

CPUC Public Agenda 3497

Thursday, November 18, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
Remote Presentation

Commissioners:

Marybel Batjer, President
Martha Guzman Aceves
Clifford Rechtschaffen
Genevieve Shiroma
Darcie L. Houck

www.cpuc.ca.gov



California Public
Utilities Commission

CPUC Mission

We Empower California through:

- Assuring utility services are clean and safe.
- Providing for critical services and infrastructure.
- Designing rates that are fair and reasonable.
- Protecting the interests of consumers and ratepayers

CPUC Core Values



Accountability



Excellence



Integrity



**Open
Communication**



Stewardship

Commissioner Code of Conduct

- I. Commissioners should conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for the public, for fellow Commissioners, and for Commission staff.
- II. Commission meetings should be opportunities for a full and respectful exchange of ideas and the responsible execution of Commission duties.
- III. Serving on the Commission is an honor and Commissioners should treat their colleagues at the Commission with respect for the varied backgrounds, skills and interests that each one brings.
- IV. Commissioners are public officials who should uphold the integrity of their office at all times.

Public Comment

- Per Resolution ALJ-252, **any member of the public** (excluding parties and their representatives) **who wishes to address the CPUC about matters before the Commission** must call in to toll-free number:



1-800-857-1917

Passcode: 9899501

- ***Para escuchar esta reunión en español, por favor llame: (800) 857-1917, código de acceso: 3799627.***
- Once called, each speaker has up to 1 minute at the discretion of the Commission President.
- A bell will ring when time has expired.
- Public Comment is not permitted on the following items:
 - 4
 - All items on the Closed Session Agenda

Public Agenda Changes

Items shown on the Consent Agenda will be taken up and voted on as a group in one of the first items of business of each CPUC meeting.

- Items on Today's Consent Agenda are:
1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.
- Any Commissioner, with consent of the other Commissioners, may request an item from the Regular Agenda be moved to the Consent Agenda prior to the meeting.
- **Item 35** from the Regular Agenda has been added to the Consent Agenda.
- Any Commissioner may request an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion on the Regular Agenda prior to the meeting.
- **No Item** has been moved to the Regular Agenda.
- **Items 28A and 38** have been withdrawn.
- The following items have been held to future Commission Meetings:
 - **Held to 12/2/21: 4, 10 and 20.**

Regular Agenda

- Each item on the Regular Agenda (and its alternate if any) will be introduced by the assigned Commissioner or CPUC staff and discussed before it is moved for a vote.
- For each agenda item, a summary of the proposed action is included on the agenda; the CPUC's final decision may, however, differ from that proposed.
- The complete text of every Proposed Decision or Draft Resolution is available for download on the CPUC's website: www.cpuc.ca.gov
- Late changes to agenda items are available on the Virtual Escutia Table.

Regular Agenda | Energy Orders

Item #27 [19764] – Electric Program Investment Charge Program Administrative Improvements R.19-10-005

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to consider renewal of the Electric Program Investment Charge Program.

Ratesetting

Comr. Guzman Aceves - Judge Glegola

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Authorizes Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) to continue in their role as administrators of the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) program.
- Authorizes EPIC 4 (2021-2025) investment plan budgets of \$18.444 million annually for PG&E, \$3.24 million annually for SDG&E, and \$15.131 million annually for SCE; EPIC 5 (2026-2030) investment plan budgets may increase by rate of inflation.
- Adopts administrative requirements to increase transparency and improve focus of EPIC program investments.
- Does not approve investment plans, which must still be filed.
- This proceeding remains open.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Among other projects, the EPIC Program funds projects that improve electricity reliability and public safety, especially in the area of wildfire risk reduction or mitigation.

ESTIMATED COST:

- \$37 million annually through 2025, if investment plans are approved.

Regular Agenda | Energy Orders (continued)

Item #27A [19968] – Commissioner Guzman Aceves' Alternate to Agenda ID Number 19764

R.19-10-005

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to consider renewal of the Electric Program Investment Charge Program.

