

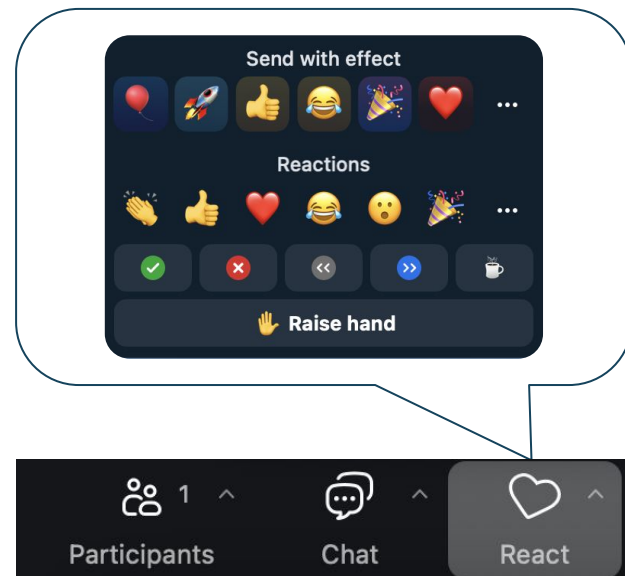
SoCalREN Advisory Committee Meeting

December 3rd, 2025
10:30 am - 12:00 pm



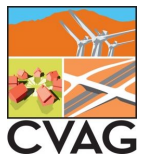
Administration

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please keep microphone muted unless you want to speak.
- 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



SOUTH BAY CITIES
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



Invited Guests



CalChoice

SoCalREN Staff, Implementers & Regional Partners



GROUND



SoCalREN Advisory Committee



Guide and Advise



Collaborate and Innovate



Be Informed



Be an Advocate

Agenda

Welcome	Minh Le	10 min
Policy Updates	Tessa Charnofsky	10 min
Regulatory Updates	Lujuana Medina	10 min
New SoCalREN Community-based Programs	Audrey Bragg	25 min
Tribal Engagement in High Sierra	Pam Bold	10 min
SoCalREN 2028 - 2035 Business Plan Updates	Lujuana Medina	25 min
Closing Remarks	Lujuana Medina	5 min
Adjourn	All	

