

# Assessing Progress in Developing Clean Energy

## Assembly Utilities and Energy Oversight Hearing

Molly Sterkel

Director, Office of Electric Supply, Planning and Costs

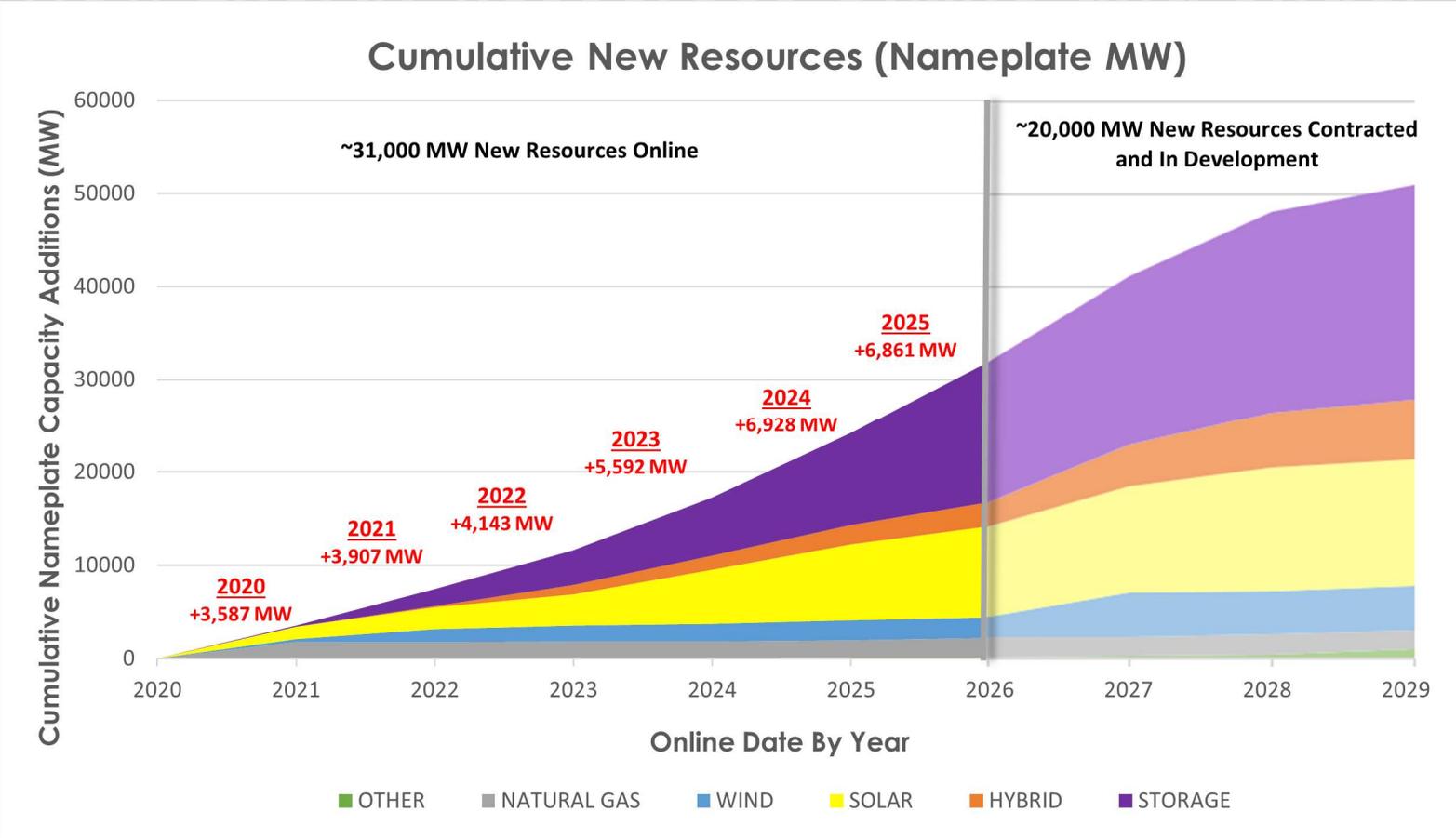
California Public Utilities Commission, Energy Division

February 18, 2026



California Public  
Utilities Commission

# Total New Energy Resources Online and Under Contract



**Notes:** New Resources added to CAISO grid Q1 2020 – Q4 2025, including specified CAISO imports. CPUC projection of future new resources based on PPA contracts in place by CPUC jurisdictional load serving entities by December 2025. "Other" resources include geothermal, biomass, biogas, hydropower.

