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BUSINESS MEETING
BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
) 19-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

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2019

10:00 A.M.

Reported by:
Peter Petty

CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC
229 Napa Street, Rodeo, California 94572 (510) 224-4476

APPEARANCES

Commissioners

David Hochschild, Chair
Janea Scott, Vice Chair
Karen Douglas
Andrew McAllister
Patricia Monahan

Staff Present: (* Via WebEx)

Drew Bohan, Executive Director
Kourtney Vaccaro, Chief Counsel
Allan Ward, Assistant Chief Counsel
Jennifer Martin-Gallardo, Public Adviser
Cody Goldthrite, Secretariat

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Fellows (Summer Interns) Present:

Reem Rayef
Kiki Velez
Matt Miccioli
Maryan Asghari
Claire Sugiharn

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Others Present (* Via WebEx)

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Fan Dai, CalEPA	2
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	a. Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e), the Energy Commission may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to discuss any of the following matters to which the Energy Commission is a party:	
	i. <i>In the Matter of U.S. Department of Energy (High Level Waste Repository) (Atomic Safety Licensing Board, CAB-04, 63-001-HLW); State of California v. United States Department of Energy (9th Cir. Docket No. 09-71014)</i>	
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- iii. *State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission v. Electricore, Inc. and ZeroTruck* (Sacramento County Superior Court (34-2016-00204586))
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 - v. *City of Los Angeles, acting by and through, its Department of Water and Power v. Energy Commission* (Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BS171477).
 - vi. *Helping Hand Tools v. California Energy Commission, and Vantage Data Centers LLC.* (Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 34-2018-80003026).
 - vii. *In re: PG&E Corporation and In re: Pacific Gas and Electric Company* (United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. 19-30088)
 - viii. *Chukwuemeka (Emeka) Okemiri v. California Energy Commission, et al.* (Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 34-2018-00246019)
 - ix. *State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission v. HyGen Industries, Inc.* (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00252543)
- b. 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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MAY 15, 2019

10:04 a.m.

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's go ahead and begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon the Pledge is recited.)

CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Good morning, everyone. I hope everyone had a good weekend and I can't believe we're in July already.

A couple of things, first of all for those of you who haven't seen there's some electric buses out front. And after the Commission meeting I invite everyone to go take a look at those.

This is really a tribute to my colleague, Vice-Chair Scott, who helped and was instrumental in getting this project going. And if you think about the role obviously in transportation emissions being the largest source of pollution, but particularly with how we get our kids to school, this is really a health issue for children. So it's really exciting to finally be at this point, so thank you and congrats to you and all the rest of the folks who are involved in getting here.

And I see the folks in blue there representing Lion, so congratulations to all of you on your good work.

And along those lines let me also share with you a new video just released in cooperation with Veloz and

1 former Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, to raise awareness
2 about electric vehicles. I'll just say during the energy
3 crisis we had the Flex Your Power campaign to really get
4 the message out there about conserving energy during the
5 drought. We had the Save Our Water campaign.

6 And now transportation emissions are the largest
7 source of pollution in the state and we're really trying to
8 focus on that. And again Vice Chair Scott, along with Mary
9 Nichols was instrumental in starting this organization,
10 Veloz, about two years ago. I've been involved in and I
11 have to say it's a good lesson, I think, about sometimes
12 these things take longer than you'd like. But you get the
13 seed planted and I think some good things can come.

14 So this has just been launched and it's going out
15 -- actually in concert with it now 38 billboards are going
16 up on Sacramento, San Francisco, LA and Bakersfield.

17 But let's kick off the meeting with this video.
18 Go ahead.

19 (Whereupon the video is played.)

20 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Attention customers. I
21 want you to listen very carefully. On behalf of Big Oil, I
22 want to thank you all for choosing muscle cars that us
23 gasoline. Long live the American muscles!

24 NARRATOR: Recently, Arnold Schwarzenegger teamed
25 up with Veloz to promote the benefits of electric cars. To

1 show how they save time, money and the environment he went
2 undercover as a used car salesman.

3 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Hi, how are you? Howard
4 Kleiner. Hahaha.

5 NARRATOR: And tried to sell people gas cars
6 instead.

7 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Hello, looking for a car?
8 (Laughter.) Howard Kleiner.

9 CUSTOMER 1: Oh, Howard Kliener?

10 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Good to see you. Yeah,
11 what are you looking for?

12 CUSTOMER 1: We're looking for like electric.

13 CUSTOMER 2: Yup.

14 CUSTOMER 1: Fuel efficient, like quiet.

15 CUSTOMER 2: Quiet.

16 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: I have exactly what
17 you're looking for. (Motor revving) What do you think,
18 huh? How about this, huh?

19 CUSTOMER 3: Yeah, I'm looking for some kind of
20 electric hybrid mix.

21 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Don't bullshit me.

22 CUSTOMER 3: Ah, okay.

23 CUSTOMER 4: I'm just tired of spending money at
24 the pump.

25 CUSTOMER 5: Yeah.

1 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: The pump?

2 CUSTOMER 5: Yeah. Yeah.

3 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Oh, this is great. You
4 go to the gas station, you pump. Let me tell you
5 something, the pump is sometimes more satisfying than sex.

6 CUSTOMER 3: I'd like to use something that could
7 get me into the Carpool Lane actually.

8 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Oh, you mean the sticker.
9 This is your lucky day. Anyone that buys a car today gets
10 a free bumper sticker. I'll be back.
11 Here, "Carpool lanes are for sissies." "I
12 support the Oil Company monopoly." You can choose any of
13 those.

14 (Engine revving.)

15 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Can a battery powered car
16 do this?

17 CUSTOMER 1: No, no, no. I think this will piss
18 off my neighbors!

19 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: You're God**** right it
20 will impress your neighbors. Ha-ha-ha-ha. This is
21 testosterone.

22 CUSTOMER 1: No!

23 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Yes!

24 CUSTOMER 6: My friend, he's got an electric car
25 and he got a tax credit.

12

1 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: You want a tax credit or
2 do you want to have street credit? You know that the
3 planet is too crowded right now, right? Gasoline cars
4 create pollution and it curbs population. It brings it
5 down. That is the idea.

6 CUSTOMER 7: That's not the way to go about that.

7 CUSTOMER 8: It's so quiet in here. I love it.

8 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: But that's the problem,
9 you see? Because it's so quiet, that you hear literally
10 everything that your family says. Think about that for a
11 second.

12 (Aside to little girl in the car) You don't like
13 the car, huh?

14 LITTLE GIRL: I do like the car.

15 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Ah, I love the smell of
16 exhaust. Smell this. (Coughing.)

17 CUSTOMER 2: That's what we didn't want.

18 CUSTOMER 1: No!

19 CUSTOMER 3: You know, actually can I just get a
20 supervisor in here?

21 CUSTOMER 8: Could I please talk to a supervisor?

22 CUSTOMER 4: Can we get a supervisor in here?

23 CUSTOMER 5: Can we see the Manager?

24 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: All right. Let me get
25 the Manager, all right?

1 CUSTOMER 5: Okay.
2 I'm getting hungry and grouchy.
3 CUSTOMER 5: Yeah, me too.
4 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Hello. I'm Harry, the
5 sales manager.
6 You ask for me?
7 LITTLE BOY: That's the same guy.
8 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: How can I help you?
9 CUSTOMER 5: No.
10 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER: Electric cars save money,
11 time and the environment without sacrificing any of the fun
12 and excitement of driving. And with over 40 available
13 makes and models you have never had more reasons to go
14 electric.
15 Go to ElectricForAll.org and join us. Do it now!
16 Come with me if you want to lift. If it burns
17 gas, we got it! F**k this.
18 NARRATOR: To see more videos, learn about
19 electric cars, and find the one that's right for you, visit
20 ElectricForAll.org.
21 (Video playback ends.)
22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, thank you.
23 (Applause.)
24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: So before we move on to the
25 agenda I just wanted to give a chance for our Summer

1 Fellows to introduce themselves. Are they back here?
2 Yeah, could we have all the Summer Fellows just come up and
3 just briefly say your name and which Commissioner you're
4 working for and a little bit about yourself? We really are
5 excited to have you all here. Yeah, go up to the mic,
6 yeah.

7 MS. RAYEF: Thank you. Hi, I'm Reem Rayef. I'm
8 a graduate student at UC Berkeley and I'm working on my MPP
9 and Masters in Energy and Resources. And I'm interning
10 with Commissioner McAllister.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Fantastic, welcome.

12 MS. VELEZ: I'm Kiki Velez. I'm an undergrad
13 studying energy resource engineering at Stanford. And I'm
14 working in Chair Hochschild's office this summer.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great.

16 MR. MICCIOLI: Hi. I'm Matt Miccioli. I'm
17 working with Commissioner Douglas and I'm also at Stanford
18 and am a master student studying environmental engineering.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great.

20 MS. ASGHARI: Hi, I'm Maryan Asghari and I am
21 intern at Vice Chair Scott's office. And I'm a PhD student
22 at the University of California Irvine, in mechanical
23 engineering. And I work on fuel cell technologies.

24 MS. SUGIHARN: Hi, I'm Claire Sugiharn. I'm an
25 intern in Vice Chair Scott's office. And I am a master

1 student at UC Davis in energy systems.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Terrific. Let's give a round
3 of applause to our Summer Fellows.

4 Go ahead.

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So Natalie Queathem
6 didn't make it down here, but she is an undergraduate at UC
7 Berkley and has been in my office this summer as well. And
8 Friday is her last day, so I want to just thank her for all
9 here great work. She's got an amazing amount done in the
10 month or so she's been here, so great.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, with that let's
12 move on to the agenda. I'd like to see if we can get a
13 motion for everything on the Consent Calendar with the
14 exception of item j.

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So moved.

16 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

17 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye?

19 (Ayes.)

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay.

21 Then Commissioner McAllister is going to recuse
22 for item j.

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, I'm going to
24 recuse on item j. I actually am Chair of the Board of
25 NASEO at the moment, so obviously conflicted out of this

1 vote, I'm going to step out.

2 (Commissioner McAllister leaves the room.)

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there motion for item j?

4 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Move item j, 1-j.

5 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

7 (Ayes.)

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes

9 unanimously.

10 Let's move on to Item 2, our China trip. Is Fan
11 here? (Indiscernible) yeah, come on up.

12 So I wanted to just put this item on the agenda.
13 I really first want to pay tribute again to former Chair
14 Bob Weisenmiller who made it a point actually to go to
15 China every single year and really did some important path
16 breaking relationship building there.

17 And I was fortunate -- go ahead and take a seat,
18 Fan, if you like -- I was fortunate to be able to go to
19 China last month with Fan from CalEPA and Lauren Sanchez
20 from ARB.

21 We did five cities in ten days, so Chengdu,
22 Shenzhen, Shanghai, Nanjing, Beijing, looking at EV
23 infrastructures, looking at renewables, clean air policy.
24 It was an extraordinary trip. Fan worked us until dawn to
25 dusk. But I just wanted to say, first of all, thank you

17

1 Fan for all of the work you have done and will continue to
2 do.

3 I will say this relationship between California
4 and China, from a climate change perspective, I think is
5 the most important in the world. And there's an enormous,
6 enormous amount that we can do together. Just seeing BYD
7 come here and start a factory and now Tesla, we visited the
8 Tesla factory in China, all of the collaboration on clean
9 air and climate policy. I'm really glad, so I wanted to
10 give Fan an opportunity to share her perspective and then
11 open it up for some Commissioner discussion.

12 Go ahead, Fan.

13 MS. DAI: All right, good morning everyone and
14 thank you Chair Hochschild too, for having me here this
15 morning. I would like to take this opportunity to debrief
16 the Commissioners and everyone here about our recent trip
17 to China. So we were in China for about nine days and
18 visited five cities. This is actually the first state
19 official delegation since Governor Newsom took office. So
20 politically, the Chinese counterparts that we've met with,
21 they took this very seriously.

22 And I personally feel very proud of this
23 delegation led by Chair Hochschild and we have achieved so
24 many things in China. But briefly let me just -- as the
25 Chair has mentioned already I might repeat some of those

1 things that we did in China -- and also share some of my
2 opinions of the next steps and how I see the opportunities
3 continuing our relationship and collaboration with China.

4 So in the nine days we first went to Chengdu
5 where Chair Hochschild spoke at the Keynote at the Sichuan
6 Energy Network Summit. So at the Summit it was actually a
7 very good event that was co-organized by CalCEF, California
8 Clean Energy Fund, and the Sichuan Provincial Government.
9 The event was attended by more than 800 people.

10 Chair Hochschild was there, delivered the
11 Keynote, spoke about the California and Sichuan
12 collaboration on clean energy, especially the grid
13 modernization and integration of clean energy into their
14 grid.

15 Of course we then visited NIO, which some of the
16 people have commented NIO is the Chinese version of Tesla.
17 We visited one of the charging stations and battery
18 swapping stations in Chengdu provided by NIO.

19 And then our next stop was in Shenzhen. The city
20 of Shenzhen is in, for those of you who have not been to
21 China it's a coastal city in the southern part of China,
22 part of the Guangdong Province, very close to Hong Kong.
23 So in Shenzhen we met with the former mayor and the
24 Shenzhen municipal government, where we were able to learn
25 that Shenzhen tremendously, they have met their 100 percent

1 EV buses goal and taxis (phonetic) last year. And they're
2 up to DiDi, which is the Chinese version of Uber, they are
3 regulating for all the new cars under the DiDi program have
4 to be EVs, which is a tremendous effort in China. And so
5 we were able to learn that update in Shenzhen.

6 We also, as the Chair mentioned, we visited the
7 headquarters of BYD there. We had a meeting with Chairman
8 Wong of BYD and shared our portfolio on clean energy. And
9 BYD has a headquarters in China company, but also has their
10 subsidiary in California to help with some solutions to
11 electrifying our ports and buses and vehicles.

12 And then after Shenzhen we went Shanghai.
13 Similarly, we met with the municipal leadership of Shanghai
14 and the highlight of Shanghai really I want to mention, I
15 think, Lauren Sanchez my coworker who is not here today,
16 but Shanghai Port was very impressive. They shared their
17 story with us that they are requiring 100 percent onshore
18 power by 2022, which is the first one that we learned in
19 China. And even when we talked with our colleagues at
20 USEPA they were very impressed by how Shanghai could pull
21 those off.

22 So the highlight in Shanghai was really the Port
23 story and also we visited the Tesla factory in Shanghai.
24 Very impressive speed, I think it's really China's speed is
25 not something we would imagine here. The factory of Tesla,

20

1 according to them will be soon starting to produce cars in
2 China, which is very exciting.

3 We also had a meeting with the municipal
4 government in Shanghai where they shared very interesting
5 their vision of switching to high-quality development
6 instead of high-speed development in China, which is quite
7 interesting to hear from their perspective in how Shanghai
8 has been addressing their environmental problems alongside
9 their economic development. Very recently, Shanghai has
10 adopted pretty strict recycling policy, which is the first
11 in China as well.

12 After Shanghai we went to the city of Nanjing,
13 which is in the province of Jiangsu. Jiangsu is one of
14 California's sister provinces. And because we were there
15 on a Sunday we didn't do many business meetings. We had
16 one meeting with the Jiangsu Provincial Environmental
17 Protection Bureau. And we talked about -- so we were
18 invited to attend their clean energy summit in November
19 this year in Nanjing, which we are hoping to bring some
20 California companies and partners to.

