Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

California Public Utilities Commission

Issue	Latest Developments
CPUC Commissioner's Meeting	The next Commission meeting is scheduled for 9/12/19 in Los Angeles.
IRP Framework Long-Term Procurement Planning Requirements R 16-02-007	This ruling formally initiates the "procurement track" as outlined in Decision (D.) 19- 04-040. The ruling generally describes the scope and content of the procurement track, and seeks comments from parties on its framing and structure. Identifying a mechanism to identify and procure near- and medium-term renewable integration and reliability resources is prioritized, followed by renewables to meet the 2030 needs identified in the Preferred System Plan adopted in D.19-04-040. Comments were due no later than July 15, 2019. On 7/25/19, the ALJ granted Cal-CCA's request for extension of time to file reply comments to 8/12/19.
Streamlining Interconnection of Distributed Energy Resources and Improvements to Rule 21 (R17-07- 007)	This rulemaking addresses streamlining interconnection of distributed energy resources and improvements to rule 21. A Proposed Decision was issued on February 22, 2019, adopting the Proposals from the March 15, 2018 workshop Group 1 Report. The Proposed Decision was approved at the Commission's Meeting March 28, 2019. Status reports from working groups have been filed. THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY STORAGE ALLIANCE filed a motion to establish a sub- group and schedule a joint workshop with R18-12-006 to introduce proposal on mobile inverter technical requirements for Rule 21 interconnection. On 8/23/19, a Joint ALJ ruling establishing a subgroup and schedule to develop a proposal on mobile inverter technical requirements for Rule 21 was issued. A workshop is scheduled for 12/17/19.
Resource Adequacy, Consider Program Refinements and Establish Annual Local and Flexible Procurement Obligations for the 2019 and 2020 Compliance Years. (R17-09-020)	On 9/28/17 the commission opened a <u>rulemaking</u> to oversee the resource adequacy program, consider program refinements and establish annual local and flexible procurement obligations for the 2019 and 2020 compliance years. On 1/18/18 the Assigned Commissioner and ALJ issued a <u>scoping memo and ruling</u> . The proceedings will be divided into three separate tracks. Track 1 will consider system, local and flexible capacity requirements for the next year as well as time- sensitive refinements to the Commission's RA program. Track 2 will address less time sensitive topics, including adoption of multi-year local RA requirements and refinements to local area rules and RA program. Track 3 will consider the 2020

Buchalter

program year requirement and may revisit RA counting rules for weather-sensitive and local demand response resources.
Decision 19-02-022 was adopted on February 21, 2019, "Decision Refining the Resource Adequacy Program." The Decision states: "The Commission does not find a viable central buyer at this time and thus delays the designation of a central buyer in this decision. The Commission continues to find that a central buyer structure, as outlined in the Track 1 decision, is the appropriate structure to implement multi- year local RA requirements. In the interim, the Commission directs parties to undertake a series of workshops to develop workable central buyer proposals. The Commission intends to issue a decision in the fourth quarter of 2019 that addresses the central buyer designation" as well as the implementation details for a central procurement structure. The Commission did decide to adopt a minimum three-year forward multi-year RA requirement.
Topics to be addressed in Track 3 were identified in the Amended Scoping Plan issued January 29, 2019:
http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M262/K405/262405974.PDF and a decision on track 3 is scheduled for May, 2019.
A Proposed Decision Adopting Local Capacity Obligations for 2020-2022, Adopting Flexible Capacity Obligations for 2020, and Refining the Resource Adequacy Program was adopted on June 27, 2019.
On 7/2/19 the ALJ issued a <u>proposed decision</u> denying the petition for modification of Shell Energy North America. Opening comments were due by 7/22/19. A <u>final</u> <u>decision</u> denying the petition was adopted on 8/8/19.
On 7/3/19 the Assigned Commissioner issued a ruling seeking comment on clarification to resource adequacy import rules. Responses to the questions were due by 7/19/19. Reply comments were due by 7/26/19.
Comments on informal workshop reports filed with the Commission were due by 8/2/19. Reply comments were due by 8/9/19. On 8/9/19 the California Community Choice Association, Calpine Corporation, the Independent Energy Producers Association, Middle River Power, NRG Energy, SDG&E, Shell Energy North America, Sunrun, and the Western Power Trading Forum submitted <u>a notice of a settlement conference</u> that was held on 8/20/19 at the CAISO. A settlement proposal will be distributed on or about 8/16/19.

