

**REGULATORY UPDATE FOR APRIL 9, 2024  
(WEEK OF APRIL 1, 2024)**

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC OR COMMISSION)**

New Proposed Decisions and Draft Resolutions<sup>1</sup>

Resolution (Res) E-5317 (San Diego Gas & Electric Company Amendments to Mid-Term Reliability Contract). This resolution approves San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) amendments to one mid-term reliability (MTR) contract for capacity procured to meet requirements of Decision (D.) 21-06-035 and D.23-02-040. The contract with Daggett Solar Power I, LLC is amended to address a supply chain issue. The resolution finds that changes in contract terms will avoid an increase in price and a delay in commercial online date, and that the amendment is necessary for the project to continue to make progress to meet the June 1, 2025, incremental September net qualifying capacity procurement requirement established in D.21-06-035.

Application (A.) 22-06-017; A.22-03-013 (Crimson California Pipeline Application for Authority to Increase Rates). This decision authorizes Crimson California Pipeline, L.P. to increase the rates charged for the intrastate transportation of crude oil on its Southern California pipeline network by 22.31 percent above the rates in effect prior to August 1, 2022. The decision authorizes the retroactive charge and collection of the difference between rates billed and the approved rate beginning January 1, 2023. The decision denies Crimson's requests for a memorandum account to track Assembly Bill 864 implementation costs and a surcharge to recover those costs.

Res E-5260 (Pacific Gas and Electric, SDG&E, and Southern California Edison Operational Flexibility Pilots). Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and SDG&E, collectively the IOUs, submitted Tier 3 advice letters (ALs) PG&E 6612-E, 6612-E-A, 6612-E-B, and 6612-E-C; SCE 4806-E, 4806-E-A, and 4806-E-B; and SDG&E 4017-E, 4017-E-A, and 4017-E-B, proposing Operational Flexibility Pilots pursuant to D.21-06-002. This resolution approves these ALs and directs the IOUs to undertake the pilots individually, to report on pilot findings and recommendations, and to convene a joint workshop to discuss the findings and recommendations with stakeholders.

Res E-5316 (SCE Amendments to MTR Energy Storage Contracts). This resolution approves SCE's amendments to two MTR contracts for capacity procured to meet the requirements of D.21-06-035. The contracts with Silver Peak Solar LLC are amended to address supply chain issues and interconnection delays and maintain the projects' viability. The Silver

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<sup>1</sup> Per CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure Rule 14.3, comments on proposed decisions are due 20 days after issuance of the proposed decision, and reply comments are due five days thereafter. Comments on draft resolutions are due 20 days after the draft resolution appears in CPUC's daily calendar, per Rule 14.5.

Peak contracts will provide incremental September net qualifying capacity to meet SCE's 2024 MTR procurement requirements pursuant to Ordering Paragraph 1 of the decision.

Res G-3590 (Indicated Shippers, Southern California Generation Coalition, and Shell Energy North America Denial of the Petition for Modification of Resolution G-3581). This resolution denies the petition for modification of resolution G-3581 submitted by Indicated Shippers, Southern California Generation Coalition, and Shell Energy North America. The resolution finds that, consistent with Resolution G-3581, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is required to resubmit a proposed credit mechanism for firm Backbone Transmission Service customers as part of its next Triennial Cost Allocation Proceeding filing.

Res G-3600 (SoCalGas Transmission Integrity Management Program Balancing Account). SoCalGas filed AL 6060-G requesting recovery of \$238.8 million in undercollected revenue requirement that was 120 percent of the authorized 2019 General Rate Case cycle revenue requirement recorded in the TIMP Balancing Account (TIMPBA) through September 2022. This resolution approves SoCalGas' request to recover the undercollection recorded in its TIMPBA for January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2023. The TIMPBA amount will be amortized via a functionalized allocation described in the Triennial Cost Allocation Proceeding.

A.22-03-018 (SCE Application for Authorization to Recover Costs Related to 2019 Winter Storms, 2020 Heatwaves, and 2020 Fires Recorded in the Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account). This decision authorizes SCE to recover a revenue requirement of \$190.725 million in rates over a 12-month period for costs recorded in its Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account related to 2019 winter storms, 2020 heatwaves and 2020 fires. The decision finds that SCE established that its requested costs were within the categories eligible for recovery and were incremental to amounts previously authorized to be recovered in rates in SCE's general rate cases, and that its requested costs were reasonable except for \$3,216,000 in supplemental pay to salaried, exempt employees who were disallowed.

