

CPUC COMMITTEE ON MODERNIZATION

DRAFT CHARTER

(June 17, 2015)

Overall Roles and Responsibilities

The CPUC promotes safe and reliable service of the utilities and services it regulates, and where rate regulation or standards are applicable, at just and reasonable rates. The CPUC implements its constitutional and statutory mission and directives including those aimed at improving California's environment, economy, and increasing opportunity within the context of its regulatory responsibilities. The CPUC is committed to a fair, transparent, evidence-based, and participatory process to reach its Decisions, Resolutions, Orders, and Rules, and to efficient complaint resolution, monitoring, enforcement, and outreach.

The CPUC Committee on Modernization seeks to improve the CPUC's regulatory, decision-making and management processes to improve service to Californians, bring about a healthy, environmentally sustainable, economically vibrant, and innovative California, and to make the CPUC a great place to work and practice, and a model of sound regulatory decision-making. The Modernization Committee will focus on the CPUC's:

Evidence-based and procedural decision-making process;

Transparency and public participation;

CPUC rules and procedures to improve the CPUC decision-making and regulatory process, work environment and effectiveness, and the CPUC's contributions to a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable California.

Definitions

"Commission" means the body of five members appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate pursuant to the California Constitution, Article XII, Section 1.

"CPUC" means the executive director, the attorney, and other staff of the CPUC, excluding the staff of the division described in Pub. Util. Code §309.5.

Committee Principles

The CPUC Committee on Modernization adopts the following principles that shall guide the Objectives and Work Products. Our work strives to promote:

- Safety and Reliability
- Enhance service to Californians by the CPUC and the regulated utilities and industries
- Improve California's environment, economy, and opportunities through the CPUC's work.
- Excellent work through a professional and collaborative work environment

- Transparency
- Public access and ease of participation
- Integrity of decision-making
- Effective complaint resolution and enforcement of CPUC Decisions, Rules, and Orders.
- External coordination with sister agencies and governmental institutions
- Internal collaboration across divisional lines
- Coordination between relevant proceedings

Committee Objectives

(A specific result that a person or system aims to achieve within a time frame and with available resources. Objectives are basic tools that underlie all planning and strategic activities. They serve as the basis for creating policy and evaluating performance.)

- Improve CPUC processes and procedures to increase consideration of safety and reliability in all CPUC work products and services.
- Improve CPUC processes and procedures to increase transparency to the public.
- Improve CPUC processes to enhance and increase the ease of public participation and effective and efficient complaint resolution.
- Improve CPUC decision-making processes to enhance access to the record, increase opportunities to develop the record, and facilitate participation in development of the record by Commissioners, advisors, CPUC staff, parties, and the public. Adjust rules, where appropriate, to enhance public participation and transparency, give due weight to public participation and comment, and improve the decision-making process.
- Encourage the various staff Divisions and Commissioners to work collaboratively to learn from synergies between related activities and formal proceedings.
- Improve coordination between relevant proceedings, identify barriers to coordination, increase opportunities and processes that promote synergies, efficiencies, and effectiveness
-
- Improve the decision-making process to promote excellent work through a professional and collaborative work environment
-
- Measure and monitor service to Californians by the CPUC and the regulated utilities and industries, and identify opportunities to improve service and access.
-
- Ensure consideration in the decision-making process of the impact of CPUC decisions on California's environment, economy, and opportunities, and measure and monitor progress.

Committee Oversight of Work Products

The CPUC Committee on Modernization will periodically establish its principal work focus areas for the coming year, including but not limited to oversight of the:

- Identify key operational improvements to improve agency decision-making, operations, transparency and public participation.
- Lead a visioning exercise to envision a healthy, economically vibrant, environmentally sound, and innovative California in the near-term, 2030, and 2050, and beyond, and adopt a work plan and processes to ensure that the CPUC's work and the conduct of its business brings about that vibrant, equitable, and sustainable California
- Identify metrics and methods to measure and enhance service to Californians by the CPUC and the regulated utilities and industries
- Identify opportunities to enhance the decision-making process to promote excellent work through a professional and collaborative work environment. Coordinate with the Finance and Administration Committee to ensure fair and productive workplace policies and procedures.
- Develop an annual work plan that identifies priorities for CPUC regulatory actions and decision-making consistent with the vision for a healthy, vibrant California, and safe, reliable service at just and reasonable rates.
- Develop criteria for evaluating proposals for program and/or process improvements.
- Identify key opportunities for intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, participation, and oversight.

Meetings

The committee will meet in public at least four times per year. Dates and times for public subcommittee meetings will be specified in advance with appropriate notice.

Members

Committee members:

- Commissioner Sandoval (lead)
- President Picker