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Advancing Our Clean Economy

Weekly Member Policy Call

July 17, 2026

REC

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Today's Agenda

- Announcements
- Policy Updates
  - A.25-04-014: SDG&E to Exit Regional EE Programs
  - A.26-07-004: Market Transformation
  - R.21-06-017: High DER Future
  - R.22-11-013: DER Cost Effectiveness
  - R.25-09-004: Demand Response
- Legislative Priorities
- Q&A

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Announcements

NOW HIRING

Managing Director

California Efficiency + Demand Management Council

Reports To: CEDMC Board of Directors

Terms: Part-Time Salaried (24 hrs/week)

Location: Remote in California

Compensation: $106,000 – $112,000 annually

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Candidates should submit a resume and cover letter outlining their interest, qualifications, salary expectations within the posted range, and available start date to ops@cedmc.org.

CEDMC is seeking a dynamic and strategic Managing Director to lead the organization through its next phase of growth and impact. This part-time exempt position serves as the primary public representative, spokesperson, and relationship-builder for the organization while providing leadership in support of the Council's mission, strategic priorities, and member engagement efforts.

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Now's Your Chance to Sponsor the CEDMC Fall Conference!

Sponsor now to maximize your benefits before marketing begins!

Benefits:

- Tickets to the Fall Conference (7 Platinum, 5 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze).
- Platinum and Gold: Special printed poster displayed during the event.
- Silver: Recognition on the Survey email.
- All levels:
  - Logo on all marketing materials including our website and registration pages.
  - Recognition during the event, both verbal and printed.
  - Registration lists will be emailed one week before the Symposium and a final list afterward.
  - Ability to place schwag on the Sponsor Materials table.

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$10,000	$7,500	$5,000	$2,500

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SoCalGas

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2026 Silver Sponsor

ICF

2026 Bronze Sponsors

E Source · Evergreen Economics · MCE · the Energy Coalition

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Networking Happy Hour in Los Angeles Next Week!

- **Date**: Thursday, July 23, 2026
- **Time**: 4:30 – 7 p.m.
- **Location**: Arts District Brewing Company
  - 828 Traction Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90013
  - About a half-mile walk from LACI
  - About a mile walk to the Amtrak station

Pricing

- AESP Member: $5 - AESP Non-member: $10
- CEDMC Discount Code: **AESPCA26**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Registration includes light appetizers, with gluten-free and vegetarian options available.

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California Powers Up: Energy & Policy Solutions Summit from AEU

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On **August 11 in Sacramento, Advanced Energy United** is bringing together state lawmakers and industry leaders working to modernize California's grid and deliver more reliable, affordable, and forward-looking energy solutions. Through content-packed panels and breakout sessions, attendees will hear firsthand how state energy policies are evolving and engage directly with the people influencing those decisions.

CEDMC members and partners are eligible for a **20% discount** off the non-profit registration fee for the event via the promo code **CEDMC20**.

Register Here:
https://reg.eventmobi.com/california-powers-up

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PG&E Webinar

Closure of Residential Customer Energy Orchestration Program

- **July 27, 9:30-10:30 AM**
- **A draft presentation has been posted on the CAEECC website**
- **Microsoft Teams meeting**
- **Join:**
  https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/246859674242417?p=ujb7cT9fkAxKvy84hK
- Meeting ID: 246 859 674 242 417
- Passcode: Pd2ps2Yn

CalREN 2026 Forum:
Energy Efficiency as an Affordability Resource

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Join CalREN's annual forum to explore how energy efficiency programs are improving affordability, strengthening community resilience, and shaping California's energy future.

[Register today!]

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Policy Updates - CPUC

A.25-04-014

SDG&E to Exit Regional EE Programs

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In its July 15th reply brief, CEDMC recommended that the Commission:

Limit its findings to SDG&E's specific regional portfolio and avoid concluding that regional energy efficiency in San Diego is inherently infeasible or no longer cost-effective.

Reject unsupported affordability claims unless they account for long-term customer value, including avoided-cost benefits, participant bill savings, non-energy benefits, transition costs, and reliability benefits.

