

CPUC Public Agenda 3544

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Commissioners:

Alice Reynolds, President

Darcie L. Houck

John Reynolds

Karen Douglas

Matthew Baker

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 may comment in person at the Commission Meeting or may call in to the 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 1 minute at the discretion of the Commission President. If there are a large number of callers wishing to speak, the time limit may be changed to accommodate all callers.
- 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:
 - 19, 26

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 1 are:
1, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, and 40.
- Items on Today's Consent Agenda 2 are:
5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 23, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 41.
- 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.
- **Item 2** has been withdrawn.
- **No Item** has been moved to the Regular Agenda.
- The following items have been held to future Commission Meetings:

Held to 5/9/2024: 3, 4, 14, and 42.

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; or in paper format or via QR Code at the Commission Meeting site.

Management Reports



Regular Agenda- Management Reports and Resolutions

Item #43 [22453]

Management Report on Administrative Actions and Consumer Protection and Safety Activities

Diversity in Action: CPUC's Supplier Outreach & Impact

April 18, 2024

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director, CPUC



California Public
Utilities Commission

Recap: Small and Diverse Business Expo on April 4th



- **Strong Attendance:**
 - 50 exhibitors
 - 450+ attendees
- **Supporting small business in:**
 - Certifying in the CPUC's Supplier Diversity Program,
 - Connecting with peers, and
 - Learning about possible business opportunities with utilities.

CPUC's Outreach Efforts are Driving Impact

- **Utilities small and large tell us:**
 - CPUC's Supplier Diversity outreach events offer added value and reach that they can't replicate.



This fall: Supplier Diversity En Banc and Small and Diverse Business Expo



2024

- October 9-10
- Riverside, CA

2023

- Attracted over 600 attendees
- Utilities reported \$14.3 billion invested with diverse suppliers in 2022

CPUC is Helping to Make Utility Purchasing Practices Fair and Inclusive

- Encouraging utilities to do business with small and diverse businesses
- Growing the number of certified businesses in CPUC's Supplier Diversity Program



Regular Agenda- Management Reports and Resolutions

Item #43 [22453]

Management Report on Administrative Actions and Consumer Protection and Safety Activities

Regular Agenda- Management Reports and Resolutions (continued)

Item #44 [22470]

The California Energy Commission's Gas Research & Development Program Proposed Budget Plan for FY 2024-25



Gas R&D Program Proposed FY 2024-2025

Budget Plan

CEC Staff Presentation to CPUC Commissioners

April 18, 2024



Gas R&D Program Background

- \$24 million annual budget to advance gas-related technology innovation and research
- Guided by California legislation, D.04-08-010, and CPUC resolutions
- Supports state energy policy
- Benefits gas ratepayers
- Supports collaboration and co-funding opportunities





Gas R&D Program Impact

\$318+ million invested to advance **301 projects** in California since 2004.

>70%
OF GAS R&D FUNDS

Invested in projects located in a disadvantaged community, low-income community, or both.

\$6.1+
BILLION

In private investment received by awardees after being selected for a Gas R&D Program award.

23+
PROJECTS

Informed codes, standards, proceedings, or protocols, providing ~**\$65+ million** per year in energy cost savings.

Note: Estimates based on data through June 2023



Proposed Research: FY2024-2025

Initiatives are framed around decarbonization, safety, cost reduction, and equity:



