

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



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R2401017

Order Instituting Rulemaking To Continue)
Implementation and Administration, and Consider)
Further Development, of California Renewables)
Portfolio Standard Program.)
_____)
Rulemaking 24-01-017
(Issued February 1, 2024)

**JOINT COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATORS'
NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

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June 8, 2026

On behalf of the
Joint Community Choice Aggregators

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**JOINT COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATORS’
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Pursuant to Rule 8.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“**Commission**”) Rules of Practice and Procedure, Pioneer Community Energy (“**Pioneer**”) and the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (“**RCEA**”) (collectively, the “**Joint CCAs**”) hereby give notice of an ex parte communication with David Fermino, advisor to Commissioner Harada, and Nick Dahlberg, advisor to Commission President Reynolds.

The joint meeting occurred on June 4, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. The communication was oral, lasted approximately 30 minutes and was conducted via Webex videoconferences. The communication was initiated by the Joint CCAs, and was guided by a written document, which is attached to this notice as Attachment A.

The following individuals participated in the meeting for the Joint CCAs: Faith Carlson, RCEA, Legislative and Regulatory Policy Manager, and Chau Pham, Pioneer, Legislative and Regulatory Policy Analyst.

During the meeting, representatives from the Joint CCAs spoke from the presentation material set forth in Attachment A. As noted in the presentation material, the principal purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues surrounding an extension of the end date for the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff (“**BioMAT**”) program and to request that the issue be scoped into Rulemaking 24-01-017. In support of this discussion, the Joint CCAs provided background on the involvement of community choice

aggregators (“CCAs”) in the BioMAT program and discussed the Joint CCAs’ interest in and support for extension of the BioMAT program. The Joint CCAs also discussed the recent execution of seven BioMAT power purchase agreements from the collective participating CCAs, demonstrating the value of the BioMAT program for local communities and the need for the program to be extended.

Dated: June 8, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Scott Blaising

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Attachment A

R.18-07-003 & R.24-01-17: Renewables Portfolio Standard – Consideration of BioMAT Program Extension Past 2025

June 4, 2026

Agenda

01

Introduction

02

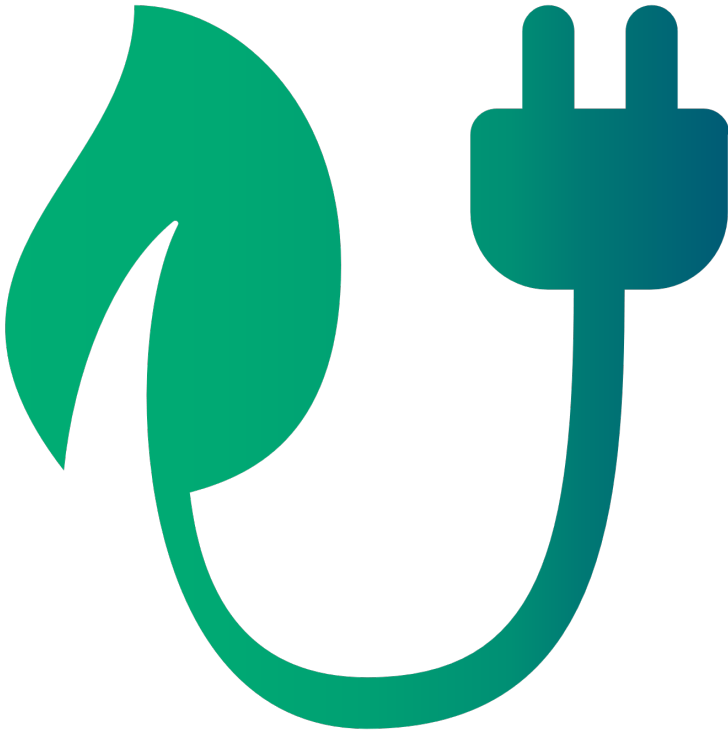
Background on CCAs' Participation in BioMAT

03

CCAs' BioMAT Implementation Efforts

04

BioMAT Program Extension



Introduction

- ⚡ Purpose of the Ex Parte: Provide participating CCAs' perspective on the need to formally extend BioMAT as soon as possible
- ⚡ Joint CCA Representatives
 - ⚡ Pioneer Community Energy
 - ⚡ Sam Kang, Chief Operating Officer
 - ⚡ Chau Pham, Legislative and Regulatory Analyst
 - ⚡ Redwood Coast Energy Authority
 - ⚡ Faith Carlson, Regulatory & Legislative Policy Manager

