CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
14-IEP-1C
TN 73304
JUL 03 2014

In the matter of,	)	Docket No. 14-IEP-1C
	)	
2014 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (2014 IEPR Update)	)	WORKSHOP RE: Integrating Environmental Information in Renewable Energy Planning Processes

Notice of Lead Commissioner Workshop on Integrating Environmental Information in Renewable Energy Planning Processes

The California Energy Commission Lead Commissioner on the *2014 Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Update* will conduct a workshop to discuss how environmental information has been utilized in renewable energy and transmission planning processes in the past and to explore how future planning processes might use environmental information to inform energy infrastructure planning for possible future renewable energy targets beyond the 2020 timeframe.

California Energy Commission Chair Robert Weisenmiller and Energy Commissioners Janea A. Scott and Karen Douglas and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Commissioners Carla Peterman and Michael Picker will be in attendance. Jim Kenna, State Director for Bureau of Land Management in California and Ken Alex, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Jerry Brown and the Director of the Office of Planning and Research will also be in attendance. Commissioner Scott is the lead Commissioner for the *2014 IEPR Update* and Western Regional Planning. Other Commissioners from the Energy Commission and the CPUC may attend and participate in the workshop. The workshop will be held:

August 5, 2014
9:00 a.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
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Agenda

The first panel in this workshop will include staff presentations from the Energy Commission, the CPUC, and the California Independent System Operator (California ISO) on the extent to which environmental information has been considered in procurement and transmission planning processes in recent years and how such factors might be incorporated into efforts to achieve future renewable energy targets above the current 33 percent statutory requirement. The second panel will cover planning approaches and tools that could help inform renewable energy planning processes. The third panel will include presentations from California counties on their recent experiences with renewable energy development in their counties and discuss their priorities in terms of renewable energy planning and coordination.

The presentations will be followed by a roundtable discussion with representatives from federal, state and local government agencies, electric utilities, renewable energy developers, and environmental organizations. The purpose of the roundtable is to bring together stakeholders to discuss how future planning processes might most effectively utilize environmental information to help inform long term energy infrastructure planning.

Background

The environmental impacts of constructing new electric generation and transmission projects vary depending on geographic location and may affect requirements for securing permits as well as the overall costs for building energy infrastructure. Landscape-scale environmental information or plans could help generation and transmission developers select geographic locations that may have a lower risk of project failure and reduce delays for project development. Such information and plans could also help inform long term procurement and transmission planning.

The Energy Commission has been involved in several efforts to identify sensitive land use areas, intending to streamline the permitting of renewable energy projects that are critical to meeting the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) established by state law. The Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative was a multiple-agency, public process to identify the transmission projects needed to accommodate California's renewable energy goals. This stakeholder process resulted in the development of maps and identification of Competitive Renewable Energy Zones. The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan is an ongoing project of state, federal and local agencies to identify appropriate areas in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts where endangered species permitting for renewable energy and transmission projects can be streamlined in the context of a landscape-scale conservation plan.

Energy Commission staff also worked with the CPUC to develop an environmental scoring metric that was used in the 2013 Long Term Procurement Planning proceeding. The environmental scores are one of several screening metrics to develop different scenarios of renewable project portfolios that would be needed to meet the 33 percent of electric retail sales RPS target. The renewable project portfolios were then transmitted to

the California ISO and used in the 2013 and 2014 Transmission Planning Process to evaluate the need for new transmission lines.

Public Comment

Oral Comments. The IEPR lead Commissioner will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written Comments. Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Office by **August 19, 2014**. Written comments will also be accepted at the workshop; however, the Energy Commission may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the workshop. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding. Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for this proceeding.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the docket number 14-IEP-1C and indicate **Incorporating Land Use and Environmental Considerations in Energy Infrastructure Planning** in the subject line. Send comments to **docket@energy.ca.gov** and copy the technical lead staff at Al.Alvarado@energy.ca.gov.

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 14-IEP-1C
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

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

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

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

If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please contact Al Alvarado at (916) 654-4749 or by e-mail at Al.Alvarado@energy.ca.gov. For general questions regarding the IEPR proceeding, please contact Lynette Green, IEPR project manager, at (916) 653-2728 or by e-mail at Lynette.Green@energy.ca.gov.

The service list for the *2014 IEPR Update* is handled electronically. Notices and documents for this proceeding are posted to the Energy Commission website at www.energy.ca.gov/2014_energypolicy/index.html. When new information is posted, an e-mail will be sent to those on the energy policy e-mail list server. We encourage those who are interested in receiving these notices to sign up for the list server through the website at www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html.

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Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online by August 1 at: www.energy.ca.gov/2014_energypolicy/documents/index.html.

Date: July 3, 2014

Janea A. Scott

JANEA A. SCOTT
Lead Commissioner
2014 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update

Mail Lists: energypolicy, electricity, transmission, renewable