SoCalIREN Welcome

Minh Le, County of Los Angeles



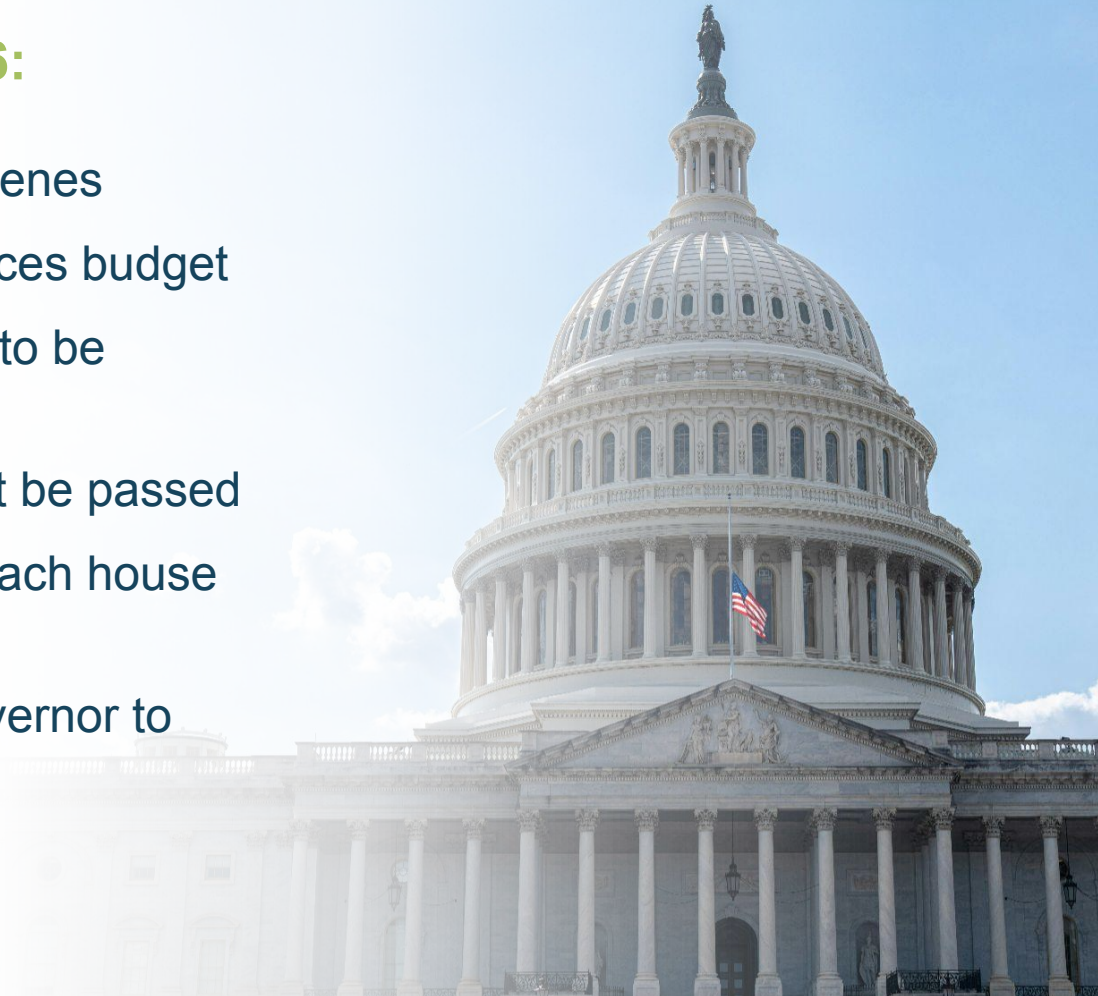
Policy Updates

Tessa Charnofsky, County of Los Angeles



Legislative Calendar, 2026:

- Jan 5—Legislature reconvenes
- Jan 10—Governor introduces budget
- Feb 20—Last day for bills to be introduced
- June 15—Budget Bill must be passed
- August 31—Last day for each house to pass bills
- Sept 30—Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills



Recap Energy Bills This Year:

AB 1207 - Extends Cap and Invest (trade) through 2045.

AB 825 - Creates a regional Western energy trading market.

SB 254 - Replenishes the state's wildfire fund for utilities and make changes to how utilities finance transmission and wildfire prevention.

- \$18 billion replenishment, to be shared equally between utility customers and shareholders.
- Prevents IOUs from earning a rate of return on the first \$6 billion they spend on wildfire prevention upgrades.
- Bolsters requirements for IOUs to seek the most cost-effective ways to avoid sparking wildfires.
- Creates low-interest state loans to cover the construction of new transmission lines.

AB 39 (Zbur)-Local Electrification Planning Act

Requires cities and counties to develop comprehensive local electrification plans that expand electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and decarbonize homes and buildings—prioritizing low-income families and small businesses.



State Legislators We Met With In 2025

- Asm Steve Bennet
- Asm Mark Gonzalez
- Asm Cottie Petrie Norris
- Asm Nick Shultz
- Asm Pilar Schiavo
- Asm Jacqui Irwin
- Sen Ben Allen
- Sen Monique Limon (Leg Director)
- Sen Susan Rubio (District Director/Leg staff)
- Asm John Harabedian (Leg staff)
- Sen Maria Elena Durazo (Dec 4)

Scheduled/In Progress:

- Asm Sade Edhawary (Jan 30)
- Asm Rick Zbur (staff) (Jan 6)
- Asm Robert Garcia (TBD)

Attending/Speaking at Events:

Future Green Leaders Summit

- Sen Eloise Gómez Reyes (District Director)

Regional Workforce Alliance (RWA)

- Asm Cottie Petrie Norris' (District Director)
- Sen Melissa Hurtado (District Director)
- Asm Nick Shultz speaking at next RWA

Legislative Goals for 2026

Energy Efficiency

- Legislation that reduces utility ratepayer costs without targeting energy efficiency funding.
- Rate structure that reduces costs for buildings that use energy efficient equipment, such as heat pumps.

Data Centers

- Require Data Center energy load to be self-generated or financially subsidized by the company if increased transmission/distribution is needed so as not to increase rates for consumers.
- Require data centers to offset their burden on ratepayers by subsidizing energy efficiency programming.



Thank you!

Questions?

Tessa Charnofsky
tcharnofsky@isd.lacounty.gov



Regulatory Updates

Lujana Medina, County of Los Angeles



SDG&E Application to Withdraw

What is SDG&E Requesting?

