

**REGULATORY UPDATE FOR MAY 23, 2023
(WEEK OF MAY 15, 2023)**

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

New Proposed Decisions and Draft Resolutions¹

None to report.

Voting Meetings

The CPUC held a voting meeting on May 18, 2023. The following are results for energy-related items on the agenda.

Item 4. Application (A.)20-02-009, A.20-04-002, and A.20-06-001 (PSPS Revenues). This decision resolves the 2019 ERRRA Compliance Phase Two proceedings of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) (Joint Utilities) that were consolidated to address issues related to the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events the Joint Utilities initiated in 2019. This decision prohibits the Joint Utilities from adjusting future rates to collect any revenue shortfalls, recorded as under collections in their respective balancing accounts, caused by PSPS events in 2019. This decision also adopts a methodology to calculate the estimated unrealized revenues the Joint Utilities incurred in 2019 or will incur during future PSPS events. **Held to June 8, 2023.**

Item 6. A.22-05-005 (SDG&E and SCE Gas Rules and Memorandum Accounts). By this Application, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and SDG&E request authorization to establish the memorandum account to record costs imposed by current and proposed amendments by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. This decision finds that SoCalGas and SDG&E did not meet their burden of proof that this memorandum account is necessary or reasonable as proposed. Instead, CPUC finds that the existing Z-Factor in the companies' recent Phase 1 general rate case (GRC) decisions in fact provides appropriate allowances for initial rate relief treatment until the various projects that flow from the new Rules Project are included in subsequent Phase 1 GRCs. This decision adopts a Rules Project Gas Rules & Regulations Memorandum Account, subject to the application of the companies' existing Z-Factor, with separate subaccounts for each of the two proposed new rules, to be effective on the date of this decision. The application of the Z-Factor will be applied one time for both companies to the memorandum account, not to each subaccount. This decision allows for the potential recovery of costs tracked in a memorandum account that are in excess of the companies' Z-Factor Allowances but does not assure the future recovery of any costs and

¹ Per CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure Rule 14.3, comments on proposed decisions are due 20 days after issuance of the proposed decision, and reply comments are due five days thereafter. Comments on draft resolutions are due 20 days after the draft resolution appears in CPUC's daily calendar, per Rule 14.5.

does not change existing rates, as with any memorandum account there must be a subsequent reasonableness review. **Signed, D.23-05-003.**

Item 7. R.14-10-003 (IDER Regulatory Framework). This decision denies the petition of the Solar Energy Industries Association and the California Solar & Storage Association to modify Decision (D.)22-05-022. CPUC continues to support the policy determination in D.22-05-022 to revise the “No New DER” scenario to exclude both load reducing and load inducing distributed energy resources from the load forecast in this scenario. CPUC agrees with the petitioners that a zero value for the Greenhouse Gas Adder was not anticipated. As shown through CPUC adoption of Resolution E-5228 that approved the 2022 Avoided Cost Calculator values, however, CPUC considers the Energy Division’s solution to resolving the zero value to be a reasonable approach. This decision determines that the petitioners brought no facts to this proceeding that have not already been addressed either in this proceeding or in the resolution process approving Resolution E-5228. **Signed, D.23-05-004.**

Item 12. A.19-11-003 et al., A.19-11-004, A.19-11-005, A.19-11-006, and A.19-11-007 (PG&E Energy Savings Assistance and California Alternate Rates for Energy Programs and Budgets for 2021-2026 Program Years). This decision lays out the procedure for implementation of the Low-Income Customer Assistance Program Concurrent Application System (CAS), as required by Senate Bill (SB) 1208. This decision establishes a working group to provide PG&E and CPUC’s Energy Division with design recommendations and advice during the development process of the CAS. PG&E is directed to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the CAS within 30 days after CPUC has issued a resolution outlining recommended CAS RFP design requirements. PG&E shall file a Tier 3 Advice Letter seeking approval for the CAS development contract, within 190 days after it has released the CAS development RFP. PG&E, SCE, SDG&E, and SoCalGas shall each establish two-way balancing accounts to record CAS development costs and file a Tier 2 Advice Letter within 30 days of the effective date of this decision to establish these balancing accounts. **Signed, D.23-05-006.**