Ratesetting

Comr. Guzman Aceves

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Approves the electric utilities as continuing Electric Program Investment Charge program administrators, subject to additional requirements to improve their administrative performance
- Increases the California Energy Commission's administrative cost cap to 15%
- Clarifies other program requirements, definitions and Guiding Principles.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Because Electric Program Investment Charge investments are intended to increase safety, this Decision is expected to improve overall electric system safety after the investments are implemented.

ESTIMATED COST:

- Approves collection of the Utilities' budgets: \$18.444 million annually for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, \$3.24 million annually for San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and \$15.131 million annually for Southern California Edison Company.

Regular Agenda | Energy Orders (continued)

Item #28 [19871] – Revised Confidentiality Rules for Renewables Portfolio Standard Procurement Data

R.18-07-003

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Continue Implementation and Administration, and Consider Further Development, of California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Ratesetting

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Lakhanpal - Judge Sisto

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Adopts a revised confidentiality matrix for Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) procurement records that allows the following: (a) RPS load forecast data will be confidential for two future years and the year of filing; (b) RPS contract prices and terms will become public 30 days after the commercial operation date or 3 years from the date of Commission approval, whichever comes first; (c) For contracts that do not require a Commission approval, the RPS contract prices and terms will become public 30 days after the commercial operation date or three years from contract execution date, whichever comes first; (d) Aggregated bid information from an Investor-Owned Utility's competitive RPS solicitation will be public after the final contract is submitted for Commission approval when there are at least three bidders in the resource category; (e) Individual bid information may be kept confidential for three years after the RPS solicitation is closed; and (f) Contract amendments cannot revise prior confidentiality terms, and the public can access the RPS data 30 days after the new contract execution date.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this decision.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this decision.

Regular Agenda | Energy Orders (continued)

Item #29 [20008] – Order Instituting Rulemaking to Implement Senate Bill 1014

R. _____

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Implement Senate Bill 1014 – the California Clean Miles Standard Program

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Opens a new rulemaking to implement Senate Bill 1014, which requires the Commission to implement the California Clean Miles Standard Program to lower greenhouse gas emissions from transportation network companies.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this order.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this order.

Regular Agenda | Communication Orders

Item #30 [19973] – Transfer Control of TracFone Wireless, Inc. to Verizon Communications, Inc A.20-11-001

In the Matter of the Joint Application of TracFone Wireless, Inc., América Móvil, S.A.B. de C.V. and Verizon Communications, Inc. for Approval of Transfer of Control over Tracfone Wireless, Inc

Ratesetting

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Glegola

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Approves Joint Application, subject to conditions.
- Conditions that mitigate potential harm to customers include: 1) requiring the migration of TracFone Wireless, Inc. (TracFone) customers currently not using Verizon Communications, Inc's (Verizon) network be complete within six months; 2) requiring current TracFone customers with incompatible handsets as a result of the acquisition be provided one at no cost; and 3) requiring Verizon and TracFone to offer California LifeLine service for as long as the companies operate in California.
- Establishes a reporting process and a mitigation enforcement program with penalties.
- Closes the proceeding.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this decision.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this decision.

Regular Agenda | Orders Extending Statutory Deadline

Item #31 [20016] – Order Extending Statutory Deadline

A.17-01-023

Joint Application of Nextera Energy Transmission West, LLC and Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Permits to Construct the Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project.

Ratesetting

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Ayoade

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Extends Statutory Deadline for completion of this proceeding until December 1, 2022.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

Regular Agenda | Orders Extending Statutory Deadline (continued)

Item #32 [20022] – Order Extending Statutory Deadline

R.20-05-012

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for the Self-Generation Incentive Program and Related Issues.

Quasi-Legislative

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Fogel

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Extends Statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding until May 28, 2023.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

Regular Agenda | Orders Extending Statutory Deadline (continued)

Item #33 [20028] – Order Extending Statutory Deadline

R.18-07-017

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Continued Implementation of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act and Related Matters.