### Voting Meeting

The CPUC will hold a voting meeting in Sacramento, California on April 18, 2024 at 11 a.m. The following are energy related items on the agenda:

Item 5. A.22-05-002 et al. (PG&E Application for Approval of Its Demand Response Programs, Pilots and Budgets for Program Years 2023-2027). This decision sunsets the demand response auction mechanism pilot programs of PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E, by December 31, 2024, or sooner if the funding limits authorized for the pilot programs as set forth in D.23-01-006 are reached prior to that date.

Item 6. Rulemaking (R.)09-11-014 (Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine the Commission's Post-2008 Energy Efficiency Policies, Programs, Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification, and Related Issues). This decision grants a California Choice Energy Authority (CalChoice) petition for modification (PFM) of D.14-01-033, which established the regulatory approach to allowing community choice aggregators (CCAs) to elect to administer energy efficiency funds for their retail customers. Senate Bill (SB) 790 established two pathways for

CCAs to access energy efficiency funds, either electing to administer funds for their retail customers, or applying to administer funds on behalf of a larger set of customers in their geographic area. D.14-01-033 was the Commission's implementation of SB 790. This decision concerns only CCAs that elect to administer energy efficiency funds for program offerings to their retail customers. CalChoice asks the Commission to reserve a minimum amount of funding for CCAs that elect to administer energy efficiency funding, asserting that the availability of funding has been vastly reduced in recent years, threatening the viability of programs that CCAs may elect to administer. SB 790 defined the funding available for CCAs that elect to administer energy efficiency programs as the residual amount of nonbypassable energy efficiency charges collected from the CCA's retail customers, after accounting for programs that are available on a statewide and regional basis. This decision finds that in recent years the statewide and regional funding levels have fluctuated somewhat unpredictably, leaving uncertainty with regard to the amount of funding available for CCAs that elect to administer programs. Thus, this decision establishes a minimum funding floor of four percent of the total funding being collected from the CCA's retail customers to be available to CCAs who elect to administer energy efficiency funds.

Item 7. Res E-5314 (PG&E Transportation Electrification Advisory Services Program). This resolution approves, with modifications, a technical assistance advisory services program, Transportation Electrification Advisory Services (TEAS), proposed by PG&E AL 6883-E, AL 6883-E-A, and AL 6883-E-B. This resolution modifies the proposed program based on guidelines established for the technical assistance program in D.22-11-040. This resolution approves a total budget of \$18,768,110 for PG&E to implement a three-year technical assistance program serving medium- and heavy-duty (MDHD) vehicle customers that will provide web services, fleet electrification planning, implementation coordination, and pre-and post-energization support. This resolution directs PG&E to inform customers that program participation will be based on agreement to participate in data collection efforts or subsequent program evaluation. This resolution further directs PG&E to provide MDHD customers with pre-and post-energization services to support efficient management of the energization queue, and ongoing grid-friendly EV charging behavior.

Item 10. R.21-03-011 (Provider of Last Resort). This decision considers whether updates are needed to the existing framework, cost recovery mechanisms, and processes governing Provider of Last Resort (POLR) service during a mass involuntary return of customers. This decision adopts several updates to improve the accuracy of the existing financial security requirement and re-entry fee calculations; authorizes the electric investor-owned utilities as the POLR to track actual incremental administrative and/or procurement costs during a mass involuntary return of customers from CCA or Electric Service Provider (ESP) service; establishes a financial monitoring process to provide early notice of a potential mass involuntary return of CCA customers to POLR service; and clarifies and/or enhances the existing rules and requirements concerning CCA and ESP registration and deregistration. The decision finds that these changes are intended to ensure POLR cost recovery and compliance with SB 520, promote continuity of electric service, and prevent cost shifts between customers during a mass involuntary return of CCA or ESP customers to POLR service.