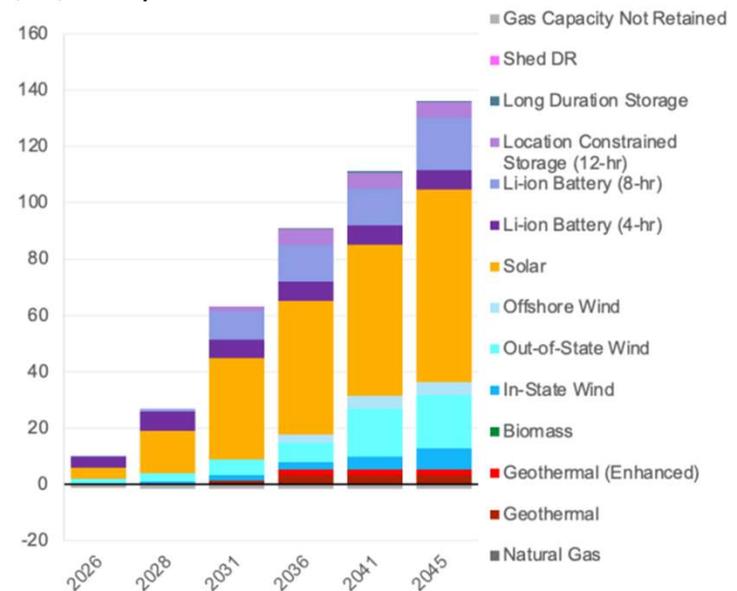
# Integrated Resource Planning Proposed Decision Pursuant to SB 350 (De León, 2015)

- Continues **Procurement Requirements** and orders 6 GW NQC additional new resources by 2032
  - Order will lead to more than 6 GW in nameplate, depends on technology mix
- Supports **Transmission Development** required to interconnect future Generation and Storage Projects
- Identifies nameplate of resources likely to be built in next 20 years – including
  - over 60 GW of solar,
  - over 25 GW of wind, and
  - over 20 GW of storage

26-27 TPP Proposed Base Case

## Selected Builds

Selected Capacity (GW) Nameplate



California Public Utilities Commission

# Activities Underway to Support Clean Energy Development

- Procurement programs to ensure reliability, clean energy, and affordability
  - Integrated Resource Planning, including Transmission Planning Coordination with CAISO
  - Resource Adequacy, and
  - Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS)
- CPUC Permitting Reform [General Order 131-E](#) (SB 529, Hertzberg, 2022)
- Ad-hoc Resource Development Support
  - [Tracking Energy Development](#) Task Force
  - Interconnection Letters pursuant to Executive Order, **EO-N33-25**
- Transmission Development Transparency and Data
  - Transmission Project Review Process, Resolution E-5252 (2023) - [TPRP](#)
  - Analysis of Interconnection Data relative to Transmission Development (SB 1174, Hertzberg, 2022), reported in Annual [RPS Legislative Report](#)
  - Transmission Development Forum, in coordination with CAISO – [TDF](#)