21 And after Nanjing, our last stop was in Beijing.
22 We spent two days there. Most of the meetings in Beijing
23 were with the national governmental agencies in China: our
24 "DOE," which is their Minister of Science and Technology;
25 our "USEPA" to their Chinese Ministry of Ecology and

1 Environment.

2 California does have a very long-standing
3 collaboration with the Chinese both on a national level and
4 a sub-national level. So it was good that we were there to
5 maintain this exchange at a very high level with our
6 Chinese counterparts.

7 But also we were able to learn some new policy.
8 New policies will be adopted in China on their vehicle
9 emissions, their zero emission vehicles administrative
10 (phonetic) and other standards that they're considering
11 adopting similar to what California already established, so
12 the most of the policy conversations in Beijing were very
13 high level.

14 We did have meetings with other counterparts and
15 including ChingHui (phonetic) University and some others in
16 Beijing to continue the conversation.

17 I personally would summarize the stop in Beijing
18 as more symbolic and politically significant. It's very
19 important to ensure some policy consistency. And
20 California as a state will continue some of our high-level
21 engagement with China on a policy level, but also we are
22 mindful of the reason as to escalated trade and tariffs
23 between the US and China on a national level.

24 So that's kind of an overview of what we did in
25 China.

1 I would also like to take this opportunity to
2 share a few of my thoughts on what California has done with
3 China, what has worked. And in the future, as we see the
4 opportunities to continue such engagement and how do we
5 effectively use the resources and bring back opportunities
6 to California, especially the business community and the
7 public.

8 So, I think the most important thing, and really
9 I have -- honestly I think the only thing that will make
10 this relationship continue and be sustainable is to make
11 sure that it's a two-way relationship, rather than a one-
12 way exchange. And we have and can see some concrete
13 outcomes from what we were doing in China and collaborating
14 with the Chinese partners.

15 And to really ensure that outcomes, I think
16 institutionalizing our effort with China is very critical.
17 So as one of my suggestions to David, and also to other
18 Commissioners, is really we should engage our partners
19 within the government, but also outside the government to
20 ensure the business and civil society are informed of this
21 process, like we are doing today. And we bring the
22 priorities that they care most about and what we were able
23 to do in the past to kind of broach that with our Chinese
24 partners.

25 And then speaking about the concrete outcomes and

1 priorities, I have several recommendations for the China
2 work at the Energy Commission, especially I see the areas
3 that bear the most outcomes with China and can bring back
4 opportunities to California.

5 The first is the gap in China that we saw in
6 terms of renewable energy development and adoption. The
7 grid in China is still very heavily dependent on coal. It
8 was around 80 percent and now it's a little better, around
9 70 percent variance in the provinces. So there is really a
10 very high need to modernize their grid and to integrate
11 more renewable resources into their grid operation.

12 So I do see that as a pretty good direction and
13 potential for California to continue to build what we have
14 been doing in terms of policy exchange. But also I think
15 we should think beyond just policy, and should include more
16 business partners and other partners into the conversation
17 and see how we could help advance some of the opportunities
18 to our companies and operators here.

19 And a second area that I would like to mention is
20 the EV infrastructure. As Shenzhen was able to do in the
21 past, which is rapidly electrifying their transportation
22 sector, they started with public transportation.
23 Thereafter, are private cars right now, but we do see that
24 transition in Shenzhen, at least it was quite successful.
25 So in terms of EV infrastructure and EV cars adoptions

1 there would be some lessons that California as a state
2 could learn from China as well. So I do encourage that.

3 We seek opportunities to have more exchange with
4 places in China like Shenzhen and Shanghai. They are the
5 pioneering cities in China adopting EV policies and work
6 with them more in depth and learn some experience and
7 policies from them as well.

8 The third area that I would like to mention is
9 about energy efficiency. I know in the Energy Commission
10 we were able to, in the past couple of years we had an MOU
11 with the China Ministry of Housing, where we were able to
12 share our Title 24 Standard with them. But there is still
13 a gap in terms of the adopting the standard in China and
14 implementing that into their actual projects, so in the
15 future I think it will be very important to seek some
16 business opportunities.

17 And also having the Chinese really understand not
18 just what our policies are, but how and why we implement
19 such building standards in California, and how we were able
20 to achieve that in California and having that part of the
21 experience translated successfully into China. And to urge
22 China to implement that in their practices, because the
23 building sector singly does take up about 40 percent of
24 their greenhouse gas emissions. So that's kind of
25 something very important from an emission reduction

1 perspective too.

2 Lastly, in the near term I think we do have some
3 (indiscernible) with China that includes some provincial
4 delegations who will be visiting California. I do
5 encourage we take those as opportunities to deepen our
6 relationship with them. But also as I mentioned a couple
7 of times already to engage from a broader scope and also
8 try to learn something from our Chinese partners.

9 So with that I think that's concludes my report
10 out today for our China trip. Thank you again.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, thanks again, Fan.

12 And I'll just say the learning goes both ways. I
13 mean going to a city like Shenzhen, 20 million people, you
14 can't find a bus that's not electric. You can't find a
15 taxi that's not electric. You know Shanghai you can't find
16 a motorcycle that's not electric and riding between the
17 cities on high-speed rail, it's inspiring.

18 And I think they're very interested in what we're
19 doing on R&D and on efficiency codes and renewables. And I
20 really feel it goes both ways. So I would just express a
21 hope for my colleagues here that we as a group make a
22 commitment that one of us goes to China every year. If we
23 can do even more, that's even better. And I know
24 Commissioner Monahan, you're interested to go and
25 Commissioner McAllister, I'm really hoping Vice Chair Scott

1 and Commissioner Douglas as the opportunity come up too.

2 So Fan is going to be leaving state service this
3 month. Starting -- well, no it's actually a good thing.
4 She's going to -- she's actually going to be starting an
5 institute, it's already underway, at UC Berkeley where they
6 raise foundation funding just to foster this California-
7 China climate dialogue and is really going to be able to
8 focus even more deeply on it.

9 And we intend to continue to partner closely with
10 you. And that also goes for delegations coming here, so
11 I'll be hosting a dinner for the Chairman of BYD who's
12 coming in September and I just want to encourage everyone
13 to work with Fan.

14 But any other comments or ideas of thoughts on
15 China?

16 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I've talked with Fan
17 about this. I think that we do have this great opportunity
18 on clean transportation with China's leadership and our
19 leadership. Vice Chair Scott was in China this year for
20 EV100. And this collaboration that we have fostered on the
21 Zero Emission Vehicle Policy that started here in
22 California and then migrated to China with help from our
23 sister agencies and UC Davis, I think that we can deepen
24 that.

25 And I agree with the EV infrastructure. I think

27

1 on hydrogen there's a big opportunity, but China is right
2 now the biggest investor by far in hydrogen. And they're
3 technically invested, which gives you a sense of scale.
4 They have such scale. So figuring out how we can partner
5 to ensure that this transition to clean transportation is a
6 global one. And using their market scale to help drive
7 down prices for us is just a great relationship I think on
8 both sides.

9 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Yeah I would just add it was a
10 fantastic opportunity to get to participate in the EV100
11 and see all the different types of vehicles. I got to see
12 and ride in the NIO, which was really awesome. And it is
13 great to have I think that kind of global competition out
14 there, which just helps all of us get into these zero
15 emission vehicles that much faster.

16 Unfortunately, I didn't get to go to Shenzhen,
17 which I really wanted to see. Not just to the amazing
18 spectacle of 16,000, I think it is, buses and some 40,000
19 trucks that are all electric, but to really understand how
20 they're charging them up, right? That is charging at
21 scale. And we're right now, even though California is
22 doing a great job and we're leading and we're doing what we
23 can, I feel like we're kind of in the onesie twosies, or
24 maybe tens and twelves versus hundreds or thousands, which
25 is where we're going to need to be if we're going to make

1 this transition of 90 percent of these vehicles by 2040. I
2 mean it's like 20 years from now, so I'd love to see what
3 the infrastructure looks like and how they're managing
4 that.

5 So it's great. It's very exciting.

6 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So I was just going to add
7 on another topic that China is also one of the leaders in
8 floating offshore wind technology as you see that
9 technology begin to be deployed across Asia. So there are
10 a number of Pacific Rim economies: Japan, South Korea and
11 others that have set up targets and have done some
12 demonstration work. But I think we're going to see China
13 expanding in a big way in this area too and there's a lot
14 we have to learn from that as well.

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I guess just
16 reiterating some of the building stuff. I mean they have a
17 system that allows them to get scale much more quickly than
18 us, right? They don't have to depend on the market fully,
19 but they support the market so that it can there at
20 reasonable cost.

21 So Title 24, I think is a huge lever we can use
22 to get over there and help influence decision making, which
23 is not to say we want to just transfer Title 24 over there.
24 But building this grid integration challenge as they wean
25 themselves off coal and move to renewables, the buildings

1 can play a fundamental role in being a resource and helping
2 accommodate renewables.

3 And we are facing a very similar challenge as we
4 get ever deeper into renewable penetration. And so I think
5 there's a huge opportunity for technology development,
6 getting costs down and just really holding hands on getting
7 global scale, real scale, as they seek to build new cities.
8 They're building new cities to an advanced energy code.
9 And we can really I think put a lot of synergy there. So
10 it's great.

11 And my son's is actually 16. He's heading over
12 there next week for a robotics competition. He'll be in
13 Shanghai for two weeks, so I'm going to have him check out
14 the ports, I guess. Maybe he can take some photos for me.
15 I don't know, but anyways a beautiful job. I'm really
16 looking forward to scaling up that collaboration.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: The last thing I'll say, so I
18 briefed the Lieutenant Governor on our trip. Governor
19 Newsome has asked her to be the lead on international
20 relations. She is really excited to continue to engage
21 with China, and herself was there for the One Belt, One
22 Road Meeting in May.

23 So thank you, Fan, for that.

24 MS. DAI: Thank you.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, let's move on to

1 Item 3, a discussion on SB 100, Courtney and Ken.

2 MR. RIDER: All right, good morning Chair and
3 Commissioners. I'm Ken Rider, Chief of Staff to David
4 Hochschild. And I am joined -- well I'll be joined later
5 on this item by Courtney Smith, our Chief Deputy Director
6 to provide you an update on SB 100, also known as the 100
7 Percent Clean Energy Act.

8 SB 100 was signed into law on September 10th of
9 last year. It sets California on the path to a carbon-free
10 electricity grid by the end of 2045. Achieving this target
11 will not only decarbonize the electric sector, but it will
12 also create the clean energy backbone that's necessary to
13 decarbonize other sectors as well.

14 The imperative of achieving a clean energy grid
15 is not only recognized in California, and we have a graphic
16 up here, but also many other states have that goal as well.
17 The state of Hawaii -- as you can see on the map the dark
18 green include the states of Hawaii, Washington, Nevada and
19 New Mexico, along with the federal territories of
20 Washington DC and Puerto Rico. And all of those
21 territories and states also have a 100 percent clean energy
22 goal.

23 In addition, 13 other states are considering or
24 evaluating 100 percent clean energy for their jurisdiction.
25 And that's what the light blue and shaded green and yellow

1 represent, are states that either have that goal in their
2 Legislature or their governor has announced that goal or
3 some form of consideration for a 100 percent clean energy.
4 Therefore California leadership will play a key role, as
5 this policy is considered in other states nationally and
6 internationally.

7 SB 100 puts California on a path towards 100
8 percent clean energy with two key components. The first is
9 an expansion and acceleration of the Renewable Portfolio
10 Standard. The 50 percent renewable energy compliance date
11 is accelerated from 2030 to 2026. And the new goal of 60
12 percent renewable energy is added for the year 2030.

13 Secondly, the bill requires that the California
14 Public Utilities Commission, Energy Commission and Air
15 Resources Board publish a joint report by January 1, 2021,
16 that examines the possible approaches to 100 clean energy
17 targets. This report must be updated at least every four
18 years thereafter.

19 The report, by statute must evaluate the positive
20 or negative impacts of various pathways to 100 percent
21 clean energy. And the impacts they may have on key
22 electric system characteristics such affordability,
23 reliability and safety. The report will describe the
24 current state of technology and transmission and the
25 benefits and barriers to transitioning to a clean grid.

1 I will now turn it over to my colleague,
2 Courtney, to provide an update about the joint agency plans
3 to create this important report.

4 MS. SMITH: Good morning Chair, Vice Chair,
5 Commissioners. As Ken mentioned the report is broad in
6 scope and quite a large undertaking. In short, the report
7 and the process that we used to develop the report will
8 really help serve California as the mechanism through which
9 we chart the path toward 100 percent clean energy future.

10 In terms of roles, the California Energy
11 Commission is the lead agency on the report. And Energy
12 Commission staff are working closely with staff at the CPUC
13 as well as the Air Resources Board on developing the report
14 schedule, scope and process.

15 In terms of progress made to date, a public
16 kickoff meeting has been tentatively scheduled for
17 September 5th. In addition to planning for this workshop,
18 staff are in the process of developing a work plan as well
19 as a workshop schedule to guide the next year and a half.
20 While staff work to finalize the game plan for the next
21 year and a half, several important issues are being
22 considered, including how we can meaningfully empower
23 diverse communities to contribute to and influence the
24 conversation as well as how we can appropriately set a
25 foundation with this report in order to grow the

1 quantitative analysis that will likely be needed as part of
2 this planning effort, long term.

3 In order to help keep you all updated on SB 100
4 progress, this informational item will now become a
5 standing item for future business meetings. This will also
6 provide an ongoing opportunity for Commissioners to discuss
7 among yourselves, as well as with the public, some of the
8 many issues and considerations that will have to be thought
9 through as we move through this effort.

10 So at this point I'd like to invite Commissioners
11 to engage in discussion and of course I'm always happy to
12 answer any questions you may have.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you Courtney. And let
14 me just say this goal now is really our lodestar for
15 climate policy and it touches everybody. We need R&D to
16 succeed in order to get there. We need planning and siting
17 and offshore wind and efficiency and demand response and
18 all the robust analysis and clean transportation and all
19 the rest of that. And so that is one of the goals we're
20 going to try to have this as a standing item, as we did for
21 SB 350, so we can all be engaged in this.

22 I really want to thank Courtney in particular and
23 the rest of the team, Siva, and all the staff at CEC who
24 have been working. That kickoff meeting we had was very,
25 very collaborative with the other agencies, which is what

1 we need. And this is not at a time for silos. This is
2 really a time for a healthy exchange. And we have that
3 culture set up for the other agencies. I'm really happy to
4 see that.

5 But I just wanted to open it up for -- I guess
6 the other thing I'd ask, so Commissioner McAllister is
7 going to be (indiscernible) on the analysis part of this,
8 which is really, really important, because as we discussed
9 many other states are looking at what we're doing. We're
10 by far the largest state in terms of our economy that's
11 implemented this policy. So how it goes here, this is very
12 similar to what happened with other landmark policies,
13 including RPS and net metering and so on. It really
14 affects what happens in the rest of the country.

15 But maybe you can start Commissioner McAllister?

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. Yeah, for sure.
17 So thanks, Chair Hochschild. And thank you, Courtney for
18 all your leadership, and Ken for sure as well.

19 The legislation calls out the other two agencies,
20 the ARB and PUC. I think we also, given this sort of
21 renewables integration challenge at all scales, to get
22 there 100 percent. You know opposite of ISO is also a key
23 player in this in the transmission planning. They do
24 dispatch, so really a lot of the actual implementation, de
25 facto, is kind of up to them. And then the analysis really

1 kind of has to scratch their itches as well.

2 So I think the analytical piece of this -- so
3 there's certainly a leadership piece, absolutely and I
4 totally agree with everything that you and the Chair have
5 said on this. That people are looking at us and our
6 purpose has to be to kind of demystify a little bit and
7 show the world this can be done. The sky's not going to
8 fall. It's doing it. It's how we do it. It's not whether
9 we do it.

