

State of California
California Energy Commission
Minutes of the February 16, 2022, Energy Commission Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hochschild. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Gunda.

Present:

David Hochschild, Chair
Siva Gunda, Vice Chair

Patricia Monahan, Commissioner
J. Andrew McAllister, Commissioner

The California Energy Commission's (CEC) February 16, 2022 Business Meeting will be held remotely, consistent with Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021) as extended by Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-1-22 to improve and enhance public access to state meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The public can participate in the business meeting consistent with the direction provided below.

Please note that the CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda proposed. The business meeting may end sooner or later than the time indicated depending on various factors.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1104(e), any person may make oral comment on any agenda item. To ensure the orderly conduct of business, such comments will be limited to three minutes or less per person. Any person wishing to comment on information items or reports (non-voting items) shall speak during the general public comment portion of the meeting and have three minutes or less to address all remaining comments.

THE CEC WILL CONSIDER AND MAY TAKE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Items will be taken up and voted on as a group. A commissioner may request that an item be moved and discussed later in the meeting.

- a. SSA Pacific, Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement ZVI-21-015 with SSA Pacific, Inc. for a \$200,000 grant to develop a blueprint that will establish a replicable strategy to create a zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) on- and off-road logistics chain to support agricultural goods movement in California, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). (General Fund Funding) Contact: Kate Reid
- b. Linde Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement ZVI-21-016 with Linde Inc. for a \$199,996 grant to prepare a blueprint document that will facilitate the development of well-supplied, fast hydrogen refueling infrastructure that is easily accessible from major interstate corridors, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (General Fund Funding) Contact: Kate Reid
- c. Pilot Travel Centers LLC (DBA Pilot Flying J). Proposed resolution approving Agreement ARV-21-037 with Pilot Travel Centers LLC for a \$200,000 grant to develop a plan of action and milestones for deployment of medium- and heavy-duty (MD/HD) ZEV infrastructure; advance the understanding about how travel

centers can be a reliable, resilient resource for MD/HD ZEV charging and refueling; and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (Clean Transportation Program Funding) Contact: Kate Reid

- d. International Council on Clean Transportation Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement 600-21-006 for \$15,000 for a one-year membership in the International ZEV Alliance. The ZEV Alliance is an association formed by national and subnational jurisdictions to accelerate adoption of ZEVs. As a member, the CEC will receive reports analyzing the international electric vehicle (EV) market and policy developments and have the opportunity to participate in ZEV Alliance coordination meetings. (Clean Transportation Program Funding) Contact: Sharon Purewal
- e. Rice Solar Energy, LLC. Proposed order approving the Rice Solar Energy, LLC's petition to terminate the CEC's certification of the Rice Solar Energy Project (09-AFC-10C). On December 15, 2010, the CEC certified the construction and operation of the project on a privately owned site in unincorporated eastern Riverside County, California. The project would have been capable of producing roughly 450,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of renewable energy annually, but was never constructed. Contact: Keith Winstead

Before the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Hochschild announced Commissioner Douglas will not be joining today.

Before the consent calendar items were voted on, Chair Hochschild announced he will split the items and vote on Items 1a, 1b, 1c, and 1e first and then address Item 1d separately.

Vice Chair Gunda moved to approve Item 1a, 1b, 1c, and 1e. Commissioner McAllister seconded. The vote was (4-0).

Before Item 1d was heard, Commissioner Monahan announced that out of an abundance of caution, she recused herself from the discussion and vote of Item 1d which proposed an agreement with the International Council on Clean Transportation for a one-year membership in the International ZEV Alliance. She serves as an un-paid Adviser to the Board of ICCT, which may present a perceived conflict of interest. She does not receive compensation or reimbursements for her service. Commissioner Monahan recused herself from any discussion, consideration, and vote to avoid any perception of a conflict of interest.

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 1d. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (3-0).

