



**California Public Utilities Commission**  
**505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: R.20-05-003

**CPUC PROVIDES TRANSMISSION PLANNING GUIDANCE TO  
CAISO TO HELP MEET ENERGY NEEDS AND CLIMATE GOALS**

SAN FRANCISCO, February 11, 2021 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today continued its work in helping the state meet its ambitious decarbonization goals by providing guidance aimed at procuring more clean energy resources for the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to use in its 2021-2022 Transmission Planning Process.

The CPUC's role in the CAISO's Transmission Planning Process is to select generation and storage resources for the CAISO to study for their transmission needs. Today's Decision recommends to the CAISO that it study a transmission plan that:

- Includes a base case portfolio with more than 28,000 megawatts (MW) of new greenhouse gas (GHG)-free resources, including geothermal, long duration storage resources, and 9,000 MW of new battery storage. The vast majority of the resources are assumed to be located in California. This resource portfolio is consistent with meeting a 46 million metric ton (MMT) GHG emissions target for California's electricity sector in 2031 and in line with California's target of reducing overall GHG emissions statewide by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, and also with what is necessary to meet the State's reliability goals.
- Maps [resources](#) to specific locations on the electric grid to minimize local air pollutants in disadvantaged communities and areas with poor air quality.
- Includes two "sensitivity" portfolios that study the transmission needs for two other scenarios:
  - An accelerated scenario that meets a 38 MMT GHG emissions target in 2031, including a portfolio of 20,000 MW of new in-state renewables, more than 10,000 MW of new battery storage, and 3,000 MW of out-of-state renewables.



- A scenario including the significant development of offshore wind to better understand the transmission needs for California.

“Our Decision is an important step in helping us prepare for the large-scale investment in clean energy resources that we will need to meet our ambitious climate goals,” said Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen. “It also positions us well for the adoption of more aggressive targets going forward.”

In addition to these planning efforts, over the next two years more than 8,000 MWs of new clean energy resources are coming online in response to CPUC directions.

For more information on the CPUC’s Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) processes, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov/irp](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/irp).

The proposal voted on is available at:

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M364/K581/364581537.PDF>.

Documents related to the proceeding are available at:

[https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/apex/f?p=401:56:0::NO:RP,57,RIR:P5\\_PROCEEDING\\_SELECT:R2005003](https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/apex/f?p=401:56:0::NO:RP,57,RIR:P5_PROCEEDING_SELECT:R2005003).

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, 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](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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