all leading up to incorporate that feedback and
- 19 plan to consider for adoption here at the business meeting
- 20 on July 12th.
- 21 So that kind of ties up the integrated resource
- 22 planning track. There's a lot of other things happening,
- 23 so I'm sure that there's maybe questions about some of the
- 24 details here, but that's just the high level overview.
- 25 And then just moving through I mean, these are

- 1 all sort of related here. But just to dive in, the
- 2 doubling energy efficiency savings track, so staff is
- 3 working very quickly here and diligently to look into and
- 4 analyze the potential savings that can come from utility
- 5 contributions towards that doubling target as well as
- 6 nonutility contributions.
- 7 And so there's some staff papers that are being
- 8 developed to lead up to a workshop that will be held joint
- 9 with the CPUC in the June or July timeframe. And I think
- 10 there's a tentative date on the IEPR calendar, but that's
- 11 potentially subject to change just depending upon when all
- 12 this comes together. But ultimately, leading up to the
- 13 planned consideration for business meeting adoption here in
- 14 the October timeframe to make sure that we're ahead of the
- 15 November 1st deadline given by SB 350. And there will be
- 16 potentially one or two more workshops in that time range as
- 17 well, including one in September that you see here, sort of
- 18 on the draft report that ties it all together. So next
- 19 slide, please?
- 20 And these slides are a little less dense, but I
- 21 just wanted to highlight over the next couple of months for
- 22 the Low-Income Barrier Study that was required under SB
- 23 350, the study itself was published in December. In the
- 24 study the Energy Commission discusses having implementation
- 25 workshops in early 2017 and so we are now getting those

- 1 together. We have a workshop scheduled for May 16th and
- 2 this is going to be a joint workshop with the Public
- 3 Utilities Commission to really get into the specific
- 4 recommendations and how to move those forward towards
- 5 implementation. So it'll be a pretty packed agenda.
- 6 The agenda is coming together here and the notice
- 7 should be going out fairly soon. But I wanted to make sure
- 8 that it was on everyone's radar for May 16th. I should
- 9 note that there's also discussions amongst the different
- 10 agencies that have some responsibility in the report
- 11 recommendations to figure out how to drive that
- 12 conversation forward ahead of this May workshop. And
- 13 there's been discussions with the Governor's Office to try
- 14 and help move that conversation forward as well.
- And there's a second workshop later in 2017 that
- 16 there's a hold for the August 1st date for a second
- 17 workshop to get into more of those recommendations
- 18 discussion. Given the number of recommendations it makes
- 19 sense to have more than one workshop to allow for a really
- 20 deep discussion on those topics.
- 21 And lastly, I wanted to highlight an update for
- 22 the data collection rulemaking track. This has been a
- 23 topic at previous business meetings along the way. I
- 24 wanted to note that last Friday there was a memo sent out
- 25 to the docket that clarified the Energy Commission's two-

- 1 phased approach to implement the needed changes to support
- 2 SB 350 and all the associated activities.
- 3 So there's sort of a description of the approach
- 4 and the planning to finish up this Phase 1 that includes
- 5 items that are time sensitive. And there's sort of a need
- 6 to implement quickly, but take some more time and look at a
- 7 Phase 2 that completes the rest of the items that have been
- 8 discussed at previous workshops. And looks at activities
- 9 to support other SB 350 items, so the energy efficiency
- 10 doubling, potentially looking at other improvements to the
- 11 demand forecast or anything associated with the other items
- 12 here.
- So again, look at that memo that's on the docket
- 14 there. And, you know, I just wanted to clarify too that as
- 15 we look over the next couple of months to finalize the
- 16 language and submit this initial Phase 1 rulemaking package
- 17 in June that it's possible there will be additional
- 18 clarifications on the specific scope of what's included in
- 19 Phase 1 versus what's included in Phase 2. So we'll be
- 20 sure that as we move forward that that's made clear to all
- 21 the stakeholders. And that we're completely transparent
- 22 about all of that.
- 23 And then ultimately looking at later in 2017
- 24 aiming for October business meeting consideration of the
- 25 Phase 1 rulemaking package in order to meet that January

