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California State Assembly

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November, 2025

I am pleased to provide this summary report on the actions of the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy during the 2025 legislative session, covering all the bills and major issues the Committee addressed. As California continues to grapple with keeping the lights on, addressing rising electricity bills, and meeting the state's clean energy and climate commitments, the Committee's work reflects the challenge of balancing these priorities.

The Committee considered a range of bills that included wildfire mitigation and wildfire funding, rate assistance for customers facing rising electricity costs, transmission financing to support needed grid infrastructure, the growth of large electricity loads such as data centers, the deployment of battery energy storage, and efforts to enable California's grid to participate in the Western regional electricity market. Throughout this work, the Committee remained focused on ensuring that policy decisions benefit all ratepayers and communities.

Beyond legislative actions, the Committee continued to hold informational and oversight hearings focused on electric reliability, strategies to reduce California's transmission costs, the state's transportation fuels transition and wildfire costs. Together, these efforts helped inform key policy discussions and shape policies governing California's energy landscape. The Committee looks forward to continuing this important work as California navigates the evolving challenges of reliability, affordability, and clean energy development.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Vice Chair Joe Patterson for his partnership, and the Members of the Utilities and Energy Committee for their ongoing collaboration and commitment.

More information on all other legislative measures can be found online at www.leginfo.ca.gov. If you have questions or would like additional information about the bills summarized in this report, or if you have questions about the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, please feel free to contact the committee staff at (916) 319-2083.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Petrie-Norris".

COTTIE PETRIE-NORRIS
Assembly Member District, 73rd
Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, Chair

INTRODUCTION

This publication summarizes the activities of the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee during the 2025 Legislative Session, including a list of bills referred to this committee as well as a summary of informational and oversight hearings.

In general, chaptered legislation will go into effect on January 1st of the following year. Bills that contain an urgency clause (not noted in this document) took effect immediately upon the Governor's signature.

The following abbreviations are used throughout this summary:

CAISO (California Independent System Operator)
CARB (California Air Resources Board)
CCA (Community Choice Aggregator)
CEC (California Energy Commission)
CPUC (California Public Utilities Commission)
DER (Distributed Energy Resource)
ESP (Electric Service Provider)
EV (Electric Vehicle)
GHG (Greenhouse Gas)
IOU (Investor-Owned Utility)
LSE (Load-serving Entity)
POU (Publicly-Owned Utility)
PSPS (Public Safety Power Shutoff)
RPS (Renewables Portfolio Standard)

The Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee staff remain ready to answer any questions regarding the content of this publication.

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy

2025 Informational and Oversight Hearing Summary

2025 Informational/Oversight Hearings

(Listed in descending order)

Utilities and Energy: Joint Oversight Hearing California's Transportation Fuels Transition

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair

1:30 p.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100

- [Agenda 8.20.25](#)
- [Background Paper 8.20.25](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was to understand the three strategies (listed below) put forward by CEC Vice Chair Gunda to manage the transportation fuels transition in the state, and to develop greater clarity on what actions are needed, both immediate and long-term. The hearing was not solely focused on the administration's recently drafted legislation on petroleum, though attention was given to the solutions presented. The hearing was also an important opportunity for the Legislature to consider longer-term solutions, given that a comprehensive, well-planned approach to this transition has yet to be developed.

CEC Vice Chair Gunda's strategies for the transportation fuels transition:

- 1) Stabilize fuel supply through imports of refined fuels and maintain in-state refining capacity.
- 2) Provide sufficient confidence to invest in maintaining reliable and safe infrastructure operations to meet demand.
- 3) Develop and execute a holistic transportation fuels transition strategy.

Presenters:

- **Emily Grubert**, Professor, University of Notre Dame
- **Liane Randolph**, Chair, California Air Resources Board
- **Siva Gunda**, Vice Chair, California Energy Commission
- **Jennifer Lucchesi**, Director, California Department of Conservation
- **Steve Young**, Mayor, City of Benicia
- **Jeremy Martin, Ph.D.**, Director of Fuels Policy, Union of Concerned Scientists
- **Mike Smith**, Chair, National Oil Bargaining Program, United Steelworkers
- **Zach Leary**, Chief Lobbyist, Western States Petroleum Association

- **Cesar Aguirre**, co-Director, Air and Climate Justice team, Central California Environmental Justice Network

Utilities and Energy: Oversight Hearing Outlook for California's Transportation Fuels Sector

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair

1:30 p.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100

- [Agenda 5.28.25](#)
- [Background Paper 5.28.25](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was to understand the various supply and demand pressures, many of which are rapidly changing, on California's transportation fuels sector, with a specific focus on impacts to affordability and access. The discussion centered on how regulators and energy planners are preparing for the "mid-transition" in both the short- and mid-term. This hearing provided an opportunity for oversight of agency implementation of both SB X1-2 (Skinner, Chapter 1, Statutes of 2023) and AB X2-1 (Hart, Chapter 1, Statutes of 2024).

Presenters:

- **Liane Randolph**, Chair, California Air Resources Board
- **Siva Gunda**, Vice Chair, California Energy Commission
- **Tai Milder**, Director, Division of Petroleum Market Oversight, California Energy Commission

Utilities And Energy: Oversight Hearing Electric Reliability

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair

Upon Adjournment of Governmental Organization Committee, 1021 O Street, Room 1100

- [Agenda 5.07.25](#)
- [Background Paper 5.07.25](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was twofold: first, to hear from the state energy entities on the readiness of the California electric grid to operate reliably during summer 2025; and second, to consider some of the broader issues affecting the mid- and long-term reliability outlook. Emphasis was given to expiring state policies and resource retirements, the volatile effect of federal tariffs,

and the expected growth of energy demand, all of which materially contributed to uncertainty in the mid- and long-term reliability outlook.

Presenters:

- **Siva Gunda**, Vice Chair, California Energy Commission
- **Alice Reynolds**, President, California Public Utilities Commission
- **Elliot Mainzer**, Chief Executive Officer, California Independent System Operator
- **Delphine Hou**, Deputy Director for Statewide Energy, California Department of Water Resources
- **Gillian Clegg**, Vice President of Energy Policy & Procurement, Pacific Gas & Electric
- **Ryan Tracey**, Director of Planning & Analytics, Sonoma Clean Power
- **Rebecca Lee**, Director of Competitive Markets & Policy, Western US, NRG Energy
- **Glenn Barry**, Assistant Director of Power Supply Operations, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
- **Tony Zimmer**, Assistant General Manager of Power Management, Northern California Power Agency

**Utilities And Energy: Oversight Hearing
Strategies to Reduce California's Transmission Costs**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair

1:30 p.m. – State Capitol, Room 437

- [Agenda 03.26.25](#)
- [Background Paper 03.26.25](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the Committee's ongoing efforts to address energy affordability. Focus was given to the extraordinary build-out of California's electric capacity and transmission system needed to meet clean energy and climate goals, and to how ratepayers might be protected from the associated costs. In addition to exploring alternative financing strategies to mitigate ratepayer costs, the impact of project delays was discussed.

