



California Energy Commission  
**Business Meeting Agenda**

January 26, 2022  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Remote participation instructions below, after line items.

**Public comment is accepted solely through the Zoom platform.**

The California Energy Commission's (CEC) January 26, 2022 Business Meeting will be held remotely, consistent with Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021) 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:**

**1. Consent Calendar.**

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. Aspen Environmental Group. Proposed resolution approving Amendment 2 to Agreement 700-18-001 with the Aspen Environmental Group for a \$350,000 augmentation and time extension to assist in evaluating applications for energy facilities and transmission corridor designations, monitoring compliance for permitted facilities, reviewing petitions to amend or modify permitted facilities, greenhouse gases and global climate change and natural gas pipeline safety assessments; and supporting other activities in the areas of environmental impact assessment, engineering, and related regulatory matters. (EFLCF Funding) Contact: Hilarie Anderson

- b. University of California, Berkeley, Energy Institute at Haas School of Business. Proposed resolution approving Agreement 800-21-002 with the Energy Institute for a \$15,000 contract to co-sponsor the 2022 POWER Conference on Energy Research and Policy scheduled in Berkeley on March 11, 2022, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The 2022 POWER Conference will focus on electricity markets and policy. (ERPA Funding) Contact: Lynn Marshall
- c. Allotrope Partners LLC. Proposed resolution approving Agreement ZVI-21-013 with Allotrope Partners LLC for a \$175,256 grant to assess and scope the potential to utilize zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) in the logging and biomass transport industry, in particular the potential to convert logging trucks delivering logs to sawmills and chip trucks delivering wood chips to biomass power plants, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (General Fund Funding) Contact: Kate Reid
- d. California State Pipe Trades Council (CSPTC) Amendment to Provider Application. Proposed resolution approving the CSPTC proposed amendment to CSPTC's acceptance test technician certification provider application. The proposed amendment would add a prerequisite allowing highly qualified tradesmen already working in the field smoother entry into the training program. Contact: Sam Cantrell

**2. California Energy Demand 2021-2035 Forecast of Natural Gas and Electricity Consumption.**

Proposed resolution adopting the *California Energy Demand 2021-2035 Forecast of Natural Gas and Electricity Consumption, as well as Hourly and Peak Electricity Demand for California and for Certain Utility Planning Areas within the State*. The forecast includes estimates of achievable energy efficiency and fuel substitution to provide managed forecast scenarios for planning. The adopted forecast will be used in planning processes, including the California Independent System Operator's transmission planning and the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) integrated resource and distribution planning. Contact: Nick Fugate (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

**3. Information Item on Russell City Energy Center Joint Agency Working Group Regarding the Steam Turbine Explosion and Summer 2021 Operations.**

Staff will present an update on Russell City Energy Center's Summer 2021 operations while temporarily running in a simple cycle configuration; and on the ongoing investigation, conducted in collaboration with the CPUC's Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, of the steam turbine generator failure and explosion that occurred May 27, 2021. Contact: Elizabeth Huber (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

**4. Information Item on Draft Report to the CPUC on Supply-Side Demand Response.**

Staff will present an overview of its draft report. This report represents draft findings and recommendations in response to the CPUC's June 2021 request in CPUC

Decision 21-06-029 that the CEC launch a stakeholder working group process to develop recommendations on the qualifying capacity of supply-side demand response. Contact: Erik Lyon (Staff Presentation: 15 minutes)

**5. Pecho Energy Storage Center (PESC) (21-AFC-01).**

Proposed order adopting the executive director's recommendation to find the PESC application for certification (AFC) incomplete and directing the applicant to provide additional information about why the proposed project qualifies for the AFC process rather than the notice of intention process, and staff to provide a recommendation as to whether this information is sufficient to proceed with an AFC. On November 23, 2021, Pecho LD Energy Storage, LLC, a joint venture of Hydrostor, Inc. and Meridiam Infrastructure Partners, filed an AFC to construct and operate the PESC, an advanced compressed air storage facility in San Luis Obispo County. The CEC may appoint a committee to preside over the proceeding. Contact: Eric Knight (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

- a. Possible closed session deliberation on the above-described filling.  
[Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)].

