

Memorandum

**For Items 1.a and 1.b
March 9, 2022 Business Meeting**

To: Chair Hochschild
Vice Chair Gunda
Commissioners McAllister, Monahan, and Vaccaro

Date: February 25, 2022

From: Allan Ward, Assistant Chief Counsel
Chief Counsel's Office
California Energy Commission

Subject: Proposed California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

At the March 9, 2022, Energy Commission (CEC) Business Meeting, staff from the CEC's Energy Research and Development Division plan to propose both (1) an annual organizational membership (Membership) in, and (2) sponsorship of the 2022 events line up (Sponsorship) of, the Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment (AWWEE).

For purposes of complying with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA," Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.), I recommend the CEC find that both the Membership and Sponsorship are categorically exempt under CEQA. The Membership will provide CEC staff access to AWWEE materials and events. The Sponsorship will help fund AWWEE's events and disseminate educational information. All events shall be accessed remotely or in person at existing facilities under normal operations for which the facilities were designed. These events will not result in any physical alterations or only minor ones to the interior of existing training or meeting facilities. In addition, none of the activities have a reasonable possibility to have a significant effect on the environment for unusual circumstances. For all of these reasons, both the Membership and Sponsorship are categorically exempt under CEQA per Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15322 for Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes, and section 15323 for Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

RESOLUTION: ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN WATER, ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENT (AWWEE)

RESOLVED, that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (CEC) adopts the staff CEQA findings contained in the February 25, 2022, memorandum on this topic, finding the following categorical exemptions apply to this purchase order: (1) 14 CCR 15322, Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes; and (2) 14 CCR 15323, Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings; and

RESOLVED, that the CEC approves a purchase order with AWWEE for \$2,100 for a one-year, commission-wide membership. This membership level allows up to 20 CEC staff to attend any given in-person AWWEE event and access to all other membership benefits offered. AWWEE provides its members with multiple venues for learning, sharing and professional development while connecting with industry experts from the state, local, and private sectors; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or their designee shall execute the same on behalf of the CEC.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC 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 March 9, 2022.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Liza Lopez
Secretariat