Item 15. Resolution E-5267 SCE Advice Letter (AL) 4950-E, PG&E AL 6826-E, SDG&E AL 4142-E (Modifications to Emergency Load Reduction Program). This Resolution adopts, with modifications, changes to the Emergency Load Reduction Program (ELRP) as proposed by the Joint Utilities. This Resolution orders the Joint Utilities to file amended ELRP terms and conditions documents, via a supplemental AL, incorporating modifications. The following proposed changes are approved: allow dual participation between ELRP sub-group A.4 or A.5, and an IOU air conditioner cycling program, subject to certain conditions; transition SCE’s Charge Ready customers to ELRP sub-group A.1 or another eligible demand response program; reduce the Minimum Size Threshold required for SDG&E customers to participate in ELRP sub-group A.1 from 50 kW to 1 kW potential load reduction; and revising the method Joint Utilities use to calculate incremental load reduction achieved by ELRP Group A customers during an event. **Approved.**

Item 18. Investigation (I.)15-08-19 (PG&E Safety Culture). This decision adopts the Modified Safety Policy Division Staff Report, dated April 2023 (Modified Staff Report), attached to this decision as Attachment A. The Modified Staff Report sets forth recommended

reporting requirements and proposes a plan for tracking designated recommendations from NorthStar Consulting Group, Inc.'s 2017 Assessment of PG&Es Safety Culture and 2019 First Update Report. The Modified Staff Report reflects several modifications to the prior version of the staff report, circulated to the service list of this proceeding on September 16, 2022. This decision discusses the reasoning for those modifications. Commission Staff will continue to monitor PG&E's safety practices and take action, as needed. PG&E is ordered to comply with the reporting requirements set forth in the Modified Staff Report. **Signed, D.23-05-009.**

Item 22. A.22-05-015, A.22-05-016 (Sempra Utilities 2024 GRC). This decision grants Sempra Utilities authority to establish GRC memorandum accounts for the recording of the test year 2024 GRC revenue requirements effective January 1, 2024, for track 1. Sempra shall use the memorandum accounts to track and recover under-collection or refund over-collection in rates. This decision authorizes Sempra to make January 1, 2024 the effective date of any new revenue requirements and associated tariff revisions and ratemaking mechanisms approved by CPUC in this 2024 GRC. This decision also grants Sempra's request to allow for the recovery of interest, based on a Federal Reserve three-month commercial paper rate, to the extent necessary to keep Sempra, ratepayers, and shareholders relatively indifferent to the timing of CPUC's final decision regarding the 2024 revenue requirement. Within 60 days of the issuance of the decision, each Sempra utility shall file a Tier 1 AL updating its respective Tariff Preliminary Statement to reflect this decision. **Signed, D.22-05-012.**

Item 45. R.23-05-018 (OIR to Update and Amend Commission General Order 131-D). This rulemaking will update and clarify General Order (GO) 131-D pursuant to SB 529. GO 131-D sets forth CPUC's process for addressing the siting of electric transmission lines, substations, and related facilities. GO 131-D is based on Public Utilities Code Section 1001, which generally requires electric utilities, prior to constructing or expanding transmission facilities, to obtain from CPUC a certificate that the "public convenience and necessity" requires such construction. **Signed.**

For more information on Item 45, see "*CPUC Opens Rulemaking to Streamline Permitting Procedures for Electrical Facilities*" available on the [Renewable + Law blog](#).

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR (CAISO)

Stakeholder Initiatives: Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines

Inverter-Based Resource Dynamic Model Validation Procedure. CAISO will hold a public stakeholder [call](#) on June 12, 2023 to discuss the updated process requiring interconnection customers to perform additional test on Inverter-Based Resource models and include the test results as part of the Material Modification and Interconnection Request processes.

Extended Day-Ahead Market. On May 16, 2023, in response to requests from stakeholders during the May 15, 2023 Extended Day-Ahead Market draft tariff language

workshop, CAISO posted a working draft of Section 33 of the draft tariff language. The working draft is available on the [EDAM initiative webpage](#).

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION (CEC)

Offshore Wind

On May 10, 2023, the CEC [adopted](#) the [Energy Commission Report on AB 525 Offshore Wind Energy Permitting Roadmap](#). According to the Report's Executive Summary:

While the CEC held a public workshop and allowed for a comment period, the process for developing the Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap was condensed to meet the statutory deadline. After consideration, the CEC believes it is important that additional options and suggestions — some from comments received and those identified through additional engagement — be carefully and fully evaluated and vetted before deciding the best permitting pathway.