- 1 1st of 2018 effective date. And then ultimately looking at
- 2 Phase 2 beginning some time later in the year or early next
- 3 year as well.
- 4 So that kind of ties up the schedule here, so
- 5 I'll be happy to answer questions or take any comments from
- 6 Commissioners.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Well, first let's see if
- 8 there's any public comments from anyone in the room or on
- 9 the line?
- 10 (No audible response.)
- Okay. I was going to say well obviously we're
- 12 sort of at the meetings are us phase of the IEPR this year
- 13 and so I appreciate everyone's collaboration on it.
- I would note a couple of things. One is all of
- 15 you have probably seen the letter exchange back and forth
- 16 with the POU on the IERP guidelines. But certainly that
- 17 issue as we continue to move forward, get the data we need,
- 18 get the process set up, respecting that a lot of the
- 19 decisions will be at the local level but somehow we have to
- 20 make sense of the filings in some fashion. So that's still
- 21 evolving.
- 22 And on the low-income I was just going to note,
- 23 again sort of stepping ahead of where we'll be shortly on
- 24 Commissioner reports. But that I was at LACI last week for
- 25 a couple of presentations. The one in the afternoon I was

- 1 there with Ron Nichols. Ron complimented us on the Low-
- 2 Income Report or the Barriers Report and indicated that
- 3 Edison has about 40 percent of the disadvantaged
- 4 communities in their service territory. And they're
- 5 certainly looking forward to working with us on projects to
- 6 address some of the barriers. In fact, he's having a
- 7 charger on Earth Day dedication and certainly inviting
- 8 folks to that, it's in a disadvantaged community.
- 9 And also at the same time I talked to LADWP
- 10 there. And Nancy Sutley has gotten aboard to adopt equity
- 11 metrics at LADWP. And again, they are very complimentary
- 12 of the report in helping spark their thinking on these
- 13 issues. But she was here yesterday at a different workshop
- 14 and I asked her about it, and it's things like if you go
- 15 through reliability is reliability higher or lower in
- 16 disadvantaged areas? I mean, there's a whole series of
- 17 things they're doing to try to identify how well their
- 18 service is meeting the needs of all the customers.
- 19 So certainly again that was sparked out of the
- 20 work that Michael led. And again, I think there was a good
- 21 chance at that workshop yesterday to point that out to some
- 22 of the other utilities to get their thinking on this issue.
- 23 And certainly, so again that's moving on, but a lot to do
- 24 there. A lot to do.
- 25 So anyway, anyone else for Michael?

- 1 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Well, I would just note that
- 2 for the Barriers workshop, both of the folks that you just
- 3 mentioned -- Ron Nichols and Nancy Sutley -- we're hoping
- 4 will be able to come and talk to us in more detail at that
- 5 workshop on the 17th. We haven't sent out all of the
- 6 invitations and things yet, because we're still kind of
- 7 finalizing the agenda. But to the extent that it's of
- 8 interest to you all and you want to weigh in on speakers or
- 9 ideas, as Mike said we have 12 recommendations, so we're
- 10 not going to try to do all of them in one day.
- 11 We're going to pull some priority recommendations
- 12 to talk about on the 17th. And then the next set of --
- 13 they're all important -- but the next set of
- 14 recommendations at that workshop on the 1st. But we would
- 15 warmly welcome your thoughts and comments on that agenda if
- 16 you would like to see it and haven't yet. So you can just
- 17 ping Mike and he'll be sure to get it to you. He's doing a
- 18 great job juggling a whole bunch of moving pieces that all
- 19 kind of fall into SB 350. And I think keeping us updated
- 20 in this way, on these lines is really helpful, so thanks
- 21 for that.
- 22 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, I want to just
- 23 put my voice to that as well. You know, thanks Mike for
- 24 all the coordination. All of these tracks are really
- 25 important and they're all related. And so I think all five

