

Networking















Networking Icebreakers

- What's your biggest challenge when it comes to reducing waste at home?
- What's the one item you find yourself throwing away the most often?



SoCalREN Advisory Committee Meeting

March 6th, 2025 10:30 am - 2:30 pm















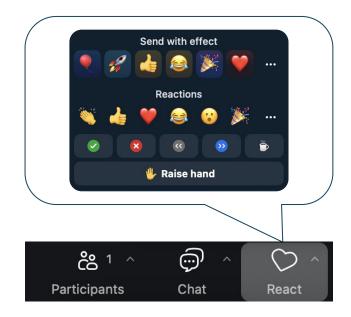
Administration

- This meeting is being recorded
- Please keep microphone muted unless you want to speak
- If you are experiencing any technical issues during the webinar, please contact Amanda Hassan at ahassan@energycoalition.org
- Additional tech support for this meeting:

Vanida Tran, vtran@energycoalition.org
Tiffany Vittetoe, tvittetoe@energycoalition.org

Directions for Chat

- We will be having an open discussion throughout the meeting!
- If you would like to ask your question verbally click on the "raise hand" function.
- If you would like to stay muted, send us your question or comment through the chat!



Who is Participating Today?

Advisory Committee Members



































Invited Guests







SoCalREN Staff, Implementers & Regional Partners



















SoCalREN Advisory Committee



Guide and Advise



Collaborate and Innovate



Be Informed



Be an Advocate

Agenda

Networking	All	30 min
Welcome	Minh Le & Tara Tisopulos	10 min
Regulatory Updates	Fernanda Craig	10 min
Equitable Building Decarbonization Program	Frederick Chung	20 min
SoCalREN 2025 Programs Update	Sulma Hernandez	20 min
Lunch	All	30 min
Policy Update	Tessa Charnofsky	50 min
Closing Remarks	Laurel Rothschild	10 min
Adjourn	All	
OPTIONAL: Tour of Landfill	All	60 min

8



SoCalREN Welcome

Minh Le, County of Los Angeles

















County of Orange Welcome

Tara Tisopulos, County of Orange

















Regulatory Updates

Fernanda Craig, County of Los Angeles















Agenda

- Overview of Mid-Cycle Advice Letter
 - Purpose
 - Advice Letter Required Elements
 - Deadline
- Community Engagement Indicators Decision Prompt
- Community Engagement Workplan
- CAEECC Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Community Panel

Mid-Cycle Advice Letter Overview

Purpose:

 Adjusting technical inputs, forecasts, and portfolio to account for the changes in energy efficiency potential and goals.

Advice Letter Required Elements:

- Program Closure
- New Programs
- Community Engagement Indicators
- Updated cost effectiveness inputs and portfolio summaries
- Specific descriptions of how PAs have incorporated or otherwise addressed impact evaluation recommendations for specific Commission studies released after 2022- ED to decide which studies must be included.

Deadline: September 1st, 2025

Community Engagement Indicators Decision Prompt

(OP24) Portfolio administrators shall develop indicators to measure community engagement and should include them in their Mid-Cycle advice letters in 2025. After the advice letters are addressed by the Commission, the portfolio administrators shall report on the adopted community engagement indicators in their annual reports.

(7.8) With this guidance in mind, and once recommendations are developed through the CAEECC metrics working group, we will require that the PAs include agreed-upon community engagement indicators in their mid-cycle advice letters due September 1, 2025. Indicators which received widespread support but may not have reached consensus should also be reflected in the advice letters. Thereafter, the administrators should report on each of the agreed upon indicators in their annual reports

Community Engagement Workplan

"The indicators should be designed by engaging ESJ communities and CBOs directly." (Decision 23-06-055, 7.8-3, p68)

Purpose

- Based on the decision language above, SoCalREN understands that the development of community engagement indicators should involve a collaborative process where Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) communities, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and stakeholders are directly engaged.
- This ensures that the indicators are not only relevant and meaningful but also reflective of the unique needs, challenges, and priorities of the communities being served. By involving these stakeholders from the outset, we can ensure that the indicators effectively capture the impact of energy efficiency programs, are culturally and contextually appropriate, and promote long-term, sustainable engagement.
- Additionally, this process fosters a sense of ownership and accountability, empowering CBOs and community members to actively participate in shaping the indicators that will ultimately guide program success.

