



# The Council's Policy Call

May 15, 2020



*Advancing Our Clean Economy*

# → Today's Agenda

## Council News

- Member working group report
- What's coming up
- Capitol update

## Issues/Topics

- CAEECC meeting recap (Serj)
- OCEI protest summary (Greg/Michelle)
- Potential & Goals Ruling Comment (Greg)
- Microgrid proceeding PD (Serj)

# ➤ Member Working Groups Report

- We currently have **8 active working groups** where we tackle various technical issues, shape positions, and strategize on how to engage with other parties
- Held the following working group meetings over past 2 weeks
  - Solicitations (5/6)
  - NMEC (5/6)
  - DR Action Plan (5/7)
  - Federal Legislation (5/13)
  - Custom Review (5/13)
  - Cost-Effectiveness/Potential & Goals (5/14)
- Upcoming meetings during the next 2 weeks:
  - **Cost-Effectiveness/Potential & Goals (5/18 1-2pm)**
  - **NMEC (5/20 2-3pm)**
  - **Market Transformation (5/26 1-2pm)**
  - **Federal Legislation (5/27 8:15-9:15am)**
- Let us know if you would like to join any of our working groups

# ➤ What's Coming Up

- **ESA Low-Income Program Workshop (two days)**
  - May 20, 2020 9:00 am – 4:30 pm; May 21, 2020 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
  - Attendance details:  
<https://pda.energydataweb.com/api/view/2379/ESA%20Program%20Workshop%20Meeting%20Notification.pdf>
- **2020 Distribution Forecasting Working Group (DFWG)**
  - May 21, 2020 10:00am – 3:00pm (with an hour break for lunch) via Webex
  - Interested parties should email Lisa Wan ([lisa.wan@pge.com](mailto:lisa.wan@pge.com)), Danielle Weizman ([dweizman@sdge.com](mailto:dweizman@sdge.com)) or Ally Guillatt ([allison.guilliatt@sce.com](mailto:allison.guilliatt@sce.com)) by Friday, May 15
- **California Energy Storage Alliance Virtual Conference**
  - May 21, 2020 9:00am – 3:00pm
  - <https://www.storagealliance.org/virtual-conference> (Free for all attendees)
- **California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) education & outreach in light of COVID-19**
  - May 22, 2020 1:30pm – 4:00pm
  - WebEx: <https://cpuc.webex.com/cpuc/j.php?MTID=m6bdc8d72e843773d83f02c080fdd28e0>
  - Conference Phone Line: 415-655-0002
  - Meeting Number: 963 115 474, Meeting Password: eYwmsDDJ362
- **RPS Procurement Plans Webinar**
  - May 27, 2020 10:00am – 11:00am
  - WebEx Meeting Link: <https://cpuc.webex.com/cpuc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e51f984731423da9b1fc5c48a421a104e>
  - Event number: 966 326 117, Event password: RPSPlans2020

# ➤ What's Coming Up (cont.)

- **Workshop on Ruling Re: Modifying the Distribution Investment Deferral Framework (“DIDF”) – Filing and Process Requirements**
  - May 28, 2020 9:00am – 3:00pm
  - Webex Meeting Link: <https://cpuc.webex.com/cpuc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e55bf017c59f25e1df1fc8aef36f164cc>
  - Meeting Number: 960-777-986, Password: msB3DAgvY38
  - Phone call in: 415-655-0002 (please try using Webex for audio first)
  - Link to ruling: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M337/K288/337288441.PDF>
- **PLMA Webcast – Why Is Electricity Pricing So Difficult?**
  - May 28, 2020 9:30am – 10:30am
  - Speakers: Ahmad Faruqi, Bill LeBlanc, Derek Kirchner
  - [REGISTER FOR FREE WEBCAST HERE](#)
- **Zero Net Energy/Decarbonization EM&V Project Coordination Group (PCG)**
  - July 13, 2020 1:00pm – 3:00pm
  - If you are interested in participating, please reach out to Kati Pech at PG&E ([k3pm@pge.com](mailto:k3pm@pge.com))

## UPCOMING BID OPPORTUNITIES:

- **PG&E Third-Party Statewide State of California EE Implementer RFA**
  - Solicitation Released: May 13, 2020
  - Bidders’ Conference via WebEx on May 21, 2020 at 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Deadline for submitting questions via PowerAdvocate: May 27, 2020 at 4:00pm
  - Abstracts due via PowerAdvocate: June 24, 2020 at 4:00pm
  - More information: [https://www.pge.com/en\\_US/for-our-business-partners/energy-efficiency-solicitations/2020-statewide-public-partnership-rfa.page](https://www.pge.com/en_US/for-our-business-partners/energy-efficiency-solicitations/2020-statewide-public-partnership-rfa.page)

More details on additional events are available from the [Most Recent Council Newsletter](#)

