



Commissioners Present

Robert B. Weisenmiller, Chair  
Karen Douglas  
Andrew McAllister  
David Hochschild

Staff Present:

Michael Levy, Chief Counsel  
Drew Bohan, Chief Deputy Director  
Blake Roberts, Assistant Public Advisor  
Harriet Kallemeyn, Secretariat

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Postponed	2
Raoul Renaud	3
Jennifer Masterson	4
Bill Kinney	5
Cheng Moua	6

Also Present (\* Via WebEx)

Interested Parties

Peter Christensen, California Air Resources Board  
Bill Pucheu, Mendota Bioenergy, LLC  
James Tischer, California State University Fresno  
Jeff Manternach, IRL Group  
Jace Baird, Board of Directors, Mendota Bioenergy, LLC  
Rusty Gagnani, Board of Directors,  
Mendota Bioenergy, LLC  
John Diener, Board of Directors, Mendota Bioenergy, LLC  
Dr. Ruihong Zhang, University of California, Davis  
Steve Zicari, University of California, Davis  
Leon Woods, Consultant  
Sean Garvey, Grant Farm  
\*Jim Tatum, Inyo County

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P R O C E E D I N G S

FEBRUARY 28, 2013 9:10 a.m.

CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good morning. Let's start the Business Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.)

CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Good morning. I'd like to first start out by welcoming our new Commissioner. This is great to have you on board. Again, welcome. We all appreciate your willingness to step forward for the public service.

COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Thank you. What is this card?

COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: This is the highest value gift that we have, that can be paid for with State funds. It is actually quite a nice Energy Commission lapel pin. When you get to 10 years, you may get a watch or something, but this is what you get when you start.

But I'm really happy. I know David from before and worked together on some of the issues around renewables over the years, distributed generation, and I'm really happy to have David on the Commission, it's going to be a great addition and I'm sure we'll all spread the wealth very liberally with you. Thanks. Welcome, Dave.

1           COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Briefly, I'll jump in  
2 before David does. I got the pleasure of spreading the  
3 wealth with him just earlier this week on his first and  
4 second day on the job as we participated in the Hidden  
5 Hills Prehearing Conference and in preparation for that  
6 conference.

7           So I'd also like to join my colleagues in  
8 welcoming you on board. There's a lot to do and it's  
9 great, you know, we're seeing David jump in from the very  
10 beginning. It's really great to have you on board.

11           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Well, thank you so  
12 much. And let me also thank the Chair for graciously  
13 agreeing to come down to San Francisco last week and  
14 swear me in.

15           This is where I want to be, and part of the  
16 reason for that is that the team here at the Commission  
17 is a very collaborative, very talented team, and that  
18 excites me; I play basketball for my sport and the teams  
19 that win are the teams that play well together, and I  
20 really saw the opportunity for that here and that's part  
21 of the reason I was really excited to join and I told  
22 that to the Governor when we met.

23           I think this is a really exciting moment for  
24 California and that California is positioned to really be  
25 the leader in the country on the issues we care about

1 with efficiency and clean energy, and so this feels like  
2 the beginning of a very exciting journey. And I just  
3 really want to thank all of you and all the staff for  
4 such a gracious and warm welcome.

5 I'm going to be doing a lot of listening in the  
6 next few months really as I just get myself calibrated on  
7 what everyone is doing, to understand the agency, and so  
8 I just appreciate all your patience as I get up to speed  
9 and I'm going to do my best to contribute to the team.  
10 So thanks for having me.

11 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thanks for coming.

12 I would note, it was a remarkable event in San  
13 Francisco last Thursday. One of the things that was  
14 pretty clear coming out of it, as hopefully at least some  
15 of you realize, is that next September will be the 40th  
16 anniversary of the Energy Commission, at least when then  
17 Governor Reagan signed the Warren-Alquist Act.

18 And so obviously it's time for all of us to  
19 start thinking about the ways to really capture what the  
20 Commission has accomplished in the last 40 years and,  
21 certainly coming out of that event, David volunteered to  
22 be part of the organizers of thinking through that. But  
23 I'm sure each of us on the dais will certainly have a  
24 role there in trying to think through, for example, on  
25 energy efficiency, you know, how do you really summarize

1 that legacy in a way that really conveys that.

2 So with that, let's go to the Consent Calendar.

3 We're going to split the Consent Calendar in two pieces,

4 first for Item -- let's deal with everything but 1-d?