Ratesetting

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Lakhanpal

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Extends Statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding until December 15, 2022.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

Regular Agenda | Orders Extending Statutory Deadline (continued)

Item #34 [20030] – Order Extending Statutory Deadline

R.17-06-024

Order Instituting Rulemaking Evaluating the Commission's 2010 Water Action Plan Objective of Achieving Consistency between Class A Water Utilities' Low-Income Rate Assistance Programs, Providing Rate Assistance to All Low – Income Customers of Investor-Owned Water Utilities, and Affordability.

Quasi-Legislative

Comr. Guzman Aceves - Judge Haga - Judge Watts-Zagha

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Extends Statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding until December 31, 2022.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this Order Extending Statutory Deadline.

Item #36 [19960]

2021 Legislative Outcomes Presentation

2021 Legislative Outcomes

Office of Governmental Affairs

Grant Mack, Director

Lori Misicka | Marina MacLatchie | Amanda Singh

November 18, 2021



California Public
Utilities Commission

2021 Legislative Overview

- 146 bills tracked
- 24 bills passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor
- Took ONE formal legislative position
- Participated in EIGHT legislative committee oversight hearings
- Provided SIX formal legislative staff briefings

Legislative Engagement & Cross Agency Collaboration

- Engaged with the Senate and Assembly policy, fiscal, and budget committee consultants; Assembly Speaker's office; Senate Pro Tempore's office; and key legislative staff.
- Actively coordinated with the Department of Finance on bill fiscal analyses.
- Collaborated with the California Energy Commission (CEC), California Independent System Operator (CAISO), California Air Resources Board (CARB), State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal FIRE), Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (OEIS), Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), California Department of Technology (CDT), California Department of Conservation, and Geological Energy Management Division (Cal GEM).
- Updated the Governor's Office on key policy issues.

CPUC Formal Legislative Positions

- **SB 599 (Hueso): Public Utilities Commission: proceedings. (Version: as introduced, February 18, 2021)**
 - **CPUC Position:** SUPPORT
 - **Status:** In Assembly Rules committee (June 17, 2021)
 - **Summary:** This bill would authorize the CPUC to deliberate on Resolutions in closed session and would clarify statutory requirements relating to quiet periods and closed sessions. Specifically, the bill: 1) Authorizes the CPUC to meet in closed session to deliberate on a Proposed Decision, Order, or Resolution after providing three-day advanced notice to the public, except in an adjudicatory or quasi-legislative proceeding, and 2) Requires the CPUC to establish a quiet period during the three business days before the CPUC's scheduled vote on a Decision, during which oral or written communications shall not be permitted, except in an adjudicatory or quasi-legislative proceeding.
 - **Reason for Support:** This bill improves the ability of Commissioners to deliberate on matters before the CPUC by authorizing closed session meetings to additionally include deliberation on Resolutions. Further, the bill simplifies the current quiet period and closed session requirements by revising and recasting existing statute.

Summary – Broadband Bills

- The Legislature passed a historic \$6 billion broadband infrastructure package which combines Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds with General Fund allocations to deploy affordable, open-access broadband infrastructure statewide, with a specific focus on municipal broadband.
- Three major broadband bills –
 - **AB 14** (Aguiar-Curry): Communications: CASF: deaf and disabled telecommunications program: surcharges.
 - **SB 4** (Gonzalez): Communications: CASF.
 - **AB 41** (Wood): Broadband infrastructure deployment.
- Other bills on telecommunications issues included universal service, LifeLine, cable and video franchising, resiliency, and consumer protections.

Summary – Water and Transportation Bills

Water

- Provided technical feedback on two Assembly bills pertaining to the CPUC's oversight of water investor-owned utilities.
 - **AB 1058 (C. Garcia)**: Large water corporations: bill payment options.
 - **AB 1250 (Calderon)**: Water and sewer system corporations: consolidation of service.