ESJ Community Panel

Background:

- In November 2024, the CAEECC facilitation team proposed and sought approval to host a ESJ Panel to share the Panel's experiences with Equity segment program implementation and outreach at a CAEECC Meeting.
- In February, the Panel was rescheduled to create space for SoCal/LA Panelist.

Purpose:

To hear perspectives of community engagement and outreach for energy (efficiency) programs. PAs can take these insights to develop outreach processes/indicators for Mid-Cycle Advice Letters.

Invitation:

Facilitation team is inviting organizations with experience in equity program implementation, community-based outreach, and small-to-medium business experience in the energy space.

When: 4/9/25 @ 1:30pm, 90minutes

Meeting link: https://www.caeecc.org/4-9-25-ee-community-engagementpanel



Questions?

















Equitable Building Decarbonization Program

Frederick Chung, County of Los Angeles















CEC Equitable Building Decarbonization Direct Install Program

Southern California Coalition

SoCalREN Advisory Committee Meeting March 6, 2025





Program Overview

- CEC & LAC executed 5-year term Equitable Building Decarbonization (EBD) Agreement December 2024 with a total award of \$328,977,740.
- The EBD Statewide Direct Install (DI)
 Program will provide building decarbonization upgrades for low-income and moderate-income households in single-family, multifamily, and manufactured homes in under-resourced communities.
- The program is being administered separately in Northern, Central, and Southern California. LA County leads a coalition of Community Partners to deliver the EBD DI Program in the Southern Region.



Regional Outreach & Engagement



LA GATEWAY CITIES

- CPA. SoCalREN
- GCCOG, PSR-LA, ECH, SAJE, CHP. GRID Alternatives, ECC, TEC
- IBEW, LAC WIB, Slauson Occ. Center, YouthBuild

LA SGV & SFV

- CPA, SoCalREN
- SGVCOG, PSR-LA, ECH, SAJE, Day One, The Niles Foundation, Pacoima Beautiful, CHP, GRID Alternatives, ECC, TEC
- IBEW, SGV Worx, LA County WIB, SoCalREN WE&T. WINTER

LA PORTS & SOUTH BAY

- CPA, SoCalREN
- SBCOG, PSR-LA, ECH, SAJE, LAANE, CHP SELA Collaborative, Long Beach Foward HELP, The Niles Foundation, ECC, TEC, The House of Yahweh, GRID Alternatives
- South Bay WIB, LAC WIB

ORANGE

- OCPA, SoCalREN
- CHP, CAC, ECC, TEC **GRID Alternatives**
- SoCalREN WE&T. IBEW

NORTH SAN DIEGO

- CEA, SDCP, SDREN
- SDUSC, CAC, CHP, ECC, GRID Alternatives, TEC SoCal Tribal Chairmen's Assoc
- SDWIB, IBEW

CalChoice, I-REN

IE SAN BERNARDINO

- SBCOG, CHP, ECC, GRID Alternatives. TEC, SoCal Tribal Chairmen's Assoc.
- SBC Workforce Dev. Board, IBEW

IE RIVERSIDE

- CalChoice, I-REN
- WRCOG, CHP, ECC, TEC. GRID Alternatives. SoCal Tribal Chairmen's Assoc.
- Riverside Co. Workforce Dev. Board, IBEW

IMPERIAL

- IID. SoCalREN
- CHP, GRID Alternatives, ECC, TEC. SoCal Tribal Chairmen's Assoc.
- Imperial Workforce Board, Imperial Valley College, IBEW

SoCal Tribal Chairmen's Assoc. SDWIB, IBEW

SOUTH SAN DIEGO

SDUSC, CHP, ECC.