Preserve a pathway for continued regional energy efficiency funding and successor program development if SDG&E's withdrawal is approved.

Require an orderly transition that includes stakeholder engagement, transition data, gap analyses, and customer access protections.

Avoid establishing statewide precedent regarding investor-owned utility withdrawal, Regional Energy Network responsibilities, or future energy efficiency policy through this application, instead addressing those issues in future business plan applications and statewide rulemakings.

A.25-04-014

SDG&E to Exit Regional EE Programs

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Areas of Broad Agreement

Despite differing recommendations, several themes emerged across nearly all reply briefs:

- **Transition planning matters.** Even parties supporting SDG&E's withdrawal acknowledge the need for an orderly transition if approved.
- **Future program administrators will need better information.** Multiple parties support transition-related data sharing to help successor administrators evaluate regional needs.
- **This decision could have implications beyond San Diego.** Many parties urge the Commission to carefully consider how its findings may influence future proceedings and energy efficiency policy.
- **Customers should continue to have access to energy efficiency programs.** While parties disagree on how that should occur, there is broad recognition that customer access should be preserved.

While the parties disagree on the outcome, there is significant agreement that, if SDG&E exits, the transition should be carefully planned to minimize customer impacts and preserve future program opportunities.

A.25-04-014

SDG&E to Exit Regional EE Programs

Key Areas of Disagreement

The reply briefs focus on four primary areas of disagreement:

Should SDG&E's withdrawal be approved?

- SDG&E and Cal Advocates support approval.
- Other parties oppose the application or support approval only with significant safeguards.

What does SDG&E's historical performance prove?

- SDG&E and Cal Advocates argue poor historical cost-effectiveness demonstrates the regional portfolio should end.
- Other parties argue SDG&E's experience should not be used to conclude that regional energy efficiency itself lacks value.

How should affordability be evaluated?

- SDG&E and Cal Advocates emphasize avoided program costs and projected ratepayer savings.
- Other parties argue affordability should also consider long-term customer benefits, avoided costs, reliability, and transition impacts.

Where should future energy efficiency policy be decided?

- Several parties caution against using this application to establish statewide policy, arguing broader issues belong in future business plan applications and statewide energy efficiency proceedings.

The Commission's decision will likely hinge not only on whether SDG&E may withdraw, but also on how broadly it frames its findings and whether it establishes precedent for future energy efficiency policy.

A.25-04-014

SDG&E to Exit Regional EE Programs

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What We'll Be Watching

Issues to watch:

- **Commission action on the proposed settlement.**
- **Whether the decision is narrowly tailored to SDG&E or establishes broader statewide precedent.**
- **Any transition requirements, including data sharing and customer protections.**
- **How future business plan applications and Energy Efficiency Oversight (R.25-04-010) address successor program administration and funding pathways.**

New Proceeding! A.26-07-004 California Market Transformation Administrators' (CalMTA) Second Tranche Application

CEDMC filed a Motion for Party Status in the Commission's new proceeding addressing CalMTA's proposal for their second tranche of market transformation initiative (MTI) programs, featuring:

- **Residential Heat Pump Water Heating**, focused on accelerating adoption
- **Commercial Replacement and Attachment Window Solutions**, focused on commercial retrofit window solutions
- **Commercial Rooftop Units**, focused on advancing higher-efficiency RTUs, controls, and installation practices in commercial buildings.

Why It Matters

- Our members will have the opportunity to propose and implement programs for the MTIs in this second tranche.
- The application's proposed process pathway for reviewing future MTIs through the Tier 2 Advice Letter process shapes the opportunities available for MTIs proposed in future applications

R.21-06-017 High DER Proceeding

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Two Major Workstreams Continue to Advance

Flexible Service Connections (FSCs)

Develops a statewide framework for faster DER interconnections.

Focuses on **how customers connect** to the grid.

Assigned Commissioner's Proposal under review.

DER Orchestration (Track 2)

Develops a framework for coordinating DERs and improving transmission-distribution operations.

Focuses on **how connected DERs operate** once online.

Workshop reports entered into the record for comment.