Presenters:

- **Karin Hieta**, Manager, Energy Infrastructure Branch, Public Advocates Office
- **Denzel Hankinson**, CEO, DHInfrastructure
- **Neil Matouka**, Senior Manager, Net-Zero California
- **Dan Adler**, Senior Advisor, Net-Zero California
- **Lynn E. Mostoller**, Executive Director, New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority
- **Bill Manheim**, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- **Matt Huber**, Project Manager, San Diego Gas & Electric Company
- **Ralph Armstrong**, Senior Assistant Business Manager, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 1245
- **Jack Wadleigh**, Regulatory Affairs and Market Development Manager, Western Region, EDP Renewables North America

Utilities And Energy: Oversight Hearing Utility Wildfire Spending

Wednesday, March 5, 2025
Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair
1:30 p.m. – State Capitol, Room 437

- [Agenda 03.05.25 \[pdf\]](#)
- [Background Paper \[pdf\]](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was to examine growing utility wildfire costs, in an effort to understand the appropriate balance between reducing wildfire risk and cost. Wildfire costs were scrutinized to assess how expenditures have reduced risk, how state agencies have balanced costs against risk reduction, and whether rapid innovation in grid management would yield lower costs for the same level of risk reduction. The hearing also examined which wildfire-related costs are necessary to provide electricity service versus which provide statewide benefits, evaluated these costs in the context of overall statewide wildfire expenditures, and discussed potential funding sources and budgeting tools outside of electric rates to cover these wildfire costs. While the majority of the discussion, both during the hearing and in the background document, focused on IOU wildfire expenditures, representatives from California's POUs participated and provided a perspective on how they have balanced wildfire risk reduction and cost. This hearing was the first in a series of hearings exploring solutions to address energy affordability, the Committee's principal focus during this legislative session.

Presenters:

- **Forest Kaser**, Chief Deputy Executive Director, California Public Utilities Commission
- **Randy Howard, General Manager**, Northern California Power Agency
- **Brian Fennessy**, Fire Chief, Orange County Fire Authority
- **Caroline Thomas Jacobs**, Director, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
- **Carla J. Peterman**, Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- **Duncan Callaway**, Professor and Chair, Energy and Resources Group, University of California, Berkeley
- **Helen Kerstein**, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office
- **Nathaniel Skinner**, Energy Safety Program Manager, Public Advocates Office
- **Sam Uden**, Co-Founder and Managing Director, Net-Zero California

Utilities And Energy: Oversight Hearing on Utility Wildfire Preparedness and Response: Focus on the 2025 Southern California Power Outages and Restoration

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair
1:30 p.m. – State Capitol, Room 437

- [Agenda 02.19.25](#)
- [Background Paper](#)

Overview:

The purpose of this hearing was to provide an opportunity to hear from the impacted utilities and relevant state and local agencies on what lessons may be learned, or what merits additional attention and action, regarding the proactive power shutoffs in the region before and during the 2025 Los Angeles wildfires. Moreover, it was an opportunity to receive utility restoration plans, potential re-powering timelines, and costs. This hearing focused on energy infrastructure, as is appropriate for this committee. Subsequent Assembly committee hearings focused on the broader response, recovery, and rebuilding efforts in the region.

Presenters:

- **Rachel Peterson**, Executive Director, California Public Utilities Commission
- **Rajdeep Roy**, Vice President Transmission, Substation, and Operations, Southern California Edison
- **Thom Porter**, Director of Emergency Management, San Diego Gas & Electric

- **Jason Rondou**, Assistant General Manager, Power Planning and Operations, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy

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Administrative

AB-1020 (Schiavo) - Public utilities: energy: taxpayer funding: reporting.

Would have required specified quarterly and annual reporting by electrical and natural gas corporations regarding federal funding received from federal legislation adopted under the Biden administration, among other requirements.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1167 (Berman) - Electrical corporations and gas corporations: rate recovery: political activities and promotional advertising.

Prohibits certain political influence activities and advertising expenses by electrical and gas corporations from being recovered from ratepayers. The bill also authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission to assess penalties for violations related to the bill's provisions.

Status: Chapter 634, Statutes of 2025

AB-1295 (Patterson) - Public utilities: bills and notices: consolidation and transparency.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission, on or before June 1, 2026, to evaluate all customer billing and noticing requirements applicable to gas and electric utilities that were in effect as of January 1, 2026, and to identify and consider potential avenues to consolidate notices and improve billing transparency.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1436 (Ávila Farías) - Public Utilities Commission: outreach.

Would have removed the provision that the Policy and Planning Division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) must study outreach efforts undertaken by other state and federal utility regulatory bodies to make recommendations to the CPUC to promote effective outreach, including metrics for use in evaluating success.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Energy, Utilities and Communications

AB-1532 (Committee on Communications and Conveyance) - Public Utilities Commission.

Extends the requirement for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to establish and fund the transportation network company (TNC) Access for All (AFA) program until January 1, 2032. The bill also requires the CPUC to collect more granular information about CPUC Commissioner attendance at CPUC hearings.

Status: Chapter 205, Statutes of 2025

SB-24 (McNerney) - Electrical and gas corporations: rates: political influence activities and promotional advertising.

Would have prohibited certain political influence activities and expenses by electrical or gas corporations related to opposing efforts to municipalize energy utility service from being recorded in certain accounts and having the costs recovered from ratepayers.

This bill would have also expanded the authority of the Public Advocates Office (PAO), similar to that of the California Public Utilities Commission, to discover information and review the accounts of public utilities.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

SB-254 (Becker) - Electricity: wildfire mitigation: rate assistance: Policy-Oriented and Wildfire Electric Reimbursement (POWER) Program.

Proposes extensive policies affecting regulation, management, and ratepayer costs of the state's electric and gas utilities (i.e., investor-owned utilities or IOUs). These measures include:

- (1) Continuation of the electric IOU Wildfire Fund, including an extension for 10 additional years of an existing ratepayer charge;
- (2) Creation of the California Transmission Accelerator (Accelerator) at the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz);
- (3) A prohibition on electrical corporations including \$6 billion in wildfire risk mitigation investments in their rate base for purposes of earning profit and authorizing securitization of those costs;
- (4) Additional authorization of securitization for costs arising from 2025 wildfire liabilities if they are in excess of the existing Wildfire Fund, with a possibility for IOU shareholders repaying costs, as specified;
- (5) Modifications to permitting processes and procedures for "clean" energy projects;
- (6) Modifications on wildfire risk mitigation requirements and conformity of oversight responsibilities between the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC);
- (7) Streamlining of planning and design information of infrastructure projects at the California Underground Safety Board (USB); and (8) other reporting and auditing requirements, as detailed in the bill.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2025

SB-491 (Laird) - State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: chair: report to the Legislature.

Would have required the chair of the California Energy Commission (CEC) to annually appear before and report to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature regarding the activities of the CEC. Specifically, this appearance would have included updates on CEC activities regarding all of the following:

- 1) Research, development, and demonstration.

