

# CPUC Public Agenda 3530

Thursday, July 13, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

## **Commissioners:**

Alice Reynolds, President

Genevieve Shiroma

Darcie L. Houck

John Reynolds

Karen Douglas

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California Public  
Utilities Commission

# CPUC Mission

We Empower California through:

- Assuring utility services are clean and safe.
- Providing for critical services and infrastructure.
- Designing rates that are fair and reasonable.
- Protecting the interests of consumers and ratepayers

# CPUC Core Values



**Accountability**



**Excellence**



**Integrity**



**Open  
Communication**



**Stewardship**

# Commissioner Code of Conduct

- I. Commissioners should conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for the public, for fellow Commissioners, and for Commission staff.
- II. Commission meetings should be opportunities for a full and respectful exchange of ideas and the responsible execution of Commission duties.
- III. Serving on the Commission is an honor and Commissioners should treat their colleagues at the Commission with respect for the varied backgrounds, skills and interests that each one brings.
- IV. Commissioners are public officials who should uphold the integrity of their office at all times.

# Public Comment

- Per Resolution ALJ-252, any member of the public (excluding parties and their representatives) who wishes to address the CPUC about matters before the Commission may comment in person at the Commission Meeting or may call in to the toll-free number:



**1-800-857-1917**

Passcode: 9899501

- ***Para escuchar esta reunión en español, por favor llame: (800) 857-1917, código de acceso: 3799627.***
- Once called, each speaker has 1 minute at the discretion of the Commission President. If there are a large number of callers wishing to speak, the time limit may be changed to accommodate all callers.
- A bell will ring when time has expired.
- **Written comments on a specific proceeding can be submitted via the CPUC's docket card. Please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov/docket](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/docket), input the proceeding number, then click on the public comment tab. You can also visit the Public Advisor's Office webpage at [www.cpuc.ca.gov/pao](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/pao) for further information.**
- Public Comment is not permitted on the following items:
- 14

# Public Agenda Changes

Items shown on the Consent Agenda will be taken up and voted on as a group in one of the first items of business of each CPUC meeting.

- Items on Today's Consent Agenda are:  
**4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27.**
- Any Commissioner, with consent of the other Commissioners, may request an item from the Regular Agenda be moved to the Consent Agenda prior to the meeting.
- **No Item** from the Regular Agenda has been added to the Consent Agenda.
- Any Commissioner may request an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion on the Regular Agenda prior to the meeting.
- **Item 10** has been moved to the Regular Agenda.
- **Items 1 and 20** has been withdrawn.
- The following items have been held to future Commission Meetings:
  - **Held to: 8/10/2023 2, 3, and 12.**

# Regular Agenda

- Each item on the Regular Agenda (and its alternate if any) will be introduced by the assigned Commissioner or CPUC staff and discussed before it is moved for a vote.
- For each agenda item, a summary of the proposed action is included on the agenda; the CPUC's final decision may, however, differ from that proposed.
- The complete text of every Proposed Decision or Draft Resolution is available for download on the CPUC's website: [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov)
- Late changes to agenda items are available on the Virtual Escutia Table; or in paper format or via QR Code at the Commission Meeting site.

# Regular Agenda | Orders and Resolutions

## Item #10 [21653] – Equity and Access Grant Program

Res M-4868

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### **PROPOSED OUTCOME:**

- Approves the Equity and Access (E&A) Grant Program and assigns responsibility and authority to use state-appropriated funds to provide technical assistance and capacity building for Federally recognized and non-Federally recognized California Native American Tribes (Tribes) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) through the E&A Grant Program. Establishes a mechanism pursuant to the Budget Act of 2022 (Assembly Bill 179 (Stats. 2022, Ch. 249)), which allocated \$30 million in funding to supply capacity grants to CBOs that conduct outreach and obtain technical assistance in California Public Utilities Commission decision making processes and supporting activities and that support ongoing equity initiatives and provide clean energy access opportunities to Tribes and CBOs.

### **SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:**

- There are no safety considerations associated with this resolution.

### **ESTIMATED COST:**

- \$30 million from state General Fund; no ratepayer funds will be used.



# Equity and Access Grant Program

**Stephanie Green**  
Program and Project Supervisor  
News and Outreach Division



California Public  
Utilities Commission

# Background

- In 2022, the California Legislature appropriated \$30 million in the [Budget Act of 2022](#) (AB 179) for capacity grants to Tribes and community-based organizations (CBOs) for participation in the CPUC decision-making process and to make certain clean energy programs accessible to underserved and underrepresented communities.
- The Equity and Access (E&A) Grant Program was created to implement this legislation.

# The Equity and Access Grant Program

## Grant Accounts

- Public Participation Grant Account
- Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Account
- Clean Energy Access Grant Account

## Program Development

- Community-based organization (CBO) and Tribal organization focus group
- Community stakeholders
- Public comments
- CBO and Tribal grant program webinar
- State agencies and boards
- CPUC divisions

## Funding

- Available for grantmaking until June 30, 2025
- Must be spent by June 30, 2027

# Funding Summary

Funding Account	Maximum Grant Award	Tribal Reserved Funds	General Non-Reserved	Total Available in Account
Public Participation Account	\$15,000	\$300,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,100,000
Equity, Engagement, and Education Account	\$200,000	\$750,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,750,000
Clean Energy Access Account	\$500,000	\$1,950,000	\$13,700,000	\$15,650,000
Program Administration	--	--	--	\$1,500,000
TOTAL	--	--	--	\$30,000,000

# Public Participation Grant Account

# Public Participation Grant Account

- **Total Proposed Funding:** \$3,100,000
- **Tribal Reserve\*:** \$300,000
- **Funding Cap Per Organization:** \$15,000
- **Application and Funding Cycle:** Rolling, beginning summer 2023

\*Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds.

