



# **Evolving CAEECC Working Group Meeting #3**

September 27, 2023 | 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM PT

Hosted by California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC)

# Introductions

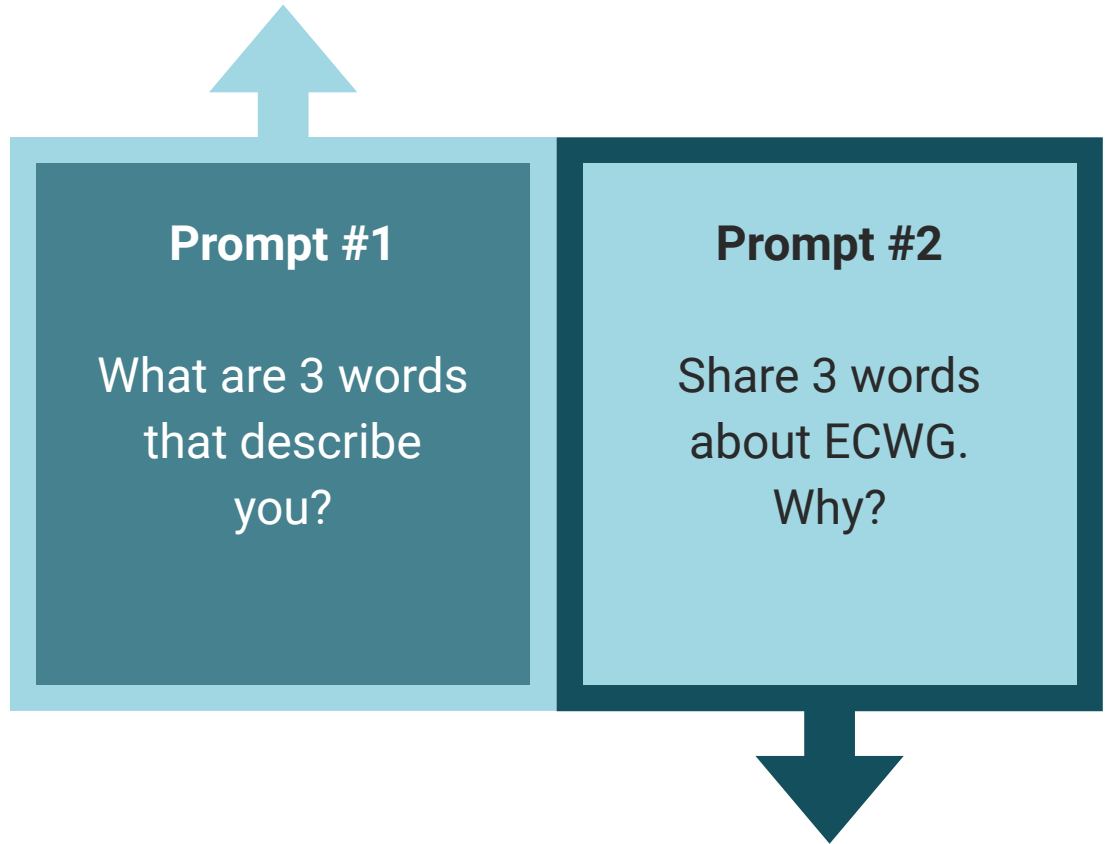


In the **chat**, please introduce yourself with your:

- Name and pronouns
- Organization
- Answer to the Icebreaker question

## Ice-Breakouts

We'll be breakout out into groups of ~4! Click "Join Breakout Group" when the prompt appears



# Housekeeping

- Zoom etiquette
- Public Input
- Meeting Norms and Ground Rules

# How to share thoughts, concerns, questions

1

ECWG Members can raise their hand to speak. Members of the public please use the chat.

3

Direct Message via Chat a Facilitator (they have a 🌺 in front of their Zoom name)

2

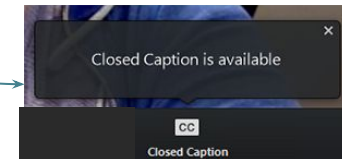
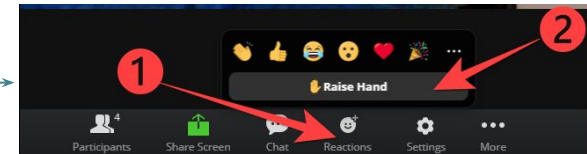
Direct Message via Chat an ECWG Leader (they have a 🐳 in front of their Zoom name)

