

Full Quarterly CAEECC Meeting #48 Summary

Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm PT; Main Assembly 9:30-3:30

On December 9, 2025, the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee met for its forty-eighth annual meeting. Meeting attendees participated in-person in San Francisco and Irvine, and online via Zoom. There were 110 attendees, including representatives from 21 CAEECC Member organizations and five attendees from two CAEECC Ex-Officio agencies as well as 84 Members of the Public. This meeting was facilitated by Katie Abrams (Abrams) of Birch Road Consulting; Michelle Vigen Ralston (Ralston) and Suhaila Sikand (Sikand) of Common Spark Consulting; and supported by Susan Rivo (Rivo) of Raab Associates and Amber Zirnhelt (Zirnhelt). See [Appendix A](#) for a full list of meeting attendees and presenters.

Supporting meeting materials are available at:

www.caeecc.org/12-9-2025-full-caeecc-mtg. Key acronyms are available in [Appendix I](#).

Overview

Key Meeting Takeaways and Next Steps:

- The Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) presented recommendations for consideration by PAs in their Business Plan applications. A forthcoming EAC Memo will share recommendations for PAs' consideration by December 19, 2025.
- Energy Division (ED) outlined the regulatory context for the Business Plan applications, timelines, and key themes for public consultation of the templates.
- Themes from Portfolio Administrator (PA) Formal Consults include:
 - Diverse approaches to address affordability include improved cost-effectiveness and streamlining costs
 - Prominent role of decarbonization in Business Plans through electrification, demand flexibility, and fuel substitution and switching
 - Impacts of CARB Appliance standards may impact offerings and total system benefit (TSB)
 - Tailored and regional workforce, education, and training (WE&T)
 - Implementation of community-based program design
 - Proposed budgets are lower than 2022 forecasted budgets
 - Diverse community engagement strategies

- The CAEECC Leadership Team (Facilitators, Co-Chairs, and Energy Division) will discuss topics elevated during Formal Consult discussion and propose venues for follow-up conversations where appropriate.
- 2026 Co-Chairs were elected. Members thanked Stacie Risley (SDG&E) for her service and elected Alice Havenar-Daughton (MCE) as the new PA representative; Laurel Rothschild (The Energy Coalition) will continue to represent non-PAs. Members amended CAEECC Groundrules, shortening the meeting materials posting requirement from five to three business days prior to CAEECC meetings, was adopted.
- The CAEECC facilitation team will review website analytics related to when visitors are accessing meeting documents and share an update at the next CAEECC meeting (Q1 2026 - March 12, 2025).

This meeting summary is intended to capture the overarching discussion of ideas, concerns, alternative options for proposals and consensus; it is a high-level summary and not a transcript. For more detailed discussion, please reach out to the [Facilitation Team](#).

Welcome and Background

Abrams presented the meeting objectives and a high level agenda and welcomed Mori Farid as the new CAEECC lead for SoCalGas (*Slides 1-11; 17-23*).

Mathew Rutherford, Peninsula Clean Energy, provided an overview of their service territory and apply-to-administer application (*Slides 12-16*).

The Meeting Summary is divided into the following sections:

1. [Equity Advisory Committee Update](#)
2. [Energy Division Updates](#)
3. Portfolio Administrator Formal Consults ([Overview](#); [IOU](#); [Established REN and CCA](#); [New REN and CCA](#))
4. [CAEECC Business items](#): Co-Chair Election, Proposed Groundrules Amendment, 2026 Proposed Workplan and Meeting dates, and Q1 2026 Proposed Meeting Topics
5. [Optional Assembly](#): CalMTA Update, and PAs Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Study

Equity Advisory Committee Update

Ralston provided updates on the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) (*slides 24-30*), including the EAC's scope of work purpose, tasks, and deliverables; and introduced EAC members.

EAC members Amaury Berteaud (LGSEC) and Julia Hatton (Rising Sun Center for Opportunity (Rising Sun)) presented the EAC's recommendations under the categories of: a) simplify and clarify program eligibility to build trust with program participants, b) strengthen use of data and evaluation for equity, c) integrate equity into program design and planning, and d) expand equity value through WET Program integrations (see *slides 31-38*).

Summary of EAC Update Discussion:

- CAEECC and EAC Members discussed whether incorporating equity targeting strategies into the Resource Acquisition (RA) segment would impact cost effectiveness and whether there would need to be policy changes to accommodate or PA budgets would need to grow. An EAC Member responded that the learnings from the equity segment should be integrated to enhance RA segment programs and they don't think that would require budget changes, as the equity segment would bear the costs.
- The CPUC Energy Division inquired about whether the EAC Memo would be added to the forthcoming Application Proceeding record. Ralston clarified that the EAC recommendations are meant to inform PA Business Plan applications and that the EAC Memo will be prepared for PA and ED consideration by December 19, 2025.
- A CAEECC Member inquired about the equity definition that the EAC is using and the EAC noted the CPUC's definition in the [Environmental and Social Justice \(ESJ\) Action Plan](#), as broad and inclusive.
- CAEECC Members discussed the need for equitable access to and investment in workforce training and workforce standards - and ensuring good paying jobs with benefits and that additional funding outside of ratepayer funds could be considered to supplement.
- A CAEECC Member noted the value of investor-owned utility (IOU) participation in future EAC meetings to ensure IOU PAs can integrate the recommendations into their portfolio. IOU comments on the presented recommendations were invited over email.
- The ED encouraged broadening the EAC lens to include Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) programs.
- CAEECC Members discussed the different nature of equity programs and RA programs, noting that a lot of work would be needed to use the equity carve-out to promote equity across all programs.
- CAEECC Members discussed metrics such as worker wages, benefits, job quality, and framing of wages as an affordability metric.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix B](#).

Energy Division Updates

Jessie Levine, CPUC, provided updates from the Energy Division (*slides 39-53*). Levine also outlined the regulatory context for the public consultation of the Business Plan Applications ([D.21-05-031](#)), key themes of public feedback (at the Q1 2025 CAEECC meeting) including regulatory guidance and timing, simplification of application structure and filing, and the need to align data between the application workbook and [CEDARS](#) submissions. Levine discussed incorporating public feedback into the templates, high level themes of the business plan applications, and business plan application timelines.

Summary of Discussion on Energy Division Updates

- A CAEECC Member and ED discussed filing testimony format. A prior note was sent to all PAs about the preferred format for business plan application filings, and additional clarifications will be forthcoming.
- A CAEECC Member and ED discussed affordability ratio tracking. ED clarified that all PAs should be thinking through affordability, and that the application templates have been reconfigured to get a better understanding of the rate impacts of EE programs. ED also noted the Portfolio Dashboards recently published on [CEDARS](#) make data on PA performance more accessible.
- ED responded to a public question on timelines and milestones for Business Plan applications (which have an anticipated CPUC Decision in mid-2027), noting that when the first application is filed, the application number and all the steps can be tracked for the entire proceeding.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix B](#).

Formal Consults

Abrams provided an overview and context for the Formal Consults (*Slides 55-62*). One CAEECC Member questioned the timing allocations for PAs, raising equity concerns. Abrams noted that the CAEECC Leadership Team discussed this thoroughly and decided that due to time constraints, IOUs and Established RENs/CCAs would have 8-10 minutes to present as opposed to 5-8 minutes, however, all PAs were required to adhere to the same template and stakeholders would have the same opportunity to ask questions and comment for all PAs.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix C](#).

Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) PAs Formal Consult

Mori Farid (SoCalGas, slides 63-70), Kelvin Valenzuela (SDG&E, slides 71-75), Desiree Villalobos (SCE, slides 76-82), and Lisa Hunter (PG&E, slides 83-88) presented Formal Consults to CAEECC Members.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix C](#).

