



MEMORANDUM

To: LGSEC Energy Efficiency Committee

From: Jody London, Regulatory Consultant

SUBJECT: Local Government Chapter of *Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan*

DATE: September 29, 2014

This memo summarizes a webinar this morning with Jeremy Battis from the Energy Division of the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) regarding the local government chapter of the *Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan*. Many of you will remember that about a year ago, we participated actively with the CPUC on this same topic. After much rush and fuss, the CPUC did nothing. They are now apparently ready to authorize both an updated Menu of activities that meet *Strategic Plan* goals, and an Action Plan that will identify measurable outcomes. They want to do as much as they can without going through a full Commission approval process, which will require longer review time. This Action Plan will eventually become the local government chapter of a revised *Strategic Plan*, however that larger document is nowhere near complete. Jeremy would like to see local governments begin to take on this updated work.

Sadly, I cannot tell you what exactly will be included because the documents are not available. Jeremy said the Action Plan will be similar to the document on which we submitted comments last year; I don't know whether this means they addressed our comments.¹ The revised Action Plan and Menu will be sent out in the near future, with written comments and a webinar or perhaps in-person workshop at the end of October (October 28 or 29, with comments due October 31). The slides that describe all this can be found at [EE Strategic Plan Update](#). There is also a study from Navigant that is being prepared for a different industry sector on which Jeremy would like to get comments. I'm still fuzzy on what exactly that is.

A couple of us from the LGSEC were on the call, and raised a few issues:

- Schedule the comments on the Strategic Plan after we comment on the Proposed Decision for 2015. Sounds like that is already the schedule.
- Ensure that the local government Action Plan allows local governments to perform activities in other sectors, in addition to government. Jeremy said there's a goal focused on moving the community along. We will want to review to see if that is sufficient for you all.

¹ I can send you a copy of our comments if you'd like, just let me know.

- There was discussion about when local governments would begin this work, and how we could modify our agreements with the utilities. In the ideal situation, the utilities will have sufficient funds in their local government partnership budgets that they partners can shift activities, once the new Menu is approved. Jeremy is focused on having local governments be ready to undertake the new Action Plan goals for 2016, and seemed to imply that new applications will be filed for 2016. It's not clear how this interacts with the Rolling Portfolio process that is in development and teed up for Phase 2 of the Energy Efficiency Rulemaking (R.13-11-005).
- I raised the concern that our EE Committee has discussed about wanting an ongoing process for local government partnerships that includes meaningful engagement with local governments. The utility representatives on the call got defensive and wanted to know which local governments felt they were not consulted. The utilities described how they interact with their partners. This is clearly a sensitive topic for them. We will need to think about how we continue to broach this, and be more specific about what is lacking in the current process.

In terms of Next Steps, we will review and comment on the documents when they are released. We can discuss this on our regularly scheduled call on Thursday, October 2, 3:30 p.m. if you are interested.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.