In the matter of:  

Developing Regulations and Guidelines for the 33 Percent Renewables Portfolio Standard  

and  

Implementation of Renewables Investment Plan Legislation  

Docket No. 11-RPS-01  

NOTICE OF STAFF WORKSHOP  
RE: British Columbia Run-of-River Hydroelectric Generating Facilities Study  

Staff Workshop on British Columbia Run-of-River Hydroelectric Projects Study  

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss the draft study to analyze British Columbia Run-of-River Hydroelectric projects and whether these projects are, or should be, eligible renewable electrical generation facilities for California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS), and to solicit questions and comments from interested stakeholders. This workshop will be conducted in person and with remote attendance using WebEx.  

March 22, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
1516 Ninth Street  
Hearing Room A  
Sacramento, California  
Wheelchair Accessible  

Remote Attendance and Availability of Documents  

Internet Webcast - Presentations and audio from the workshop will be broadcast via the Energy Commission’s WebEx web meeting service. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the “Remote Attendance” section toward the end of this notice.  

Purpose  
This workshop will discuss the draft report of the analysis of regulatory requirements for including British Columbia run-of-river hydroelectric facilities in the California RPS and solicit comments from stakeholders.
The results of the workshop and the additional areas of consideration raised by stakeholders will be used by staff to guide the finalization of the study of the run-of-river hydroelectric projects in British Columbia.

Background
The RPS was established by Senate Bill 1078 (Sher, Chapter 516, Statutes of 2002), with revisions to the law following as a result of Senate Bill 1250 (Perata, Chapter 512, Statutes of 2006), Senate Bill 107 (Simitian, Chapter 464, Statutes of 2006), and Senate Bill X1 2 (Simitian, Chapter 1, Statutes of 2011, First Extraordinary Session).1 The law requires retail sellers of electricity and local publicly owned electric utilities (POUs) to increase the amount of renewable energy procured until 33 percent of retail sales are served with renewable energy by December 31, 2020. Under the law, the Energy Commission is required to certify eligible renewable energy resources that may be used by retail sellers of electricity and POUs to satisfy their RPS procurement requirements, develop an accounting system to verify retail sellers’ and POUs’ compliance with the RPS, and adopt regulations specifying procedures for enforcement of the RPS for the POUs.

SB X1 2 also requires the Energy Commission to conduct the study of British Columbia run-of-river hydroelectric facilities. This requirement is set forth in Public Resources Code Section 25741.5 which states the following:

(a) “…after providing public notice and an opportunity for public comment, including holding at least one public workshop, and following consultation with interested governmental entities, the commission shall study and provide a report to the legislature that analyzes run-of-river hydroelectric generating facilities in British Columbia, including whether these facilities are, or should be, included as renewable electrical generation facilities pursuant to Section 25741 or eligible renewable energy resources pursuant to Article 16 (commencing with Section 399.11) of Chapter 2.3 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code.

(b) By completing the study and making recommendations, the commission shall consider the effect that inclusion would have upon all of the following:

(1) Emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.
(2) Emissions of air pollutants.
(3) Water quality, recreation, and fisheries.
(4) Any other environmental impact caused by run-of-river hydroelectric generating facilities.”2

Staff estimates that the draft study of British Columbia run-of-river hydroelectric facilities will be available on the Energy Commission's Website by March 15, 2013, at:

www.energy.ca.gov/portfolio/documents/index.html

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1 http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/sen/sb_0001-0050/sbx1_2_bill_20110412_chaptered.pdf
2 Public Resources Code Section 25741.5, Subdivisions (a) and (b).
Public Comments

Oral comments. Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Any comments may become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written comments. Written comments on the above listed areas of consideration must be submitted by **4:00 p.m. on April 5, 2013**. Please include the docket number 11-RPS-01 and indicate Renewables Portfolio Standard in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments. Parties should note that Docket 03-RPS-1078 has been replaced with Docket 11-RPS-01 for the Energy Commission’s RPS proceedings. For additional information, see Standing Order re: Proceedings and Confidentiality Procedural Requirements for Filing, Service, and Docketing Documents with the Energy Commission, available at: [www.energy.ca.gov/commission/chief_counsel/docket.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/commission/chief_counsel/docket.html).

Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission’s website for the proceeding. Please note that your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the docket number 11-RPS-01 and indicate RPS Proceeding in the subject line. Send comments to: docket@energy.ca.gov and to RPS33@energy.ca.gov

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 11-RPS-01  
RPS Proceeding  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA  95814-5512

Public Participation

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser’s Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at lquiroz@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.
If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this workshop, please contact Brian McCollough at (916) 653-1648 or by e-mail at Brian.McCollough@energy.ca.gov.

Remote Attendance
Participation in this staff workshop is through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you listen to the audio via your telephone. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

To join a meeting:

VIA COMPUTER
1. Please go to https://energy.webex.com and enter the unique meeting number: 924 650 895
2. When prompted, enter your name other information as directed and the meeting password: meeting@9:30
   NOTE: Access to WebEx meetings is now available from your mobile device. To learn more and access your app, please visit http://www.webex.com/overview/mobile-meetings.html

The “Join Conference” menu will offer you a choice of audio connections:
1. To call into the meeting: Select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
2. International Attendees: Click on the "Global call-in number" link.
3. To have WebEx call you: Enter your phone number and click "Call Me."
4. To listen over the computer: If you have a broadband connection, and a headset or a computer microphone and speakers, you may use VoIP (Internet audio) by going to the Audio menu, clicking on “Use Computer Headset,” then “Call Using Computer.”

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number: 924 650 895. International callers may select their number from https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php

VIA MOBILE ACCESS: Access to WebEx meetings is now available from your mobile device. To download an app, go to www.webex.com/overview/mobile-meetings.html. If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

Availability of Documents
Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at: www.energy.ca.gov/portfolio/documents/index.html

March 1, 2013

Dave Ashuckian
Deputy Director

Mail Lists: Renewable; 33by2020