

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505
VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 2, 2024

Via Electronic Transmission Only

Patricia K. Poppe
Chief Executive Officer
Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Cindy Crane
Chief Executive Officer
PacifiCorp

Steven D. Powell
President and Chief Executive Officer
Southern California Edison Company

Paul Marconi
President and Treasurer
Bear Valley Electric Service

Caroline Winn
Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Amy Timperley
Vice President of Regulation
Southwest Gas Company

Scott Drury
Chief Executive Officer
Southern California Gas Company

Raymond J. Czahar
Chief Financial Officer
West Coast Gas Company

Edward Jackson
President
Liberty Utilities (CalPeco)

Michael Lamond
Chief Financial Officer
Alpine Natural Gas

Re: Continuing Coordination to Bring Federal Funding Opportunities to California under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

Dear Ms. Poppe, Mr. Powell, Ms. Winn, Mr. Drury, Mr. Jackson, Ms. Crane, Mr. Marconi, Ms. Timperley, Mr. Czahar and Mr. Lamond:

This letter serves as a follow-up from my January 24th 2022 and November 28th 2022 letters in support of your utility pursuing Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA)/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) federal funding opportunities available to California electric and gas investor-owned utilities (IOUs).

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) views the federal funding opportunities available through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and other agencies as an unprecedented opportunity to help deliver on the Commission's goals of affordable and reliable service while also achieving the State's ambitious climate goals. Over the past year, the CPUC has supported IOU efforts to compete for federal grants and I urge you all as leaders of California's largest energy utilities to continue applying to all suitable federal grant opportunities to benefit your ratepayers, achieve State climate goals, and help keep rates affordable for all customers.

Federal funding provides an opportunity for California to partner and collaborate with the federal

government on common climate goals and reduce the cost burden of the clean energy transition on utility customers. California has demonstrated undeniable leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by making significant investments in clean generation, energy efficiency, grid modernization, electrification, and on many other fronts, but ratepayer affordability remains a challenge. IOUs should continue to be guided by California's AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan, its State Climate Change Assessment, and Commission policy guidance to identify existing infrastructure investment needs, match those needs with federal funding opportunities, and execute applications that advance innovative approaches and reduce the cost of energy.

Through the CPUC's 2023 Resolution E-5254, the CPUC provided a pathway for the IOUs to bring forward federal grant cost-sharing projects for Commission approval with a focus on offsetting ratepayer funds for projects since rates in California continue to outpace inflation. We encourage utilities to also re-apply to federal funding opportunities by making thoughtful improvements to previous applications that address any gaps that may have been identified.

Please continue to make the Commission aware of any challenges you may encounter in your pursuit of federal opportunities and the CPUC will continue to work with you to find solutions to remove barriers to successfully bringing suitable projects to California. Further, please continue the ongoing dialogue with the CPUC and relevant State agencies to identify projects that support the State's efforts to affordably achieve our 2045 climate goals, increase grid reliability, and promote equity.

Thank you for the work you have already invested in the first round of federal funding opportunities. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Hank Brady, Director of Governmental Affairs, CPUC at henry.brady@cpuc.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 591-3963.

Sincerely,



Alice Busching Reynolds
President, California Public Utilities Commission

cc:

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