- 2) Building and appliance efficiency standards.
 - 3) Electricity and natural gas demand forecasts.
 - 4) Siting of thermal powerplants.
 - 5) Implementation of the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program and energy labeling.
 - 6) Transportation fuels and alternative fuel vehicles.
- Status:** Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Consumer Protection and Low Income Assistance

AB-61 (Pacheco) - Electricity and natural gas: legislation imposing mandated programs and requirements: third-party review.

Would have required the Public Advocates Office (PAO) at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to establish, by January 1, 2027, a program to, upon request of the Legislature, analyze legislation that would establish a mandated requirement or program or otherwise affect electrical or gas ratepayers.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-532 (Ransom) - Water rate assistance program.

Would have also required a public urban retail water supplier to provide water rate assistance to its ratepayers.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-737 (Quirk-Silva) - Energy: building decarbonization: notice and recordation of a decarbonization charge.

Adds "gas corporations" to the entities required to provide notification of any utility charges associated with a property – usually for an energy efficiency upgrade – for new tenants or homeowners to review, known in statute as a "decarbonization charge." These charges would be a financial obligation on the new tenant or homeowner.

Status: Chapter 276, Statutes of 2025

AB-777 (Celeste Rodriguez) - Food assistance: disasters: public utilities.

Would have, among its provisions, required utilities to respond to all data requests from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and would have established a dedicated point of contact with CDSS, and enter into data-sharing agreements to facilitate the provision of requested information. This bill was later amended outside committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Chapter 709, Statutes of 2025

SB-332 (Wahab) - Investor-Owned Utilities Accountability Act.

Would have contained various provisions intended to increase accountability for investor-owned utilities (IOUs), including requirements to study the feasibility of transitioning each IOU's operations to a successor entity; to audit all electrical infrastructure every three years; to consider affordability in the review of IOU executive compensation; and to report, for IOUs and publicly owned utilities (POUs), on customer service disconnections due to nonpayment.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-593 (Hurtado) - Voltage changes: consumer protection.

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, by July 1, 2027, to authorize large electric corporations to commence a study to evaluate significant voltage-related incidents that resulted in damage to customer-owned equipment, appliances, or property totaling \$5,000 or more.

Status: Chapter 420, Statutes of 2025

CPUC Reform

AB-13 (Ransom) - Public Utilities Commission: membership: reports.

Would have made changes to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), including requiring specified geographic representation of commissioners and specified reporting to the Legislature concerning utility rate-setting cases at the CPUC.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-705 (Boerner) - Public Utilities Commission: Independent Office of Audits and Investigations.

Would have created the Independent Office of Audits and Investigations within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and would have transferred the CPUC's internal audit unit to the new office.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1173 (Patterson) - Public Utilities Commission: organization.

Would have prohibited a staff member employed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) from working on a proceeding at the CPUC for which the staff member, before their employment by the CPUC, was listed on a formal filing for the proceeding or sponsored testimony within the proceeding. Furthermore, the bill would have also required the CPUC, on or before July 1, 2026, to establish an online portal or email address to report ethics concerns to the CPUC.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1222 (Bauer-Kahan) - Public utilities: judicial review.

Would have presumed that a final decision made by the California Public Utilities Commission is arbitrary and unlawful if the final decision substantially deviates from the proposed decision of an administrative law judge. The bill would have also prohibited investor owned utilities from seeking to recover legal expenses from ratepayers.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1273 (Patterson) - Public utilities: electricity rates.

Would have changed the California Public Utilities Commission rules regarding items eligible for the consent agenda and public comment periods for rate-setting cases. The bill would have also changed the eligibility of Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) compliance for local publicly owned electric utilities (POUs) who have existing large hydroelectric resources.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Decarbonization

AB-39 (Zbur) - General plans: Local Electrification Planning Act.

Requires each city and county, by January 1, 2030, to adopt a plan, or amend its general plan, to identify various goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures regarding electrification of transportation and buildings.

Status: Chapter 356, Statutes of 2025

AB-368 (Ward) - Energy: building standards: passive house standards.

Requires the California Energy Commission to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of passive house building energy efficiency standards by climate zone and submit a report to the Legislature on its findings.

Status: Chapter 145, Statutes of 2025

AB-737 (Quirk-Silva) - Energy: building decarbonization: notice and recordation of a decarbonization charge.

Adds "gas corporations" to the entities required to provide notification of any utility charges associated with a property – usually for an energy efficiency upgrade – for new tenants or homeowners to review, known in statute as a "decarbonization charge." These charges would be a financial obligation on the new tenant or homeowner.

Status: Chapter 276, Statutes of 2025

AB-1280 (Garcia) - Energy.

Qualifies thermal energy storage for multiple financial incentive programs administered by the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) and the California Energy Commission. The bill restricts funding for certain industrial

decarbonization projects in these programs to those that meet certain labor and community benefit standards, as specified.

Status: Chapter 395, Statutes of 2025

SB-500 (Stern) - Energy: usage data.

Authorizes the use of an alternative system or tool approved by the California Energy Commission (CEC) for purposes of satisfying the requirement on utilities to provide energy usage data as part of the CEC's Building Energy Benchmarking Program, instead of solely as provided by the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager program.

Status: Chapter 765, Statutes of 2025

SB-647 (Hurtado) - Energy: Equitable Building Decarbonization Program: Low-Income Oversight Board: membership: assessment: energy efficiency incentives.

Would have added a representative from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to the Low-Income Oversight Board (LIOB) and would have also required the CEC to provide applicants to the Equitable Building Decarbonization (EBD) program with information regarding other energy efficiency and building decarbonization incentives overseen by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Distributed Energy Resources

AB-740 (Harabedian) - Virtual power plants: load shifting: integrated energy policy report.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) to adopt a virtual power plant (VPP) deployment plan by January 1, 2027. The bill would have specified the process for the CEC to generate the plan and outlined the priorities of the plan. The bill would have also required the CEC to include the VPP deployment plan in its integrated energy policy report (the IEPR).

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

AB-1302 (Wallis) - Electricity: customer generators: departing load charges.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), until December 31, 2031, to study and design a new system allowing electrical customers of electrical corporations, community choice aggregators, local publicly owned electric utilities, and electrical cooperatives to generate electricity on their commercial or residential sites. The bill would have also required the CPUC, in designing the new system, to ensure fair treatment of all electrical customers, increase transparency in the calculation and application of departing load charges, promote the development and integration of renewable energy resources, support the state's clean energy goals, consider the

benefits of customer-generated energy, and provide a mechanism for stakeholder input, as specified. The bill would have further required the CPUC, on or before December 31, 2027, to submit a report to the Legislature detailing the proposed new process for departing load charges and any recommendations for legislative action.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-1372 (Papan) - Renewable electrical generation facilities: electrified commuter railroads: regenerative braking: net billing.

Would have required an electrical corporation, upon completion of specified technical studies by both the electrical corporation and an operator of an electrified commuter railroad that generates electricity through regenerative braking—including the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board—to adopt or modify a net billing contract or tariff, subject to approval by the California Public Utilities Commission. The contract or tariff would have been required to provide bill credits for electricity exported to the electrical grid based on its value, as specified. The bill would have further required the electrical corporation to provide, or install at its own cost if necessary, metering capable of recording and documenting electricity imports and exports, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

SB-453 (Stern) - Microgrid incentive program.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to review the status of unallocated ratepayer funds within the Microgrid Incentive Program (MIP). Also, the bill would have directed the CPUC to allocate available MIP funds to areas affected by deenergization events, with priority given to vulnerable communities. In addition, the bill would have additionally required any MIP funds remaining unallocated by January 1, 2027, to be returned to ratepayers.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

SB-541 (Becker) - Electricity: load shifting: distributed resources.