# → Capitol Update from Our Lobbyists



Erin Niemela

Tiffany Phan

# → CAEECC Coordinating Committee Meeting: Council Presentation

- **CAEECC Coordinating Committee held quarterly meeting 5/14**
  - Updates on EE 3rd Party Solicitation Process and the EE Filing Processes WG
  - Implementation of Existing Portfolio in the Shadow of the Coronavirus
- **EE Filing Process Working Group awaiting ED response to submitted report**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Party Solicitation Process: IOUs provided updated solicitation schedule**
  - Latest timeline presentation detailing schedules available on member portal
  - Process to solicit input to approve solicitation transparency in response to 2/7 meeting
- **MTA RFP likely release in summer, CAEECC leading MT working group**
- **IOUs & RENs presented on impact of COVID-19 on their EE portfolios**
  - ED holding meetings with IOUs and non-IOU PAs to understand COVID-19 impact
  - All EE work suspended through May 31st, but contracts expiring 6/30 extended to EOY
  - Remote inspections/verifications, “contactless” programs continuing, e.g. HERs, rebates
  - IOUs prioritizing quick turnaround on projects with TRC < 1 (compounding c/e issues)
- **The Council presented on hurdles DSM industry is facing due to COVID-19**
  - Project pauses and closures; workforce reductions; long-term program delivery impacts
  - Provided recommendations, including:
    - Greenlight projects immediately that maintain social distancing (e.g. schools)
    - Near-term policy relief (e.g. accelerate review steps for custom, NMEC projects)
    - Implement long-term policy shifts (e.g. cost-effectiveness reform)

## ➤ OCEI Protest Summary

- During our last Policy call (5/1), we mentioned PG&E filed an application w/ CPUC on 4/15 to procure 2 utility-owned front of the meter battery storage projects (with out-of-region vendors) and no inclusion of EE resources as originally envisaged
- Protests are due on Monday 5/18; the Council is preparing a protest
- The points we are raising in our protest include:
  - PG&E abruptly dropped the EE components in the final days prior to submitting the application without ample justification
  - This project would have demonstrated the viability of P4P with an all-NMEC basis for measuring performance
  - EE was a highly publicized goal to meet the OCEI vision of *local clean energy innovation*
  - Bay Area-based EE implementers were tapped to deliver much-needed EE resources to Downtown Oakland commercial buildings
  - There was the potential for beneficial interactions between EE and energy storage in an integrated solution
  - EE could have been used as a hedge for risk in uncertain COVID scenario
    - Demand is dropping, changing future grid needs
    - EE is a more flexible resource in uncertain grid scenarios that also supports economic recovery
  - PG&E is sending a chilling message about its lack of confidence in the EE resource

# Potential & Goals Ruling

## Comments

- On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC issued a Ruling in connection with policies related to the Potential & Goals (P&G) process
- A number of detailed questions were asked, signaling that the CPUC may be open to make some significant EE policy changes in the near future:
  - Should the objective of EE be broadened beyond just energy savings?
  - Should the method by which EE goals are set change?
  - Should EE be considered as part of an optimized resource within the IRP process?
  - What should be done about EE that is non-optimizable?
  - Should natural gas EE programs be subject to an optimization process?
  - How should cost-effectiveness be used in the context of EE goalsetting?
  - How should cost-effectiveness be treated for NR, MT, LI and other EE programs?
- Comments are due on May 22<sup>nd</sup> (next Friday)
- We are well on our way to having a full set of comments drafted for all questions
- We are bouncing our ideas off the CE/P&G Working Group as we draft and refine our responses

## ➤ Microgrid Proceeding PD 4/29

- **Proposed Decision adopts short-term actions accelerating microgrid deployment and related resiliency strategies for Track 1 of this proceeding**
- **PG&E, SCE, SDG&E required to submit many Tier 2 Advice Letters & informational filings:**
  - Proposing a specific template for the interconnection application process, including a required stakeholder outreach component
  - Expediting utility approval of interconnection process, with IOUs required to report results by February 15, 2021
  - Demonstrating plan to develop a resiliency project engagement guide
  - Documenting efforts empowering local/tribal jurisdictions on grid operations, PSPS, utility interface responsibilities, etc., including semi-annual workshops
  - Notably requires all activities comply with shelter-in-place and social distancing
- **Energy Efficiency and Demand Response not mentioned in PD!**
  - No mention of either EE or DR as necessary resources in deploying microgrids
  - This ignores the loading order and the role DSM plays in reducing aggregate demand
- **Council will submit Opening Comments advocating for inclusion of DSM**
  - Will make the case that EE, DR are an integral part of developing effective microgrids
  - Comments due Tuesday, May 19th; Reply Comments due May 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Link the PD:** <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M335/K511/335511328.PDF>

## → Discussion and Q&A

# Thank you!

*Please contact us if you have any questions.*

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