Gas Decommissioning



Gas System Safety



Renewable Generation



Building Decarbonization

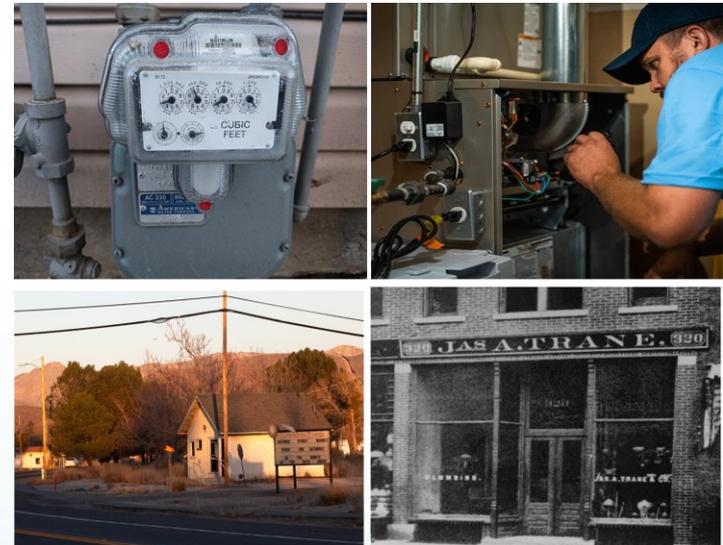


Support Equitable, Safe, and Cost-Effective Decarbonization of California's Gas System

Purpose: Leverage data streams and fieldwork to understand gas end use, end users, and decarbonization and decommissioning pathways.

Benefits:

- Assesses conversion benefits & costs distributionally, informing equity improvements
- Facilitates uptake of alternatives to fossil gas
- Informs gas proceedings (e.g., R.20-01-007) and planning efforts (e.g., demand forecasting)





Innovations for Cost-Effective Operation & Maintenance of Critical Infrastructure During the Gas Transition

Purpose: Advance less intrusive inspection, monitoring, and testing technologies for underground gas storage and gas transmission pipelines.

Benefits:

- Enables prompt intervention and proactive maintenance
- Reduces disruptions to gas operations and reliance on redundant infrastructure
- Reduces cost and safety burdens for vulnerable communities
- Aligns with efforts to streamline compliance with recent regulations to reduce costs while ensuring safety (R.20-01-007)



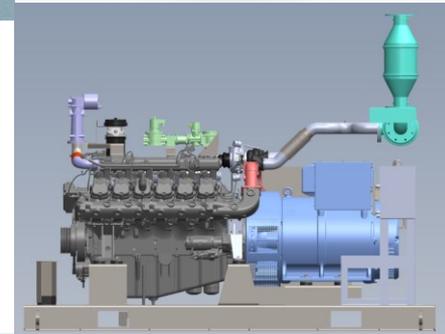


Fuel-Flexible Distributed Power Generation

Purpose: Enable prime movers to use a single or mix of renewable fuels while meeting performance, cost, and low-emission targets.

Benefits:

- Ensures consistent generation with fuel diversification
- Enhances reliability, stability, and safety
- Optimizes costs using more advantageous fuels
- Reduces GHG and NOx emissions





Networked Geothermal District Heating

Purpose: Evaluate feasibility of and advance technology for using geothermal resources in building district heating systems.

- Phase I: Study deeper geothermal resources (~1,500 meters) for district heating systems
- Phase II: Demonstrate drilling technology and leverage existing oil and gas wells as geothermal drilling sites

Benefits:

- Aligns with CPUC's Building Decarbonization Proceeding to reduce GHG emissions and reliance on fossil gas
- Improves safety by replacing aging gas infrastructure
- Encourages more stable utility costs





Key Dates for the Gas R&D Program

- Budget Plan Report
 - FY2024-2025: Submitted March 29, 2024
- Annual Report:
 - 2023: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2023/gas-research-and-development-program-2023-annual-report>
 - 2024: Due October 31, 2024

Thank you!

Regular Agenda- Management Reports and Resolutions (continued)

Item #44 [22470]

The California Energy Commission's Gas Research & Development Program Proposed Budget Plan for FY 2024-25

Regular Agenda- Commissioner Reports

Item #45 [22487]

Appointment of Commissioner Matthew Baker to the Low-Income Oversight Board

Management Reports



Commissioner's Reports



President
Alice Busching Reynolds



Commissioner
Darcie L. Houck



Commissioner
John Reynolds



Commissioner
Karen Douglas



Commissioner
Matthew Baker

The CPUC thanks you for participating in today's meeting

The next Public Meeting will be:

May 9, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Sacramento, CA





California Public Utilities Commission

cpuc.ca.gov