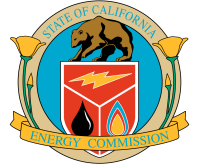


**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



## **Staff Workshop California Desert Research: Reducing the Biological Impacts of Solar Energy Development**

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to provide information on six research projects funded by the Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program that address solar energy-related biological impacts in the California desert.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2011**

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Hearing Room B

Sacramento, California

(Wheelchair Accessible)

Public parking is available in the state-owned garage on 10th Street between O and P Streets (entrance on 10<sup>th</sup>), in metered spaces on area streets, and in the public parking garages on L Street between 10th and 11th Streets and on P Street between 11th and 12th Streets.

### **Remote Attendance and Availability of Documents**

**Internet Webcast** - Presentations and audio from the meeting will be broadcast via our WebEx web meeting service. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the "Remote Attendance" section toward the end of this notice.

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/index.html> and <http://www.drecp.org>

### **Purpose**

This workshop will present study plans for PIER-funded desert research projects and allow a public forum for questions, researcher collaboration, and input on additional desert research needs. Principal investigators will describe their research, which is relevant to key biological issues in California desert renewable energy siting and development.

## **Background**

Executive Order S-14-08 directs state government agencies to take all appropriate actions to help achieve California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goal, which requires retail sellers of electricity to serve 33 percent of their load with renewable energy by 2020. Utility scale solar developments are important to achieving this ambitious RPS goal. However, such developments have large land requirements and can have negative impacts on water systems, delicate ecosystems and vulnerable species, particularly in the desert. To help address this issue the Energy Commission and California Department of Fish and Game are developing a science-driven Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) for the Mojave and Colorado Deserts of California.

Environmental review of recent solar applications has raised several issues and data gaps related to the analysis and mitigation of biological impacts. To advance the DRECP and facilitate environmental review and permitting, research is needed that would help determine and minimize the biological impacts of solar projects within the Mojave and Colorado Desert regions. In response to Executive Order S-14-08, the PIER Energy-Related Environmental Program requested proposals on such research from public and private entities. Six awards, totaling approximately \$2.5 million, resulted from these competitive research funding efforts and are the focus of this workshop.

## **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 [\[PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us) If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (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 [\[mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us).

If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please contact Misa Milliron at [mward@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mward@energy.state.ca.us) or (916) 651-9010.

## **Remote Attendance**

You can participate in this meeting 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.

### **Computer Log-on with Telephone Audio:**

1. Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: 926 096 656
2. When prompted, enter your name other information as directed and the meeting password: **meeting@1**

### **Teleconference:**

After logging in on the computer, an AUDIO CONFERENCE BOX will offer you the choice of phone connections:

1. TO HAVE WEBEX CALL YOU BACK: Type your area code and phone number and click "Call Me".
2. TO CALL INTO THE TELECONFERENCE: Use the drop-down box to select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
3. INTERNATIONAL CALLERS: Click on the "Global call-in number" link in part (2) above
4. TO LISTEN OVER THE COMPUTER: If you have the needed equipment and your computer is configured, click on "Use Computer Headset" and then "Call Using Computer" to use VoIP (Internet phone)

TELEPHONE ONLY (NO COMPUTER ACCESS): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the unique meeting number: 926 096 656. International callers can select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

Date: December 22, 2010

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