



Notice of Staff Workshop

Energizing California's Communities with Renewables: North State and Rural Perspective

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to highlight opportunities for community-scale renewable energy development in the North State region. The workshop will be held on:

Monday, September 21, 2015
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
City of Redding Community Room
777 Cypress Ave
Redding, CA 96001
Wheelchair Accessible

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

Background

Join the California Energy Commission and local representatives for a discussion on opportunities to develop local community-scale renewable energy projects in the North State and rural communities across the Sierra Nevada range, with a focus on woody biomass. Community-scale renewable energy refers to projects that are planned, developed, and/or owned by a group of customers and are typically sized less than 20 megawatts. Community-scale projects are generally located close to electricity demand and consist of locally-available renewable resources, such as solar and agricultural waste.

In recent years, the Energy Commission has funded a number of projects related to the development, deployment, and integration of renewable energy in communities across California. The resultant projects have advanced energy science and technology and have helped to improve the quality of life in California by bringing environmentally safe, affordable, and reliable energy services and products to the marketplace. Furthermore, these community-scale renewable energy efforts have helped energize community stakeholders across the state to pursue local renewable energy development.

This workshop presents an opportunity to highlight the key takeaways from individual projects that can be leveraged by future localized energy development. Previous Energy Commission community-scale renewable energy projects have been well-received by local stakeholders and can serve as examples for future communities pursuing local renewable energy development. In total, the funding provided has been critical in helping communities to solve the technical issues involved with integrated community

renewable energy development, while helping to build a groundswell of public support in the process.

Going forward, the Governor has stated a goal of deploying 12,000 megawatts of localized renewable energy capacity by 2020. Beyond that, additional discussions have begun to scope out 40 percent emission reductions below 1990 levels, which will require increasing local renewable energy, realizing energy efficiency in existing buildings, and accelerating electrification of the transportation sector. Ultimately, achieving the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets set by Assembly Bill 32 (Nunez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), the Global Warming Solutions Act, will require coordinated effort by each of the communities across the state.

This workshop will provide information to local stakeholders on potential pathways for developing and demonstrating community-scale renewable energy systems within their regions, while including a discussion of some potential funding opportunities to pursue, such as Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) grants and various incentive programs. The workshop will also include a discussion on how to best leverage funding to provide benefits to environmentally and economically disadvantaged communities across the region.

This workshop is one of a series of seven regional workshops planned across the state to discuss opportunities for developing community-scale renewable energy. Information gathered at these workshops will help the Energy Commission to develop focused research and development priorities to help California communities achieve these goals, while maximizing the benefits realized by communities and Investor Owned Utility (IOU) electricity ratepayers.

For additional background information on this series of workshops, please refer to the workshop materials for the July 29, 2015 kickoff workshop in Sacramento, available at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/#07292015>.

Public Comment

Oral comments - Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Any comments may become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written comments - The Energy Commission also accepts comments by email. 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 include the name of the workshop and the date in the subject line. Please send written comments to michael.sokol@energy.ca.gov.

Public Adviser and Other 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 lquiroz@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 Michael Sokol, michael.sokol@energy.ca.gov or (916) 327-1416.

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.

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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."

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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:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/notices/index.html>.