ALJ/TJG/jnf 4/25/2025



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to consider renewal of the Electric Program Investment Charge Program.

Rulemaking 19-10-005

#### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING NOTICING ELECTRIC PROGRAM INVESTMENT CHARGE EVALUATION AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON ONGOING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR ROLE BY INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITIES

This Ruling notices two documents regarding the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program. The first document, included in this Ruling as Attachment A, is an evaluation of the EPIC Program. The second document, included in this Ruling as Attachment B, is a review of the performance of the investor-owned utilities (IOUs)<sup>1</sup> as EPIC Administrators conducted by the Commission's Energy Division Staff.

Parties are asked to file and serve Opening Comments by not later than

May 9, 2025. The deadline for Reply Comments is May 19, 2025.

Upon the filing of Reply Comments, this proceeding stands submitted.

## 1. EPIC Program Evaluation

Attachment A to this Ruling is a document entitled "Second Independent Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Evaluation," an evaluation of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The three IOUs are Pacific Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas & Electric.

EPIC Program prepared by Evergreen Economics. The evaluation was prepared pursuant to Decision (D.) 23-04-042.<sup>2</sup>

#### 2. Staff Report on IOU Performance Regarding IOU Continuance for EPIC 5

Attachment B to this Ruling is a document entitled "Energy Division Staff Report on IOU Administrator Progress in Implementing the Additional Requirements of D.21-11-028 for the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program."

Decision 21-11-028 authorized the IOUs' EPIC budgets for the EPIC 4 investment plan cycle (through 2025) but not the EPIC 5 investment plant cycle (2026-2030). Approval of the IOU's EPIC 5 budgets first requires a review of their performance as administrators.<sup>3</sup> Staff conducted the compliance review and determined that each IOU has largely addressed the additional administrative requirements specified in D.21-11-028.

## 3. Questions for Parties

Parties are asked to comment on both documents, and to focus their comments on the following questions:

- Do parties agree or disagree with the findings in Staff's Report and have the IOUs sufficiently met the Commission's requirements to continue as EPIC Administrators for EPIC 5? Parties are asked to explain their positions.
- Do the findings of the evaluation support the IOUs continuing as EPIC Administrators for EPIC 5? Parties should identify the specific findings that explain their position.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> D.23-04-042, at Ordering Paragraph 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>D. 21-11-028, at Ordering Paragraph 1, 45-46.

- Do any of the findings in the evaluation raise concerns about the performance of any EPIC Administrator? Parties should identify the specific findings that explain their position.
- Given the incompleteness of program data required for this evaluation, should the Commission conduct another evaluation in 2028?

## 4. Comment Deadline

Parties are asked to file and serve Opening Comments by not later than

May 9, 2025. The deadline for Reply Comments is May 19, 2025.

# 5. Submission

With the filing of Reply Comments on May 19, 2025, this proceeding stands submitted.

## IT IS RULED that:

1. Notice is taken of the documents discussed above and included in this

Ruling as Attachments A and B.

2. Parties are asked to file and serve Opening Comments by not later than

May 9, 2025. The deadline for Reply Comments is May 19, 2025.

 Upon the filing of Reply Comments, this proceeding stands submitted. This order is effective today.

Dated April 25, 2025, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ THOMAS J. GLEGOLA

Thomas J. Glegola Administrative Law Judge R.19-10-005 ALJ/TJG/jnf

ATTACHMENT A

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ATTACHMENT B