SoCalGas - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- ED and SoCalGas discussed and clarified that the 2030-2031 drop in TSB is a result of the anticipated CARB Zero Emission Appliance Standard (Appliance Standard) implementation.
- ED, a CAEECC Member, and SoCalGas discussed scenarios in which customers switched from unregulated fuel to natural gas. Examples provided include propane to natural gas. SoCalGas raised that flexibility is needed to accommodate these situations, a fuel switching policy clarification is needed, and that fuel switching only applies to customers with an existing gas line.
- A Public Member asked for clarity on examples of closed programs being streamlined for affordability and information about hybrid heating projects.

SDG&E - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- ED and SDG&E discussed SDG&E's stakeholder engagement process—a survey with community members through an implementer-run survey.
- A CAEECC Member and SDG&E discussed the budget amount requested, the 2022 budget amount, the anticipated budget when SDG&E planned to exit energy efficiency requirements, and TSB targets. SDG&E clarified that the compliance application needs all the additional budget through shifted funds to hit the TSB targets.
- SDG&E responded to a Public Member inquiry that some statewide programs were transferred to PG&E (HVAC) and SCE (Plug Load and Appliance).

SCE - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- A CAEECC Member and SCE discussed that the 30% budget reduction from the 2022 forecasts was across segments and programs because the forecasts included future contracts that now have accurate information.
- CAEECC Members and SCE discussed the streamlined compliance requirements process. SCE noted in 2022, they had asked the Commission to retire requirements that were obsolete given third party solicitations. A CAEECC Member raised concern that RENs can be affected by performance-based contracting, which happened to SoCalREN two years ago. SCE noted this streamlining of contractors, with a 1.0+ TRC in resource acquisition (RA)

programs, allows them to meet cost-effective compliance, and will follow up to discuss the impacts thoroughly.

- ED and SCE discussed the comparison of the 2022 budget and current activities with respect to overall reduction percentages. SCE noted that they are streamlining their portfolios and that the CARB Appliance Standards could lead to a 20-30% drop in spending in 2030-2031.

PG&E - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- A CAEECC Member and PG&E discussed how PG&E has been in coordination with implementers about incorporating anticipated budget strategies into their forecasts.
- A CAEECC Member asked for information on PG&E's portfolio objectives as it scales down or closes programs. PG&E clarified that objectives can vary by program, sector, and segment, but at a high level, they align with PG&E's key strategies. These include maintaining a strong foundation of cost-effective TSB delivery, preparing the market for building electrification to scale, enabling flexible load management, and advancing customer affordability.
- In response to a Public Member's question, PG&E elaborated how building electrification can support affordability by spreading infrastructure costs across more customers, thus creating downward pressure on electric rates while creating upward pressure on gas rates through a smaller customer base.

Established Regional Energy Network (REN) + Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) PA Formal Consult

Alice Haveran-Daughton (MCE, *slides 92-100*), Alejandra Tellez (3C-REN, *slides 101-108*), Benjamin Druyon (I-REN, *slides 109-115*), Lujuana Medina (SoCalREN, *slides 116-122*), and Jane Elias (BayREN, *slides 123-131*) presented the Established REN and CCA PA Formal Consults.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix D](#).

MCE - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- A CAEECC Member and MCE discussed the proposed equity cap increase. MCE noted that they are propose that each PA could justify the percentage allocated to equity based on a the proportion of equity-eligible customers in their territory. For example, MCE found that more than 30% of customers would be eligible for the equity segment in their service areas, thus they would like to increase the budget allocated to serving those customers.
- MCE responded to a Public Member's inquiry that the Commercial NMEC program is performing lower than forecasted in the 2022 filing. MCE elaborated

that the filing in 2022 was a forecast that now has more accurate data, and further that until 2024 those programs had an exemption for certain elements of cost-effectiveness rules that now apply.

3C-REN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- ED and 3C-REN discussed the shift from HTR to targeting equity customers, in which 3C-REN is allocating a specific budget to equity customers.
- ED and 3C-REN discussed the oversubscription of the Single Family NMEC Program. 3C-REN's incentive budget was committed by June/July and fully committed (after accounting for unrealized projects) by the fall.
- 3C-REN responded to a Public Member's inquiry about community-based design noting that they are already working with non-profits, the public health department and human services, though they have not formalized it as a community based design collaborative.

I-REN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

There were no questions or comments.

SoCalREN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- ED and SoCalREN discussed feedback on community engagement events. SoCalREN highlighted that direct feedback from communities throughout Central and Southern California influenced the advice letter SoCalREN filed December 8, 2025. SoCalREN noted a feedback example that community members experienced barriers to participating in programs like LIHEAP due to small remediation needs in their projects
- ED and SoCalREN discussed the themes they expect to change or stay the same for interventions they have underway in the next application period. SoCalREN responded that a primary intervention focus is to evaluate the effectiveness of measures for specific customers, and provide customers with a range of options and analysis to support measures.
- A CAEECC Member and SoCalREN discussed that SoCalREN is not intending to use diesel generators and one of their measures would provide solar batteries that support small measure applications.

BayREN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- A CAEECC Member and BayREN discussed noteworthy surprises in various outreach efforts that informed their program design.
- BayREN noted that moderate income customers is a gap that is not being served.
- BayREN also noted that the Retrofit to Rentals Coalition generated a lot of new ideas.

New Regional Energy Networks (REN) + Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) Formal Consult

Jordan Garbayo (CCR REN *slides 134-146*), Patricia Terry (NREN *slides 147-155*), Sheena Tran (SDREN *slides 156-164*), and Shelby Bush (PCE *slides 165-172*) presented the new REN and CCA formal consults.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix E](#)

CCR REN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

There were no questions or comments.

NREN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

There were no questions or comments.

SDREN - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

There were no questions or comments.

PCE - Formal Consult Summary of Discussion

- ED noted that formal consult presentations have not had much discussion on the strategic use of beneficial electrification as an affordability tool, and encouraged PA's to look at this.
- PCE and a member of the Public discussed PCE's electrification strategies and PCE clarified that their whole home upgrade program has a right-sizing philosophy and is doing solar + storage on a small scale.

Formal Consult Discussion

Abrams and Ralston led a discussion (*slides 173-180*) among CAEECC members and the public about the Formal Consults themes, challenges, and policy proposals. Key themes included:

- Approaches to address **affordability** include improved cost-effectiveness, financing, maximizing saving measures, administrative/operational streamlining, and program innovations;
- The role of **decarbonization** in EE Business Plans through increasing electrification readiness, leveraging EE opportunities in support of electrification opportunities, managing bill impacts through peak demand and demand flexibility, expanding of fuel substitution options, and desiring fuel switching policy clarification and guidance;

- The impacts of the **CARB Appliance Standards** in 2030 including electrification offerings, associated impacts on TSB, and programs focused on supporting or accelerating that transition;
- Tailored and regional needs of **workforce, education, and training (WE&T)** efforts including outreach to disadvantaged workers, creating high road and high quality jobs, placement of WE&T graduates, preparing for decarbonization and the CARB Appliance Standards, and exploring barriers to meet the EE Workforce Standards;
- Increased **community based design** through structured community input through collaborative boards or engagement processes;
- **Proposed budget** being lower in comparison to 2022 forecast due to savings from fuel substitution as assumed by the Potential and Goals study; and
- Diverse **community engagement strategies** including listening sessions, local government or CBO engagement, surveys, and contractor breakfasts.

Challenges included:

- **Performance contracting**, designed to meet cost-effectiveness requirements, may lead to negative impacts on industry and PA partners;
- **CARB's Appliance Standard implementation** projected in 2030 will impact portfolio opportunities; and
- **Forecasting**, especially when programs get oversubscribed requiring a pause until the next budget round.

