CALIFORNIA

Efficiency + Demand Management

COUNCIL

Advancing Our Clean Economy

Monthly Member Readout

March 13, 2026

REC

This call is being recorded.

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Today's Agenda

- **Welcome** | *Chris Burmester, CEDMC Board Chair*
- **Operations, Staffing Plan, Transition** | *Michelle Vigen Ralston, CEDMC Operations Director*
- **Policy Priorities and Regulatory Update** | *Melanie Gillette, CEDMC Senior Policy Advisor*
- **Legislative Update** | *Erin Niemela and Tiffany Phan, Niemela Pappas & Associates, CEDMC Lobbyists*
- **What to expect next** | *CEDMC ExComm and Michelle Vigen Ralston*
- **Q&A**

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Welcome

- This month we introduce significant organizational updates, staff capacity, and improvements!
- Background, rationale, and decision to adopt MSA managed services contract with Common Spark
  - Looking to expand Council staff capacity and services at same or lower cost
  - Transition result Executive Committee work over last year and half
  - Managed Services Agreement is a common model for smaller non-profits
  - Opportunity to access expertise on an as-needed basis, expand our policy advocacy
  - Operational cost-efficiencies by sharing in business operational infrastructure
- Common Spark's Organizational and Topical Experience
  - Deep history with CEDMC and our industry

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Operations, Staffing Plan, Transition

- Hello from Michelle Vigen Ralston, CEDMC Operations Director (Principal and Founder of Common Spark Consulting)
  - About Common Spark Consulting and our support for CEDMC
- Staffing Plan
  - Transition (March - August 2026)
    - Melanie Gillette - Policy Lead
    - Kira Kimick - Events and Membership Manager
    - Michelle Ralston - Operations
  - Full Flight Formation (September 2026)
    - Full-time Policy Manager (Expected May/June 2026)
    - Part-time Managing Director (Expected August 2026)

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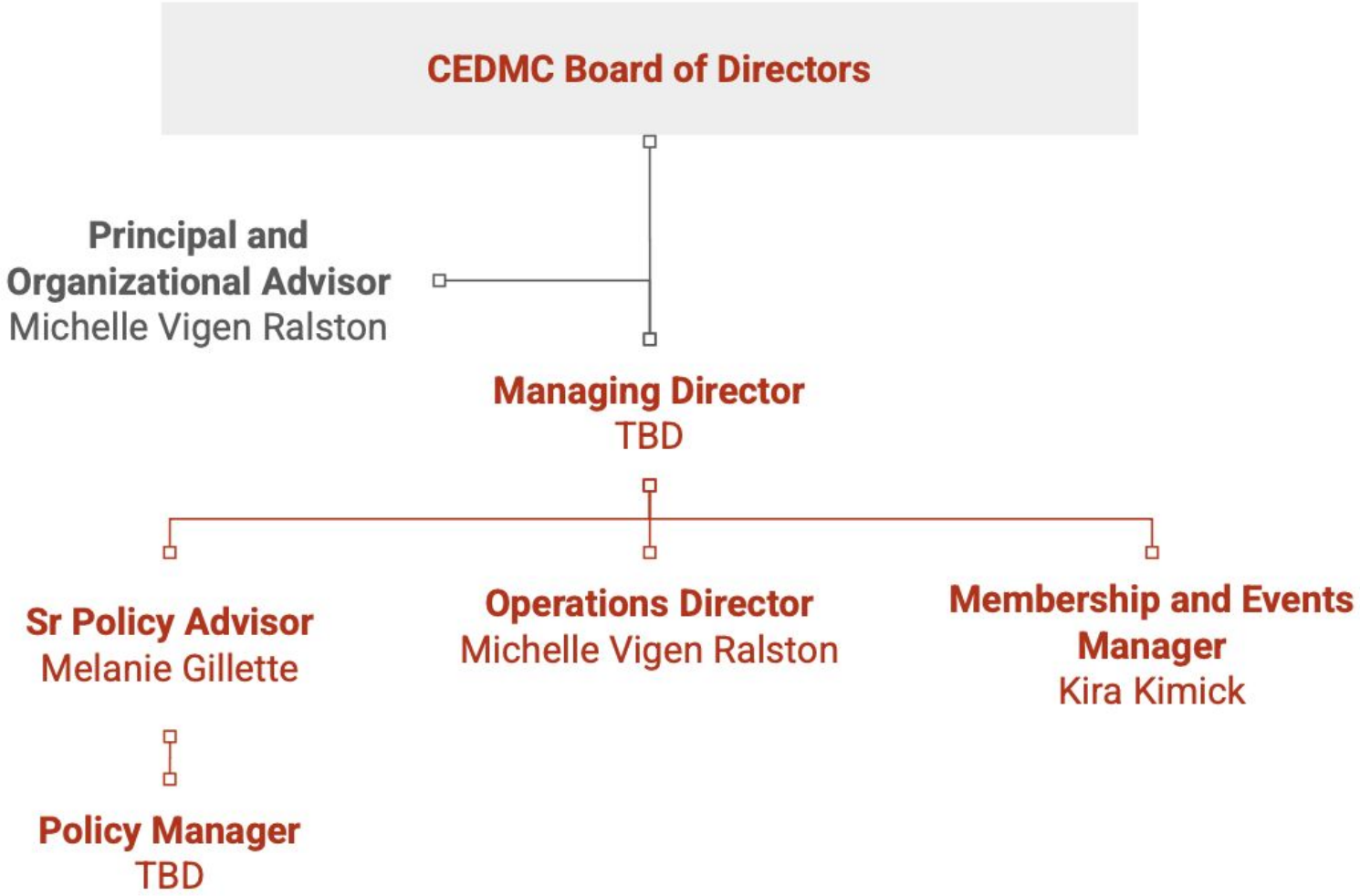
Operations, Staffing Plan, Transition



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What this means for Members?