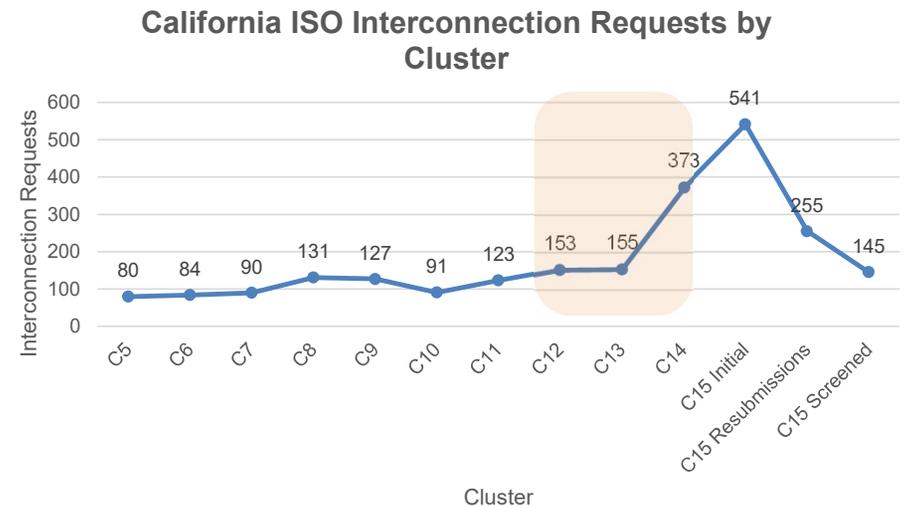
# Resource Interconnection and Transmission Development

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Neil Millar, VP Transmission Planning and Infrastructure Development

## Transformational interconnection reforms enable the most viable generation to serve the CAISO's growing demand

- CPUC resource portfolios call for 5-7 GW of new nameplate capacity per year
- Interconnection requests skyrocketed in Queue Clusters 14 & 15 and returned to more manageable levels after reforms
- Resource and transmission planning now guide the procurement and interconnection processes
- Interconnection studies now focus on requests screened for commercial interest, system need, and project viability
- Cluster 16 will open in October 2026



## The capacity in the CAISO queue reflects anticipated load growth and competition to meet resource needs

- California has onboarded roughly 31 GW of new nameplate capacity to serve CAISO load since 2020
  - 2025 was the second year in a row that the State connected over 6.5 GW of nameplate capacity to serve CAISO load, which aligns with forecasted demand growth
- Alignment between resource and transmission planning ensures sufficient capacity in the interconnection queue to meet reliability and policy needs.
  - Current CAISO queue holds over 189.8 GW as of February 10, 2026
  - 97.6 GW (238 contracts) have executed interconnection agreements
  - The transmission needed to support approximately 60 GW of those resources is already underway

## The CAISO coordinates with State agencies to track, maintain, and address transmission timelines

- Proactive transmission planning under the Memorandum of Understanding and with enhancements from FERC Order No. 1920 ensures timely approvals.
- Maintaining the pace of transmission financing, permitting, and construction will be critical.
- CAISO processes focusing on transmission timelines:
  - Intra-cluster prioritization within Cluster 14
    - Enables acceleration of 3,870 MW of generation
  - Transmission Development Forum
    - Transmission Owners report on delays in project development and impacts to generation
  - Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force and Infrastructure Strike Team



# Assessing Progress in Developing Clean Energy

Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee  
February 18, 2026

Rohimah Moly  
Deputy Director, GO-Biz Energy Unit

# The GO-Biz Team

GO-Biz serves as the State of California's leader for job growth, economic development, and business assistance efforts.



Business Investment Services



Community & Place Based Solutions



Permits



Small Business



International Affairs



Zero Emission Vehicles Infrastructure



Energy Unit



Infrastructure and Development Bank (IBank)



Film Commission (CA Film Commission)



Travel and Tourism (Visit CA)



# GO-Biz Energy Unit



First staff hired in 2022 to help to advance critical energy infrastructure projects that are necessary for the state to reach its climate, energy, and sustainability policy goals

Conducts in depth engagement across a variety of state agencies, local governments, industry partners, & community stakeholders to advance efforts underway to decarbonize the state's electrical grid by 2045

Energy Unit work includes:

- *Participating in the Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force and the Energy Working Group of the Infrastructure Strike Team*
- *Executing the Clean Energy Permitting Initiative*
- *Supporting Clean Energy [EO-N-33-25](#)*



# Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force

## ▪ 2021 Emergency Proclamation

*"The CEC is directed, and the CPUC and the CAISO are requested, to work with the State's load serving entities on accelerating plans for the construction, procurement, and rapid deployment of new clean energy and storage projects to mitigate the risk of capacity shortages and increase the availability of carbon-free energy at all times of day."*