As a result, in this report, the CEC includes additional information on state permitting agencies and processes for a more complete picture of the permitting landscape beyond the various federal processes. This report outlines additional permitting options or frameworks for consideration in developing a final permitting roadmap. *The CEC anticipates inclusion of a final permitting roadmap as part the AB 525 offshore wind strategic plan.*

Several approaches are available to serve as a framework for permitting and environmental reviews of offshore wind facilities. In addition to the option described in the Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap, several other options could be considered.

California Energy Comm'n, *Commission Report re Assembly Bill 525 Offshore Wind Energy Permitting Roadmap* at 1-2 (Apr. 2023) (emphasis added).

In the coming weeks, the CEC will also be holding a few remote-access AB 525 offshore wind workshops, as follows:

- [May 23, 2023](#) – Ports and Workforce Development to Support Floating Offshore Wind Development ([agenda](#))
- [May 25, 2023](#) – Assessing Transmission Upgrades and Investments for Offshore Wind Development off the Coast of California ([agenda](#))
- [June 1, 2023](#) – Identifying Additional Suitable Sea Space and Assessing Impacts and Mitigations for Offshore Wind Energy Development
- [June 2, 2023](#) – Offshore Wind Energy Permitting Roadmap

In addition to the above, last week the CEC held two [Tribal Listening Sessions](#) regarding the development of offshore wind in federal waters off the coast of California.

Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR)

The CEC's [2023 IEPR Workshop Schedule](#) has been released. Forthcoming workshops include:

- [June 7](#): Regional Workshop on Interconnection in Southern CA
- [June 27 and 28](#): Accelerating Clean Energy Interconnection to the Grid at Bulk & Distribution Levels
- [July 6](#): Hydrogen
- [August 15](#): California Electricity Demand Forecast: Inputs and Assumptions
- [August 18](#): California Electricity Demand Forecast: Load Modifier Scenario Development
- [September 8](#): Revised Gas Price Forecast
- [November 15](#): California Electricity Demand Forecast: Load Modifier Scenario Results
- [December 6](#): California Electricity Demand Forecast: Electricity Forecast Results

The schedule is also accessible on the [2023 IEPR website](#).

Long Duration Energy Storage

On May 9, 2023, CEC Staff held a [workshop](#) on long duration energy storage (LDES) analysis. At the remote-access workshop, Staff presented the results of Energy & Environmental Economics, Inc.'s final analysis as part of the grant agreement "Assessing Long-duration Energy Storage Deployment Scenarios to Meet California's Energy Goals" funded under EPIC. This final analysis assesses the roles and cost targets for LDES to meet California's energy goals in a varied set of scenarios through 2045.

Energy System Reliability

The CEC held a remote-access workshop on May 17, 2023 to provide an outlook regarding 2023 summer reliability. According to the workshop [Notice](#), Staff from the CPUC, the Department of Water Resources, and CAISO met to discuss and provide information on anticipated summer conditions, including "a summary of new clean energy resources coming online, hydroelectric resource availability, and fire conditions" as well as a presentation on 2023 summer reliability analyses. Additional information is available at [Docket No. 21-ESR-01](#).

Demand Analysis Working Group

While no official notice has been published, the CEC circulated a "save the date" email regarding a Demand Analysis Working Group (DAWG) webinar scheduled for June 1, 2023

from 2:00 to 4:00 pm PT. According to the email, the topics of discussion for the DAWG webinar will be:

- Overview of forecast improvements for 2023
- Overview of state-funded climate research supporting energy planning
- Improvements to capturing climate change impacts in the 2023 IEPR forecast
- Longer-term recommendations for improving how climate change is captured in the forecast

An agenda and meeting materials will be posted [here](#) in advance of the webinar.

Clean Hydrogen Program

The CEC issued a *Draft Solicitation Concept* (Draft Concept) regarding large-scale hydrogen production, storage, and delivery projects that meet the requirements of [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 209](#). According to the CEC's May 18, 2023 email regarding release of the Draft Concept, "eligible projects under AB 209 are specific to hydrogen derived from water using eligible renewable energy resources, as defined in Section 399.12 of the Public Utilities Code or produced from these eligible renewable energy resources." Specifically, "the Draft Concept outlines proposed funding, eligibility requirements, project focus, evaluation process, and specific questions for stakeholders." The CEC is requesting that interested stakeholders provide feedback on the Draft Concept by 5:00 pm on June 9, 2023. More information is available on the CEC's [Clean Hydrogen Program website](#).