5 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Yes. Just to

6 clarify, with the permission of the Chair, I would

7 request to recuse myself from Item 1-d. The San

8 Francisco Public Utilities Commission graciously allowed

9 me to use their facility for my swearing in ceremony and,

10 while our Chief Counsel assures me there is no actual

11 conflict of interest for me, it's too close in time to

12 avoid any appearance of bias, and so I would prefer to

13 recuse myself on this item.

14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: First, do I have a

15 motion for the rest of the Consent Calendar?

16 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I move the Consent

17 Calendar except for Item 1-d.

18 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. All those in

20 favor?

21 (Ayes.)

22 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, so then Consent

23 Calendar except for 1-d has been adopted unanimously. So

24 now let's -- please step out of the room.

25 So now let's go to Item 1-d.

1 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll move Item 1-d.

2 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in  
4 favor of Item 1-d?

5 (Ayes.)

6 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: So this passes 3-0.  
7 Commissioner, you can come back in.

8 Item 2 will be held.

9 Let's go to Item 3. Mr. Renaud.

10 MR. RENAUD: Good morning, Chair Weisenmiller,  
11 Commissioners. This is for the Palen Solar Electric  
12 Generating System Amendment 09-AFC-7C.

13 The Committee for that case currently is  
14 Commissioner Douglas as the Presiding Member, and Chair  
15 Weisenmiller as the Associate Member.

16 Traditionally, one of the ways the Commission  
17 has welcomed new Commissioners is by redistribution of  
18 the wealth of some of the siting case work, and I  
19 understand it may be the Chair's desire to consider that  
20 at this point.

21 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you. Yes, I  
22 would like to have a motion to basically continue with  
23 Commissioner Douglas as the Presiding Member, but then to  
24 substitute David for myself.

25 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So moved.

1 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

3 (Ayes.)

4 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This passes 4-0. Thank  
5 you.

6 Let's go on to Item 4, which is California Air  
7 Resources Board. Possible approval of Contract 600-12-  
8 004. This will be \$4,500,000 of ARFVTP funding.  
9 Jennifer Masterson. And I believe Commissioner  
10 McAllister has an announcement.

11 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: So I will recuse  
12 myself from this item. This funding goes through my  
13 former Employer, the California Center for Sustainable  
14 Energy, for a distribution as incentives. So I have to  
15 opt out of this particular vote. Thank you.

16 MS. MASTERSON: Good morning, Commissioners,  
17 Chairman. My name is Jennifer Masterson and I work in  
18 the Emerging Fuels and Technologies Office. Also with me  
19 today is Mary Nichols and Peter Christensen from the Air  
20 Resources Board.

21 The proposed interagency agreement I'm bringing  
22 before you this morning is for \$4.5 million with the  
23 California Air Resources Board to be used for their Clean  
24 Vehicle Rebate Project, also known as CVRP. The CVRP  
25 will provide rebates for the purchase of qualified

1 electric drive vehicles in California.

2           With the near term depletion of ARB funds  
3 available to the program, the Energy Commission funds  
4 will prevent a stoppage of these Zero Emission Vehicle  
5 incentives from occurring.

6           Investments from the Alternative and Renewable  
7 Fuel and Vehicle Technology Funds have allowed California  
8 to start on a path to meet the ambitious goals of the  
9 Governor's Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan. This plan  
10 sets a target of one million Zero Emission Vehicles (or  
11 ZEVs) on the road by 2020, and 1.5 million ZEVs by 2025.

12           By establishing regional planning activities,  
13 participating in the development of the 2012 ZEV Action  
14 Plan, and developing a strategic network of Electric  
15 Vehicle charging stations, the Energy Commission will  
16 help consumers and Electric Vehicle companies work  
17 towards a cleaner, healthier California.

18           These ARFVTP funds will be used to augment  
19 ARB's program, which will provide additional rebates for  
20 Zero Emission Vehicles and Plug-In Hybrid Electric  
21 Vehicles. Both must be capable of freeway operation and  
22 certified for four passengers or more and for  
23 subcontractor administrative and outreach costs.

24           Overall, this project provides a benefit by  
25 encouraging and accelerating Zero Emission Vehicle

1 deployment in California, and supports Governor Brown's  
2 ZEV Action Plan.

3 Now I'd like to invite Peter Christensen to  
4 speak about CVRP.

5 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Good morning. It's a  
6 pleasure to be here again today and support this item.