10 And the flip side of that sort of branding is
11 that we have to show how we're going to do it. That it's
12 incrementally step-wise possible to do it and the
13 reliability issue is job one alongside it. And so I think
14 Siva and the Energy Assessment Division and the Forecasting
15 Team and all of our analytical folks on that side, are
16 really key to sort of just showing that this is being done
17 in a highly professional and analytically competent way.

18 And by the way, it helps us develop the tools
19 that we need to continue forward with granular and temporal
20 understanding of the application of the grid. So I think
21 that there's just a whole lot of upside to this. And our
22 leadership position sort of puts in -- puts a little bit of
23 pressure on us to sort of get it done sooner rather than
24 later. And that's a good thing. So I think we're
25 completely up to the task.

1 And then once we sort of lay out the plan, then
2 implementation as David said, it involves everyone, right?
3 So transportation is a huge resource. And R&D is going to
4 solve some of these issues. And renewables obviously is
5 core to it and that this is sort of an RPS on steroids, in
6 a way. So really I think this is a great opportunity to
7 collaborate across offices and this standing item will help
8 us do that.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, any other comments.

10 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: No, not anything in detail.
11 Just I am really glad that we've added this to our agenda.
12 Just like SB 350 it's a really welcome opportunity to get
13 to talk with you all and hear from you all about what
14 you're thinking. And of course this is so cross-cutting,
15 so it's nice to get these updates in this way and have this
16 time to be able to talk with one another.

17 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: You know, just as -- I
18 think my comment here -- I think this is great. I'm really
19 happy to have this on the agenda and to have a chance to
20 talk about it. I think it's being laid out in a really
21 good way.

22 I think one area that I'm interested in is
23 finding ways to tease out the relationship between what's
24 possible on the ground in terms of land and water and
25 technology and what that implies for different parts of our

1 analysis. And so we've talked at a high level about maybe
2 there's a high solar pathway with a lot of storage and what
3 might that look like and where might that go. And in terms
4 of tradeoffs how does that look compared to a pathway that
5 has offshore wind in it as well, or that brings in more
6 geothermal. And I'm very much in the mode of wanting to
7 see these different options that we have in front of us
8 considered, and on the table especially as we move towards
9 these very high goals.

10 I also know that there are big challenges with
11 all of them and they're challenges that can be overcome
12 with time and concerted effort. But through our analysis
13 if we believe that a certain amount of offshore wind or a
14 certain amount of solar or a certain amount of onshore wind or a
15 certain amount of geothermal is really helpful we can take
16 the staff on the land use and planning side of saying well
17 where might that go? And what's the potential and what are
18 the potential obstacles and can we do it? Where is the
19 resource? Is there existing transmission? Do we need to
20 think about transmission? How do we make best use of our
21 system? And we might, by iterating back and forth, come
22 back and say maybe a little less, maybe a little more.
23 Maybe if we do storage here or transmission there, we don't
24 have to do this other thing?

25 And just kind of understanding the pathways and

1 having that relate into and feed into some of the analysis.
2 I think it could be very helpful.

3

4 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: So I too am glad to see
5 that this is a standing item. I mean it's so critically
6 important as we make our investments today to always be
7 thinking about how do we get to a deep decarbonization in
8 future.

9 And I think, especially as we're thinking about
10 building electrification and transportation
11 electrification, how do we -- and we're going to be
12 potentially increasing load at certain times of the day.
13 But how important will vehicle grid integration, buildings
14 grid integration be to being able to achieve our long-term
15 targets? And how much should we be investing today to try
16 to get to that outcome?

17 I think this process sets up well for thinking
18 through, you know making sure that we are making the most
19 strategic investments to get us to the future that we need
20 for the sake of California and the globe.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. Well, one thing I'd
22 add. One thing Vice Chair Scott and I are working on as an
23 agenda for a multiagency En Banc we're planning for this
24 fall with us, PUC and the ISO. So we're actually going to
25 get all 15 Commissioners in the same room together and this

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1 will be one of the topics we talk to.

2 Anything else, Courtney? Okay. Well thank you
3 for that.

4 And let's move on to Item 4, the Walsh Data
5 Center.

6 MR. KERR: Good morning Chair, Commissioners. My
7 name is Steve Kerr. I supervise the CEQA Review Unit in
8 the Environmental Office of STEP. I'm here in place of
9 Project Manager Leonidas Payne, who is out of the office.
10 With me is Staff Attorney Jared Babula.

11 We're here to present a proposed order appointing
12 the Committee to oversee a small power plant exemption or
13 SPPE proceeding for the Walsh Data Center. The SPPE option
14 is only available for thermal power plants between 50 and
15 100 megawatts. And pursuant to Public Resources Code
16 Section 25541 the exemption can only be granted if no
17 substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy
18 resources will result from the construction or operation of
19 the proposed facility.

20 The Applicant, 651 Walsh Partners, LLC, filed its
21 application on June 28th, 2019 seeking an exemption from
22 the Commission's power plant certification process. The
23 Walsh Data Center consists of a building housing data
24 servers, up to 80 megawatts of associated diesel-fired
25 backup generators and associated equipment and connections

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1 proposed for construction in Santa Clara, California.

2 Staff's job will be to conduct a CEQA review of
3 the exemption application and to produce an initial study.

4 In addition to the Walsh Data Center, staff is
5 currently working on the Laurelwood Data Center project,
6 which the Commission appointed a committee to on April 10,
7 2019. Staff anticipates four additional SPPE applications
8 for data centers in the Santa Clara and San Jose area this
9 year.

10 Thank you. We'd be happy to answer any questions
11 you may have.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Any questions at all? All
13 right, go ahead. Yeah, Applicant go ahead.

14 MR. GALATI: Good morning, Scott Galati
15 representing 651 Walsh Partners. The primary managing
16 partner of that is Digital Realty, a global data center
17 developer. I apologize that Mr. Joe Hubbard, who is the
18 Vice President of the Western Region, couldn't be here
19 today. He got a travel conflict. I do have our consultant
20 on the phone as well.

21 Thank you very much for considering this item and
22 appointing the committee. It's an important -- one thing to
23 understand about data centers and most importantly the
24 backup generating facility that supports them -- data
25 centers in our world today are critical infrastructure.

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1 There's not anything you have in your wallet or on your
2 phone or anything you purchase electronically that is not
3 also stored in a data center some place by some company.

4 So we appreciate that the Commission has looked
5 at these as a priority. We have tried to design the Walsh
6 Data Center and its backup generating facility in a way we
7 feel very comfortably that is fully mitigated, as we
8 submitted it to you. And we're hopeful, we look forward to
9 getting through the process quickly and thank staff for
10 working on the project right now.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Well, thank you all.
12 We had discussed Commissioner Douglas as Presiding Member
13 and Commissioner Monahan as Associate for this. Are there
14 any public comments on this?

15 If not, do you want to make a motion?

16 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Move approval of that
17 committee.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor? Or is there a
19 second? Sorry.

20 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second, Vice Chair Scott. All
22 in favor?

23 (Ayes.)

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
25 unanimously. Thank you.

1 MR. GALATI: Thank you very much.

2 HOCHSCHILD: Let's move on to Item 5, the
3 Renewable Energy in Agriculture Program.

4 MR. DODSON: Good Morning Chair, Vice Chair, and
5 Commissioners. My name is Geoffrey Dodson and I'm
6 representing the Renewable Energy Division. And I work in
7 our Incentive Office where we administer incentive grant
8 programs promoting renewable energy projects, including the
9 Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program, known by the
10 acronym REAP.

11 REAP is a grant program with \$10 million in
12 funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, and it was
13 originally created by Assembly Bill 109 of 2017. It is
14 part of California Climate Investments and is intended to
15 support the installation and adoption of renewable energy
16 technology in the agricultural sector.

17 We are here to ask for your support to approve
18 two proposed grant agreements resulting from our program's
19 first Grant Funding Opportunity, released earlier this year
20 in January of 2019.

21 The two proposed grant agreements that we present
22 to you today are a continuation of the 41 grant agreements
23 that were presented and approved at the last Business
24 Meeting on June 12th. The grant agreements for those
25 approved last month are currently moving into the execution

1 stage and will begin the implementation of each project
2 proposal. The proposed grant agreements presented before
3 you today represent two of the remaining four proposed
4 awardees that have yet to be approved by the Commission.
5 Once all proposed grant agreements are approved, project
6 development will be underway for all 45 of our proposed
7 awardees, collectively representing all \$9.5 million in
8 REAP award funding.

9 There are a couple project characteristics
10 specific to these two grant agreements I would like to
11 highlight for you.

12 Costamagna Farms represents the largest solar PV
13 project in both system capacity size, at over 1 MW D, and
14 in total project investment, at over \$1.8 million when you
15 include both the grants and match funding.

16 The proposed agreement for Lemoore Union High
17 School District will install a 413 kilowatt solar PV system
18 to power an onsite agricultural operation used for
19 educational purposes. This project will provide a direct
20 benefit to residents of a disadvantaged community by
21 integrating the agricultural operation with the education
22 of students that reside in a low-income community.

23 Mark Howard, representing Lemoore Union High
24 School District, is unable to attend today's meeting
25 however he did provide this supporting comment we would

1 like to share.

2 And I quote: "Our District is very thankful for
3 this grant opportunity and we look forward to many more in
4 the future. We have a strong agriculture program at
5 Lemoore High School and without grant programs like these
6 it is very difficult for public agencies to install solar
7 systems due to the cost of prevailing wage. The staff at
8 the Energy Commission have been great to work with so far
9 and we look forward to making this a successful project."

10 Staff recommends approval of the two grant
11 agreement packages on today's agenda, affording the
12 opportunity to proceed with agreement execution and project
13 implementation consistent with our program solicitation
14 requirements.

15 Thank you for your time and consideration. And I
16 am available for your questions.

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let me just say first of all,
18 thank you, Geoff to you and the rest of the team. I'm
19 really pleased with how quickly this program got the money
20 out the door. And also the one feature we added in the
21 design when I was working on this before Commissioner
22 Douglas took over, we included EV chargers included. The
23 grant size is larger. And I think something like half the
24 projects now include EV chargers, something in that
25 neighborhood. I'm really pleased with that progress.

1 But Commissioner Douglas did you want to chime in
2 on this?

3 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: No, just to say that I'm
4 really pleased with the way this program has developed and
5 been implemented. This program was really developed new.
6 And we haven't run it before. And the outreach to farmers
7 has been fantastic under the circumstances. I mean, given
8 that any time that you do outreach for a new project to a
9 new community, you learn a lot along the way and the
10 staff's really stepped up and done a great job on this. So
11 I'm really pleased with the work.

12 I'll make a motion.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's first see if there's any
14 public comment on Item 5, any person in the room? Okay, do
15 you want to make a motion?

16 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Can I just echo your comments
17 on this?

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yes.

19 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I think I am also really
20 impressed with the outreach that our team has done in this
21 space. I think if you are an energy person, you know quite
22 well what the Energy Commission does. Otherwise sadly you
23 probably don't. And so I think reaching out to a set of
24 folks in the agricultural community who are likely not used
25 to dealing with the Energy Commission, our grants, knowing

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1 what they are, how to participate, and why to participate
2 and just the level of outreach we did in this space with a
3 community that we don't normally or not normally, but don't
4 usually work with I think is really fantastic.

5 And I think the response that you got back shows
6 there's a ton of need in this space and that people are
7 excited to jump on it. So I just wanted to kind of add
8 those thoughts. I think it's great.

9 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yeah, I mean that is a
10 really good point. There is a lot of demand in this space.
11 And this program was significantly oversubscribed even in
12 our first go round. And when we talk about outreach, it's
13 not just to the organizations that represent farmers.
14 They're pretty easy to call. We know who they are. But
15 this program is for farmers. This program is for people
16 who are actually out there farming and so it's kind of like
17 doing outreach to the fishing community, which we've done
18 in the offshore wind area. If they're on their boats, you
19 can't call them. You've got to find time when it's not in
20 season. And so we did the same thing here. During harvest
21 season you'd better not have a workshop. It's things like
22 that you have to learn.

23 And so anyway, I'm very pleased with this
24 program. I'm glad to see this on the agenda and I move
25 approval of Item 5.

1 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I just want to say that
2 if you look at the numbers of how much the grants actually
3 are, and then you look at the size of the systems that it's
4 funding, it's actually quite a bit of leverage. I mean
5 they're grants, but they're not paying for the whole
6 system. They're paying for a little chunk of the system.
7 And so that's actually a good -- clearly there's a lot of
8 match funding and there's a lot of project development
9 that's going on that can leverage these funds. But we're
10 not footing the whole bill, so that's a good thing.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, thank you.

12 Is there a second?

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second by Commissioner
15 McAllister. All in favor say aye.

16 (Ayes.)

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
18 unanimously. And let me just finally say I'm on a mini-
19 campaign to get better acronyms. REAP, you guys hit a home
20 run with that, so well done.

21 Let's move on to Item 6, City of Trinidad.

22 MR. PENA: I'll make this quick. Good morning,
23 Chair and Commissioners. My name is Nelson Peña and I'm
24 with the Local Assistance and Financing Office of the
25 Energy Efficiency Division.

1 Today, I'm here to request approval for
2 approximately \$49,000 through the Energy Conservation Act
3 loan at 1 person, also known as a ECAA loan, to the City of
4 Trinidad.

5 The City of Trinidad will use this loan to
6 implement a new 14-kilowatt rooftop photovoltaic system
7 installed at its city Town Hall.

8 Upon completion, the project will reduce about 19
9 megawatts per hour of grid electricity consumption annually
10 and it's estimated to save \$4,400 in utility costs,
11 annually.

12 Based on the loan amount and the utility cost
13 saving, the simple payback is approximately 11.3 years.

14 The loan request is in compliance with the terms
15 and conditions of the ECAA Loan Program and is
16 categorically exempt from the CEQA Guidelines.

17 We recommend your approval of the loan and I am
18 happy to answer questions you may have.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, any public comments on
20 the item?

21 (No audible response.)

22 Commissioner McAllister?

23 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yes, it's great to see
24 that part of the state getting participation in ECAA. It's
25 really a -- Trinidad is a little town that we don't

1 actually see a lot of in our various programs. And so it's
2 really nice to be looking north and helping them, albeit a
3 very small PV system, but every bit counts.

4 MR. PENA: It's a small town.

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: It's a small town,
6 exactly. But I don't have any further comments, so I'll
7 move this item.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

9 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second by Vice Chair Scott.

11 All in favor say aye.

12 (Ayes.)

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: The motion passes unanimously.

14 Let's move on to Item 7, a proposed adoption of
15 the Low Carbon Fuel Production Program.

16 MS. ZHANG: Good morning, Chair and
17 Commissioners. My name is Taiying Zhang. I'm from the
18 Fuels and Transportation Division. Today staff is seeking
19 adoption of the Low Carbon Fuel Production Program
20 Guidelines, as well as a determination that this action is
21 CEQA exempt.

22 The Low Carbon Fuel Production Program was
23 established under the Budget Act of 2018, as amended by
24 Senate Bill 856. The program will provide up to \$12.5
25 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to support

1 low carbon fuel production projects in the transportation
2 sector.

3 This program is being funded as we also call the
4 California Climate Investments, which is administered by
5 the Air Resources Board. The Climate Investments is a
6 statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade
7 dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions,
8 strengthen the economy and improve public health and the
9 environment, particularly in the disadvantaged communities,
10 low-income communities and households.

11 This program will support a new or expanded
12 renewable ultra-low-carbon transportation fuel production
13 using sustainable and underutilized feedstocks in
14 California.

