

Decision 26-01-009 January 15, 2026

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

Order Instituting Rulemaking to  
Consider Strategies and Guidance for  
Climate Change Adaptation.

Rulemaking 18-04-019

**ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**

**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to 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 the deadline. The statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is January 31, 2026.

The Commission established Rulemaking (R.) 18-04-019 on April 26, 2018 to consider strategies to integrate climate change adaptation matters in relevant Commission proceedings. The initial statutory deadline was October 26, 2019. On October 10, 2018, the assigned Commissioner issued the Scoping Memo and Ruling (Scoping Memo) for Phase 1 of this proceeding. On October 24, 2019, the Commission adopted the first decision in this proceeding, Decision (D.) 19-10-

054, which, among other things, defined climate change adaptation for energy utilities in California; identified the *California Fourth Climate Assessment* and any subsequent assessments as the primary source of climate forecasts, pathways, and scientific studies; and established criteria for any further data or models that energy utilities may develop to understand climate impacts.

Also, on October 24, 2019, the Commission issued D.19-10-059, which extended the statutory deadline for resolution of this proceeding until September 30, 2020, to provide for additional time for the Commission to address remaining topics in this proceeding.

On August 27, 2020, the Commission issued the second decision in this proceeding, D.20-08-046, which adopted climate adaptation reporting requirement and community outreach plans so that energy utilities would be prepared to upgrade their infrastructure, operations, and services to adapt to climate change, and to ensure safe and reliable energy service to all Californians, including those most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

On September 24, 2020, the Commission issued D.20-09-038, which extended the statutory deadline for resolution of this proceeding until September 30, 2021, to provide for additional time for the Commission to address remaining topics in this proceeding.

On September 23, 2021, the Commission issued D.21-09-039 which extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding until December 30, 2022.

On December 15, 2022, the Commission issued D.22-12-038 which extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding until June 30, 2024.

On June 2, 2023, the assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo for Phase 2 of this proceeding, which extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding until December 31, 2024.

On December 19, 2024, the Commission issued D.24-12-050 which extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding until January 31, 2026.

An extension of the statutory deadline until October 30, 2026 is necessary to allow adequate time for the Commission to resolve the outstanding 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 waive the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment on a decision that extends the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.5. Under the circumstances of this proceeding, it is appropriate to waive the 30-day period for public review and comment.

## **3. Assignment of Proceeding**

Darcie L. Houck is the assigned Commissioner and Jonathan Lakey and Trevor Pratt are the assigned Administrative Law Judges in this proceeding.

### **Findings of Fact**

1. R.18-04-019 was issued on April 26, 2018.
2. The assigned Commissioner's Scoping Memo was issued on October 10, 2018.
3. D.19-10-059 extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to September 30, 2020.

4. D.20-09-038 extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to September 30, 2021.
5. D.21-09-033 extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to December 30, 2022.
6. D.22-12-038 extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to June 30, 2024.
7. On June 2, 2023, the assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo that extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to December 31, 2024.
8. D.24-12-050 extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to January 31, 2026.
9. R.18-04-019 cannot be completed by January 31, 2026.
10. An extension of the statutory deadline until October 30, 2026, is necessary to allow adequate time to complete this proceeding.

### **Conclusion of Law**

Pursuant to the Commission's authority under Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline should be extended until 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 January 15, 2026, at San Francisco, California.

ALICE REYNOLDS  
President  
DARCIE L. HOUCK  
JOHN REYNOLDS  
KAREN DOUGLAS

Commissioners

Commissioner Matthew Baker recused himself from this agenda item and was not part of the quorum in its consideration.