7 The investments that we're jointly making in  
8 the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project are really important,  
9 they're critical for meeting California's near term  
10 health-based clean air standards, as well as our long-  
11 term greenhouse gas reduction goals.

12 Just a couple of facts that I wanted to share  
13 with you today. You might remember, it was a short time  
14 ago that we had our Press event for the 10,000th rebate  
15 participant over at the Air Resources Board. I can stand  
16 here today and tell you that we're nearing 20,000  
17 already, we're just above 18,000 rebates and the funding  
18 that we're supporting today would contribute another  
19 approximately 2,000 vehicles.

20 So we're well on our way, we're making good  
21 progress, we're having record month after record month in  
22 clean car rebates, and we're on the path toward 15  
23 percent of new cars produced in 2025 being Zero Emission  
24 or Plug-In Hybrids.

25 Popularity is continuing to grow. What I want

1 to --

2 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Sorry, just out of  
3 curiosity, what is the percentage today?

4 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Today it's below two percent.  
5 It's right around one to one and a half percent. Yeah,  
6 so like I said, the trajectory is rapidly increasing  
7 right now, but we do have a long way to go.

8 The opportunity today is particularly timely.  
9 We checked the website just a few minutes ago and we have  
10 only \$975,000 left in funding available right now. So  
11 continued funding is absolutely essential to make sure  
12 that consumers are confident that we will continue  
13 funding -- and we will. We don't expect any delays in  
14 rebates for consumers that are on the verge of purchasing  
15 vehicles right now.

16 So with your continued help and another planned  
17 transfer within the AQIP Program of another \$6 million  
18 towards CVRP at the same time, we don't expect any delays  
19 in funding. So with that, I encourage your support.

20 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Commissioners, any  
21 other questions or comments?

22 Certainly, we want to thank you for being here  
23 today. I would note that, given the realities the last  
24 time when we had to basically pull this off the agenda,  
25 but for a couple reasons, we had the emergency -- I don't

1 know if emergency -- we're having a special meeting today  
2 which gave us a chance to keep on track on the transfer.

3 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Yeah, this is a great  
4 program. I agree that the rebates need to continue to be  
5 available. So thanks again for being here.

6 I'll move approval of Item 4.

7 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

9 (Ayes.)

10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This item also passes  
11 unanimously.

12 Okay, let's go on to -- excuse me, Commissioner  
13 McAllister needed to recuse himself.

14 So let's go on to Item 5 -- Commissioner  
15 McAllister is back. This would be Mendota Bioenergy,  
16 LLC. Possible approval of Grant Agreement ARV-12-033 for  
17 \$4,998,399. And this is again ARFVTP funding. Bill  
18 Kinney.

19 MR. KINNEY: Good morning, Commissioners,  
20 Chairman. My name is Bill Kinney and I work in the  
21 Emerging Fuels and Technology Office in the  
22 Transportation Division.

23 Staff is requesting approval of a grant for  
24 \$4,998,399 to build a ethanol production demonstration  
25 facility, and this is a proposed award under the

1 Alternative Renewable Fuels and Vehicle Technology

2 Program, also known as AB 118.

3 Under this proposed agreement, ARV-12-033,  
4 Mendota Bioenergy will design, construct and operate an  
5 11.54 million Advanced Biorefinery Integrated  
6 Demonstration Plant and it will be located at Red Rock  
7 Ranch in Five Points, California, which is in Western  
8 Fresno County.

9 When fully operational in 2013, the proposed  
10 demonstration-scale project will use advanced enzyme and  
11 microbial conversion processes to produce 285,000 gallons  
12 of 200-proof advanced biofuel ethanol.

13 It will also demonstrate a 12-month harvest and  
14 fuel-specific beet quality tracking plan for 10,000 tons  
15 of high-yield carbon optimized energy beets. It will  
16 also produce 11,588 gallons of biodiesel for use in  
17 energy beet production, cultivation, harvest, and  
18 transport equipment.

19 And finally, the project will develop a custom  
20 lifecycle analysis tool to support process design, co-  
21 product development, and the future commercial scale-up  
22 of a commercial-scale advanced biorefinery center in  
23 Mendota.