15 The program objectives include providing the
16 major benefit of GHG emission reduction and the co-benefit
17 is also the consideration of priority populations as
18 defined by SB 535 and AB 1550.

19 For those not familiar with these bills this is a
20 little bit of background information. SB 535 requires the
21 California EPA to identify disadvantaged communities and
22 requires ARB to provide the guidance, maximizing the
23 benefits to these communities. AB 1550 sets investment
24 minimums for GGRF projects. You will see those minimums in
25 the later slides.

1 So as the administering agency, the Energy
2 Commission is responsible for designing the program
3 implementation structure and developing guidelines for
4 potential applicants. On February 21, 2019, staff released
5 the first draft guidelines for the Low Carbon Fuel
6 Production Program. The resources include the Energy
7 Commission's existing funding under the Clean
8 Transportation Program. Following, we have a staff
9 workshop to discuss the draft guidelines on March 5th of
10 this year. Also, as all of the (indecipherable) funding
11 program we refer to CARB's funding guidelines for agencies
12 that administer California Climate Investments.

13 These guidelines include the program structure,
14 eligibility, solicitation and scoring. I will provide some
15 detail on each section.

16 This program is open to all public and private
17 entities, which have a business presence in California.
18 The proposed project must result in new fuel production
19 capacity. The carbon intensity of ultra-low carbon fuel
20 must be 30 grams of CO2 equivalent per e/MJ or less.

21 All the eligible low-carbon fuel production
22 plants and the existing biorefineries must be in California
23 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by producing ultra-low
24 carbon transportation fuel using an eligible feedstock.
25 The minimum production capacity is 1 million diesel gallons

1 equivalent per year.

2 The maximum total funding of this program is 12.5
3 million. And a single project could be awarded up to \$5
4 million each, which will be awarded through a competitive
5 grant solicitation.

6 This is what I mentioned earlier is AB 1550 set
7 all the minimums for the priority population. This program
8 will maximize benefits to priority populations by meeting
9 or exceeding the following allocations: a minimum of 25
10 percent of funds to projects located within and benefiting
11 disadvantaged communities, 5 percent of the funds to the
12 low-income communities, and an additional 5 percent of
13 funds to projects benefiting AB 1550 low-income communities
14 or household within a half mile of a disadvantaged
15 community.

16 So for this solicitation, the Energy Commission
17 may use a two-phase evaluation process. The first phase is
18 the pre-application abstract. All the applicants receiving
19 a passing score on their abstracts will be invited to
20 submit their detailed full applications. That's phase two.

21 All the applications must pass administrative
22 screening first. Once an applicant is passing the
23 administrative screening, they will receive technical
24 scoring. Technical scoring criteria include the project
25 team qualifications, business plans including technology,

1 marketing, and financial plans; readiness and
2 implementation; project budget and cost-effectiveness;
3 project benefits and co-benefits; and as a priority
4 population consideration.

5 All the solicitation requirements will be
6 described in the grant solicitation, which will be posted
7 on the Energy Commission's website.

8 Following that a pre-application workshop will be
9 conducted. All parties can submit written questions after
10 the workshop. Written responses to all questions will be
11 posted on the website too.

12 As I mentioned, we released the first draft on
13 February 21, 2019 and had a staff workshop on March 5th,
14 2019. In the workshop and afterwards staff received
15 comments and questions from state agencies, industrial
16 partners, and academics. Staff reviewed these comments and
17 revised the draft accordingly.

18 So if the Guidelines are adopted today the
19 program's proposed schedule is as follows. Staff plans to
20 release the solicitation followed by a pre-application
21 workshop in September. Hopefully, we will get as our phase
22 one or abstract phase then in October. That will follow
23 the phase two evaluation.

24 After that, staff plan to publish a Notice of
25 Proposed Awards in January 2020 with the proposed awards

1 scheduled for the March and April business meetings. The
2 encumbrance deadline for this program is June 30, 2020.

3 For those who are interested, additional
4 resources are available on our website. With that, staff
5 is seeking adoption of the Low Carbon Fuel Production
6 Program Guidelines and a determination that this action is
7 exempt from CEQA.

8 Thank you for your consideration. I'm happy to
9 answer any questions.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Any questions before I
11 move to the public comment? Okay. Let's hear from Nina
12 Kapoor from the RNG Coalition. Right there, yeah, go
13 ahead.

14 MS. KAPOOR: Good morning, Commissioners, Nina
15 Kapoor with the Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas in
16 support. The RNG Coalition represents over 180 leading
17 members in each sector of the RNG industry including
18 utilities, organized labor, fuel providers and producers of
19 over 90 percent of all RNG in North America.

20 We support the Low Carbon Fuel Production
21 Program, because it will provide opportunities for
22 additional RNG development in the state. RNG is the lowest
23 carbon transportation fuel available today with carbon
24 intensity scores lower than negative 350. And air quality
25 performance of 99.8 percent clean.

1 We're excited to be part of this solution for
2 reducing GHG emissions in the transportation sector. And
3 we'd also like to encourage the Commission to consider
4 other opportunities for decarbonization using RNG outside
5 of the transportation sector. We believe that we can
6 replicate the success we've seen in transportation across
7 the building and industrial sectors. And we'd like to work
8 with the Commission to explore incentives to do so. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, thank you.

11 Any other public comment on the item?

12 (No audible response.)

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, Commissioner Monahan.

14 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I just want to give
15 staff kudos for developing the guidelines really
16 thoughtfully. And I think the process that they used to
17 develop the guidelines was spot on in terms of community
18 engagement.

19 I also wanted to just highlight that I think we
20 recognize broadly that we need to do a better job around
21 paying attention to equity and disadvantaged communities in
22 our investments. And this is a process like we don't have
23 all the answers. And historically when a plant is located
24 in a disadvantaged community, we check the box. And we're
25 trying to think through how many boxes do we need to check?

56

1 And to really listen to the Disadvantaged Communities
2 Advisory Group as we are developing guidelines going
3 forward. And I think staff is very open to this and it's
4 just a process. And it's one I think we have to go through
5 broadly, constantly, thinking are we really paying
6 attention to the communities most vulnerable, to the
7 harmful impacts of air pollution and how can we make sure
8 that our investments are attentive to equity?

9 So I just wanted to highlight that as something
10 we recognize that we are continuing to work on.

11 I also like the fact that we're focusing on
12 ultra-low carbon fuels, the 30 micrograms per megajoule or
13 less. I think that's the focus that we should be attentive
14 to. And that we're looking at investments that are not
15 just already cost effective. You know, if there's already
16 a business case for the investment we don't want to use our
17 precious dollars for those types of investments. We really
18 want to make sure that we are bringing producers into
19 California that wouldn't otherwise be able to do it just
20 with private capital.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Would you like to make
22 a motion to adopt the guidelines?

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to adopt the
24 guidelines.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

1 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second by Vice Chair Scott.

3 All in favor say aye.

4 (Ayes.)

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
6 unanimously. Let's move on to Item 9, Bulk Purchase
7 Pricing for Electric School Buses.

8 MS. GONZALEZ: Good morning, Chair, Vice Chair,
9 and Commissioners. My name is Diana Gonzalez with the
10 Fuels and Transportation Division. Staff is requesting
11 approval today for Item 8, two agreements for bulk purchase
12 pricing for electric school buses and Item 9, 60 school bus
13 replacement agreements.

14 I will begin by presenting background information
15 on the School Bus Replacement Program, then I will present
16 Item 8 for your approval and lastly I will present Item 9
17 for your approval.

18 First, background on the School Bus Replacement
19 Program. Senate Bill 110 allocated \$75 million to replace
20 old diesel school buses operating in California.
21 Applicants who were eligible for this program included
22 California public school districts, county offices of
23 education and joint power authorities. Priority was given
24 to applicants based on three criteria: first, the oldest
25 diesel school buses; second schools that have a majority of

1 students eligible for free or reduced-price meals; and
2 third, school buses serving in disadvantaged communities.

3 The Energy Commission decided to emphasize
4 electric school buses, because of their many benefits.
5 Electric school buses produce zero tailpipe emissions,
6 resulting in cleaner air for kids to breathe and improving
7 overall health of the communities through which these buses
8 travel.

9 In addition to providing health benefits,
10 replacing diesel buses with electric school buses will also
11 save schools money on repairs and fuel.

12 For the School Bus Replacement Program we
13 utilized a two-phased approach. The first phase was to
14 allow school districts, COEs and JPAs in California to
15 apply for up to 10 diesel school buses to be replaced. The
16 second phase was to select an electric school bus
17 manufacturer or dealer to design, construct and deliver the
18 school buses. The purpose of this solicitation was to
19 establish a bulk purchase price for the school districts,
20 COEs and JPAs to utilize.

21 The funding under this program was evenly split
22 into four regions in California that include Northern,
23 Central, Los Angeles County and Southern.

24 The Energy Commission requires the electric
25 school buses meet the following criteria. All buses must

1 meet the following applicable local, state, and federal
2 laws, ordinances and requirements including safety and air
3 quality regulations. Buses must be certified by the
4 California Highway Patrol at time of delivery and by the
5 California Air Resources Board during Executive Order.
6 Other requirements include specific charging and
7 discharging capabilities, battery and vehicle warranties,
8 and minimum range for each school bus type.

9 The Clean Transportation Program, formerly known
10 as the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle
11 Technology Program, is providing \$60,000 of funding per
12 awarded school bus for the necessary charging
13 infrastructure to operate the electric school buses.

14 In addition, at the June business meeting,
15 Cerritos Community College District was awarded a \$1
16 million agreement to develop and deliver electric school
17 bus training for school district maintenance technicians
18 and drivers for the School Bus Replacement Program.

19 We would like to share with you a story of one of
20 the school districts that has already begun converting its
21 fleet to electric school buses. It's one example of a
22 demand for electric school buses around the state.

23 (Whereupon the video is played.)

24 NARRATOR: "Since 2016, Twin Rivers has replaced
25 16 dirty diesel school buses with 16 clean air zero

1 emission electric school buses. After running them for
2 over two years, we have found significant reduction in cost
3 of operation, about 80 percent reduction in maintenance
4 costs. Overall, running of electric vehicles is much less
5 expensive than running a diesel vehicle.

6 "In replacing these dirty diesel school buses,
7 what we found is that not only are there economic benefits
8 to it, but there's greater benefits to clean air for
9 community and the surrounding area. We will transition
10 within the next two-and-a-half years to 50 percent all-
11 electric school buses. We will have zero diesel buses.

12 "We're very thankful for folks in entities like
13 the California Energy Commission coming out and supporting
14 this technology and these projects to promote EV technology
15 to put more buses on the ground for clean air and for kids
16 and community."

17 (Video playback ends.)

18 MS. GONZALEZ: To help schools move to a clean
19 transportation future, staff is first seeking approval of
20 Item 8 bulk purchase pricing for electric school buses with
21 a zero dollar agreement to establish the bulk purchase
22 prices school districts, COEs and GPAs can utilize to
23 procure their electric school buses. This bulk purchase
24 price was used to determine the award amount per bus type
25 for the school districts.

1 The proposed awardees are The Lion Electric Co.
2 and A-Z Bus Sales Incorporated. The Lion Electric Co. is a
3 dba for The Lion Electric Co. USA Incorporated.

4 Lion was selected as the qualified low bid for
5 the type A without chair lift bus, as well as the type C
6 and D electric school buses. A-Z was selected as the
7 qualified low bid for the type A with chair lift electric
8 school bus.

9 Staff has ensured both awardees have met or
10 exceeded all minimum requirements under this solicitation.
11 Both awardees have also brought a demo bus today for a ride
12 and drive.

13 This concludes Item 8 request for approval and
14 Item 9 will be presented after the vote. Thank you.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

16 Just before we go to public comment, just quick
17 question on the charger, how many miles of charge does that
18 do an hour for the EV bus charger that you referenced?

19 MS. GONZALEZ: For which bus, specifically?

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You just showed us a photo of
21 the charger, for the -- I'm assuming it's for the buses we
22 saw out front. I'm just curious, is that a like Level 2,
23 how? Don't know? That's okay.

24 MS. GONZALEZ: For that specific picture I would
25 have to look back to see, but you're requiring a specific

1 charging.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Does anyone from Lion know how
3 quickly are the buses recharging?

4 (Off mic colloquy.)

5 MR. BAGUIO: On the bus that was pictured and
6 also specified for this we are looking at a 100-mile range
7 on the standard (indiscernible) chagrining, it's close to
8 six hours.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Six hours to fully recharge.
10 Okay. That's good to know, great. Thank you.

11 Let's go to public comment. John Landherr from
12 AC Bus Sales.

13 MR. LANDHERR: Good morning, Commissioners.
14 Thank you for this program. On behalf of hundreds of
15 school districts across the State of California that we
16 have been providing services to and partnering with for
17 over 35 years here in California, we thank you for this
18 exciting program. We're excited that through this program
19 school districts will get access to Blue Bird, not only
20 type As but type Cs and type Ds to replace their old diesel
21 school buses.

22 Blue Bird is a company that's been around for
23 almost 100 years with a singular focus of transporting
24 children safely to and from school, our nation's most
25 precious asset. They do that day in and day out making the

1 safest bus possible. And they've also been leading the
2 country in technology developments.

3 In fact, it was just 1990 that A- Z Bus Sales, in
4 cooperation with Blue Bird, produced the first CNG buses
5 here in California. Additionally, Blue Bird came out with
6 the first electric bus in 1994. So they continue to lead
7 the country.

8 And we're excited about this program, because it
9 brings not only zero emission buses to California, but also
10 near zero with renewable gas. And so we want to thank you
11 for putting trust in us do deliver these products to
12 students of California and communities of California. It's
13 a real win-win for our communities, but most importantly
14 for our children that are no longer to be exposed to these
15 dangerous chemicals that they're breathing in every day.
16 So thank you for trusting A-Z Bus Sales, Blue Bird and
17 Micro Bird.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Commissioner Monahan?

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I want to -- well
20 thank Diana and the other staff who have been working
21 tirelessly on this program. I'm guessing Vice Chair Scott
22 might have some comments as well, because she has a longer
23 history, by far, than me in this.

24 And I just want to emphasize one point in the
25 presentation that was very fast, which is that we are

1 requiring that these batteries provide V to G. And this
2 vehicle-to-grid capacity is really unusual, like in the
3 light-duty vehicle space hardly anybody offers it. Nissan
4 Leaf is one of the few companies that offer it.

5 But as we are struggling in California with renewables
6 integration, and as schools are struggling with just having
7 enough money for books and paper, there's an opportunity
8 here potentially for school districts to recoup some of
9 that money in the summertime by using that battery as a
10 grid resource. And this is somewhat like cutting edge
11 theoretical, right? We haven't actually figured out how to
12 fully quantify that value to the grid, but we know it's
13 big, potentially.

14 So I just think it was great that staff was like
15 that proactive in thinking through like not just an
16 electric bus, but an electric like next-generation bus that
17 can actually help school districts in the future save
18 money.

19 So the maintenance cost savings are huge and now
20 we have this benefit, potentially, for EV charging done
21 right and school districts to really be demonstrating that.
22 So it's just like an amazing project all the way around.
23 And something that I think we should all feel good about.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And at high noon, when we have
25 all that peak solar production they're typically plugged

1 in, right, because you're not driving.

2 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, or summertime. In
3 the summer your school is out. They still do rent out
4 those buses, but it's a potential resource.