Would have required the California Energy Commission, as part of an existing biennial report, to estimate each retail supplier's load-shifting potential, giving consideration to certain factors, including cost-effectiveness; and to publish, on or before July 1, 2028, and biennially thereafter, the amount of load shifting that each retail supplier achieved in the prior calendar year.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Energization

AB-1026 (Wilson) - Planning and zoning: housing development projects: postentitlement phase permits: electrical corporations.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), through a proceeding, to direct large electrical corporations to post required energization application information and a sample approved application (including one for housing) on their websites, by a date set by the CPUC.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

AB-1347 (Carrillo) - Electrical modernization zones.

Would have established six electrical infrastructure modernization zones, recognized as priority areas for load growth by the California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission. The bill would have allowed electrical corporations to update load projections with local jurisdictions and expedite cost recovery and micro-grid management. As such, this act would have created a state-mandated local program with no reimbursement required and includes legislative findings for a special statute for Altadena in Los Angeles County.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-1404 (Ortega) - Electrical corporations: connections: affordable housing projects.

Would have required, upon completion of specified technical studies by both an electrical corporation and an operator of an electrified commuter railroad that generates electricity through the regenerative braking of electric trains—including the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board—the electrical corporation to adopt or modify a net billing contract or tariff, subject to approval by the California Public Utilities Commission. The bill would have required the contract or tariff to, among other things, provide bill credits for electricity exported to the electrical grid based on its value, as specified. Additionally, the bill would have required the electrical corporation to provide, or install at its own cost if necessary, metering capable of recording and documenting electricity imports and exports, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

AB-832 (Muratsuchi) - School Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program.

Would have revised and recast various definitions for purposes of the School Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program, including expanding the definition of “noncompliant appliance” to include a commercial propane, natural gas, or oil water heater. The bill would have extended the deadline for all program funds to be spent or returned to each

utility by December 1, 2030, and would have authorized the California Energy Commission (CEC) to set application and encumbrance deadlines to ensure timely reversion of funds. The bill would have further authorized the CEC to establish the timing of grant funding and, for the first two program years, would have required that 75% of available moneys be allocated to the School Reopening Ventilation and Energy Resiliency (SRVEVR) Program and 25% to the School Noncompliant Plumbing Fixture and Appliance (SNPFA) Program. In addition, after the first two program years, the bill would have authorized the CEC to reallocate remaining moneys between the SRVEVR and SNPFA programs based on demonstrated need. Finally, this bill would have also repealed these provisions on January 1, 2031.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-1342 (Soria) - Public Utilities Commission: energy efficiency programs: report.

Would have changed a California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) reporting requirement related to evaluating duplicative energy efficiency programs across state agencies, as specified, from biennial to annual.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

Grid Planning

AB-44 (Schultz) - Energy: electrical demand forecasts.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) on or before December 1, 2026, and in consultation with load-serving entities (LSEs) and resource aggregators, to create and publicize methodologies for load modification protocols by which an LSE may reduce or modify its energy demand forecasts (i.e. "load modification protocols").

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

AB-1408 (Irwin) - Electricity: interconnections.

Would have required specified actions by electrical corporations, local publicly owned electric utilities, and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to evaluate, consider, and integrate surplus interconnection, generally understood as additional available capacity on the transmission system.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

SB-540 (Becker) - Independent System Operator: independent regional organization: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Would have authorized the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and the electrical corporations whose transmission is operated by the CAISO to use voluntary

energy markets governed by an independent regional organization (RO), if specified requirements are met.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Utilities and Energy

Hydrogen

AB-388 (Rogers) - Electricity.

Would have provided two exemptions – one from state and one from federal law regulating utilities – for entities that sell electricity from solar and wind generation if those entities provide electric generation exclusively for electrolytic hydrogen production and electrifying industrial heat processes.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-443 (Bennett) - Energy Commission: integrated energy policy report: curtailed solar and wind generation: hydrogen production.

Would have required the California Energy Commission to include an assessment of the availability, location, and transmission constraints associated with potential renewable resources for hydrogen production in the next Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR).

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-716 (Carrillo) - Fire safety standards: hydrogen facilities.

Would have required the State Fire Marshal (SFM) to appoint a hydrogen fire expert to answer questions and provide clarification on the implementation of hydrogen production, storage, and distribution facilities. Additionally, the bill would have required the SFM to provide ongoing training to local fire departments and building inspectors to ensure that hydrogen-related safety protocols are understood and enforced statewide.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-804 (Archuleta) - Hydrogen pipeline safety.

Would have directed the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), by January 1, 2028, to establish "dedicated hydrogen pipeline" safety standards and enforce those standards consistently across all jurisdictions of the state.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

Infrastructure

AB-825 (Petrie-Norris) - Public Transmission Financing Act of 2025.

Authorizes the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and the electrical corporations whose transmission is operated by the CAISO to use voluntary energy

markets governed by an independent regional organization (RO) if specified requirements are met.

Status: Chapter 116, Statutes of 2025

AB-1182 (Irwin) - State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: report: electrical grid infrastructure manufacturing.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) to prepare and submit a report, on or before July 1, 2026, to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the status of electrical transmission and distribution grid infrastructure manufacturing in this state, including the manufacturing of substation transformers, transmission lines, and other related equipment.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1347 (Carrillo) - Electrical modernization zones.

Would have established six electrical infrastructure modernization zones, recognized as priority areas for load growth by the California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission. The bill would have allowed electrical corporations to update load projections with local jurisdictions and expedite cost recovery and micro-grid management. As such, this act would have created a state-mandated local program with no reimbursement required and includes legislative findings for a special statute for Altadena in Los Angeles County.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

SB-254 (Becker) - Electricity: wildfire mitigation: rate assistance: Policy-Oriented and Wildfire Electric Reimbursement (POWER) Program.

Proposes extensive policies affecting regulation, management, and ratepayer costs of the state's electric and gas utilities (i.e., investor-owned utilities or IOUs). These measures include:

- (1) Continuation of the electric IOU Wildfire Fund, including an extension for 10 additional years of an existing ratepayer charge;
- (2) Creation of the California Transmission Accelerator (Accelerator) at the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz);
- (3) A prohibition on electrical corporations including \$6 billion in wildfire risk mitigation investments in their rate base for purposes of earning profit and authorizing securitization of those costs;
- (4) Additional authorization of securitization for costs arising from 2025 wildfire liabilities if they are in excess of the existing Wildfire Fund, with a possibility for IOU shareholders repaying costs, as specified;
- (5) Modifications to permitting processes and procedures for "clean" energy projects;
- (6) Modifications on wildfire risk mitigation requirements and conformity of oversight responsibilities between the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) and

the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC);
(7) Streamlining of planning and design information of infrastructure projects at the California Underground Safety Board (USB); and (8) other reporting and auditing requirements, as detailed in the bill.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2025

SB-330 (Padilla) - Electrical transmission infrastructure: financing.