24 This is actually the second ARFVTP award for  
25 this Applicant. Their first project was awarded \$1.5

1 million in PON-09-604 to assess the feasibility, test  
2 prototype technologies, and develop engineering and the  
3 design specifications for this proposed demonstration  
4 facility. And, in turn, the results of this project will  
5 support the deployment of the commercial-scale ABC-M, a  
6 40 million gallon per year ethanol plant that will be  
7 located near Fresno in Western Fresno County, which  
8 incidentally is one of the most economically distressed  
9 regions in California.

10           The Applicant team has developed a coherent  
11 vision for low carbon ethanol production using a crop  
12 with a solid production history in Western San Joaquin  
13 Valley, using a well organized implementation plan from  
14 prototyping to commercial scale.

15           The biorefinery provides an innovative use for  
16 an established local crop. Sugar beets have grown in  
17 this area for more than 100 years and/or processed at  
18 Mendota Sugar Plant until it closed in 2008.

19           During the operation of the IDP, 26 jobs will  
20 be supported in technical, engineering, and research  
21 positions, and roughly 25 more positions will be  
22 supported from the construction of the IDP, and  
23 associated harvesting, transportation and demonstration  
24 activities.

25           The commercial-scale ABC-M will create

1 approximately 250 direct and 50 indirect skilled jobs  
2 during construction phase of approximately 540 days.  
3 These positions will include construction, engineering,  
4 design, planning, management, and administration. It  
5 will also sustain up to 50 long term professional  
6 positions in biorefinery operations, including  
7 maintenance, material handling, laboratory and management  
8 positions through the year 2030.

9           And I'd just like to mention in passing that  
10 this team has aggressively pursued both the economic  
11 efficiency and environmental sustainability, including  
12 this custom LC8 tool, which will attempt to identify  
13 additional sources of GHG emissions, and they've also  
14 pursued water and energy efficiency measures in their  
15 plan.

16           I have a statement that I want to read into the  
17 record regarding the Applicant's CEQA compliance. The  
18 statement is:

19           "The County of Fresno as lead agency prepared  
20 and adopted an initial study and negative  
21 declaration. The Energy Commission is the  
22 responsible agency and staff has reviewed the  
23 documents prepared by the County of Fresno and  
24 concur that this project will not have a significant  
25 environmental impact."

1           If you have any questions, I would be happy to  
2 address those.

3           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Commissioners, any  
4 questions or comments?

5           MR. KINNEY: And I believe the Applicants are  
6 here. I don't know when that would be appropriate, but  
7 they are here.

8           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I think it would be a  
9 good time if they want to introduce themselves, and then  
10 we can see if the Commissioners have any questions or  
11 comments. Please. I would note that Rob Oglesby and I  
12 did visit Fresno and the Mendota, and met with the Mayors  
13 of Fresno in Mendota, and met with many community  
14 leaders, certainly with this group, and an impressive  
15 amount of interest in the County, in the groups there to  
16 try to really make this a real viable project and open up  
17 new opportunities there. As you know, this is a pretty  
18 hard hit area, so again it was really good to see ways  
19 that we at the Energy Commission can help in this area.

20           Please come forward.

21           MR. PUCHEU: Chairman Weisenmiller, my name is  
22 Bill Pucheu and I'm the General Manager of Mendota  
23 Bioenergy, a Limited Liability Corporation, and the  
24 Applicant for what's in front of you.

25           I'd like to thank all of you for the interest

1 you've shown in what we're doing, and I just want to  
2 introduce my team that's here if I may.

3           From Fresno State University, we have James  
4 Tischer, he's our Executive Director, really; with the  
5 IR1 Group, our engineering consultants, Jeff Manternach;  
6 then we have four of my colleagues on the Board of  
7 Directors, that being Jace Baird, Rusty Gragnani, John  
8 Diener; and from U.C. Davis, let's see, Ruihong Zhang,  
9 and Dr. Zhang has been, oh, primary in going through the  
10 ethanol research and converting the beet to ethanol; and  
11 her associate, Steve Zicari -- and I'm sorry I didn't  
12 catch the other gentleman's name this morning, a few  
13 minutes ago. But this is our team that's here.

14           And also, we've been having a consultant  
15 working with us here in the State of California to get  
16 through the governmental process, if you will, and that's  
17 Mr. Leon Woods.

18           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: The Court Reporter will  
19 need to get from you the correct spelling of all the  
20 names. Business cards would help, right?

21           MR. PUCHEU: We'll get that provided.

22           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, thank you. I  
23 would also note, out in the lobby you'll see examples of  
24 the beets that result from the combination of the  
25 technologies that you're using and certainly pretty

1 impressive. And hopefully it will make a very solid  
2 fuel.

