Date:  February 20, 2019
To:    Commissioners and Advisors
From:  The California Energy Commission
       California Public Utilities Commission
       Chair Robert Weisenmiller
       Commissioner Janea Scott
       Commissioner Clifford Rechstchaffen
       Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves
Subject:  Discussion and Action on Proposed Appointment to the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group

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 (Energy Commission) to establish an Advisory Group consisting of representatives from disadvantaged communities (Advisory Group). The Advisory Group 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.

The Energy Commission and the CPUC adopted the Charter for the Advisory Group on December 13, 2017 in Energy Commission Resolution 17-13-2, and on December 14, 2017 in CPUC Resolution E-4893, respectively. On August 20, 2018, the Commissions issued a solicitation for application to membership in the Advisory Group, with an application deadline of September 21, 2018, to fill one position.

The Commissioners recommend that during the February 20, 2019 business meeting of the Energy Commission, and the February 21, 2019 Voting Meeting of the CPUC, that the respective Commissions approve the appointment of the following person to the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group:

Joseph Williams

Biographical Sketch:

Joseph Williams has committed himself to serving disadvantaged communities for nearly 20 years. He currently serves as President of the San Bernardino Community College District Board of Trustees, and is the President of the African American Community College Trustees Association.
Williams is the Founder and CEO of a social enterprise called Youth Action Project (YAP). YAP’s mission is to empower youth and young adults in the development of the skills and habits to experience economic and social success. YAP has hired and trained over 300 college students who have mentored over 2,000 high school students. Prior to founding YAP, Joseph was employed with the County of San Bernardino for nine years, working for the Department of Behavioral Health, the Workforce Development Department and the Sheriff’s Department. Williams wears several policy hats as an appointee of Governor Jerry Brown to the California Workforce Development Board, the California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and is a member of the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board.

Williams was profiled by California Forward as one of California’s “Forward Thinkers,” and named an “Everyday Hero” honoree by Molina Healthcare, and received the Black Rose Award from the Black Cultural Foundation.
WHEREAS, Senate Bill 350 (SB 350) (de León, Chapter 547, Statues of 2015), as codified in the California Public Utilities Code Section 400 (g), requires the Public Utilities Commission and the Energy Commission to establish a Disadvantaged Community Advisory Group (DACAG) consisting of representatives from disadvantaged communities identified pursuant to 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, Commissioners Rechtschaffen and Guzman-Aceves from the Public Utilities Commission and Chair Weisenmiller and Commissioner Scott from the Energy Commission have reviewed the applications received, and have prepared a joint memorandum proposing that Mr. Joseph Williams be appointed to the DACAG; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Energy Commission accepts the commissioners’ joint recommendations, and appoints Mr. Joseph Williams 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 Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group 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 California Energy Commission held on February 20, 2019.

AYE: [List of Commissioners]
NAY: [List of Commissioners]
ABSENT: [List of Commissioners]
ABSTAIN: [List of Commissioners]

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Cody Goldthrite,
Secretariat