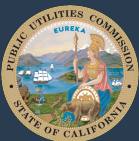


CPUC Environmental & Social Justice Action Plan

Draft Version 2.0

Business & Community Outreach Webinar
Wednesday November 3, 2021



California Public
Utilities Commission

Welcome from Commissioner Houck

Overview of the ESJ Action Plan

About the ESJ Action Plan

- Operating framework with which to integrate ESJ considerations throughout the agency's work.
- Version 1.0 was adopted in February 2019.
- Consists of:
 - 9 overarching goals
 - Clear objectives
 - 95 concrete action items (Draft 1.0) to ensure agency-wide collaboration, accountability, and forward movement in meeting ESJ principles.



Nine ESJ Goals

1. Consistently **integrate equity and access considerations** throughout CPUC proceedings and other efforts.
2. **Increase investment in clean energy resources** to benefit ESJ communities, especially to improve local air quality and public health.
3. Strive to **improve access to high-quality water, communications, and transportation services** for ESJ communities.
4. Increase **climate resiliency** in ESJ communities.
5. **Enhance outreach and public participation** opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the CPUC's decision-making process and benefit from CPUC programs.
6. **Enhance enforcement** to ensure safety and consumer protection for ESJ communities.
7. **Promote economic and workforce development** opportunities in ESJ communities.
8. **Improve training and staff development** related to ESJ issues within the CPUC's jurisdiction.
9. **Monitor the CPUC's ESJ efforts** to evaluate how they are achieving their objectives.

Implementation Structure

- Core Team & ESJ Liaisons
 - Represent each Division at the CPUC and tasked with tracking status of action items and serving as “ambassador” in Division for ESJ issues.



Update Process

- February 2021 workshop to collect feedback from stakeholders through moderated discussions and issue specific breakout rooms.
- Additional feedback from a number of proceedings and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.



Walk Through of Draft Version 2.0

Overview of Changes in Version 2.0

- **All Action Items and Objectives have been updated to reflect present-day priorities and efforts.**
- Updated Goal 7 (Workforce Development):
“Promote high road career paths and economic opportunity for residents of ESJ communities.”
- Equitable distribution of Action Items across all CPUC Industry Divisions.
- **Appendices include resource documents** to assist CPUC staff and stakeholders in incorporating ESJ issues into their work. These include:
 - Examples of ESJ in proceedings and programs;
 - A guide of definitions and terminology related to ESJ concepts; and
 - Key documents for use in implementing the ESJ Action Plan.



Environmental & Social Justice Action Plan
Version 2.0 – *Draft version for public comment*

October 26, 2021



California Public
Utilities Commission

Goal 1: Equity & Access

- **1.1 Build Systematic Approaches for ESJ Priorities:** Continue building systematic approaches for considering ESJ issues in proceedings and decisions, as well as implementation processes included in advice letters, general orders, and resolutions. Build understanding of critical ESJ concepts and definitions to ensure alignment and deepen impact.
- **1.2 Expand Opportunities for Access:** Continue pursuing innovative approaches to broadening access to CPUC activities and decision-making.

Figure 1: Steps for Incorporating ESJ Considerations into CPUC Proceedings



Goal 2: Clean Energy

- **2.1 Outreach & Engagement:** Broaden and deepen outreach and engagement with ESJ communities early in proceedings and processes related to resilient, clean energy.
- **2.2 Research & Analysis to Understand Impact:** Further research and analytical opportunities to understand impacts in ESJ communities.
- **2.3 Move Towards Mutual Eligibility & Maximizing Impact:** Better leverage ongoing work by fostering cross-division, cross-Commission, and cross-agency dialogues in order to move towards mutual eligibility and maximizing impact.
- **2.4 Address Impacts in ESJ Communities:** Continue to address ongoing and legacy impacts in ESJ communities in the resilient, clean energy space.
- **2.5 Continue Ongoing Investment:** Continue to make prioritized resilient, clean energy investments in ESJ communities.

Goal 3: Water, Communications, Transportation

- **3.1 Equitable Clean Transportation:** Pursue opportunities for ESJ communities to access clean vehicles and services from Transportation Network Companies (TNCs).
- **3.2 Water Customer Resilience:** Support ESJ customers and communities with discounted rates for low-income customers and sustainable systems.
- **3.3 Extend Rail Safety to ESJ Communities:** Pursue opportunities to bolster safety along rail lines in ESJ communities.
- **3.4 Extend Essential Communications Services to ESJ Communities:** Ensure implementation of new investments that offer ESJ communities access to high quality communications services at affordable rates.