- SDG&E is requesting to **cease its role as an EE Program Administrator and close its own regional EE programs**, reducing its budget by \$300 million.
- It requests that associated **funding be redirected** to support existing statewide EE programs and the San Diego Regional Energy Network (SDREN).
- SDG&E wishes to transition to a “**fiscal agent**” for statewide programs, relinquishing all regional program design and management duties to other entities (e.g., SDREN).

What is SDG&E's Rationale for Withdrawal?

- SDG&E argues in its Application that state law does not require the utility to *administer* programs—only to *procure* EE savings.
- They argue the current landscape is too crowded with programs that are often not cost-effective or lack efficiencies.
- The application states that reducing the EE budget will achieve bill savings for customers (ranging from ~\$1.50/yr for residential customers to ~\$750/yr for large C&I).

Recent ALJ Actions

- The initial Ruling and Scoping Memo issued in August recognized the precedent-setting nature of SDG&E's request and set a two-phase process to review the application, with an interim Legal Decision first.
- On November 3, ALJs Fitch and Kao issued a Ruling Amending Schedule, significantly changing the procedural plan laid out in the original August 8 Scoping Memo.
- The process will now be consolidated into a single phase, with parties providing testimony on policy and factual issues prior to the development of a comprehensive proposed decision.

Procedural Timeline

Item	Date
Opening Testimony	January 15, 2026
Rebuttal Testimony	February 18, 2026
Meet and Confer Session	March 4, 2026
Deadline for Evidentiary Hearing Motion	March 11, 2026
ALJ Ruling on Hearings	March 25, 2026
SCENARIO: NO HEARINGS	
Reply Briefs	April 30, 2026
Proposed Decision Published	June 2026
Decision Voted (Commission Agenda)	July 2026
SCENARIO: HEARINGS	
Evidentiary Hearings Held	April 14-15, 2026
Reply Briefs	May 25, 2026
Proposed Decision Published	July 2026
Decision Voted (Commission Agenda)	August 2026

New SoCalREN Community-based Programs

Audrey Bragg, County of Los Angeles



Agenda



1. Community-Based Design Collaborative
 - a. Program overview
 - b. Submitted 2025 cohort initiatives
 - c. Next steps
2. Tribal Community Resiliency Program
 - a. Program overview
 - b. Meeting framework
 - c. Next steps

Proposed Community-Based Design Collaborative (CBDC)



Framework Direction

“Because of their nature of being more locally-focused, we expect that RENS are uniquely positioned to make progress on this issue.

Therefore, we will direct one of our original RENS, SoCalREN, to establish a Community-Based Design Collaborative (Collaborative) to recommend, via a Tier 2 advice letter, a process for funding community programs and to pilot the approach in 2026 and 2027 for potential rollout in the future as a statewide initiative.”

Initiative Direction

“SoCalREN should plan to launch a community-designed pilot program by the end of 2025 for implementation in 2026 and 2027, using an additional \$1.5 million that we will add in this decision to SoCalREN’s proposed budget, in the market support segment. SoCalREN shall submit, using the existing process for program changes, a Tier 2 advice letter for the community-designed programs selected for funding through the pilot.”

Pursuant to CPUC Decision (D.) 23-06-055

SoCalREN Alignment with the Collaborative



Mission

SoCalREN is developing an opportunity to make the transition to a clean energy future a more collaborative process!

Problem statement:

Historically, energy programs have been designed with limited customization, often overlooking the unique needs of California's diverse regions.

End goal:

Develop more impactful programs that directly reflect and address the priorities of communities, shaped by community input and lived experience.

Program Overview

CBDC offers an equity-centered engagement process to support community based organizations in developing initiatives aligned with local priorities within CPUC funding boundaries.

The process includes:

- Collaborative planning
- Capacity building
- Tailored initiatives



Collaborative Initiative Objectives

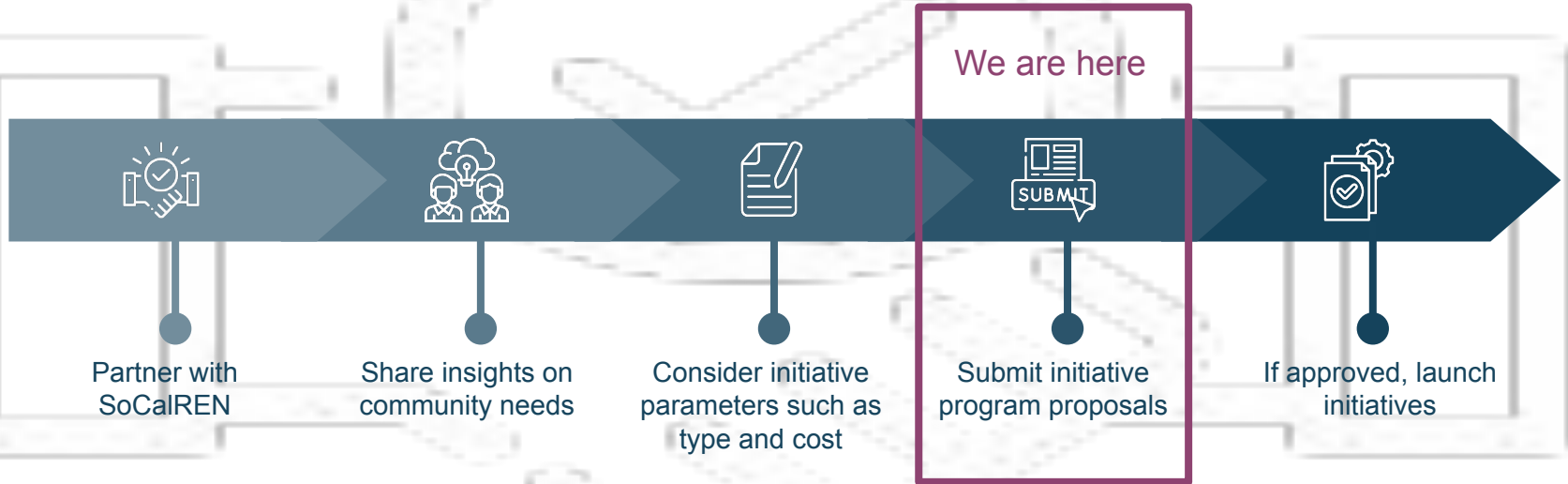
Our goal: a consistent framework for evaluating proposed initiatives and ensuring that funded programs advance equity, accessibility, and measurable community benefits across SoCalREN's territory.

Objectives:

- Increase accessibility of program services
- Deliver equitable benefits to priority populations
- Support youth engagement and workforce development
- Conduct intentional and targeted outreach
- Achieve energy and bill savings where applicable
- Improve awareness and adoption of energy-efficient technologies
- Facilitate weatherization and home efficiency improvements

Key Milestones of the Collaborative

SoCalREN developed a framework to work with community based organizations to identify and fund locally-focused energy program initiatives.



Initiative Application Process

Application requirements

- Activities, goals, and barriers addressed
- Geographic area and target customers
- Organization experience implementing programs
- Proposed methodology for tracking impacts
- Budget breakdown

Facilitators offered feedback to strengthen applications and worked to reduce administrative barriers in the process.

Proposed Initiatives at a Glance

Declined



High Desert Energy
Exchange (HDEE)

Criteria Met:

1,2,3

Budget:

\$100,000

Education and
Outreach



Central California
Asthma Collaborative

Climate Solutions
Navigator (CSN)

Criteria Met:

1,2

Budget:

\$807,500:

Education and
Outreach



Energy Efficiency
Community
Education (EECE)

Criteria Met:

1,2,3

Budget:

\$180,000

Education and
Outreach



ACTIVESGV

EmpowerRent

Criteria Met:

1,2

Budget:

\$250,000

Direct Support and
Upgrades



Pathway to Efficiency
(PtE)

Criteria Met:

1,2

Direct Support and
Upgrades

Total Proposed Budget: \$1,337,500
Anticipated launch in June 2026

Geographic Reach of Proposed Initiatives and Program Goals



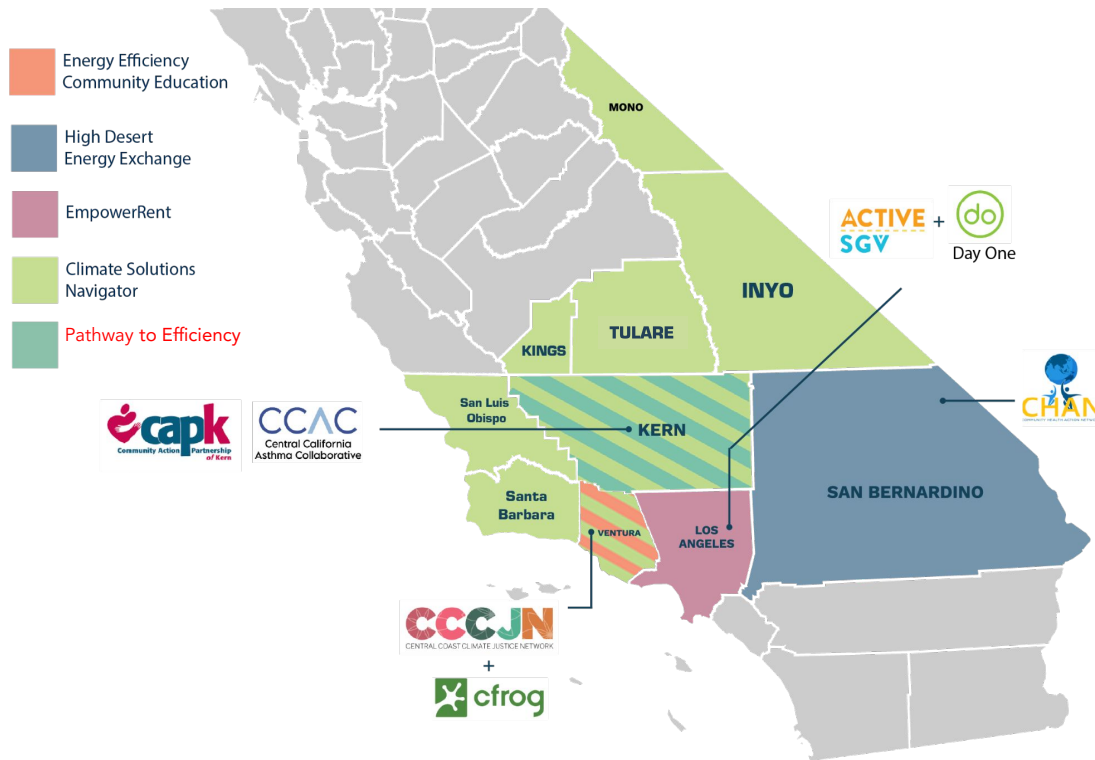
**Goal 1: Accessible
program services**



**Goal 2: Equitable
benefits**



**Goal 3: Youth
engagement and
workforce development**



Next Steps

Completed:

- Notify the correct service list(s) about their plan and date to host a webinar to launch new programs
- Host a public webinar

Next Steps:

- Programs approval advice letter (Tier 2) is filed
- CPUC approval
 - Estimate 25 - 120 days
- Upload Implementation Plan (IP) in CEDARS
 - Within 60 days of the approval of the advice letter
- Launch program

Proposed Tribal Community Resiliency Program (TCRP)



Tribal Community Resiliency Program (TCRP)

SoCalREN's Tribal Community Resiliency Program will be filed in a Tier 2 Advice Letter asking to authorize \$1.5M of existing funding.

TCRP offers a flexible engagement process to support Tribes in developing initiatives aligned with local priorities within CPUC funding boundaries.

The process includes:

- Collaborative planning
- Capacity building
- Tailored initiatives



Tribal Community Resiliency Program (TCRP)

Framework Overview

- The TCRP framework is structured around **five engagement meetings** to support understanding of energy gaps and priorities and assistance in developing initiatives for funding.
- Each meeting is paired with a **stipend** to support staff participation and ensure equitable engagement.
- Between meetings, SoCalREN staff and partners will provide technical assistance and one-on-one support.

The five meetings are anticipated to take place over a **3-6 month** period, with flexibility based on each tribe's capacity and readiness.

Framework Meetings

Pre-Meetings	Introduction to SoCalREN Services and Tribal Program
Meeting 1	Collaboration Kickoff
Meeting 2	Energy Efficiency Overview & Initiative Opportunity Identification
Meeting 3	Initiative Refinement & Community Input
Meeting 4	Finalization & Submission Preparation
Meeting 5	Reflection, Feedback, and Future Planning

Implementation Support Options

Option 1: Tribal-Led Implementation: Tribes implement the initiative with their internal staff or communities, supported by SoCalREN technical assistance.

Option 2: SoCalREN-implemented Project: SoCalREN manages and executes the project on behalf of the tribe, in full coordination with designated tribal representatives.