GRID Alternatives, TEC

SDCP, SDREN







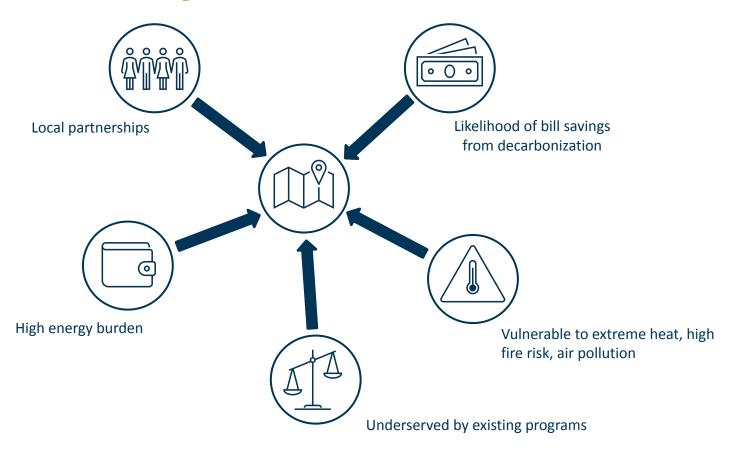


Initial Community Focus Area Criteria

Identified communities with high pollution, economic disadvantage, and climate vulnerability using data from CalEnviroScreen 4.0, CA Justice40, and FEMA Flood Maps.

Data Type	Feature(s)	Source
Demographic and Economic	 Housing costs Household income at or below poverty level Households making less than 80% of area median family income Low employment and unemployment Linguistic isolation (share of households where no one over age 14 speaks English) 	CalEnviroScreen 4.0
Environmental	Lack of green space	CA Justice40
Hazards Exposure and Risk	 PM 2.5 in air level of inhalable particles Diesel particulate matter exposure Proximity to hazardous waste facilities Proximity to Superfund Sites Proximity to Risk Management Plan Facilities Projected flood risk Wildfire threat Wastewater discharge modeled toxicity Urban heat island 	 CA Justice40 CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Cal Fire Hazard Severity FEMA Flood Maps NASA TAIR

Initial Community Focus Area Criteria



26 Community Partner Agreements in Review



California Choice Energy Authority (CalChoice)

California Housing Partnership Corporation (CHPC)

Clean Energy Alliance (CEA)

Clean Power Alliance (CPA)

Climate Action Campaign (CAC)

Day One

Esperanza Community Housing (ECH)

Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG)

GRID Alternatives

Healthcare and Elder Law Programs Corporation (HELP)

Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)

Orange County Power Authority (OCPA)

Pacoima Beautiful

Physicians for Social Responsibility LA (PSR-LA)

San Diego Community Power (SDCP)

San Diego Urban Sustainability Coalition (SDUSC)

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG)

South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCOG)

Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Collaborative

Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)

The House of Yahweh

The Niles Foundation

Tribal Energy and Climate Collaborative (TECC); a program of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, Inc. (SCTCA

Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) - Inland

Regional Energy Network (IREN)

Long Beach Forward

Eligible Measures

Heating and Cooling

- Heat pump
- Duct testing/sealing
- Smart thermostat
- Ceiling fan, whole-house fan

Building Envelope

- Insulation
- Air sealing
- Solar window film

Water Heating

- Heat pump water heater
- Low-flow showerheads and faucets

Cooking, Laundry

- Induction range or cooktop
- Electric clothes dryer

Air Quality, Lighting

- Air filtration
- LED lights

Electrical and Remediation

- Electrical wiring and panel upgrades
- Remediation and safety

Program Impact

Over 12,000 homes are expected to benefit from the program

- Single-Family
- Multifamily
- Manufactured/ Mobile



Contacts

County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department (ISD) Office of Energy & Environmental Service (EES)

Lujuana Medina

Environmental Initiatives Division Manager (323) 881-3971 LMedina@isd.lacounty.gov

Frederick Chung

LA County EBD Program Manager (562)659-6244 fchung@isd.lacounty.gov



SoCalREN 2025 Program Updates

Sulma Hernandez, County of Los Angeles

















The Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) was created to harness the collective power of residents, businesses and the public sector to achieve an unprecedented level of energy savings across Southern California.