**6. Gem Energy Storage Center (GESC) (21-AFC-02).**

Proposed order adopting the executive director's recommendation to find the GESC AFC incomplete and directing the applicant to provide additional information about why the proposed project qualifies for the AFC process rather than the notice of intention process, and staff to provide a recommendation as to whether this information is sufficient to proceed with an AFC. On December 1, 2021, GEM A-CAES LLC filed an AFC to construct and operate the GESC, an advanced compressed air storage facility, in unincorporated Kern County. The CEC may appoint a committee to preside over the proceeding. Contact: Eric Knight (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

- a. Possible closed session deliberation on the above-described filling.  
[Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)].

**7. EV Ready Communities Phase II – Blueprint Implementation - GFO-19-603.**

This solicitation sought proposals to fund projects developed and identified in Phase I, Blueprint Development, of the EV Ready Communities Challenge to advance and support communities in their transition to ZEVs. (Clean Transportation Program Funding) Contact: Patrick Brecht (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

- a. San Francisco Department of the Environment. Proposed resolution approving agreement ARV-21-045 with the San Francisco Department of the Environment for a \$2,384,797 grant to implement three strategies from their EV Ready Community Blueprint, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. Under this agreement, the recipient will increase public awareness of EVs, expand charging infrastructure, and accelerate mode shift by getting delivery-app workers out of cars and onto e-bikes to make deliveries.

- b. County of Los Angeles Internal Service Department. Proposed resolution approving Agreement ARV-21-047 with the County of Los Angeles Internal Service Department for a \$2,500,000 grant to implement a blueprint, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. This project will deploy light-duty EV infrastructure, including a disadvantaged community EV infrastructure project, a broader EV infrastructure planning streamlining pilot, and direct multifamily housing EV charging installation incentives.
- c. Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG). Proposed resolution approving Amendment 1 to Agreement ARV-20-010 with the Kern COG to increase the funding to the full amount Kern COG proposed under GFO-19-603 EV Ready Communities Phase II. This amendment increases the number of charger installations and includes EV transport services that will benefit disadvantaged and low-income communities.

#### **8. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.**

Proposed resolution approving Agreement ZVI-21-012 with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority for a \$4,676,000 grant to demonstrate the viability and replicability of utilizing distributed energy microgrids to charge electric transit bus fleets, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (General Fund Funding) Contact: Esther Odufuwa (Staff Presentation: 5 minutes)

#### **9. Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy - GFO-20-301.**

This solicitation sought proposals to fund the continued development, specifically in applied research or technology demonstration and deployment, of high-potential, high-impact energy technologies that are too early for significant private-sector investment. (EPIC Funding) Contact: Michael Ferreira (Staff Presentation: 10 minutes)

- a. Swift Solar Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-012 with Swift Solar Inc. for a \$2,995,200 grant to develop perovskite-silicon tandem photovoltaic (PV) technology; integrate the technology into an onboard EV charging application; and test the system for efficiency, shade tolerance, durability, ease of integration, and aesthetics, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA.
- b. Intertie Incorporated. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-014 with Intertie Incorporated for a \$2,000,000 grant to design, develop and build an advanced power electronics module (PEM) that enables a commercially available fast charger to supply high power to EVs to allow ultra-fast charging to be deployed quickly at almost any location, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The project team shall directly connect a fast charger to energy storage and solar resources using the PEM to validate the improved energy efficiencies and reduced operating costs realized from the direct current-coupling technology.
- c. 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 (SDGL) system in an existing low-production geothermal well, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The SDGL 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. The ability to produce power from steam dominated resources without losing water or pressure is crucial to future power generation at steam dominated resources where geothermal production will decline without water injection.

- d. Icarus RT, Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-016 with Icarus RT, Inc. for a \$1,087,588 grant to conduct the first commercial demonstration of the company's 280-kW Quartet hybrid PV/thermal solar plus storage cogeneration system at the project site, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The Quartet system extracts waste heat from PV panels using Icarus' proprietary heat extractors to improve PV performance while also converting the heat energy into hot water on-demand. The results of the proposed project will demonstrate several aspects of commercial readiness as well as produce real-world data on panel cooling, performance improvements, energy storage, and cost savings.
- e. Carnot Compression Inc. Proposed resolution approving Agreement EPC-21-017 with Carnot Compression Inc. for a \$2,028,350 grant to advance an innovative air compression technology for industrial applications through applied research and development, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. The isothermal compression technology has the potential to be at least 20 percent more energy efficient than comparable incumbent air compressors currently on the market. The advanced technology will optimize the air-end components, and through field demonstrations, apply the improved components in relevant customer environments.