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Did you want to share a few --

6 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I do. I'm really excited
7 about this one as well, as you all know. I do also want to
8 send my sincere complements to our school bus team for the
9 laudable job that they've done. You guys have really
10 knocked it out of the park. This was hard work. It was a
11 big lift. We had aggressive goals. I wanted everyone to
12 go fast. I'm ready to see the school buses by the
13 Christmas time, at least the first round. And I think
14 we'll have a few.

15 And again it's just as important to get the kids
16 out of the dirty diesel buses into the cleaner buses just
17 as quickly as we can.

18 So I just want to point out a couple of other
19 things that our awesome team did in that they built on the
20 robust relationship that we had with all of the state's
21 local educational agencies through Prop 39. So we already
22 had a great network and outreach there, which we just
23 jumped right in and used to let the schools know about our
24 school bus program.

25 Diana went by this really quickly. We literally

1 categorized every school bus in the state, because we
2 needed to figure out which ones were the dirtiest, because
3 that was one of the criteria for how to prioritize which
4 buses to pull off. And now we've got this list. It took
5 some time to put that together, but we can literally just
6 keep funding down and if there were more funding in that
7 space.

8 We put together a really flexible program as
9 well. So you guys probably remember just a little bit ago
10 we did do some natural gas buses. And that's because there
11 were some rural areas of the state that implored us to keep
12 both options on the table to make sure that -- and again
13 getting the kids out of the really old dirty diesel buses
14 is important in that space.

15 We put together that bulk buy and that was also a
16 challenge and interesting and fun. But we did that because
17 with the bulk prices, we hope that people -- that drives
18 the pricing down, so that we can get more buses with the
19 dollars that we have. But we put some flexibility in so
20 school districts can either use our pricing or they can go
21 out and get their own pricing if they so choose.

22 The infrastructure, I think is really important.
23 It can't be understated that got to have the charging to go
24 along with the bus, otherwise it'll be difficult to use
25 them. So I appreciate that we put that in place. We're

1 trying to work closely with the PUC and the investor owned
2 utilities, because they have an obligation to put charging
3 in place as well. So that the school districts where buses
4 are coming can hopefully be prioritized within those
5 utility plans.

6 And then I think what we want to do, like the
7 goal, the vision, is to make this as easy as possible for
8 the schools, right? As Commissioner Monahan mentioned they
9 got a whole bunch of other things they need to do including
10 educating our next generation. And so we don't want this
11 to be troublesome or burdensome. We really want to make
12 this as easy as possible for the schools, so that they can
13 just jump right in, drive the bus, plug it in. And we've
14 got that workforce training component in there to assist
15 with that.

16 So I wanted to jump in on this too, because I
17 really enjoyed working with the team on this. I think they
18 did a fantastic job and I'm excited to see it here at the
19 Business Meeting.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, great. Well
21 congratulations and thanks again for getting the ball
22 rolling. We do have one more public comment on this item,
23 Nate Baguio -- I hope I'm pronouncing that correctly --
24 from Lion.

25 MR. BAGUIO: Thank you Chairman Hochschild and

1 Commissioners. We're in full support of Item Number 8.
2 And we're very excited to support the State of California
3 and the California Energy Commission with this bulk
4 purchase plan.

5 It was great to work with your staff. We saw
6 Thomas Ortiz, Diana Gonzalez, Sarah Williams, Michelle
7 Vater out working with school districts so they fully
8 understood the plan and even were out driving the buses,
9 where they could do so legally.

10 But so thank you for the exhaustive and
11 comprehensive review of not only the program and the
12 districts, but also the manufacturers.

13 Lion is proud to be the leader in electric school
14 buses. I'm sure all of you have seen them around town here
15 in Sacramento as part of the largest deployment in the
16 country, as part of the largest deployment of electric
17 school buses in the country. So we're proud to have been a
18 part of that as well.

19 In the last three years and two million miles,
20 Lion Electric Buses have been all over the roads, taking
21 kids to school every day, across North America and most
22 notably in California. We were founded in 2008 with the
23 intention of revolutionizing the school bus industry. We
24 quickly realized that diesel and fossil fuel was not the
25 path forward, was not the future for this platform. And we

1 are an EV company. We are dedicated to zero emission and
2 that's our sole focus in helping you achieve your goals in
3 the state.

4 Thank you for the Notice of Proposed Award.
5 We're very proud to have participated and scored the
6 highest in the technical review. We worked very hard to be
7 recognized in that way. And again, thank you and we fully
8 support this item.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I did have one last question
10 which is just is there a decal on the bus that says
11 "electric" that's visible? I didn't look on it this
12 morning when I got here.

13 MR. BAGUIO: We are working with, as are some
14 school districts that have already adopted electric, to
15 make the blue bumper standard to identify electric. Every
16 decal you see on a yellow school bus is regulated by the
17 California Highway Patrol in size and color, so once that
18 law recognizes how you will designate what an electric bus
19 looks like, but the blue bumper is what's really kind of
20 leading the charge in identifying it.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You know, I would just on that
22 -- did you have a comment on that, sir? Yeah. Go ahead.

23 MR. LANDHERR: Just on the Blue Bird buses, I
24 know Lion's got theirs and we have ours. On ours, we
25 actually have a chord that comes out of the Blue Bird logo,

1 so that signifies electric. But as Nate said CHP regulates
2 those brandings very intensely, so I just want to note
3 that.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, you know I -- just in
5 the light of the discussion we're trying to have here
6 around raising public awareness about clean transportation,
7 I would love to see there's a -- most people don't know
8 what a blue bumper signifies. I mean is there?

9 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: It was the very first slide
10 that Diana showed. And she and the media team and
11 Commissioner Monahan worked closely together to design it.
12 It's really cute. So maybe when you go back to do Number
13 9, you could show us the logo again.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That's on the side on it?

15 MS. GONZALEZ: Yes, on the inter side. And also
16 on the school buses out front, we also printed out a logo
17 too as well. It's displayed on the buses, so you can see
18 it there.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, yeah. I just think
20 it's really important we need to keep -- we're putting a
21 ton of money into these things and to -- for the public to
22 see driving around to know it's electric is really
23 important. So thank you all for your work.
24 Congratulations.

25 Is there a motion to approve Item 8 here?

1 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 8.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

3 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor, say aye.

5 (Ayes.)

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Item 8 passes unanimously.

7 Well you know in our country, sometimes it feels like
8 you've got to go back to go forward. So we have to do that
9 in our agenda today as well, because with Item 7 actually
10 we approved the guidelines. But it's actually broader than
11 that. There's a (indecipherable), so what we needed a
12 motion to approve Item 7 in its entirety.

13 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: It's my fault again.

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That's okay. No, it's my
15 fault as well. So is there a motion to approve Item 7 in
16 its entirety?

17 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 7
18 in its entirety.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

20 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

22 (Ayes.)

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That passes unanimously.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's move on to Item 9,

1 School Bus Replacement For California Public School
2 Districts.

3 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And would it be possible,
4 Diana, to start with the logo. Can we show that again,
5 just so that --

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah. That would be great.
7 Oh, that's great. Wonderful.

8 MS. GONZALEZ: So CHP allows a 12 by 12 logo on
9 the passenger side window, so when the students are walking
10 up to the bus, to the left of it, we're allowed a 12 by 12
11 area where we are going to feature this logo on all the
12 funded EV school buses.

13 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And they did try hard to
14 get something bigger. And to the point that you raised
15 it's going to take high-level intervention for that to
16 happen, let's just say. I think the Governor has to be
17 involved in this decision, so yeah.

18 MS. GONZALEZ: Staff is also seeking approval for
19 Item 9, 60 proposed resolutions approving School Bus
20 Replacement Program agreements listed in the agenda table
21 to replace 211 old diesel-powered school buses with all-
22 electric school buses.

23 Staff is also recommending approval of staff's
24 determination that all 60 agreements noted are exempt from
25 CEQA. Any other proposed agreements not listed in the

1 table will be taken to a later business meeting for
2 approval.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. Are there any --
5 actually we do have some public comments. Let's hear from
6 Doug Shald, Ukiah School District.

7 MS. SHALD: Hello and good morning Chairperson
8 and Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity to speak
9 today. And I want to start off by thanking everyone at the
10 California Energy Commission for all the important work
11 you're doing every day, and obviously your global
12 leadership on climate issues.

13 You know it's great to work with the staff
14 throughout our experience receiving these buses. I was
15 excited to eliminate that fuel cost and save all the money
16 on the required maintenance, which is much less. All this
17 goes along with the priority of our school district to be
18 great stewards of the environment and create a healthy
19 environment for our students.

20 But there's a lot of other great benefits we
21 realized that I did not think of. It's very quiet and very
22 smooth, so the students of ours that have been on the buses
23 are actually able to read and study. They've mentioned
24 it's a lot easier to focus on the bus and to relax after a
25 hard day at school.

1 Overall, our staff also loves them. They're very
2 proud to be on the cutting edge of this new technology.
3 And it actually generates a lot of questions and a lot of
4 attention from our community members. So the engagement is
5 there. And I want to also add in that as big of a logo
6 that we can put on the buses, the better. Because just the
7 fact they're not making much noise has our community
8 members wanting to talk about them.

9 So in general they're great for our budget.
10 They're great for our community engagement. They most
11 importantly they're great for the environment and our
12 students' health. So thank you.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you.

14 Marty Turock Clean Tech, San Diego.

15 MR. TUROCK: Good morning, Chair and
16 Commissioners. I'm Marty Turock with Clean Tech, San
17 Diego. And I have been leading the San Diego Region K-12
18 Schools Collaborative for SDG&E since its inception six
19 years ago.

20 Our primary mission over the last five years was
21 to share best practices regarding the California
22 Proposition 39 Program to be administered statewide. And
23 the 44 school districts across the SDG&E service territory
24 that participates in our collaborative were able to secure
25 CEC approval for energy efficiency and clean energy

1 projects at 528 school sites. That's going to save \$11
2 million per year for the districts while lowering
3 greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 11,455 tons of
4 carbon dioxide equivalent.

5 But now with the funding for new Proposition 39
6 projects expired, and the balance of funds transition to SB
7 110, we have transitioned the primary focus of our K-12
8 Schools Collaborative to ZNE buildings, both new
9 construction and retrofits, as well as transportation
10 electrification.

11 At present none of our school districts have any
12 EV buses in service. And the funding for GFO-17-607 is
13 going to make this possible for Chula Vista, La Mesa Spring
14 Valley School District, Escondido Union High School
15 District and Cajon Valley Union School
16 District.

17 So as these four school districts install EV
18 charging infrastructure and put these first EV school buses
19 into service, we will be sharing all the best practices and
20 lessons learned. So that the remaining 40 school districts
21 in our region can also start addressing this key source of
22 GHG reduction that will also reduce overall transportation
23 operating costs while obviously improving the health and
24 safety of our students, commuting to and from school.

25 So we commend the CEC on this truly

1 transformative program and can assure you that it will
2 achieve the intended objective here across the San Diego
3 region.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank so much.

5 Any other public comment in the room or on the
6 phone? If not, is there a motion to approve Item 9?

7 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 9.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second?

9 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: This seems like a big
10 table. It needs a little comment. I don't know.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right, all right.

12 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: We talk often and I
13 think it's totally justified, about the fact that the
14 Energy Commission over the last decade or so has really cut
15 our chops on program design. And we had a previous item
16 and it just bears I think repeating that we have capability
17 here that is really a rival in the cross-state agencies, I
18 would say.

19 And building on the Prop 39, I want to
20 congratulate Marty for sure about all the coordination down
21 in the San Diego region. Building on Prop 39, hopefully
22 Prop 39 has a second life at some point, you know. We
23 could pump some more funds into the building side of it.
24 But this bus initiative is just fantastic and a good use of
25 that infrastructure and a good follow-on effort for the

1 Prop 39 original effort.

2 And so I just wanted to -- I mean, if you read
3 down the list and see all the school districts that
4 participated, it's just a phenomenal statewide program and
5 a huge example of good.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is that a second?

7 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: That's a second.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. All in favor say aye.

9 (Ayes.)

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
11 unanimously. Let's move on to Item 10, ChargePoint.

12 MR. RILLERA: Good morning, Chair and
13 Commissioners. My name is Larry Rillera, with the Fuels
14 and Transportation Division, here to present Item Number
15 10. This agreement is funded through the Clean
16 Transportation Program, double barrel. (Laughter.)

17 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We really want hear what you
18 have to say. Go ahead.

19 MR. RILLERA: In December of 2018 the Energy
20 Commission released a nearly \$10 million solicitation for
21 the manufacturer of zero emission vehicles and zero
22 emission vehicle infrastructure.

23 The intent of the solicitation was to develop and
24 expand ZEV supply chains in California. ChargePoint is
25 proposed for \$2 million in funding. The agreement with

1 ChargePoint proposes to acquire and install manufacturing
2 equipment and tools. This equipment will be used to
3 manufacture direct current, or DC fast chargers in the City
4 of Campbell. The project will leverage over \$2.7 million
5 in private investments that will create jobs while
6 increasing the scale of DC fast charger production.

7 Staff is also recommending approval of staff's
8 determination that this project is exempt for CEQA.

9 Staff would note that a representative from
10 ChargePoint is here to present and provide remarks and
11 answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your
12 consideration.

13 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. \Let's go to
14 public comment. Dedrick Roper, Director of Public and
15 Private Partnerships at ChargePoint. Welcome.

16 MR. ROPER: Good morning Chair, Vice Chair and
17 Commissioners. On behalf of ChargePoint and our 14
18 California-based suppliers I just want to thank you for
19 this program and also for the consideration of this
20 project.

21 We are incredibly grateful and in a great
22 position to have our fast chargers manufacturers
23 manufactured across the street from where they are designed
24 in the Bay Area. Great talent pool, but it is incredibly
25 expensive to hire that staff and secure those facilities.

1 So this potential award would go a great distance to help
2 us to continue to maintain those operations.

3 In Campbell, just the indication that we might be
4 receiving this has motivated some new investments. Just to
5 highlight a few of those: increased staff about 15 more
6 manufacturing workers over the last several months. And we
7 also secured an Underwriter Laboratories testing facility
8 in San Jose, took over that lease and also acquired testing
9 equipment, so we're able to do salt water tests, water
10 tests, UV and heat tests. And this investment will
11 continue to support those efforts.

12 We reported a \$2.7 million cost share to do
13 administrative sort of tasks associated with reporting cost
14 share we're actually going to be spending about \$10 million
15 on this in additional funding outside of this to help scale
16 up production.

17 Also when we wrote our proposal, we had just
18 received our UL certification on this fast charging
19 product. I'm pleased to say we've been this point of being
20 across North America in light, medium and heavy-duty
21 applications and also for deployments to Europe.

22 And as we indicated in our proposal we anticipate
23 adding about 100 jobs as a result of this directly in
24 ChargePoint and to also support some of those supplier's
25 jobs, many of which are in the Central Valley and in the

1 South Coast Air Basin.

2 So the money is -- we're going to leverage it to
3 the best of our ability. We're very proud of our work with
4 the Energy Commission and look forward to continuing good
5 works in years to come.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thank you. Actually, if
7 you could stay for a second, I have a charger, my charger
8 at home and we have one here at work as well. I'm just
9 curious when you look ahead as the cost reduction roadmap
10 for chargers, what do you see? I mean how close are you to
11 just cost of materials now and or how much more do you
12 anticipate the costs being able to come down of chargers as
13 you scale up?

14 MR. ROPER: Yeah, sure. Fair enough. So this is
15 our first design DC fast charging product that we've
16 designed in-house and developed in-house. So the product
17 is a bit more expensive for us to produce today. But with
18 support from the Energy Commission and working with
19 suppliers to drive down those costs and increase scale,
20 also bringing in some of those materials across product
21 lines, so we're able to sort of repurpose materials from
22 our AC products and help develop larger orders and get
23 those costs down.