Policy Proposals shared in the Formal Consult included:

- Raise the **equity cap** to reflect proportion in service area
- Exclude participant costs from **cost-effectiveness tests**
- Develop a **REN accountability metric** based on non-energy benefit (NEB) values
- Adjust TSB to **encourage electrification**
- Develop a mechanism for **adding partners or expanding territory**
- Allow **fuel switching** in EE through a policy clarification
- Add "**underserved**" in the HTR geographic criterion
- Align with state auditor report to include **NEBs** in cost-effectiveness metrics
- Update the EE Policy Manual to include **REN** issues

Summary of Discussion

- Some CAEECC Members requested a discussion on workforce standards and integration into EE programs and policies, including permitting reform.
- A CAEECC Member highlighted the need to address integrated demand-side management (IDSM) in future Business Plan cycles.
- Some CAEECC Members noted challenges with cost-effectiveness and supported the removal of participant costs in tests and the inclusion of NEBs.

- A CAEECC Member requested a discussion on the CARB Appliance Standards implementation and how EE can make these standards and their implementation more effective.
- A CAEECC Member raised the need for immediate communication between RENs and IOUs about sunsetting programs so that RENs can fill future gaps.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix F](#)

CAEECC Business Items

Abrams led a discussion on CAEECC business items (*slides 181-194*).

- **CAEECC Co-Chair Election:** Laurel Rothschild, the Energy Coalition, was elected into a second year term for the non-PA seat, and Alice Havenar-Daughton (MCE) was elected into a first year term for the Portfolio Administrator Administrator seat.
- **CAEECC Groundrule amendment:** An amendment was made to a CAEECC Groundrule for presenters to have their presentations ready for posting three business days prior to the meeting (rather than the previous requirement of five business days).
- **Website analytics:** The CAEECC facilitation team will review website analytics for meeting material downloads and share at the next CAEECC meeting.
- **2026 Work Plan:** Abrams provided an overview of the 2026 proposed work plan for CAEECC. CAEECC Members elevated the CAEECC Member one-on-one discussions, CAEECC's advice letter for the facilitation budget, and a proposal to discuss viable electric alternative (VEA) to phase out rate-payer funded EE incentives for non-cost-effective gas measures.

Additional detail is available in [Appendix G](#)

Main Assembly Wrap Up

Abrams led the Main Assembly Wrap Up (*slides 195-201*), which included PA Solicitations, proposed 2026 CAEECC Meeting dates, Q1/Q2 2026 Proposed Meeting Topics and details on the CAEECC Meeting #48 Summary posting.

Optional Assembly

An Optional Assembly followed the Main Assembly with presentations from CalMTA on the Market Transformation Initiatives and Illume Advising on the PA's Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Study.

See [Appendix H](#) for additional details and discussion summaries.

Appendix A: Attendees

List of Presenters

Energy Division Updates: Jessie Levine (Levine) of CPUC Energy Division; IOU PAs
Formal Consult: Mori Farid (Farid) SoCalGas; Kelvin Valenzuela (Valenzuela) of SDG&E; Desiree Villalobos (Villalobos) of SCE; Lisa Hunter (Hunter) of PG&E; Established REN and CCA PA Formal Consult: Alice Havenar-Daughton (Havenar-Daughton) of MCE; Alejandra Tellez (Tellez) of 3C-REN; Benjamin Druyon (Druyon) of I-REN; Lujana Medina (Medina) of SoCalREN; Jane Elias (Elias) of BayREN; New REN and CCA Formal Consult: Jordan Garbayo (Garbayo) of CCR REN; Patricia Terry (Terry) of NREN; Sheena Tran (Tran) of SDREN; Matthew Rutherford (Rutherford) and Shelby Bush (Bush) of PCE; Optional Assembly: Lynette Curthoys (Curthoys) of CalMTA; Leigh Michael (Michael) and Alex Dunn (Dunn) of Illume Advising.

List of Attendees

Organization	Name
CAEECC Members	
3C-REN	Alejandra Tellez
BayREN	Jane Elias
CCRREN	Jordan Garbayo
CodeCycle	Dan Suyeyasu
CSE	Rocky Fernandez
Frontier Energy	Nancy Barba
I-REN	Benjamin Druyon
LGSEC	Amaury Berteaud
MCE	Alice Havenar-Daughton
NREN	Stephen Kullmann
PG&E	Lisa Hunter
SBUA	Ted Howard
SCE	Jessica Lau
SDG&E	Stacie Risley
SDREN	Sheena Tran
SF Dept of the Environment	Lowell Chu
SJVCEO	Courtney Blore
SMW Local 104	Chris Ruch
SoCalGas	Mori Farid
SoCalREN	Lujana Medina

The Energy Coalition	Laurel Rothschild
Ex-Officio	
CEC	Kristina Dologlo
CPUC	Ely Jacobsohn
CPUC	Pamela Rittelmeyer
CPUC	Coby Rudolph
CPUC	Jessie Levine
Other Interested Stakeholders	
3C-REN	Erica Helson
Apex Energy Management	Mark Hervey
Ava Community Energy	Allison Lopez
BayREN	Tim Olsen
Brandt Strategies	Melissa Brandt
Braun Legal	Jessica Melms
CABEC	Susan Davison
CalMTA	Smita Gupta
CalPA	James Ahlstedt
Cascade Energy	Emily Lange
Cascade Energy	Siva Sethuraman
ConSol	Debarshi Das
CPUC	Ali Choukeir
CPUC	Peng Gong
CPUC	Will Graswich
CPUC	Savannah McLaughlin
CPUC	Yeshi Lemma
CPUC	Lisa Paulo
CPUC	Emily Pelstring
CPUC	Amy Reardon
CPUC	Gillian Weaver
CPUC	Carol Yin
CPUC	Ana Zapata
DAC	Don Arambula
Ecology Action	Lore James
Frontier Energy	Emily Carter
Frontier Energy	Aaron Jones
Frontier Energy	Kristin Larson
Frontier Energy	Margaret Marchant

Grounded Research	Jenn Mitchell-Jackson
High Sierra Energy Foundation	Pam Bold
ICF	Audrey Burkhardt
ICF	Nora Lovrien Buehler
ICF	Mark Oullette
Illume Advising	Alex Dunn
Illume Advising	Leigh Michael
Lincus	Patrick Ngo
MCE	Jennifer Green
MCE	Wade Stano
Michael's Energy	Jennifer Holmes
MW Consulting	Mark Wallenrod
NREN	Shea Donnelly
NREN	Patricia Terry
Opower	Nataly Morales Sandoval
Oracle	Serj Berelson
Peninsula Clean Energy	Shelby Bush
Peninsula Clean Energy	Matthew Rutherford
Peninsula Clean Energy	Rafael Reyes
PG&E	Claire Braico
PG&E	Mananya Chansanchai
PG&E	Sebastien Csapo
PG&E	Phanindra Pagadala
PG&E	Jake Richardson
PG&E	Ginella Rivkin
PG&E	Sarah Schiller
PG&E	Antoinette Siguenza
RCF Connects	Alison LaBonte
Rising Sun Opportunities	Julia Hatton
SCE	Justine Chao
SCE	Gary Golden
SCE	Elizabeth Gomez
SCE	Ashley Hall
SCE	Matthew Horwitz
SCE	Jonathan Lien
SCE	Mara Portlock
SCE	Eric Seilo

SCE	Larry Tabizon
SCE	Desiree Villalobos
SDREN	Aisha Cervantes-Cissna
SD Community Power	Alyson Scurlock
SD Community Power	Marissa Van Sant
SD Community Power	Amy Whitehouse
Safe Click ICU	Shannon Elliott
Silent Running	James Dodenhoff
SoCalGas	Ali Ahmad
SoCalGas	Anders Danryd
SoCalGas	Roy Christian
SoCalREN	Tessa Charnofsky
SoCalREN	Shelley Osborn
SoCalREN	Fernanda Craig
The Energy Coalition	Natalie Espinoza
The Energy Coalition	Bex Hauscheer
The Energy Coalition	Craig Perkins
The Energy Coalition	Jennifer Valerio
Willdan	Jeanne Huntsman
Willdan	Lou Jacobson

Appendix B: Equity Advisory Committee and Energy Division Updates - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