3 MR. PUCHEU: If I may, Mr. Chairman, those  
4 beets were dug yesterday and it's the first time that  
5 type of beet has ever been grown in California. And it's  
6 a little test plot we have south of Los Banos and we're  
7 still analyzing the results from that, it's so different  
8 from what we knew before.

9 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Great.

10 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Biggest beet I've  
11 ever seen in my life.

12 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: It certainly dwarfed the  
13 beets that are coming out of my garden.

14 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: I was worried because  
15 there are pictures of Rob and I and some beets from  
16 before that, and I thought unless they brought some, we  
17 would have to figure out a way to display today. But,  
18 anyway --

19 MR. PUCHEU: If I may, one other member of our  
20 team arrived when I was addressing and I didn't see him  
21 walk in, and he's from the Grant Farm, Mr. Sean Garvey,  
22 so where are you, Sean? Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Any questions or  
24 comments?

25 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah, I'll kick it

1 off. So I would just note that, you know, we talk about  
2 market development -- there's a couple points -- one is  
3 the innovation process. And this project really seems to  
4 have the whole cycle from R&D all the way through to  
5 design and development, and all the way through to  
6 demonstration, and potentially here scale-up. So it's  
7 sort of a classic example of a promising technology that  
8 we consciously make the effort to find ways for the State  
9 to partner with private industry, local governments, to  
10 develop a technology and see it through, as long as it  
11 continues to remain promising. And this seems like a  
12 really classic example of that. So that model, I think,  
13 is bearing a lot of fruit and continues to do so.

14           The other kind of idea that I think is really  
15 important is the portfolio approach. We have incredible  
16 challenges and incredibly stiff goals for the State to  
17 reduce our carbon footprint and in liquid fuels,  
18 particularly, there are just a lot of potential solutions  
19 and many of them, maybe most of them, are sort of on the  
20 front end of their innovation chain, innovation cycle.  
21 And so I think investing in a wide variety of  
22 technologies to get to the different market sectors that  
23 we need, whether it's electric generation, or liquid  
24 fuels, or any of the other sort of sectors of energy  
25 consumption, I think is really important. So those two

1 kind of high level organizing principles, I think, are  
2 important to keep in mind. And I see this project as  
3 sort of fitting into that schema as a very kind of solid  
4 representation of California's policy.

5 And so I might question the wisdom of putting  
6 200-proof into our agenda, maybe that sends the wrong  
7 signal, I don't know, I grew up in Tennessee, so that  
8 means something to me. But be that as it may, I think  
9 this looks like a very exciting project and I'm really  
10 excited to see where it goes.

11 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I don't have anything to  
12 add to Commissioner McAllister's comments, I agree with  
13 them. So I'll just move approval of Item 5.

14 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: All those in favor?

16 (Ayes.)

17 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: This item passes  
18 unanimously, 4-0. Thank you. Let's go get those beets  
19 growing.

20 Let's go on to Item 6. County of Inyo.  
21 Possible approval of Loan Agreement 007-12-ECD with the  
22 County of Inyo for a loan of \$992,054 to install PV. And  
23 this is ECAA funding. Cheng Moua, please.

24 MR. MOUA: Thank you and good morning,  
25 Commissioners, Chairman. My name is Cheng Moua. I'm

1 with the Special Projects Office.

2 This item is a request for the approval of an  
3 ECAA loan with the amount of \$992,054 for the County of  
4 Inyo.

5 The County has requested this loan to fund its  
6 Solar PV project which includes installing a total of 426  
7 kilowatts of solar PV at its Courthouse, Adult Jail, and  
8 Juvenile Hall, all located in the City of Independence,  
9 California.

10 The County of Inyo is committed to reducing its  
11 energy consumption. It recently performed lighting  
12 retrofits and fixture delamping, installed LED exit signs  
13 and occupancy sensors to many of its facilities, with  
14 funding from the Commission's Energy Efficiency and  
15 Conservation Block Grant Program and the help of utility  
16 rebates.

17 The 426 kilowatt Solar PV Project is estimated  
18 to produce over 643,000 kilowatt hours annually, which  
19 result in annual cost savings over \$76,000 for the County  
20 of Inyo.