- 1 offices are keeping track of probably all of them, so
- 2 that's a lot of cats to herd, but it's also really
- 3 important. And I'm very, very optimistic that we're going
- 4 to keep the trains on the tracks in getting to where we
- 5 need to go in the timeframe that we have. But also set
- 6 ourselves up for success and I'm really glad about all the
- 7 collaboration across agencies as well. So I'm going to
- 8 come to as many of these workshops as I can. So thanks.
- 9 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yeah, I just wanted to say
- 10 I really appreciate the presentation and the work. It's
- 11 really good.
- MR. SOKOL: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 14 Let's go on to minutes.
- 15 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Move approval of the
- 16 minutes.
- 17 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?
- 19 (Ayes.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Minutes pass 5-0.
- 21 Let's go on to Lead Commissioner Presiding Member
- 22 Reports, Commissioner Scott?
- COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Sure. So my report is
- 24 relatively short, because I had the privilege and
- 25 opportunity of taking a little bit of time off, so that was

- 1 wonderful. And other than that it's pretty much been all
- 2 Siting all the time. And later today I will be headed off
- 3 to the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body,
- 4 which is part of the -- it's a group of western people.
- 5 We're looking at reliability in different electric grid
- 6 types and natural gas infrastructure as well topics
- 7 together.
- 8 I have recently been appointed as the Chair of
- 9 WIRAB, so that should be fun. I'll be out in Idaho
- 10 chairing my first meeting of that not too long from now, so
- 11 that's my brief report.
- 12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Well, I had the
- 13 opportunity to take a little break with my family too, so
- 14 not a ton to report. And not that much travel actually
- 15 around the state, although I'll have some upcoming to D.C.
- 16 in the month with NASEO and the Alliance of Safe Energy, so
- 17 those will both be fun.
- 18 But I really just wanted to take the opportunity
- 19 to thank the Efficiency Division staff in a couple of
- 20 different ways. First of all, the team that does our
- 21 outreach on our Building Standards is really tremendous, is
- 22 led by Chris Olvera with Kristen Driskell's leadership over
- 23 that office. And Kris has gotten kudos lately from the
- 24 building officials across the state and when you work with
- 25 him you realize why that's the case, because he's extremely

- 1 competent and just very, very outgoing and articulate and
- 2 all the things you want in an outreach person. Also, very
- 3 much on top of the details.
- 4 But there are a bunch of really nice Youtube
- 5 videos up about the Building Standards now. And I'm not
- 6 going to read the URL, because it's kind of long, but
- 7 definitely it's on our website. And after stumbling
- 8 through a little bit, Youtube, being labeled I think as a
- 9 spammer or something -- I'm not sure exactly how that
- 10 happened -- they had to work through the legalize and
- 11 actually get them up on Youtube. And, "No, we're legit.
- 12 We're the Energy Commission." But they're real high
- 13 quality and they are extremely educational and they respond
- 14 to our stakeholders in a way that's just super-substantive
- 15 and accessible. And that's really the best of the best of
- 16 what we do, I think.
- 17 So Alex Pineda and Javier Perez and Paula David
- 18 also were really key on that effort, so I definitely
- 19 encourage you to check them out. Whether or not you're
- 20 doing a building project it's just really very bread and
- 21 butter stuff for the Energy Commission.
- 22 And then I wanted to call out Kristen's team
- 23 again, Kristen Driskell, in the Appliances Office. You
- 24 know, there are a lot of moving parts in the appliances
- 25 efficiency realm these days. And certainly at the federal

- 1 government everybody's on the edge of their seat wondering
- 2 what they're going to do, what they're not going to do, and
- 3 figuring out what our position is as California. And
- 4 technically, sort of where things might stand and where we
- 5 might get more savings, has been and still is a task that
- 6 requires some resources and some real competence and some
- 7 real deep knowledge about that field. You know, we have
- 8 dozens of device categories that we regulate or the feds
- 9 regulate and how they sort of relate is no mean feat to
- 10 keep track of. So they're really doing a great job on that
- 11 with all the shifting sands at the federal level.
- 12 And then really finally, Christopher Meyer, and
- 13 his office, the Building Standards Office, they are
- 14 wrestling with some complicated issues developing the 2019
- 15 code. And really working with a tremendous number of
- 16 stakeholders and dealing all the issues that we talk about
- 17 at all of our meetings and, you know, in our respective
- 18 shops. You know, fuel switching and Zero Net Energy
- 19 certainly, but just climate issues and how can we help
- 20 drive towards where we need to go as a state. Building
- 21 Standards is really one of the main avenues for doing that
- 22 at the Commission and I want to just give them kudos for
- 23 how well they are marshaling the discussion.
- 24 And certainly there are a lot of complexities,
- 25 and there's more complexity to come. I'll just heads up

