



## **CUSTOM REVIEW WORKING GROUP MEETING 1/5/22**

### **Agenda**

1. Updates on Custom activities during past month
2. Review next steps
  - Potential ED and IOU meetings

### **Meeting Notes**

#### **1. Updates on Custom activities during past month**

What are the most pressing issues with Custom? No signs of improvement and some members have offered input to ODC as they are doing their process evaluation of custom.

There are certain folks at the IOUs that are roadblocks and this doesn't seem to be a concerted effort at the management level. There doesn't seem to be any messaging reaching the worker levels at the IOUs.

TEC had a number of applications submitted in December to SCE for custom (deadline was 12/23) and there are a decent number of staff reviewing the applications (with differing knowledge about what should and should not be done during the application process).

- They are seeing a minimum of 6 months for pre-inspections (which is by no means considered acceptance).

How can the Council more effectively advocate for custom implementers?

We need to get some resolution on any specific points that we've raised and then how are these getting trickled down to the worker levels? What are the communication protocols?

There are a number of issues that are sitting on the slow burner and are not getting resolved.

There appears to be analysis paralysis... disconnect between level of rigor required for small projects and the total value of the project in the first place...

- What are the risk/reward metrics for these projects? IOU PAs don't really understand or appreciate the bigger picture issues.

- Huge push on influence but there also is a presumption that free ridership rate is set at 50% so why push this further?
- Recent CAIAC impact evaluation shows a lowering of NTG estimates, which means all of the preemptive steps taken to try and improve NTG seems to be counter-productive.

We need to go back to the overall historical data and re-ask the question of why this program is not working... and maybe take that question to the CPUC at a higher level than the staff (e.g., Paula on downward).

Ayad notes from the CalTF perspective that they are looking at custom reform in the context of POUs (which is in the CalTF business plan for 2022).

## **2. Review next steps**

Does it make sense to start pushing the IOUs (SCE for starters) for specific custom rule reforms, etc. or is our better play still with the CPUC?

Yes, but at a higher level and bring together the points/observations from CAIC study and point to the fact that Custom is moving in an opposite direction relative to SB350 doubling goals.

- Greg will reach out to Jen Kalafut to see if our working group can have a meeting with her (and team) to raise some of our continued high-level concerns about lack of progress on custom and also express our concerns based on the results of the CIAC study. Greg will convene another MWG meeting in advance to work with members to prepare. We will need to be prepared to present 1-2 high level ideas for how to fix the problem.
- Greg will reach out to his senior contacts at the two large IOUs (Katie or Tony at SCE; David Poster at PG&E) to ask for 1-on-1 meetings to elevate/revisit previous conversations about custom not working.

### **Next Scheduled Working Group Meeting**

Our next Custom Review MWG meeting will be Wednesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am. Call-in coordinates are below.

[Zoom link](#)

Call-in: +13126266799,,81257556437#

Passcode: cedmc2022