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

Successor to Existing Net Energy Metering Tariffs pursuant to PUC Section 2827.1 (R.14-07- 002)	On March 8, 2019, a Ruling Regarding Enhanced Consumer Protections for Net Energy Metering Customers was filed. It proposed additional consumer protection rules for net-energy metering customers and suggested that the Commission might assert authority over third-party solar providers. On March 26, 2019, a Decision was issued <u>http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M277/K012/277012630.PDF</u> on an application for rehearing over how best to interpret Decision 16-01-044 regarding assessment of nonbypassable charges under net energy metering successor tariffs. The decision clarifies the determination in Resolution E-4792 that nonbypassable charges shall be assessed on the net kilowatt-hours consumed in each metered interval, and not on the basis of instantaneous netting, under the net energy metering successor tariff. The Decision (19-04-019) was adopted on April 25, 2019. On 6/28/19 the Assigned Commissioner issued <u>a sixth amended scoping memo and</u> ruling. The issues in the fifth amended scoping memo remain with the scope of the proceeding. The highest priority issues for the remainder of the proceeding include consumer protection and resolution of outstanding petitions for modification. The ruling sets a deadline of 7/1/20 for completion of the proceeding.
Continued Implementation of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act and Related Matters (R.18-07-017)	On 8/15/19 a prehearing conference was held. <u>Transcript</u> On 7/26/18 the Commission <u>opened the rulemaking</u> . The rulemaking is intended to consider adoption of a new standard offer contract that will be available to any Qualifying Facility of 20 MW or less seeking to sell electricity to a Commission- jurisdictional utility pursuant to PURPA. The rulemaking will also consider adoption of a price to be paid at the time of delivery where a QF has opted to sell as- available energy to the utility without a contract. A Scoping Memo and Ruling was issued on November 2, 2018.
Power Charge Indifference Adjustment: Order Instituting Rulemaking to Review, Revise, and Consider Alternatives to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (R17-06-026)	http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M236/K009/236009738.PDF D1810019 was adopted on October 11, 2018, to address concerns that the existing cost allocation and recovery mechanism does not prevent cost shifting between different groups of customers, contrary to statutes that (1) authorized customers to engage in direct access transactions for electricity and (2) provided for formation of CCAs. The Commission adopted revised inputs to the market price benchmark (MPB) that is used to calculate the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA), the rate intended to equalize cost sharing between departing load and bundled load. The revised methodology will be used to calculate the PCIA that took effect as of January 1, 2019. A second phase was initiated to enable parties to continue working together to develop longer-term solutions and to consider the development and implementation of a comprehensive solution to the issue of