Implementation Support: Regardless of which option is chosen, SoCalREN will provide:

- A dedicated project manager
- Technical support
- Regular progress
- Documentation of outcomes and lessons learned

Next Steps

Completed:

- Notify the correct service list(s) about their plan and date to host a webinar to launch new programs
- Host a public webinar

Next Steps:

- Programs approval advice letter (Tier 2) is filed
- CPUC approval
 - Estimate 25 - 120 days
- Upload IP in CEDARS
 - Within 60 days of the approval of the advice letter
- Initiate program design

Thank you!

Audrey Bragg

Senior Program Manager
County of Los Angeles
ISD, Energy & Environmental Services
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Tribal Engagement in High Sierra

Pam Bold, High Sierra Energy Foundation



Partnership for Tribal Engagement

- The High Sierra Energy Foundation is a nonprofit based in Mammoth Lakes that supports SoCalREN programs as a Regional Partner (e.g., PDP, ERAP, Multifamily/HTRDI)
- Supporting SoCalREN Tribal engagement in Inyo and Mono Counties
- Priority for engagement
 - Bishop Paiute Tribe (Inyo County)
- Working on scope for training on tribal structures and cultural humility.

Understanding Tribe's Energy Priorities

- What energy-related challenges are they facing today?
- What are their priorities for the future?
- Where can support be most useful?
- Where do you currently see gaps in energy programs and services?



What energy support does Bishop Paiute Tribe need?

Bishop Paiute: Gaps & Opportunities

- Gaps and needs discussed
 - Public facility upgrades
 - Residential upgrades – MF Program
 - Education & outreach (stand-alone or combined)
 - ERAP
 - Commercial/Food Sovereignty Program
- Initiative types
- Initiative examples

Throughout this initiative, the HSEF and SoCalREN teams will support the BPT in understanding and complying with CPUC guidelines for the use of Public Purpose Program funds.

Overview of Roles

Bishop Paiute Tribe/HSEF

- Confirm participation and designate a representative to attend remaining meetings
- Provide insights and expertise to guide decision-making and strategy
- Participate approximately Q4, 2025 through Q2, 2026
- Support gathering community feedback through surveys or in-person sessions

SoCaIREN/HSEF

- Facilitate conversations guided through the Framework with flexibility
- Provide content on energy efficiency, program opportunities, and parameters
- Support developing initiative proposals and applications
- Communicate and assist each step of the way

SoCalREN Dedicated Support

Regardless of which initiative implementation option is chosen, SoCalREN will provide:

- A dedicated **project manager** to serve as the tribe's main point of contact.
- **Technical support** throughout the project lifecycle.
- Regular **progress updates**, milestone tracking, and opportunities for **feedback**.
- **Documentation** of outcomes and lessons learned to inform future tribal initiatives.

Thank you!