Transportation

- Minimal legislative activity pertaining to CPUC jurisdictional authority over transportation network companies (TNCs), public transit, rail corporations, and other private transportation companies.
 - OGA engaged on various transportation related matters such as TNC passenger safety and at-grade rail crossing safety issues.

Summary – Energy Bills

- **At the beginning of this legislative year, the OGA was tracking and engaged in shaping roughly 90 energy (electricity and gas) bills.**
- **Many of these bills proposed a multitude of new policies largely focused on –**
 - Mitigating the impacts of PSPS events through deployment of distributed energy resources (DERs) to ensure reliability.
 - Creating new value streams for DERs to encourage additional deployment and subsidies for green hydrogen production and use.
 - Vegetation management practices to reduce wildfire risk and associated costs.
 - Restructuring clean energy resource procurement and mandating the procurement of specific energy resources.
 - Decarbonizing new and existing buildings throughout the state.
- **Bills that passed the Legislature and were signed by the Governor were largely aimed at –**
 - Expanding low-income energy efficiency programs.
 - Modifying mandated bioenergy procurement programs.
 - Creating complementary clean energy development plans.
 - Expanding access to existing behind-the-meter electric generation programs.

Legislative Committee Oversight, Informational, and Confirmation Hearings

Assembly Utilities & Energy Committee

- **March 3, 2021** – The Execution and Regulation of Public Power Safety Shutoffs
- **May 18, 2021** – Summer Readiness: Ensuring Reliability since the August 2020 Outages
- **June 16, 2021** – Annual Review of California Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocates Office

Senate Transportation Committee

- **April 9, 2021** – California's Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy

Assembly California's Lithium Economy Select Committee

- **May 26, 2021** – An Introduction to Lithium and Its Opportunities

Senate Rules Committee

- **June 23, 2021** – Governor Appointee Confirmation: CPUC Commissioner Darcie Houck

Assembly Cybersecurity Select Committee

- **July 8, 2021** – State Coordination and Critical Infrastructure Protection: Local Government and Utilities Critical Infrastructure Control Systems

Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications Committee

- **August 25, 2021** - Keeping the Power On: A Focus on Electricity Reliability and the California Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocates Office Annual Report

Formal Legislative Staff Informational Briefings

- **October 21, 2020** – Customer Energy Programs
- **November 11, 2020** – The Digital Divide
- **December 11, 2020** – Load-Serving Entity Resource Adequacy Program
- **December 16, 2020** – Energy Efficiency Policies & Programs
- **January 27, 2021** – Demand Response Policies & Programs
- **February 5, 2021** – California Telecommunications Resiliency Strategies

Fiscal & Budget Overview

- During the 2021 legislative year, the CPUC received **131 fiscal impact estimate requests for 71 bills**.
- Many conversations were held with the Department of Finance and the appropriations committees to discuss and justify our fiscal impact and policy concerns.
- The Legislature approved three Budget Bills and six Budget Trailer Bills that directly or indirectly affected the CPUC.
 - The Legislature and the Governor approved 15 new permanent positions and 18 limited-term positions for the CPUC.
 - CPUC funds were largely earmarked for broadband infrastructure accessibility and clean energy initiatives, as well as additional staff, contracts, and information technology products and services.

Thank You!

Legislative engagement is a collaborative team effort -

- OGA staff
- OGA Liaisons & Division staff
- Division Directors
- Commissioners and Advisors
- Legislative Partners & Stakeholders
- Agency Partners
- Governor's Office



California Public Utilities Commission

For Additional Information and
2021 Legislative Outcomes Report:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/oga

Item #36 [19960]

2021 Legislative Outcomes Presentation

Management Reports



Item #37 [20039]

Report and Discussion on Recent Consumer Protection and Safety Activities

CHANGES Program Report to the California Public Utilities Commission

Consumer Help and Awareness of Natural Gas and Electricity Services

Ravinder Mangat, Senior Regulatory Analyst, Consumer Affairs Branch, News and Outreach Office