24 So it's just the beginning. We've just started
25 delivering the product Q1 of this year and have a lot of

1 pre-orders both in North America and in Europe that we hope
2 to drive those costs down over time.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. And finally I'm on the
4 board of CAEFTA, we obviously (indecipherable) tax
5 (indecipherable). Are you taking advantage of those?

6 MR. ROPER: Yes, we've been taking advantage of
7 CAEFTA about the last two years and appreciate that
8 program.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Great, all right. Well
10 we wish you well.

11 Commissioner Monahan?

12 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I just want to say,
13 I mean emphasize why this matters, DC fast charging. You
14 know for a lot of folks that live in multifamily dwellings
15 or here a driver for Lyft and Uber and you need to charge
16 your vehicle, like DC fast charging is really your only
17 option.

18 I mean we're wrestling with this problem of what
19 to do with apartment buildings, but it's going to take a
20 while to solve it. And the more public stations we have
21 that offer this fast charging capability, the better
22 equipped we'll be to make sure that all Californians
23 benefit from transportation electrification.

24 So I just want to emphasize that this investment
25 is great for ChargePoint creating jobs here in California,

1 around a new energy economy and the product is something
2 that we're really going to need.

3 MR. ROPER: Yeah, and I would just to that, it's
4 having these fast chargers really opened up new markets.
5 So working with transit agencies we're now charging
6 electric buses across North America. You have a corridor,
7 so instilling confidence in drivers that they can make
8 their way throughout the state. And we have another
9 partnership with the Energy Commission to build out 70 fast
10 charging locations throughout the state.

11 We're working with ports now, so installed these
12 fast chargers at the Port of Stockton recently to support
13 some larger utility vehicles that they have.

14 So goods movement, people movement, and as you
15 said unlocking the multifamily market are all going to
16 benefit from DC fast chargers.

17 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I'm glad to hear you
18 have ordered for it globally and across the US although we
19 want those chargers here in California.

20 MR. ROPER: Yeah, absolutely.

21 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Thank you.

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah.

23 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Yeah, I might just add. I'm
24 excited about this one as well. This program that we have
25 on clean transportation puts a little bit of dollars into

1 manufacturing. It's a small amount, but I have to say I
2 believe it's small but mighty, and it really helps us to
3 tip the scales.

4 You mentioned additional leverage of private
5 capital that's going to come into this space, because of
6 Energy Commission grants. We have had that happen in other
7 instances as well. Proterra is the first one leaping to
8 mind, but there are others. And it just -- it's great.

9 I know our team also did quite a bit of work to
10 assess what we needed in the infrastructure manufacturing
11 space to really try to understand where there are things
12 that have to be made in California. Where you kind of want
13 it right here, I forget what you call it, when you need it
14 right away. You don't want it to be made someplace else
15 where you have wait for it to get shipped. Those kinds of
16 things, we did quite a few workshops to try to understand
17 where we could put our investment dollars in this space to
18 really make the most impact. So I want to thank the staff
19 for the good work that they did there as well.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you.

21 Is there a motion?

22 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I move to approve Item 10.

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All right. Is there a second?

24 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Second.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Second, from Vice Chair Scott.

1 All in favor say aye.

2 (Ayes.)

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
4 unanimously.

5 Let's move on to Item 11, Regents of -- did I do
6 that right?

7 MS. VACCARO: I think it was fine. I'm trying to
8 catch your eye just to make sure -- the conversation
9 shifted from the public comment to the Commissioners, so
10 quickly I just wanted to ensure for this item that we were
11 clear that there was no other public comment.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I only had one card, yeah. Is
13 there anyone else wishing to comment on Item 10? Okay.
14 Thanks.

15 Let's move on to Item 11, Regents of University
16 of California on behalf of the Davis campus.

17 MR. RANSOM: Hi. Good morning Chair, Vice Chair
18 and Commissioners. My name is Shaun Ransom and I work in
19 the Fuels and Transportation Division. I am here today to
20 present a proposed resolution to approve a \$400,000
21 contract with UC Davis to conduct data collection and
22 travel studies on plug-in electric vehicles used for ride
23 hailing and car sharing.

24 Typically, these vehicles are deployed on behalf
25 of Transportation Network Companies such as Uber or Lyft.

1 The proliferation of transportation network
2 companies has raised questions on how large service fleets
3 will impact public electric vehicle charging
4 infrastructure. Transportation network companies that use
5 electric vehicles require a greater number of charging
6 events for longer intervals.

7 Additionally, growth trends in transportation
8 network company fleets and consumer preferences validate
9 the durability of the new transportation sector and
10 potential disruptions to public charging stations.

11 Recently, the Energy Commission received concerns
12 about over-crowding and loitering at charger sites due to
13 transportation network company use. This contract is vital
14 in understanding how transportation network companies are
15 charging, where they are charging, EV adoption trends in
16 fleets and how the Energy Commission can develop funding
17 opportunities to mitigate charger congestion and innovative
18 charging solutions that benefit both transportation network
19 companies and the public.

20 The contract will analyze the trends and impacts
21 transportation network companies pose on travel demand and
22 electric infrastructure utilization. These include
23 charging demand, travel behavior and the mix of personal
24 and ride hailing use.

25 The findings of the study will be incorporated

1 into the Energy Commission's AB 2127 infrastructure
2 assessments and the 2030 infrastructure requirement
3 projections.

4 Thank you and I am available to answer any
5 questions.

6 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great, thank you.

7 Any questions? Okay. Is there a public comment
8 on this item? No. Okay. Hearing none, Commissioner
9 Monahan?

10 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah, I just want to say
11 that it was an awesome study. I'm super excited about it,
12 because the future of transportation is shifting rapidly.
13 What Dan Spurling from the Institute for Transportation
14 Studies likes to call the three revolutions of autonomy,
15 electrification and mobility as a service, is just changing
16 transportation as we know it. And we need modeling work to
17 be able to evaluate what that's going to mean for a lot of
18 things. I mean energy use, charger placement, how do we
19 make sure that we are moving to a low-carbon transportation
20 future as we embrace these revolutions.

21 And so this study is just I think the start of
22 this, we have to think about how this gets integrated into
23 the IEPR eventually. And just this making sure that as
24 we're doing our energy modeling we're thinking about next
25 gen technologies that are actually here today. So I think

1 it's going to be a great study.

2 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I mean we talked about
4 SB 100 a little bit earlier, but this kind of information
5 is really key to being able to say okay, here's what this
6 wedge of the vehicle grid looks like. And sort of when are
7 they charging, when are they not charging, when are they
8 plugged in but not? So I think all this goes into the
9 bucket of knowledge we need to plan. So I'll second this
10 thing. No, sorry.

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Actually would you like to
12 make the motion?

13 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Oh. Did you not move
14 it?

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We need a motion from someone.

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: All right. I'll move
17 Item 11.

18 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I second it.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor, say aye.

21 (Ayes.)

22 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That motion passes
23 unanimously.

24 Let's move on to Item 12, Petition to Request a
25 Rulemaking Hearing. Go ahead, Jared.

1 MR. BABULA: This is actually Mr. Uhler's
2 petition, so we should see if he's here or on the phone.

3 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is he here or on the phone?

4 (No audible response.)

5 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, thank you. For Agenda
6 Item 12, Petition to Request a Rulemaking Hearing, the
7 Commission will now consider an act to approve or deny the
8 petition submitted by Steve Uhler requesting that the
9 Commission initiate a rulemaking hearing to amend Title 20
10 of the California Code of Regulations, to provide
11 regulatory language allowing a person wishing to file a
12 document with the Energy Commission to open a docket to
13 receive the filing or otherwise amend Section 1208 of the
14 regulations to ensure that the public can file documents in
15 a proceeding with the Energy Commission.

16 Is Mr. Uhler present or in the room or on the
17 phone?

18 (No audible response.)

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay. It appears that the
20 petitioner is not here by phone or in person. I'll then
21 ask the Public Adviser whether Mr. Uhler asked to relate
22 his points to the Commissioners in his absence.

23 MS. MARTIN-GALLARDO: I have not received any
24 request.

25 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay, thank you.

1 Because Mr. Uhler's petition-related documents
2 were submitted to the docket and made available to
3 Commissioners in advance of today's meeting, I propose that
4 we deem his arguments as submitted on the papers, but not
5 read them aloud.

6 Now we'll hear from staff, so he has not
7 submitted any written?

8 MR. BABULA: He submitted the original
9 submission.

10 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: The original, but not. Okay.
11 So now we'll hear from staff in response to Mr. Uhler's
12 written submissions. Please introduce yourself for the
13 record.

14 MR. BABULA: Thank you, this is Jared Babula,
15 Staff Attorney. And I will address his petition.

16 So after carefully reviewing the issues raised by
17 Mr. Uhler in his petition seeking a rulemaking to amend the
18 Commission's filing procedures, staff recommends denial of
19 the petition.

20 As discussed in staff's memo to the Commission,
21 which details the rationale for staff's recommendation,
22 there's no need to amend Section 1208 or any other
23 provision relating to the Commission's filing procedures.
24 Energy Commission staff is committed to transparency and
25 carefully manages both the creation of a docket and the

1 organization of documents in that docket to ensure the
2 public can easily find or file documents. It is not
3 necessary to burden the public with the need to create a
4 docket, especially when a docket is not a prerequisite for
5 the public to engage with the Commission.

6 The current filing process set forth in the
7 Commission's regulations generally provides for two simple
8 and easy-to-use pathways. Documents are either filed
9 through an existing docket, which is most common; or a
10 docket submitted in a manner specifically prescribed by the
11 relevant provisions in the Commission's regulations. For
12 example as in this case, Mr. Uhler's petition was filed
13 with the Executive Director.

14 Finally, if a member of the public needs
15 assistance in submitting documents program staff, the
16 Docket Unit or the Public Advisor are all available to
17 assist the public in the application process.

18 So staff recommends the Commission deny the
19 petition and adopt staff's proposed order.

20 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Okay.

21 Commissioner discussion?

22 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll just say I don't
23 think -- I think we have, as Mr. Babula said, multiple ways
24 for the public to submit needed documents to the Energy
25 Commission and multiple people who are able to assist them

1 in doing so. And so I agree with staff's recommendation.
2 I'm prepared to make a motion to that effect if there are
3 no other questions.

4 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: I wanted to -- I'm going to
5 put Jennifer on the spot briefly, but I guess just -- it
6 seems like we have a lot of tools already and Jared just
7 laid it out. But you've been helping Mr. Uhler quite a bit
8 over the last few months or so. I guess do you feel like
9 you have all the tools that you need to be able to help him
10 and direct him to the right places?

11 MS. MARTIN-GALLARDO: I do. At this time, I
12 don't feel like there was -- I think the processes have
13 worked to ensure that you were able to receive this
14 petition. There are other ways depending on the particular
15 type of proceeding that Mr. Uhler or any member of the
16 public would like to participate in. To date, I have not
17 had an experience where I felt that there was not a way for
18 the public to participate.

19 And in any event, where there was a situation
20 where I felt that the public did not have a way to
21 participate appropriately and fully at the Energy
22 Commission, I would make a recommendation. But I have no
23 recommendation for this particular matter. I think that
24 everything has been working just fine.

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Okay. Thank you very

1 much. And I guess opening a new rulemaking is a serious
2 commitment of resources and just administratively. And so
3 if it's not strictly necessary it just seems like not the
4 right course. So I support Commissioner Douglas in her
5 recommendation.

6 MR. BABULA: I'd also like to add just in case
7 for those who haven't been here, we actually did two large
8 rulemakings to modernize and update our Process and
9 Procedure Regulations, which culminated in the new regs
10 being effective January 2016 with then a follow-up of
11 January of 2019. So we did go through a large update to
12 modernize and to comport our regs with the new e-filing
13 system and the updated manners in which documents could
14 come in electronically.

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Great. Thank you.

16 So did you have a motion, Commissioner Douglas?

17 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yes, I move to deny the
18 petition and approve the order drafted by staff.

19 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Is there a second?

20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second that.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor say aye.

22 (Ayes.)

23 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: This motion passes
24 unanimously.

25 Let's move on to Item 13, the minutes.

1 Ms. VACCARO: Before you make a motion, and
2 because I don't want to interrupt after the fact, there
3 were only three of you here I believe at the last meeting,
4 so two of you would not be voting on that.

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah I'm abstaining and
6 I don't know who else is abstaining. Oh, you weren't here.

7 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yes, I was also not here. But
8 so

9 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I will move approval of the
10 minutes.

11 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.

12 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: All in favor?

13 (Ayes.)

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: That passes unanimously with
15 Commissioner McAllister and I abstaining. I guess it's not
16 unanimous, but three yes and two abstentions.

17 Okay, let's go to Lead Commissioner Reports
18 starting with Commissioner Monahan.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you always want to
20 start (indiscernible)?

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: We usually just go left to
22 right, so.

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Well, just to -- we talked
24 about this a little bit at the last one, but you guys were
25 not here. So we, as part of what is now called the Clean

1 Transportation Program, what was formerly the ARFVTP, which
2 is arguably the worst acronym ever, not like brief at all.
3 And we as part of the process of developing the investment
4 plan for that program, we met with the Disadvantaged
5 Communities Advisory Group. They gave us some good
6 feedback. We're in the process, staff is in the process of
7 redoing the investment plan to respond to that.

8 We're going to have an Advisory Committee meeting
9 in the beginning of August to go over that and to get
10 feedback on that plan. The Disadvantaged Communities
11 Advisory Group, at least one representative will be there.
12 And we're excited to engage with the Advisory Committee to
13 get their feedback. We're also very excited to engage with
14 the DACAG and have their input incorporated into the plan.

15 And we're thinking about how to refresh the
16 Advisory Committee to get more voices and especially with
17 an equity frame in helping advise us.

18 Again, this is like a process. We never arrive
19 at perfection. We're always just trying to think through
20 how do we be more attentive to equity. How do we make sure
21 our investments are taking in great advisors to help us tee
22 up investments that are going to be best for all
23 California. So more to come.

24 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: And by the way, did you want
25 to share anything from Asilomar or the other?

1 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: I went to a transportation
2 conference called Asilomar and it was great. It operates
3 under Chatham House Rules, so I can't actually say very
4 much. But it brings together transportation experts from
5 across the country, it's been going on for over 20 years,
6 I think I went to the second one when I was working at
7 Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory under this transportation
8 guru, Lee Schipper. And it really is a great place for
9 businesses, thought leaders, academics, NGOs to come and
10 really map out what are the policies and programs we need
11 to get us to a clean transportation future. So a really
12 great conference and it was beautiful. It's a good place
13 for a conference

14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: It is. Yeah, every two
15 years the Energy Efficiency and Building Conference is
16 there, the Summer Study they call it. And then CABEC,
17 actually the Building Energy Consultants had their
18 conference there recently. So it's like the go-to place
19 for energy-related blissful conferences. And you always
20 have to take a fleece, because it's warm everywhere else in
21 California, and cold there. So yeah, anyway but it's a
22 beautiful place.

23 So I just have a short list of things. I'll try
24 to be quick about it. I want to just say first
25 congratulations on the EPRI Conference that the Chair's

1 office sponsored, and that many of us participated in and
2 staff had a huge presence there. And EPRI is showing a lot
3 of leadership in the electrification realm.

4 After that conference, well first we had a
5 meeting with the cities, it was great. And then the panels
6 were just really high level and a lot of just great
7 sharing. I feel like the education level of our
8 stakeholders is really going up quickly in this realm. And
9 sort of the grid issues and electrification and just kind
10 of this pot of issues is crossing a lot of really creative
11 thought and innovation.