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

	excess resources in utility portfolios. Requests for rehearing were filed by many
	parties, including Buchalter on behalf of the California Community Choice
	Association. The Phase 2 Scoping Ruling was issued 2/1/19.
	http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M263/K449/263449702.PDF
	On 7/1/19 the California Community Choice Association and PG&E filed a joint
	motion to amend the scoping memo. The parties requested additional comment
	opportunity and extension of time to request evidentiary hearings related to
	Working Group One, Issues 8-12 Final Report. On 7/9/19 the ALJ issued a ruling
	modifying the procedural schedule from the scoping memo to allow for additional
	comment opportunities.
Order Instituting	The goal of this Rulemaking is to adopt criteria and a methodology for the
Rulemaking to	Commission to use in future applications for cost recovery of wildfire costs. A
Implement Public	Scoping Memo and Ruling was issued on March 29, 2019:
Utilities Code	http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M277/K012/277012679.PDF
Section	
451.2 Regarding	At the 6/27/19 meeting the Commission adopted a decision which sets forth criteria
Criteria and	and a methodology for wildfire cost recovery pursuant to Public Utilities Code
Methodology for	Section 451.2.
Wildfire Cost	
Recovery	On 8/7/19 PG&E filed an application for rehearing of Decision D.19-06-027. PG&E
Pursuant to	alleges that the Decision contains legal errors, violating Public Utilities Code Section
Senate Bill 901	451.2 because it prohibits a utility that has filed a petition under Chapter 11 of the
(2018) R19-01-006	Bankruptcy Code from accessing the Customer Harm Threshold established by law
	and the Commission will not determine the CHT until a utility files an application to
	recover 2017 wildfire costs and because the Commission requires ratepayer
Order Instituting	protection mechanisms as a condition of accessing section 451.2
Order Instituting Investigation to	At the June 13 th meeting, the Commission considered an Order Instituting
Determine PG&E	Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion to Determine Whether Pacific Gas
Corporation's	and Electric Company and PG&E Corporation's Organizational Culture and
Organizational	Governance Prioritize Safety.
Culture and	A ruling issued June 18, 2019, established a process for parties to comment on
Governance	proposals that may improve the safety culture of PG&E. The proposals are: 1)
Prioritize Safety.	Separating PG&E into separate gas and electric utilities or selling the gas assets; 2)
I.15-08-019	Establishing periodic review of PG&E's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity
	(CPCN); 3) Modification or elimination of PG&E Corp.'s holding company structure;
	and 4) Linking PG&E's rate of return or return on equity to safety performance
	metrics. Comments were due July 19, 2019.
DECISION ON	A preliminary decision was issued establishing the procurement requirements at
SB100 RPS	44% by 2024, 52% by 2027, and 60% by 2030 for SB 100 compliance.
PROCUREMENT	
QUANTITIES	

Buchalter

R 18 07 003	 On 6/27/19 the Commission adopted D1906023 implementing provisions of SB 100 relating to procurement quantity requirements under the CA RPS. The decision requires For compliance period 2021-2024, retail sellers must procure no less than 44% of their retail sales from eligible resources by 12/31/24 For compliance period 2025-2027 the requirement is 52% For compliance period 2028-2030 the requirement is 60% Progress towards compliance during intervening years of each compliance period from 2021-2030 will continue to be treated using the same straight-line method set out in previous decisions. For each compliance period beginning with the 2031-2033 compliance period each retail seller must procure not less than 60% of retail sales from eligible resources measured as an average over the compliance period. On 7/2/19 the ALJ issued a proposed decision on enforcement of the RPS program rules. Opening comments were due by 7/22/19. The proposed decision imposes fines on Liberty Power Holdings (\$431,014) and Gexa Energy (\$1,725,461) for failing to comply with certain program requirements. On 8/23/19 the ALJ issued a proposed decision adopting modeling requirements to calculate effective load carrying capability values for RPS procurement. Opening comments are due 9/12/19.
DECISION	The decision addresses the demand response auction mechanism (Auction
ADDRESSING	Mechanism) which needs several immediate critical changes to address
AUCTION	shortcomings in performance, reliability, and offering competitive prices in the
MECHANISM,	wholesale energy market. The ALJ's proposed decision would approve a four-year
BASELINES, AND	continuation of the Auction Mechanism to improve these shortcomings, beginning
AUTO DEMAND	with critical improvements in a 2019 solicitation. Related policy matters are
RESPONSE FOR	scheduled to be addressed by the end of 2019, which will be followed by an informal process to address technical and contractual improvements to the Auction
BATTERY STORAGE	Mechanism.
BATTERY	
STORAGE	
A1701012, A1701018,	
A1701018, A1701019	
	1

