

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
California Energy Commission
Minutes of the July 11, 2012 Energy Commission Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robert B. Weisenmiller. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Weisenmiller.

Present:

Robert B. Weisenmiller, Chair
Karen Douglas, Commissioner

Carla J. Peterman, Commissioner

1. CONSENT CALENDAR. (Items on the Consent Calendar will be taken up and voted on as a group. A commissioner may request that an item be moved and discussed later in the meeting.)
 - a. U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY. Possible approval of Amendment 1 to Contract 500-09-012 with the U.S. Geological Survey for a no-cost time extension to extend the contract term for 12 months, update the contract terms and conditions, and add an additional researcher. This proposed amendment will not affect the overall budget amount. (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Joe O'Hagan.
 - b. TRANSPORTATION POWER, INC. Possible approval of Amendment 1 to Contract 500-10-058 with Transportation Power, Inc. to update the contract terms and conditions and add a major subcontractor for this contract. There is no change in the funding amount or term of the agreement. (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Abolghasem Edalati.
 - c. CLEAN POWER RESEARCH. Possible approval of Amendment 1 to Contract 500-10-059 with Clean Power Research to replace the current Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) (John Gildea, Sol Verde Engineering) with a new DVBE (Chris Bunas, Sunterra Solar). (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Zhiqin Zhang.
 - d. CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT. Possible approval of Amendment 1 to Contract 500-10-023 with the Regents of the University of California on behalf of the California Institute for Energy and Environment, for a 12 month no-cost time extension to August 15, 2013, and to update the terms and conditions of the contract. (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Steve Ghadiri.
 - e. CALSTART, INC. Possible approval of Amendment 1 to Contract 500-09-019 with CALSTART, Inc. for a budget reallocation and to update the terms and conditions of the contract. There is no change to the work scope or the original funding amount. (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Reynaldo Gonzalez.
 - f. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH. Possible approval of Contract 150-12-001 for \$45,000 with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to provide writing and research services for planning and policy discussion documents regarding the State's future energy-related issues. (ERPA funding.) Contact: Rachel Grant-Kiley

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of the Consent Calendar. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

2. ENERGY COMMISSION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS. Possible approval of appointments to the Energy Commission's Standing Committees and Siting Case Committees. Contact: Kevin Barker. (5 minutes)

No action was taken on Item 2.

3. PALEN SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-7C). Possible approval of a petition to transfer ownership of the Palen Solar Power Project from Palen Solar I, LLC to Palen SEGS I, LLC. Contact: Christine Stora. (10 minutes)

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of the petition. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

4. BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-6C). Possible approval of a petition to transfer the ownership of the Blythe Solar Power Project from Palo Verde Solar I, LLC to NextEra Blythe Energy Center, LLC. Contact: Christine Stora. (10 minutes)

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of the petition. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

5. BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-6). Possible assignment of a committee to oversee an amendment to the Blythe Solar Power Project (09-AFC-6). Contact: Mary Dyas. (10 minutes)

Chair Weisenmiller appointed a committee of Commissioner Douglas and himself to oversee the Blythe project, with Commissioner Douglas to preside. Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of the appointment. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

6. ALTERNATIVE AND RENEWABLE FUEL AND VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM. Possible adoption of an order delegating authority to approve awards of \$75,000 or less in Energy Commission funds as well as certain minor amendments to agreements under the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program to the Executive Director, or his or her designee. Contact: Kristen Driskell. (5 minutes)

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded adoption of the order. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM GUIDEBOOK. Possible adoption of the Overall Program Guidebook for the Renewable Energy Program, Fifth Edition. The Overall Program Guidebook describes how the Renewable Energy Program is administered, and includes information on requirements that apply to the Renewables Portfolio Program. The Overall Program Guidebook provides generation information on applying for RPS certification and appealing the Energy Commission's decisions regarding RPS certification, as well as a glossary of terms that are used by the RPS and other Renewable Energy Program elements. Contact: Kate Zocchetti. (10 minutes)

Item 7 was removed from the agenda.

8. NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING ENERGY USE DISCLOSURE PROGRAM. Possible adoption of proposed regulations for the Nonresidential Building Energy Use Disclosure Program in the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Sections 1680-1685, implementing AB 1103 (Saldaña, 2007) and AB 531 (Saldaña, 2009). Contact: Justin Regnier. (15 minutes)

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded adoption of the regulations. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

9. COMPLAINT AGAINST AND REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF CalCERTS, INC. (12-CAI-01). Possible adoption of the assigned committee's proposed decision on Erik Hoover and Patrick Davis's Complaint Against and Request for Investigation of CalCERTS, Inc. Contact: Galen Lemei. (30 minutes)

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded adoption of the proposed decision. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