Public Agencies

Residential

Workforce Education and Training

Finance







Agriculture







The SoCalREN Public Agency Programs are administered by the County of Los Angeles and funded by California utility ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Learn more at <u>socalren.org</u>.

Link to Business Plan

Existing SoCalREN Programs

Public	Residential	Workforce Education & Training	Finance
 Pathway to Zero 	Multifamily Programs	 Future Green Leaders Summit 	Revolving Savings Fund
Project Delivery Program	Kits for Kids Program	• ACES	
Streamlined Savings Pathway	 Hard-to-Reach Direct Install 	Green Path Careers	
Metered Savings Program*Closing Q1 2025		E-contractorProgram	

Key Updates to Existing Public Sector Programs

- The Metered Savings Program has closed to new projects and performance-based incentives (NMEC) will now be available through the Streamlined Savings Pathway.
- Pathway to Zero will be updated to help public agencies access the Direct Pay option for clean energy tax credits.
- Upon CPUC approval IDSM Advice Letter approval, the Project Delivery Program will begin offering distributed energy resource (DER) technical assistance.
- We continue to prioritize Regional Reach and ensure equitable distribution of services across SoCalREN's service territory.

Public Sector Programs & Incentives

High Opportunity Project Types

- Interior lighting & controls (to achieve 10% savings at the meter or more)
- Sports lighting
- Heat pump water heaters, with the highest incentives for police depts, fire stations, dorms, and facilities with gyms or pools
 - Up to 100% cost coverage
 - Bundle with additional water measures, including pipe insulation, faucet aerators, and low-flow shower heads
- Storage or tankless gas water heaters can be supported if there are barriers to electrification



Incentives will be based on lifecycle energy savings and delivered TSB.

New Public Sector Programs

Program Name	Segment	Objectives	
Rural Hard-to-Reach (HTR) Public Agency Direct Install	Equity	Help agencies located in underserved & hard-to-reach communities achieve no-cost energy and peak demand savings through turnkey services	
Underserved Schools Strategic Energy Management (SEM)	Equity	Engage Title I Schools and support them establish systemic processes that result in meaningful energy impacts (e.g., develop long-term energy goals, complete campus-wide EE retrofits, etc.)	
Water & Wastewater Strategic Energy Management (SEM)	Market Support	Supports agencies with municipally-owned potable water systems and wastewater treatment plants expedite comprehensive peak demand reduction projects	
Water Infrastructure Program	Resource Acquisition	Provides technical assistance and incentives for long-term EE solutions for water production, distribution, and treatment systems.	

Promote and join an upcoming webinar to learn more!

Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) will be hosting a series of public webinars to present services available to public agencies.



Registration links

- Water/wastewater agencies
- School districts & higher education
- Local governments

Key Updates to Residential Sector Programs

- Multifamily: 2025 target of around 74 projects to meet goal
- **Kits for Kids:** Goal of 1000 classrooms (previously 325 classrooms)
 - Growing team to reach new district relationships
 - New Climate Resiliency game launching this month
- Hard-to-Reach Direct Install
 - New program that launched in January
 - Strong regional outreach approach
 - Large interest from Housing Authorities

Key Updates to WE&T Programs

- Future Green Leaders Summit: October 2025
- ACES
 - Spring dual enrollment began in February 2025
 - Academic Support was launched to support students with dual enrollment courses
 - K-8 Curriculum development has begun in collaboration with the LA County Youth Climate Council
- Green Path Careers: Launched the second cohort in February 2025

New Market Sectors & Programs

- Commercial Programs
 - Small & Hard to Reach (HTR) Direct Install
 - Healthy Stores Refrigeration Program
 - Small and Medium Business (SMB) Energy Advisor
- Agriculture
 - Agriculture Project Delivery Program
 - HTR Direct Install
 - Agriculture Retrofit

Other SoCalREN Initiatives

- Community-Based Design Collaborative
- Tribal Program Initiative
- Regional Partner Initiatives Four pilot programs aimed at addressing barriers in their region





Goal: Develop a framework for working with community-based organizations (CBOs) to identify and fund locally-focused energy programs and recommend a scalable community-driven process to develop energy program pilots.