Would have authorized the Governor to select projects to develop, finance, or operate electrical transmission infrastructure that meets specified requirements.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Utilities and Energy

SB-787 (McNerney) - Energy: equitable clean energy supply chains and industrial policy in California.

Would have required specified state agencies, including the California Energy Commission (CEC), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to carry out specified duties related to the development of equitable clean energy supply chains in California. The bill would have also established the Equitable Clean Energy Supply Chain and Industrial Policy Fund in the State Treasury and required the CEC to designate an individual, either from within the CEC or externally, to serve as the Senior Counselor on Industrial Policy and Clean Energy Development.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Large Load

AB-222 (Bauer-Kahan) - Data centers: energy usage reporting and modeling.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to establish a process for the owner of a data center, as defined, to submit the power usage effectiveness ratio, as defined, for the data center to the CPUC, as provided. This bill would have also required the CPUC to assess the extent to which electrical corporation costs associated with new loads from data centers result in cost shifts to other electrical corporation customers, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1095 (Papan) - Data centers: waste heat energy.

Would have made projects that capture and convert data centers' waste heat eligible for the Climate Catalyst program administered by the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank).

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

SB-57 (Padilla) - Electrical corporations: tariffs.

Authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to assess the extent to which utility costs associated with new loads from data centers result in cost shifts to other utility customers and generate a report by January 1, 2027. This assessment may include costs associated with growing load demand, consideration of stranded asset costs, and mechanisms to prevent or mitigate cost shifts to ratepayers.

Status: Chapter 647, Statutes of 2025

Miscellaneous

AB-1301 (Petrie-Norris) - Electricity: Power Exchange.

Would have updated numerous sections of the Public Utilities Code to reflect the current structure of California's electric markets. Specifically, the bill would have removed references to the defunct Power Exchange (PX) and its former duties as an electric market operator.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Energy, Utilities and Communications

SB-544 (Laird) - Railroad crossings: permit applications: review.

Allows the California Public Utilities Commission to establish an expedited review and approval process for railroad crossing applications that are uncontested and do not need additional review or evidentiary hearings.

Status: Chapter 224, Statutes of 2025

SB-643 (Caballero) - Carbon Dioxide Removal Purchase Program.

Would have established the Carbon Dioxide Removal Purchase Program (CDRPP), which is intended to advance the development of carbon dioxide removal (CDR) technologies through a competitive grant program administered by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), subject to future appropriation of funds for this purpose.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Natural Gas

SB-613 (Stern) - Methane emissions: petroleum and natural gas producing low methane emissions.

Would have required state agencies to prioritize strategies to reduce methane emissions from imported petroleum and natural gas and the bill would have also required the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to encourage procurement of certified natural gas producing low methane emissions, as specified.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Net Energy Metering

AB-942 (Calderon) - Net energy metering: eligible customer-generators: tariffs.

Would have modified the terms applicable to customer-generators participating in the Net Energy Metering (NEM) tariff, including requiring customer-generators of electrical corporations to be transferred to a new tariff when the property has been sold; and to exempt customers participating in NEM from receiving the climate credit.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Rules

AB-1104 (Pellerin) - Small Business Renewable Energy Access and Protection Act.

Makes changes to labor laws governing the construction of larger, nonresidential renewable electrical generating facilities. Specifically, the bill clarifies that, for limited purposes, the contractor entering into a construction contract—rather than the project owner or entity—is the awarding body for the construction of a renewable electrical generation facility and associated battery storage. The bill also specifies which public works and prevailing wage requirements apply to these construction projects, and authorizes a renewable electrical generation facility to remain eligible for service under a standard contract or tariff notwithstanding a contractor's willful violation of prevailing wage requirements, provided that restitution is made to affected workers and all applicable penalties and fines are paid.

Status: Chapter 632, Statutes of 2025

Nuclear

SB-80 (Caballero) - Energy: Fusion Research and Development Innovation Hub Program.

Requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to establish a program to provide financial incentives for fusion energy research. This bill specifies that it will only become operative if a separate measure or budget bill provides funding for its implementation.

Status: Chapter 334, Statutes of 2025

SCR-25 (Blakespear) - Nuclear fusion.

Recognizes the numerous contributions of public and private sector organizations within California, including the University of California and national laboratories, for advancing nuclear fusion energy research and supports developing the fusion energy ecosystem with the goal of siting a fusion pilot plant in California by the 2040s.

Status: Chapter 161, Statutes of 2025

Petroleum

AB-23 (DeMaio) - The Cost of Living Reduction Act of 2025.

Would have required the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to post, and update monthly, dashboards on their internet websites that include the difference in average gasoline prices and the average total price of electricity or natural gas in California compared to national averages, and any California-specific taxes, fees, regulations, and policies that directly or indirectly contribute to higher gasoline and electricity or natural gas prices within the state, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-406 (Bennett) - Energy: transportation fuels assessment.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop and propose recommendations to implement solutions to mitigate any impacts identified in its triennial Transportation Fuels Assessment, beginning with the first assessment submitted on or after January 1, 2025. The bill would have also authorized the CEC, in preparing the assessment, to request information from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM), and other relevant state agencies, and would have required those entities to provide any information the CEC deems necessary. The bill was subsequently amended outside the Committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Chapter 148, Statutes of 2025

SB-237 (Grayson) - Oil spill prevention: gasoline specifications: suspension: California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions: County of Kern: transportation fuels assessment: coastal resources.

Makes various statutory changes related to oil and gas regulation including requiring increased safety standards for offshore oil and gas pipelines; authorizing the governor to suspend summer gas blend requirements; requiring state evaluation for the potential of regional fuel blends; authorizing permitting of oil in Kern County by deeming compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act sufficient; and, clarifying permitting pathways under the California Coastal Act for offshore oil and gas development.

Status: Chapter 118, Statutes of 2025

SB-767 (Richardson) - Energy: transportation fuels: supply: reportable pipelines.

Requires oil pipeline operators to report specified information about pipeline flows to the California Energy Commission (CEC), starting on March 30, 2027.

Status: Chapter 657, Statutes of 2025

Rates and Energy Cost

AB-13 (Ransom) - Public Utilities Commission: membership: reports.

Would have made changes to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), including requiring specified geographic representation of commissioners and specified reporting to the Legislature concerning utility rate-setting cases at the CPUC.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-23 (DeMaio) - The Cost of Living Reduction Act of 2025.

Would have required the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to post, and update monthly, dashboards on their internet websites that include the difference in average gasoline prices and the average total price of electricity or natural gas in California compared to national averages, and any California-specific taxes, fees, regulations, and policies that directly or indirectly contribute to higher gasoline and electricity or natural gas prices within the state, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-61 (Pacheco) - Electricity and natural gas: legislation imposing mandated programs and requirements: third-party review.