CAEECC Member Discussion on Equity Advisory Committee Updates

- **Stacie Risley, SDG&E via slido** - Asked how incorporating more equity targeting into the Resource Acquisition segment would impact cost effectiveness and would there need to be policy changes to accommodate. Risley asked if PAs budgets would need to grow to accommodate any of the EAC ideas.
 - **Amaury Berteaud, LGSEC verbally** - Responded that the EAC is recommending that through the equity segment learnings there are strategies to engage with customers, and that that learning can be integrated into the RA segment. This should not impact cost effectiveness, and budgets do not need to grow.
- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC via slido** Asked if the memo that is being developed would be added to the forthcoming Application proceeding record, and if so, if there is a plan for that yet.
 - **Michelle Vigen Ralston, Facilitator verbally** - Responded that the EAC will turn their recommendations into a memo, which they hope PAs will consider, as appropriate, in their Business Plan applications.
 - **Amaury Berteaud, LGSEC verbally** - Acknowledged the value of having PAs involved in developing and exchanging ideas around equity, and recommended continued conversations with PAs around equity and what they want to achieve, and that it doesn't need to be a formalized process, but the hope is that PAs will include the ideas in their Business Plan applications.
- **Ted Howard, SBIA verbally** - Asked how the EAC is defining equity, noting the importance of pluralism, equity and belonging.
 - **Julia Hatton, Rising Sun verbally** - Noted the many overlapping and sometimes conflicting definitions that can put up barriers to reaching customers, but also sometimes offer flexibility when serving equity customers. Hatton referenced the CPUC's [Environmental and Social Justice \(ESJ\) Action Plan](#), noting it has a fairly broad and inclusive definition that includes disadvantaged customers, or disadvantaged communities, low-income customers, hard-to-reach and underserved customers.
- **Chris Ruch, SMW Local 104** - Emphasized that there is a need for investment in workforce standards and training to address equity in communities. For example apprenticeship programs and training of heat pump installers need to have affordable training options that are equally accessible to workers across

communities. Ruch noted that not all contractors can take the training needed to understand the full systems they are installing, which creates an equity gap, and can create problems in systems being installed incorrectly. Ruch emphasized that equity is a big part of creating long-term careers in communities, getting workers involved in energy and getting good paying jobs with benefits.

- **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN** - Noted that SoCalREN's top priority is figuring out the equity challenge, but that serving equity customers is much more costly for PAs. Medina emphasized that equity, incentive or direct install programs cannot be directly linked to RA programs, but workforce programs can. She highlighted that in RA the objective is TRC and as you add more incentives to a program, unless you are populating with more projects, TSB and TRC will go down. Medina discussed the need for more resources by equity customers and that's why there are distinct equity programs that serve them, and that there is a need for more funding that goes toward high paying jobs and high workforce standard offerings, but that will not necessarily all come from ratepayer funding. Medina recommended PAs look at external funding such as grants offered by the Employment Development Department (EDD) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) to supplement and support decarbonization workforce pre-apprenticeship training and high standard, high paying jobs.
- **Laurel Rothschild, The Energy Coalition** *verbally* - Mentioned that they have implemented a program outside of EE Funding that allows participants to attest eligibility. Rothschild noted that CCAs and RENs have more flexibility in their portfolios as they don't run through the same third party requirements as IOUs. She noted it would be valuable to have IOU participation at a future meeting and in sequencing of program design, and implementers and their influence in the process, to ensure they have a pathway to integrate some of the recommendations into their portfolio.
- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC** *verbally* - Encouraged broadening the lens to include the Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) programs. There's an open proceeding for ESA bridge funding for 2027 ([A.25-06-022](#)) filed by utilities last summer and the utilities will be submitting full applications for their next ESA cycle in January for 2028 and beyond. There are two valuable forums for staying up to date on ESA: the ESA Working Group (meets monthly and is a public forum), and the Low Income Oversight Board (LIOB) (meets quarterly).
- **Alice Havenar-Daughton, MCE** *verbally* - Responded to the EAC's question to PAs about whether having the equity programs has improved the access for equity target customers to the RA programs. Havenar-Daughton emphasized that these are two really different programs that have different designs that allow PAs to serve equity customers really well and comprehensively, and then also find the most cost-effective way to get savings out of the RA segment. A lot of work

would be needed to use the equity carve-out to promote equity across all of the programs.

- **Jennifer Green, MCE via slido** - Expressed enthusiasm for integrating more WE&T into RA programs. Green noted that while it is useful to include that in direction from the CPUC, it will add to planning and implementation costs, and it should be considered how it can be a metric of success in addition to TSB and TRC.
 - **Amaury Bertraud, LGSEC via slido** - Agreed that the topic of coordination between an equity or market support WE&T program and an RA program is a really interesting one.
 - **Julia Hatton, Rising Sun via slido** - Suggested that worker wages/benefits/job quality should be measured, and wages should be framed as an affordability metric.
- **Michelle Vigen Ralston, Facilitator verbally** - Asked IOU PA's to provide feedback via email, including informal, non-attributed thoughts on how the EAC's recommendations land with them: What are some of the things that come up initially when you think about what might be particularly challenging from your point of view, especially with third-party interaction?
- **Sheena Tran SDREN via slido** - Asked on section B.2. how does the EAC think this would differ from the equity metrics/indicators they are capturing? Also in C.1. on the 3rd bullet - Can EAC expand on the value of hiring as it relates to cost-effectiveness? Is the idea that PA's would highlight that these need to be integrated into the TRC/CET?
 - **EAC Members** - The EAC doesn't have a definitive answer, but can refer to efforts such as the CPUC Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Working Group and study that might have insights, and the CEC has the Order Instituting Informational Proceeding (OIIP) 24-OIIP-03, a public forum to develop methods for integrating Non-Energy Benefits (NEBs) and Social Costs (NEIs) into energy planning (for example).

It's important to fully re-examine assumptions on the cost of good wages. Rising Sun often hears arguments that contractors paying prevailing wage will increase project costs by 50-100%, but other studies (e.g., for residential decarbonization projects) show that it's more like 3-9%. Add to this, data that shows that paying prevailing wage delivers societal benefits, like increased GDP, eliminating the racial wage gap, etc., several policy priorities and benefits not currently accounted for in cost-benefit analysis. Reference:

<https://risingsunopp.org/wp-content/uploads/HRTP-Economic-Impact-Assessment-Aug-13-2024.pdf> by Movement Economics and Ponder Analytics

Public Discussion on Equity Advisory Committee Updates [via Slido]

- **Allison LaBonte, RCF Connects** *via verbally* - Asked if there are any current EE programs where the PA/implementer has incentivized or required contractors to meet some labor standards .
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - Responded yes! BayREN's single family program is one example. MCE also has relevant examples, as does SJCE.
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - The Bay Area High Road Training Partnership for Residential Decarbonization offers data and tools to incorporate labor standards into these types of programs - and what happens economically when you do: www.risingsunopp.org/policy.
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - That includes a study that shows that each additional \$1 in taxpayer spending to ensure residential decarb projects have prevailing wages and benefits would result in between \$2.61 and \$2.76 in net taxpayer savings (factoring a 3-9% project cost increase).
- **Anonymous** *via verbally* - Asked why RA and Market Support programs can't reach underserved/HTR/DAC customers in the same way as Equity Segment programs. Also, what do Equity Segment programs offer that can't be offered by RA and Market Support programs?
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - Longer answer than can be addressed here, but the [SB 350 Barriers report](#) is a good resource, as is the [CPUC Environmental Social Justice Action Plan](#). The biggest issues with RA and MS programs for equity are access and cost.
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - The [Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group's Equity Framework](#) is another good resource.
- **Anonymous** *via verbally* - Asked how these equity programs would differ from other existing customer programs that already serve underserved/HTR/DAC customers, such as the Energy Savings Assistance programs.
 - **Anonymous** *via slido* - ESA is just one program, and it exclusively serves low-income customers. ESA is a different proceeding than the EE portfolio. Equity programs are complementary to ESA and also reach customers that ESA may not serve.
- **Anonymous** *via slido* - Asked for clarification if the recommendation to "Avoid subjective eligibility requirements" conflicts with the recommendation to "Allow limited implementer discretion".
 - **Amaury Bertraud, LGSEC** *via slido* - Responded that the EAC Is trying to achieve a balance, and that they think a limited range of implementer discretion would help have these conversations.

