

2013 Integrated Energy Policy Report Staff Workshop
California Economic and Demographic Outlook
Proposed Questions for Panelists
(time may not allow for all questions to be covered)

California Energy Commission

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Economic Panel

- Given the characteristics of the recent recession, has your forecasting methodology changed?
- Given that financial-crisis induced recessions tend to be longer and more severe, do you use different methods to analyze such downturns compared to a more typical business cycle recession?
- How feasible is it to forecast economic or demographic growth at a level below the county level? Do you have a sense of what would be an optimal geographic breakout for California for economic forecasting (e.g., inland versus coastal, urban versus rural, etc.)?
- Do you think economic scenarios provided by vendors accurately capture future economic uncertainty?
- The Energy Commission forecasts energy use by customer sector (residential, commercial, agricultural, industrial, municipal, etc). In which of these sectors would you expect economic activity (and therefore energy use) to grow fastest?
- Are there international economic events that will have a significant impact on California?
- Will California return to pre-recession rates of growth in the foreseeable future?
- Do you expect the decline in non-high tech manufacturing to continue?
- What impact will California environmental regulations have on the state's economy?
- What is your outlook on housing prices.
- Do you expect commercial real estate development to reach pre-recession levels?
- Which regions within California will experience the greatest and least amount of economic growth in the next ten years?
- What are the "bright spots" in California's economy?
- Has the recession fundamentally changed California's economy? How?
- Is California a net "winner" or "loser" relative to other states with respect to the recent agreement reached by the President and Congress to avoid the fiscal cliff?
- How do you see the projected boom in U.S. oil and gas production affecting California's economy?
- What do you think the net impact of Proposition 30 (Temporary Taxes to Fund Education) will be on California's economy?
- Have municipal bankruptcies had an impact on the state's economy?
- If the San Onofre nuclear plant is not back online, what effect would it have on the California economy?

Business Panel

- From your point of view, what major trends in your industry do you expect to see over the next ten years? Will there be significant regional differences?
- What impact could California environmental regulations have on the state's economy or your business sector in particular?
- From your point of view, is the state's energy efficiency policy having a significant impact on energy usage?
- How would you rate California's business climate for new investments?
- Are there significant economic uncertainties facing your business or industry?
- Do you expect a significant rise in California energy prices over the next 10 years, including gasoline and diesel? If so, will this adversely impact business activity from your point of view?
- Aside from the high tech industry, what advantages does California have over the rest of the country when it comes to creation of new companies?

Demographic Panel

- How do you expect California population growth in the future to compare to historical rates? What is driving the difference between expected future and historical rates?
- Which regions within California will grow at higher rates and which will see lower growth? What is driving the differences among regions?
- What impacts will the aging boomer population have on population distribution?
- How do you see California's average household size changing over the next ten years and why? Are there any important regional differences?
- What do you think is the major demographic trend in California or the nation that most people are unaware of?
- What demographic trends will have the greatest impact on California?
- The housing boom brought extensive development inland. That boom proved to be fragile. What do you expect in the next decade for migration to (or from) the Central Valley and Inland Empire?
- How accurately can we predict the impact of economic growth on population?