

CPUC Public Agenda 3503

Thursday, February 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Remote Presentation

Commissioners:

Alice Reynolds, President
Clifford Rechtschaffen
Genevieve Shiroma
Darcie L. Houck
John R.D. Reynolds

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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.
- **Written comments on a specific proceeding can be submitted via the CPUC's docket card. Please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/docket, input the proceeding number, then click on the public comment tab. You can also visit the Public Advisor's Office webpage at www.cpuc.ca.gov/pao for further information.**
- Public Comment is not permitted on the following items:
 - 2, 14, 15, 18
 - 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, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25.
- 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.
- **No Item** 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.
- **No Item** has been withdrawn.
- The following items have been held to future Commission Meetings:
 - **Held to 3/17/22: 2, 7, 10 and 28.**

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 #26 [20241] – Senate Bill 1440 Biomethane Procurement Program

R.13-02-008

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Adopt Biomethane Standards and Requirements, Pipeline Open Access Rules, and Related Enforcement Provisions.

Quasi-Legislative.

Comr. Rechtschaffen - Judge Bemesderfer

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Implements Senate Bill 1440 by setting biomethane procurement targets to reduce methane emissions, sets goals and timetables for investor-owned gas utilities, and adopts related measures to ensure that all actions taken pursuant to the decision comply with all applicable state and federal laws.
- Modifies pipeline injection standards for carbon monoxide and hydrogen sulfide.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- The decision includes specific directions to gas utilities to minimize health and safety risks associated with biomethane procurement and use.

ESTIMATED COST:

- \$40 million in cap-and-trade set-asides to gasification pilot projects.

Regular Agenda | Communication Orders

Item #27 [20272] – Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant Program to Advance the Goal of the California Advanced Services Fund

R.20-08-021

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Revisions to the California Advanced Services Fund.

Quasi-Legislative

Comr. Houck - Judge Kao

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Establishes a local agency technical assistance grant program to provide funding to eligible local agencies and sovereign tribal governments for work product(s) associated with advancing the goal of the California Advanced Services Fund.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this decision.

ESTIMATED COST:

- Authorizes \$50 million to be distributed through the proposed grant program.

Item #31 [20299]

Presentation on the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group 2021 Annual Report

The Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group will present highlights from their 2021 Annual Report.

Item #31 [20299]

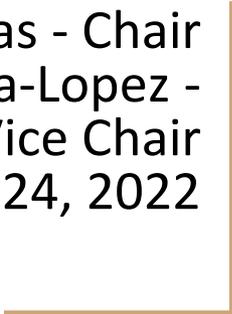
Presentation on the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group 2021 Annual Report

The Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group will present highlights from their 2021 Annual Report.



2021 DACAG Annual
Report / Priorities/
Introductions
February 24th CPUC
Voting Meeting

Angela Islas - Chair
Roman Partida-Lopez -
Vice Chair
February 24, 2022



Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG)

- Who is the DACAG?
 - Set of community representatives and leaders from across the state who represent disadvantaged, low-income and tribal communities.
- What's our purpose?
 - Our purpose is to advise the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) regarding the development, implementation, and impacts of proposed programs related to the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, also known as Senate Bill (SB) 350, in disadvantaged communities.

DACAG Equity Framework

- Adopted in September 2018
- Guiding principles to the DACAG
- Definition of Disadvantaged Communities
 - Defined in the CEC Energy Equity Indicators Tool
- Framework
 - Health and Safety
 - Access and Education
 - Financial Benefits
 - Economic Development
 - Consumer Protection



DACAG Introductions

MEMBERS



Angela Islas**

DACAG Chair
Community Representative
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022



Román Partida-López *

DACAG Vice Chair
The Greenlining Institute
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023



Stephanie Chen **

DACAG Secretary
Marin Clean Energy
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023

DACAG Introductions Cont'd



Jana Ganion ****

DACAG Tribal Representative
Blue Lake Rancheria
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022



Adrian Martinez **

DACAG Member
Earthjustice
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022



Andres Ramirez **

DACAG Member
Mobility Justice
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022

DACAG Introductions Cont'd



Fred L. Beihn *

DACAG Member
Arrowhead Solutions
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022



Roger Lin **

DACAG Member
California Environmental
Justice Alliance
April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2022



José Hernandez *

Los Angeles Cleantech
Incubator (LACI)
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023

DACAG Introductions Cont'd



Elena Krieger, PhD *

Physicians, Scientists, and
Engineers (PSE) for Healthy
Energy
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023



Curtis Silvers *

Los Angeles Brotherhood
Crusade
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2023

