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| **State of California** | **Public Utilities Commission** |
|  | **San Francisco** |
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| **M E M O R A N D U M** |  |
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**Date: April 29, 2021**

**To: The Commission**

 **(Meeting of May 6, 2021)**

**From: Donald Brooks, Energy Division**

 **Chris Clay, Legal Division**

Subject: Staff Seeks Ratification of Responses to Questions Posed by FERC Regarding Electric Reliability, Climate Change, and Extreme Weather Events Filed in FERC Docket No. AD21-13

**REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY**

The CPUC Staff (Staff) seeks Commission ratification of responses to questions from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in advance of FERC’s *Technical Conference to Discuss Climate Change, Extreme Weather, and Electric System Reliability*, submitted in FERC Docket No. AD21-13-000. Staff filed the responses at FERC on April 15.

**DISCUSSION:** On March 5th, FERC announced that it would hold a technical conference “to discuss issues surrounding the threat to electric system reliability posed by climate change and extreme weather events.”[[1]](#footnote-1)  The technical conference is scheduled for June 1st and 2nd.

Recognizing that the specific challenges to electric reliability may vary by region, the FERC “seeks to understand the near, medium and long-term challenges facing the regions of the country; how decisionmakers in the regions are evaluating and addressing those challenges; and whether further action from the Commission is needed to help achieve an electric system that can withstand, respond to, and recover from extreme weather events.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

On March 15, the FERC invited stakeholders to respond to a series of questions in advance of the technical conference.  The seventeen questions address a broad range of issues related to electric reliability including modeling and planning assumptions, resource adequacy, black start capability, among others (*see* Attachment A). Responses were due April 15.

Staff drafted responses (*see* Attachment B) to certain of FERC’s questions and filed them at FERC on April 15.

**CONCLUSION:** Staff recommends Commission ratification of responses to FERC questions regarding electric reliability, climate change, and extreme weather events filed by Staff on April 15th in FERC docket no. AD21-13.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**ATTACHMENT B**

Attachment 1:

[Attachment A](http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M381/K265/381265782.pdf)

Attachment 2:

[Attachment B](http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M381/K267/381267573.pdf)

1. *Climate Change, Extreme Weather, and Electric System Reliability*, Notice of Technical Conference (March 5, 2021) FERC Docket No. AD21-13-000. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Id*. at 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)