2. Solar Energy Generating Systems (SEGS) III - VII Petition to Amend (87-AFC-01C).

Proposed order approving amendments to the CEC's certification of the SEGS III-VII. On January 11, 2022, Luz Solar Partners III-VII filed a petition to remove SEGS Units III, IV, and V from the boundary of the certified project. Luz Solar Partners III-VII has decommissioned SEGS Units III, IV, and V in accordance with the CEC- approved decommissioning plan and intends to repurpose the property to construct a

photovoltaic facility under the jurisdiction of San Bernardino County. Contact: Elizabeth Huber (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 2. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (4-0).

3. 2021 Integrated Energy Policy Report (Docket 21-IEPR-01).

Proposed resolution adopting the *2021 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update: Volume I, Building Decarbonization; Volume II, Ensuring Reliability in a Changing Climate; Volume IV, California Energy Demand Forecast; and Appendix, Assessing the Benefits and Contributions of the Clean Transportation Program*, and adopting a determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The CEC is required to prepare a biennial integrated energy policy report that assesses major energy trends and issues facing the state's electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuel sectors. The report also provides policy recommendations to conserve resources; protect the environment; ensure reliable, secure, and diverse energy supplies; enhance the state's economy; and protect public health and safety (Public Resources Code section 25301[a]). The CEC prepares these assessments and associated policy recommendations every two years, with updates in alternate years, as part of the Integrated Energy Policy Report. Contact: Heather Raitt (Staff Presentation: 15 minutes)

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 3. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (4-0).

4. Building Initiative for Low-Emissions Development (BUILD) Program (20-DECARB-01).

Proposed resolution adopting the *BUILD Guidelines*, First Edition, for submittal to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The guidelines provide the requirements for applicant and project eligibility, and describe the incentive application, award distribution process, and technical assistance structure. Contact: Deana Carrillo (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 4. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (4-0).

5. Report to the CPUC on Supply-Side Demand Response (DR).

Proposed resolution adopting the *Qualifying Capacity of Supply-Side DR Working Group Report*. This report provides the interim findings and recommendations from the CEC's working group on supply-side DR to the CPUC, as requested in CPUC Decision 21-06-029. The report scope focuses primarily on recommended changes to the counting conventions for the qualifying capacity (QC) of supply-side DR to support resource adequacy for 2023. The report also includes findings and recommendations on continuing the working group to develop permanent changes to the counting conventions for the QC of supply-side DR for 2024 and beyond. Contact: Erik Lyon (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

Vice Chair Gunda moved to approve Item 5. Commissioner McAllister seconded. The

vote was (4-0).

6. DEKRA Certification, Inc.

Proposed resolution approving Agreement ARV-21-049 with DEKRA Certification, Inc. for a \$1,970,459 grant to establish an interoperability and conformance testing laboratory for EV charging equipment based on industry standards, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (Clean Transportation Program Funding) Contact: Jeffrey Lu (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

Commissioner Monahan moved to approve Item 6. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (4-0).

After Item 6 was voted on, Chair Hochschild announced break for lunch and reconvene at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Hochschild reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

7. ChargePoint, Inc.

Proposed resolution approving Agreement ZVI-21-014 with ChargePoint, Inc. for a \$1,999,154 grant to develop an automated, inverted pantograph to support the adoption of MD/HD EVs, particularly electric buses and port vehicles such as yard trucks and straddle carriers, and adopting staff's determination that this project is exempt from CEQA. (General Fund Funding) Contact: Esther Odufuwa (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

Commissioner Monahan moved to approve Item 7. Commissioner McAllister seconded. The vote was (4-0).

8. Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy - GFO-20-301.

