



California Public Utilities Commission
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PRESS RELEASE

Docket #: A.18-06-015

CPUC EXPANDS SCE CHARGE READY 2 TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO, August 27, 2020 – The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in its ongoing efforts to meet California’s 2030 goal of 5 million zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the road, today approved Southern California Edison’s (SCE) Charge Ready 2 infrastructure program, the largest single-utility electric vehicle charging program in the nation.

Today’s Decision authorizes a budget of \$437 million that will fund the installation of approximately 38,000 charging ports for SCE’s Charge Ready program piloted in 2016 and expanded in 2018. The program prioritizes multi-unit dwellings and disadvantaged communities because they face barriers to transportation electrification. This Decision was supported by a broad set of stakeholders including SCE, environmental organizations, the electric vehicle industry, and ratepayer advocates.

The approved programs include:

- The Make-Ready Expansion Program builds upon the Charge Ready Pilot with an increased focus on disadvantaged communities and multi-unit dwellings. “Make-ready” refers to a range of infrastructure upgrades needed to support EV chargers, such as higher voltage electric panels, conduit, and wiring.
- A New Construction Rebate provides for the additional installation and charger costs to developers of multi-unit dwellings that exceed CALGreen or local building codes.
- Program participants must participate in demand response programs and accept time of use pricing in order to align charging incentives with grid conditions. Charging stations will also be strongly encouraged to use the time of use structure in the prices they charge electric vehicle drivers.



- Fifty percent of all the investment must take place in disadvantaged communities and 30 percent in multi-unit dwellings, significantly increasing access to transportation electrification for customers that face high barriers to EV adoption.
- The Charge Ready 2 program is expected to create a number of high-quality jobs for engineers, electricians, and construction workers. The Decision requires SCE to annually report on the number and types of jobs created, including information on training and wages.

The CPUC’s Decision adopts a program and budget that is more cost effective and closely aligned with the State’s electric vehicle goals than SCE’s original proposal of \$760.1 million. Among other things, the Decision approves the modified program at approximately 40 percent lower cost to ratepayers with only a 20 percent reduction in the number of charging ports, and reduces the estimated cost per port.

Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen commented, “This Decision furthers California’s ambitious goals to increase ZEVs and end harmful tailpipe pollution by filling gaps in the State’s EV infrastructure. Its focus on investments in multi-family homes and disadvantaged communities means we will begin to address historic disinvestment in areas that need it most.”

“This Decision supports the important work of building the infrastructure needed to enable electrification of the state’s light-duty vehicle sector and I appreciate that there’s a 50 percent target for charging stations to be located in disadvantaged communities,” said Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma.

The proposal voted on is available at:

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M345/K702/345702701.PDF>.

Documents related to the proceeding are at:

https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/apex/f?p=401:56:0::NO:RP,57,RIR:P5_PROCEEDING_SELECT:A1806015.

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, protects consumers, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians’ access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.



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