



CAPITOL COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP MEETING 09/22/21

Agenda

1. Legislature completed year 1 of 2021-2022 session
2. Governor Recall Election
3. 2022 outlook
4. October 6, 2021: Energy Efficiency Day

Meeting Notes

Legislature completed year 1 of 2021-2022 session

- Expectations for January in legislation
 - Push/pull between clean energy and keeping the lights on
 - Senate leaders committed to clean energy goals not pleased with traditional generation's recent headway
 - We need to find opportunities for our message to gain traction in this context
 - Need to keep pressure on legislators as year progresses and interest in enabling legislation for DERs wanes
 - Senate's deal on wildfires and water in last session did not come to fruition, and they agreed to revisit post-recall
 - \$600M already earmarked for water (and water/energy nexus)
 - IBEW's top priority is a controversial storage project (Eagle Crest) that did not get funded, which will influence energy trailer bill focus
 - CPUC needs to make further headway beyond high-level aspirations, which may necessitate a bill requiring statutory changes
 - Potential idea: all DERs should be presumed cost-effective unless proven otherwise, which would force CPUC to come to the table and delineate cost-effectiveness – thereby illustrating the shortcomings of the current regime

Governor Recall Election

- Governor defeated recall easily, but number to watch is Newsom's 53% approval rating (10 points below recall vote)
 - Will be interesting how he governs for the folks that make up that delta
 - Will he play to his base, or try to "broaden the tent" for moderate voters?
 - Homelessness, drought, wildfires, climate are top priorities for Governor and legislature
 - Climate focus even stronger behind the scenes, despite executive order for more traditional generation (which gives those interests a foothold in CA)
- January budget, state-of-the-state
 - Top perceived issues from election (homelessness, fires, etc.)

2022 outlook

- Election year
 - Republican registration + "independents" not sufficient to create a partisan alternative to the governor in next election
 - Two thirds of legislature on the ballot
 - 20+ ballot initiatives in circulation
- Council priorities
 - Need to develop our priorities to be on the offensive and start shopping with key legislators
 - Difficult to find the right balance between an appropriate level of technical detail and high-level progress
 - Cost-effectiveness treatment of DERs in direct contrast to traditional generation, which is presumed to be necessary right now and assessed as such
 - Potential to focus on Public Utilities Code rather than cost-effectiveness

Energy Efficiency Day

- October 6, 2021: Energy Efficiency Day

Next Steps

Our next Working Group meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 6th at 8:15 am**. This meeting will recur on a biweekly basis every other Wednesday of each month at 8:15 – 9:15 am. An invite from Admin@cedmc.org has gone out to all folks on the Working Group.