CEC Business Meetings

The next CEC Business Meeting is [scheduled](#) for May 31, 2023.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB)

Meetings and Workshops

On May 23, 2023, CARB will hold a public workshop on potential changes to the [Low Carbon Fuel Standard](#) (LCFS). Information on the workshop is available [here](#). Following the workshop, CARB will request stakeholder feedback until June 6, 2023.

On May 24, 2023, CARB will hold a listening session on off-road rulemaking topics, including off-road new diesel engines (Tier 5), zero-emission forklifts, and the Targeted Manufacturer Rule for zero-emission off-road equipment. Registration for the session is available [here](#).

CARB will hold its next Board Meeting on May 25-26, 2023. The full agenda for the meeting is available [here](#).

On May 31 and June 1, 2023, CARB will hold virtual [community meetings](#) on the [LCFS](#) and potential changes to the regulations. The goal of the meetings is to hear from community

members interested in how the LCFS works and how to improve the LCFS in the future. Information and registration for the meetings are available [here](#). These meetings are rescheduled from their original dates of May 2 and 4, 2023.

On June 22, 2023, CARB will conduct a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation, which provides greenhouse gas emission standards for crude oil and natural gas facilities. More information on the hearing is available [here](#). Comments may be submitted to CARB [here](#) on or before June 12, 2023, or at the hearing.

Opportunities for Public Comment

On February 22, 2023, CARB held a [public workshop](#) on potential changes to the [LCFS](#). At the workshop, Staff presented additional information on potential credit generation opportunities that may affect carbon intensity targets, preliminary fuel mix, and cost outputs from the California Transportation Supply model, and concepts related to streamlining implementation. Staff has released [draft regulatory text](#) of the proposed changes. Comments on the proposed changes for Tier 1 Simplified Calculators and Lookup Table Values may be submitted [here](#) on or before May 31, 2023.

Comments on the proposed amendments to the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation may be submitted to CARB [here](#) on or before June 12, 2023, or at the hearing on the proposed amendments on June 22, 2023.

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION (ICC)

The next ICC voting meeting will be held on June 1, 2023 at 11:30 am CT and can be viewed online by clicking [here](#). The agenda for the June 1 voting meeting will be posted [here](#) 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION (OPUC)

On May 17, 2023, the OPUC approved a recommendation from Staff to establish an interim solar plus storage standard avoided cost for Qualifying Facilities (QFs), and the OPUC directed each of Portland General Electric, Idaho Power, and PacifiCorp to file its solar plus storage rates by July 31, 2023, using the approved methodology. The proposal will cause utilities to pay for capacity from such resources during four premium peak hours of the day, which will be determined according to each utility's highest loss of load probability hours in each month. Eligible QFs may have up to 3 MW of solar PV capacity with collocated storage with a capacity of between 25% and 100% of the capacity of the solar resources and two to four hours in duration. Lastly, the interim solar plus storage rates will only be available until a utility has reached 50 MW of such resources under the interim rates; provided, however, that resources

100 kW and smaller are not subject to the cap. However, the OPUC may raise or eliminate the cap in the future.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS AND ERCOT

As detailed in our April 11, 2023 regulatory update, Texas lawmakers in the Senate have continued their push to punish renewables in the wake of Winter Storm Uri by advancing several bills to the House. The House has taken action on a number of these bills:

- SB 6: *No action has been taken since the bill was referred to the House State Affairs Committee on April 17, 2023.* This bill calls for interest-free loans from state funds to build “reliability assets.” These reliability assets are gas plants in ERCOT’s footprint with on-site fuel storage. The bill is expected to cost between \$10 billion and \$18 billion. The bill requires that plants constructed with these funds cannot enter the competitive day-ahead and real-time markets for 40 years and caps the rate of return for these reliability assets at 10%. If there are not enough funds for the program, the Texas Public Utilities Commission would set a non-bypassable charge to all transmission and distribution utilities, municipally owned utilities, and electric cooperatives in ERCOT.
- SB 7: *The House State Affairs Committee reported favorably on a substitute bill that was considered in committee and placed on major state calendar on May 22, 2023, so will now be voted on by the House.* SB 7 originally called for a new ancillary service program that requires load-serving entities to purchase “dispatchable” reliability reserve services on a day-ahead basis. The bill requires intermittent renewable power generators to purchase reserves from dispatchable generators that can react to demand. A key provision of this “firming” bill hinders energy storage development by requiring that resources offering the ancillary service be capable of running for at least 10 hours.
 - The House bill softens this language and requires ERCOT to “consider developing an ancillary service program.” The bill also removed the 10-hour runtime requirement from the Senate bill.
- SB 1287: *The bill was reported out of the House Committee on State Affairs on May 20 and placed on the state calendar on May 22, 2023.* This bill requires the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to cap how much of a company’s interconnection costs can be paid by Texas consumers.
- SB 1012: *The House Committee on State Affairs reported favorably on a substitute bill and it was placed on the general state calendar on May 22, 2023.* This bill would create guardrails on the Performance Credit Mechanism adopted by the PUCT, which is designed to incentivize the construction of dispatchable generation and requires electric companies to pay generators to produce power in times of shortage.
 - The House bill removes the increased penalty amounts for violations of the Voluntary Mitigation Plans for weather emergency preparedness and prohibits the PUCT from requiring retail customers or load-serving entities in the ERCOT power region to purchase credits designed to support a required reserve margin or other capacity or reliability requirement until certain actions are taken and further prohibits the PUCT from implementing such a reliability program unless the PUCT by rule establishes the essential

features of the program, including requirements to meet the reliability needs of the power region, and the program satisfies certain enumerated criteria.

- SB 2014: *This bill was left pending in committee on May 18, 2023.* SB 2014 would make renewable energy certificates voluntary instead of mandatory.
- SB 2015: *No action has been taken since the bill was referred to the House State Affairs Committee on April 17, 2023.* This bill would require that 50% of generating capacity installed in ERCOT after 2023 be from dispatchable resources.
- SB 624: *This bill was referred to the House State Affairs Committee on May 8, 2023.* This bill would require wind and solar facilities to obtain a permit from the PUCT. The application for a permit would require an environmental impact statement by the Parks and Wildlife Department. The bill would also require renewable power developers to hold public meetings and require facilities to be built at least 100 feet from property lines and 200 feet from homes. The bill retroactively applies to existing renewable projects and also adds a number of new fees for renewable project owners.
 - This bill could impact projects currently in development and construction because of the retroactive application.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (FERC)

On May 18, 2023, in [Docket No. EL23-42-000](#), FERC issued an order granting a Petition for Declaratory Order filed by Soltage Executive Employees, LLC (Soltage). In the Petition for Declaratory Order, Soltage, on behalf of itself and its current and future subsidiary companies (collectively with Soltage, the Soltage Companies) that are holding companies or associated service companies under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005 (PUHCA), requested an exemption from PUHCA. The Soltage Companies had been entitled to automatic exemption from PUHCA because they had been holding companies solely with respect to electric utility companies that are owners or operators of QFs under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978.

Soltage explained that certain of its new subsidiaries are developing grid-charged battery energy storage systems (BESS) that will engage exclusively in retail sales. These grid-charged BESS will not otherwise qualify for exemption from PUHCA because they (1) do not satisfy the fossil fuel requirements for QFs; (2) cannot be exempt wholesale generators by virtue of their retail sales; and (3) will be located in the United States, so cannot be Foreign Utility Holding Companies. As a result, the Soltage Companies would have lost automatic exemption from PUHCA, barring FERC's decision.

Based on the representations made by Soltage, FERC found, pursuant to Section 366.3(b)(1) of its regulations, that Soltage's books, accounts, memoranda, and other records are not relevant to the jurisdictional rates of the Soltage Companies, and it is appropriate to exempt the Soltage Companies from the requirements of sections 366.2, 366.21, 366.22, and 366.23. FERC further found that Soltage and its current and future subsidiaries are solely holding companies with respect to QFs, exempt wholesale generators (EWGs), and non-traditional utilities, and therefore are exempt from sections 366.2, 366.21, 366.22, and 366.23 of FERC's regulations.

