CALIFORNIA

Efficiency + Demand Management

COUNCIL

Advancing Our Clean Economy

Weekly Member Policy Call

March 20, 2026

REC

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Today's Agenda

- CEDMC is now hiring
- Spring Symposium registration is open
- Regulatory Priorities
  - CPUC
  - CEC
  - CAISO
- Regulatory Calendar
- Legislative Priorities
- Next Steps

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CEDMC is Hiring!

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Title: Manager of Policy and Strategy
Organization: California Efficiency + Demand Management Council (www.cedmc.org)
Reports to: Michelle Vigen Ralston, Operations Director and Melanie Gillette, Senior Policy Advisor
Type: Full-time employment (32 hours/week)
Salary Range: $92,000-$105,000 annually, depending on experience
Location: Remote, located anywhere in California

This role provides an excellent opportunity for a professional to combat climate change by representing the energy efficiency (EE), demand response (DR), and distributed energy resources (DER) industries in key California regulatory and legislative contexts. The Council has a long legacy of influencing critical and enduring policy venues to ensure successful EE, DR, and DER implementation by the industry and members it represents. To that end, we seek an experienced regulatory advocate with initiative to bring folks together to build better and stronger policy for all.

Click here to see the full description. To apply for this position, please send your 1) Resume, 2) Cover letter explaining your interest in the Council, and 3) a Writing Sample to ops@cedmc.org.

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CEDMC Spring Symposium Registration is Open

Early Bird Pricing Until April 7th

Take the leap, register before we announce the agenda and save $100!

- Thursday, May 7, 2026
- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm followed by a networking reception until 6:30 pm
- Norma Hertzog Community Center, Costa Mesa, CA
- Click here to learn more & register

The Spring Symposium is the Council's one-day professional education conference, focused on practical approaches that can be taken to more effectively deploy efficiency and demand management resources to achieve California's clean energy and decarbonization goals. Topics include a combination of technical and policy issues.

Sponsorships are still available! Click here for details and email admin@cedmc.org to sponsor.

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Regulatory Priorities

- R.25-04-010 (EE Portfolios, Policies, Programs, Evaluation)
- A.25-04-014 (SDG&E Application to Exit Regional EE Programs)
- R.25-09-004 (Enhance Demand Response in CA)
- R.21-06-017 (High DER Future)
- R. 22-11-013 (DER Cost Effectiveness/Data Access)
- CEC Docket No. 22-RENEW-01 (Demand Side Grid Support)
- CAISO Demand & Distributed Energy Market Integration (DDEMI)

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R.25-04-010 (EE)

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

- 3/16: PA EE Business Plans/Portfolios for 2028-2035 (waiting for new consolidated application number)
  - 13 PAs filed plans (more details on next slides and additional review ongoing)
- 3/18: ALJ email ruling set extended dates for responses to PA EE Business Plans
  - Party Responses/Protests due May 1
  - PA Responses due May 18

Ad hoc Working Group needed to work on responses to EE Applications. Please reach out to Melanie and Kira if you can help with comments.

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EE Applications - Themes

Many of the key themes in the EE Applications come from the "Policy Recommendations/Modifications" section (Chapter 11) of the Applications

- Revamp third-party EE framework
  - Reduce 3P requirement from 60% to 20% (SCE)
  - Shift 60% threshold to a (soft) target (SoCalGas, PG&E)
  - Allow for implementers and IOUs to work together more flexibly (all IOUs)
  - Broaden definition of 3P to "implement & deliver," not "propose & design"
  - At a minimum, refine PRG process to shorten/streamline solicitations
  - Establish PRG working group to update EE PRG Guidelines
  - Sunset PRG advisory role; replace with Energy Division-led, interactive performance monitoring process
  - Modify triggers for Tier 2 advice letter submittal

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EE Applications - Themes (2)

Additional Themes:

- Need clearer guidance on cost-effectiveness policy (majority of filings)
- Streamline and simplify EE portfolios to address affordability (SoCalGas, SCE)
- Scale deployment of efficient building electrification (BE) (majority of filings)
  - Increase demand/improve economics/increase confidence (PG&E)
- Enable the energy system of tomorrow
- Allow fuel switching from equipment using non-regulated fuel sources (propane, specifically)
- Align net-to-gross policy with current EE market realities
  - Default program level NTG of 1.0 for new programs
  - Default NTG of 1.0 for all Custom projects (approved through CPR)

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EE Applications - Themes (3)

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More key themes:

- Establish streamlined Custom project approval timelines (Wow! Some things truly never change!)
- Refine definition of hard-to-reach
- Align compliance between non-IOU and IOU leads for statewide programs
- Require all PAs to be subject to same cost-effectiveness and other portfolio-specific regulatory requirements
- Support IDSM programs within EE portfolios
- Allow CCA program administrators to adjust equity segment budget caps

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EE Applications - Budgets

	BayREN	MCE	PG&E	SCE	SDG&E	SoCalGas	SoCalREN
2028-2031 Budgets	$187M	$65M	$910M	$997M	$277M	$600M	$375M
2028-2035 Budgets	$393M		$1.8B		$565M	$1.3B	$838M
2028-2031 TSB		$71M	$1.2B	$874M		$900M	$296M
Other	$23M						