November 18, 2021, CPUC Voting Meeting



California Public
Utilities Commission

Introduction

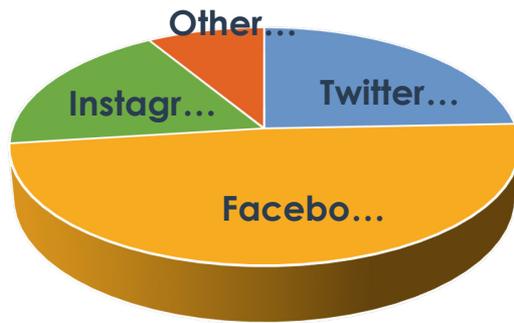
- CPUC created CHANGES to support Limited English Proficient (LEP), disabled, and senior consumers that have issues with their energy services.
- Three main components: outreach, education, and individual case assistance (needs assistance or dispute resolution).
- Contract oversight by the CPUC's Consumer Affairs Branch (CAB) Analytics Group in the News and Outreach Office.
- Lead contractor team consists of Self-Help for the Elderly and Milestone Consulting. Together they manage a collaborative of 27 Community Based Organizations (CBOs).
- CHANGES funding renewed in the CARE/ESA Decision 21-06-015 through 2026, and which ordered an independent evaluation of the program, slated to begin around January 2022.
- CHANGES Evaluation Objectives:
 - Assess if overall performance meets the needs of the target population.
 - Assess if the data collected supports understanding of the program's effectiveness and ongoing success.
 - Examine net benefits of program in comparison to similar programs/services.
 - Evaluate the appropriateness of the budget and funding source.
 - Examine the operational effectiveness of the administration of the program.

CHANGES Services June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021

Outreach

41 placements in in-language media outlets, potentially reaching 2.8 million LEP consumers.

870 postings on social media platforms



Consumer Education

15,761 consumers educated

Resources for delivering education remotely included development of more than 300 digital presentations.

LEP consumers face challenges with accessing remote sessions.