4

Email the facilitation team at [facilitator@caeec.org](mailto:facilitator@caeec.org)

# Zoom Etiquette

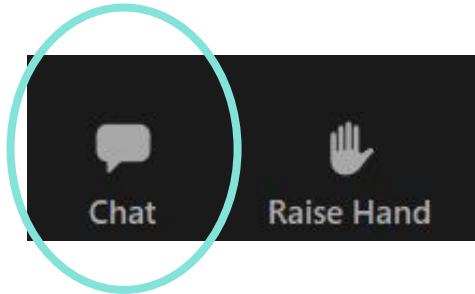
- Before meeting starts
  - Log on a few minutes **early**, if possible, to ensure your technical connection is working.
  - **Rename** your Participant Name to include your Organization (if applicable) & Pronouns
  - Share your **video** if possible – this fosters engagement and helps mimic an in-person meeting setting (will only be available for panelists).
- Throughout meeting
  - **Mute** yourself when you're not speaking.
  - **WG Members: Raise your hand** to enter the queue to speak—then wait for the Facilitator to call on you / prompt you.
  - **Closed captioning** available
- When to use the chat
  - Chat everyone: "+1", share resources, ask non-substantive questions,
  - Chat Suhaila: share anonymous concerns



# Public Input

## Welcome Members of the Public!

- You can participate by sharing feedback at any point in the meeting via the **chat**.



- Facilitators will elevate public feedback as and when appropriate.
- Please rename yourself on Zoom with “Public” in front of your name

# CAEECC's Groundrules

- Attend all meetings (or send designated alternate)
- Do your homework (complete pre-and post-meeting work to ensure productive meetings and that a complete deliverable is finalized)
- Facilitation team posts materials 5 days before the meeting
- If there are recommendations you don't agree with, propose alternatives or think creatively to try to bridge the gap

See Goals, Roles & Responsibilities for the full list of Ground Rules:

<https://www.caeec.org/caeec-info>



# Evolving CAEECC WG Community Agreements (*living*)

1. In the context of recommendation generation and discussion, every ECWG Member is equal, no one Member has more or less power than another, no type of information or perspective is valued more or less than another.
2. Seek to listen with the intention of listening wholeheartedly, respectfully, and actively. Listen with a purpose of sharing empathy to better understand where others bring their perspectives. Join conversations with an open mind and heart—be curious.
3. Recognize, interrupt, and repair (RIR) with patience and kindness. Be patient to allow for Member comprehension and recognize everyone is learning as we go.
4. Accept that there is no “one right way”, be open-minded, and utilize generative thinking.
5. When countering, offer critique to a concept, not a person.
6. Suspend judgment. View differences of opinion as helpful rather than harmful. Respect each other’s freedom of thought

*continued* →

## Evolving CAEECC WG Community Agreements (*living*)

7. Be authentic to your true self knowing your true authenticity is valued and encouraged. Step into vulnerability, courage, and bravery. Receive others with compassion and patience – we're all learning and unlearning.
8. Allow and invite first-draft thinking, be raw.
9. Value expertise wherever it shines, including the lived/living experiences of WG Members.
10. Use language inclusively, without derogatory terms or technical jargon. Keep responses and recommendations in plain English, avoid or spell out acronyms.
11. Share the mic. Share responsibility to ensure all participants have an opportunity to express their opinions.
12. Strive to dismantle “Norms of dominant culture” based on a false hierarchy of human value.

# Reminder: Compensation Grantees

The next invoicing period ends Oct 1! Please mark your calendars and refer to the **Compensation Pilot Handbook** in your inbox.

# Today's Meeting

# What led us to this meeting today

## 1. Evolving CAEECC Working Group Meeting

### #1 on 6/15

- a. Full CAEECC Quarterly Meeting #38 on 6/22
- b. Work Between Meetings, Homework B
- c. Leadership Monthly Meeting on 7/17
- d. Facilitator Synthesis of Homework B

## 2. Evolving CAEECC Working Group Meeting

### #2 on 8/3

- a. Leadership Monthly Meeting on 8/21
- b. Work Between Meetings, Homework C
- c. Facilitator Synthesis of Homework C
- d. Leadership Monthly Meeting on 9/18
- e. Full CAEECC Quarterly Meeting #39 on 9/20

## 3. Evolving CAEECC Working Group Meeting

### #3 on 9/27

### Evaluations from Survey from ECWG Meeting #2

Question	Median	Average
Objectives met	4.5	4.5
Presentations clear + helpful	5	4.8
Inclusive/Trusting Meeting	5	5.2
Effective facilitation	5	5
Meeting success	5	4.5

*All responses on a scale from 1-6, 6 being the highest score*

**Today's meeting is  
different. That's on  
purpose.**

# Addressing Voiced Concerns

This is a group unlike any other: We have folks steeped deeply in the EE policy space + folks with direct experience with equitable and inequitable policies and programs.

