



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

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

Rulemaking 19-10-005
(Filed October 10, 2019)

MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS OF SKYDIO, INC.

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May 7, 2025

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I. Introduction

Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") Rules of Practice and Procedure, Skydio, Inc. ("Skydio") hereby moves for party status in the above captioned proceeding.

II. About Skydio

Skydio, located in San Mateo, California, is America's largest drone manufacturer and is committed to helping make the world more productive, creative, and safe with autonomous flight. Since 2014, Skydio has manufactured more than 55,000 drones to support public safety, energy and utilities, defense, and infrastructure monitoring and inspection. Skydio's products provide real-time information for critical infrastructure utilities and are used to support first responder search and rescue operations, military reconnaissance, firefighting efforts, and inspection and maintenance of utility and other critical infrastructure. Skydio drones are equipped with advanced programs, including 3D scanning, and are able to fly at night.

III. Skydio's Interest in this Proceeding

Skydio has partnered with several California utilities to supply drones to support grid inspection, wildfire monitoring and other utility operations. Skydio supports continuation of EPIC funding for grid hardening and monitoring technologies and programs. Skydio further supports the current EPIC administration framework under which both the Commission and

investor-owned utilities have a role in management of EPIC funding awards and IOUs serve as EPIC Administrators.

Skydio is confident that its drones promote public safety and provide significant value for California ratepayers. With respect to monitoring and inspection of utility and energy infrastructure, it has been well established and demonstrated that drones are one of the most affordable, reliable and efficient tools for enhancing grid reliability and resiliency. Drones and remote inspection operations enable utilities to more frequently and accurately monitor system conditions in order to stop outages before they start by ensuring the operators have real time information on the true state of the energy system. They allow utilities to make maintenance decisions based on observed real-world conditions, not schedules, reducing costs by enabling utilities to fix problems before they compound. Additionally, when incidents do occur, drones accelerate response times by allowing for quick assessment of any damage so utilities can send the right personnel and equipment to the right place to bring the system back online. And drone technology significantly improves safety by enabling workers to inspect infrastructure--including tall towers--at a safe distance.

Skydio drones are well suited to assist with infrastructure maintenance and monitoring and disaster response. Skydio drones are used by multiple investor owned utilities not only in California but across the United States. From PGE, SoCal Edison to Southern Company, Dominion, AEP and many more, our drones are used by the largest electric utilities every day for system maintenance and emergency response. Skydio looks forward to continued participation as an EPIC program vendor in the future. Having the benefit of being based in California and working directly with the major IOUs of the state, we believe our views would be of value to the commission in its work to make improvements and advance the Commission's strategic objectives, in particular Strategic Objective 13 (Cost-Effective Grid Hardening for Long-Term Climate Impacts) and Strategic Objective 10 (Expediting and Streamlining Interconnection and Energization). Skydio has supported, and will continue to support, California utilities in meeting both of these objectives and looks forward to sharing insights from that experience with the Commission in this proceeding.

IV. Notice

Service of notices, orders, and other correspondence in this proceeding should be directed to Skydio at the address set forth below:

Ben Husch
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3000 Clearview
Way San Mateo,
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V. Conclusion

Skydio's participation in this proceeding will not prejudice any party and will not delay the schedule or broaden the scope of the issues in the proceeding. For the reasons stated above, Skydio respectfully requests that the CPUC grant this Motion for Party Status filing.

Dated: May 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Brubaker

Michael Brubaker
Vice President, Commercial
Sales
Skydio, Inc.