

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Review, Revise, and Consider Alternatives to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment.

Rulemaking 17-06-026
(Filed June 29, 2017)

**COMMENTS ON PCIA PHASE 2: WORKING GROUP ONE
(BENCHMARK TRUE-UP) WORKSHOP # 1**

INDEPENDENT ENERGY PRODUCERS
ASSOCIATION
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Dated: March 8, 2019

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By Ruling dated February 1, 2019, the Assigned Commissioner set forth the category, issues, and other matters related to Phase 2 of the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) proceeding (Rulemaking 17-06-026). Phase 2 will rely primarily on a working group (WG) process to develop PCIA-related proposals for consideration by the Commission. Working Group One will address proposals related to PCIA Benchmark True-up and Other Benchmarking Issues.¹

Working Group One convened an initial workshop (Workshop #1) on March 1, 2019. The Independent Energy Producers Association respectfully submits these comments on certain of the issues raised during Workshop #1.

Workshop #1 considered a “Proposal for Establishing the Resource Adequacy (RA) and Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Adders” and “Proposed Changes to Data Reporting Requirements” submitted by representatives of load-serving entities and retail sellers, *i.e.*, the utilities, community choice aggregators (CCAs), and electric service providers (ESPs). Data inputs proposed to be included in the PCIA benchmarking mechanism include data that are

¹ Phase 2 Scoping Memo and Ruling of Assigned Commissioner, p. 3.

market-sensitive and confidential to market participants, including sellers of RA capacity and RPS-eligible energy and Renewable Energy Credits. For example, data inputs include the amount of flexible RA capacity under contract by seller, contract execution dates between buyer and seller, contract prices (\$/kW-Month), contract volumes sold, and generation resource costs. Moreover, proposed changes to the data reporting requirements appear to expand the collection of market-sensitive information to include volumes of various market products (*e.g.*, RA, RPS) bought and sold for each month and year of a contract.

The Commission must ensure that the Commission's rules governing market participants' access to market-sensitive and confidential data apply in the context of PCIA benchmarking. PCIA benchmarking should not become the backdoor for market participants to access market-sensitive and confidential information. For example, inappropriate access to confidential data could occur if a load-serving entity or retail seller subject to PCIA benchmarking sought an audit of the core data inputs to verify the accuracy of PCIA Benchmarking outcomes. Accordingly, in the context of PCIA Phase 2, the Commission should clarify and affirm that data collected for purposes of PCIA benchmarking will be subject to the Commission's rules on data confidentiality.

Respectfully submitted March 8, 2019, at San Francisco, California.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

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