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|--|---|----------------------------|
| In the matter of:                        | ) | Docket No. 16-EPIC-01      |
|  | ) |                            |
| Private Sector Participation in Research | ) | STAFF WORKSHOP             |
| Grant Funding Opportunities              | ) | RE: Research Grant Funding |
| _____                                    | ) |                            |

**Notice of Staff Workshop**  
**Working with California’s Private Sector:**  
**Increasing Participation for Research Grant Funding**

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss opportunities to increase private sector participation in research grant program funding opportunities. While this is a staff workshop, Commissioners may attend and participate. The workshop will be held on:

**Thursday, September 22, 2016**  
 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
 CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
 1516 Ninth Street, First Floor  
 Charles Imbrecht Hearing Room  
 Sacramento, California  
 Wheelchair Accessible

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™  
 (Instructions below)

**Background**

The Energy Commission is interested in increasing private sector participation in the Commission’s research grant programs. This workshop will help Energy Commission staff understand the potential barriers that may deter private sector companies from applying for funding opportunities as well as solicit ideas for facilitating greater private sector participation in the Commission’s research programs.

**Background on Commission’s Research Programs**

Funding innovative research programs has long been a mainstay of the Energy Commission. The Commission administers several research programs with the goal of increasing innovation and market deployment of clean energy technologies. Some areas addressed in these programs include energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, advanced clean generation, energy-related environmental protection, energy transmission and distribution, and transportation.

Multiple competitive R&D solicitations are released annually, totaling approximately \$160 million per year. These solicitations are open to public and private sector entities. Private sector companies, especially first-time applicants, are underrepresented in Commission research grant opportunities.

Investments by the Energy Commission complement private corporate funding, provide guidance and direction to state policies, and fund research not adequately addressed by competitive or regulated markets. These investments reduce risk to investors, accelerate the path to market for emerging technologies, and support projects through energy innovation pipeline phases.

## **Agenda**

This workshop will convene Energy Commission staff and stakeholders to facilitate discussion around the following questions related to private sector participation in the Commission's research programs.

1. What are some concerns and challenges the private sector, including small businesses and entrepreneurs, face when considering applying for grant funding opportunities?
2. How can the Energy Commission better increase awareness of the research programs to California private sector companies?
3. What are some ideas to encourage private sector companies to apply for research funding?
4. Besides grant funding, what else can the Energy Commission do to help California private sector companies to be successful?

This workshop will conclude with a public comment period.

## **Public Comment**

**Oral comments:** The Energy Commission will accept oral comments at the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

**Written comments:** Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2016**. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding.

For the Staff Workshop on *Working with California's Private Sector: Increasing Participation for Research Grant Funding*, the Energy Commission is using an electronic commenting system. Visit our website at:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=16-EPIC-01> to add comments to the **16-EPIC-01** EPIC Ideas Exchange docket. Please enter your contact information and comment title. You may include comments in the box titled

"Comment Text" or attach a file with your comments. Attached comments must be in a Microsoft® Word (.doc, .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf) formatted file.

The Energy Commission encourages use of its electronic commenting system, but written comments may also be submitted by e-mailing them to the Dockets Office, or by U.S. Mail to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 16-IEPR-02  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

If you choose not to use the electronic filing system, please include the appropriate docket number on any e-mailed or written comments. Comments may be e-mailed to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov).

Please note that your electronic, e-mailed, written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, address, phone, and e-mail) become part of the viewable public record. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and other search engines.

## **Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts**

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, at [PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto:PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4489, or toll-free at (800) 822-6228.

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Poneh Jones at [poneh.jones@energy.ca.gov](mailto:poneh.jones@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Lorraine Gonzalez at: [Lorraine.Gonzalez@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Lorraine.Gonzalez@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 445-5295.

## **Remote Attendance**

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

## To join a meeting:

### VIA COMPUTER:

Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **929 878 123**

No password is required.

Attendees signing in for this workshop will be asked a few brief questions as part of the Commission diversity survey and are encouraged to provide feedback.

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: **929 878 123**

International callers may select their number from

<https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

VIA MOBILE ACCESS: Access to WebEx meetings is available from your mobile device. To download an app, go to [www.webex.com/products/web-conferencing/mobile.html](http://www.webex.com/products/web-conferencing/mobile.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:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic/documents/#wkspmeetings>

September 2, 2016

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Laurie ten Hope  
Deputy Director

Mail Lists:  
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