CAEECC Member Discussion on Energy Division Updates

- **Mori Farid, SioCalGas verbally** - Asked for clarification on filing in a testimony format.
 - **Jessie Levine, CPUC verbally** - Responded that a note was sent to PAs about a preferred format for business plan application filings, testimony or other. Following questions from PAs, there will be further clarifications forthcoming.
- **Ted Howard, SBUA verbally** - Asked for clarification on the affordability ratio that is to be tracked by IOUs and the rate and bill tracker tool reported on quarterly.
 - **Jessie Levine, CPUC verbally** - Will address later with further follow-up. It's a point to all PA's to think through the nexus of affordability.
 - **Coby Rudolph, CPUC verbally** - Noted that the application templates/template material which are posted on the CAEECC website, have a lot more detail in the spreadsheets (Tabs 1&2) to help understand and forecast out the rate impacts of EE programs, both on the electric and gas side.
 - **Coby Rudolph, CPUC verbally** - Emphasized that the Portfolio Dashboards were just just published on the [CEADARS site](#) and are a resource to make the CEDARs data more readily accessible so people have the ability to pan over the portfolios and look at how the different PAs are both performing and then forecasting, in various sectors, and segments such as energy efficiency, energy savings, and fuel substitution.
 - **ED: SBUA can follow up with Energy Division with specific questions.**
- **Lisa Hunter, PGE via verbally** - Asked if there is anything new on the template, and if it can be shared again.
 - **Jessie Levine, CPUC via verbally** - Responded that there is nothing new on the templates and final templates are now on [CAEECC's](#) and [CPUC's website](#)

Public Discussion on Energy Division Updates

- **Julia Hatton, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity via slido** - Asked if there are additional timelines and milestones to be aware of between the Business Plan applications and the possible mid-2027 CPUC decision.
 - **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC verbally** - Explained that the application proceedings are regulatory proceedings that include many milestones during the timeline. Testimony will be filed, comments will be shared, replies will be shared, and then, a scoping memo will come out, or comments to be shared, and then the CPUC will provide direction as far as what to do next. There may be workshops. CPUC may actually have a split application proceeding to more than one track, if that's needed, depending on the topics that need to be covered. There is a lot to monitor, and when the first

application is filed, you will get to “own” the application number for the entire proceeding, and that is how it will be referred to as it’s a law that it is all consolidated into one proceeding number. You can get on the service list for that proceeding and track everything.

- **Julia Hatton, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity** *via slido*- Asked if the affordability metric takes household size into account.
 - **Jessie Levine, CPUC** *via slido* provided a link to the [CEDARS Dashboards](#)
 - **Ted Howard, SBUA** *via slido* responded in Slido that [D. 20-07-032](#) established 3 metrics. The Affordability Ratio is the ratio of essential service costs to non-disposable household income.
 - **ED**: The affordability Decision and metric were set by this Decision (D. 20-07-032)- [344049206.PDF](#).
 -

Appendix C: Formal Consult Overview and Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) PAs Formal Consult - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

Formal Consult Overview

- **Amaury Berteaud, LGSEC** *via slido* raised equity concerns about the uneven presentation timing for formal consults across PAs.
 - **Katie Abrams, Facilitator** *via slido* that CAEECC Leadership Team discussed this thoroughly and decided that due to time constraints, IOUs and Established RENs/CCAs would have 8-10 minutes to present as opposed to 5-8 minutes, however, all PAs were required to adhere to the same template and stakeholders would have the same opportunity to ask questions and comment for all PAs.

SoCalGas - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** *via slido* asked for clarification on the steep drop in TSB from 2029-2030.
 - **Mori Farid, SoCalGas** *verbally* clarified that this drop is a result of CARB's Zero Emission Appliance Standard proposal and fuel substitution which will result in less reductions from these programs.
 - **Anders Danryd, SoCalGas** *verbally* clarified that the 2030-2031 has the drop that's aligned with the proposed CARB zero emission policy phase in. This drop will occur when that standard gets implemented.

- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** via *slido* asked for example scenarios where customers switched from an unregulated fuel to natural gas, the impact of the change on gas rates, and if building new gas lines would be needed to accommodate that switch.
 - **Mori Farid, SoCalGas** verbally responded that scenarios will be considered further and that flexibility is needed to serve these scenarios. Farid noted that although there is fuel substitution policy, there is not yet a fuel switching policy, so SoCalGas is planning policy proposals.
 - **Anders Danryd, SoCalGas** verbally clarified that fuel switching does not apply to building new infrastructure, therefore, this policy only applies if the customer already has an existing gas line.
 - **Stacie Risley, SDGE** via *slido* provided the example of a propane BBQ or propane fire switch to natural gas customers.

SoCalGas - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Emily Lange** via *slido* asked for examples of discontinued programs designated through streamlined offerings to address affordability.
 - **Anders Danryd, SoCalGas** via *slido* responded that SoCalGas will share this information in their application.
- **Emily Lange** via *slido* asked for information about the hybrid heating projects in the innovation section.
 - SoCalGas: Hybrid heating technology includes: Heat pump HVAC with gas furnace backup, heat pump water heaters with gas backup, and heat pump pool heaters with gas backup. This equipment is currently nascent in the market and is not yet mature but has the potential to reduce carbon emissions while controlling for various factors, including cost, peak demand reduction, and carbon emissions optimizations.

SoCalGas is looking into this technology through its emerging technologies program as well as its IDSM pilot. Emerging technologies studies on hybrid space heating are available and an emerging technologies study on hybrid pool heating will be available soon.

SDG&E - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** verbally asked if SDG&E has plans to conduct community or stakeholder engagement—beyond engagement with fellow PAs—in the development of this portfolio application.

Kevin Valenzuela, SDG&E verbally confirmed that they are working with implementers who are engaged with communities by conducting ongoing surveys but do not have additional engagement plans.

- **Laurel Rothschild, TEC** *verbally* asked for clarification why the budget requested by SDG&E is the same amount they applied for before planning to exit energy efficiency requirements ([SDG&E Offcycle Application](#)) and asked if lack of a decrease in budget is due to needed funds for reaching TSB targets.
 - **Kelvin Valenzuela, SDG&E** *verbally* clarified that the compliance application needs all the additional budget through shifted funds to hit the TSB marks.

SDG&E - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Anonymous** *via slido* asked for clarification on which statewide programs were transferred to PG&E and SCE.
 - **Stacie Risley, SDG&E** *via slido* responded that HVAC went to PG&E and Plug Load and Appliance to SCE.

SCE - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Alice Havenar-Daughton, MCE** *verbally* asked for more characterization on the segments and program delivery types with the 30% budget reduction.
 - **Desiree Villalobos, SCE** *verbally* responded that these were across the board, noting that the forecasts included future estimates on contracts that now have more accurate information.
- **Aisha Cervantes Cissna, SDREN** *via slido* asked for SCE to expand on what compliance requirements they're seeking to streamline.
 - **Desiree Villalobos, SCE** *verbally* responded that when SCE ran their streamlining process in 2022, they asked the Commission to retire some compliance requirements that became obsolete given third party solicitations.
- **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN** *verbally* asked for elaboration on contracting, in particular the third party solicitation requirement. Medina noted that two years ago, SoCalREN was impacted by cost-effective and performance-based contracting which resulted in blowback on the overlapping PA (SoCalREN) and the industry at large.
 - **Liz Gomez, SCE** *verbally* responded with an invitation to chat about this experience further to avoid this situation in the future. SCE noted they have been conducting a competitive solicitation process to get contractors with a 1.0+ TRC for the past 2 years, specifically in the resource acquisition (RA) segment to meet Commission compliance.
- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC** *verbally* asked how the 2022 submitted budgets compare to current activities in the context of the overall percent reductions.