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

California Energy Commission

Issue	Latest Developments
CEC Business Meeting	The next regularly scheduled Business Meeting will be held 9/11/19.
AB 1110 Revised Power Source Reporting to Disclose GHG Intensity Factors	The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) has completed pre- rulemaking to amend the Power Source Disclosure (PSD) regulations as required with the recent passage of AB 1110 and formal rulemaking will commence in May 2019 with an effective date of Spring 2020. The PSD program discloses to consumers a retail supplier's various sources of electricity compared with the electricity mix of California as a whole. This program will fundamentally shift under AB 1110 by additionally requiring disclosure of a retail supplier's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity factors for its retail electricity offerings. Retail suppliers will begin disclosing their emissions in 2020 for the 2019 calendar on the Power Content Label (PCL). At the same time, AB 1110 requires the Energy Commission to develop guidance for the disclosure of unbundled renewable energy credits (RECs).
2019 IEPR	 Scoping and topic workshops for the 2019 IEPR are underway. A workshop on 2019 Preliminary California Energy Demand Electricity and Natural Gas Demand Forecast was held on 8/15/19. A joint agency workshop on energy efficiency and building decarbonization is scheduled for 8/27/19.
Publicly Owned Utilities Voluntary Green Program & RPS Obligation	 A workshop is scheduled for 9/10/19 to solicit comments on potential amendments to the Enforcement procedures for the RPS for Local POUs. Proposed changes include: Establishing new compliance periods and procurement targets Implementing a new long-term procurement requirement. Modifying rules for the calculation of excess procurement. Modifying requirements for optional compliance measures, including costs limitations and delay of timely compliance. Implementing a retail sales reduction for voluntary green pricing programs and shared renewable generation programs. Modifying exemptions for local POU with qualifying large hydroelectric generation. Implementing exemptions for qualifying POU procurement from gas-fired generation and generation from unavoidable long-term coal contracts and ownership agreements. Clarifications to other existing regulatory provisions.

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

EPIC Renewable	On Friday, June 28, 2019, Energy Commission staff conducted a webinar to request
Energy Generation	public comments on the research and development (R&D) opportunities identified
Technology	for the Electric Program Investment Fund (EPIC) research roadmap on renewable
Research	energy generation technologies for utility-scale applications.
Opportunities	at https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=19-ERDD-01.

California Air Resources Board

Issue	Latest Developments
Cap and Trade & GHG Reporting	A workshop was held on 8/16/19 to evaluate allowance supply.
	A meeting of the Compliance Offset Protocol Task Force is scheduled for 10/24/19.
Low Carbon Fuel Standard	The goal of the CCFS is to reduce carbon intensity of transportation fuel by at least 10% by 2020. The Amendments to the Low Carbon Fuel Standard Regulation and to the Regulation on Commercialization of Alternative Diesel Fuels went into effect January 4, 2019: <u>https://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2018/lcfs18/frolcfs.pdf? ga=2.242137538.13527394</u> <u>1.1553110131-194524719.1536243891</u> There was a Public Workshop on April 5th to discuss potential amendments to the cost containment features of the LCFS. The workshop followed up on Board direction at the September 2018 hearing to explore options to provide greater certainty that future credit prices do not exceed the cap imposed by the credit
	clearance market. Handouts, Staff Presentation and CCM Timeline Handout are available at:
	https://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/lcfs meetings/lcfs meetings.htm
	A public workshop was held on 7/31/19 to discuss potential amendments to the cost containment features of the LCFS. <u>Staff Presentation Handout</u>

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

California Independent System Operator

Issue	Latest Developments
Board of Governors Meeting	The next Board meeting will be held September 18-19, 2019.