Would have required the Public Advocates Office (PAO) at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to establish, by January 1, 2027, a program to, upon request of the Legislature, analyze legislation that would establish a mandated requirement or program or otherwise affect electrical or gas ratepayers.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-99 (Ta) - Electrical corporations: rates.

Would have prohibited investor-owned utilities (IOUs) from proposing a consumer rate increase above the rate of inflation unless approved by a majority of customers through election, or if the California Public Utilities Commission deems the increase is directly related to safety enhancements, modernization, or higher commodity or fuel costs.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-286 (Gallagher) - Electricity: mandatory rate reduction.

Would have mandated the California Public Utilities Commission to generate a report to outline recommendations to reduce the cost of electricity by no less than 30% by January 1, 2027.

Status: Assembly-Died – Appropriations

AB-532 (Ransom) - Water rate assistance program.

Would have also required a public urban retail water supplier to provide water rate assistance to its ratepayers.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-729 (Zbur) - Public utilities: climate credits.

Would have prescribed the months in which electrical and gas utilities must apply to their customers' bills the proceeds of sales of greenhouse gas emissions allowances, known as the California Climate Credit.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Energy, Utilities and Communications

AB-745 (Irwin) - Electricity: climate credits.

Would have made changes to the allocation distribution of the California Climate Credit by electrical corporations on residential customers' utility bills so that the credit is issued during specified summer months and based on volumetric electricity usage, instead of a flat amount.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-825 (Petrie-Norris) - Public Transmission Financing Act of 2025.

Authorizes the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and the electrical corporations whose transmission is operated by the CAISO to use voluntary energy markets governed by an independent regional organization (RO) if specified requirements are met.

Status: Chapter 116, Statutes of 2025

AB-1017 (Boerner) - Energy: electrical and gas corporations: general rate cases.

Requires an electrical corporation or gas corporation, as a part of its General Rate Case (GRC), to provide to the California Public Utilities Commission certain information, including, among other things:

- a) The corporation's authorized and actual rate of return and return on equity for the past 10 years.
- b) For any asset repair, installation, or replacement work, the number of units installed, repaired, or replaced during the past 10 years.
- c) Projects related to the corporation's distribution capacity that include the forecast submitted in the prior GRC of the corporation, which projects have been conducted or will be started, canceled, or indefinitely delayed, and which projects that are included in the prior general rate case forecast are included in the forecast for the pending GRC.

Status: Chapter 177, Statutes of 2025

AB-1117 (Schultz) - Electricity: rates: optional dynamic rate tariffs.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), through a new or existing proceeding, to develop optional dynamic rate tariffs applicable to each large electrical corporation for their customers, specifically by July 1, 2028 for medium and large commercial and industrial customers, and by July 1, 2030 for residential and small commercial customers. Additionally, this bill would have authorized medium and large commercial and industrial customers to receive generation service through the Direct Access (DA) program, thereby opening the current statutory cap on this third-party service.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1238 (DeMaio) - California Energy Consumer Freedom Act.

Would have prohibited state agencies and local governments from adopting or enforcing a rule, regulation, resolution, or ordinance that directly or indirectly results in prohibiting the use of gas appliances in residential or nonresidential buildings, and the buying, selling, or use of gasoline-powered vehicles or equipment.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

SB-473 (Padilla) - Water corporations: demand elasticity: rates and surcharges.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to ensure that errors in estimates of demand elasticity or sales do not result in material overcollections or undercollections by water corporations, and that any changes to water service rates or the implementation of surcharges do not result in revenues exceeding those approved by the CPUC.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Renewable Energy

AB-434 (DeMaio) - Battery energy storage facilities.

Would have excluded energy storage facilities that use batteries as the storage medium from the existing California Energy Commission certification process that otherwise allows applicants for certain large energy facilities, including energy storage systems capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours or more, to obtain certification in lieu of state and local permitting. The bill would have also prohibited, until January 1, 2028, a public agency from authorizing the construction of a battery energy storage facility, as defined. In addition, this bill would have required the State Fire Marshal, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt guidelines and minimum standards for the construction of battery energy storage facilities to prevent fires and protect nearby communities, and would have also

required public agencies, when authorizing such facilities on or after that date, to ensure compliance with those guidelines or any more stringent local standards.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-443 (Bennett) - Energy Commission: integrated energy policy report: curtailed solar and wind generation: hydrogen production.

Would have required the California Energy Commission to include an assessment of the availability, location, and transmission constraints associated with potential renewable resources for hydrogen production in the next Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR).

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-526 (Papan) - Energy: new in-state geothermal energy generation.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC), in consultation with other agencies, to develop a strategic plan for new geothermal energy in California, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-531 (Rogers) - Geothermal powerplants and geothermal field development projects: certification and environmental review.

Expands the types of facilities eligible to be certified as environmental leadership development projects by the California Energy Commission (CEC) to include geothermal powerplants and projects that comprise multiple geothermal powerplants on a single site.

Status: Chapter 372, Statutes of 2025

AB-706 (Aguiar-Curry) - Forest Organic Residue, Energy, and Safety Transformation and Wildfire Prevention Fund Act.

Would have created the Forest Organic Residue, Energy, and Safety Transformation (FOREST) and Wildfire Prevention Fund to provide funding for the fire fuel reduction procurement program. Specifically, this bill, among other things, would have:

- 1) Established the FOREST and Wildfire Prevention Fund in the State Treasury, and provided that the fund is continuously appropriated to the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) for the purpose identified in item 2.
- 2) Provided that the purpose of the FOREST and Wildfire Prevention Fund was to reduce organic fuel sources that increase fire risk by providing funding for the fire fuel reduction procurement program, established pursuant to item 3.
- 3) Established the fire fuel reduction procurement program to support sufficient procurement, transport, and beneficial use of forest biomass waste that reduces fuel for wildfires by up to 15 million bone-dry tons (BDT) of forest biomass waste per year.

Prioritized funding “BioRAM” and “BioMAT” fleets in operation on or before January 1, 2031, as defined and specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Natural Resources and Water

AB-1016 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Power facility and site certifications: thermal powerplants: geothermal resources.

Would have authorized the California Energy Commission (CEC) to exempt a proposed geothermal powerplant with a generating capacity of up to 150 megawatts (MW) from the powerplant certification chapter of the Warren-Alquist Act. The bill would have also provided that, upon the CEC's exemption, the local governmental agency that has land use jurisdiction over the site of the proposed powerplant be the lead agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) if the site is located in a county that has an approved geothermal element, or a geothermal and renewable element, in the county's general plan.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Energy, Utilities and Communications

AB-1104 (Pellerin) - Small Business Renewable Energy Access and Protection Act.

Makes changes to labor laws governing the construction of larger, nonresidential renewable electrical generating facilities. Specifically, the bill clarifies that, for limited purposes, the contractor entering into a construction contract—rather than the project owner or entity—is the awarding body for the construction of a renewable electrical generation facility and associated battery storage. The bill also specifies which public works and prevailing wage requirements apply to these construction projects, and authorizes a renewable electrical generation facility to remain eligible for service under a standard contract or tariff notwithstanding a contractor's willful violation of prevailing wage requirements, provided that restitution is made to affected workers and all applicable penalties and fines are paid.

