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CPUC'S EPIC PROGRAM POLICY + NNOVATION COORDINATION GROUP

Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group Presentation: August 21, 2020

THE ACCELERATE GROUP | LLC



What is the PICG?

- Response to Evergreen Evaluation of the EPIC Program (2017)
- Established via CPUC decisions D.18-01-008 and D.18-10-052
- High level goal of improving information sharing and coordination both CPUC

PICG MISSION

- to occur effectively

(Note: The PICG is an advisory body and does not itself dictate policy for any of the EPIC administrators nor the CPUC)

between the EPIC administrators and between the EPIC administrators and

To identify timely opportunities for substantive feedback and coordination among EPIC investments and California's energy innovation needs and goals

To provide the support functions that will allow this feedback and coordination



POLICY + INNOVATION COORDINATION GROUP PARTNERSHIP AREAS **Partnership Area Identification**

Policy + Innovation Partnership Areas are "issue areas of common interest and substantive opportunity, around which the PICG will engage in targeted coordination."



WHERE CAN ENHANCED COORDINATION ACCELERATE **OUTCOMES**?



WHAT ARE THE MOST CRITICAL CHALLENGES?

- Identified obstacles and challenges to 1. achieving state energy policy goals through interviews and background research
- Mapped EPIC Projects onto obstacles and 2. challenges they are addressing
- Identified Critical Areas of concern for CPUC 3.
- Identified Timely Opportunities, based on 4. current/upcoming proceedings
- Compiled 12 Possible Partnership Areas 5.
- CPUC finalized the top 4 Partnership Areas 6. for 2020



POLICY + INNOVATION COORDINATION GROUP PARTNERSHIP AREAS **2020 Partnership Areas**

- **EQUITY:** How can we ensure that the transition to clean energy is equitable?
- investments?
- TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION: How can transportation electrification support grid reliability and promote decarbonization?

Additional information about each Partnership Area including workstream tasks, and key questions to be addressed can be found at www.epicpartnership.org



• WILDFIRE MITIGATION: How do we develop new tools to prioritize and weigh wildfire mitigation

PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFFS: How do we minimize social and economic disruptions of public safety power shutoffs for the most critical public services and the most vulnerable communities?



POLICY + INNOVATION COORDINATION GROUP PARTNERSHIP AREAS What will the PICG do with Partnership Areas?

- Finalized the four 2020 Partnership Areas 4
- **Announced Partnership Areas and Recruited Participants**

- Outreach to Stakeholders / Communities
- **Conduct Partnership Area Workstreams**
- Conduct Policy + Innovation Forum



EPIC Project Transparency and Data

JULY 2020

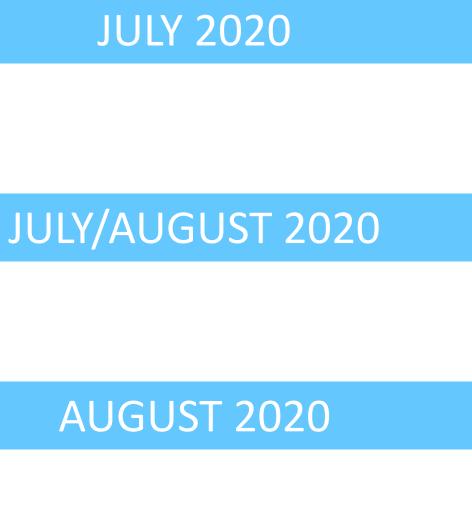
AUGUST 2020

SEPT. 2020 – DEC. 2020

TBD

2020 – 2021 (& BEYOND)









Equity Partnership Areas Potential Key Questions

strengths of communities?

- Who do communities trust and how do trusted messengers convey information?
- What resources and technical assistance do community organizations need to engage?
- What aspects of RD&D projects do community members and community-based organizations want to be involved with?

Income communities?

- What challenges do Low-income homeowners face in adopting clean energy technology? Renters? What challenges do rental and multi-family properties face?

Engagement: What are effective ways for researchers or program implementers to understand specific needs and

Understanding Challenges: What technical and financial challenges are more significant in DACS and/or Low-



EQUITY PARTNERSHIP AREA **Equity Partnership Areas Potential Key Questions**

Lessons Learned: What have we learned from previous efforts with DACs or Low-Income communities?

What EPIC project challenges are still unresolved?

Moving Forward: How do we solve these challenges?

- Who may be missing from the discussion and how can we ensure that they are included?
- What structures can be put in place to empower communities to identify their specific needs and enable EPIC projects to address those needs?

The other 3 Partnership Areas also pose key questions around equity and inclusion.



Equity Partnership Area Workstream Design



Meeting Dates Meeting 1: October 6 Meeting 2: October 15 4:30-6:00 pm Meeting 3: December 3 4:30-6:00 pm

4:30-6:00 pm



Live participation via WebEx with dial-in options. Looking at Youtube / Facebook streaming options as well. Closed captioning available over a screen.



Workstream Outcome: Workstream members and the Project Coordinator will work to finalize a framework for equitable engagement and project design, as well as identify opportunities for coordination.

Stakeholders can sign up to participate in workstreams at www.epicpartnership.org



Equity Partnership Area Meetings

Workstream members and the Project Coordinator will work to finalize a framework for equitable engagement and project design, as well as identify opportunities for coordination.

Meeting 1: Introductions and goal setting, EPIC projects and other stakeholders present lessons learned and best practices for community engagement in RD&D projects, Q&A, Public Comment

Meeting 2: EPIC projects and other stakeholders present lessons learned and best practices for community engagement in RD&D projects, Q&A, Public Comment

Meeting 3: Review and discussion on a draft framework that captures learnings from first two meetings, Group feedback on strawman framework, Public Comment



DACAG Feedback

- A. What community groups and stakeholders should we reach out to?
- B. What are the best ways to engage communities to participate?
- C. How have other virtual meetings handled translation and closed captioning?
- D. What resources should be available for communities before and after the workstream meetings?
- E. Where should these resources be maintained so community groups can easily access them?
- F. Are there known RD&D projects outside of EPIC that can talk to challenges and/or successes of equitable inclusion and design?
- G. What would be a useful final deliverable for the DACAG?



Thank You

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Visit: www.epicpartnership.org