12 We had 18 staff after that conference go up to
13 Berkeley Lab to visit the FLEXLAB. And Laurie ten Hope
14 sort of put that together and the LBL people are doing
15 really innovative stuff. And it just made sense, since it
16 was right there in Berkeley to have staff go up. And I
17 think a lot of newish staff went and it was really helpful
18 for them and I was really glad to hear that.

19 Let's see, there was a -- recently there was an
20 Advanced Windows Forum that SMUD sponsored or SMUD hosted
21 and just a whole bunch of our important stakeholders were
22 there. but again, Berkeley Lab has a world leader on
23 developing innovative windows. And there's this effort to
24 put together a skinny triple it's called, so it's a triple-
25 pane window that basically fits in a profile of a double-

1 pane window. And now that we have really thin glass, from
2 all the flat screen TVs that are out there we have cheap
3 thin glass that's being manufactured in a way that we just
4 never did before. And now we can actually have a true
5 triple-pane window that weighs the same as a double pane
6 and that is much more energy efficient.

7 So it's really a cool effort from the technical
8 perspective, but we're hoping to get a product out there
9 that can be incorporated into the Building Code and really
10 help us reach our goals that way.

11 Let's see, I want to give everybody the heads up
12 that on September 16 to 18 is the NASEO, the National
13 Association of State and Energy Officials annual meeting.
14 It's happening in Manhattan Beach. We just finished up the
15 call for proposal topic or a call for proposals for panel
16 topics basically, for session topics. So as that all pans
17 out and the agenda gets developed I'm certain that there
18 will be opportunities for all of you to be involved if you
19 want to be involved.

20 And since it's down in the LA area we're looking
21 at sort of getting some leveraging Hollywood nearby and
22 getting some excitement around clean energy. So anyway
23 more to come on that, but I wanted to just get it on you
24 all's radar screen that that's the third week of September.

25 A couple of weeks ago I did a Keynote at the

1 North American Passive House Conference. And Passive House
2 is a really interesting private certification that is just
3 hyper-efficient building shell and great mechanical and it
4 really lends itself to electrification. And it was in New
5 York City and it happened right as New York was passing
6 that awesome law that essentially tries to run to one-up
7 us, right? It's 70 percent by 2030 and it's 100 percent by
8 2040. You know, just goes five years ahead or whatever and
9 so this one-upping across the states is a really positive
10 dynamic.

11 And Alicia Barton who heads NYSERDA is really
12 excited obviously. But also between New York and
13 Massachusetts and California and other states, but
14 certainly those three, we really need to collaborate all
15 that we can possibly to figure out how together move the
16 market, get best practices and look at rate design, and
17 grid-interactive buildings and all the things that we need
18 to decarbonize our electricity grid. So it's very
19 exciting.

20 And they are also focusing on equity, so I think
21 that was a big -- is aggressive goals, but also highest
22 level emphasis on equity. So I think that is really
23 positive and obviously the rubber has got to hit the road
24 and implementation has to work. So we want to help them do
25 that.

1 Let's see I wanted to, I guess just from my
2 personal perspective and while I've got the dais here in
3 the meeting, congratulate Secretary Marybel Batjer for
4 being appointed the new President of the PUC. Sort of
5 taking the baton from Michael Picker, you know? I just
6 have tremendous respect for both of them and certainly
7 Secretary Batjer has been a leading light on utilizing
8 modern analytical tools for improving government, and
9 innovating. And I think all of us are really right on the
10 same page with her on that. And I think it's going to be a
11 nice sort of fresh approach possibly at the PUC to sort of
12 -- we're collaborating a lot with them on data already.
13 But I think it will only be for the good as she takes
14 leadership, obviously lots of big challenges over there.
15 But we wish her all the best and we'll absolutely be here
16 to help out wherever possible.

17 And I'll just thank Michael Picker for all of his
18 amazing public service. I mean, over a whole career really
19 just spectacular, so he deserves a nice retirement.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Off mic.)

21 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: What's that? Who knows
22 if he'll actually retire, right? But anyway you never
23 know, but anyway.

24 Let's see, just a couple of other things. I
25 wanted to say thank you to Natalie Queathem and Reem Rayaf

1 who is right there. Maybe you guys could stand up.
2 Natalie was not down here this morning, so I just wanted to
3 acknowledge her, but both of you have really done a
4 tremendous in my office.

5 The Internship Program is a fantastic thing and
6 you will go and sing our praises to your colleagues at
7 Berkeley and we will get more stellar interns as we go
8 forward. So, you know, your work is really important to
9 help the Commission thrive, so thank you.

10 And finally, I want to say thank you to Kristen
11 Driskell who is right there in the back. Thanks for coming
12 down and sharing your time with us. Kristen has accepted a
13 job over in Pesticide Control and she steps down as Deputy
14 of the Efficiency Division.

15 And obviously I'm incredibly sad to see Kristen
16 go. She has had a really stellar trajectory at the
17 Commission in Legal. I think you started in Legal, right?
18 And then went over to the Appliances Office, led that
19 office. And then had a stint as Chair Weisenmiller's
20 advisor and was just such a fantastic choice to run the
21 Efficiency Division, and really just an all aspects kind of
22 up the level of management in so many ways. On the
23 management side, on the technical side, really it's a
24 complex division with a lot going on and a very difficult
25 Lead Commissioner. (Laughter.)

1 And I just wanted to say thank you for all of
2 your stellar service. I want to invite you to say any
3 comments. I know, this is -- competence doesn't trumpet
4 its own horn often or blow its own horn, trumpet its own
5 success, I'm not sure. But anyway, you're just such an
6 example of competence at the Commission and for state
7 service. And I just wanted to say thank you very much for
8 your service. We are sad to see you go at the end of the
9 month or I guess it sometime in the next month. But it's
10 transition that we're in the middle of and hopefully we get
11 a candidate that can really step into your shoes and keep
12 the ball moving.

13 MS. DRISKELL: Yeah. I wish everyone the best of
14 luck. I'm just going to let you know I am here for the
15 next Business Meeting. (Laughter) And then I'll have
16 something to say at that time

17 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Well, thank you
18 (indiscernible) in the meantime. I was like, "Oh no." But
19 anyway, thank you so much, Kristen. The announcement came
20 over and it just made a big splash here, so I wanted to
21 just make sure and acknowledge you today.

22 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: So let's see, I think like
23 everyone at the beginning of the month I enjoyed a few days
24 off around the 4th of July, which was great. Just a little
25 staycation right here in Sacramento, so it was good to just

1 have a couple of days off and get a few things done. You
2 know how that happens.

3 I've had a chance to tour a sodium sulfur battery
4 system in Vacaville, which was really neat to see. This is
5 something that actually was funded long enough ago that it
6 was PIER Electricity that funded it and so it's great
7 though to kind of see the progression of the different
8 types of technologies that have -- just the thought and
9 care that goes into finding what do we need to put in which
10 different places.

11 And it was great to see that technology, which
12 has not had the same level of coming down the cost curve as
13 lithium-ion, of course, because lithium-ion is not just
14 used for storage but is also used in cars, right? So
15 there's been a lot more research and dollars put towards
16 that.

17 I had a chance to go to LACI hosted us down in
18 Los Angeles a few weeks ago for the EPIC ARPA-E gathering.
19 So this is again thanks to former Chair Weisenmiller who
20 had put a program together where our research programs talk
21 to one another, leverage one another, make sure that we are
22 doing the best with the funding that we have in the
23 research space.

24 So it was great to get to meet all of the folks
25 who are part of ARPA-E. I think they appreciated an

1 opportunity to come out to California and see what
2 California is doing.

3 And one of the things that we try to do, because
4 ARPA-E a lot of times is focused more in the basic research
5 space, and the Energy Commission is a little bit farther
6 down the technology readiness level or manufacturing
7 readiness levels, is to try to complement each other's
8 programs. So if there's something that has already gone
9 through ARPA-E and it's got the blessing of the ARPA-E team
10 it might have it might have a slightly higher scoring for
11 example in EPIC, right, because we want to keep moving
12 some. And then vice versa, they'll do the same for us with
13 different types of projects. So it was really nice to have
14 a chance to meet everybody, meet them in person and keep
15 thinking through how we want to work together.

16 I was out at the National Renewable Energy Lab a
17 little while ago. And this conversation was really about
18 distributed energy resources. It was very, very wonky. I
19 mean we were really more talking about like what are
20 distributed energy resources and why do different people
21 define them in different ways, more so than kind of where
22 are they? How are they working? Where would we like to
23 see more? But it was really great to have those
24 conversations.

25 And also to get to see the work and capacity at

1 the National Renewable Energy Lab up close, they took up
2 through some of the labs and showed us some of the projects
3 that they're working on.

4 I am continuing to work on the Integrated Energy
5 Policy Report, of course. We had a little bit of a break,
6 but I think we're getting ready to pick up again with
7 workshops galore, so stay tuned.

8 And last, I just want to note that the
9 Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group is looking for a
10 new member. We extended the deadline for the applications
11 and I'm not going to try to guess at the date, but you can
12 look at our webpage to see. And so if you are interested
13 or you know someone who's interested please be sure to get
14 the word out. We're looking for folks who are engaged and
15 enthusiastic and really want to help the Energy Commission
16 in the Public Utilities Commission as we're thinking
17 through how to continuously improve and do better on equity
18 in bringing in low-income communities and disadvantaged
19 communities to the work that we do.

20 So that is my update. I also want to acknowledge
21 my awesome interns who are still here. It's so much fun to
22 have extra folks around during the summer to help get all
23 the projects that used to be on the back burner, but now
24 are on the front burner. And the interns are getting them
25 done, so thank you guys. It's been great to have you in

1 the office.

2 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: All right, great. Well, I
3 have a couple things to report. I should mention what I
4 muttered under my breath when Andrew was talking about
5 Michael Picker, in his hope that Michael manages to have a
6 nice retirement, is that actually he did have his
7 retirement pretty well set up before Governor Brown tapped
8 him to walk away from all that and take the stint at the
9 PUC. And so I hope it works out for him this time and he's
10 able to take a well-earned retirement or at least some
11 well-earned time off. And I really look forward to working
12 with a new Chair of the PUC as well.

13 So a couple things to report on, first of all on
14 July 9th and 10th and 11th, the Energy Commission in
15 coordination with the Bishop Paiute Tribe co-sponsored a
16 tribal conference. And it was called the Sustaining Tribal
17 Resources Conference.

18 And it was a wonderful event. The Chair was
19 there, and his advisor Lindsay, for the first day and a
20 good part of the second day as well. We had some folks in
21 the audience there who helped us on the tribal side put the
22 agenda together and bring participants together who have
23 been working with us for a decade or more as I looked
24 around that room. And there were there were some people
25 who as I said in my opening remarks, were part of some of

1 the very first tribal overtures to the Energy Commission to
2 begin working together more closely. And that helped spark
3 a lot of what we have done with tribes.

4 In addition to Energy Commission on the state
5 side we had representatives from the Natural Resources
6 Agency, CalEPA, California Department of Fish & Wildlife,
7 OHHEA, State Lands Commission, Office of Planning and
8 Research.

9 Topics related to sustainability and energy and
10 climate change. But you know a lot of these things really
11 are very much related and you can't have a conference about
12 one little slice of the pie, really. I mean, you can but
13 when you engage the tribes are tends to be a more holistic
14 way of looking at the situation. So we talked about
15 climate and energy and mitigation and certain species that
16 are obviously very affected by climate change, very
17 important culturally to tribes it.

18 And it was a really good, just really good event
19 and the hospitality of the Bishop Paiute Tribe and the
20 amount of work and effort they put into making everyone
21 feel welcome including state attendees, the attendees of
22 tribes from around the state, the tribes from the Auburn
23 area, from far Northern California, Bear River, from Lake
24 County area, from the Colorado River area.

25 Geographically there was a very good

1 representation of tribes from many different parts of the
2 state. And of course, the Paiute tribes from Owens Valley
3 were all working together very close to help make the
4 conference to success.

5 It built on the Tribal Energy Summit the Energy
6 Commission held earlier. And there were a lot of events in
7 between and a lot of events before. And I think it really
8 positions us to take the next steps of working with tribes
9 as partners as we deal with climate change. And try to
10 understand how to better use traditional tribal knowledge
11 and put it together with some of our scientific approach
12 and knowledge to deal with management issues, to better
13 understand how to achieve different kinds of technological
14 change. And that ranges from all sorts of things that we
15 do.

16 From working with tribes on building energy
17 efficiency to we're seeing tribes -- I don't know if I
18 mentioned this to Patty, I should have but I'll do it now
19 if I haven't before. I really see tribes as a major
20 partner for helping us expand the electric vehicle charging
21 network in rural areas. Because the Bishop Paiute Tribe
22 has applied to somebody, and they're going to get back to
23 me on who it was, for help finding stations. The Bear
24 River Tribe, which is -- and those are two tribes that will
25 speak in our workshop coming up. The Bear River Tribe on

1 their own put in six EV chargers they're up in Humboldt
2 County where we've got a lack of charging capacity.

3 So working with tribes throughout the state on
4 expansion of EV infrastructure brings the benefits to them.
5 It makes it possible for them to bring on board more
6 electric vehicle themselves. It also obviously helps
7 attract people to tribal facilities and tribal lands. And
8 it helps us expand our network, so there are tremendous
9 benefits.

10 We've seen tribes go into microgrids. We've seen
11 tribes to express interest in our ECCA Program. We've seen
12 just a tremendous upwelling of interest from tribes. I
13 think they can be major partners with us in a lot of what
14 we're trying to do. I also think we have a lot to learn
15 from them and so it's been a great exchange. And I've
16 really enjoyed doing that work and I really want to extend
17 my thanks to the Bishop Paiute Tribe.

18 The other thing I will say, and if I got the
19 business meeting wrong I'm going to cry, but I don't think
20 I did -- is we could have done this in the Legal, Chief
21 Counsel Report, but I think I'll just do it here. Is I
22 want to thank Kourtney Vaccaro for her tremendous service
23 and hard work as the Energy Commission's Chief Counsel.
24 She's not leaving us. She is going to become my advisor
25 and I am extremely excited for her start as my advisor

1 tomorrow. Not a month from tomorrow, tomorrow.

2 And I just wanted to say that I've work with
3 Kourtney says she has come on to the Commission. And she's
4 been here for almost nine years. She's worked for us in
5 and out whole range of different capacities. And I think
6 probably in part, because I'm the Attorney Commissioner do
7 a lot of siting, I've gotten to work with Kourtney in all
8 of these different capacities.

9 When she started she was a hearing officer. And
10 we did some of the early Desert Solar cases together. And
11 I'll never forget driving through the desert with Kourtney
12 who has a different sense of time than I do. And a
13 different level of anxiety sometimes, around you know
14 simple logistical matters that tend to work themselves out
15 in my experience. (Laughter.) So it was fun from the very
16 beginning working with Kourtney. And I could tell a lot of
17 stories, but I won't.

18 But she also worked for us as the Assistant
19 Executive Director of Compliance and Enforcement. And
20 helped us get a more standardized set of approaches and
21 structure around how we do compliance and enforcement work,
22 beginning in the siting area with power plants. But and
23 also of course we have the appliance efficiency enforcement
24 requirement or program and others. And a lot of that
25 really started with Kourtney in this role with the support

1 of Executive Office kind of beginning to figure out how do
2 we as the Energy Commission improve our work in this area.