Item 11. R.22-11-013 (Transmission and Distribution Avoided Cost Study). This decision authorizes \$1.5 million in reimbursable ratepayer funds for an avoided transmission and

distribution (T&D) costs study. The decision finds that the primary purpose of this study is to examine how distributed energy resources can help California defer or avoid building more T&D infrastructure and how to accurately estimate these avoided T&D costs. The study results are anticipated to be incorporated into the 2026 Avoided Cost Calculator Update cycle to improve estimating avoided T&D costs. The Energy Division is authorized to hire a consultant to conduct the study.

Item 12. A.17-01-023 (Joint Application of Horizon West Transmission LLC and Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Permits to Construct the Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project). This decision grants the joint application of Horizon West Transmission, LLC and PG&E for permits to construct the proposed Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project, configured as the Alternative Combination #2, with the mitigation measures identified in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan. The decision finds that the project's Final Environmental Impact Report meets the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The decision finds that while the project will result in some unavoidable significant environmental impacts, even with the implementation of the prescribed mitigation measures, the benefits of the project outweigh those significant unavoidable impacts.

Item 14. A.22-09-018 (Transfer of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Non-Nuclear Generation Assets to Pacific Generation LLC). This decision denies the application of PG&E and Pacific Generation LLC seeking authorization for PG&E to transfer substantially all of its non-nuclear generation assets to Pacific Generation; the issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to Pacific Generation to operate as a utility subject to the CPUC's jurisdiction; and includes other authorizations and determinations.

Item 16. A.22-11-019 (Southwest Gas Corporation to Extend Its Service Area in Unincorporated Area of San Bernardino County). This decision grants a CPCN to Southwest Gas Corporation to construct a distribution main pipeline to deliver natural gas service and extend its service area to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin. The CPCN is conditioned on compliance with the project design measures identified in Table 4-4 of the Environmental Assessment. This decision also determines the adoption of the Finding of No Significant Impact, with the Environmental Assessment analysis and incorporated Initial Study Checklist, and complies with the requirements of the CEQA guidelines for preparation of a negative declaration.

Item 42. A.22-05-022 et al. (Green Access Program Tariffs and Community Renewable Energy Program). This decision presents the culmination of an evaluation of current customer renewable energy subscription programs, also known as Green Access Program tariffs and the consideration of adoption of a community renewable energy program. The decision finds that while the current Green Access Program tariff options do not meet all the evaluation goals described in AB 2316, it is efficient—in terms of costs and resources—to modify and streamline existing Green Access Program tariffs to better meet these goals. The Commission finds the proposed Net Value Billing Tariff conflicts with federal law and does not meet the requirements of AB 2316. The Commission also finds that it is beneficial to ratepayers to adopt a community renewable energy program by layering a customer subscription model and a non-ratepayer-

funded adder onto identified standard supply-side tariffs and contract mechanisms that meet the requirements of AB 2316 and Public Utilities Code section 769.3 and is compliant with federal law.

#### Upcoming Workshops and Events

*Electric Program Investment Charge Policy + Innovation Coordination Group.* On April 12, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the CPUC will host an in-person “Achieving 100% Net-Zero Carbon Emissions and the Coordinated Role of Gas Technical Working Group.” Participants must register to join the in-person meeting prior to the event at the following [link](#).

*2025 Energy Efficiency Potential and Goals.* On April 17, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Energy Division will host a webinar to share the Draft Workplan for the 2025 Potential and Goals Study. The Webex link is available [here](#).

*Tariff on-Bill Workshop.* On April 17, 2024 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. the IOUs and Silicon Valley Clean Energy will host a public workshop to discuss and provide a forum for comment on the Tariff on-Bill Inclusive Utility Investment Joint Proposal. The Microsoft Teams link is available [here](#).

*Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group.* On April 19, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group will hold a public meeting. The meeting agenda and additional information about the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group can be found [here](#).

*Prevailing Wage Contractor Compliance Workshop.* On April 30, 2024 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. the Solar-Utilities Reporting, Guidance, and Education initiative, directed by the CPUC, will host an informal, educational workshop with guidance on the new prevailing wage rules for qualifying renewable energy generation facilities adopted under AB 2143. Those interested in the informational webinar may register at the following [link](#).

