

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Modernize
the Electric Grid for a High Distributed
Energy Resources Future.

Rulemaking 21-06-017

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding until October 30, 2026.

1. Background

Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) Section 1701.5(a) provides that the Commission shall resolve the issues raised in the scoping memo of a quasi-legislative proceeding within 18 months of the date the proceeding is initiated, unless the Commission makes a written determination that the deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. The current statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is December 31, 2025.

On June 24, 2021, the Commission initiated Rulemaking (R.) 21-06-017 to prepare the electric grid for a high number of distributed energy resources, including those specific to transportation electrification and as defined in Assembly Bill 327 (Perea, 2013) and Pub. Util. Code Section 769.

On August 17, 2021, the assigned Administrative Law Judge held a prehearing conference, to develop the list of parties in this proceeding.

On November 15, 2021, the assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo and Ruling (Scoping Memo) which set forth the issues, need for evidentiary hearing and extended the statutory deadline for R.21-06-017 to March 31, 2025.

On April 5, 2023, the assigned Commissioner issued a Proposed Decision providing funding details for funding the proceeding's consultant services.

On August 11, 2023, the assigned Commissioner issued an Amended Scoping Memo which extended the statutory deadline for R.21-06-017 to December 31, 2025.

On September 13, 2024, the assigned Commissioner issued a Proposed Decision adopting improvements to distribution planning and project execution processes, distribution resource planning data portals, and integration capacity analysis maps.

Due to the complexity of this proceeding and limited staff resources, an extension of the statutory deadline until October 30, 2026 is necessary to allow adequate time for the Commission to consider remaining issues in scope.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment on the proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Darcie L. Houck is the assigned Commissioner, and Jack Chang & Justin Regnier are the assigned Administrative Law Judges in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. This Rulemaking was initially opened on June 24, 2021
2. On November 15, 2021, a Scoping Memo extended the statutory deadline for R.21-06-017 until March 31, 2025.
3. On August 11, 2023, an Amended Scoping Memo extended the statutory deadline for R.21-06-017 until December 31, 2025.
4. R.21-06-017 cannot be completed by December 31, 2025.
5. An extension of the statutory deadline to October 30, 2026, is necessary to allow time for the Commission to resolve this proceeding.

Conclusion of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline in this proceeding should be extended to October 30, 2026.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until October 30, 2026.

This order is effective today.

Dated December __, 2025, at San Francisco, California.