10. ENERGY INNOVATIONS SMALL GRANTS. Possible approval of nine grant applications, totaling \$854,230 from the Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program's Energy Innovations Small Grant Solicitation 11-01. (PIER electricity and natural gas funding.) Contact: Mike Gravely. (10 minutes)
 - a. Next Energy Technologies, Inc. \$95,000 to evaluate using soluble organic small molecules to increase the reliability and lower the costs of photovoltaics. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - b. Engineering Economics, Inc. \$95,000 to determine the feasibility of an enhanced cooling tower to cool buildings, utilizing heat exchanged between cool, moist exiting air and hot, dry entering air to reduce cold water temperature or reduce fan power and evaporative water consumption. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - c. Charles Vann. \$95,000 to determine the feasibility of designing a folded electromagnetic coil wind turbine generator that is more cost-effective than other wind turbine generators in terms of power-to-cost ratio. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - d. Brian Moffat. \$95,000 to determine the feasibility of a novel "spindrift wave energy device" to generate electrical power from a wave-driven hydrokinetic turbine embedded in a submerged venturi tube. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - e. San Diego State University. \$95,000 to determine the feasibility of developing a system to transfer protons to make superior catalysts for conversion of water to oxygen. This project is part of developing a system for converting water to hydrogen fuel (and oxygen) using sunlight. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - f. University of California, Riverside. \$94,516 to determine the feasibility of developing a new, high efficient thermo-chemical process by combining steam hydrogasification reaction and water gas shift for producing substituted natural gas from wet organic wastes. (PIER natural gas funding.)
 - g. Physical Sciences, Inc. \$95,000 to determine the feasibility of effectively deploying permanent open-path, laser-based, natural gas sensors to provide rapid warning of potentially explosive pipeline leaks. (PIER natural gas funding.)
 - h. University of California, Riverside. \$94,714 to determine the feasibility of calculating a travel route for an electric vehicle (EV) that will require the least amount of energy for the trip, and thus extending the range of the EV. (PIER electricity funding.)
 - i. University of California, Davis. \$95,000 to prove the feasibility of a new processing approach using conversion of cellulose to ethanol as the model system. This project aims to develop a new process which can potentially combine the

pretreatment, enzymatic hydrolysis, cellulose production, fermentation, and product recovery in one single step and produce the biofuels from the feedstock in one reactor. (PIER natural gas funding.)

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded approval of Item 10. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

11. CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN DIEGO. Possible approval of Amendment 8 to Contract 500-98-014 with the Trustees of the California State University on behalf of the San Diego campus to add \$1,790,000 and extend the term 18 months to March 31, 2014. This amendment is to continue administering the Energy Innovations Small Grant (EISG) natural gas research program. (PIER natural gas funding.) Contact: David Chambers. (5 minutes)

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of Item 11. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

12. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY. Possible approval of Contract 500-12-001 for \$300,000 with the Regents of the University of California on behalf of the San Diego campus, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, to investigate the causes of discrepancies in regional climate projections generated for California by different climate models. This work will assist energy forecasting and planning. (PIER electricity funding.) Contact: Guido Franco. (5 minutes)

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded approval of Item 12. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

13. ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. Possible approval of Agreement ARV-12-003 for a grant of \$300,000 to Arcadia Unified School District to install a new compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling system that has both time-fill and fast-fill capability and can meet the current CNG fueling needs of the school district and allow the district to expand its fleet to 15 CNG vehicles. (ARFVT funding.) Contact: John Mathias. (5 minutes)

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded approval of Item 13. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

14. CALEXICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. Possible approval of Agreement ARV-12-002 for a grant of \$83,329 to Calexico Unified School District to refurbish and upgrade the district's publicly accessible compressed natural gas (CNG) station by replacing the non-functioning compressor with two upgraded compressors. (ARFVT funding.) Contact: John Mathias. (5 minutes)

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded approval of Item 14. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

15. ALTERNATIVE AND RENEWABLE FUEL VEHICLE BUY-DOWN INCENTIVES. Possible approval of a total of \$122,000 in vehicle buy-down incentive reservations (ARFVT funding.). Contact: Andre Freeman. (5 minutes)
 - a. BOB STALL CHEVROLET (OEM – General Motors) (BDIR-12-01), in the amount of \$32,000 for the buy-down of four natural gas vehicles of 8,501 to 14,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.

- b. RANCHO MOTOR COMPANY, INC. (OEM – General Motors) (BDIR-12-02) in the amount of \$8,000 for the buy-down of one natural gas vehicle of 8,501 to 14,000 pounds gross vehicle weight and \$10,000 for the buy-down of one propane gas vehicle of 14,001 to 26,000 pounds gross vehicle weight for a total reservation amount of \$18,000.
- c. ROTOLO CHEVROLET, INC. (OEM – General Motors) (BDIR-12-03) in the amount of \$72,000 for the buy-down of nine natural gas vehicles of 8,501 to 14,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.

Commissioner Peterman moved and Commissioner Douglas seconded approval of Item 15. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

16. **Minutes:** Possible approval of the June 13, 2012, Business Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Douglas moved and Commissioner Peterman seconded approval of the Minutes. The vote was unanimous. (3-0)

17. **Lead Commissioner or Presiding Member Reports.**

Chair Weisenmiller reported on his recent trip to Washington, D.C., including meetings with officials of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the U. S. Department of Energy, and gave an update on the status of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

18. **Chief Counsel's Report:** None.

19. **Executive Director's Report.**

Executive Director Rob Oglesby announced the appointment of David Ashuckian as Deputy Director of the Energy Commission's Efficiency and Renewable Energy Division.

20. **Public Adviser's Report.**

21. **Public Comment:** None.

Appearances:

Mr. William Barrett

Ms. Lisa Belenky, Center for Biological Diversity

Mr. Ralph Coleman, Western Air Systems Certification

Mr. John Flores, Valley Duct Testing

Mr. Scott Galati, Galati Blek, LLP, on behalf of BrightSource Energy, Inc. and NextEra Energy Resources LLP (by telephone)

Mr. David Haddock, on behalf of Erik Hoover and Patrick Davis

Mr. George Nesbitt, CalHERS

Ms. Tiffany North, County of Riverside

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRIET KALLEMEYN
Secretary to the Commission