21 The total cost for the project is approximately  
22 \$1.8 million. This project is expected to receive a  
23 solar incentive from LADWP's Solar Initiative Program  
24 that will approximately cover half of the project costs,  
25 the remaining balance expected to be financed from the

1 approval of this loan.

2           The simple payback for this project is 13 years  
3 based on the loan amount, and the interest rate is one  
4 percent. Staff has determined that this project request  
5 complies with all program requirements. I'm here today  
6 to seek your approval. Thank you. And I believe we have  
7 Inyo County on the line.

8           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yes. I believe Mr. Jim  
9 Tatum is on the line?

10           MR. TATUM: Yes.

11           CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Thank you for being on  
12 the line for this. Commissioners, any questions or  
13 comments for staff or for Mr. Tatum?

14           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Yeah, just so I  
15 understand, this \$992,000 is for 100 percent of the cost  
16 of the project? Or is there any money that's coming in  
17 addition to this?

18           MR. MOUA: About half of it is coming from  
19 LADWP's buydown program, solar buydown program.

20           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: What is the cost per  
21 watt? Do you know?

22           MR. MOUA: It's about \$4.4.

23           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Okay. And this is a  
24 rooftop system or a ground mounted?

25           MR. MOUA: Ground mounted and carports.

1                   COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Is it on a tracker or  
2 fixed?

3                   MR. MOUA: Fixed.

4                   COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: So if there are no  
5 comments from -- additional comments from Inyo County,  
6 Mr. Tatum, I just wanted to say that I'm pleased to see  
7 Inyo County coming into the ECAA loan program with this  
8 proposal. You know, the ECAA program has been a popular  
9 program, we've given a lot of loans really covering many  
10 efficiency projects, and also some solar projects, and  
11 projects that have both efficiency and solar components.  
12 So it's good to see you in here.

13                   I don't have any additional questions. Do  
14 other Commissioners have additional questions?

15                   COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I have a couple of  
16 comments, actually. As many of you frequent attendees of  
17 the business meetings here now, I'm a big fan of the ECAA  
18 Program, and I think it is a fairly skeletal program,  
19 actually, I mean, it doesn't have tons of staff on it,  
20 and it's been relatively sort of for statutory reasons,  
21 really, or for budgeting reasons, it's been a relatively  
22 modest program. But it does a lot of good work.

23                   In my previous life in San Diego, I saw --  
24 worked with lots of schools, worked with lots of local  
25 governments, and I think the City of San Diego being a

1 primary example, participated in ECAA, got some loans for  
2 various energy efficiency projects, and really made the  
3 most out of those and were able to leverage them, and  
4 work them into their yearly planning, and do lots of  
5 really good cost-effective, positive projects in their  
6 facilities. A number of schools, the same.

7           So I really am a big fan of the ECAA Program.  
8 I think that there are lots of directions the program  
9 could go in the future, it obviously depends on lots of  
10 factors. But I think having a place that is not free  
11 money, but is low interest money, with reflows associated  
12 with it, it really satisfies a much needed niche of the  
13 marketplace. We know that schools, in particular, but  
14 also local governments in this economy have been really  
15 strapped for budget, for their facilities, even for their  
16 maintenance. So ECAA helps them do common sense good  
17 projects that have an energy focus. So I'm really a big  
18 fan. The profile of this project obviously matches many  
19 others that have come through the ECAA Program. You  
20 know, I think we're in a moment in California where doing  
21 some -- we, the royal we, the broad we, I think across  
22 the state, really given all the -- from SB 375 and all  
23 the way through to many of the energy initiatives we  
24 have, there are a lot of challenges to reduce our carbon  
25 consumption from the customer level on up to the

1 generation.

2           So again, I'd like to locate the ECAA program  
3 within this broader endeavor that we have to reduce our  
4 carbon emissions, and I think this is a really key  
5 enabler for schools, for local governments, public  
6 jurisdictions, to accomplish those goals, to contribute  
7 to accomplishing the State's goals. So I'm supportive of  
8 this project.

9           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: One further question.  
10 Is this -- have you considered or already planning to do  
11 any sort of public display of the energy generated, or  
12 the benefits of the system? Have you looked at, since  
13 it's on a public facility, that component of it?

14           MR. MOUA: Let's see if Jim could comment on  
15 that. I'm not exactly -- are you talking specifically  
16 for the Inyo County Project?

17           COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: I am, yeah. I mean,  
18 other facilities, for example, the Moscone Convention  
19 Center in San Francisco, when they did their solar roof,  
20 they had a kiosk that just shows the public how much  
21 clean power is being generated and to raise awareness.  
22 I'm not sure if that's something you had looked at.

