

AGENDA
EPIC Policy + Innovation Coordination Group
Strategic Goals Kick-off Workshop
August 16, 2023 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Location

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
Courtyard Room
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
(virtual attendance option available via registration)

Public Registration

Participants should register to join the kick-off meeting prior to the event at the following link whether they are attending in-person or virtually: https://events.zoom.us/ev/AhT9Vut6tREmPOCQKW49BCU7-4tdh84u-Oyd2TkPzDwlTap_7iy~AggLXsr32QYFjq8BIYLZ5I06Dg.

In-person participation is encouraged.

(Call-in Option: +1-408-638-0968; Meeting ID provided to registrants)

For technical concerns in accessing Zoom, contact picg@theaccelerategroup.com.

Background

About the EPIC Program. The Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) supports the development of new, emerging, and pre-commercialized clean energy innovations in California. The CPUC requires that EPIC portfolios be designed to ensure ratepayer benefits in the form of equitable access to safe, affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable energy for electricity ratepayers. This program is funded by California utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. EPIC funds are currently administered by the California Energy Commission (CEC), which administers 80% of EPIC funds, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), which together administer the remaining 20% of EPIC funds.

Purpose of the Workshop

In its most recent EPIC decision,¹ the CPUC directed that program-wide goals are needed to evaluate the progress of innovation investments and the extent to which investment plan portfolios maximize ratepayer benefits and impacts in achieving California's clean energy and climate goals.

The Strategic Goals Kick-Off Workshop is designed to lay the groundwork for stakeholders on the definition and purpose of setting Strategic Goals for the EPIC program. Input from the Kick-off Workshop will inform subsequent workshops to identify critical research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) pathways. The Strategic Goals Workshop process will inform how Strategic Goals should be articulated and established by the Commission in its next guidance Decision for the EPIC 5 cycle (2026-2030).

The Strategic Goals Workshop Process will focus on identifying four core elements:

¹ CPUC Decision [\(D.\)23-04-042](#)

- **Pathways:** Set of critical actions necessary to support meeting the State’s 2045 zero carbon goals via the most effective strategies and technology innovation.
- **Gaps:** Key challenges for achieving zero carbon goals and how RD&D should be prioritized to address opportunities and barriers more quickly along critical pathways.
- **Roles:** The best-positioned stakeholders (ratepayers, state, federal, private sector) to lead innovation investment addressing identified gaps, including through coordination and collaboration.
- **Outcomes:** Clear, measurable, and reasonable targets to be used by administrators in developing EPIC portfolios and used in program evaluations to measure impacts of EPIC in supporting achievement of California’s 2045 zero carbon goals.

Format

The Accelerate Group will facilitate the Workshops under the guidance of CPUC’s Energy Division.

Agenda

I.	Welcome and Agenda Overview	10:00 – 10:05 AM
II.	CPUC Commissioner Opening Remarks	10:05 – 10:15 AM
III.	Purpose of Strategic Goals Workshop Process + PICG Foundation	10:15 – 10:45 AM
IV.	Panel / Stakeholder Discussion	10:45 – 11:20 AM
V.	BREAK	11:20 – 11:30 AM
VI.	Panel 1: Perspectives on Innovation Needs	11:30 – 12:15 PM
VII.	Panel / Stakeholder Discussion	12:15 – 12:30 PM
VIII.	LUNCH BREAK	12:30 – 1:45 PM
IX.	Panel 2: Perspectives from Other Energy RD&D Efforts	1:45 – 2:45 PM
X.	Panel / Stakeholder Discussion	2:45 – 3:00 PM
XI.	BREAK	3:00 – 3:15 PM
XII.	Panel 3: Perspectives from EPIC Administrators	3:15 – 4:00 PM
XIII.	Panel / Stakeholder Discussion	4:00 – 4:15 PM
XIV.	Wrap Up Discussion and Next Steps	4:15 – 4:45 PM
XV.	Closing Remarks	4:45 – 5:00 PM

Speakers will be confirmed and announced closer to the date of the workshop.

The EPIC program is funded by California utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

This notice was sent to service lists A.17-04-028, A.18-06-015, A.19-07-006, A.19-10-012, A.19-11-003, A.21-11-021, A.22-10-001, A.22-10-002, A.22-10-003, I.19-11-013, R. 11-05-005, R.01-08-013, R.13-09-011, R.14-10-003, R.15-03-011, R.15-05-006, R.16-02-007, R.17-07-007, R.18-03-011, R.18-04-019, R.18-07-006, R.18-10-007, R.18-12-005, R.18-12-006, R.19-01-011, R.19-09-009, R.19-10-005, R.20-05-003, R.20-11-003, R.21-06-017, R.21-10-002, and R.21-11-014. If workshop participants discuss any open proceedings that were not noticed, then any such discussions become ex parte communications, and must be noticed to the open proceeding according to Rule 8.4. One or more CPUC or CEC Commissioners and Advisors, and Administrative Law Judges may attend, but no official Commission action will be taken at this event. This notice is issued pursuant to Rule 8.1 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure which states that an ex parte communication means a written or oral communication that "does not occur in a public hearing, workshop, or other public forum, that has been noticed to the official service list or on the record of the proceeding."

There will be a live transcription of the event in both English and Spanish.

This meeting will be recorded and made available on www.EPICpartnership.org.