

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC): Checking in on the Implementation of the First- Triennial Investment Plan

California Energy Commission staff will lead a public workshop to review the Energy Commission's implementation of the 2012-2014 EPIC Investment Plan and to receive feedback from the public and EPIC participants on opportunities for improving the Energy Commission's implementation of EPIC. California Energy Commissioners may attend. The workshop will occur on:

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Beginning at 1 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

Art Rosenfeld Hearing Room (Hearing Room A)

Sacramento, California 95814

Wheelchair Accessible

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
(Instructions below)

This workshop will present a high-level overview of the Energy Commission's implementation of the 2012-2014 EPIC Investment Plan, including:

- an overview of Program Opportunity Notices released to date and the funding awards made under the 2012-2014 EPIC Investment Plan;
- the next steps to implement the 2012-2014 Investment Plan; and
- provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to identify opportunities and offer suggestions for improving the implementation of EPIC.

Background

The Energy Commission's EPIC Investment Plan is designed to assist the development and market adoption of new and emerging clean energy technologies in California.

EPIC consists of three program areas funded up to \$162 million annually:

1. Applied research and development;
2. Technology demonstration and deployment; and,
3. Market facilitation, consisting of market research, regulatory permitting and streamlining, and workforce development activities.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) oversees the implementation of the EPIC program, which is administered by four program administrators: the California Energy Commission, and the three large electric investor-owned utilities (PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E), with 80 percent of the funds allocated to the Energy Commission and 20 percent to the utilities.

All EPIC activities must be designed to produce electricity ratepayer benefits. As defined by the CPUC, these benefits include greater reliability, lower costs, and increased benefits, as well as, providing environmental and economic benefits.

During 2013, the EPIC administrators and the CPUC worked together to prepare for the efficient, coordinated launch of the administrators' first triennial investment plans, and in 2014 the Energy Commission released its first competitive grant solicitations under EPIC. In 2014, the Energy Commission released 13 competitive grant solicitations totaling \$185.5 million. Of the 8 solicitations that closed in 2014, the Energy Commission received 316 applications requesting nearly \$648 million—more than four times the amount of available funding.

In 2015, the Energy Commission plans to release an additional \$146.5 million in solicitations to implement the 2012-2014 Investment Plan. In 2015 the CPUC will consider adopting the second triennial EPIC investment plans covering the years 2015-2017. Upon the CPUC's approval of the 2015-2017 Investment Plan and according to the 2015-2016 Budget Act, the Energy Commission will begin implementing the 2015-2017 Investment Plan.

Purpose

This workshop will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to provide the Energy Commission with feedback on the implementation of EPIC to ensure the program maximizes benefits to IOU electricity ratepayers by promoting greater reliability, lower costs, and increased safety.

To help workshop participants focus their input, the Energy Commission suggests, but does not require, that participants offer responses to the following questions:

- What is working well with the Energy Commission's implementation of EPIC and what opportunities are there to improve the implementation of EPIC?
- Is the Energy Commission meeting its commitments to increase the participation of women, minorities, and disabled veterans and what can the Energy Commission do to increase participation in EPIC?
- Please identify and describe ways that the Energy Commission can improve the solicitation process? Is the purpose of each Program Opportunity Notice clear? Are the instructions for completing the application templates (e.g. project narrative, scope of work, and budget) clear and easy to understand?
- In solicitations released thus far, is the Energy Commission missing any important technologies, approaches, or opportunities described in the 2012-2014 Investment Plan? Please recommend specific topics that the Energy

Commission should include to ensure EPIC does not miss opportunities that benefit IOU ratepayers.

- Is there a need to invest EPIC funds in research centers or consortiums that implement multi-year programs? If so, describe why research centers or consortiums are needed and identify which topic areas they are needed in.
- If the Energy Commission invests EPIC funds in research centers or consortiums, what criteria (e.g. research complexity, successful commercialization, broad partnerships, and demonstrated need) should the Energy Commission use to competitively solicit applications that maximize benefits to IOU ratepayers?

Public Comment

Oral comments: Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to five minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record.

Written comments: Written comments will be accepted at the workshop. Additionally, written comments can be submitted to Eli Harland by 5:00 p.m. on March 4, 2015. Please note that written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., address, phone, email) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

The Energy Commission welcomes comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please indicate “EPIC Implementation Workshop” in the subject line. Send comments to: Eli.Harland@energy.ca.gov.

Public Adviser and Other Energy Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228.

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at Lou.Quiroz@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Eli Harland at Eli.Harland@energy.ca.gov or (916) 327-1463.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

To join the meeting:

VIA COMPUTER: Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **929 035 174**. When prompted, enter your name and the following meeting password: **meeting@1**.

The "Join Conference" menu will offer you a choice of audio connections:

1. To call into the meeting: Select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
2. International Attendees: Click on the "Global call-in number" link.
3. To have WebEx call you: Enter your phone number and click "Call Me."
4. To listen over the computer: If you have a broadband connection, and a headset or a computer microphone and speakers, you may use VoIP (Internet audio) by going to the Audio menu, clicking on "Use Computer Headset," then "Call Using Computer."

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number: **929 035 174**. International callers may select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at: www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/

Mail Lists:
Electricity, EPIC, Research,

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Participants can also join the Workshop by phone: 1-866-469-3239, passcode **929 035 174**.