**The challenges:** Commission-driven and incumbent culture structure; convoluted subject matter; exclusive habits.

Thank you to those who attended and shared these concerns with CAEECC last week.

The Facilitation Team thought hard about how best to honor these comments, and based on comments made yesterday, to us over email, and throughout this process, we felt it necessary to propose a last minute change to ECWG Meeting #3.

Our original agenda for ECWG Meeting #3 was designed to focus on community members' concerns. **This new agenda, we hope, goes further in releasing the ECWG from the current agenda arc and aspects of its charge.**

# Addressing Voiced Concerns

Several members of this group have identified the tension of the ECWG scope and the existing structures ECWG works within.

While full liberation from these structures is simply not possible in the situation of ECWG, we want to open up room for ECWG members to work on what they think makes the most sense, in the way that makes the most sense, within the resource constraints we are currently working with.

Today's agenda was remade to reflect this.



# Meeting #3 Goals

**1**

**Continue to meet and learn from members of ECWG**

**2**

**Discuss/Set a new path for this working group to sail.**

# Agenda

1

Introduction and Ice-Breakouts

- Intros/Ice-breakouts
- Housekeeping
- Today's meeting

2

Debrief 9/20 CAEECC meeting

- Breakout Discussion

3

Pivot: What we've done so far, where do we want to go

- Work to-date
- Possible topics + invitation for other topics

Lunch  
(11:25)

4

Discuss/Set a New Path

- Current resource constraints
- Options for selecting topics, deliverable, meetings
- Breakout + Discussion

5

Wrapping Up

- What to expect next
- Live Evals

# Debrief 9/20 CAEECC Meeting

# Debriefing the 9/20 Full CAEECC Meeting in Breakouts

**Prompt: What was frustrating, hopeful, confusing, or helpful at the CAEECC meeting?**

**What do you/does ECWG need from CAEECC to move forward, if anything?**

We will be breaking out into groups of ~5 people. We ask you share the mic as much as possible.

The prompt question will be shared via chat.

**Duration: 12min.**

At the end of discussion, answer, “What rose to the top in your breakout?”

**Shareback: What rose to the top in your breakout?**

# **Pivot: Where We're At**

Before we discuss setting a new path, I want to share where we're at currently:

- **The work you've done so far on the synthesis.**
- **Topic areas that the Composition, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group identified as areas for change, and for this Working Group to consider.**

After that, we'll take a lunch break and come back and decide if and what you want to carry forward, what you want to start anew or differently, remove or add, and we'll begin to chart out a path of what that look like.

**But first, where we're at →**



## Some initial ideas you all have been exploring

**CAEECC as a meeting ground** focused around CPUC Market Rate EE programs, but with more structured consideration of other EE programs, and how to coordinate to improve access and benefits for all Californians.

**CAEECC as an oversight body** focused on effective, inclusive, and accessible EE programs. May include making recommendations to expand evaluation scope to consider accessibility and equity of program implementation.

**CAEECC as a force to expand accessibility and inclusivity in EE programs**, their development, implementation, and impact.

**CAEECC as a gateway to engage and interact with energy efficiency programming and policies.** May include community engagement and trainings to make EE more inclusive.

# Overview of the Facilitator Synthesis of Homework C...

## **(Full) CAEECC Purpose, Activities, and Powers**

The (Full) California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) will ensure *all* Californians have ability, access, and opportunities to enjoy the fullest benefits of energy efficiency. This means ensuring all have the ability, access, and opportunity to participate in effective ratepayer and non-ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs.