CAISO Stakeholder Initiatives

Issue	Latest Developments
Energy Imbalance Market	A public stakeholder call was held Wednesday, May 29, 2019 to discuss the Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governance Review draft final proposal for Governance Review Committee formation and draft Governance Review Committee Charter. <u>https://www.westerneim.com/Documents/EIMGovernanceReview-</u> <u>DraftFinalProposal-DraftCharter-GovernanceReviewCommitteeFormationPosted- Call052919.html</u>
	The EIM Regional Issues Forum met June 18, 2019 to discuss state carbon policies and considerations for alignment with the Western EIM. https://www.westerneim.com/Pages/Governance/RegionalIssuesForum.aspx. On 8/27/19 an EIM regional issues forum meeting will be held at BPA in Portland, Oregon. <u>Agenda</u>
Energy Storage and Distributed Energy Resources Participation	Phase 3 was approved by the Board and is in tariff development. Phase 4 addresses the following topics: 1. Adding a state of charge parameter in
(Phases 3 and 4)	the non-generator resource model; 2. Applying market power mitigation to energy storage resources; 3. Streamlining interconnection agreements for non-generator resource participants 4. Establishing parameters to better reflect demand response resource operational characteristics; 5. Vetting qualification and operational processes for variable-output demand response resources; and 6. Discussing the non-24x7 settlement implications of behind the meter resources within the non-generator resource model. <u>http://www.caiso.com/Documents/StrawProposal-EnergyStorageandDistributedEnergyResourcesPhase4.pdf</u> .
	A working group meeting was neid on 6/27/19. Presentation

Buchalter

	A working group call was held on 8/21/19. Market Notice
Resource Adequacy Enhancement	Purpose: The rapid transformation of the resource fleet to a cleaner, more variable and energy limited fleet is generating the need to reexamine all aspects of the ISO's Resource Adequacy (RA) program. In 2006, at the onset of the RA program in California, the dominant technology used for energy production in California was gas fired generation paired with a large quantity of hydroelectric resources. While some of these resources were subject to use-limitations due to environmental, start limits or air permits, they were generally available to produce energy when and where needed.
	However, as the fleet is transitioning away from its traditional make-up to a fleet that can achieve the objectives of SB 100, 1 the ISO must rely on very different resource portfolio to reliably operate the grid. In this stakeholder initiative, the ISO, in collaboration with the CPUC and stakeholders, will explore reforms needed to the ISO's resource adequacy rules, requirements, and processes to ensure the future reliability and operability of the grid.
	The current proposal and comments submitted can be found at http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/StakeholderProcesses/ResourceAdequacyEnhancements.aspx Working group meetings were held on 7/8-9. <u>Presentation</u>
Day-Ahead Market Enhancements	On 2/8/18 CAISO launched a new initiative, Day-Ahead Market Enhancements to address ramping and uncertainty previously left to be resolved by the real-time market. Enhancements to be considered include combining the Integrated Forward Market with the Residual Unit Commitment process, changing the day-ahead scheduling granularity from hourly to 15-minute and adding an imbalance reserve product.
	The CAISO dropped the effort to achieve a 15-minute granularity due to waning interest. Phase 2 will continue the efforts to develop a day-ahead product to procure 15-minute ramp capability and uncertainty needs in the real-time, with implementation planned for the Fall of 2021.
	A Technical Workshop was held June 20 to discuss proposed options for developing a new day-ahead product that will address ramping needs between intervals and uncertainty that can occur between the day-ahead and real-time markets. The agenda and presentation is available at <u>http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/StakeholderProcesses/Day-</u> <u>AheadMarketEnhancements.aspx</u> .

