



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON®



2026 Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Symposium

This program is funded by California utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

AGENDA

Tuesday, September 29: 7:45 am – 5:20 pm

California Natural Resources Agency Building, 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

In-person event with sessions livestreamed from the auditorium stage.

Time and Session Details

7:45 – 8:30 AM

Registration and Refreshments

Location: Outdoor atrium along P Street, 1st floor lobby

- Registration opens
- Refreshments and networking

8:30 – 8:55 AM

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Location: Auditorium

8:55 – 9:20 AM

Living Room Chat: Can California Innovation Drive the U.S. Clean Energy Transition Forward?

Description: Hear insights about how California is catalyzing the country's transition to a clean energy economy despite federal headwinds. (CPUC Rulemaking R.25-06-019, Continue Oversight of Electric Integrated Resource Planning and Procurement Processes)

9:20 – 10:15 AM

Plenary Session: **Advancing Innovation to Achieve California's Clean Energy and Climate Goals**

Location: Auditorium

Description: Join state and energy industry leaders as they assess California's progress and uplift success stories and future opportunities after more than a decade of EPIC investments in cultivating clean energy and climate technology breakthroughs. The speakers will explore how a public interest innovation program can aid in achieving California's aggressive climate goals while lowering costs, enhancing safety and reliability, and improving equitable access to benefits for ratepayers. (CPUC Proceedings R.21-06-017, Modernize the Electric Grid for High DERs; R.25-06-019, Continue Oversight of Electric Integrated Resource Planning and Procurement Processes)

10:15 – 10:35 AM

EPIC in Motion

Location: Auditorium

Description: Enjoy EPIC awardee videos that showcase how pioneering clean energy solutions are improving affordability and increasing energy equity and resilience in California for electric ratepayers.

10:35 – 11:20 AM

Plenary Session: **Unlocking First-of-a-Kind Technologies for At-Scale Deployment**

Location: Auditorium

Description: Rapid, scaled deployment of innovative technologies will help California meet its climate and clean energy goals more quickly and at lower cost. However, even technologies that have been validated at pilot and demonstration stages often face challenges in reaching commercial-scale deployment. First-of-a-kind deployments are critical to validate long-term profitability of new innovations and enable the wider market adoption needed to make measurable impacts for electric customers. Hear from EPIC-funded companies that have proven technologies and are now pursuing first-of-a-kind commercial deployments about how project outcomes can address barriers and scale up to benefit California ratepayers. (CPUC Proceeding R.20-08-022, Clean Energy Financing)

11:20 AM – 12:35 PM

Lunch and Networking

Location: 1st floor cafeteria, outside seating areas, and off-site eateries.

12:35 PM – 12:50 PM

Special Sneak Peak: California's New Battery Hub

Location: Auditorium

Description: Preview EPIC-funded Electrochemistry Foundry's exciting new battery manufacturing pilot line project, which will promote progress toward battery innovation commercialization and production in California, in support of EPIC Strategic Goals for Transportation Electrification, Distributed Energy Generation, and Building Decarbonization. (CPUC Proceedings R.21-06-017, Modernize the Electric Grid for High DERs)

12:50 PM – 1:35 PM

Plenary Session: Optimizing Electric Vehicles as Grid Assets

Location: Auditorium

Description: Bidirectional charging is a promising advancement that enables electric vehicles to be used as distributed energy storage resources benefitting the grid, charging during off-peak times and discharging to power onsite loads and support the grid during peak periods. This panel will discuss how EPIC projects are helping to bring lower-cost bidirectional charging systems to the market, supporting the EPIC Strategic Goals for Distributed Energy Resources and Transportation Electrification, and demonstrating use cases that support grid reliability and resilience for electric ratepayers. (CPUC Proceeding R.23-12-008, Transportation Electrification)

1:35 – 2:05 PM

Technical Showcase and Networking

Location: 1st floor lobby and 2nd floor

Description: Network while exploring EPIC-funded exhibits and demonstrations.