**(Full) CAEECC will do this by: ...**

**Advocacy: ...**

**Membership: ...**

**Membership Responsibilities: ...**

**(Full) CAEECC will do this by:**

- 1. Improve collaboration between representatives of Californians, Portfolio Administrators, agency staff, agency decision-makers, advocates, representatives of Communities of Concern, and others.**
  - a. Serve as a liaison to Communities of Concern; consider engaging community engagement consultants.
  - b. Coordinate with Low-income Oversight Board (LIOB) and Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) for seamless service to Communities of Concern.
  - c. Make and convey recommendations for non-ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs to the appropriate oversight groups
  - d. As appropriate, call upon California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Energy Commission (CEC), California Air Resources Board (CARB), and/or California Independent System Operator (CAISO) staff and decisionmakers, to build understanding, coordination, and provide context for cross-agency or cross-program recommendations.

**(Full) CAEECC will do this by (cont.):**

**2. Assess and provide oversight over the way benefits from energy efficiency programs are planned and distributed on an ongoing basis.**

- a. Oversee the budget proposals, application process, and implementation of energy efficiency programs for consistency with the CPUC Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan.
  - i. Require Portfolio Administrators to present their budget proposals and any subsequent budget advice letter timely to CAEECC in non-technical formats for review, comments, and feedback.
  - ii. Require Portfolio Administrators to present their applications timely to CAEECC in non-technical formats during their application process for review, comments, and feedback.
  - iii. Require Portfolio Administrators to present mid-cycle implementation reports timely to CAEECC in non-technical formats for review, comments, and feedback.

**(Full) CAEECC will do this by (cont.):**

**3. Inform the evaluation of energy efficiency programs by advising around:**

- a. How to streamline benefits of energy efficiency to *all* Californians with a focus on Communities of Concern.
- b. Best practices to reach traditionally underserved customer groups to maximize their inclusion and the impact of energy efficiency programs.
- c. Working with community experts to research best practices, review implementation strategies, understand barriers, and help evaluate success.
- d. Barriers to experience benefits of energy efficiency including intersectional barriers that affect one's ability to participate in energy efficiency programs.

**(Full) CAEECC will do this by (cont.):**

- 4. Open gateways for engagements at the CPUC specifically for more and historically underrepresented voices to participate in energy efficiency regulation and programming.**
  - a. Provide accessible training and resources to those wishing to engage in both energy efficiency and justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion discussions.
  - b. Host trainings for Portfolio Administrators and Implementers on justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as engagement with Communities of Concern.
  - c. Host accessible conversations and opportunities for engagement (such as Community Events, Town Halls, Educational Workshops, Social Media Campaign in various languages and geographic locations) without industry technical barriers
  - d. Provide inclusive avenues to include stakeholders in the review, implementation, and evaluation process for energy efficiency programs without sacrificing accountability and other checks and balances, perhaps using CAEECC as the venue when appropriate

## Advocacy

**(Full) CAEECC shall have the power and authority to fulfill its scope of activities above, and shall also have the power to:**

1. **File comments as an Intervening Party** in the Energy Efficiency Regulatory and Application proceedings, or convey informal comments to Energy Division and the Commissioner presiding over the energy efficiency proceeding.
  - a. Comments will ideally reflect only consensus recommendations. This is to ensure member ability to participate and recommend without fear of retaliation or penalty.
  - b. Any non-consensus items may be outlined with identified alternative members may support.

## Membership

**(Full) CAEECC's membership should represent the broad perspectives of Californians set to benefit from energy efficiency programs, with specific representation of historically underrepresented voices.**

1. CAEECC will be a member-based entity for all decision-making purposes.
2. Members will be compensated for their time should financial barriers exist, either through Intervenor Compensation where possible or through other funds (such as the CPUC Equity, Engagement, and Education Grants).
3. Portfolio Administrators and Implementers will be non-voting members. They may help co-create and contribute to agenda development and administration of CAEECC, but would not vote on matters that impact them as to remove core conflicts of interest within CAEECC.
4. CAEECC members should reflect a diversity of ratepayer and community interests and experiences impacted by and set to benefit from energy efficiency in California. We recommended membership seats such as:
  - a. TBD in Phase II

## Membership Responsibilities

1. Member activities include
  - i. TBD in Phase II



# Topic Areas from Composition, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group (paraphrased)

- **Composition/representation** and eligibility requirements to become a CAEECC member and participate in CAEECC/CAEECC Working Groups
- **Compensation** for prospective members to engage in process
- Need for **building technical competency** for prospective members to engage
- **Recruitment** and **retention** of members and interested stakeholders
- **Facilitation** of all activities (including Working Groups and Workshops)
- Building **accountability** into the restructure by measuring its effectiveness
- Other topics

*For the full topic areas from Composition, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group, see page 4 of the [Prospectus](#) and the recommendations from the [CDEI Final Report](#).*

**Pivot:**

**Moving Forward and What's Open for Change**

**CAEECC is the established stakeholder body.**

It knows it needs to change, but doesn't trust itself.

