CPUC Approves Long-Term Plans to Meet Electricity Reliability and Climate Goals

Updated 3:30 p.m., 2/23/22

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has approved plans to ensure long-term sufficient electricity resource investments, including transmission, for the safe and reliable delivery of electricity and the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The CPUC, per Senate Bill 350 (De León, 2015), developed an integrated resource planning (IRP) process to ensure that California’s electric sector meets its GHG reduction goals while maintaining reliability at the lowest possible costs.

The CPUC’s decision this month adopts a 35 million metric ton (MMT) 2032 electric sector GHG planning target, which is more stringent than the 46 MMT GHG target that was adopted previously, and equates to 73 percent Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) resources and 86 percent GHG-free resources by 2032.

The CPUC’s decision adopts a portfolio of cost-effective preferred resources that includes approximately 25,500 megawatts (MW) of new supply-side renewables and 15,000 MW of new storage and demand response resources by 2032; enough clean energy to power approximately 11.5 million homes. This preferred system plan portfolio differs from the one previously adopted in that it includes more solar and battery storage, as well as new long-duration storage, out-of-state wind, and offshore wind resources. The inclusion of offshore and out-of-state wind resources demonstrates their increased viability as cost-effective resources to help meet state goals. The CPUC’s modeling and independent analysis conducted by the California Energy Commission demonstrates that the portfolio meets stringent reliability standards.

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) will assess the extent to which additional transmission is needed to interconnect the new recontinued on page 3
UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES
TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

The CPUC is holding remote/virtual public meetings to inform and get feedback from consumers on a variety of issues. Please join us remotely for these events:

Two-day En Banc on Energy Costs and Rates (Feb. 28 and March 1) to further evaluate affordability proposals to control costs and mitigate both electric and natural gas rates. This remote En Banc will allow decision-makers to hear from experts on utility rates and affordability concerns to ensure California can modernize its energy system while maintaining affordable bills for ratepayers.

Six remote public forums (otherwise known as Public Participation Hearings) to provide an opportunity for customers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company to offer their perspective and input to the CPUC about the company’s rate increase request (March 1, 10, 22, two forums per day).

Remote public forums to provide an opportunity for customers of Liberty Utilities’ Apple Valley Ranchos Water Corp. (March 8) and Park Water Corp. (March 9) to offer their perspective and input to the CPUC about the company’s rate requests. The forums will begin with a brief overview of the requests, then public comments will be heard via phone.

Remote public forums to provide an opportunity for customers of California-American Water Company (March 15), California Water Service Company (March 16), Golden State Water Company (March 17), and San Jose Water Company (March 24) to offer their perspective and input to the CPUC about the Cost of Capital requests of each company. Each remote public forum will begin with a brief overview of the water company’s Cost of Capital request, then public comments will be heard via phone.

The CPUC welcomes remote attendance and comment at these events. Public comments help the CPUC reach an informed decision. We hope you’ll join us and make your voice heard on these important issues.
Enhancing Tribal Land Transfer Policy Implementation Guidelines

The CPUC has opened a proceeding to consider revisions to its Tribal Land Transfer Policy (TLTP) Implementation Guidelines.

On January 14, 2021, the CPUC approved Resolution E-5076 and the TLTP Implementation Guidelines. Resolution E-5076 ordered that within two years of its approval, the CPUC would consider opening a proceeding to consider revisions to the Implementation Guidelines. The CPUC’s decision this month opens the proceeding, called an Order Instituting Rulemaking (OIR).

The TLTP was developed to provide an opportunity for Native American Tribes to regain lands within their ancestral territory that are currently owned by CPUC jurisdictional utilities. The TLTP establishes the CPUC’s preference for the transfer of real property to Tribes when investor-owned utilities (IOU) plan to dispose of real property within a Tribe’s ancestral territory. The OIR is intended to further efforts by the CPUC, in recognition of and respect for Tribal sovereignty, to prioritize the return of aboriginal lands to their rightful Tribal ownership.

The OIR will also consider the CPUC’s Tribal Consultation Policy and mechanisms to enhance participation by Tribes in the CPUC’s proceedings and programs. The CPUC will conduct outreach and consultation with California Tribes to seek input on the appropriate scope of the proceeding and provide information about the OIR, including how to participate in the proceeding.

The CPUC welcomes comments and further suggestion as to additional issues that could be included in the scope of this OIR that would further the goals of the TLTP, promote improved positive government-to-government relationships between the CPUC and California Tribes, as well as improve capacity building and access for Tribal participation in CPUC proceedings and programs.

For more information, or to request a consultation with Commissioner Houck, please contact Commissioner Houck’s Chief of Staff, Pouneh Ghaffarian, at pouneh.ghaffarian@cpuc.ca.gov, Kathleen Yip, Advisor to Commissioner Houck, at kathleen.yip@cpuc.ca.gov, and CPUC Tribal Advisor, Ken Holbrook, at kenneth.holbrook@cpuc.ca.gov.

“The TLTP provides an opportunity for California Native American Tribes to regain lands within their ancestral territory when surplus lands owned by investor-owned utilities are divested.”

 Commissioner Darcie L. Houck

LONG TERM PLANS... continued from page 1

sources in its 2022-2023 Transmission Planning Process (TPP). The TPP is an evaluation of the CAISO transmission grid to identify grid upgrades needed to address reliability, meet state policy goals, and provide economic benefits.

