



Evolving the way shared buildings **create**, use, and **think** about energy.



Virtual Net Metering (VNEM) Enhancements Proposal

California Public Utilities Commission
NEM 3.0 Workshop – March 23, 2021

Virtual Net Metering (VNEM) Proposal

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Highlights:

- VNEM 2.0 should reach 10,000 MW before transitioning to VNEM 3.0
- The CPUC should maintain the existing VNEM tariff structure and export compensation for multifamily customers until reservation capacity in the program reaches the equivalent adoption threshold for building owners
- Make administrative process improvements and provide support to multifamily VNEM customers to increase non-homeowner adoption of DERs
- Enable low-income customers in multifamily buildings that are on CARE to retain their discount when the building owner installs a shared distributed energy resource like solar + storage

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Process improvements for VNEM:

- Benefitting Account Lists should be updated quarterly without fees
- Property owners will send BAL updates to IOU each quarter in standard form
- Firm 30-day timeline for IOUs to make updates
- IOUs send notification to customer automatically once updates have been completed
- VNEM credits from previous tenant should default to new tenant upon move-in instead of going to a backup account
- This process should be incorporated into IOU tariff books along with a standard BAL update form to ease administration and management for all
- Supportive of the CPUC authorizing IOUs to hire more dedicated staff to manage VNEM and multifamily customer care

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Enable low-income customers to retain CARE when multifamily building installs DER

- CARE should be allowed on an aggregated basis for VNEM
 - This is already done for mobile home parks and master metered arrangements
 - Submetering account reflects CARE savings and approvals are routed through landlord
- Multifamily property owners often take over management of tenant customer accounts when installing VNEM system
 - CARE customers either keep discount and opt out of VNEM or opt-in and building owner raises rent to cover costs
- The CPUC should allow CARE customers to retain their discount without penalizing the property owner/landlord who installs VNEM system
 - CARE proof of eligibility submitted with BAL update
- The CPUC could offer additional incentives or conduct a targeted ME&O campaign for existing multifamily property owners to promote equity and increase renter benefits



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Q&A – Thank You

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