



CEC ADVISORY NOTICE

Upcoming Changes To Open Charge Point Protocol Requirements In Electric Vehicle Charging Projects Funded By The California Energy Commission's Fuels And Transportation Division

Issued by: California Energy Commission (CEC)'s Fuels and Transportation Division (FTD)

Date: June 9th, 2026.

Distribution: Active Clean Transportation Program (CTP) Agreement Recipients installing electric vehicle (EV) charging; Charging Network Providers (CNPs) serving CTP agreements; EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) manufacturers supplying EV equipment under those agreements, recipients of EV charging block grant funding.

Scope: Informational only. No immediate action required.

Section 1. Purpose

The intent of this notice is to clarify the Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) certification requirements in the agreement Scope of Work for existing and upcoming FTD funded EV charging projects.

These changes are intended to improve consistency across projects and better align FTD funded projects with the adopted EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards regulation (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 20, §§ 3120–3134).

In most cases, projects involving Level 2 and Level 1 chargers will not require Charging Station Management System (CSMS) OCPP certification in the agreement scope of work.

This change notice clarifies OCPP requirements in existing and upcoming FTD funded EV charging project agreement Scope of Work.

This notice is not a regulatory advisory and does not modify or interpret the EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards regulation. (See Regulatory Obligations in Section 3 below).

The remaining OCPP certification requirements for the chargers will persist.

Section 2. Detailed Summary of Notice Items

Table 1: Upcoming Changes to OCPP Requirements

ITEM	EXISTING PROJECTS	UPCOMING PROJECTS
Charger OCPP certification	Remains as written	Certification for OCPP 2.0.1 or later required for most networked charger models
CSMS OCPP certification	Will be removed by amendment, unless specified otherwise	Not required, unless specified otherwise
OCPP protocol data unit submittals to CEC	Will be removed by amendment, where applicable	Not required

Existing agreements that do not include OCPP 2.0.1 charger certification requirements will not be updated to add them; for example, an agreement requiring OCPP 1.6 charger certifications will remain at OCPP 1.6.

Charger certification (no change): Upcoming EV Charging projects will require OCPP 2.0.1 (or later) charger certification for most chargers, unless exempted in the project requirements.

CSMS certification (removed): OCPP 2.0.1 CSMS certification will not be required in current and upcoming EV charging project requirements unless specified. Applicable chargers must still comply with any OCPP related requirements in the EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards regulation.

Data submittals (removed): All OCPP-based data submittal requirements will be removed from EV Charging agreement terms, including from associated Data Sharing Agreements (DSAs), and will not be required in upcoming agreements. Applicable chargers must still comply with any data submittal requirements in the EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards regulation.

Implementation Considerations

Existing agreements: CEC is working on a streamlined mechanism to avoid individual agreement amendment approvals. Recipients and CNPs will be contacted by their Commission Agreement Manager (CAM) with updated agreement language and next steps.

Upcoming agreements: Updated agreement templates will be issued for forthcoming Grant Funding Opportunities (GFOs) and block grants.

Section 3. Regulatory Impacts

The project requirement changes described above do not exempt any charger from the EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards regulation, including any OCPP 2.0.1 obligations in the regulation.

Networked, public or ratepayer-funded, Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFCs) installed on or after September 28, 2026, that do not exclusively serve fleets and are not otherwise exempted under § 3125(g), must, among other requirements:

- Hold OCPP 2.0.1 Subset Certification for Core and Advanced Security per § 3125.
- Transmit OCPP 2.0.1 protocol data units to the CEC via application programming interface within 60 minutes of generation per § 3125.
- Retain networking services through an enrolled CNP. Enrolled CNPs must meet certain minimum requirements, including OCPP 2.0.1 Subset Certification of the CSMS for Core and Advanced Security per § 3125.

These and other regulatory obligations operate independently of any FTD agreement language.

Recipients and CNPs are responsible for determining their own regulatory applicability.

Section 4. Future Actions & Next Steps

The CEC recommends that funding recipients:

1. Assess regulatory applicability under the [EV Charger Data and Reliability Standards](#) regulation (Title 20 CCR § 3125) independent of project specific requirements.
2. Plan for § 3125 compliance if your chargers are in scope.
3. Seek guidance from your CAM before modifying data submission practices under existing FTD agreements.
4. Complete OCPP charger certification as currently required in your agreement.

Direct any questions to FTD@energy.ca.gov. (Please include “OCPP” within the start of your Subject line.)