Objectives:

- Facilitate discussions to gather input and insights from CBOs on equitable program design.
- Develop key elements of the framework guidelines such as types and costs of projects.
- Deepen connections between CBOs, public agency stakeholders, and potential funding opportunities.
- Learn from the broader regions served what the energy-related gaps and needs are in the community.

Collaborative Members















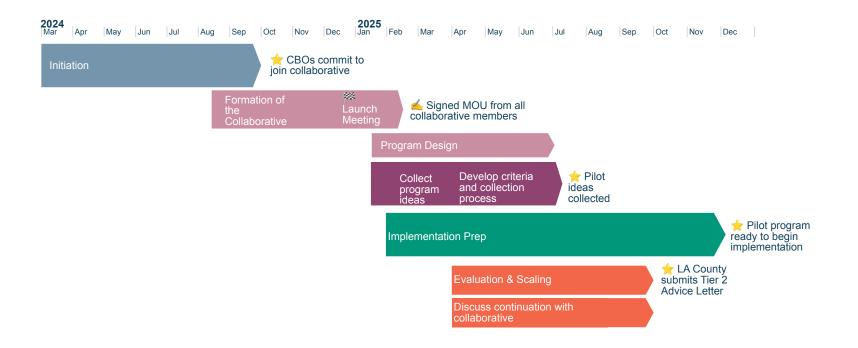






Timeline and Key Milestones





EVen Access Portfolio Updates

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EVEN ACCESS

- Public Power-Up
- Multifamily EV Connect
- Charge4All

Los Angeles County's Charge4All Program

Enjoy the Benefits of EV Chargers

- No-cost EV chargers installed, owned, operated, and maintained for 10 years
- Attract new tenants and retain current tenants
- Increase the value of your property
- Tenants, vendors, and visitors are charged a lower rate than public EV charging

Eligibility

- Multifamily properties with 50 units or more in LA County: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, or Ventura Counties
 - 50% of the properties must be in *disadvantaged communities
 - Preference to be given to multifamily properties with enclosed, secure parking locations



Visit <u>socalevenaccess.org/charge4all</u> for more info!



LUNCH BREAK

Return at 12:20

















Policy Updates: CPUC Response to Executive Order N-5-24 Discussion

Tessa Charnofsky, County of Los Angeles















What was Governor's Executive Order N-5-24?

California Public Utilities Commission

The California Public Utilities Commission is requested to examine the **benefits and costs** to electric ratepayers of **programs** it oversees and rules and orders it has promulgated pursuant to statutory mandates that may be **unduly adding to electric rates**, or whose funding might more **appropriately come from a source other than ratepayers**.

California Energy Commission

The California Energy Commission is directed to examine all electric ratepayer-funded programs it oversees or administers and to identify any programs, and any other regulations that may be unduly adding to rates, for which the electricity system benefits may not be justified by the costs they impose on electric ratepayers, or whose funding might more appropriately come from a source other than ratepayers.

The California Public Utilities
Commission is requested to take
immediate action under existing
authorities to modify or sunset any
underperforming or underutilized
programs or orders whose costs
exceed the value and benefits to
electric ratepayers.

Why are People's Bills Going Up?

Ratepayers' bills are rising because of:

- Wildfire liability, insurance, and risk reduction measures, e.g., undergrounding, tree trimming, etc.
- Infrastructure costs
- Legacy Net Energy Metering programs
- Inequitable rate structures, programs that require energy procurement that is not needed or is not competitively priced,
- Programs that provide bill reductions or discounts to one group of ratepayers, thus leaving other customers with a larger share of overall costs.