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

	A working group meeting was held on 8/13/19. <u>Market Notice</u> . This meeting
	reviewed comments received from the June workshop and continued discussions
	on the proposed design options. <u>Presentation</u>
Reliability must-run	The Board approved the proposal aimed at enhancing its reliability must-run
and capacity	(RMR) and capacity procurement mechanism programs. The Third Draft Tariff
procurement	Proposal was released:
mechanism	
enhancements	http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/StakeholderProcesses/ReliabilityMust-
	Run_CapacityProcurementMechanismEnhancements.aspx
Storage as a	Through this initiative, the ISO will explore how to enable storage providing cost-
transmission asset	based transmission services to also participate in ISO markets and receive market
	revenues to provide ratepayer benefits and greater flexibility to the grid. A web
	conference was held on January 14, 2019. This initiative is currently inactive.
2019-2020	The California ISO 2019-2020 transmission planning cycle involves key stakeholder
transmission	activities from 2019 through early 2020. Each year, the ISO conducts its
planning process	transmission planning process to identify potential system limitations as well as
	opportunities for system reinforcements that improve reliability and efficiency. The
	transmission planning process core product is the ISO Transmission Plan, which
	provides an evaluation of the ISO control grid, examines conventional grid
	reliability requirements and projects, summarizes key collaborative activities and
	provides details on key study areas and associated findings. Background and
	materials such as studies may be found at:
	http://www.caiso.com/planning/Pages/TransmissionPlanning/2019-
	2020TransmissionPlanningProcess.aspx
	On 8/16/19 the CAISO posted the 2019-2020 preliminary reliability assessment
	results.
	lesuits.
Interconnection	On 7/17/19 CAISO held a web conference to discuss proposed tariff revisions and
process	interconnection process enhancements.
enhancements	interconnection process enhancements.
cintancements	On 0/14/10 CAICO prosted the final tasiff multiple Market Nation
	On 8/14/19 CAISO posted the final tariff revisions. <u>Market Notice</u>
Market Settlement	On 6/11/19 CAISO issued an issue paper and straw proposal to change the market
Timeline	settlement timeline to reduce market participant financial exposure by producing
	initial settlement statements that will approximate more the final settlement, allow
	sufficient time for the CAISO and market participants to resolve disputes and
	reduce CAISO and market participant administrative costs associated with low-
	value settlement re-calculation efforts. A meeting to discuss was held on 6/13/19.
	On 8/15/19 CAISO posted a <u>revised straw proposal</u> and <u>sample payments calendar</u> .
	A web conference to discuss is was held on 8/22/19. <u>Market Notice</u>

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Issue	Latest Developments				
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	The next Commission meeting is September 19, 2019.				
Grid Reliability and Resilience Pricing (AD18-7)	On 1/8/18 FERC initiated this proceeding after terminating RM18-1, a rulemaking tasked with evaluating the DOE pricing proposal. This proceeding will holistically examine the resiliency of the market and asks RTOs and ISOs to provide information on whether the Commission needs to act regarding resiliency. A large number of comments were submitted on May 9, 2019.				
NERC Reliability RD19-3-000	A Technical Conference was held on June 27, 2019. The purpose of the conference is to discuss policy issues related to the reliability of the Bulk-Power System.				
	FERC issued a Staff Report on Lessons Learned from Commission-Led CIP Reliability Audits <u>https://www.ferc.gov/legal/staff-reports/2019/2018-report-audits.pdf</u>				
	FERC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to adopt a new Reliability Standard CIP-012-1 to mitigate cybersecurity risks associated with communications between bulk electric system Control Centers. <u>file:///C:/Users/pbernardy/Downloads/20190418-3038(33517874).pdf</u>				
	FERC approved a new Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standard (CIP 008-6) to require reporting of cyber security incidents that either compromise or attempt to compromise Electronic Security Perimeters, Electronic Access Control or Monitoring Systems, and Physical Security Perimeters associated cyber systems. The new Reliability Standard also encompasses disruptions or attempts to disrupt the operation of a bulk electric system cyber system. <u>https://www.ferc.gov/media/news-releases/2019/2019-2/06-20-19-E-2.asp#.XQwP8IhKjcs</u>				
	At the June 20, 2019 meeting the Commission initiated a proposed rulemaking to approve Reliability Standard TPL-001-5 (Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements) submitted by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) that revises the current standard to address (1) reliability issues concerning the study of single points of failure of protection systems; and (2) directives from a previous Commission order (Order No. 786) regarding planned maintenance outages and stability analysis for spare equipment strategy.				