2:05 – 2:10 PM

Transition Break

2:10 – 3:10 PM

Breakout Session 1.1: Closing the Battery Lifecycle Loop

Location: Auditorium

Description: In recent years, the proliferation of electric vehicles and energy storage systems in California has provided opportunities to repurpose and recycle batteries at the end of their initial practical use. The wide variety of battery chemistries and applications can offer both additional value and real challenges. Learn how EPIC-funded projects are demonstrating novel approaches to circularity, optimizing pathways to reduce waste and create added value, efficiencies, and cost reductions, all of which can support

ratepayer safety and affordability in achieving EPIC's Strategic Goal for Distributed Energy Resources. (CPUC Proceedings R.21-06-017, Modernize the Electric Grid for High DERs; R.22-11-013, Distributed Energy Resource Program Cost-Effectiveness Issues, Data Access and Use, and Equipment Performance Standards)

Breakout Session 1.2: Accelerating Building Electrification Through Rapid, High-Efficiency Retrofits

Location: Conference Room 2-221 B-C

Description: Deploying highly efficient electric appliances can offer multiple benefits to Californians, such as offering bill savings, improving comfort in the built environment, and optimizing use of the electric grid. This panel highlights how energy-efficient retrofit solutions can accelerate building electrification, in support of EPIC Strategic Goals for Building Decarbonization, Climate Adaptation, and Achieving Net Zero Carbon and the Coordinated Role of Gas, while also delivering important non-energy benefits such as improved indoor air quality. Speakers will explore practical strategies and emerging technologies to support ratepayers in accelerating affordable building decarbonization by reducing installation time and minimizing customer disruption. (CPUC Proceedings R.19-01-011, Building Decarbonization; R.15-03-010, Identify DACs & Options to Increase Affordable Energy Access in the San Joaquin Valley)

3:10 – 3:20 PM

Transition Break

3:20 – 4:20 PM

Breakout Session 2.1: Scaling Energy Storage for the Duration

Location: Auditorium

Description: California's transition to a carbon-free electric grid requires flexible resources capable of maintaining reliability as inverter-based renewable generation grows and fossil assets retire. Long-duration energy storage (LDES) can provide this critical flexibility by delivering energy over extended periods, enabling deep renewable energy integration, reducing dependence on fossil gas peaker plants, and enhancing grid resilience during multi-hour and multi-day system stress events. Learn how EPIC has seeded investments in technologies that enable LDES scale-up in the state and beyond, supporting reliability and EPIC's Strategic Goal targeting Distributed Energy Generation. (CPUC Rulemaking R.25-10-003, Planning, Procurement, & Resource Adequacy; CPUC Proceedings R.21-06-017, Modernize the Electric Grid for High DERs)

Breakout Session 2.2: Advancing Clean Energy in California Communities

Location: Conference Room 2-221 B-C

Description: The first EPIC Challenge was released in 2016 and funded both a planning and build-out phase for community-scale projects to develop and implement first-of-a-kind, scalable models that provide affordable access to DERs in conjunction with energy savings from zero net energy measures, improved grid reliability and resiliency, and minimal need for new infrastructure. Today, the four projects are delivering results and learnings for ratepayers that offer pathways for replicating and scaling equitable and affordable community-level clean energy solutions, in support of EPIC Strategic Goals for Distributed Energy Generation and Building Decarbonization. Hear from project leads about the lessons learned and where we go from here. (CPUC Proceedings R.19-01-011, Building Decarbonization; R.15-03-010, Identify DACs & Options to Increase Affordable Energy Access in the San Joaquin Valley; R.20-08-022, Clean Energy Financing)

4:20 – 4:30 PM

Transition Break

4:30 – 5:15 PM

Plenary Session: **Innovating More Affordable Solutions for the Industrial Sector**

Location: Auditorium

Description: Industrial facilities and sites have unique roles in the clean energy transition, often with distinct emissions and energy load profiles. While industrial decarbonization and load flexibility optimization are needed to meet state goals, the economic case can be challenging due to California's high electricity-to-gas price ratio. Learn about how EPIC is advancing breakthrough applications that are more economically feasible and deployable today to enhance benefits to ratepayers across the electricity system, in support of the EPIC Strategic Goal of Achieving Net Zero Carbon and the Coordinated Role of Gas. (CPUC Proceeding R.20-08-022, Rates, Affordability & Protections; CPUC Rulemaking 11-03-012, Utility Cost and Revenue Issues Associated with GHG emissions.)

5:15 – 5:20 PM

Closing Remarks

Location: Auditorium