3 She worked as the Assistant Executive Director
4 for Audits, Investigation and Program Review. That's again
5 a lot of this more broad work; staff Counsel, of course,
6 and for recent years Chief Counsel. And Kourtney has been
7 an extraordinary Chief Council.

8 So let's see here, so over the last four years
9 Kourtney's managed and coordinated the work of the Chief
10 Counsel's Office. She's worked hard to ensure that the
11 legal advice coming out of the Chief Counsel's Office
12 harmonized our legal principles, laws, policy in a way that
13 helped the Commission achieve its goals. And helped us
14 understand the landscape ahead of us, the legal landscape.
15 And helped us make informed decisions. And that's what we
16 need and what we want from our Chief Counsel, in addition
17 to proactively managing the office and developing and
18 growing the skills of our team of attorneys in the Legal
19 Office. So I just want to thank Kourtney.

20 I want to thank Alan Ward who has agreed very
21 graciously to step up and be Acting Chief counsel while we
22 go through our search. I've got a tremendous amount of
23 confidence in Alan's ability to lead our legal team and
24 ensure that we continue to get high-quality legal advice
25 from that office for now and in the interim as we go

1 through our process.

2 We have posted the announcement for Chief
3 Counsel, so if anybody is interested in applying please do.
4 If you know someone who might be please point them our way.
5 And we will move forward with that as posted.

6 So anyway that's I think all I have, but many,
7 many thanks to Kourtney. This is her last Business Meeting
8 as Chief Counsel.

9 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, actually why don't we do
10 Kourtney first and then I'll do my (indiscernible) --

11 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Yeah, no I want to pile on and
12 echo much of what Commissioner Douglas said.

13 You know, Kourtney, just you're smart, you're
14 capable, you're knowledgeable. You are always on point. I
15 trust you to know the law and to tell us what it is, but in
16 a way that helps us make really good informed decisions.
17 You always provide I think, excellent advice and very high
18 standards. I have appreciated your commitment and your
19 dedication to the Commission, to building a terrific
20 office, everything that you have done. You're erudite.
21 You're articulate.

22 And it really has been a privilege to work with
23 you in this role. I'm so delighted that I get to continue
24 to work with you in your new role, because you are also
25 really funny and a lot of fun. So you leave big shoes to

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1 fill, but I just wanted to take a minute to also thank you
2 for the great work that you do at the Commission each and
3 every day

4 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll just say working
5 with you as a hearing adviser, just to give an example, it
6 just recalibrated my whole sense of what a hearing adviser
7 can be. And not to take away from the others, but just so
8 on top of things and just you saw everyone in the rooms
9 spines straighten. They had to bring their A-game into
10 that room, to all parties. And just sort of that rigor and
11 that consistency, I think just speaks volumes. And that's
12 just one example of many I could give.

13 In any case I think probably just doing the
14 geometry I think you're probably even a little bit closer
15 now than you have been. So I'll just be able to walk down
16 the hall and that'll be really great. I'm really glad
17 you're on the row. And hopefully Commissioner Douglas can
18 show you as a resource when the need arises. Obviously
19 within the limits of BK etcetera.

20 And it goes without saying, but I'll say it, and
21 anyway congratulations on just a really stellar tenure as
22 Chief counsel and more great things to come, but thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: So Kourtney, I barely got
24 to know you. And I feel like you were making my spine go
25 straighter and now I'm worried I'm going to have curvature

1 of the spine. I'm going to make horrible mistakes. And
2 there's no going to be nobody there to help me, but I'm
3 sure Alan is going to do a great job and help me. But just
4 thank you for getting me up to speed. Thank you for
5 walking me through what I'm sure were such junior Mickey
6 Mouse questions and always responding nicely and
7 competently and with humor, which I much appreciate
8 personally.

9 So I wish you well. I am sad that we didn't get
10 to work more in your current role, but looking forward to
11 seeing all the great things you can do with Commissioner
12 Douglas.

13

14 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thunderous agreement to
15 all that. And yeah, Kourtney, you're a true public
16 servant. I really see that in your spirit, so strongly,
17 how much you care and how dedicated you are.

18 And I think for any team to be successful you
19 want different skillsets. You need that. And I think what
20 we're trying to do here at the Energy Commission is
21 incredibly ambitious. I mean really, we're trying to solve
22 climate change. We're trying to create these models that
23 can spread.

24 And from my perspective, and I know Chair
25 Weisenmiller felt the same, having someone who is so

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1 informed and thoughtful and wise and detail-oriented on all
2 of our processes is essential, because that's literally
3 where we could get tripped up. I mean a lot of it is
4 actually on preventable process stuff. And I feel very
5 well protected actually by your legal judgement in terms of
6 how we proceed about what we are trying to do. And I just
7 can't thank you enough.

8 And I'm excited for you. Also, I really like to
9 see people grow and thrive. I want you to thrive as a
10 person to actually enter a new role. We're actually going
11 to be using some different skillsets and I'm excited for
12 you and this next chapter, so congrats on everything and I
13 look forward to the next chapter.

14 So and also to Kristen Driskell, I guess we'll
15 have a chance to go deeper next month.

16 I wanted also particularly to thank our Interim
17 Public Adviser Jennifer Martin-Gallardo, who is going to
18 share with us in a minute, what she has been working on, on
19 this new Ombudsman function that we started just because we
20 are about delivering service to our grantees. We are here
21 to serve our grantees and she has been diligently
22 performing outreach to all of these folks and is going to
23 share a little bit more about that. But you're doing a
24 great job, Jen, so thank you for all your work. I really
25 appreciate it.

1 I also just wanted to add a little more color on
2 our new PUC President Marybel Batjer who I'm a big fan of.
3 She is a problem solver. She is a bureaucracy fixer and
4 someone I think will be a traffic partner with us. She's
5 not an energy wizard or expert, but if you look at what the
6 challenges of the PUC are, I mean a huge number of them are
7 operational. And actually I think she'll be really
8 particularly gifted in that.

9 We will be working together, as I mentioned, on
10 doing a joint En Banc this fall. And so I've been in touch
11 with her this weekend and it's a coup that the Governor's
12 Office got her. This was not her choice, but sometimes the
13 best person you've got to go after. And they were able to
14 persuade her and it's great for the state, so.

15 A little bit about our Electrification Summit, I
16 was thrilled with how that turned out. We had sold out,
17 450 people. I really want to thank Commissioner McAllister
18 for leading the session on cities. And just the dialogue,
19 the level of engagement, the diversity of folks there from
20 cities and state agencies and the innovation sector, an
21 incredible, incredible momentum across the board and we
22 just had some tremendous dialogue.

23 There's 50 cities now that are in some stage of
24 considering an all-electric reach code and will be coming
25 to us. Incredible momentum in many of the other sectors as

1 well, so and EPRI was a terrific partner as was the Silicon
2 Valley Leadership Group and CAISO and UC. So that was
3 really time well spent and particularly I'm glad, Drew, you
4 were able to get many Energy Commission staff there. And I
5 think it was terrific both ways, that it exchange, so I was
6 thrilled.

7 I also just wanted to say thanks again to
8 Commissioner Douglas For this Tribal Summit. She is
9 understating how powerful it was. It was an incredible,
10 incredible gathering and not easy to get to, a six-hour
11 drive. But it's more important than ever that we go there.
12 I really believe in that. I'm going to personally make a
13 commitment to do that on a regular basis, to get out to
14 these tribal communities. I think it meant a lot to them
15 that we came to them.

16 And I will just say I sent a note to the entire
17 Energy Commission staff yesterday with a couple of items,
18 including Governor Newsom's apology to the tribes, which is
19 an incredibly powerful apology and needed. You know, a
20 genocide was committed. He named it. He said it. It
21 meant an incredible amount, I think, to the folks in the
22 tribal communities to see that. It was still being talked
23 about.

24 And I just feel really proud of our state now,
25 how we're trying to repair that historical damage. The

1 Governor's Tribal Advisor, Christina Snider, with us as
2 well and these discussions. She's doing terrific work.

3 And we have over 150 state and federally-
4 recognized tribes in California, which is more tribes that
5 exist in any other state to my knowledge. And what we're
6 doing here, some of the models that we're trying to create,
7 can be models for other states.

8 I love telling this story, which I do now at
9 almost every talk, what we did with the Blue Lake Rancheria
10 Tribe up in Humboldt. And doing that solar microgrid, so
11 that if the grid were to go down they could keep power on
12 in their first aid clinic and the grid did go down, because
13 of a fire. And the power stayed on. And those kind the
14 projects are a real example.

15 And I just feel incredibly proud of you,
16 Commissioner Douglas, for leading this. You're putting
17 your heart into that and I can see it and feel it and I
18 think all the folks in the tribal communities can as well.
19 I just want to say having worked with you now for six-and-
20 a-half years, you are having a Renaissance. I mean, it is
21 amazing. You're doing offshore wind and this lithium task
22 force and the tribal work and everything else on audits.
23 And it's just such a treat to see this up close. And that
24 Summit you put together was years in the making and I'm
25 just really, really proud of you. And glad to be able to

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1 participate.

2 And I think that's it for me, so let's move on to
3 the Executive Director's Report.

4 MR. BOHAN: Thank you Chair and Members, three
5 quick items. First, we hired a company to make our
6 invoicing electronic and I'm just really pleased the
7 process has started. We're really happy with who we've
8 got. We are going to be using the Salesforce platform
9 that's used widely and hope to have by next summer a system
10 in place, so we can receive and process invoices
11 electronically.

12 Second, mandatory training. You may have seen
13 last month some press reports about an investigation into
14 mandatory training for sexual harassment. Some agencies
15 didn't fare particularly well in terms of the managers and
16 supervisors and the percentages that have received the
17 training. I'm proud to say that we are at 100 percent. Not
18 100 percent for all staff, and we require it for all staff,
19 but we're pretty good. But 100 percent for what is
20 required, which is managers and sups

21 And finally, third, FI\$Cal. We've all heard
22 about FI\$Cal. It's this new accounting and budgeting
23 system that the state adopted several years ago. It's up
24 to \$900 plus billion in cost. The State Auditor did an
25 analysis that was published in January that found many,

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1 many agencies having significant trouble and some agencies
2 not able to book any of the months of the year at all.

3 We started the process in 2017, and really
4 struggled last year, but managed to get the books all done
5 by the end of the year. This year we've completed month
6 11, which is May. And we'll get the whole year completed
7 very quickly, so we have done a really tremendous job. And
8 I say "we" and what I really should be saying is Rachael
9 Rectenwald who I wanted to call up, so you can put a name
10 with the face. This is the head of our Accounting
11 Department and she's one of the people who you may not have
12 met or have seen, but just doing an incredible job moving
13 this process forward. It has just taken tenacity and just
14 day-to-day work for her and her whole team. So I wanted to
15 just acknowledge her.

16 And I've talked to the Chair about making this a
17 part of my remarks, is just an acknowledgement of somebody
18 who goes sometimes unnoticed. But is really so critical to
19 the work we do here. Thank you.

20 ITEM 16

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Thank you.

22 Public Adviser's Report?

23 MS. MARTIN-GALLARDO: Good afternoon Chair, Vice-
24 Chair and Commissioners. I'd like to provide a short
25 report about my work today as Grants Ombudsman.

1 As you know, the Chair has requested that I reach
2 personally to all of our grant recipients with agreements
3 entered into within the last three years. The purpose of
4 my calls is to receive feedback from grant recipients on
5 their experience with the Energy Commission's grant
6 process.

7 To date I have spoken with approximately two-
8 thirds of our Clean Transportation Program, formerly known
9 as ARFVTP, awardees. Those I have spoken with are
10 extremely grateful for the opportunities that the funding
11 is providing to help them move California forward. And
12 they are absolutely committed to achieving the program's
13 goals.

14 I can also say that the thoughtful feedback I
15 have received from grant recipients has been extremely
16 helpful. The conversations are uncovering consistent
17 themes and are providing me with a clear understanding of
18 the challenges that we must address to improve the
19 efficiency with which we administer our grant programs.

20 For example, it is clear that we must simplify
21 our invoicing system. Also, we must find ways to establish
22 reliable and swift timelines for internal processes such as
23 getting grants from the NOPA stage to the business meeting
24 and from the business meeting to signed agreements.

25 As I finished my calls on our transportation

1 programs I will be reaching out to EPIC grant recipients.
2 When those calls are finished I will be providing a
3 complete summary of the feedback with suggestions on
4 various approaches to improvement. I look forward to
5 sharing the feedback with you, Chair Hochschild, and
6 collaboratively working with grantees and staff towards
7 solutions to improve the effectiveness of the grant funding
8 we provide.

9 I am truly thankful for the candid and thoughtful
10 feedback from our grantees. It has been a pleasure
11 speaking to each of them. I can tell you that our grantees
12 are extremely thankful for the opportunity to provide this
13 feedback on their experiences. And suggestions on how we
14 can make our programs even better, because they are truly
15 passionate about moving California forward with their
16 projects.

17 A number of have asked me to thank you personally
18 for the opportunity. I look very much forward to
19 continuing these conversations and helping in any way that
20 I can to improve our agency's processes.

21 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Well, thank you, Jennifer,
22 great job. And just so everyone is clear the way we have
23 set this up, these are not attributable comments. What
24 we're really trying to get is honest feedback and actually
25 I'm most interested in the stuff that's not working and

1 where we can improve and what the sticking points are. And
2 so this is all done as part of our larger effort to just
3 get better with our process and to solicit proactively.
4 Because people don't want to bite the hand that feeds them
5 naturally, so this is really a set up try and get to how we
6 can improve. So we look forward to your complete report,
7 thanks and great work.

8 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Let's move on to public
9 comment, any public comment in the room or on the phone?

10 (No audible response.)

11 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: Hearing none, let's move on to
12 Chief Counsel's Report.

13 MS. VACCARO: So I have no substantive report
14 today, but I would like to thank you for your very kind
15 words. And I think for any Legal Counsel it's imperative
16 that you have the respect and the trust of your client. I
17 feel like I've had that. I've had it before I was your
18 Chief Counsel. I feel like I've had it for the four-and-a-
19 half years that I've been your Chief Counsel.

20 I mean, that's what allowed us to sort of make
21 tough calls together. I think it's something that's
22 allowed us to agree to disagree in significant areas and
23 still have enduring relationships, both personal and
24 professional. I'm just very grateful and honored that you
25 selected me and appreciated me as your Chief Counsel.

1 It's meant a great deal to me and I feel very
2 fortunate to have worked with such a strong legal team.
3 We are often sort of -- we're not even unsung heroes. I
4 don't even think people see us that way, but and it's often
5 because what we do is background. It's confidential. It's
6 internal. But you have before you, and you've had it for
7 years and you're going to continue to have it, a group of
8 individuals who are so dedicated to the work of this
9 agency. I think sometimes they just aren't seen to be
10 appreciated, but you have a tremendous Legal Office. And I
11 feel honored to have served with them as well.

12 So this is just farewell, because I'm moving
13 upstairs tomorrow and I'm super-excited about it.

14 (Laughter.)

15 CHAIR HOCHSCHILD: You're going to be even closer
16 to us. Well, so let's give Kourtney a round of applause.

17 (Applause.)

18 And with that we're adjourned, but what I'd like
19 to do is invite all of the Commissioners out front, if we
20 could take a photo with the electric school bus. Thank
21 you.

22 (Adjourned the Business Meeting for closed session
23 at 12:41 p.m.)

24 --oOo--

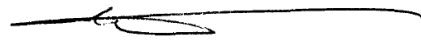
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under 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 25th day of July, 2019.



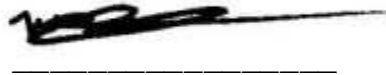
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Myra Severtson
Certified Transcriber
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