

Memorandum

To: Commissioners and Advisors

Date: May 27, 2021

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From: **Noemí Gallardo, Lead Liaison to the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group
Public Advisor's Office, California Energy Commission**

Subject: POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF PROPOSED APPOINTMENTS OF JOSÉ HERNANDEZ, ELENA KRIEGER, AND CURTIS SILVERS TO THE DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP

Background

Senate Bill 350 (de León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015), as codified in Public Utilities Code section 400(g), requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) to establish an advisory group consisting of representatives from disadvantaged communities. The purpose of the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) is to review and provide advice on proposed clean energy and pollution reduction programs and determine whether those proposed programs will be effective and useful in disadvantaged communities.

Summary

The CEC and the CPUC adopted the original Charter for the DACAG on December 13, 2017 in CEC Resolution 17-13-2, and on December 14, 2017 in CPUC Resolution E-4893, respectively. The CEC adopted the revised DACAG Charter on March 11, 2020 in CEC Resolution 20-0311-4, and on March 12, 2020 in CPUC Resolution E- 5060, respectively. The charter establishes that the DACAG is comprised of 11 members who serve two-year terms. On February 28, 2021, the Commissions issued a solicitation for application to membership in the DACAG, with an application deadline of March 16, 2021, to fill three vacant positions, each with terms running from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023. Many candidates applied for the open positions. CEC Commissioners Douglas and Gunda and CPUC Commissioners Rechtschaffen and Guzman-Aceves selected and recommend José Hernandez, Elena Krieger, and Curtis Silvers for appointment.

The Commissioners recommend that during the CEC's June 9, 2021 Business Meeting and the CPUC's June 3, 2021 Voting Meeting, that the respective Commissions approve the appointment of the following candidates to the DACAG. Their appointments would each begin immediately after approval by both Commissions, to fill the current terms running from April 1, 2021 and to March 31, 2023.

Candidate Information

José Hernandez is the Community Engagement Manager at the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI). He spearheads community engagement efforts for the nation's first Zero Emissions Delivery Zone pilot in Santa Monica and will soon be helping deploy a California Air Resources Board Sustainable Transportation Equity Project in South Los Angeles later this year. José also helps recruitment efforts for LACI's workforce development initiative titled the Advanced Prototyping Center Fellowship where LACI partners with underrepresented residents that meet federal low- and median-income guidelines and train them to become electric vehicle supply equipment technicians. Additionally, much of José's professional work is grounded in his lived experience within disadvantaged communities.

Elena Krieger is the Director of Research at Physicians, Scientists, and Engineers for Healthy Energy (PSE). Her work intersects numerous fields (engineering, public health, climate change, economics, and equity, among others). Elena grew up in Oakland and Berkeley and has been working on energy issues in California for the past seven years, with a focus on how to simultaneously accelerate the transition to clean energy systems and design pathways that prioritize the public health, equity, environmental, and resilience benefits of this transition. She brings many years' worth of experience conducting analysis of the health, environment, and equity dimensions of California's energy system.

Curtis Silvers is the Executive Vice President of the Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade and has led and worked with behavior-impact programs over several years. Some of these programs include the Transformation Climate Communities (TCC) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Ambassadors Program. Curtis' experience in working across the social education continuum, from identifying leads, to engaging potential partners, and engaging residents to change their social behavior, provided critical insight and understanding of the needs of target populations in South Los Angeles. He has firsthand knowledge and experience of the needs of the hard-to-reach population in the Los Angeles region, including his experience leading a team that drove energy efficiency and water conservation education and outreach by leveraging his strengths and relationships with area residents and collaborative partners.

Conclusion

The extensive professional and lived experiences of these individuals focused on equity and environmental justice, combined with the geographic diversity and energy-related and other expertise they represent make José Hernandez, Elena Krieger, and Curtis Silvers excellent candidates for the DACAG.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

RESOLUTION APPROVING DISADVANTAGED
COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 350 (SB 350) (de León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015), as codified in the California Public Utilities Code Section 400(g), requires the Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) to establish a Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) consisting of representatives from disadvantaged communities as defined in Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, the DACAG will review and provide advice on proposed SB 350 clean energy and pollution reduction programs and determine whether those proposed programs will be effective and useful in disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, José Hernandez, Elena Krieger, and Curtis Silvers have extensive professional and lived experiences focused on equity and environmental justice, combined with geographic diversity and unique energy-related and other expertise, which make them excellent candidates for the DACAG; and

WHEREAS, Commissioners Rechtschaffen and Guzman-Aceves from the CPUC and Commissioners Douglas and Gunda from the CEC have selected and recommend that José Hernandez, Elena Krieger, and Curtis Silvers be appointed to the DACAG; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CEC accepts the Commissioners' joint recommendations, and appoint Jose Hernandez, Elena Krieger, and Curtis Silvers to the DACAG; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to take all action, including coordinating with the CPUC and its staff as necessary, to ensure the DACAG accomplishes the purposes set forth in California Public Utilities Code section 400(g).

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Secretariat to the Commission does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CEC held on June 9, 2021.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

X

Secretariat