- 1 everybody, as we head towards ZNE there's some interesting
- 2 issues that come up. So I wanted to call out Christopher
- 3 and his crew.
- 4 So in the Efficiency Division, I talked a couple
- 5 of weeks ago at the new hire orientation at the Efficiency
- 6 Division. And I was just so impressed with the quality of
- 7 the folks they're bringing in, so young and enthusiastic
- 8 but really smart and really wanting to make a difference.
- 9 And so that combination of competence and idealism, I think
- 10 is really what is best here at the Commission. And I'm
- 11 really happy to see the Division kind of maturing in the
- 12 right ways and keeping itself updated and fresh.
- So that's it for my comments today.
- 14 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All right, well I've got a
- 15 few meetings and things to talk about. Let's see, a couple
- 16 of weeks ago on I think around the 15th of March I had the
- 17 opportunity to speak at California Ocean Day 2017, which
- 18 was held at the Capitol in an event organized by
- 19 Environment California and the California State University
- 20 Council on Ocean Affairs Science and Technology, CSU COAST.
- 21 That panel addressed offshore wind and offshore renewable
- 22 energy off the coast of California. There's going to be a
- 23 theme in my comments actually. We had a meeting later on
- 24 in San Francisco with a number of statewide environmental
- 25 groups on the same topic, followed by a trip to New York

- 1 for the Sustainable Energy for All forum that we talked
- 2 about.
- 3 And then back on to the offshore wind theme, I
- 4 was in Santa Barbara yesterday. We met with local
- 5 environmental groups, a very well attended meeting and
- 6 people were appreciative that we brought the meeting there.
- 7 This morning at the happy hour of 6:30 a.m. I was on a
- 8 webinar organized by a conference that I'm speaking at
- 9 soon, also in New York, but it's called the U.S. Offshore
- 10 Wind Opportunity Roadmap. And I spoke with a
- 11 representative of Massachusetts and New York.
- 12 Tomorrow, I will be off to San Luis Obispo to
- 13 have actually, along with the Bureau of Energy Management
- 14 and a number of other agencies, to go to a meeting that's
- 15 hosted by two San Luis Obispo supervisors: Supervisor
- 16 Gibson and Supervisor Hill. And it'll be an opportunity to
- 17 talk about this issue in a public forum and provide
- 18 informational materials to members of the public. That
- 19 meeting for people who are interested, but not able to
- 20 easily get to San Luis Obispo, that meeting will be
- 21 available online as well. And it can be accessed through
- 22 the San Luis Obispo County. They have a process for
- 23 essentially what we would call WebExing our meetings
- 24 although they use a different system. So --
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible.)

- 1 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: -- oh, I don't know, I'll
- 2 find out. All right, in any case that is my report for
- 3 today.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: So let's see, I just
- 5 returned from Brazil on Sunday for a delegation that's
- 6 actually funded by the State Department with the ISO around
- 7 renewables deployment in Brazil. Commissioner McAllister,
- 8 I believe, went there about a year ago or six months ago?
- 9 Six months ago, yeah. They're still talking about you, you
- 10 made an impression. (Laughter.) I gave one talk on
- 11 renewables and one on efficiency, so I did my best to
- 12 channel you. But that went well and great support and
- 13 engagement from a number of California clean energy
- 14 companies including Tesla and Energy Storage, 8minutenergy,
- 15 NREL and others.
- 16 And then I did the Local Government Commission
- 17 Annual Retreat with Ken Alex, Senator de Leon, Leticia
- 18 Perez and some others, which is just their annual
- 19 gathering. A lot of questions about energy, where we're
- 20 going, so that was fruitful.
- 21 I'm about halfway through a run committed to meet
- 22 and just do briefings for all 26 members of both Energy
- 23 Committees for the Senate and the Assembly. Just check in
- 24 and let them know what we're working on, what's happening,
- 25 answer any questions they have and see if there's anything