- a. Yotta Energy, Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-013 with Yotta Energy, Inc. for a \$1,229,174 grant to fund a grid-connected solar plus storage resiliency solution on an affordable housing rooftop in Santa Ana, California, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The recipient's SolarLeaf technology consists of batteries, inverters, and other technology that fits under conventional solar panels. The funds will be used for applied research, design, testing, pilot demonstration, measurement, and verification to validate performance, safety, and economic feasibility for residences in disadvantaged communities.
- b. GreenFire Energy Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-015 with GreenFire Energy Inc for a \$2,705,228 grant to advance the development of its Steam Dominated GreenLoop system in an existing low-production geothermal well, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The system is intended to help restore power production of inactive

or low production geothermal wells by extracting heat, but not water, via a closed loop, down bore heat exchanger.

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 8. Commissioner Monahan seconded. The vote was (4-0).

9. RockeTruck, Inc.

Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-018 with RockeTruck, Inc. for a \$3,000,000 grant to fund development, testing, and evaluation of a new generator product RockeTruck will assemble in California and market commercially to meet growing needs for flexible backup power solutions, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The generator will produce up to 120 kilowatts (kW) of power, combining 60 kW from hydrogen fuel cells and 60 kW from lithium-ion batteries. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Quenby Lum (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

Commissioner McAllister moved to approve Item 9. Vice Chair Gunda seconded. The vote was (4-0).

10. Proposed Resolutions Approving Two ECAA Loans to Municipalities to Finance Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects.

- a. Proposed resolution approving Agreement 002-21-ECI with the City of Eureka (City) for a \$1,392,677 loan to install two solar PV arrays totaling 418 kW and LED lighting at its High Tank and Water Treatment Plant sites, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The project is estimated to reduce about 525,646 kWh of grid electricity consumption annually, saving the City roughly \$94,970 in utility costs per year. (ECAA Funding) Contact: Sean Lockwood (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)
- b. Proposed resolution approving Agreement 003-21-ECI with the City of San Leandro (City) for a \$1,284,140 loan to install HVAC and LED lighting upgrades at its 14 sites, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The project is estimated to reduce about 550,871 kWh of grid electricity consumption annually, saving the City roughly \$112,402 in utility costs per year. (ECAA Funding) Contact: Sean Lockwood (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

11. Minutes.

Possible approval of the January 26, 2022 Business Meeting minutes.

Vice Chair Gunda moved to approve Item 11. Commissioner Monahan seconded. The vote was (4-0).

12. Lead Commissioner or Presiding Member Reports.

The Commissioners reported on their recent activities.

13. Executive Director's Report.

The Executive Director gave a report.

14. Public Advisor's Report.

The Public Advisor gave a report.

15. Public Comment.

Claire Warshaw, self

16. Chief Counsel's Report.

- a. Pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e), the CEC may adjourn to closed session with its legal counsel to discuss any of the following matters to which the CEC is a party:
 - i. *In the Matter of U.S. Department of Energy (High Level Waste Repository), (Atomic Safety Licensing Board, CAB-04, 63-001-HLW); State of California v. United States Department of Energy (9th Cir. Docket, Case No. 09-71014).*
 - iii. *Interlink Products International, Inc. v. Xavier Becerra, Drew Bohan, Melissa Rae King (United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:20-cv-02283).*
 - iv. *State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission v. Electricore, Inc. and ZeroTruck (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2016- 00204586).*
- b. Pursuant to Government Code sections 11126 (a) and (e), the CEC may also discuss any judicial or administrative proceeding that was formally initiated after this agenda was published; or determine whether facts and circumstances exist that warrant the initiation of litigation, or that constitute a significant exposure to litigation against the CEC, which might include personnel matters.

The Chief Counsel had nothing to report.

Appearances:

Daniel Orozco, Momentum, SSA Pacific, Inc. for Joe Carrillo

Scott Galati, attorney for SEGS III-IV

Delphine Hou, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)

Jennifer Lu, Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas)

Kiki Velez, National Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Luis Amezcua, Building Decarbonization Coalition

Bryan Mikesh, DEKRA Certification, Inc.

Dedrick Roper, ChargePoint, Inc.

Joseph A. Scherer, GreenFire Energy, Inc.

Jenn Gallegos, Yotta Energy

Claire Warshaw

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LIZA LOPEZ

Secretariat