## ▪ Joint inter-agency staff working group consisting of CPUC, CEC, CAISO and GO-Biz

## ▪ Tracks generation projects under development and those expecting to come online in the near-term and provide project development support

- Receive inquiries from developers on project issue(s)
- Conducts outreach to federal, state and local entities on individual projects
- Coordinate actions to address project specific issues
- Maintain regular engagement with developers and utilities
- Monitor progress and updates project list(s)

## ▪ Synthesizes information collected on project issues and challenges from developers that may impact timely deployment include in the SB 846 Joint Reliability Report

## ▪ Elevates information and issues to the Energy Working Group of the IST



# Clean Energy Development | State Activities

Frequency	Activities
Ongoing	TED Task Force conducts outreach to developers with projects under development to review status of projects and issues, if any.
Ongoing	Ad-hoc meetings with developers and others about specific project challenges.
Weekly	TED Task Force meets weekly to review issues/developer requests for assistance and share updates.
Monthly	CPUC receives and compiles data from LSEs on resources under contract for the near-term.
Monthly	CPUC compiles data on new MW that have come online.
Monthly	CPUC holds calls with IOU interconnection teams to review projects, pinpoint discrepancies, and identify operational areas for improvement.
Quarterly	TED Task Force synthesizes project information collected for SB 846 Joint Agency Reliability Reports.
Biannual	California ISO, in conjunction with CPUC, hosts the Transmission Development Forum to discuss delays to transmission projects including network upgrades.



# Energy Working Group of the IST

- [EO N-8-23](#) created the Energy Working Group of the Infrastructure Strike Team (IST):
  - *Leverage federal funding opportunities from IRA and IJA*
  - *Coordinate among agencies to facilitate fast and effective project delivery, eliminating duplication, avoiding conflicting assessments and shortening permitting timelines for federal funding opportunities*
  - *Consist of CNRA, CPUC, CEC, CAISO and GO-Biz*



# GO-Biz Actions in Support of EO N-33-25

- **Compiled eligible tax-credit list and identified 200+ eligible projects**
  - 1) *Start construction by July 2026;*
  - 2) *Operational by December 2027;*
  - 3) *Met “safe harbor” rules*
- **Conducted extensive outreach to developers**  
*Gathered project information from developers on impacts resulting from OBBB*
- **Convened state agency/developer meeting**  
*Understand issues, project timelines and areas for further collaboration*
- **Continue to facilitate discussions between stakeholders on short and medium-term solutions for energy project deployment**
- **Coordinate with members of TED Task Force and Energy Working Group to update eligible tax credit list**

Aug 29, 2025

## Governor Newsom signs executive order to bolster California’s clean energy progress in face of Trump’s wrecking ball

**What you need to know:** The Governor signed an executive order today to help clean energy projects in the state capture federal tax credits before they expire as a result of HR 1, Trump’s Big Ugly Bill.

SACRAMENTO – As the Trump administration takes the country backward on clean energy deployment and development, Governor Gavin Newsom today signed an executive order to protect California’s decades of progress and double down on building more clean energy, faster.



# Clean Energy Permitting Initiative - Playbook and Toolkit for Local Permitting

- **AIM** | develop resources to improve transparency and increase alignment between permitting entities
- **SCOPE** | large scale solar, onshore wind and storage projects

## **Playbook** | *Understanding clean energy permitting*

- California's policy landscape and drivers for more clean energy projects
- Energy project challenges and barriers
- Overview of energy project development and permitting
- Permitting Initiative assessment and findings

## **Toolkit** | *Resources to assist with local permitting*

- Permitting Application Checklist
- Model Ordinance Guidance
- Clean Energy Project Fact Sheets
- Aligning Community Interests with Project Development
- Permitting on Tribal Lands

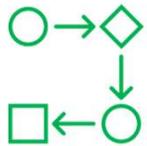


# Permitting | Increasing Education & Training and Improving Efficiencies



## California Permitting Academy

- Create and stand-up an intensive training program for local governments to redesign workflows, implementation roadmaps and identify measurable reductions



## Partnership with Governor's Innovation Fellows

- Centralized repository of relevant resources
- Application pre-validation tool





# Thank You

Questions?  
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