The order provides a roadmap for companies developing grid-charging retail batteries to avoid PUHCA regulation where EWG status or the QF exemption from PUHCA is not available.

Also in its monthly open meeting, FERC [granted in part, and denied in part](#), a request for waivers filed by Arroyo Solar LLC, which had sought relief from certain open access-related obligations that applied to it as the result of owning certain network facilities pursuant to an option to build. FERC determined that Arroyo Solar should be exempt from the several open access-related obligations, in part, because Arroyo Solar had transferred operational control of the subject facilities to the interconnecting utility although Arroyo Solar did maintain ownership. However, FERC denied Arroyo Solar's request to make the waivers effective retroactively to May 2022 when the subject facilities were energized.

FERC approved North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC's) [plan](#) describing how it will identify and register owners and operators of inverter-based resources that are connected to the Bulk-Power System, but that are not otherwise required to register with NERC under its bulk electric system definition.

FERC's Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission will [meet](#) on July 16, 2023.

FERC [announced](#) a Commissioner-led PJM Capacity Market Forum to take place on June 15, 2023. The forum will include three panels to solicit varied perspectives on the current state of the PJM capacity market, potential improvements, and related proposals to address resource adequacy. The first panel, the overview panel, will explore whether the PJM capacity market is achieving its objectives of ensuring resource adequacy at just and reasonable rates. The second panel, the technical panel, will discuss potential market design reforms that may be needed to ensure PJM's capacity market is achieving its objectives. The third panel, a roundtable with state representatives (including state commissioners), will discuss their views and respond to the first and second panels' discussions.

FERC issued a [Final Rule](#) providing incentive-based rate treatment for utilities making certain voluntary cybersecurity investments. The final rule largely tracks the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) issued in September but includes some important additions: First, FERC expanded the definition of eligible cybersecurity investments to include not only a pre-qualified list of cybersecurity investments, but also those investments that are done on a case-by-case basis, allowing utilities to request incentives for a variety of solutions tailored to their specific situations. Second, FERC will allow utilities to seek incentives for early compliance with new cybersecurity reliability standards. The final rule adopts the NOPR's proposed requirement that expenditures materially improve a utility's cybersecurity posture. It also adopts the proposal to allow deferred cost recovery that would enable the utility to defer expenses and include the unamortized portion in its rate base but does not adopt the proposed return on equity adder of 200 basis points. The rule also states that approved incentives, with certain exceptions, will remain in effect for up to five years from the date on which expenses are incurred, provided that the investments remain voluntary.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)

Pursuant to a May 15, 2023 notice, the deadline to submit applications for the DOT’s Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Competitive Grant Program (CFI Program), which opened on March 14, 2023, has been extended from May 30 to June 13, 2023. (See [here](#).) This discretionary grant funding opportunity includes \$2.5 billion over five years, with \$700 million in funding available from fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and is additional to the \$5 billion in funding that was authorized under the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program. The CFI Program is designed to “fill gaps” in the alternative fuel corridors network and to prioritize disadvantaged communities. There are two funding categories under the CFI Program: (1) Community Charging and Fueling Grants (Community Program), and (2) Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (Corridor Program).

DOT-hosted webinars on the CFI Program were recorded and are available for viewing [here](#), together with additional information regarding the CFI grant opportunity. Additionally, on May 5, 2023, DOT posted a CFI Program Questions and Answers Document that is available [here](#).

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) Agenda Meetings

On May 23 and 24, 2023, the MPUC will hear oral argument on Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy’s pending multi-year rate plan (PUC Docket No. 21-630). After hearing oral argument, the MPUC will conduct deliberations on June 1, 2023. A link to the live webcast, briefing papers, and more can be found [here](#).

Minnesota Legislature

On the heels of passing legislation that puts Minnesota on the path toward 100% carbon-free electricity generation by 2040, the state legislature also passed a significant energy omnibus, impacting a variety of aspects of the energy industry. Among other things, the legislation provides further guidance on transportation electrification plans, changes the existing community solar garden program, makes updates to the solar for schools program, expands the intervenor compensation program for participants in MPUC proceedings, creates an energy benchmarking program, and authorizes the MPUC to adopt rules for siting certain energy storage projects. More information is available [here](#), and a substantive update is to follow.