- 1 we can do to help them. And those have been super
- 2 fruitful.
- I will just note there's other terrific people on
- 4 both committees, but just the level of understanding of
- 5 what we do is still quite low. And some people are like,
- 6 "Great, what are you working on? Where is the Energy
- 7 Commission, are you in Los Angeles? Or how many -- "
- 8 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: (Indiscernible)
- 9 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: " -- you're full time,
- 10 how many people do you have there, 25 people?" So it's
- 11 been great. Barry's been terrific with these, setting
- 12 these up and that we have every meeting a fact sheet on how
- 13 much money has gone into each legislator's district and
- 14 that's been really fruitful. And we're getting good
- 15 feedback for those.
- Just gave my first TED talk last weekend at the
- 17 Silicon Valley TED Talks. And I was decidedly the least
- 18 interesting person in this group. It was a Hamilton actor,
- 19 a NASA scientist, a robotics inventor of Tyco Drum Group.
- 20 I was the dull bureaucrat. The talk, which I'll send
- 21 around the link when it comes out was about my time in
- 22 South Africa, which is how I got into renewables and what
- 23 the anti-apartheid movement teaches us about how to fight
- 24 climate change. It was a very, very formative time in my
- 25 life. I visited South Africa during the apartheid era and

- 1 then went back to work for President Mandela after
- 2 apartheid ended. And I know Commissioner McAllister also
- 3 spent some time in South Africa, so he was equally
- 4 informative.
- 5 So that was fruitful, did also cover for the
- 6 Chair at this Flow Battery dedication in San Diego with
- 7 SDG&E, small flow battery installation, and met with our
- 8 colleagues from NEDO and Sumitomo. And it was nice to see
- 9 that. I had visited Sumitomo when I was in Japan a few
- 10 years ago and to actually see this project get done, and
- 11 hopefully we can learn some things from it that can help
- 12 that skill up.
- And a couple of other things, we have some just
- 14 rock star summer interns coming this summer, I'm really
- 15 excited about. Both from Harvard and from Stanford. The
- 16 one from Harvard is just graduating, who she won the Intel
- 17 Young Scientist of the Year award, has already invented a
- 18 fast-charging cell phone battery. And, you know, she's 21.
- 19 And then we got some great folks at Stanford. They're
- 20 going to be assigned to a variety of projects under Ken and
- 21 Emilio's supervision.
- 22 And the guest speakers have been going great.
- 23 We've got a really good attendance from staff on that. The
- 24 net one we have is Tom Kiernan who's the head of the Wind
- 25 Energy Association for the United States coming out from

- 1 D.C., I think next month.
- 2 And then finally we're just doing this workshop
- 3 on geothermal and GRDA look back at the program, at what we
- 4 funded in its entirety, with I think is about \$80 million
- 5 over the life of the program. And what we should be doing
- 6 funding going forward. So I had Senator Hueso joining
- 7 Dolly and a few other legislators who have geothermal in
- 8 their districts are going to join for that. I think that's
- 9 next week.
- 10 And that's it for me.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, I was actually
- 12 going to ask you if you could check with the staff on the
- 13 chemistry of the Japanese flow battery versus what they're
- 14 studying? You know, just in terms of they talked about how
- 15 they're going to look at the chemistry of some of the flow
- 16 batteries. And anyway, I don't know what the secret sauce
- 17 is for that one, but --
- 18 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Well, I believe it was
- 19 Vanadium. That's my (indiscernible) --
- 20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I mean, if you could sort
- 21 of connect them?
- 22 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: -- I can just double
- 23 check, yeah.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah. I think they
- 25 mention one, which I know is the one I visited, which shut

