



**California Energy Commission
10.08.2025 Business Meeting
Backup Materials for Agenda Item No. 07**

**Final 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update
(2024 IEPR Update) (Docket 24-IEPR-01)**

The following backup materials for the above-referenced agenda item are available as described below:

1. Proposed Resolution, attached below.
2. [Notice of Availability and Proposed Adoption of the Final 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=266128&DocumentContentId=103147)
(<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=266128&DocumentContentId=103147>)
3. [Final 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=266141&DocumentContentId=103158)
(<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=266141&DocumentContentId=103158>)

For the complete record, please visit:

- [Docket Number 24-IEPR-01 – General Scope](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-01),
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-01>
- [Docket Number 24-IEPR-02 – Electricity Resource Plans](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-02),
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-02>
- [Docket Number 24-IEPR-03 – Electricity Demand Forecast](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-03),
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-03>
- [Docket Number 24-IEPR-04 – Wave and Tidal Energy](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-04),
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-IEPR-04>

To stay informed about this project and receive documents as they are filed, please subscribe to the proceeding topic, which can be accessed here: [2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update](https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/reports/integrated-energy-policy-report-iepr/2024-integrated-energy-policy-repor), <https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/reports/integrated-energy-policy-report-iepr/2024-integrated-energy-policy-repor>. The topic sends out email notifications and direct links when documents are filed in the proceeding docket.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update

WHEREAS, the Warren-Alquist Act requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) in odd-numbered years to "conduct assessments and forecasts of all aspects of energy industry supply, production, transportation, delivery and distribution, demand, and prices" and to "use these assessments and forecasts to develop and evaluate energy policies and programs that conserve resources, protect the environment, ensure energy reliability, enhance the state's economy, and protect public health and safety" (Public Resources Code § 25301, subd. (a)); and to update these assessments and forecasts in even-numbered years (Public Resources Code § 25302, subd. (c)); and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2024, the Lead Commissioner issued a Scoping Order for the 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (2024 IEPR Update) proceeding stating that the *2024 IEPR Update* report would address the following: the Electricity Demand Forecast Update; Wave and Tidal Energy pursuant to Senate Bill 605 (Padilla, Chapter 405, Statutes of 2023); and updates or reports on energy issues that have arisen since the *2023 IEPR*; and

WHEREAS, the proposed report also includes an appendix on Western Electricity Markets, which summarizes a workshop held on January 24, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the CEC held seven workshops and one webinar on the topics identified in the Scoping Order and on Western Electricity Markets between May 2024 and January 2025, to solicit input from stakeholders on these topics; and

WHEREAS, the CEC has considered the application of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to the adoption of the *Final 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update*, and concluded that the adoption of this report is not a "project" under CEQA, because no commitment to any specific project is made in this *2024 IEPR Update*, and approving it will not cause a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment. However, in the event that the adoption of the *2024 IEPR Update* were determined to be a project, the CEC has determined that it would nonetheless be exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to the "common sense" exemption (CEQA Guidelines, § 15061, subd. (b)(3)) for the same reason, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of the *2024 IEPR Update* may have a significant effect on the environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the CEC hereby accepts, approves, and adopts the *Final 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update*, incorporating any changes

presented and adopted at the October 8, 2025 Business Meeting along with any non-substantive edits such as typographical corrections, and directs the CEC staff to make the document accessible to state, local, and federal entities, the public, and the Legislature.

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 October 8, 2025.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Dated:

Kim Todd
Secretariat



**State of California
California Energy Commission
Chief Counsel's Office Memorandum**

To: Chair Hochschild
Vice Chair Gunda
Commissioner McAllister
Commissioner Gallardo
Commissioner Skinner

Date: September 25, 2025

From: Reneé Webster-Hawkins
Senior Attorney, Hearing & Advisory Unit
Chief Counsel's Office

Subject: Proposed California Environmental Quality Act Compliance for the *2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (2024 IEPR Update)*

At the October 8, 2025, California Energy Commission (CEC) business meeting, CEC staff plans to propose the *2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (2024 IEPR Update)* for the CEC's consideration and adoption.

For purposes of complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.), I recommend the CEC find that adopting this *2024 IEPR Update* is not a "project" for purposes of CEQA.

Under CEQA, a "project" means "an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment...." (Pub. Resources Code § 21065.) The *2024 IEPR Update* is not a project because it is a report that includes findings and recommendations based on staff assessments of existing data and information. Any agency approvals or commitments of specific activities based on these findings and recommendations will be made, if at all, through future discretionary decision making processes by the respective lead or responsible agencies. Because no commitment to any specific project is made in this *2024 IEPR Update*, approving it will not cause a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment.

However, if a challenge was made to this determination and a court should find that adopting the *2024 IEPR Update* is indeed a project within the meaning of CEQA, I recommend that the CEC make an alternative finding now and adopt staff's determination that if the *2024 IEPR Update* is a project under CEQA, it is nevertheless exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to the "common sense" exemption (CEQA Guidelines, § 15061, subd. (b)(3)). The common sense exemption applies "where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may

have a significant effect on the environment.” *Ibid.* Statute requires the CEC to update the biennial IEPR report in even-numbered years based on data collected by the CEC, and to report on energy issues that have arisen since the *2023 IEPR*. The *2024 IEPR Update* report provides policy recommendations and updated assessments regarding: the Electricity Demand Forecast Update; Wave and Tidal Energy pursuant to Senate Bill 605 (Padilla, Chapter 405, Statutes of 2023); and a summary of a workshop on Western Electricity Markets held on January 24, 2025. None of the content, assessments, or recommendations make any approvals or funding commitments for activities that may have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, adopting the *2024 IEPR Update* qualifies for the common sense exemption and is not subject to CEQA.