23           MR. MOUA: Yeah, I'm not exactly sure if  
24 there's something like that for this project. I would  
25 have to double-check. But see if Jim Tatum --

1 MR. TATUM: Yes, I can add something there.  
2 First of all, I'd like to begin by thanking the  
3 Commission for their consideration of this very very  
4 important project to us. We plan to get as much mileage  
5 as possible out of the benefits and inform our public,  
6 and it's already been done to a certain degree, it's been  
7 in the news here and I think that we'll do everything  
8 possible to make people aware of the benefits associated  
9 with the installation of these projects.

10 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: Great. That's very  
11 helpful. Thanks.

12 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Okay, so with that, I'll  
13 move approval of Item 6.

14 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I'll second.

15 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, all those in  
16 favor?

17 (Ayes.)

18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Item 6 passes  
19 unanimously, 4-0.

20 Minutes -- thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I'll move approval --  
22 oh, sorry.

23 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Are you going to vote  
24 on this one? You will abstain?

25 COMMISSIONER HOCHSCHILD: I will abstain, thank

1 you.

2 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, so with that,  
3 what's the vote on the Minutes?

4 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: Move approval of the  
5 February 13, 2013 --

6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Second? Okay. Please.

8 Now let's vote.

9 (Ayes.)

10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: And we have one  
11 abstention, so this will be 3-0.

12 Item 8. Lead Commissioner and Presiding Member  
13 Reports.

14 COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS: I have nothing to  
15 report.

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: I have nothing  
17 either.

18 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay. Again, we'll  
19 keep it brief. I was going to note that Commissioner  
20 McAllister and I were both at the combined PUC/CAISO  
21 event on Tuesday in San Francisco, which was pretty  
22 interesting. Then I would also note that yesterday I was  
23 at a very small event at the Hoover Institute talking  
24 about energy regulation, which was also pretty  
25 interesting. And I don't think I mentioned last time

1 that I was at the VerdeXchange Conference down in Los  
2 Angeles, the beginning of the month, for a couple  
3 different panels. But, again, that's a nice event, very  
4 broadly attended by mostly the Los Angeles community, a  
5 good opportunity to outreach there.

6 So with that, let's go to Chief Counsel's  
7 Report.

8 MR. LEVY: Good morning, Commissioners. I have  
9 no report today.

10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Executive Director's  
11 Report.

12 MR. BOHAN: No report, Chair --

13 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Actually, I guess,  
14 Drew, could you mention the bus?

15 MR. BOHAN: Oh, certainly, yes. There is a bus  
16 outside our building. Last meeting, we had several cars  
17 and a all-electric zero motorcycle. This meeting, we're  
18 having -- the Proterra Company has got one of its buses  
19 that's been funded in part by the Energy Commission and  
20 in part by others, and it is a Public Zero Emission  
21 Vehicle, and this is one of the first steps towards  
22 making that happen more, on a grander scale. So it's out  
23 there and folks are welcome to have a look.

24 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Yeah, I just wanted to  
25 make sure and encourage the other Commissioners and staff

1 to step out and see that. One of the important things to  
2 do is to electrify the transportation system and a lot of  
3 it is, when we talked about the early CARB thing, it was  
4 very much autos, but we really are talking across the  
5 board, and so certainly electrifying the transportation  
6 fleet is a key part of that, and I would certainly  
7 encourage people to go out and kick the tires.

8 Public Advisor Report.

9 MR. ROBERTS: Nothing to report.

10 CHAIRMAN WEISENMILLER: Okay, any public  
11 comment? Okay, then this meeting is adjourned -- oh,  
12 sorry, please. Sure, please.

13 MR. PUCHEU: I appreciate the extra time this  
14 morning, Mr. Chairman. I just want to again thank the  
15 Commission for what they're doing, and thank you for the  
16 confidence you've put in with my team -- or, our team, I  
17 should say.

18 A number of us live in the west side of the San  
19 Joaquin Valley in Fresno County and are certainly looking  
20 forward to bringing really a major industry back that  
21 will certainly help out the unemployment situation.

22 But one of the things, or three things I wanted  
23 to cover here, and what you are allowing us to do now,  
24 it's not only a challenge but an opportunity. You know,  
25 we recognize that our enzymatic process has got to be

