



California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

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CPUC APPROVES DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP AND LOW INCOME OVERSIGHT BOARD MEMBERS

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2, 2018 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has approved members of a new advisory group consisting of representatives of disadvantaged communities who will provide advice on state programs proposed to achieve clean energy and pollution reduction. The CPUC also approved appointments to the Low Income Oversight Board.

Established jointly with the California Energy Commission, the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group will advise both commissions on how programs can effectively reach and benefit communities burdened by pollution and socio-economic challenges, including rural and tribal communities. Program areas include renewable energy, energy efficiency, and transportation electrification. The Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group members are:

- **Stephanie Chen**, Energy and Telecommunications Policy Director at the Greenlining Institute
- **Kevin Day**, Tribal Chairman of the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council, who was chosen to be the Advisory Group's tribal representative by the Governor's Tribal Liaison
- **Stan Greschner**, Vice President of Governmental Relations and Market Development at GRID Alternatives
- **Angela Islas**, Community Health Worker at Central California Asthma Collaborative
- **Roger Lin**, Senior Attorney at the Center for Race, Poverty, and the Environment
- **Adriano Martinez**, Staff Attorney at Earthjustice
- **Jodi Pincus**, Executive Director at the Rising Sun Energy Center
- **Andres Ramirez**, Clean Energy Director at Pacoima Beautiful
- **Waudieur Rucker-Hughes**, President of the National Association for the Advancement of



Colored People (NAACP), Riverside Branch

- **Phoebe Seaton**, Co-Director and Attorney at the Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
- **Tyrone Roderick Williams**, Director of Development at Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency and Director of the Sacramento Promise Zone

The creation of the advisory group fulfills a requirement in Senate Bill 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015. Members of the group represent the diverse nature of disadvantaged communities throughout the state. The California Energy Commission approved the appointments on Feb. 21, 2018. The advisory group's first meeting is expected to be in early spring.

“We are excited that these newly appointed members have volunteered to provide their expertise and guidance on how we can invest equitably in our transition to a clean economy,” said Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves.

The CPUC also appointed members to the Low Income Oversight Board, as follows:

- **Larry Gross**, an incumbent public member of the Low Income Oversight Board, having been appointed to his initial two-year term in January 2012. He is the Executive Director of the Coalition for Economic Survival, a tenants' rights organization serving low and moderate-income renters throughout the greater Los Angeles area.
- **Jeffrey Linam**, an incumbent member of the Low Income Oversight Board, having been appointed to his initial two-year term in February 2016, as the water corporation representative. He is Vice President of Rates and Regulatory for California American Water and Hawaii American Water with more than 20 years of experience working for regulated utilities in California.
- **Maria Stamas**, a new public member to the Low Income Oversight Board. She is an attorney and policy director with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and their lead attorney for a coalition-based initiative, Energy Efficiency for All.
- **Patricia Watts**, an incumbent member of the Low Income Oversight Board, having been appointed to her initial two-year term in January 2012 as the private weatherization contractor representative. She is President and Chief Executive Officer of FCI Management



Inc., a woman and minority owned consulting firm for energy and water efficiency projects.

In addition, Jason Wimbley begins a new two-year term as the Low Income Oversight Board representative for the California Department of Community Services and Development, where he serves as the Chief Deputy Director.

The Legislature established the Low Income Oversight Board to advise the CPUC on low income electric and gas customer issues and to serve as a liaison for the CPUC to low income ratepayers and representatives.

“This strong group of LIOB members will provide eyes and ears on the ground for the CPUC on important low income issues,” said Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen.

The proposals voted on are available as follows:

Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group:

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M209/K584/209584891.PDF>

Low Income Oversight Board:

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M210/K476/210476233.PDF>

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