The decision also orders utility procurement of two battery storage projects that were identified by the CAISO as alternatives to transmission upgrades in the previous TPP cycle. These alternatives achieve the same level of system reliability at lower costs to ratepayers.
THE DOCKET:
Proceedings Filed at the CPUC January 2022

PROCEEDING NUMBER | FILED DATE | FILER

A2112012 | 24-DEC.-2021 | SMALL BUSINESS UTILITY ADVOCATES

R1302008 | 3-JAN.-2022 | CMRR/RECHTSCHAFFEN/CPUC
Proposed Decision Implementing Senate Bill 1440 Biomethane Procurement Program.

A2201003 | 03-JAN.-2022 | SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER COMPANY
Application of San Gabriel Valley Water Company (U337W) for Authority to Increase Rates Charged for Water Service in its Los Angeles County Division by $10,791,000 or 13.1% in July 2023, $4,847,000 or 5.2% in July 2024, and $5,044,000 or 5.1% in July 2025, and in its Fontana Water Company division by $9,202,000 or 11.3% in July 2023, $5,164,000 or 5.7% in July 2024, and $5,281,000 or 5.4% in July 2025, and related relief.

C2201002 | 07-JAN.-2022 | GRUPO COMUNITARIO DE SAN MIGUEL CUEVAS
Grupo Comunitario de San Miguel Cuevas, a registered unincorporated resident association (CA Corp. Code s 21300), Complainant vs. Harmony Communities.; and Shady Lakes Manufactured Housing Community, LLC.; and KMLM Investors, LLC., Defendants [Charging allegations are unjust and unreasonable water service rates.]

A2201001 | 10-JAN.-2022 | THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK
Application for Rehearing of Resolution SED-6.

K2201004 | 13-JAN.-2022 | LUKE P. WUELLNER
of Luke Wuellner from T.21-12-003 in the amount of $12,000 issued by the California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division.

K2201005 | 18-JAN.-2022 | PRIMO LIMO SERVICES, INC.
Appeal of Pro Limo Services, Inc from Citation T.22-01-006 issued on January 3, 2022 in the amount of $2,000 issued by the California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division.

A2201010 | 18-JAN.-2022 | COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Application of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments to construct proposed pedestrian grade separation at UPRR-Los Angeles, Yuma Sub (MP 608.93) within the City of Indio.
No Link Provided

A2201011 | 18-JAN.-2022 | VELOCITY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Velocity Communications, Inc. Application for Rehearing of Resolution T-17749.

A2201006 | 19-JAN.-2022 | THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK
Application of The Utility Reform Network for Rehearing of Resolution SED-5

A2201009 | 19-JAN.-2022 | MAWS TRANSPORATION LLC
Application of MAWS Transportation, LLC (PSC28383) to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Increase its Zone-of Rate Freedom (ZORF) fares and to expand Its Service Area to Include the Eastern Sierra Regional Airport.

A2105010 | 21-JAN.-2022 | ALJ/MATHEWS/CPUC

R1807005 | 21-JAN.-2022 | ALJ/WANG/CPUC
Proposed Decision granting Petition for Modification of Decision 21-10-012.

R2008021 | 21-JAN.-2022 | CMRR/HOUCK/CPUC
Proposed Decision establishing Local Agency Technical Assistance grant program.
JOIN OUR TEAM

If you are looking for a rewarding career, consider joining our team at the CPUC!

We typically have opportunities at all levels available: leadership, supervisory, engineers, lawyers, Administrative Law Judges, analysts, specialists, administration, and more. You will join a team of individuals tackling issues related to the regulation of essential services in California. For more information on job opportunities and the CPUC’s hiring process, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/careers or email CPUCRecruiter@cpuc.ca.gov.
one hand, and Avalon on Santa Catalina Island on the other hand. [Link to document]

A1808010 | 28-JAN.-2022 | ALJ/FERGUSON/CPUC
Presiding Officer’s Phase II Decision denying Joint Motion for approval of the Settlement Agreement and assessing a penalty. [Link to document]

A2201015 | 28-JAN.-2022 | AVX NETWORKS
Application of AVX Networks for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Full Facilities-Based and Resold Competitive Local Exchange and Non-Dominant Interexchange Service. [Link to document]

A2201016 | 28-JAN.-2022 | SFPP, L.P.
In the Matter of the Application of SFPP, L.P. (PLC-9) for Authority to Increase Rates for Transportation of Refined Petroleum Products. [Link to document]

A2201017 | 28-JAN.-2022 | UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Application of Uber Technologies, Inc. (TCP 38150) to Provide High-Capacity Vehicle Service. [Link to document]

A1505014 | 14-MAY-2015 (REOPENED WEEK OF JAN. 23, 2022) | CITY OF SANTA ROSA
Petition to Modify D.16-09-002; Application of the City of Santa Rosa for Approval to Construct a Public Pedestrian and Bicycle At-Grade Crossing of the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit Track at Jennings Avenue located in Santa Rosa, Sonoma County. [Link to document]

A1408007 | 2-FEB.-2022 | ALJ/RIZZO/CPUC
Proposed Decision denying the Petition for Modification of Decision 18-04-119. [Link to document]

A1807011 ET AL. | 2-FEB.-2022 | ALJ/BEMESDERFER/CPUC
Proposed Decision Denying Petition for Modification of Decision 20-04-008. [Link to document]

R1311005 | 3-FEB-2022 | ALJ/KAO/CPUC

R2011003 | 19-NOV.-2020 (REOPENED WEEK OF JAN. 30, 2022) | VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE, POLARIS ENERGY SERVICES, AND TEMIX INC.