- **Desiree Villalobos, SCE** verbally noted that the reductions are reflective of their current activities and are streamlining the way SCE runs their portfolios to achieve more cost-effectiveness. In 2022, the application was based on assumptions of undervaluing some benefits that would increase some of our forecasts and then conservatively did haircuts on this forecast for outer years in order to be more reflective of the current activity.
- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC** verbally asked for clarification about how the requested budget, actual spend, and TSB achievement compared to the current activities fluctuates.
- **Gary Golden, SCE** verbally responded that 2028-2029 is going to be fairly consistent with MCAL at 2026 and 2027 amounts. Golden noted that SCE expects a drop in spending in 2030-2031 by 20-30% because of CARB standards.

PG&E - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Laurel Rothschild, TEC** verbally asked for more detail on anticipated budgets for programs and if PG&E will coordinate with implementers to integrate these strategies or offer new programs (by closing older ones).
 - **Lisa Hunter, PG&E** verbally responded that PG&E is not ready to share new programs, however, PG&E has been working with existing implementers on incorporating strategies into their forecasts.
- **Aisha Cervantes-Cissna, SDREN** via *slido* asked for elaboration on PG&E's portfolio objectives, as it is scaling-down/closing programs that don't contribute meaningfully to these objectives.
 - PG&E: Objectives can vary by program, sector, and segment, but at a high level, they align with our key strategies. These include maintaining a strong foundation of cost-effective TSB delivery, preparing the market for building electrification to scale, enabling flexible load management, and advancing customer affordability.

PG&E - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Emily Lange** via *slido* asked for elaboration about how building electrification supports affordability.
 - **Lisa Hunter, PG&E** via *slido* noted that building electrification (BE) can support affordability by spreading infrastructure costs across more customers and electricity sales, therefore creating downward pressure on electric rates. Hunter noted that BE can potentially create upward pressure on gas rates because of reduced gas sales with gas infrastructure costs spread over fewer customers, but this can potentially be mitigated through

targeted electrification that results in decommissioning of gas assets (i.e. reducing gas costs).

All IOU - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Alison LaBonte, RCF Connects** via *slido* asked for all IOU PAs to include the distribution of budget across segments for 2028-31, noting any significant difference from 2024-27.
 - **Lisa Hunter, PG&E** via *slido* responded that current forecasts (subject to change) maintain segment funding that is consistent with 2024-2027.
 - SoCalGas: Subject to change, the current business plan composition is: Resource 66.5%, Equity 14%, Market Support 14%, Code and Standard 1.5%, EM&V 4%. No major changes relative to the current business cycle.

Appendix D: Established REN + CCA PA Formal Consult - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

MCE - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Emily Lange** *via verbally* - Asked MCE to share insights on why the Commercial NMEC program is performing lower than forecasted in the 2022 filing.
 - **Alice Havenar-Daughton, MCE** *verbally* - Clarified the two biggest factors: 1) In 2022, this program was new so it was a forecast. Now MCE has real-world data to improve forecasting. 2) In the early part of the current cycle, those programs had an exemption from certain elements of cost-effectiveness rules, which meant that MCE did not have to account for the measure cost of the projects going through the NMEC programs. Starting in 2024, MCE had to incorporate the measure cost, and those were subject to normal TRC calculations. MCE experienced a greater challenge than anticipated in translating that into a clear incentive for aggregators and for customers, because that measure cost can vary quite a bit. Havenar-Daughton noted that incorporating measured costs makes it more complicated, and it has been more challenging for MCE to offer a compelling incentive with that component of the program.

3C-REN - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Jessie Levine, CPUC** *verbally* - Referenced, 3C-REN's Building Decarbonization slide and asked about the shift from HTR, and if it is about targeting equity customers, and for an elaboration on the budget allocations.
 - **Alejandra Tellez, 3C-REN** *verbally* - Responded that for a single-family residential program, one of the things 3C-REN saw with their programs that made the biggest impact, was having budget allocations for programs, so that the market segment didn't take all of their incentive dollars. 3C-REN is switching to have a specific budget allocation for equity customers.
- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** *verbally* - Asked when during the year 3C-REN's Single Family NMEC program became oversubscribed.
 - **Alejandra Tellez, 3C-REN**: Responded by June/July their incentive budget was already committed, and they had to put people on hold or close programs. 3C-REN had a very small percentage of unrealized projects, so were fully committed by early fall and they are trying to increase the budget dollars for this program.

3C-REN - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Alison LaBonte, RCF Connects via slido** - Asked if 3C-REN is going to offer a community based design collaborative like SoCalREN piloted in the current cycle.
 - **Alejandra Tellez, 3C-REN**: Responded that they are already doing this,, targeting their communities and the non-profits they work with, and going to their meetings. As a local government, 3C-REN has more insight into what's going on in the communities and works with the Public Health Department and Human Services although they have not formalized as a collaborative like SoCalREN to date.

SoCalREN - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Pamela Rittelmeyer, CPUC verbally** - Asked for an example of feedback SoCalREN had received from the community engagement events and for an example of something that has influenced change in one of their program designs.
 - **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN verbally** - Responded that when SoCalREN went to the Northern area of their service region (which is the Central Valley including Inyo, Mono, a portion of Kings, Riverside and San Bernardino) and met with some of the Tribes, that direct feedback about SoCalREN's programs and the desire for the Tribes to have programs designed by them and for them, informed the advice letter that SoCalREN filed on December 8, 2025. SoCalREN noted that other community engagement meetings members have informed them that many face barriers to accessing the LIHEAP Program as they do not allow for even small remediation which sometimes may be needed in the smallest upgrade. This is a policy area that SoCalREN is looking to request in the Business Plan application.
- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC verbally** - Asked SoCalREN to provide an overview of the kinds of interventions that they are doing now, capital, behavioural or other, and any kinds of themes that they expect to to shift or stay consistent into the next application period.
 - **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN verbally** responded that one of the interventions SoCalREN is focused on is supporting customers to understand the impact of measures that are applied to their facility, property or buildings. Medina noted that with a big push to adopt electrification, what's happening is: 1) It's being a burden on SoCalREN's TSB or 2) It's being a burden on that customer and their facility. In the past, SoCalREN has been really focused on the need to drive more and more measures, because that will lead to more savings, but that is not necessarily true for the customer side. SoCalREn is giving customers options and looking at different scenarios for their facilities, and providing a net present value, rate of return analysis, and using AI and other tools to

help with analysis. Medina noted that the Single-Family Energy Affordability Program will pick up Go Green Finance, and incorporate that leveraged capital into their portfolio to reduce the burden on rate payer funding. The program will also target individual customers across their territory who would benefit from solar storage plus energy efficiency.

- **Amaury Berteaud, LGSEC** *via verbally* - Asked if one of the policy recommendations is to allow natural gas and diesel generators as an eligible measure, and if this would be in situations where IDSM strategies are not viable.
- **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN** *via verbally* - Responded that SoCalREN's thought is pre-charged or solar batteries that support small measure applications, not diesel generators.
- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC** *via verbally* - Asked for clarification if by "generation", that would include something like an onsite diesel generator.
 - **Lujuana Medina, SoCalREN** *via verbally* - Responded no, not diesel but pre-charged or solar for residential customers and for larger or pump wells, and that they would look to apply resiliency type external funding. This policy change recommendation would be for small measure applications so likely only residential or small commercial.

BayREN - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Amaury Berteaud, LGSEC** *verbally*- Asked if anything surprised BayREN during outreach.
 - **Jane Elias, BayREN** *verbally* - Responded that yes, BayREN learned that moderate income is definitely a gap that is not being served. These households make too much money to qualify for low-income, and do not have enough discretionary funds to put a priority on energy efficiency measures or weatherization. BayREN also found that there is a lot of older housing stock that needs a lot of remediation, but BayREN is limited in the support they can offer. The Retrofit to Rentals Coalition generated a lot of good feedback and new ideas.