It created ECWG and is asking ECWG how to change. It made a scope of work for ECWG (Prospectus).

**ECWG wants to make its own scope of work so it can really help CAEECC change.**

In considering its own scope of work, the previous Composition, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI) Working Group offered some suggested topic areas for ECWG to develop recommendations to help CAEECC change.

Like Composition/Representation, Compensation, Competency Building, Recruitment/Retention.

Today, we're asking you which topics you want to focus on.

In setting up ECWG, we thought we would do a series of 6 working group meetings, some huddles, all virtual.

We have some budget constraints, of course.

Today, we're asking you how you want to meet and do your work.

CAEECC and the CPUC are set up to be compelled and influenced by written reports.

It is strongly recommended, ECWG produce a report out of some kind.

**Today, we're asking you what you think is important to include in that report deliverable.**

There are currently some **budget constraints**.

- Facilitation team budget (what we can spend on this).
- Compensation budget (how much pilot recipients can receive in compensation).

The current process is constructed to more or less fit within this constraint, but **we welcome a new way to use these resources**.

\*We can also discuss ways to expand these resources, in the medium to long term

Our ECWG current schedule assumes 3 more working group meetings, up to 2 huddles, and attendance at one more CAEECC meeting. We can replace this process with something else that works better for the group.

To do that, **we see opportunities for this group to redefine:**

1. **What to cover (priority topics),**
2. **How to cover it (process, types of meetings or convenings), and**
3. **What it will deliver at the end (deliverables)**



# Ideas for how ECWG works

- Need landscape of levers and known inequities so it's known what we're dealing with and what is possible
  - Slow down and continue the level-setting before going forward +
- Breakout/huddles for doing homework (vs. homework as an individual endeavor)
- Co-creation of process, homework, and huddles
- Huddles (1-2) for ECWG members to identify 1-2 priority Tasks to focus on
- Leverage the different expertises of this group
- *How we are doing work as a WG and what we are doing as a WG*
- Conflict of interest in ECWG and CAEECC
- ECWG member creation of agenda
- What is our shared purpose as ECWG?
- Task 1 Part 1? E.g., What is the purpose of CAEECC? (and then don't move on until we figure this out together) +
  - Naming the inequities piece. Huddle around naming inequities with WG.
  -

# MEET BACK AT 12:20 - bio/snack/breath/stretch break!

## Ideas on where/tasks to start

- Think big: What should CAEECC be going forward? (can start with - what do you want to keep or toss of Facilitator Synthesis...or start anew)
  - Start now!
- Basic conversation about our function. See everybody talk together.
- Want to know where everyone is coming from, interests, power dynamics
- Naming the known inequities in the EE policy/program, CAEECC space.
- Evaluate what CAEECC is doing - what is broken /outdated and why.
  - Why the inequities in EE programs
  - Role of CAEECC
  - Policies and regulations are broken
- Ask for CAEECC's input - what it's done in the past, what isn't working

## Ways to work together -

- Group-led discussion / facilitators can step back!
- ID Strength
- Breakout? / some prefer, some do not prefer not breakouts / Breakouts + Jamboards
- Round robin? Poll? Jamboard?
- Huddles - everyone must be invited, but not "required" like WG meetings

- Next steps:
  - Do work in smaller chunks, more narrow of a focus, empower folks to participate in the way(s) that they are able; maybe leverage homework for some more narrow topics that builds from the discussion time → move into this with trust and respect for each other
  - Coming together: Shared understanding of history and context, sharing of where folks are coming from and what they bring to the space
  - What problems is the ECWG trying to solve? What injustices are in CAEECC now?
    - Short term, medium term, longer term goals of this WG
    - Equity as a separate segment in the EE Portfolio
  - What solutions are available to change CAEECC to remove injustices?
  - What tools should be in CAEECC's tool box to affect change?
- Co-creation (suggestions from Alice)
  - Shared doc to gather
    - Agenda topics/ideas
    - Homework ideas/questions
  - Invite folks to add slides if they want to raise
  - *Also - huddle to confirm agenda and homework questions? (Michelle R)*

# Next meetings?

On the calendar: November 15th from 9:30-1:30

Request: Feasibility of in-person meeting. Meeting before November (in person or otherwise)