



**California Energy Commission
June 22, 2026 Business Meeting
Backup Materials for Approval of Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group
(DACAG) Reappointment and New Appointments.**

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

1. Proposed Resolution, attached below
2. Reappointment of Member Executive Summary, attached below
3. Selection and Nomination of New Members Executive Summaries, attached below

For additional information, please visit the [Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group \(DACAG\) page](https://www.energy.ca.gov/about/campaigns/equity-and-diversity/disadvantaged-communities-advisory-group-dacag) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/about/campaigns/equity-and-diversity/disadvantaged-communities-advisory-group-dacag>.

To stay informed about this project and receive documents as they are filed, please subscribe to the proceeding Topic, which can be accessed at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/signup/31719>. The Topic sends out email notifications and direct links when documents are filed in the proceeding docket.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT AND REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP

RESOLUTION NO: 26-0708-XX

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

WHEREAS, the DACAG reviews and advises the CEC and CPUC on how clean energy and pollution reduction programs and policies can benefit and be effective for disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the DACAG allows for members to be appointed by the CEC and CPUC for two-year terms, and to be reappointed for up to three consecutive terms; and

WHEREAS, one (1) DACAG member has an expiring term, Fred Beihn, and has served the maximum number of terms under the DACAG Charter, and the CEC and CPUC wish to fill this vacated seat beginning in July 2026; and

WHEREAS, one (1) current DACAG member has an expiring term, Sarah Sharpe, and is eligible and seeks to serve another term beginning May 2026; and

WHEREAS, three (3) DACAG members have resigned, Julia Hatton, Abimael Chavez-Hernandez, and Chelsea Kirk and the CEC and CPUC wish to fill their vacated seats beginning in July 2026; and

WHEREAS, the CEC and CPUC staff solicited applications from candidates interested in being appointed to the DACAG, and Melanie Peck, Ryan O'Neill and Travis Gibrael are seeking appointment for two-year terms beginning July 2026; and

WHEREAS, Commissioners Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo and Nancy Skinner from the CEC and Commissioners Darcie Houck and Karen Douglas from the CPUC jointly nominate to reappoint Sarah Sharpe and appoint, Melanie Peck, Ryan O'Neill and Travis Gibrael to the DACAG; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CEC accepts the Commissioners' joint nomination and approves the reappointment of Sarah Sharpe beginning July 2026, and appointments of, Melanie Peck, Ryan O'Neill and Travis Gibrael to the DACAG for two-year terms beginning July 2026.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of July 2026, by the following vote:

AYE:
NAY:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

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 approved and adopted by the affirmative vote of the CEC at a meeting held on July 08, 2026.

Kim Todd
Secretariat



REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP

Executive Summary

Commissioners Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo and Nancy Skinner from the CEC and Commissioners Darcie Houck and Karen Douglas from the CPUC jointly nominate the following candidate for reappointment to the Disadvantage Communities Advisory Group.

Candidates

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Primary Expertise</i>
<i>Sarah Sharpel</i>	Central California Asthma Collaborative	San Joaquin Valley	Air quality and health equity, environmental justice advocacy, and frontline regional representation

Biographies

Sarah Sharpe is the Deputy Executive Director of Central California Asthma Collaborative or CCAC, a non-profit focusing on health and environmental justice. Sarah is based in Fresno and brings expertise and interest in climate equity, environmental justice, and public health. Sarah also previously worked for US EPA Region 9 and the CPUC, where she advised on environmental and social justice.

Addressing regional gaps

This selection continues to strengthen representation in the San Joaquin Valley, ensuring communities facing significant climate and energy burdens are included in statewide advisory processes.

- Health and Climate Equity and Environmental Justice Perspective**

Sarah Sharpe strengthens DACAG’s regional representation in the San Joaquin Valley by bringing deep expertise in public health, environmental justice, and climate equity from a

region disproportionately impacted by air quality, cumulative pollution burdens, and limited access to clean energy programs. As Deputy Executive Director of the Central California Asthma Collaborative, she offers frontline insights into how climate and energy decisions affect respiratory health and community resilience in the Valley. Her prior experience at US EPA Region 9 and the CPUC adds a regulatory perspective that helps bridge local health impacts with statewide policy design, ensuring that DACAG's recommendations reflect the needs of rural and urban disadvantaged communities across the San Joaquin Valley.

Next Steps

Sarah Sharpe has expressed a strong commitment not only to the community served in the San Joaquin Valley but to the state as a whole. Sarah has affirmed that, if reappointed, the responsibilities of the role will be carried out in accordance with statute, with informed and constructive guidance provided to both the CEC and the CPUC on clean energy policies and programs. Commissioners Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo and Nancy Skinner from the CEC, along with Commissioners Darcie Houck and Karen Douglas from the CPUC, jointly recommend formalizing these appointments to ensure that DACAG maintains balanced and effective representation with strengthened regional, tribal, and implementation-focused perspectives.



SELECTION AND NOMINATION OF PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS TO THE DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

Executive Summary

Commissioners Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo and Nancy Skinner from the CEC and Commissioners Darcie Houck and Karen Douglas from the CPUC jointly nominate the following candidates to the Disadvantage Communities Advisory Group.

