



California Public Utilities Commission

Legislative Update – Office of Governmental Affairs

*Bills that **Passed the Legislature** and are of Interest
to the Low Income Oversight Board
Meeting – Wednesday, September
27th, 2017*

1. Assembly Bill 523 (Reyes): Electric Program Investment Charge: Allocation

This bill would require the California Energy Commission (CEC) to allocate at least 25 percent of the funding from the technology demonstration and deployment portion of the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) program to projects at sites located in, or and benefiting, disadvantaged communities. The bill would require the CEC to allocate at least an additional 10 percent of the funding from the technology demonstration and deployment portion the EPIC program at sites located in, or and benefiting, low- income communities, as defined. The bill would also require the CEC to generally give preference for funding to clean energy projects under the EPIC program that benefit residents of low-income or disadvantaged communities.

2. Assembly Bill 797 (Irwin): Solar Thermal Systems

This bill would modify the Solar Thermal Water Heating program to, among other things, promote the installation of solar thermal systems throughout the state, and reserve 50 percent of the remaining total program budget for the installation of these systems in low-income residential housing or in buildings in disadvantaged communities. Furthermore, this bill would require an assessment of the cost- effectiveness of the entire program through July 31, 2019, to be completed by December 31, 2019, and extend the operation of the program through July 31, 2020. Finally, this bill authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to target program incentives for the deployment of solar thermal system toward communities in the San Joaquin Valley that lack access to natural gas service but are being considered to receive such service.

3. Assembly Bill 1082 (Burke): Transportation Electrification: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure: Schools and Educational Institutions

This bill would require large electrical corporations (i.e. electric investor owned utilities) to file with the CPUC, by July 30, 2018, a program proposal for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at educational institutions, giving priority to these locations that serve disadvantaged communities. This bill would require the CPUC to review and approve, or modify and approve, the program proposals filed by large electrical corporations by December 31, 2018.

4. Assembly Bill 1083 (Burke): Transportation Electrification: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure: State Parks and Beaches

This bill would require large electrical corporations (i.e. electric investor owned utilities) to file with the CPUC, by July 30, 2018, a program proposal for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at state parks and beaches, giving priority to these locations that serve in disadvantaged communities. This bill would require the CPUC to review and approve, or modify and approve, the program proposals filed by large electrical corporations by December 31, 2018.

5. Senate Bill 598 (Hueso): Public Utilities: Gas and Electric Service Disconnections

This bill would require the CPUC to develop policies, rules, or regulations with a goal to reduce natural gas and electric service disconnections for nonpayment by January 1, 2024. This bill would also require the CPUC to prioritize the provision of universal natural gas and electric service to every residential household by, among other actions, assessing the impact of a proposed increase in a utility revenue requirement or rates on disconnections for nonpayment. The bill would also require the CPUC to include in a report to the Legislature information on residential and household natural gas and electric service disconnections, disaggregated by certain customer categories.

Furthermore, this bill would require the CPUC to adopt residential utility disconnections for nonpayment as a metric and incorporate the metric into the General Rate Case proceedings, and would require a natural gas or electrical corporation to incorporate the metric adopted by the CPUC in all of its reports that measure or address service reliability, public safety, and affordability. Finally, the bill would prohibit a natural gas or electrical corporation from disconnecting service for nonpayment by a residential customer dependent on life-support equipment who satisfies certain conditions.