



## **Notice of Staff Workshop**

### **Potential Effects of Land Subsidence to Natural Gas & Oil Infrastructure in the Central Valley, California**

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to open a discussion about the extremely fast rate of land subsidence in the Central Valley of California and how it may be affecting the oil & natural gas infrastructure. The ongoing drought and extensive extraction of groundwater have accelerated a non-seismic downward displacement of land (subsidence). At its current rate the subsidence may pose a danger to natural gas pipelines, oil and gas wells, natural gas storage systems, aqueducts, and other facilities.

Chair Robert B. Weisenmiller will participate in the workshop. Chair Weisenmiller is the Energy Commission's Lead Commissioner for Natural Gas and for Research and Development. Other Commissioners at the Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) may also attend and participate in the workshop. A quorum of Commissioners from the CPUC and/or the Energy Commission may be in attendance, but no CPUC or Energy Commission business will be discussed, and no votes will be taken.

The workshop will be held on:

**Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

1:00 p.m.

1st Floor, Imbrecht Hearing Room

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Wheelchair Accessible

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

### **Background**

Recent measurements of subsidence carried out by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and U.S. Geological Survey have shown that the groundwater extraction in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys during the recent drought has resulted in increasing rates of subsidence. During the CPUC En Banc meeting on September 24, 2015, a representative from PG&E indicated that about 50 miles of PG&E natural gas pipelines have been affected by subsidence. During this workshop, additional information will be presented to coordinate future research activities, to better anticipate impacts, and to develop corrective measures, if needed.

## **Public Comment**

Oral comments - Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments may become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written comments – The Energy Commission encourages comments by email. 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 title of the workshop in the subject line. Please send written comments to [Katharina.Snyder@Energy.ca.gov](mailto:Katharina.Snyder@Energy.ca.gov).

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.

## **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 Lou Quiroz at [lquiroz@energy.ca.gov](mailto:lquiroz@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 workshop, please contact Katharina Snyder at [Katharina.Snyder@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Katharina.Snyder@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 327-2201.

## **Remote Attendance**

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

### **To join the workshop via computer:**

Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **926 375 410**. When prompted, enter your name and the following meeting password: **meeting@1pm**.

The “Join Conference” menu will offer you a choice of audio connections:

1. To call into the workshop: 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.”

**To join workshop via telephone** (no visual presentation):

Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number: **926 375 410**. International callers may select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

**To join workshop 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 workshop, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

**Availability of Documents**

Documents and presentations for this workshop will be available online at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/index.html>