## Public Participation Grant Account

- Awards grants up to \$15,000 for an eligible entity to participate in defined and discrete activities. e.g. speaking on a workshop panel, service on working group or participation in other decision-making processes.
- Grant account cap per organization of \$15,000 will ensure a proportional distribution of funds over time and across various organizations.
- Prompt grant payments will be dispersed after completion of project activities identified in approved application.
- Organizations that have previously applied to or received Intervenor Compensation are eligible to apply, as long as the Intervenor Compensation award was not denied due to lack of financial hardship.

# Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Account



# Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Account

- **Total Proposed Funding:** \$9,750,000
- **Tribal Reserve\*:** \$750,000
- **Per Application Maximum Award:** \$200,000
- **Application and Funding Cycle:**
  - 1st cycle applications available September 8, 2023
  - 2nd cycle applications available spring 2024

\*Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds.

## Equity, Engagement and Education Account

- Awards grants up to \$200,000 for the purposes of building CBO, Tribal, and community capacity to understand and engage with CPUC decision-making processes.
- Activities in this category may include:
  - Community engagement and outreach related to CPUC proceedings.
  - Hiring consultants and staff for activities necessary for active participation in decision-making processes at the CPUC.
  - Education, training, and curriculum development regarding CPUC processes, proceedings, and programs.
  - Partnership and coalition development to bring greater awareness of CPUC matters to disadvantaged communities.

# Clean Energy Access Grant Account

# Clean Energy Access Grant Account

- **Total Proposed Funding:** \$13,700,000
- **Tribal Reserve\*:** \$1,950,000
- **Per Application Maximum Award:** \$500,000
- **Application and Funding Cycle:**
  - 1st cycle applications available late 2023 or early 2024
  - 2nd cycle applications available Summer 2024

\*Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds.

# Clean Energy Access Grant Account

- Awards grants up to \$500,000 to develop clean energy access opportunities that complement the Microgrid Incentive Program (MIP), Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) and Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating Initiative (TECH).
- Examples of potential projects include:
  - Conducting community outreach to gather necessary information for a microgrid project through the MIP.
  - Hiring technical assistance to support procuring a developer for a clean energy project through MIP or to support the uptake of SGIP incentives in targeted communities.
  - Developing pathways to use TECH program to achieve building decarbonization in disadvantaged communities.
- This grant account will not fund infrastructure buildouts, such as hardware or equipment, but will help facilitate the planning of projects.
- Clean Energy Access Grant Account eligible projects must be in an area served by an investor-owned utility.

## Clean Energy Grant Account Technical Support

- A clean energy subject matter expert (SME) will be available to Tribes and CBOs for application support and questions about CPUC's clean energy programs.
- The SME will provide technical assistance based on the needs of the Tribe's or CBO's community.

## Eligible Applicants

- **TYPE 1:** California tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- **TYPE 2:** Federally and non-Federally recognized Tribes, as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21073. PRC Section 21073 defines a California Native American Tribe as a Native American Tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.
- **TYPE 3:** Tribal entities, including organizations incorporated under Tribal law and wholly owned by the Tribe, Tribal Section 17 Corporations, and Tribal utilities and authorities operated under Tribal law.

# Key Program Milestones

Milestone	Date (Tentative)
Public Grant Application Webinar	August 9, 2023
Public Participation and Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Applications Open	September 8, 2023
Clean Energy Access Grant Applications Open	Late 2023 /Early 2024

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants)



**Thank you!**



# California Public Utilities Commission

**Questions? [Capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov)**

**[www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants)**

# Regular Agenda | Orders and Resolutions

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### SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no safety considerations associated with this resolution.

### ESTIMATED COST:

- \$30 million from state General Fund; no ratepayer funds will be used.

# Management Reports



**Item #28 [21706] –**

## **Management Reports and Resolutions**

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# Commissioner's Reports



President  
Alice Busching Reynolds



Commissioner  
Genevieve Shiroma



Commissioner  
Darcie L. Houck



Commissioner  
John Reynolds



Commissioner  
Karen Douglas

The CPUC thanks you for participating in today's meeting

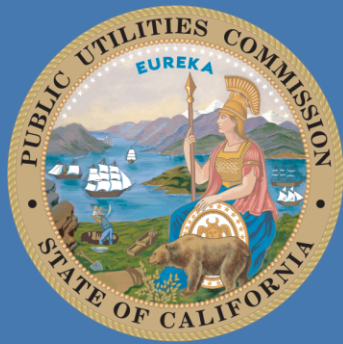
The next Public Meeting will be:

**August 10, 2023**

**11:00 a.m.**

**San Francisco**





# California Public Utilities Commission

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