Background on CCAs & BioMAT

- ⚡ SB 1122 (2016) – Established BioMAT program in 2017 to incentivize development of small scale (1-5MW) renewable bioenergy generation
 - ⚡ Less than 20% of program capacity has been subscribed to date (48.5 MW out of 250 MW)
 - ⚡ Does not include a sunset of BioMAT
- ⚡ D.20 -08-043 – Established the current December 31, 2025 sunset for BioMAT, meaning no new BioMAT contracts can be executed after that date
- ⚡ AB 843 (2021) – Legislation enabled CCAs to participate in BioMAT
- ⚡ D.23 -11-084 – CPUC implemented AB 843
 - ⚡ CCA program governing documents became effective February 28, 2024
 - ⚡ CCAs have had only one and a half years to implement BioMAT and develop projects
- ⚡ May 2024 RPS Scoping Memo: BioMAT extension “may” be considered in early 2025

CCA's Interest in BioMAT

- ⚡ BioMAT provides a variety of benefits to CCAs and the needs of their local communities by supporting local bioenergy development for affordable, clean, firm energy
 - ⚡ Forest fuel reduction for wildfire mitigation
 - ⚡ Reduces greenhouse gas emissions and local air pollutants, including, for example, emissions from decaying biofuels and wildfires
 - ⚡ Compliance with local waste recycling requirements (SB 1383)
 - ⚡ Local economic development
 - ⚡ Access to clean firm generation resource

Status of CCAs' BioMAT Implementation Efforts

- ⚡ In the short 1.5 years CCAs were given to implement BioMAT, CCAs collectively executed 7 PPAs, totaling 21 MW
 - ⚡ 3CE executed 1 Category 2 BioMAT PPA in July 2025
 - ⚡ Pioneer executed 1 Category 2 BioMAT PPA and 5 Category 3 BioMAT PPAs between February and May 2026
- ⚡ Outreach and marketing efforts
 - ⚡ All participating CCAs created an individual webpage and conducted outreach and marketing efforts to their local community to garner interest and guide developers through the BioMAT program
 - ⚡ RCEA held a well-attended in-person workshop on BioMAT at its Eureka office on August 14, 2025. Attendees included:
 - ⚡ Potential site hosts, including dairy operators, forest products industry, university facility operations, and the local waste management authority
 - ⚡ An experienced developer of biogas projects
 - ⚡ Staff from authorities having jurisdiction with project permitting expertise

Status of CCAs' BioMAT Implementation Efforts

Recently Executed BioMAT PPAs by CCAs

CCA/IOU	Project	Project Category	Developer	Project Status
Central Coast Community Energy	Tracy Renewable Power Plant	Category 2	Tracy Renewable Energy	PPA executed on 7/2/2025
Pioneer Community Energy	Mariposa Bioenergy	Category 3	West Biofuels	PPA executed on 2/13/2026
Pioneer Community Energy	Grass Valley Bioenergy	Category 3	West Biofuels	PPA executed on 5/13/2026
Pioneer Community Energy	Marysville Bioenergy	Category 3	West Biofuels	PPA executed on 5/13/2026
Pioneer Community Energy	Biggs Bioenergy	Category 2	West Biofuels	PPA executed on 5/13/2026
Pioneer Community Energy	Quincy Bioenergy	Category 3	West Biofuels	PPA executed on 5/13/2026
Pioneer Community Energy	Arnold, Calaveras	Category 3	Phoenix Energy	PPA executed on 5/13/2026

BioMAT Extension

- ⚡ **Request:** Scope the issue of BioMAT extension into R. 24-01-017, as was contemplated in the May 2024 Scoping Memo and Ruling.
- ⚡ **Why should the BioMAT program not end prematurely?**
 - ⚡ May 2024 RPS Scoping Memo stated that BioMAT extension “may” be considered in early 2025 and the Commission previously recognized the limited time CCAs had to execute BioMAT contracts and stated that they would strongly consider extension if the CCAs could prove a real need for the program through PPAs and pipeline of projects.
 - ⚡ CCAs successfully secured 7 BioMAT PPAs in the limited 1.5-year implementation period, providing evidence there is continued interest and need for the program.
 - ⚡ The program still has more than 70% of capacity unsubscribed, and the original enabling legislation (SB 1122) did not include a sunset date.
 - ⚡ There are well over a dozen BioMAT projects in varying stages of development in the queue that are unreasonably delayed due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., PG&E interconnection delays). These projects would die on the vine after millions of dollars and time spent.
 - ⚡ Bioenergy is a key tool and natural outlet for the 10-15 million bone dry tons of forest waste that needs to be cleared to mitigate wildfire risk, which poses a significant threat to the state’s goals for GHG emissions reduction and energy affordability.

Conclusion: The Commission should scope the issue of BioMAT extension into R. 24-01-017.

Questions and Answers