### **CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR (CAISO)**

#### Stakeholder Initiatives: Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines

**2025 and 2029 Local Capacity Technical Study.** CAISO posted draft 2025 and 2029 Local Capacity Technical Study reports on April 4, 2024 and will host a public stakeholder call on April 11, 2024. Written comments on the reports are due April 22, 2024. Further information is available [here](#).

**Extended Day-Ahead Market Access Charge.** CAISO will hold a public stakeholder call on April 10, 2024 to discuss the Extended Day-Ahead Market Access Charge, also known as Transmission Revenue Recovery, revised tariff language it intends to resubmit to FERC as permitted by FERC’s December 20, 2023 order in Docket No. ER23-2686. Further information is available [here](#).

**Greenhouse Gas Coordination.** CAISO will host a hybrid public Greenhouse Gas Coordination working group meeting on April 17, 2024. Attendees may participate in person at the CAISO or virtually. Further information is available [here](#).

**Resource Adequacy Modeling and Program Design.** CAISO has posted a Resource Adequacy Modeling and Program Design (RAMPD) survey and is seeking feedback from Load Serving Entities (LSEs) by May 16, 2024. CAISO will host a public stakeholder call on April 18, 2024, to further discuss the intent of the survey and how the information received will be used. In addition, CAISO will hold a two-day hybrid public stakeholder working group meeting on April 29-30, 2024. Further information is available [here](#).

**Annual Policy Initiatives Roadmap Process.** CAISO will host a virtual stakeholder-led prioritization working group for the 2024 annual discretionary policy initiatives catalog on April 22, 2024. Stakeholders will present potential discretionary initiatives for prioritization in the catalog, and attendees will have the opportunity to discuss prioritization of these proposals for inclusion in the discretionary initiatives catalog. Further information is available [here](#).

**California New Resource Implementation.** CAISO will host a hybrid California New Resource Implementation stakeholder meeting on May 1, 2024. The meeting aims to bolster collaboration with the stakeholder community in preparation for upcoming summer operations. Registration for in-person attendance is due April 26, 2024. Further information is available [here](#).

**CAISO Stakeholder Symposium.** CAISO announced that it will host its Stakeholder Symposium on October 30, 2024 in downtown Sacramento, California, along with a welcome reception the evening of October 29. Additional information including reception details, event registration, and sponsorship opportunities will be provided in a future notice.

## **CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION (CEC)**

### **Offshore Wind**

On January 19, 2024, the CEC published a [Notice of Availability](#) regarding the release of the draft Assembly Bill 525 Strategic Plan for Offshore Wind Development (Strategic Plan). Volumes I-III of the Strategic Plan are linked in the [Notice of Availability](#) and are also available [here](#). The CEC hosted two workshops to discuss the Strategic Plan and provide an opportunity

for public comment; recordings of the workshops are available [here](#). Written comments may be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on April 22, 2024.

### 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Update

On March 22, 2024, the CEC published a [Notice](#) for comments on the draft scoping order for the 2024 IEPR Update and released an updated schedule, copied below.

<b>Task/Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Final 2024 IEPR Update Scoping Order released	April 2024
Adopt order instituting informational proceeding for 2024 IEPR Update	May 2024
Public workshops on specific topics	May 2024–December 2024
Release draft <i>2024 IEPR Update</i>	October 2024
Release proposed <i>2024 IEPR Update</i>	January 2025
<b>Adopt 2024 IEPR Forecast</b>	January 2025
Adopt <i>2024 IEPR Update</i>	February 2025

The policy recommendations included in the 2024 IEPR Update will be based on the record developed during the proceeding, including data and technical analyses by staff and stakeholders. Written comments on the draft scoping order were due by April 5, 2024.

### SB 100 Workshop

The CEC will conduct a joint workshop, in coordination with the CPUC and CARB, to discuss approaches to incorporating non-energy benefits and social costs into the analysis of potential resource scenarios to meet SB 100 (De León, 2018) goals. The workshop will be held both remotely and in person on Tuesday, April 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Additional information can be found in the workshop notice, [here](#).