Buchalter

	In addition, the NOPR proposes to direct NERC to develop and submit modifications to the NERC Reliability Standard to require corrective action plans for protection system single points of failure in combination with a 3-phase fault if planning studies indicate potential cascading.
Return on Equity Policy Review	FERC opened a Notice of Inquiry PL19-4-000 to examine whether, and if so how, to revise its policies on determining the return on equity (ROE) used in setting rates charged by jurisdictional public utilities.
	This step follows the 2017 decision <i>Emera Maine v. FERC</i> (854 F.3d 9) that reversed and vacated Opinion No. 531. In that opinion, FERC set the ROE for New England Transmission Owners at the midpoint of the upper half of the zone of reasonableness produced by a two-step discounted cash flow (DCF) analysis. Although the court did not expressly question the Commission's specific finding, it did conclude that FERC failed to show that setting the ROE at the upper midpoint, rather than the midpoint, was just and reasonable.
	Following the court's ruling, the Commission issued two orders proposing an alternative ROE methodology and establishing a paper hearing on whether and how it should apply to ROE complaint proceedings in New England and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator. Those orders proposed to change FERC's approach for determining base ROE by giving equal weight to four financial models instead of primarily relying on the DCF methodology. Comments on the Notice of Inquiry were due in mid-June.
Electric Transmission Incentives Policy	FERC issued a Notice of Inquiry PL19-3-000 into possible improvements to its electric transmission incentives policy to ensure that it appropriately encourages the development of the infrastructure needed to ensure grid reliability and reduce congestion to reduce the cost of power for consumers. The NOI recognizes that nearly 13 years have passed since the issuance of Order No. 679. Since then, there have been a number of significant developments in how transmission is planned, developed, operated, and maintained. The NOI examines whether incentives should continue to be granted based on a project's risks and challenges or should be based on the benefits that a project provide. Examples of other topics addressed in the NOI include: consideration of incentives based upon measurable criteria for economic efficiency and reliability benefits, providing incentives for improvements to existing transmission facilities, considering the costs and benefits of projects in awarding incentives, and determining whether to review incentive applications on a case-specific or standardized basis.
	In addition, the NOI also seeks comment on various ROE incentives, including how they interact with the base ROE and other transmission incentives. Finally, the NOI

Buchalter

	seeks input about possible metrics for evaluating the effectiveness of incentives. Comments on the NOI were due in mid-June.
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON INCREASING REAL- TIME AND DAY- AHEAD MARKET EFFICIENCY AND ENHANCING RESILIENCE THROUGH IMPROVED SOFTWARE	Commission staff convened a technical conference (AD19-13-000) on June 25, 26, and 27, 2019 to discuss opportunities for increasing real-time and day-ahead market efficiency and enhancing the resilience of the bulk power system through improved software.

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

August/September 2019							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
26	27 IEPR Joint Agency Workshop on Energy Efficiency and Building Decarbonization 10am CAISO EIM Regional Issues Forum Meeting 1pm	28 Energy Imbalance Market governing body meeting 9am CPUC PHC in OIR to implement Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plans Pursuant to SB 901 10am Joint Agency workshop on streamlining the electric vehicle charger permitting process 10am CEC webinar – innovated energy efficiency technologies for food producers 2pm	29 CAISO Board meeting 8:30am CAISO Market Update Call 10:15am CEC webinar – battery and energy storage systems added to the CEC's solar equipment lists. 4pm	<i>30</i> CPUC workshop in rulemaking to create a consistent regulatory framework for the Integrated Distributed Energy Resources 10am			

Upcoming Meetings

Buchalter

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Holiday	3	4	<i>5</i> CPUC workshop in rulemaking to oversee the resource adequacy program 10am Joint Agency workshop on the SB 100 report 10am	<i>6</i> CPUC workshop in rulemaking to oversee the resource adequacy program 10am

Buchalter

California Regulatory Happenings for the Week of August 19, 2019

Contact Info



Gwenneth O'Hara Chair: Energy and Natural Resources Group Shareholder 916-945-5174 <u>gohara@buchalter.com</u>



Meghan Thomas Attorney 916-945-5176 mthomas@buchalter.com



Peggy Bernardy Of Counsel 916-945-5168 pbernardy@buchalter.com