#### **10. Minutes.**

Possible approval of the December 8, 2021 business meeting minutes.

#### **11. Lead Commissioner or Presiding Member Reports.**

A lead commissioner on a policy matter and a presiding member on a delegated committee may report to the CEC on relevant matters and discussion may follow.

#### **12. Executive Director's Report.**

#### **13. Public Advisor's Report.**

#### **14. Public Comment.**

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, comments will be limited to three minutes or less per person and one representative per organization. The CEC notes that any person wishing to comment on non-voting items such as information items or reports shall provide comments during this period.

## 15. 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).*
  - ii. *State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission v. HyGen Industries, Inc (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00252543-CU-BC-GDS).*
  - 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).*
- 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.

---

## Remote Attendance Instructions.

Remote access is available by either internet or call-in options.

**Zoom:** Click the link below to participate and provide public comment via Zoom.

<https://energy.zoom.us/j/93869230237?pwd=Zm96c09ULzdXTjd4eldtUXdnUGErDz09>.

Zoom may also be accessed at <https://zoom.us/join>. To join, enter the **meeting ID 938-6923-0237** and the **password mtg@10am**. To participate by phone, dial (669) 900-6833 or toll free at (888) 475-4499 and enter **meeting ID 938-6923-0237**. For Zoom technical support dial (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or contact the CEC's Public Advisor for help at [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov) (916) 957-7910.

Public comment periods will be available throughout the business meeting and is expected to be three minutes or less per speaker and one person per organization. Depending on the number of members of the public seeking to make a comment, the Chair may adjust the total time allotted for public comment and the time allotted for each comment.

**If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you would like to make a comment.** The Public Advisor will open your line to speak. Please restate and spell your name for the record; indicate if you have an affiliation; and begin your comments.

**If participating by telephone, press \*9 to "raise your hand" and \*6 to mute/unmute.** The Public Advisor will announce the last three digits of the phone number listed and open your line. Make sure to unmute your phone before speaking then restate and spell your name for the record, indicate if you have an affiliation; and begin your comments.

Verizon: The CEC's Verizon phone line will solely be available if the Zoom service disconnects and shuts down. If that situation arises, the CEC Verizon line will be available for the public to listen and make public comment. Call the CEC's Verizon line at (888) 823-5065 and enter the passcode: business meeting. To make public comment about a specific item, please provide your name, affiliation if any, and the item number to the operator. Once connected, press \*0 for help or to speak with the operator. The operator will open your line when it is your turn to speak. Restate and spell your name for the record. The operator will mute your line when you are finished commenting.

Zoom's closed captioning service will be enabled for CEC business meetings. Attendees can use the service by clicking on the "live transcript" icon and then choosing either "show subtitle" or "view full transcript." The closed captioning service can be stopped by exiting out of the "live transcript" or selecting the "hide subtitle" icon. If using a phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While the closed captioning is available in real-time, it typically includes errors. A full and formal transcript rendered by a professional court reporter will be posted in the CEC's business meeting docket and the CEC's business meeting webpage.

**Public Advisor Assistance.** Direct questions about how to participate in the business meeting or to request interpreting services or other reasonable modification and accommodations to the Public Advisor at [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov) or by phone at (916) 957-7910. Requests for interpreting services, reasonable accommodations, and other modifications should be made as soon as possible and at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on the availability of the service or resource needed. Additionally, the Public Advisor may upon the request of public participants who may be absent from the CEC's place of business or during the business meeting when a matter of interest to them is being considered, neutrally and publicly relate those participants' points to the CEC on behalf of members of the public. If you are interested in this service, please email concise comments, specifying your main points, before the start of the business meeting to the Public Advisor. Comments submitted after the business meeting starts will be filed in the business meeting docket.

**Direct media inquiries** to (916) 654-4989 or [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

**Subscribe to Electronic Mail Lists** at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/business-meetings> to have the business meeting agenda emailed to you. Enter your contact information under "Subscribe."

**Adjournment.** Depending on time and the orderly management of proceedings, the CEC may adjourn, recess, or postpone any noticed hearing or meeting to be continued the next day, another specific date or time, or the next business meeting. Any such adjournment will be noticed at the time the order of adjournment is made. (Government Code sections 11128.5, 11129)