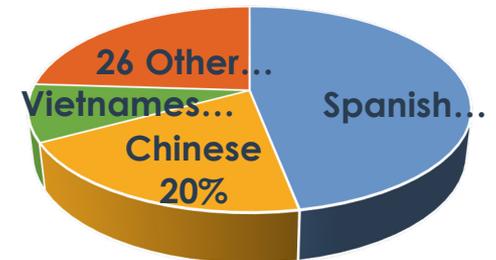
Case Assistance

Needs Assistance & Dispute Resolution

774 Dispute Resolution cases

4,375 Needs Assistance cases

Languages



Most Prevalent Case Assistant Issues 2020 – 21 Program Year

Dispute Resolution

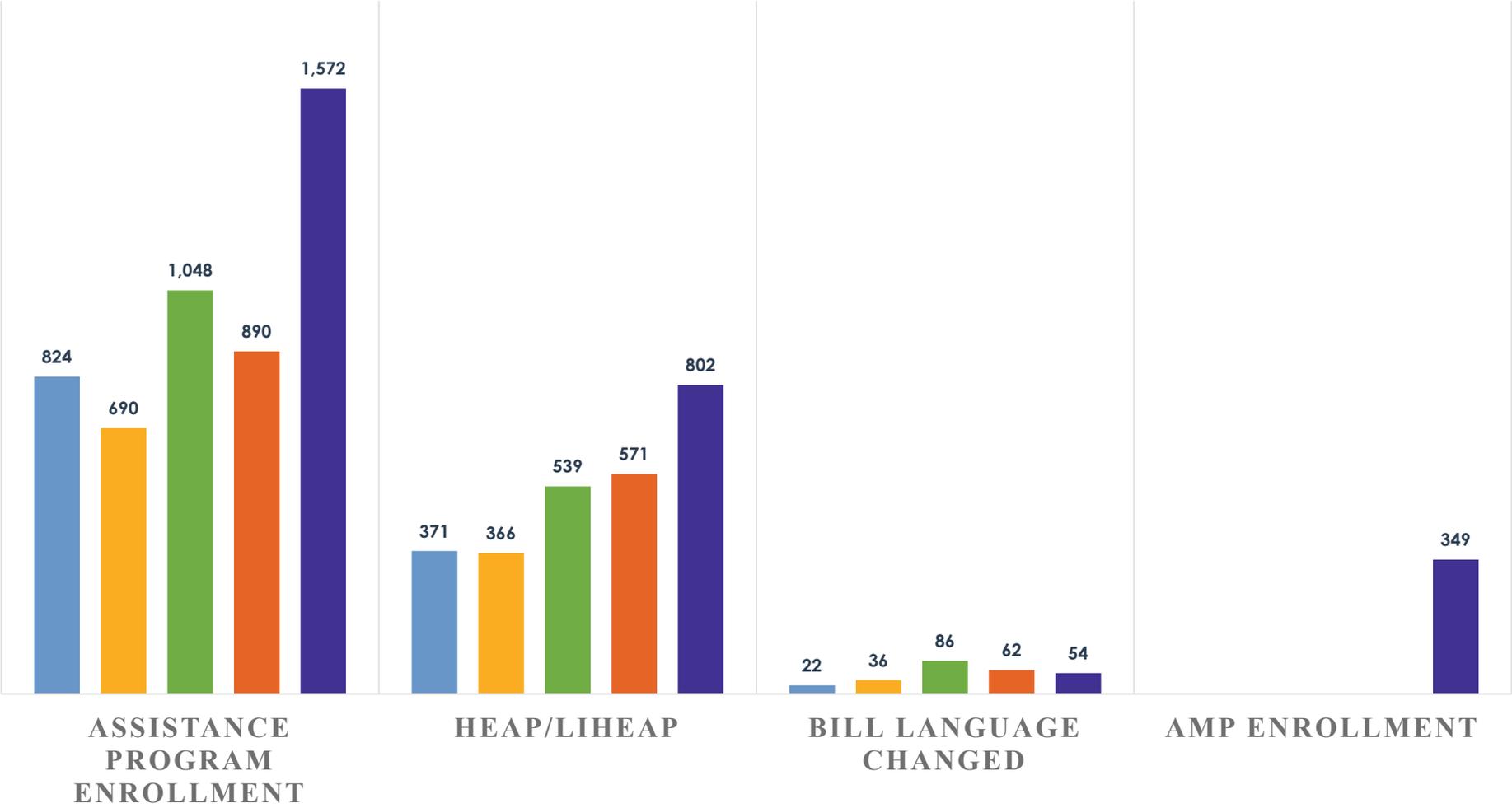
- Electricity Aggregation
- Gas Aggregation
- Assistance Program Enrollment

Needs Assistance

- HEAP/LIHEAP
- Enrollment in Assistance Programs
- Arrearage Management Plan Enrollment
- Billing Language Changed