Status: Chapter 632, Statutes of 2025

AB-1156 (Wicks) - Solar-use easements: suspension of Williamson Act contracts: terms of easement: termination.

Would have made a number of changes to law governing the conversion of a Williamson Act contract into a solar-use easement (SUE) to expand what projects can go onto an SUE, what areas are eligible for SUE, and waiving the current fee associated with entering into an SUE on land contracted under the Williamson Act, among numerous other changes.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

AB-1176 (Flora) - Energy: renewable energy resources program.

Would have revised the definition of “renewable electrical generation facility” for purposes of the Renewable Energy Resources Program to include a facility that commenced initial commercial operation on January 1, 2005, rather than after that date, and the bill would have also made nonsubstantive conforming changes.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-1260 (Ward) - Electricity: renewable energy subscription programs.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable energy subscription program and adopt implementing guidelines, among other provisions.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1334 (Wallis) - Solar energy: official state energy.

Would have established solar energy as the official state energy.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Governmental Organization

SB-842 (Stern) - Energy: firm zero-carbon resources.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission, by December 31, 2026, to produce a report identifying the opportunities and needs to provide for local and system reliability through firm zero-carbon resources over the short term, midterm, and long term as specified.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Safety

AB-365 (Schiavo) - The Justin Kropp Safety Act: Public utilities: AED availability at worksites.

Requires electric utilities, and their contractors and subcontractors to have an automated external defibrillator (AED) available for emergency use at each worksite where two or more utility workers are performing work on electrical transmission and distribution lines above 601 volts.

Status: Chapter 361, Statutes of 2025

AB-881 (Petrie-Norris) - Public resources: transportation of carbon dioxide.

Would have directed the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), by July 1, 2026, to adopt regulations governing the safe transportation of CO₂ in pipelines that are at a minimum as protective as the draft federal regulations set forth in the unofficial version of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on January 10, 2025, pursuant to rulemaking

(RIN 2137-AF60) regarding the minimum federal safety standards for transportation of CO2 by pipeline.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

AB-1410 (Garcia) - Public utilities: service outages and updates: alerts.

Requires utilities, with specific exceptions made for publicly owned electric utilities, to automatically enroll their customers in alerts related to service outages and related updates by March 1, 2026.

Status: Chapter 396, Statutes of 2025

SB-283 (Laird) - Energy storage systems.

Establishes the Clean Energy Safety Act of 2025 and requires various provisions to address fire safety standards for energy storage systems permitted by the California Energy Commission or by local jurisdictions.

Status: Chapter 407, Statutes of 2025

SB-614 (Stern) - Carbon dioxide transport.

Requires the State Fire Marshall (SFM) to adopt regulations to regulate the transportation of carbon dioxide (CO2) in a pipeline, including certain specified safety standards that, at a minimum, are as protective as the draft regulations proposed by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

Status: Chapter 529, Statutes of 2025

Siting Certification and Permitting

AB-420 (Petrie-Norris) - Public utilities: property, franchises, and permits: exemption.

Exempts certain sales of large investor-owned utilities (IOU) property valued at \$100,000 or less from review by the California Public Utilities Commission. The bill also authorizes the value threshold to increase with the cost of inflation.

Status: Chapter 150, Statutes of 2025

AB-531 (Rogers) - Geothermal powerplants and geothermal field development projects: certification and environmental review.

Expands the types of facilities eligible to be certified as environmental leadership development projects by the California Energy Commission (CEC) to include geothermal powerplants and projects that comprise multiple geothermal powerplants on a single site.

Status: Chapter 372, Statutes of 2025

AB-615 (Davies) - Power facilities: emergency response and action plans.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) to ensure that battery energy storage facilities that submit an application to the opt-in permitting process after January 1, 2026, comply with setback requirements that are at least as protective as those most recently published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855, Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems. The bill would have also required energy storage application submitted to the CEC for opt-in permitting to include an emergency response plan, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

AB-915 (Petrie-Norris) - Clean Energy Reliability Investment Plan: clean energy project siting and permitting.

Would have exempted water storage ponds associated with an energy storage facility that uses compressed air technology and is located in eastern Kern County from dam safety regulations if the water storage ponds meet the following criteria:

- a) Have a maximum pool height of 25 feet or less from the final engineered grade and a maximum storage capacity of 1,500 acre-feet (AF) or less;
- b) Are designed by, and constructed under, the supervision of a registered civil engineer;
- c) Are not across a stream or watercourse; and
- d) Are approved by a lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, including approval by a state agency under a certified regulatory program.

This bill would have also declared that this special statute is necessary because of the unique project that will be located in Kern County.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

AB-941 (Zbur) - California Environmental Quality Act: electrical infrastructure projects.

Would have established an expedited (270 day, with exceptions) timeline for the California Public Utilities Commission to complete California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review of "priority" electrical infrastructure projects (transmission lines and associated infrastructure).

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1016 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Power facility and site certifications: thermal powerplants: geothermal resources.

Would have authorized the California Energy Commission (CEC) to exempt a proposed geothermal powerplant with a generating capacity of up to 150 megawatts (MW) from the powerplant certification chapter of the Warren-Alquist Act. The bill would have also provided that, upon the CEC's exemption, the local governmental agency that has land use jurisdiction over the site of the proposed powerplant be the lead agency for

purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) if the site is located in a county that has an approved geothermal element, or a geothermal and renewable element, in the county's general plan.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Energy, Utilities and Communications

AB-1156 (Wicks) - Solar-use easements: suspension of Williamson Act contracts: terms of easement: termination.

Would have made a number of changes to law governing the conversion of a Williamson Act contract into a solar-use easement (SUE) to expand what projects can go onto an SUE, what areas are eligible for SUE, and waiving the current fee associated with entering into an SUE on land contracted under the Williamson Act, among numerous other changes.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

SB-254 (Becker) - Electricity: wildfire mitigation: rate assistance: Policy-Oriented and Wildfire Electric Reimbursement (POWER) Program.

Proposes extensive policies affecting regulation, management, and ratepayer costs of the state's electric and gas utilities (i.e., investor-owned utilities or IOUs). These measures include:

- (1) Continuation of the electric IOU Wildfire Fund, including an extension for 10 additional years of an existing ratepayer charge;
- (2) Creation of the California Transmission Accelerator (Accelerator) at the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz);
- (3) A prohibition on electrical corporations including \$6 billion in wildfire risk mitigation investments in their rate base for purposes of earning profit and authorizing securitization of those costs;
- (4) Additional authorization of securitization for costs arising from 2025 wildfire liabilities if they are in excess of the existing Wildfire Fund, with a possibility for IOU shareholders repaying costs, as specified;
- (5) Modifications to permitting processes and procedures for "clean" energy projects;
- (6) Modifications on wildfire risk mitigation requirements and conformity of oversight responsibilities between the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC);
- (7) Streamlining of planning and design information of infrastructure projects at the California Underground Safety Board (USB); and (8) other reporting and auditing requirements, as detailed in the bill.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2025

SB-445 (Wiener) - High-speed rail: third-party permits and approvals: regulations.