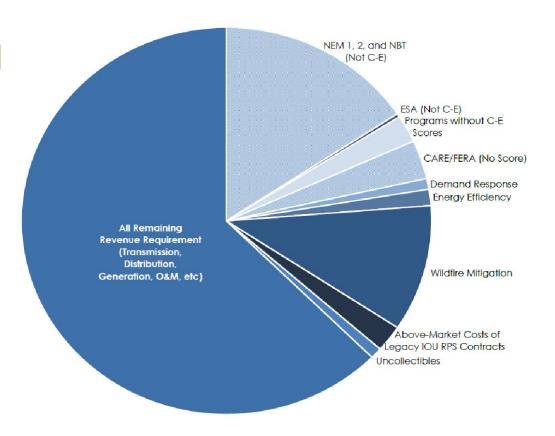
"Socializing investments" helps certain populations that need extra support!

However, costs of these investments are divided among all customers, and bill savings for one customer necessarily increases costs for everyone else.

Background on Utilities

- Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) collect operational costs on a "cost of service" model: IOUs are permitted to collect all the costs of providing electricity service to customers. The IOUs' operations are a straight pass-through of costs.
 Utilities do not earn a profit on these costs.
- Infrastructure substations, transmission, distribution lines, metering infrastructure, and more they earn a return on these investments, known as their "authorized rate of return," or profit. The cost of capital invested by the utility plus a guaranteed rate of return (shareholder profit) are paid back over time by all customers. (When they do expensive things, like undergrounding, they make a profit.)
- In **2023**, the parent of Edison recorded \$1.2 billion in profit a jump of 95% from the year before.

What Does a Ratepayer's Bill Pay For?



Net Energy Metering

Legacy Net Energy Metering (NEM) program costs are pointed to as one of the largest contributors to rising electricity rates for customers that do not have rooftop solar. According to the Public Advocate's Office, the NEM program's and the Net Billing Tariff's (NBT) combined \$8.5 billion cost shift constitutes 21-27% of the average non-participating customer's bill. The NEM cost-shift analysis is hotly disputed by numerous parties.

As fewer customers contribute to direct costs, the rest of customers pay higher rates to compensate.





Fixed Charge

CPUC's adopted monthly flat rate of \$24.15 for those who can pay and \$12 per month for low-income customers.

Threats to Energy Efficiency Program Dollars

- Open an Energy Efficiency Rulemaking
 The CPUC plans to open a new rulemaking
 on energy efficiency in 2025. It will include a
 focus on cost effectiveness.
- Move toward incorporating a greater share of ratepayer costs into State General Fund for holistic review and decision-making.
- Programs that are underutilized and could return funds to ratepayers.



On Cost Effectiveness

- Eliminating programs that are not considered cost effective would...
 "achieve a rate drop of approximately 2.3% starting in 2027 through statutory changes in 2025 that fund programs without cost-effectiveness scores from non-ratepayer sources."
- "However, these programs also provide benefits <u>repealing them</u> <u>entirely would produce ongoing savings significantly lower than</u> <u>2.3%, by also eliminating any benefits they provide.</u>"

How Much Does Energy Efficiency Cost Ratepayers?

- Annual cost: \$810 million
- Reduction in Average Rates if Funded by Non-Ratepayer Funds: 1.5%
- Only 0.26% of the 1.5% is attributable to combined RENs' budgets.
- Message from EE Advocates: For every dollar spent on EE, the total system benefit gives us \$8 dollars.





Wildfire Mitigation Costs

Between 2019 and 2024, IOUs collected approximately \$24 billion from ratepayers to pay for wildfire mitigation costs and insurance premiums.

Undergrounding raises rates the most and takes the longest to implement.