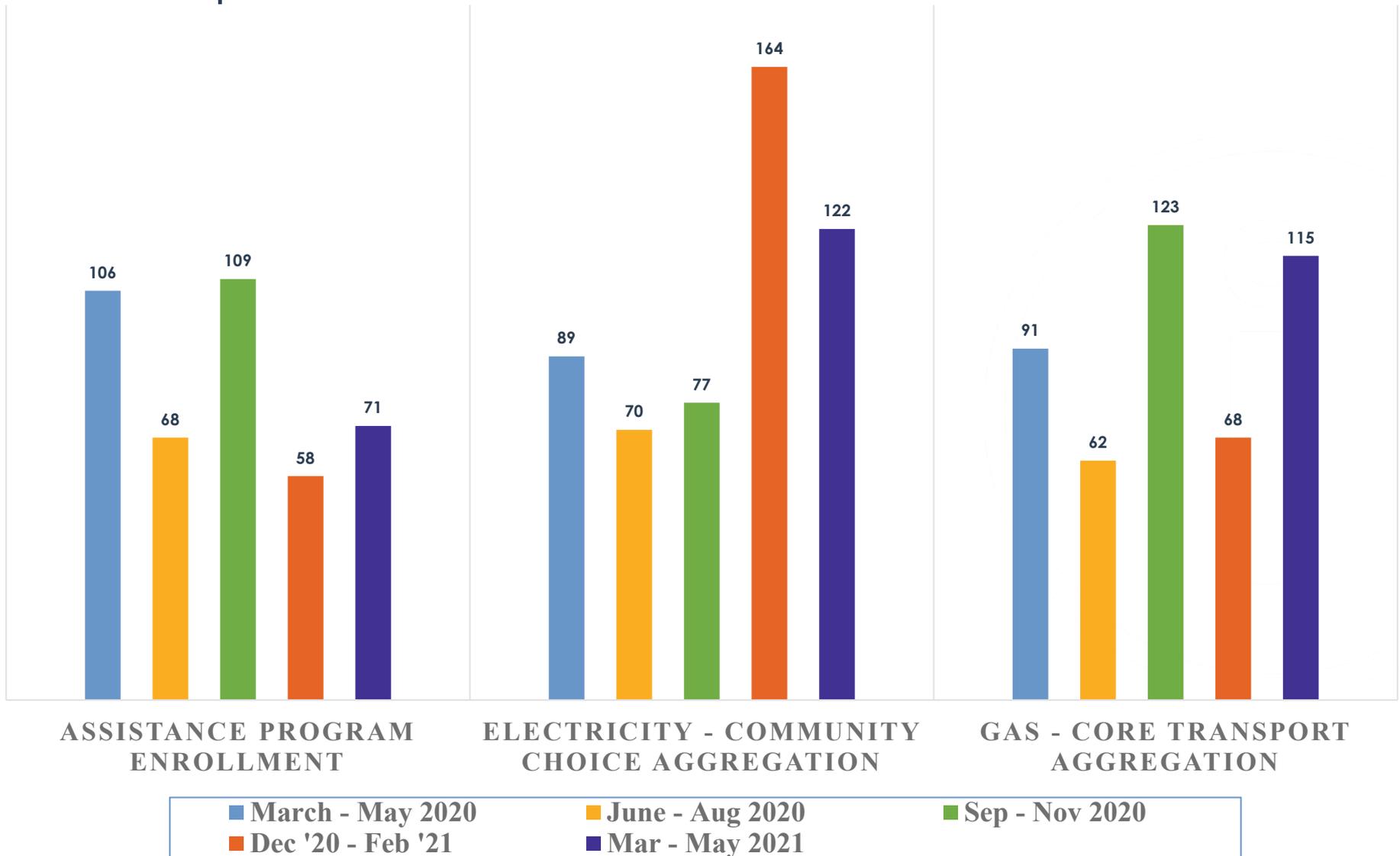
The moratorium on disconnections impacted the types of cases resolved. Most cases included enrollment in one or more bill reduction or payment assistance programs.