- BayREN budget is 66% Equity
- MCE budget for 2028-2031 is 19% lower than forecast
- SCE budget 2024-2027: $1.67B
- SDG&E budget reduced to $164M if Application to discontinue regional EE programs is approved
- SoCalGas authorized budget for 2028-2031 was $674M
- SoCalGas budget for 2024-2027: $616M
- SoCalREN 2028-2031 budget 5% increase from 2022

A.25-04-014 (SDG&E EE)

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

- SDG&E filed a 2028-2034 Application on 3/16, however they continue to advocate that the Commission instead approve A.25-04-014.
- Parties determined no hearings are needed
- SDG&E and PAO are discussion possible settlements - Small Business Utility Advocates indicated openness to settlement also
- PAO claims failure to meet savings goals across over 70% of its programs

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R.25-09-004 (DR)

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

- 3/10 ALJ Ruling on Bridge Year Funding (Proposed Budgets next slide)
  - Proposed two-year bridge of IOUs' 2026 DR program budgets & operations
  - New five-year application for 2030-2034 due January 1, 2029
  - SCT exemption for bridge years
  - Appropriate budget for SCT for 2030-2034
  - Any recommendations, critical modification needed?

Comments due April 15; Reply Comments due May 6

  - Items in red above called out in Ruling as ripe for comment
  - WG for drafting comments in this proceeding

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Table 1: Proposed Budgets for IOUs' Bridge Years (per year)

Annual budget ($thousands) for 2028 and 2029 (per year)	PG&E	SCE	SDG&E
Budget Category 1: Supply-Side Demand Response Program	$ 59,187	$ 131,639	$ 1,776
Budget Category 2: Load-Modifying Demand Response Program	$ 9	$ 3	$ -
Budget Category 3: Demand Response Auction Mechanism	$ 3,500	$ 966	$ 1,648
Budget Category 4: Emerging and Enabling Technology	$ 3,175	$ 9,121	$ 774
~~**Budget Category 5: Pilots**~~	~~$ 27,805~~	~~$ 20,413~~	~~$ 6,720~~
Budget Category 6: Marketing, Education, and Outreach	$ 3,678	$ 3,983	$ 282
Budget Category 7: Portfolio Support	$ 13,112	$ 13,528	$ 4,041
SCT Budget (added to Category 7)	TBD	TBD	TBD
Total Bridge Year Funding (per year)	**$ 82,661 +SCT**	**$ 159,240 +SCT**	**$ 8,521 +SCT**

R22-11-013 (DER)

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

- EE and DR are included in the scope of this proceeding
- Track 1: development of Avoided Cost Calculator (ACC) to evaluate EE and DR
  - Considering adoption of Societal Cost Test (SCT) for DERs, including EE and DR
- Track 2: data access (meter-based EE, more accurate baselines, performance-based EE program models)
- Track 3: reexamine guiding principles for ACC

CEDMC Opportunities:

- **Provide additional feedback on guiding principles (**3/4: Scoping Ruling**)**
- **Provide Comments/Reply Comments, May**

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CPUC (light touch)

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

Proceeding reforms how utilities forecast load, identify grid needs and plan solutions to influence DER deployment and market opportunities.

- 3/2: SCE filed Report on Learnings from Load Control Management Study Pilot

R.19-01-011 (Building Decarbonization)

- 3/2: PG&E filed a report on the Building Decarbonization Best Practices and Future Pathways Workshop (Workshop Report) held on January 21 and 22, 2026 by the CPUC.

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CEC Priorities

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

- 3/9: Workshop to present changes to DSGS Program
  - Battery eligibility limited to systems with permission-to-operate dates on or before 12/31/25
  - Revised funding-aligned participation rules for 2026 (Amounts no specified)
  - Streamlined aggregation size requirements for Market-Aware Storage VPP and Emergency Load Flex VPP
    - See Table in 3/20 Newsletter for summary of new VPP Requirements for Options 3 & 4

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CAISO Priorities

CAISO Demand & Distributed Energy Market Integration (DDEMI)

- 3/13: CAISO held a meeting to address the Track 1 Straw Proposal: End-User Exports in DR Performance Measurement and the Track 2 Issue Paper: Demand Flexibility Enhancements. Meeting materials available on the Initiative page.

CEDMC CAISO+ Opportunity: Comments due 3/27.

Would like to add more CAISO initiatives as we move forward but requires more member interest in CEDMC's CAISO WG. Reach out to Kira and Melanie if interested in participating in CAISO+ WG.

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Regulatory Calendar

- March 27: Comments due on CAISO DDEMI Guidance
- April 7: SoCalRen public webinar to discuss EE Business Plan Application
  - no additional details yet
- April 8: SoCalREN presenting EE Business Plan topics at CAEECC meeting
- April 15: Comments due on DR Bridge Funding Ruling (R.25-09-004)
- May 1: Responses/Protests to EE Business Plan Applications (A.26-03-XXX)
- May 6: Replies on DR Bridge Funding (R.25-09-004)
- May 18: PA Responses due (A.26-03-XXX)

Legislative Priorities

- CEDMC Priority Bill List - March 2026

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Next Steps

- Member Survey - what are your policy priorities?
- Detailed Summary/Action Plan for PA EE Applications
- Ad hoc working Groups for DR and EE proceedings - develop comments
- Contact Kira/Melanie if interested in adding DR WG to your membership

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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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