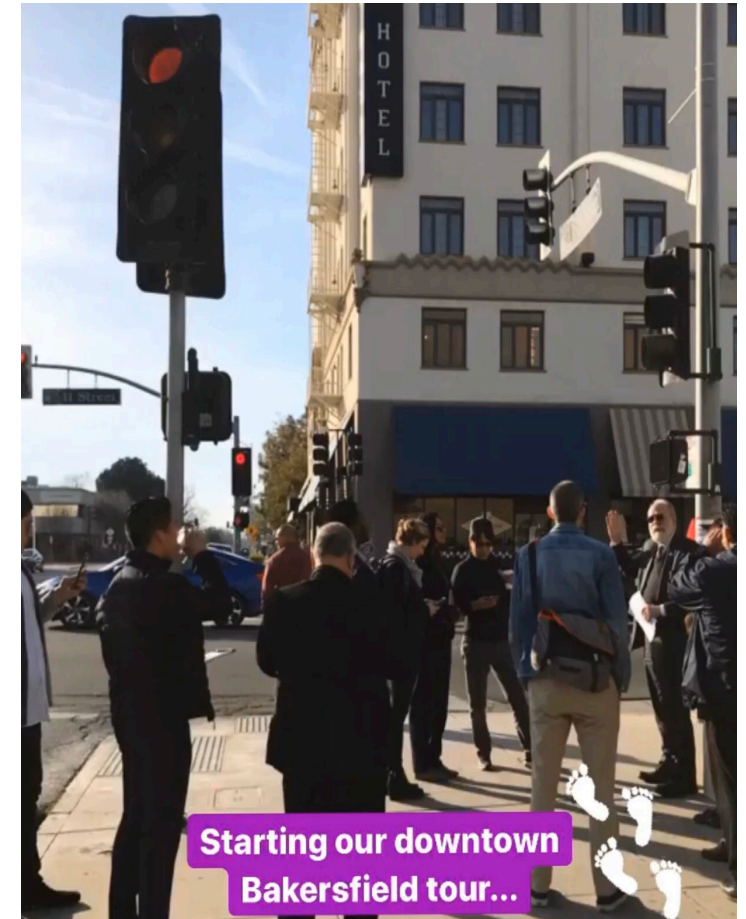
Goal 4: Climate Resiliency

- **4.1 Emphasize Adaptive Capacity:** Ensure ESJ communities and considerations around their adaptive capacity is incorporated into relevant programs and activities.



Goal 5: Outreach and Public Participation

- **5.1 Improve Communication with ESJ Lens:** Continue to build and improve CPUC communications methods and materials to ensure ESJ audiences can better participate.
- **5.2 Continue to Emphasize Engagement with CBOs:** Deepen relationships and network connections with community-based organizations throughout the state.
- **5.3 Build Pathways for Public Participation:** Based on lessons learned and areas of improvement, build additional and enhanced pathways to welcome and involve ESJ stakeholders into CPUC processes.
- **5.4 Enhance Engagement with Particular ESJ Communities:** Consider the specific needs of particular populations and work to create targeted engagement opportunities.



Goal 6: Enforcement

- **6.1 Protect ESJ Consumers:** Track complaints from ESJ communities and protect against fraud and unfair business practices in CPUC-regulated industries.
- **6.2 Conduct Proactive Action & Analysis in Transportation and Utility Enforcement:** Utilize existing data and enforcement authority to focus on serving ESJ communities and understanding their needs.
- **6.3 Apply ESJ Lens to CPUC Enforcement Policy:** Ensure implementation of Enforcement Policy includes opportunities for ESJ communities to benefit from maximum compliance with CPUC rules and regulations.
- **6.4 Maximize Opportunities within Utility Audits:** Incorporate strategies for engaging with ESJ communities and understanding cumulative impact.

Goal 7: “High Road” Careers & Economic Opportunity

- **7.1 Maximize Authority to Promote High Road:** Continue implementing MOU with CA Workforce Development Board to develop proceeding record and outreach to nontraditional partners to understand opportunities for CPUC to maximize jurisdiction and authority to promote high road careers.
- **7.2 Educate on High Road Careers:** Provide opportunities to educate CPUC staff on high road career paths, best practices, and opportunities to integrate into CPUC programs.
- **7.3 Partner with Utilities and Sister Agencies:** Engage sister agencies with authority and expertise on workforce-related issues and regulated utilities in promoting economic opportunity for ESJ communities.

Goal 8: Training and Staff Development

- **8.1 Bolster Staff Knowledge on ESJ Issues and Resources:** Provide ongoing training to new and existing employees on ESJ issues and continue to offer resources and tools to support staff learning.
- **8.2 Support Emerging Priorities and Skill Needs:** Work in solidarity with other ESJ-aligned plans and efforts and offer new training opportunities to support shared goals.



Goal 9: Monitoring and Evaluation

- **9.1 Establish Consistent Quantitative Metrics:** Pursue opportunities to standardize metrics related to ESJ communities in CPUC programs and proceedings.
- **9.2 Promote Meaningful Feedback Loops:** Cultivate and deepen avenues to receive feedback from the public and demonstrate resulting impact back to specific members of the public.



Tracking & Accountability

- Action Items have a 3-year time horizon
 - Tentatively 2022-2025
- Mid-Point Status Report, offering latest information on implementation of all 93 Action Items, to be published in 2023
 - ESJ Liaisons will provide key support in drafting Status Report
 - Include public presentation to Commissioners and DACAG

5 Minute Break

Welcome from ESJ Liaisons

Anne Kim, Safety Policy Division

Steve St. Marie, Water Division

Phil Voris, Energy Division

Discussion

Discussion Questions

- Are there any CBO priorities not reflected? Any opportunities we should consider?
- How can we make sure the ESJ Action Plan is as useful for intervenors in proceedings, as well as for the public?

Next Steps

Tentative Timeline & Next Steps

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Presentation to Low Income Oversight Board (LIOB) | Wednesday September 29 |
| Presentation to Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) | Friday October 15 |
| Post Draft Version 2.0 for Public Comment | Wednesday October 27 |
| <i>Business & Community Outreach (BCO) Webinar</i> | <i>Wednesday November 3</i> |
| Public Comment Deadline | Friday November 19 |
| Post Final Version | TBD |
| Commissioner Voting Meeting for Adoption | TBD |

Comment Letters

Full Draft ESJ Action Plan available at:
www.cpuc.ca.gov/ESJActionPlan

Comments Due:

Friday November 19, 2021

Submit Comments to:

ESJActionPlan@cpuc.ca.gov

Questions?

THANK YOU!

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