### Lithium Valley Informational Proceeding

On April 19, 2024, the CEC will hold a workshop to provide an update on the Lithium Valley Vision and to receive public input on the planned scope of the CEC’s Lithium Valley Informational Proceeding. The session will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon. According to the workshop [notice](#), this is the first workshop for the CEC’s Lithium Valley Informational Proceeding 24-OIP-02. CEC staff will “provide an overview of the planned scope and purpose of the proceeding” and any “feedback received will be used to refine the proceeding scope and inform future workshop topics.” Further, “representatives from the County of Imperial will present on the County’s activities to support Lithium Valley” and “CEC staff will present an update on the recommendations adopted by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California in the report submitted to the California legislature in December 2022.” Additional information, including remote attendance instructions, is available [here](#).

### CEC Business Meetings

The next Business Meeting will be held on April 10, 2024. The meeting agenda and backup materials are available [here](#).

### **STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD (SWRCB)**

On April 17, 2024, the SWRCB will consider adoption of a resolution to revise the Interim Mitigation Payment Calculation for the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (OTC Interim Mitigation Resolution). Additional information about the OTC Interim Mitigation Resolution, including proposed revisions under consideration for adoption, background information, and responses to comments are available in the meeting [Notice](#) and the OTC Interim Mitigation Resolution [website](#).

### **CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB)**

#### Meetings, Workshops, and Notices

The [California Volkswagen Mitigation Trust](#) is accepting applications for funds on a first-come, first-served basis for combustion freight and marine and zero-emission class 8 trucks. Applications for funding are available [here](#).

CARB has published an [updated notice](#) of the effective date of the next phase of implementation of the heavy-duty vehicle inspection and maintenance regulation or “[Clean Truck Check](#).” As of October 1, 2024, vehicles subject to the regulation must pass an emissions compliance test once or twice per year, depending on the vehicle type.

On April 10, 2024, CARB will host an all-day public workshop on potential refinements to the [proposed amendments](#) to the [Low Carbon Fuel Standard](#) released on December 19, 2023. Topics for discussion at the workshop include potential reevaluation of proposed carbon intensity benchmarks and more consideration of proposed sustainability guardrails. Registration to attend the workshop virtually can be found [here](#).

CARB’s next Board meeting is a joint meeting with the California Transportation Commission and California Department of Housing and Community Development, to be held on April 11, 2024. The agenda for the meeting is available [here](#). CARB will hold a regular [Board meeting](#) on April 25-26, 2024.

On April 16, 2024, CARB will hold an evening community meeting on [clean transportation projects](#), including plans for funding projects and updates on incentive implementation. Registration for the meeting is available [here](#).

On April 17, 2024, CARB will hold a [public workshop](#) to discuss the proposed [Transport State Implementation Plan](#). More information and registration are available [here](#).

On April 18, 2024, CARB will hold the 2nd Annual [Clean Transportation Equity Incentives Symposium](#), in person and remotely. Free registration is available [here](#).



On May 23, 2024, CARB will conduct a [public hearing](#) to consider [proposed amendments](#) to the [Advanced Clean Trucks](#) regulation, as well as the Zero-Emission Powertrain Certification test procedure.

On June 27, 2024, CARB will hold a [hearing](#) on the proposed [Zero-Emission Forklift Regulation](#).

#### Opportunities for Public Comment

CARB is accepting research concepts and comments from the public for fiscal year 2025-2026, as part of its annual [Research Program](#) planning. Concepts and comments may be submitted [here](#) on or before April 16, 2024. In addition, CARB is creating a [5-Year Strategic Research Plan](#) to inform its research priorities for the years 2025 to 2030. Long-term research priorities for consideration of the five-year plan can be submitted through the same [survey](#).

Comments may be provided to CARB [here](#) on or before May 13, 2024 on the [proposed amendments](#) to the [Advanced Clean Trucks](#) regulation and the Zero-Emission Powertrain Certification test procedure. Comments may also be provided at the [May 23, 2024 hearing](#).

#### **MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION (MPUC)**

On April 11, 2024, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will hear three items: (1) Xcel's annual property tax, capital, and incentive compensation true-ups; (2) reporting criteria for Q Link Wireless LLC; and (3) Minnesota Solar Energy Industry Association's objection to Dakota Electric's interconnection process. The full agenda is available [here](#).