- 1 down like two months later. So trying to make sure we're
- 2 hitting the viable flow battery chemistries.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: That's a good point. I
- 4 think it's Vanadium, but I'll double check.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Great.
- 6 So in terms of just on the theme of getting the
- 7 word out, so I went to Berlin for the Berlin Energy
- 8 Transition event, which is their response to clean energy
- 9 ministerial. And last year they had about 600. This year,
- 10 they had 1,400 and they turned 200 people away. The
- 11 meeting was in the old, old German foreign ministry
- 12 building. And 97 countries were there.
- And part of it, I think the Germans are starting
- 14 to pivot although obviously the backdrop is a German
- 15 election coming up. And the energy space is a little bit
- 16 different in that it's part of Merkel's partners. And in
- 17 fact, the head of the Economy and Energy Ministry was
- 18 always expected to be her opponent in the election. Until
- 19 we stepped back and they brought someone back in from
- 20 Belgium who was not with the EU who had not been sort of a
- 21 partner in the coalition decisions for the last whatever
- 22 years.
- 23 And so there was a backdrop on the energy stuff.
- 24 It still seems to be a consensus there. I think they're
- 25 starting to pivot more, in a more sophisticated fashion.

- 1 Historically, the Germans have shut down their nukes, and
- 2 shoved a lot of renewables out. Record, record amounts,
- 3 you know, in some respects. And at the same time they
- 4 added 7,000 megawatts of coal. You know, they still get 40
- 5 percent of their power from coal. So their greenhouse gas
- 6 numbers are actually -- now they're more flat or going up.
- 7 But they're not as opposed to California where
- 8 the numbers are really going down, I mean theirs are not.
- 9 And so they're starting to pivot more towards energy
- 10 efficiency, particularly on existing buildings. And they
- 11 have some pretty interesting programs that both advertising
- 12 grants loans to really move the needle and also looking
- 13 more at zero emission vehicles. They're mix is obviously
- 14 different than ours. They have about 40 percent of their
- 15 greenhouse gas comes from power and about 20 percent from
- 16 transportation. So it's a flip of ours.
- 17 And they have relatively high-speed rail. I
- 18 mean, they have a lot of things, but anyone who's been on
- 19 the Autobahn knows the Germans love their cars and their
- 20 big, fast cars. So anyways they're trying to figure out
- 21 what to do on that part, so anyway they're starting to
- 22 think more about the connections across the energy space.
- 23 And more, again we'll see where the election comes in the
- 24 next steps. But I think there's that sort of consensus
- 25 going that they really need to be thinking more

- 1 strategically about what they're doing going forward.
- 2 But again, it was always a good event to talk to
- 3 them and see what they're doing. You know, touch based
- 4 around the world. I think it was important to be there in
- 5 the sense they were clearly working for someone -- funny
- 6 thing is when I was there, Steyer (phonetic) was there too
- 7 and Steve Berberich. But to say they weren't alone in the
- 8 path they're going on trying to do climate.
- 9 So I went from there to Austin. There was, I
- 10 forgot the name of the event again, but it's a week-long
- 11 event in Austin, again focused on energy. I was on a panel
- 12 with Rich Kauffman who is the energy czar of New York and
- 13 the Public Utilities Commission Chair of Texas. And we
- 14 were contrasting across the three areas.
- 15 Austin's hipper than here in some respects, so
- 16 they actually had artists on the stage behind Rich and I
- 17 drawing pictures, responding to our speech. So mine, of
- 18 course, had a duck but I'd never been in that situation.
- 19 Fortunately, they weren't like in front of you. They were
- 20 in back of you, so afterwards you could look at it and try
- 21 to figure out how the artist had connected from your speech
- 22 to that. But anyway it was certainly a good event.
- I did meet with Irkahn, (phonetic) of course. I
- 24 met with folks at UT. Actually Alan Lloyd was there. He's
- 25 now a visiting scholar at UT. I assured him no, we don't