Candidates

Name	Organization	Region	Primary Expertise
<i>Melanie Peck</i>	U.S. Green Building Council – California (USGBC-CA)	Statewide (Based in Los-Angeles)	Workforce equity, electrification readiness, and resilience/non-energy impacts
<i>Ryan O’Neill</i>	Northern Rural Energy Network	Ukiah / North State	Rural energy efficiency and program implementation
<i>Travis Gibrael</i>	Reclaim Our Power Utility Justice Campaign	Oakland / Bay Area	Utility justice organizing, DER navigation, and community energy access

Biographies

Melanie Peck is an energy equity leader and the Chief Program Officer at USGBC-California, where Melanie directs statewide community outreach, workforce development, education, and training initiatives aimed at building a more sustainable and equitable built environment. This work includes leading equity-centered program design and evaluation, managing cross-sector partnerships, and advancing strategies that support disadvantaged and underrepresented workers in accessing high-quality climate careers.

Previously, Melanie served as Director of People, Culture, and Workforce Excellence at Seattle City Light, one of the nation’s largest municipal utilities. In that role, Melanie established the Office of Equity and led enterprise-wide strategies in workforce development, talent acquisition, apprenticeship programs, and racial and social justice initiatives, including partnerships that

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expanded nontraditional energy-sector applicant pools and strengthened apprenticeship pathways across the Pacific Northwest.

Melanie's earlier leadership at The Energy Coalition included directing statewide K-12 workforce and education programs, developing talent pipelines for utilities and public agencies, and building learning and engagement platforms that served tens of thousands of students and energy workers annually.

Melanie holds an MPA in Organizational Development from Brandman University and a BA in Political Science from California State University, Fullerton.

Ryan O'Neill is an Energy Program Specialist with the Northern Rural Energy Network, where Ryan designs and implements residential, commercial, and public-sector energy efficiency programs across Lake County, California. This work includes equity-focused initiatives, rebate and direct-install programs, workforce development, codes and standards support, project data management, and outreach to communities and elected officials.

Ryan brings a unique blend of technical, analytical, and communications expertise. Prior to the current role, Ryan worked as a content creator and marketing specialist at Naver, producing high-impact digital content and contributing to the platform's growth from fewer than 100 users to more than one million. Ryan previously served as a Teaching Assistant at the University of California, Santa Barbara, leading lectures and supporting large university courses while conducting research in psychology and philosophy.

Ryan holds a Master of Science in Sustainability (Energy, Environment, and Society) from the University of Stavanger in Norway and dual bachelor's degrees in psychology and philosophy (Ethics) from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Ryan is certified in Building Science (BPI) and OSHA30 and has skills in ESG analysis, carbon accounting, ISO 14001, zero waste planning, and state and local energy policy.

Travis Gibrael is an energy justice advocate and community resilience leader based in Oakland, California. Travis serves as Co-Director and Research & Education Organizer for the Reclaim Our Power Utility Justice Campaign, leading research partnerships, developing energy education materials, and supporting statewide organizing efforts focused on transforming California's utility system.

With technical roots in renewable energy deployment, Travis has designed and installed more than 70 solar PV systems as a Solar Technician and Project Lead with Sunwork Renewable Energy Projects. Travis's work also includes cofounding a solar-plus-storage initiative supporting rural electric cooperatives and small farmers in economically distressed regions.

Travis's career spans community organizing, rural development, academic research, and social work, with a long-standing commitment to equity, frontline leadership, and democratic governance in the clean energy transition. Travis holds a Master of Social Work from the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Arts from New York University, graduating magna cum laude.

Addressing regional gaps

These selections strengthen representation in the North State, and San Joaquin Valley, ensuring communities facing significant climate and energy burdens are included in statewide advisory processes.

- **Statewide Workforce, Implementation, and Non-Energy Impacts**

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Melanie Peck would fill a statewide implementation gap by bringing 24 years of experience in utility, nonprofit, and workforce leadership. Melanie's expertise in contractor quality, installation reliability, and resilience/non-energy impacts enhances DACAG's capacity to assess real-world barriers that affect program adoption in disadvantaged communities across California.

- **Community level implementation perspective**

Ryan O'Neill offers hands-on experience implementing energy efficiency programs across 17 rural counties. Ryan's perspective highlights how existing state metrics often undercount rural disadvantages and how infrastructure barriers affect program uptake.

- **Utility Justice, DER Barriers, and Regulatory Accessibility**

Travis Gibrael would strengthen DACAG's ability to interpret and communicate CPUC/CEC processes for communities facing energy insecurity. Travis's combination of DER installation experience, solar technical knowledge, and utility justice organizing fills a gap in understanding practical implementation barriers and making regulatory structures more accessible to frontline communities.

Next Steps

All candidates have expressed a strong commitment not only to the communities they represent but to the state as a whole. Each candidate affirmed that, if appointed, they will carry out their responsibilities in accordance with statute and provide informed, constructive guidance to both the CEC and the CPUC on clean energy policies and programs. Commissioners Noemí Otilia Osuna Gallardo and Nancy Skinner from the CEC and Commissioners Darcie Houck and Karen Douglas from the CPUC jointly recommend formalizing these appointments to ensure DACAG maintains balanced and effective representation, with strengthened regional, tribal, and implementation-focused perspectives.

If these three nominations are approved by both the CEC and CPUC, there will be one remaining seat available for appointment. The recommendation for that appointment will be proposed for CEC consideration at the next Business Meeting.