

Draft AB 617 Recommendation

The Disadvantaged Community Advisory Committee (DCAC) recommends that the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission assess how these agencies can aid in achieving emissions reductions in the initial communities identified pursuant to AB 617. In particular, the DCAC wants these agencies to identify what barriers exist to advancing zero-emissions solutions within their jurisdiction. In addition, the agencies should identify what they can do to improve and/or hasten the transition to zero-emissions technologies in AB 617 communities. This assessment should also determine whether existing programs or authorizations are sufficient to ensure zero-emissions solutions are actually deployed in AB 617 communities.

In particular, the DCAC asks the Commissions to examine the following items, in addition to other strategies that may be identified -

- Electrification of freight facilities, including railyards, in or adjacent to AB 617 communities.
- Use of electric school buses as a grid resource in AB 617 communities. This entails exploring whether California could pursue a strategy like the one deployed by Con Edison deploying electric school buses in AB 617 communities.
- Advancing industrial electrification where combustion currently takes place (i.e. boiler, process heaters, etc) at large stationary sources of pollution.

The DCAC requests a report back within 6 months to help inform subsequent recommendations on how California's energy agencies can do more to address issues in AB 617 communities.