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- More consistent and substantive policy updates, comment opportunities
  - Scope: EE, DR, DER across the venues CPUC, CEC, CAISO, CARB as relevant
  - Regular Member Calls/Meetings
    - Monthly Member Readout (1st Friday from 9-10am)
    - Weekly Member Policy Call (Fridays 10-11am)
    - Monthly CAISO Call (for +CAISO members only)
    - Ad hoc Working Groups for specific proceedings or comment opportunities - CEDMC's comments should be reflective of Member needs and goals. We can't do that if we don't work with you all!
  - Member Newsletter (goal: bi-weekly) with proceeding updates, summaries of key rulings and decisions, and opportunities to comment (with deadlines!)

Our goal is to be your go-to regulatory and policy capacity for issues at the heart of our EE/DR/DER industry + rebuild CEDMC's collective voice to shape decisions that impact Members the most.

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Operations, Staffing Plan, Transition

- Final Notes:
  - The CEDMC Board, through Chair Chris Burmester, is your main contact for executive, membership, leadership needs during this transition.
  - The CEDMC Board remains the responsible entity for the Council's strategy, policy positions, regulatory and legislative advocacy actions, and fiscal decisions.
  - Admin@cedmc.org is still your best email for anything. Kira will know how to address any questions or issues.

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update

Goal is to sync up the priority proceedings at the CPUC, CEC, CAISO and CARB with CEDMC's Strategic Planning goals from late 2025 and demonstrate a focused regulatory presence in 2026. This is intended to strengthen existing partnerships with other stakeholders and allow new collaborative efforts.

CPUC

R.25-04-010 (EE Portfolios, Policies, Programs, Evaluation)

- Overhaul of TRC teed up here, as well as viable electric alternative policy, oversight reforms for CCAs and RENs administering EE programs. **New Applications for 2028-2031 EE Business Plans due March 16**
- Reassigned to Commissioner Douglas (3/11)
- Seek priority portfolio reforms through this proceeding. Defend full funding.

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update (2)

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A.25-04-014 (SDG&E Application to Exit Regional EE Programs)

- Anticipating March 25 Ruling to address whether or not hearings will be needed. Proposed Decision expected in June or July depending on need for hearings.

R.25-09-004 (Enhance Demand Response in CA)

- CEDMC filed Opening Comments on Flex Alert PD March 5 - supported continuation of funding and requested modifications to individualize messages per Opinion Dynamics recommendation
- March 10: ALJ Ruling on Bridge Year Funding
  - Comments due April 15; reply comments due May 6
  - Recommend Working Group of interested members to discuss/draft Comments

R.21-06-017 (High DER Future)

- IOUs filed Electrification Impact Studies; PAO filed 2025 Distribution Grid Electrification Model Report
- Community Engagement Plans due May 1, 2026

R. 22-11-013 (DER Cost Effectiveness/Data Access)

- March 4 Scoping Ruling
- Seek CEDMC Cost-effectiveness reforms through this proceeding

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update (3)

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Energy Division Priorities

- Multifamily definition
- Custom Projects Annual Net-to-Gross Memo
- Market Transformation initiatives
- Customer Electrification Estimator Tool

Upcoming

- Goal constructs for Market Support/Equity Segment follow up
- DEER resolution

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update (4)

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Evaluation Studies Concluding soon (March)

- Commercial & Residential Go Green Financing Evaluations
- FlexAlert Marketing Evaluation
- Power Efficient Design Workforce Needs Assessment
- Building Electrification Workforce
- 2025 Compliance Improvement Process Evaluation
- ETP Pulse Check
- Commercial Pop NMEC Evaluation

Ongoing Studies

- Water Heating Evaluation
- Residential Pop NMEC Evaluation

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update (5)

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Evaluation Studies (Upcoming)

- Portfolio Design Assessment Phase II
- C&S Impact Evaluation
- WE&T LEARN Program Evaluation
- Equity Segment Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis
- IDEEA 365 Rapid Assessment
- New Construction Program Needs Study
- Heat Pump Market Characterization Study Time 3

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Policy Priorities & Regulatory Update (6)

Other Venues

CEC Docket No. 22-RENEW-01 (Demand Side Grid Support)

- 3/9 Workshop to present changes to DSGS Program Guidelines for 2026
- DSGS 3/9 Presentation slides available on docket page
- Comments due 3/16

CAISO Demand & Distributed Energy Market Integration (DDEMI)

- Shape DR market access and baseline reforms to performance evaluation methodologies, demand flexibility models, DR products
- 3/13 Meeting to prioritize initiatives - CEDMC Members to attend.
  - Straw Proposal and Meeting Presentation posted on Initiative page

CAISO Resource Adequacy

- Track 2: RAAIM Comments due 3/23

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Legislative Update

- Erin Niemela and Tiffany Phan
  Niemela Pappas & Associates
  CEDMC Lobbyists

Link to CEDMC Complete Bill List

Link to CEDMC Priority Bill List

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What to Expect Next

- BOD Member Outreach
- Member Survey
  - Will include prioritization exercise for regulatory and legislative opportunities for intervention
- Spring Symposium - May 7 in Costa Mesa!
- Newsletter next week
- Weekly Policy + Monthly Member call
- Ad hoc working groups for proceedings

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Discussion and Questions

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Thank You!

Please contact us if you have any questions.

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