

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



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Order Instituting Rulemaking to
Enhance Demand Response in
California.

Rulemaking 25-09-004
(Filed September 18, 2025)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
VEHICLE-GRID INTEGRATION COUNCIL**

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Date: October 23, 2026

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VEHICLE-GRID INTEGRATION COUNCIL**

Pursuant to Rule 8.4(a) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), the Vehicle-Grid Integration Council (“VGIC”) provides this notice of four ex parte meetings.

The first ex parte meeting was held Tuesday, October 20, 2026 from 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. with Audrey Neuman, Energy Advisor to Commissioner Darcie Houck. The meeting took place via WebEx. The non-Commission persons in attendance were Zach Woogen, Executive Director, VGIC; and Grace Pratt, California Policy Director, VGIC.

The second ex parte meeting was held Thursday, October 22, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. with Nick Dahlberg, Energy Advisor to President John Reynolds; Justin Galle, Energy Advisor to President John Reynolds; and Justin Ong, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Matthew Baker. The meeting took place via WebEx. The non-Commission person in attendance was Zach Woogen, Executive Director, VGIC.

The third ex parte meeting was held Friday, October 23, 2026 from 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. with Sarah Lerhaupt, Advisor to Commissioner Karen Douglas; and Cristina Lizarraga, Policy Assistant to Commissioner Karen Douglas. The meeting took place via WebEx. The non-Commission persons in attendance were Zach Woogen, Executive Director, VGIC; and Grace Pratt, California Policy Director, VGIC.

The fourth ex parte meeting was held Friday, October 23, 2026 from 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. with David Fermino, Advisor to Commissioner Christine Harada. The meeting took place via Microsoft Teams. The non-Commission persons in attendance were Zach Woogen, Executive Director, VGIC; and Grace Pratt, California Policy Director, VGIC.

During all four meetings, VGIC discussed the *Proposed Decision Approving Two-Year Bridge Funding for Demand Response Programs* (“Proposed Decision” or “PD”). VGIC explained that the Commission should approve the two-year extension of bridge funding for the Emergency Load Reduction Program (“ELRP”). VGIC explained that there is substantial evidence in the record that ELRP should be extended and that ELRP provides valuable grid resources from electric vehicles (“EVs”), especially bidirectional EVs, that would otherwise be unavailable. VGIC also recommended that the Commission maintain the current minimum dispatch hours for Group A.5, or EV aggregations. If the Commission decides to reduce the minimum dispatch hours for Group A.5, the reduction should be limited to 10 percent – the same reduction applied to Group A.4 – and applied only during the bridge years.

All communications were oral; no written materials were shared.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Zach Woogen

Zach Woogen

Executive Director

VEHICLE-GRID INTEGRATION COUNCIL

Date: October 23, 2026