#### **OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION (OPUC)**

On April 1, 2024, the OPUC issued an order correcting a decision regarding waivers for Portland General Electric's (PGE) request for waiver from the 2023 RFP process. On April 1, the OPUC removed appeals language from its decision approving PGE's form contract, on the basis that current law does not permit an appeal of the OPUC's acknowledgment of an RFP or Integrated Resource Plan. See Docket UM 2274.

On March 25, PGE filed an application to revise its Schedule 201 avoided cost rates that are available to Qualifying Facilities of 10 MW or less, correcting a filing that PGE had made March 18. The revised filing corrects capacity contributions and Resource Sufficiency and Deficiency Periods that the OPUC recently acknowledged with respect to PGE's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan. See Docket UM 1728.

#### **FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (FERC)**

On March 29, 2024, the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) at last filed its Markets+ proposal with FERC, following many months of efforts by stakeholders and the organization. The proposal is a competitor to the CAISO's Extended Day-Ahead Market. SPP has asked FERC for

an order on its proposal by no later than July 31. The filing is pending in Docket No. ER24-1658.

FERC issued an order on March 29 in the ongoing proceedings related to member withdrawals from Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association. FERC ruled on a specific proposal that allows United Power to withdraw from Tri-State's membership (Docket No. ER24-1145) and also addressed issues related to future members' withdrawals from Tri-State (Docket No. ER21-2818).

On March 29, FERC also issued an order approving MISO's proposal to allow generator owners considering replacing their generation with the option to simultaneously study retirement or suspension for circumstances where replacement plans do not occur as planned. FERC's order is available in Docket No. ER24-1055.

On March 21, 2024, FERC issued Order No. 2023-A, [186 FERC ¶ 61,199](#), addressing arguments raised on rehearing, setting aside, in part, and clarifying Order No. 2023, which amended FERC's regulations and its pro forma Large Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreement, and pro forma Small Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreement to address interconnection queue backlogs, improve certainty, and prevent undue discrimination for new technologies. FERC received 34 requests for rehearing and/or clarification. The rehearing requests raise issues related to nearly all reforms adopted in Order No. 2023. The rehearing requests filed in this proceeding were deemed denied by operation of law. However, as permitted by section 313(a) of the Federal Power Act, FERC issued this order modifying the discussion in Order No. 2023.

Specifically, FERC provides the following revisions: (1) where an interconnection customer is in the interconnection queue of a transmission provider that currently uses, or is transitioning to, a cluster study process and the transmission provider proposes on compliance to adopt new readiness requirements for its annual cluster study, the interconnection customer must comply with the transmission provider's new readiness requirements within 60 days of the FERC-approved effective date of the transmission provider's compliance filing, where such readiness requirements are applicable given the status of the individual interconnection customer in the queue; (2) a network upgrade that is required for multiple interconnection customers in a cluster may be considered a stand-alone network upgrade if all such interconnection customers mutually agree to exercise the option to build; (3) transmission providers must complete their determination that an interconnection request is valid by the close of the cluster request window such that only interconnection customers with valid interconnection requests proceed to the customer engagement window; and (4) acceptable forms of security for the Commercial Readiness Deposit and deposits prior to the Transitional Serial Study, Transitional Cluster Study, and Cluster Restudy, and the Interconnection Facilities Study should include not only cash or an irrevocable letter of credit, but also surety bonds or other forms of financial security that are reasonably acceptable to the transmission provider.

In addition, FERC granted several clarifications on the following topics: (1) conflicts with ongoing queue reform efforts; (2) public interconnection information; (3) cluster study process; (4) allocation of cluster network upgrade costs; (5) shared network upgrades; (6)

withdrawal penalties; (7) study delay penalty and appeal structure; (8) affected systems; (9) revisions to the material modification process to require consideration of generating facility additions; (10) availability of surplus interconnection service; (11) operating assumptions for interconnection studies; (12) consideration of the enumerated alternative transmission technologies in interconnection studies; and (13) ride-through requirements. Lastly, FERC extended the deadline for transmission providers to submit compliance filings until the effective date of this order. Therefore, the new deadline for compliance with Order No. 2023 will be 30 days after the publication of this order in the Federal Register. Order No. 2023 compliance filings also must include the further revisions reflected in this order.