2021 DACAG Priorities (14)

- Storage
- Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)
- Solar Access
- Transportation Electrification
- Biomethane
- Building Electrification
- Workforce Development
- Assembly Bill 617
- Senate Bill 100
- Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)
- Telecommunications / Broadband / Digital Divide
- COVID-19 response
- Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan
- Community Engagement

DACAG Activities

- Held 11 meetings and XXX sub-group meetings
- Onboarded 3 new members
- Welcomed and build relationship with CEC Vice Chair Gunda, CPUC Commissioner Houck

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **Storage**

- The DACAG approved a comment letter to the CPUC opposing a proposal to shift funds from the Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) Equity Resiliency Budget (ERB) to the SGIP non-residential Equity Budget (Appendix B). The letter noted that there is significant need, exacerbated by COVID-related shelter-in-place orders, among the low income and medically vulnerable customers who are eligible for the ERB, and funds should not be taken away from this priority population in order to serve other kinds of customers.

- **Solar Access**

- The DACAG discussed ways to balance the conflicting goals of building out distributed solar and preventing customers who do not have solar or other distributed energy resources from subsidizing the customers who do have these technologies, given the income differential between the two groups.

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **Transportation electrification**

- Met with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) representatives to discuss the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) program and provided suggestions to facilitate the successful deployment of electric vehicles in disadvantaged communities.
- The DACAG provided input on the CPUC's Transportation Electrification Framework, specifically on how the Framework prioritizes low-income communities and directs funds to disadvantaged communities.

- **SB 100**

- The DACAG supported community-based organizations' requests for the Joint Agencies to include a non-combustion scenario and to revise outdated cost-effective tests to include non-energy benefits and social costs of energy resources.

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **Public Safety Power Shutoffs**

- Recommendations were made for how to ensure these wildfire prevention grid outages had reduced impact in disadvantaged communities. Recommendations to reduce impacts included prioritizing investments in solar PV paired with battery storage and other clean forms of back-up power, to reduce use of diesel generators and to improve notification and communication with disadvantaged communities on the scope and duration of PSPS events. Additional recommendations included enhanced oversight of telecom companies and their emergency communications roles and responsibilities during PSPS events, e.g., ensuring 72 hours of back-up power at their infrastructure to ensure critical communications platforms such as 911 remained operable during each PSPS event. In addition, the DACAG recommended research to analyze where grid segmentation can occur to create islanded grid sections in PSPS events where there is no wildfire risk.

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **Telecommunications**

- In 2020 the DACAG added telecom/broadband to its list of priority topics, to provide input on policy and programs. There is a clear and increasing nexus between telecommunications and energy, in that energy is needed to power communications infrastructure, broadband internet is now a lifeline sector utility crucial for everyone, telecommunications is needed to run energy systems, particularly distributed energy systems in remote areas, and disadvantaged communities are still underserved in terms of internet and wireless affordability and availability, i.e., they lie across the digital divide. Further, in rural disadvantaged communities in PSPS events and other power outages, communications service is unreliable.

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **COVID-19 Response**

- DACAG discussed the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on disadvantaged communities and on the ways public participation in CPUC and CEC processes would need to be adjusted to accommodate requirements around social distancing and other public health measures. The DACAG urged that the CPUC needs to ensure that customers statewide have reliable, affordable internet access. The DACAG further noted that the CPUC and CEC must ensure that remote access to public participation opportunities is available in language accessible and culturally competent ways.

DACAG Actions and Recommendations

- **Community Engagement**

- One key recommendation for the agencies is to pursue opportunities to fund community-based organizations to conduct capacity building and community engagement efforts that facilitate broader public participation in CPUC and CEC programs and proceedings.
- DACAG members provided suggestions to ensure procedural equity and community participation, including the need to support community-based organizations and compensate them appropriately for the time and resources necessary to support and facilitate meaningful engagement.

[NEW] 2022 DACAG Priorities (10)

- Transportation Electrification
- Building Decarbonization & Electrification
- Workforce Training & Development
- Reliability
- Gas Transition
- Distributed Energy Resources
- Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program
- Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR)
- Affordability
- Community Engagement

THANK YOU!



Management Reports



Commissioners' Reports



Commissioner
Genevieve Shiroma



President
Alice Reynolds



Commissioner
Clifford Rechtschaffen



Commissioner
John R. D. Reynolds



Commissioner
Darcie L. Houck

The CPUC thanks you for participating in today's meeting

The next Public Meeting will be:

March 17, 2022

10:00 a.m.

remote





California Public Utilities Commission

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