Needs Assistance – Most Prevalent Issues

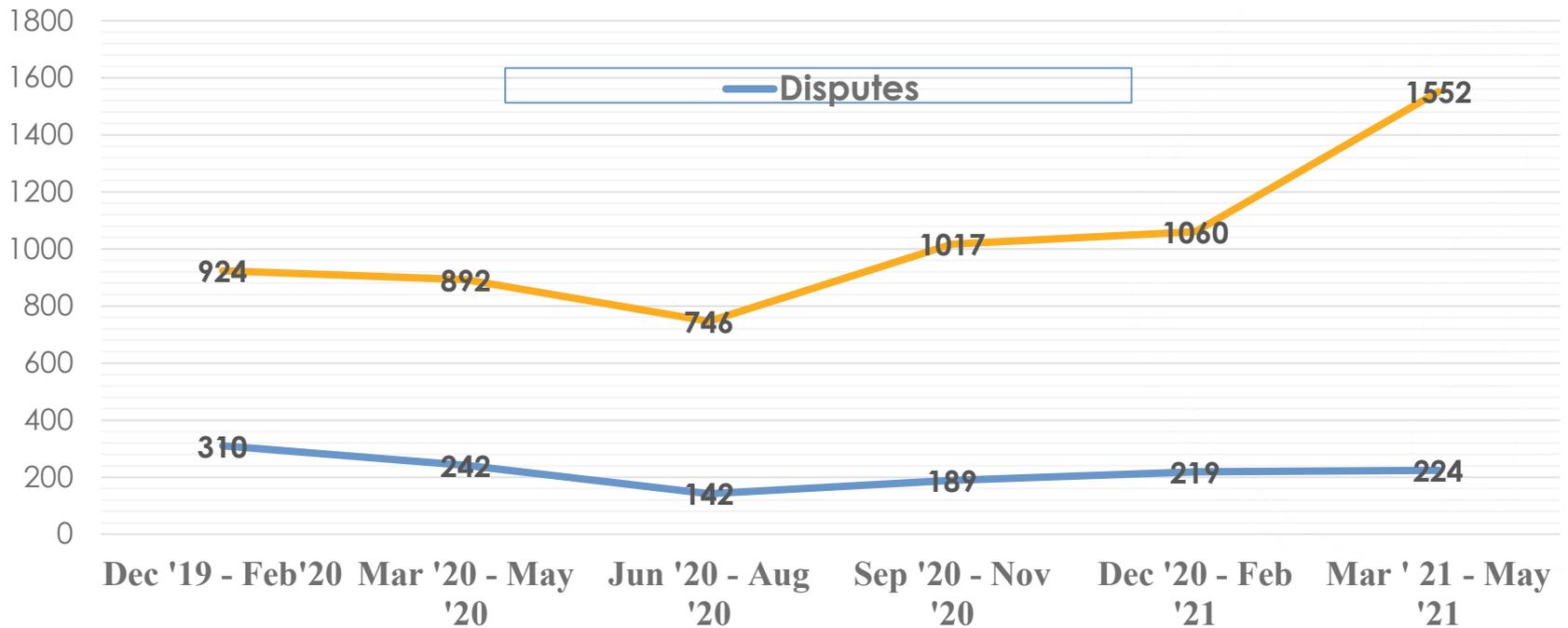


■ March - May 2020
 ■ June - Aug 2020
 ■ Sep - Nov 2020
 ■ Dec '20 - Feb '21
 ■ Mar - May 2021

Dispute Resolution – Most Prevalent Issues



Needs Assistance & Dispute Resolution Cases



Arrearage Management Plans

CHANGES CBOs have enrolled 679 consumers in AMP plans thru November 10, 2021.

- The total amount of balances included in AMP plans is just over \$950,000
- The average balance amount included in AMP plans is just under \$1,400

CBOs are conducting periodic follow-up with consumers enrolled in AMP to determine effectiveness and identify additional needs.

- 33% have made all current payments and their AMP plans are active
- 38% were unable to make current payments and were dropped from AMP
- 29% remain active in AMP but have missed one current payment and are in danger of being dropped from AMP



California Public Utilities Commission

Ravinder Mangat, Ravinder.Mangat@cpuc.ca.gov

Item #37 [20039]

Report and Discussion on Recent Consumer Protection and Safety Activities

Commissioners' Reports



Commissioner
Martha Guzman Aceves



Commissioner
Clifford Rechtschaffen



President
Marybel Batjer



Commissioner
Genevieve Shiroma



Commissioner
Darcie L. Houck

The CPUC thanks you for participating in today's meeting

The next Public Meeting will be:

December 2, 2021

10:00 a.m.

remote





California Public Utilities Commission

cpuc.ca.gov