Appendix E: New REN + CCA Formal Consult - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

PCE - CAEECC Member Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Coby Rudolph, CPUC verbally** - Noted that the formal consult presentations have focused on cost reduction and participant affordability, but haven't discussed much about the strategic use of beneficial electrification as an affordability tool. Rudolph encouraged PAs to look at how electrification can be a tool to increase affordability impacts. He recommended looking at programs and seeing what kind of off peak savings are occurring, and looking at how those can be shifted to on-peak savings, and looking at consumption in affordability strategies.

PCE - Public Discussion on Formal Consult

- **Alison LaBonte, RCF Connects via slido** - Asked if PCE plans to deploy electrification strategies like right sizing and solar + storage leveraging as part of their whole home electrification pilot program, and if these areas would be new addition to the program?
 - **Shelby Bush, PCE verbally** - Responded that the whole home electrification program was a pilot funded by PCE dollars. PCE does have a whole home upgrade program that includes right-sizing. PCE's residential direct install program is going to complement the PCE Home Upgrade program moving into the 2028 ATA application, meaning that PCE will inject the PCE funding, to complement and get deeper savings through the customers they reach that both qualify for their residential DI plus their home upgrade program. On the solar + storage side, PCE is doing this on a smaller scale.

Appendix F: Formal Consult Discussion - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

Discussion on Formal Consults - CAEECC Members

- **Ted Howard, SBUA** verbally asked for PA opinions on [Resolution E5351](#) which provided clarification and revisions to adopted indicators and metrics related to EE portfolios in compliance with [D.23-06-055](#).
 - PG&E - PG&E's opinion is captured in the advice letter filed that resulted in the resolution - PG&E advice letter [7257-E/4906-G](#).
 - **I-REN** - Below are responses from the I-REN team regarding E-5351:
 - Approved Indicators that still don't have firmly established methodologies:
 - Equity_Segment_2 - Sum of equity target participants' expected first-year bill savings in equity segment, by sector (Reported QUARTERLY)
 - Equity_Segment_10 - Median of equity target participants' expected first-year bill savings in equity segment, by sector (Reported QUARTERLY)
 - Previously Shared E-5351 Feedback:
 - I-REN Requests Recognition of Unique C&S Program Offerings
 - Outcome: limited - CPUC does not engage with this topic in the updated resolution
 - I-REN Requests Clearer Guidance on Paused Market Support Indicators
 - Outcome: moderate revision - CPUC encourages PAs to report progress in MS segment using UVMs until MS indicators are finalized
 - I-REN Requests Greater Flexibility in Reinstating Indicators and Metrics
 - Outcome: success - CPUC stated any Tier 2 or Tier 3 AL may be used to reinstitute an indicator or metric; does not have to be a separate/standalone AL
- **NREN** - On May 28, 2025, NREN submitted comments on Draft Resolution E-535. A summary of NREN's comments are below:
 - Defining Equity Participants
 - NREN requests C&S be added to equity definition
 - Outcome: CPUC updated the definition: The term "equity target participant" (used in Equity Indicators #1-4, 10, and 13) is defined as a program participant that meets Commission-adopted criteria for being hard-to-reach, located in a disadvantaged community, OR [sic] underserved. The participant can be in an

Equity, Market Support, Resource Acquisition, or
Codes & Standards segment program.

- Bill Savings Methodology
 - NREN requests coordination with NEBs study to create a methodology that is accessible for all PAs
 - Outcome: CPUC acknowledge including the results of the NEB study results when completed (Oct 2026)
- Reinstating Metrics
 - NREN requests more flexibility (tier 2 and tier 3 ALs)
 - Outcome: CPUC stated any Tier 2 or Tier 3 AL may be used to reinstitute an indicator or metric; does not have to be a separate/standalone AL

At this time, NREN would like to note that there are metrics from E-5351 without established methodologies. In order to accurately report on metrics, clear methodologies should be developed for all outstanding metrics.

- **Chris Ruch, SMW Local 104** verbally elevated concerns heard about EE Workforce Standards ([D.18-10-008](#)), the unfunded Responsible Contractor Policy from [SB350](#) (Section 25943 (a)(3)), and [Opinion Dynamic's 9-16-24 report](#). Ruch requested that CAEECC address workforce standards in 2026, particularly who is monitoring these standards on projects. Ruch noted safety concerns associated with indoor air quality and flammable refrigerants.
- **Alejandra Tellez, 3C-REN** verbally requested some unified guidance from either the Energy Division or a synthesis on what is being done and what remains to ensure that the workforce is trained.
- **Benjamin Druyon, I-REN** verbally highlighted their effort to understand the purpose of the rigorous rules with HVAC and contractors and that through discussions with the CEC, discovered that these may be legacy rules that are now obsolete due to the advancement of Title 24 standards. Druyon supported further CAEECC conversations.
- **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** verbally questioned if workforce standards are regionally relevant and specific, noting that markets across California differ so different unions may have different access to personnel.
- **Laurel Rothschild, The Energy Coalition** verbally requested feedback on the value and format of the formal consults. Rothschild highlighted a need to address IDSM in future Business Plan cycles. Rothschild also noted a theme of challenges with cost-effectiveness for projects and raised a raw proposal to remove participant costs and add NEBs to balance cost-effectiveness.

- **Alice Havenar-Daughton, MCE** *verbally* requested to add CARB's Zero NOx standards to CAEECC's next steps, the assumptions related to adoption and implementation of these standards, and the role EE can play to make these standards more effective.
- **Alejandra Tellez, 3C-REN** *verbally* requested that utilities tell RENs when there are sunsetting programs as soon as they know so RENs can start addressing those gaps in their proposals.
 - **Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC** *verbally* responded that PAs are required to show sunsetting programs in their MCALs so that can be an early indicator, although may not be the most up to date.
- **Ted Howard, SBUA** *verbally* supported reviewing NEBs and cost-effectiveness with the societal cost test, PAC, and more. Howard flagged that the CPUC Auditor's report directs the CPUC to revisit consideration of participant NEBs and costs in the TRC calculation.
- **Amaury Bertraud, LGSEC** *verbally* proposed a discussion on the contractor permitting process for electrification, noting the detailed level of calculations required may be a barrier.

Appendix G: CAEECC Business Item Discussion - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

CAEECC Member Discussion on Business Items

Co-Chair Election

Abrams congratulated new co-chairs Laurel Rothschild, the Energy Coalition who was elected into a subsequent second year term (Stakeholder Seat), , and Alice Havenar-Daughton, MCE, elected into a first year term (Stakeholder Seat), and thanked outgoing co-chair Stacie Risley, SDG&E who previously held the Program Administrator seat.

Proposed Groundrules Amendment

A CAEECC Member made a motion to shorten the posting deadline for presentations prior to CAEECC meetings. CAEECC agreed to the following amendment to Groundrules:

III.A.iii.f Any presenter (Member or their proxy or designee) should have their presentation ready for posting at least ~~five~~ three business days prior to the meeting; and presenters should work with the Facilitator Team prior to the posting deadline to help ensure that materials are clear, concise, and on topic" (page 2)

CAEECC Member Discussion on Proposed Groundrules Amendment

- **Christopher Ruch, SMW Local 104** - Asked about the justification of moving from 3 to 5 days for presentations being ready to post.
 - **Laurel Rothschild, the Energy Coalition:** Clarified that it's about 10 days in advance for slide submission because there is a lot of work behind the scenes to get slides posted. So it looks like it is going from 5 to 3 days, but in reality it's going from 10 to 8 days for the PAs. It is right around the filing time, so for PAs to present the most accurate information a couple of days can make a difference.
- **Amaury Bertraud, LGSEC** - Noted that in the slide deck today there was some missing information, and asked if the two business days would have made a difference, and CAEECC would have received more information that was missing in the slides.
 - **Katie Abrams, Facilitator:** Responded that there were a couple things that the facilitators did differently this time. Typically, the facilitation team asks for slides 3 business days before they post them, so that they can do a really thorough check. This time, they asked for them one business day beforehand, so the facilitation team didn't have the same amount of time to do their typical review, plus this was the biggest compilation of slides

the facilitation team has ever done. The facilitation team doesn't think there will be issues in the future, because they will ask for a full three business days in advance to make sure everything is squared away. If CAEECC makes this change, net-to-net it means PAs get the same amount of time.