Pam Bold

Executive Director

High Sierra Energy Foundation

(760)914-3136

bold@highsierraenergy.org



SoCalREN 2028 - 2035 Business Plan Application Updates

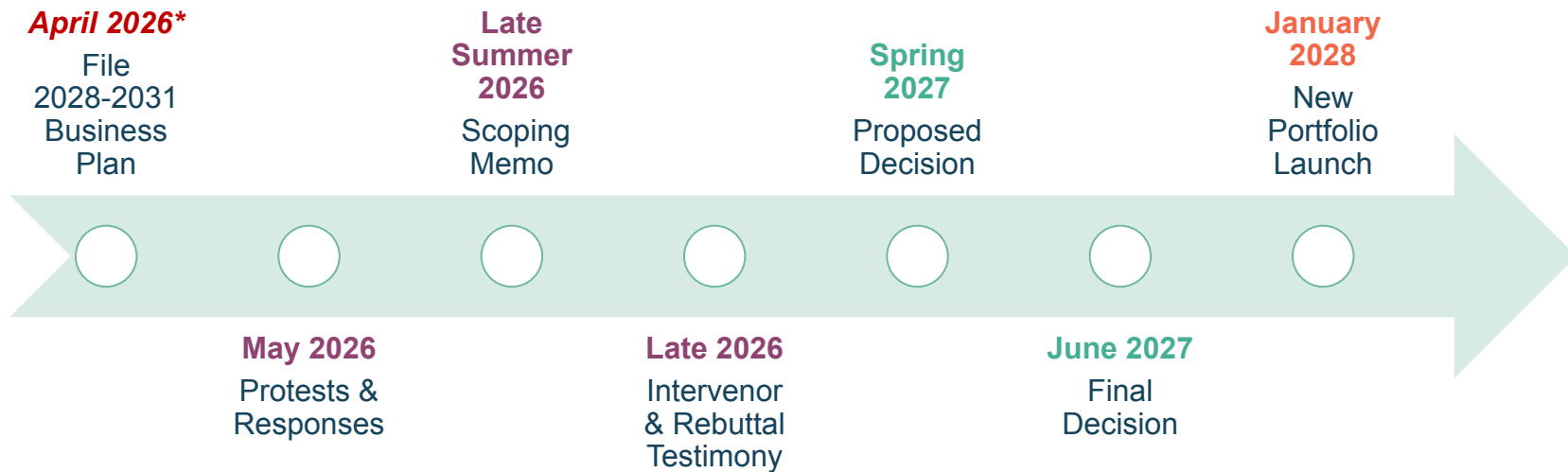
Lujana Medina, County of Los Angeles



Overview of SoCalREN's Policy Recommendations

Focus Area	SoCalREN's Recommendation
Portfolio Based	
REN Accountability Metrics	Revise REN Accountability Metrics to include a Non-Energy Benefit (NEB) metric that quantifies jobs, bill savings, equity, etc. (e.g., Total Community Benefit).
Programmatic	
Fuel Switching	Create CPUC guidance/process for fuel switching to enable electrification in propane-reliant rural areas.
Generators	Incentivize Generators (EE funds/electrification) limited to rural and tribal locations for resilience.
NTG Values	Revise NTG values for Public Sector projects to address current low rates and reduce project barriers.
Remediations	Allow minor remediations (structural, mold) as Market Support to remove participation barriers
Battery Storage	Incentivize as a TSB+ EE measure justified by load shifting and peak demand reduction.
Reporting/Claims	
Electrification TSB	Implement an Admin Adder and remove associated costs to boost TSB for electrification projects.
Fuel Costs	Use CEC forecasts instead of IOU projections for fuel costs to align with state-level data.
CPUC Processes	Increased expediency and transparency regarding custom projects, measure package updates, etc.

Timeline



Timeline (Details)

Date	Activity	Details
Ongoing	Program Feedback	Provide feedback on regional needs to SoCalREN staff to inform program design updates.
March 2026	Filing of the 2028–2031 EE Portfolio	SoCalREN files the Business Plan for the second 4-year funding phase. This is a high-impact opportunity to shape goals and strategies for 2028 and beyond.
April 2026	Protests and Responses	Stakeholders (e.g., Public Advocates Office, TURN) file formal Protests challenging specific parts of the plan.
Summer 2026	Scoping Memo	CPUC releases a memo deciding which issues are "in scope" and the official schedule.
Late 2026	Intervenor and Rebuttal Testimony	Opposing parties submit detailed testimony arguing for cuts or changes. SoCalREN submits Rebuttal Testimony to counter their arguments with data/evidence.
Spring 2027	Proposed Decision	The Administrative Law Judge releases a draft decision. Final chance to submit comments supporting SoCalREN before the vote.
June 2027	Final Decision	CPUC Commissioners vote to approve the budget and portfolio. This sets the official rules for the 2028–2031 cycle.
January 2028	New Portfolio Launch	The 2028–2031 programs officially begin implementation.

Closing Remarks

Lujuana Medina, County of Los Angeles



2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule



Date	Time
Q1 - Wed March 25th, 2026	In-person - Location TBD 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Q2 - Wed June 30th, 2026	Virtual 10:30 am - 12 pm
Q3 - September 30th, 2026	In-person - Location TBD 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Q4 - December 9th, 2026	Virtual 10:30 am - 12 pm

**Please take 2 minutes to fill out our
meeting survey!**

SoCalREN Podcast, Social, and Events

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



- SoCalREN's thirtieth podcast episode, Achieving Environmental Goals Through Community Engagement, was recently released.
- Currently available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#) platforms.



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Regional Energy
Network](#)



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Look out for SoCalREN's event participation in 2026!

Feel free to share any local events we can attend

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](#)



Regulatory Reports

Monthly regulatory reports and proceeding updates.

[More Info](#)



Advisory Committee Meeting Materials

Quarterly meeting materials such as agendas, minutes, presentations and other supporting documents.

[More Info](#)

Adjourn