Would have required the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) to develop and adopt regulations for governing third-party permits and approvals that are necessary to deliver the project.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Storage

AB-303 (Addis) - Battery energy storage facilities.

Would have specified that energy storage systems do not include battery energy storage systems for specific purposes. Also, would have required the California Energy Commission to deny applications for a battery energy storage system that are pending as of the effective date of the bill. In addition, the bill would have prohibited the authorization of a development project that includes a battery energy storage system capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours or more of energy if the development project is located within 3,200 feet of a sensitive receptor or is located on an environmentally sensitive site, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-434 (DeMaio) - Battery energy storage facilities.

Would have excluded energy storage facilities that use batteries as the storage medium from the existing California Energy Commission certification process that otherwise allows applicants for certain large energy facilities, including energy storage systems capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours or more, to obtain certification in lieu of state and local permitting. The bill would have also prohibited, until January 1, 2028, a public agency from authorizing the construction of a battery energy storage facility, as defined. In addition, this bill would have required the State Fire Marshal, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt guidelines and minimum standards for the construction of battery energy storage facilities to prevent fires and protect nearby communities, and would have also required public agencies, when authorizing such facilities on or after that date, to ensure compliance with those guidelines or any more stringent local standards.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

AB-615 (Davies) - Power facilities: emergency response and action plans.

Would have required the California Energy Commission (CEC) to ensure that battery energy storage facilities that submit an application to the opt-in permitting process after January 1, 2026, comply with setback requirements that are at least as protective as those most recently published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855, Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems. The bill would have

also required energy storage application submitted to the CEC for opt-in permitting to include an emergency response plan, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

SB-283 (Laird) - Energy storage systems.

Establishes the Clean Energy Safety Act of 2025 and requires various provisions to address fire safety standards for energy storage systems permitted by the California Energy Commission or by local jurisdictions.

Status: Chapter 407, Statutes of 2025

Transportation Electrification

AB-39 (Zbur) - General plans: Local Electrification Planning Act.

Requires each city and county, by January 1, 2030, to adopt a plan, or amend its general plan, to identify various goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures regarding electrification of transportation and buildings.

Status: Chapter 356, Statutes of 2025

AB-1423 (Irwin) - Transportation electrification: charging station uptime: regulations: violations.

Authorizes the California Energy Commission to modify requirements for electric vehicle (EV) charger payment systems.

Status: Chapter 192, Statutes of 2025

SB-533 (Richardson) - Electric vehicle charging stations: internet-based applications.

Allows electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at certain arenas to require customers to use an internet-based application to pay for charging services.

Status: Chapter 770, Statutes of 2025

Wildfire and Wildfire Fund

AB-367 (Bennett) - Water: County of Ventura: fire suppression.

Requires Ventura County water suppliers to: have backup power, or access to alternative water sources, capable of supplying water for at least 24 hours for fire suppression in high or very high fire hazard severity zones; annually inspect critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources and notify significant water delivery reductions, as specified, to the County Office of Emergency Services. This bill also requires the Ventura County Fire Department, in cooperation with the water

supplier, to issue a report, as specified, after significant fire damage within a service area, as specified.

Status: Chapter 690, Statutes of 2025

AB-777 (Celeste Rodriguez) - Food assistance: disasters: public utilities.

Would have, among its provisions, required utilities to respond to all data requests from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and would have established a dedicated point of contact with CDSS, and enter into data-sharing agreements to facilitate the provision of requested information. This bill was later amended outside committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Chapter 709, Statutes of 2025

AB-1228 (Essayli) - Electricity: expedited utility distribution infrastructure undergrounding program.

Would have clarified that the approval of a distribution infrastructure undergrounding plan by the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety is not a “project” for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with regulatory authority over electrical corporations and requires the Commission to establish an expedited utility distribution infrastructure undergrounding program for large electrical corporations. Under existing law, participation in the program requires a large electrical corporation to submit a distribution infrastructure undergrounding plan to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety and, upon approval of the plan, to submit an application to the CPUC for review and conditional approval of the plan’s costs and other specified information.

Status: Assembly-Died - Utilities and Energy

SB-254 (Becker) - Electricity: wildfire mitigation: rate assistance: Policy-Oriented and Wildfire Electric Reimbursement (POWER) Program.

Proposes extensive policies affecting regulation, management, and ratepayer costs of the state’s electric and gas utilities (i.e., investor-owned utilities or IOUs). These measures include:

- (1) Continuation of the electric IOU Wildfire Fund, including an extension for 10 additional years of an existing ratepayer charge;
- (2) Creation of the California Transmission Accelerator (Accelerator) at the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz);
- (3) A prohibition on electrical corporations, including \$6 billion in wildfire risk mitigation investments in their rate base for purposes of earning profit and authorizing securitization of those costs;
- (4) Additional authorization of securitization for costs arising from 2025 wildfire liabilities if they are in excess of the existing Wildfire Fund, with a possibility for IOU shareholders repaying costs, as specified;

(5) Modifications to permitting processes and procedures for “clean” energy projects;
(6) Modifications on wildfire risk mitigation requirements and conformity of oversight responsibilities between the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC);
(7) Streamlining of planning and design information of infrastructure projects at the California Underground Safety Board (USB); and (8) other reporting and auditing requirements, as detailed in the bill.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2025

SB-256 (Pérez) - Electricity: electrical infrastructure: wildfire mitigation.

Would have required additional provisions to be included in wildfire mitigation plans submitted by investor-owned utilities (IOUs), local publicly owned electric utilities, and electrical cooperatives. The bill would have enhanced wildfire mitigation measures related to abandoned electrical facilities and additionally, the bill would have strengthened communication requirements concerning de-energization events and disaster response among utilities, community members, and local emergency management officials.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-292 (Cervantes) - Electricity: wildfire mitigation: deenergization events and reliability.

Would have required the California Public Utilities Commission to consider requiring specified data reporting by electrical corporations regarding post-deenergization event reports and annual reliability reports. This bill would have also required electric publicly owned utilities (POUs) to post on their website annual reliability reports.

Status: Senate-Vetoed

Wind and Off-shore Wind

AB-472 (Rogers) - Energy: offshore wind generation.

Would have directed the California Energy Commission (CEC) to regularly assess the funding needs for port infrastructure needed to support offshore wind energy development. Specifically, the bill would have required the CEC, as part of each edition of the statutorily required integrated energy policy report (IEPR), starting with the 2027 edition, to include an assessment of funding needs for port infrastructure for offshore wind energy development consistent with the recommendations in the “Assembly Bill 525 Offshore Wind Strategic Plan.” The bill would have directed the CEC, in conducting the assessments, to consult with various other state agencies. Finally, this bill would have also stated the requirement on CEC to conduct the assessments is contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature.

Status: Assembly-Died - Appropriations

AB-1417 (Stefani) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

Authorizes the California Energy Commission (CEC) to allocate funds from the Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program (Program) for capacity funding activities and grants within local and tribal communities and includes reporting requirements for the CEC, offshore wind (OSW) entities, and eligible entities receiving donations from OSW entities.

Status: Chapter 397, Statutes of 2025

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