Public Discussion on Proposed Groundrules Amendment (via Slido)

- **Nancy Barba, Frontier Energy** - Asked if there has been any click through analysis on the CAEEC website so it can be more data informed.
 - **Katie Abrams, Facilitator:** Responded that the facilitation team can do that analysis and provide an update at the next CAEECC meeting on when people are downloading the slides.

2026 Proposed Work Plan + Meeting Dates

Abrams provided an overview of the 2026 proposed work plan for CAEECC which includes 4 full CAEECC Meetings + 2 Portfolio Performance Report Reviews, and potential Working Groups and/or Workshops. Additional activities include 2-3 Equity Advisory Committee meetings, brief 1:1s with Members (focused on non-PAs), and updating the website including mobile optimization.

CAEECC Member Discussion on 2026 Proposed Work Plan

- **Sheena Tran, SDREN:** Asked for clarification on the objective behind the 'other activities' item that includes 1-on-1s with non-PA members.
 - **Katie Abrams, Facilitator:** Explained it is in the scope of the CAEECC facilitation team to conduct annual one-on-ones with all members to ensure CAEECC meetings are adequately addressing member needs and concerns. The facilitation team is happy to do these with both members and stakeholders. The focus on non-PAs is to be cognizant of everyone's time, but the facilitation team is open to feedback.
- **Aisha Cervantes-Cissna, SDREN** - Asked if PAs have an opportunity to review the Advice Letter (AL) before it is submitted.
 - **Michelle Vigen Ralston, Facilitator:** Responded that there will be an AL that formalizes the work plan, with a facilitation budget.
 - **Coby Rudolph , CPUC:** Noted that once any advice letter is filed, it is in the public domain, and available for protests, so if people have objections to what is submitted in the advice letter, there is a process for dealing with that.
- **Matthew Rutherford, PCE** - Mentioned that VEA proposal comments are due on Jan 6th, so there will also be a big push for those at that time.

CAEECC Member Discussion on Proposed Meeting Topics

- **Ted Howard, SBUA** - Encouraged a discussion on VEA to phase out rate-payer funded EE incentives for non-cost-effective gas measures that are determined to have a VEA within retrofit projects and for cost-effective gas measures, with a VEA installed in new construction projects.

Appendix H: Optional Assembly - Additional Comments & Public Discussion via Slido

CalMTA Update

Lynette Curthoys provided an update on CalMTA (*Slides 203-217*) highlighting approval of California's first energy efficiency Market Transformation Initiatives (MTI), which moves Room Heat Pumps MTI to implementation and granted conditional approval for the Induction Cooking MTI.

CAEECC Member Discussion on CalMTA Presentation

- **Chris Ruch, SMW Local 104** verbally - Asked for more details on the commercial rooftop units (RTUs) program for 2026.
 - **Lynette Curthoys, CalMTA** verbally - Clarified that they are looking at RTUs prevalent in the commercial real estate market in California (CA) and aiming to increase the efficiency of heat pumps over time. To do so CalMTA is focusing on connected commissioning and controls, including app-based controls and correct heat-pump installation. The aim is that the building owner or manager can monitor the units with an app on the phone to see how it's performing over time so that faults are identified quickly and contractors have the ability to offer a different type of service plan that allows them to monitor systems. Over time, CalMTA is looking to promote switching out to variable speed heat pumps.
- **Matthew Rutherford, PCE** verbally - Asked for clarification if the window heat pump units that CalMTA was talking about for sideways slider windows would be a new model that would be available within CA.
 - **Lynette Curthoys, CalMTA** verbally - Noted that one of CalMTA's interventions is to work with housing providers to aggregate demand so manufacturers will be motivated to offer a product that works in the CA climate and building stock where slider windows are common. Curthoys gave the example that gradient window heat pumps designed for NYC are designed to go down to very low temperatures and fit inside vertically hung windows. The model is overkill for the mild climate in most regions

of CA and CalMTA will work to bring a more affordable option to the CA market that could be installed in slider and casement windows.

PAs Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Study

Leigh Michael, and Alex Dunn of Illume Advising provided an update on the PA's Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Study (*slides 218-228*), which focuses on the Equity Segment and is developing qualitative and/or quantitative methods to measure each NEB.

CAEECC Member Discussion on PAs Market Rate Non-Energy Benefits Study

- **Laurel Rothschild, the Energy Coalition verbally** - Asked if carrying over the NEB study lens being used in the equity segment to RA and MS is being discussed.
 - **Alex Dunn, Illume Advising verbally** - Responded that the methods could be translated, but it is unclear whether other segments would use them or not.
 - **Laurel Rothschild, the Energy Coalition verbally** - Noted it would be up to PAs on how they'd want to use the framework beyond the equity segment lens. Mentioned that SoCALREN is looking at NEBs as well.
- **Michelle Vigen Ralston, Facilitator verbally** - Asked for clarification on which metrics for the NEB Study will be quantitative.
 - **Alex Dunn, Illume Advising verbally** - Explained that they are not looking at property value (NEB 9), although it was initially assessed, but they will provide more of a qualitative perspective on resiliency (NEB 11) as it has many different meanings to different people. All other metrics will be quantified. Illume Advising has spent time with IOUs to learn about available data that could be used by each of the PAs, including the IOUs, RENs and CCAs, all who have equity programs.
- **Ted Howard, SBUA verbally** - Asked for updates on when there will be flags for HTR and disadvantaged customers in CEDARS.
 - **Alex Dunn, Illume Advising verbally** - Responded that there are no updates as it is not in the purview for this specific study, which is looking at equity programs from a geographical stand point with census block groups as their level of measurement for calculating the NEBs (e.g. which census block groups are deemed within the equity segment).
- **Chris Ruch, SMW Local 104 verbally** - Asked for the methods being used to assess indoor air quality, thermal health, and filtration.
 - **Alex Dunn, Illume Advising verbally** - Explained that indoor health and air quality are really hard to track and understand at this level, which is more geographical rather than direct measurement. The study is looking at PM 2.5 and some other health indicators, and Industrial Economics has a strong background in health-related measurements and will look at what

- third-party data is available that can be put into a model. This third party data can be available for every PA in CA.
- **Leigh Michael, Illume Advising** *verbally* - Provided a link to the [Market Rate Equity Segment Non-Energy Benefits Research Plan](#), which is publicly available, noting that there are more details that Industrial Economics included on this topic in the plan.

Appendix I: Key Acronyms

Key acronyms used in this document include California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Energy Division (ED), California Energy Commission (CEC), California Air Resources Board (CARB), energy efficiency (EE), working group (WG), disadvantaged communities (DAC) and hard-to-reach (HTR) communities, justice equity diversity and inclusion (JEDI), CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan (ESJ Action Plan), Portfolio Administrator (PA), Investor-owned utilities (IOU), Regional Energy Network (REN), community-based organization (CBO), market transformation (MT), Equity Metrics Working Group (EMWG), Market Support Metrics Working Group (MSMWG), evaluation measurement and verification (EM&V), Ordering Paragraph (OP), Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG), Low-Income Oversight Board (LIOB), Evolving CAEECC Working Group (ECWG), Compensation Task Force (Compensation TF), Mid-Cycle Advice Letters (MCALs), Order Instituting Ruling (OIR), Non-Energy Impacts (NEIs), Non-Energy Benefits (NEBs), and Integrated Demand Side Management (IDSM).