Undergrounding every IOU distribution line in high fire threat areas could cost an estimated **\$92-224 billion**. Undergrounding transmission would be significantly more costly. In contrast, installing **covered conductor** would cost approximately one-fourth as much.

The most effective way to reduce the electricity bill impact is to fund these investments from a source other than ratepayers.

CPUC Recommended Strategies to Save Ratepayers Money Going Forward:

- 1. All energy-related mandates should be assessed for overall **cost-effectiveness** with the goal of achieving the lowest possible rates for all customers of each utility.
- 2. Supplement essential **wildfire mitigation** programs and extreme weather-related catastrophic event response costs **with other sources of funding**.
- 3. Identify cost-reduction measures by **integrating wildfire mitigation strategies into the existing General Rate Case process**.
- 4. Equitable rate structures: Refine the elements of **Net Energy Metering** so that all customers share wildfire mitigation, public purpose programs and system costs.
- 5. Redistribute the Climate Credit to customers most impacted by increasing electricity costs.
- 6. Fund today's and **future** cost-shifting programs from **non-ratepayer sources**.
- 7. Ensure that programs **benefitting** all electric customers are **supported by all customers**, including customers of **publicly-owned utilities**.

Quick Summary of CEC Report:



- California's energy efficiency programs are working. The residential electricity consumption between 2009 and 2019 increased by only 2 percent despite the population growing by 7 percent (which would be expected to cause a matching 7 percent growth in energy demand, all else being equal) as well as a major increase in consumer electronics and air conditioner saturation.
- The CEC found California's **efficiency programs are highly cost-effective to ratepayers** and have long been key to achieving affordable bills and meeting the state's energy and environmental goals
- The CEC recommends retaining the ratepayer supported programs that directly contribute to
 these foundational efforts, in particular the CPUC-overseen and IOU-managed Statewide
 Codes & Standards Program. However, the Legislature should consider if the costs of this
 foundational program should be borne more broadly by electric and gas ratepayers
 across all of California, given the statewide customer benefits these programs provide.

Discussion Questions

What is your perception of the risks to energy efficiency program dollars?

What do you see as potential solutions?



Legislation, FYI

SB 684, the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act (Menjivar, Addis)

Bill would levy a fee on the largest climate polluters, creating funds that in some cases that could sub in for money now collected in electric bills.

SB 332, the Investor-Owned Utility Accountability Act (Wahab)

Bill would limit annual rate hikes for Edison, PG&E and SDG&E residential customers to no more than a measure of inflation. The bill would also require utility shareholders to cover 95% of future payments to California's \$21-billion wildfire fund, which is designed to help keep utilities out of bankruptcy if their power lines ignite costly wildfires. Ratepayers now cover 50% of those payments.



Closing Remarks

Laurel Rothschild, County of Los Angeles















2025 Meeting Schedule



Date	Time
Q1 - March 6th	In-person - Irvine 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Q2 - Proposed change June 9th	Virtual 10:30 am - 12 pm
Q3 - September 10th	In-person or virtual 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Q4 - December 3rd	Virtual 10:30 am - 12 pm

SoCalREN Podcast & Social



Don't forget to listen to SoCalREN's podcast and follow us on social media!











 SoCalREN's twenty-first podcast episode, The Urban Heat Island Effect, was recently released and ReEnergizing Communities has been rebranded into

 Currently available on <u>Spotify</u> and <u>Apple Podcasts</u> platforms.

Hi, Energy!

@SoCalREN

Southern California Regional Energy Network

@_SoCalREN

@ SoCalREN

Online Resource for Advisory Committee Members



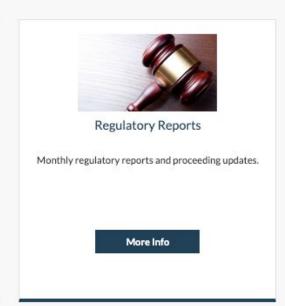
Advisory Committee



Working Group Updates

As needed documents such as operating structure, meeting minutes and opportunity trackers.

More Info







Adjourn