- 1 fund research in Texas, just to be clear. And this is a
- 2 university that has a huge stadium, tons of oil and money.
- 3 It's like let me explain that to the Legislature while
- 4 Perry is cutting our research money. You know, "No, Alan,
- 5 forget it."
- 6 But in terms of and also I met with Barry
- 7 Smitherman who's potentially a FERC Chair, so it was an
- 8 interesting conversation. He was obviously very tight with
- 9 Trump over the years.
- 10 And last I went to LACI. I talked about the
- 11 afternoon session. The morning session I met with
- 12 basically the various consulates in L.A. You know, there
- 13 is about 50 and I met with about 40 of them to talk about
- 14 what California is doing. In the afternoon I met with the
- 15 LACA (phonetic) to talk about the upcoming event in Beijing
- 16 and its focus on energy innovation, encouraging them to
- 17 participate.
- 18 Well, it's good to be back, yeah anyway. So
- 19 let's go on to Chief Counsel's Report.
- 20 MS. VACCARO: I think the only thing I have to
- 21 report is just sort of like that I'm teeing up that the
- 22 Chair will soon be making an announcement that we will be
- 23 going into closed session today.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah. Let's go to
- 25 Executive Director's Report.

- 1 MR. OGLESBY: Just a heads up that we are on a
- 2 fiscal year basis. This is ramping up our busy season, as
- 3 you could see a lot of activity today. We will have a
- 4 second business meeting this month. It has not been posted
- 5 yet and the agenda is still under development, but it will
- 6 be on the 27th when it is posted. So heads up on that.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Our Public Adviser
- 8 Report?
- 9 MS. MATHEWS: Four things very quickly, first we
- 10 had our second annual Diversity Career Fair, so I want to
- 11 say thank you to all the deputy directors, Rob, and all the
- 12 staff that were supportive of that. And a special thank
- 13 you to Eunice Murimi in my office who helped coordinate.
- 14 That took place on March 30th.
- 15 On March 24th I participated in a webinar with
- 16 California Environmental Justice Alliance. And all of the
- 17 organizations that posted the community meetings for our SB
- 18 350 Report and it was -- Barrier Study. And it was an
- 19 opportunity to communicate with them how all of their
- 20 feedback contributed to the report and how it was used.
- 21 And how it came out and impacted our recommendations as
- 22 well as to share with them the implementation workshops
- 23 that will be happening in May.
- 24 The third thing is that I was also invited as a
- 25 guest speaker for the Department of Transportation Office

- 1 of Small and Disadvantaged Businesses. Just learned about
- 2 that organization, so I had an opportunity to share with
- 3 their business development program opportunities for
- 4 procurement here at the Energy Commission for small
- 5 businesses as well as our funding opportunities and our
- 6 various funding programs.
- 7 Lastly, I'd like to introduce John Reef.
- 8 (phonetic) He is a graduating senior at UC Davis,
- 9 graduating with honors, political science major, and he is
- 10 a Fellow in my office with the University of California
- 11 Center in Sacramento. And they specifically have Fellows
- 12 who are interested in supporting in assistant government,
- 13 so policy. So if anyone else is interested (indiscernible)
- 14 have another Fellow.
- That's it. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you.
- 17 Let's see if there's any public comment. We're
- 18 going to go into closed session and come back, but I would
- 19 just as soon give the public a chance to comment now.
- 20 (No audible response.)
- Okay. So the meeting is not adjourned, but the
- 22 Commissioners will now go into closed session with Legal
- 23 Counsel pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e) on the
- 24 following items set forth in the agenda: Item 20, The U.S.
- 25 Department of Energy's actions to delay effective dates and

failure to complete certain energy conservation standards and test procedures for appliances. We anticipate returning to open session in approximately a half hour. So that would mean about 3:10. (Adjourned into closed session at 2:37 p.m.) CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good afternoon, the Commission is back on the record. In closed session, the Commission authorized the Chief Counsel's Office to take appropriate legal action including initiating or joining litigation to address the U.S. Department of Energy's actions to delay effective dates and failures to complete certain energy conservation standards and test procedures for appliances. This meeting is adjourned. (Adjourned at 3:10 P.M.) 

## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and

place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of April, 2017.

Kent Odell
CER\*\*00548

## TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

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