Key Dates (Both Tracks)

- **July 27** – Opening Comments
- **July 31** – Reply Comments

R.21-06-017 High DER Proceeding

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What's New Since Last Week?

Flexible Service Connections

- The Commission approved a schedule extension, moving opening comments to **July 27** and reply comments to **July 31**.
- Parties will now provide feedback on the proposed statewide FSC framework, implementation approaches, Grid-edge DERMS, cybersecurity, and customer protections.

DER Orchestration

- The Commission formally entered the Track 2 workshop reports into the record.
- Parties are now being asked to comment on next steps for utility-led DER orchestration, transmission-distribution coordination, regulatory pathways, and future utility applications.

Why It Matters

- The proceeding has shifted from exploratory workshops to active policy development. Stakeholder comments submitted this month will help shape how California modernizes the electric grid and integrates distributed energy resources over the coming years.

R.22-11-013 Data Working Group Report

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Reply Comments Narrow the Key Policy Questions

While parties continue to broadly support improving DER data access, reply comments focus on **how** those improvements should be implemented.

Support for moving forward

- Continue evaluating a statewide data platform
- Improve customer-authorized data access
- Standardize data formats and governance
- Strengthen coordination across agencies

Remaining disagreements

- Timing of implementation
- Cost-effectiveness requirements
- Privacy and cybersecurity protections
- Scope of new statewide data systems

R.22-11-013 Data Working Group Report

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The Debate is Shifting

Parties Supporting Faster Action

- Advanced Energy United
- Utility Consumers' Action Network
- Clean Coalition
- Small Business Utility Advocates
- 350 Bay Area

These parties generally argue the record is now sufficient to begin designing statewide solutions rather than continuing to study them.

Utilities

- PG&E
- Southern California Edison
- SDG&E/ SoCalGas

The utilities continue to argue that additional cost, feasibility, privacy, cybersecurity, and benefit-cost analysis should occur before the Commission commits to new statewide platforms or data requirements.

R.22-11-013 Data Working Group Report

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Key Issues Before the Commission

Statewide Data Platform
Should the Commission begin implementation planning now or require additional analysis first?
DER Registry
Supporters see it as foundational infrastructure; utilities argue additional justification is needed.
Data Access
Several parties continue to push for faster, standardized customer-authorized data sharing.
Privacy & Cost Recovery
Utilities emphasize protecting customer privacy and ensuring new systems demonstrate measurable ratepayer benefits before implementation.

The proceeding is moving from identifying data challenges to determining how California should modernize DER data systems. While stakeholders broadly support better data access, the Commission must now decide how quickly reforms should move forward and how to balance innovation with cost, privacy, and cybersecurity protections.

R.25-09-004 Demand Response

Bridge-Year Funding Phase Nears Decision

The Administrative Law Judge modified the procedural schedule after determining the record is complete based on the parties' comments and joint case management statement.

Key Updates

- Testimony, evidentiary hearings, and briefing have been eliminated.
- The ALJ indicated there is no current inclination to modify the Emergency Load Reduction Program (ELRP) budget.
- The proceeding will now move toward a Commission decision on bridge-year funding.

Why It Matters

The Commission has effectively closed the record on the bridge-year funding phase, signaling that a decision may be forthcoming without additional litigation or procedural steps.

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Legislative Update

Legislative Update

- CEDMC Priority Bill List - July2026
- Legislative Priorities and Actions
- Budget Priorities and Actions

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Legislative Update: SB 168 Signed into Law

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Energy-Related Budget Trailer Bill Enacted

Governor Newsom signed **SB 168**, enacting several energy-related budget provisions affecting California energy programs.

Key Provisions

- Extends expenditure authority for the **Distributed Electricity Backup Assets (DEBA) Program** through **June 30, 2027**.
- Authorizes remaining DEBA funding to also support the **Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS) Program**.
- Provides additional flexibility to deploy available funding for grid reliability and demand-side resources.

Why It Matters

- The legislation provides greater flexibility for using existing state funding to support reliability programs and demand-side resources while extending the timeframe for deploying remaining DEBA funds.

Discussion and Questions

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Thank You!

Please contact us if you have any questions.

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