



Notice of Staff Workshop

Advanced Distributed Generation Research Workshop: Current Status and Future Recommendations

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to seek public input regarding the draft recommendations in the “Advanced Distributed Generation Research Roadmap” currently under development. Staff is developing this roadmap to be used as a guide for future research and development activities, including funding solicitations, regarding distributed generation (DG). The roadmap will focus on DG technologies and not on forecasting or distribution resources planning.

The workshop will be held on:

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

1st Floor, Charles Imbrecht Hearing Room

Sacramento, California

Wheelchair Accessible

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

Workshop details

The roadmap document is an important component in administering the Renewable and Advanced Generation research program. The background information and proposed research initiatives guide research plans, solicitations, and individual projects for the next three to five years. This workshop will ensure that stakeholders and the public at large are briefed on the roadmap recommendations and have a chance to provide feedback before the final version is published.

The workshop will include a presentation by the Energy Commission and a discussion portion. The presentation portion will highlight the roadmap document’s contents focused mainly on current research efforts and future research recommendations. The discussion portion will allow stakeholders to voice their opinions on the roadmap and suggest other research recommendations. A panel of DG experts from a variety of backgrounds including industry, academia, utilities, and state and local agencies may be invited to participate in a moderated discussion aimed at identifying the most pressing research needs.

Background

The purpose of the Advanced Distributed Generation Research Roadmap is to provide a background on DG systems, identify technical challenges, summarize current DG research at the Energy Commission and elsewhere, and recommend possible future research initiatives, which would address the barriers to DG deployment in the California market. An overview of current California Combined Heat and Power (CHP) installations and commercially available DG systems was also performed.

The roadmap focuses on technical barriers and research for small-scale (25 kW to 5 MW) systems, which can be deployed in light industrial, small commercial, and multifamily residential applications. Small-scale systems have a large, untapped market potential; approximately 8,000 MW of technical potential as identified in a market assessment performed by ICF International.¹ Technology types considered are small, distributed thermal and thermochemical conversion systems including internal combustion engines, microturbines and gas turbines, fuel cells, organic Rankine cycles, Stirling engines, and thermoelectric generators. These systems can operate in topping, bottoming, or CHP configurations and are fueled by natural gas, biogas, or other renewable fuels. Technologies for enabling DG and CHP systems were also considered including emissions control systems, absorption chillers, and thermal energy storage. The roadmap does not consider wind, small hydro, solar PV, solar thermal or geothermal systems.

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 also accepts 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 name of the workshop in the subject line. Please send written comments to kevin.uy@energy.ca.gov by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2015.

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 or (916) 654-4489, or toll free at (800) 822-6228.

¹ 2012. *Combined Heat and Power: Policy Analysis and 2011-2030 Market Potential*. California Energy Commission. Publication Number: CEC-200-2012-002. <http://www.energy.ca.gov/2012publications/CEC-200-2012-002/CEC-200-2012-002.pdf>.

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.

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

If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Kevin Uy at kevin.uy@energy.ca.gov or (916) 327-1533.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting 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 meeting may be recorded.

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Availability of Documents

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