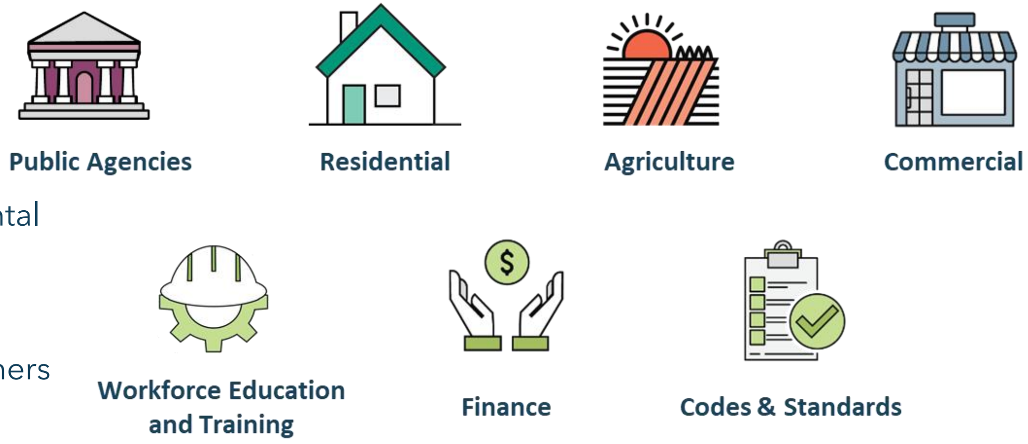
Savings You Don't See: California's Energy Efficiency Programs – Regional Energy Network

Presented August 5, 2026

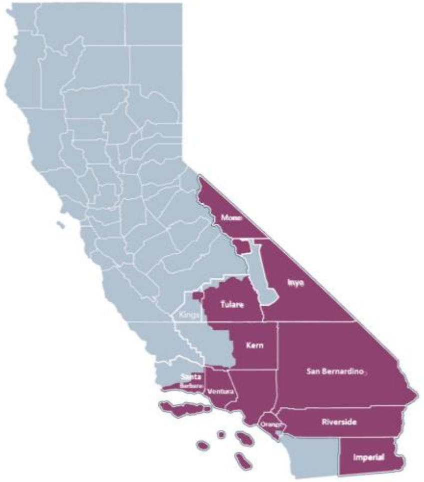
Southern California Regional Energy Network

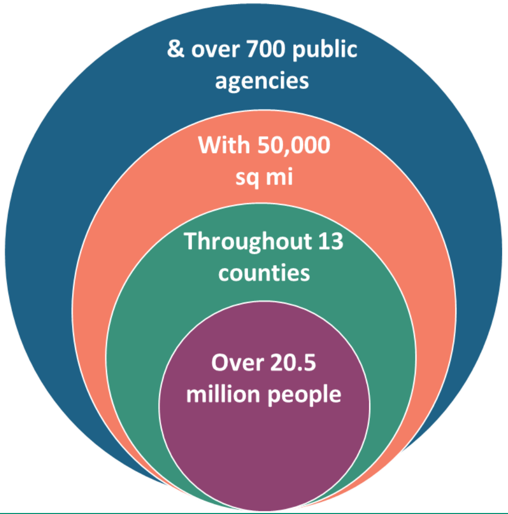
Energy & Environmental Service, a division of the Los Angeles County Internal Services Department, coordinates energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability programs to increase utilization and maximize the efficient use of natural resources. Energy & Environmental Service developed and administers the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN).

Regional Energy Networks (RENs) deliver energy efficiency programs and services to customers of California's four Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs)—Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), SoCalGas®, and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). Funded by ratepayer dollars under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and in partnership with the IOUs, RENs are specifically designed to fill gaps in the market and to center hard-to-reach (HTR) customers and Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). Los Angeles County has worked with SCE and SoCalGas to deliver SoCalREN's equitable energy services throughout Southern California communities since 2013.



Deliver Energy and Climate Impacts	Build Energy Capacity and Economic Resilience	Expand Access to EE Benefits





Local Government Delivery is Ideally Positioned to Meet Communities Hardest Hit by Climate and Energy Cost Impacts

- **Local Knowledge & Trust While Implementing Activities IOUs cannot or will not do**

Hyper-local delivery across residential, small business, public sector, agriculture, and equity-focused programs. Programs shaped around regional needs — not a one-size-fits-all statewide template

- **Fiduciary accountability to all Community Members**

Local governments operate under public fiduciary duty — Board oversight, open meetings, cost-efficient budgeting — that ties program design to community benefit, not shareholder return.

- **Built-in economic development**

REN dollars stay local — contractor networks, workforce training, direct investment dollars to communities and vendor relationships build regional economic capacity, not just energy savings.

D.12-11-015 (NOV. 2012)

Established the first RENs (BayREN, SoCalREN) and the REN threshold criteria: activities utilities/CCAs can't or won't offer, hard-to-reach markets, and scalable pilots.

"Local government accountability isn't incidental to the REN model — it's the reason it exists."

EE Is A Cost-Effective Affordability Tool

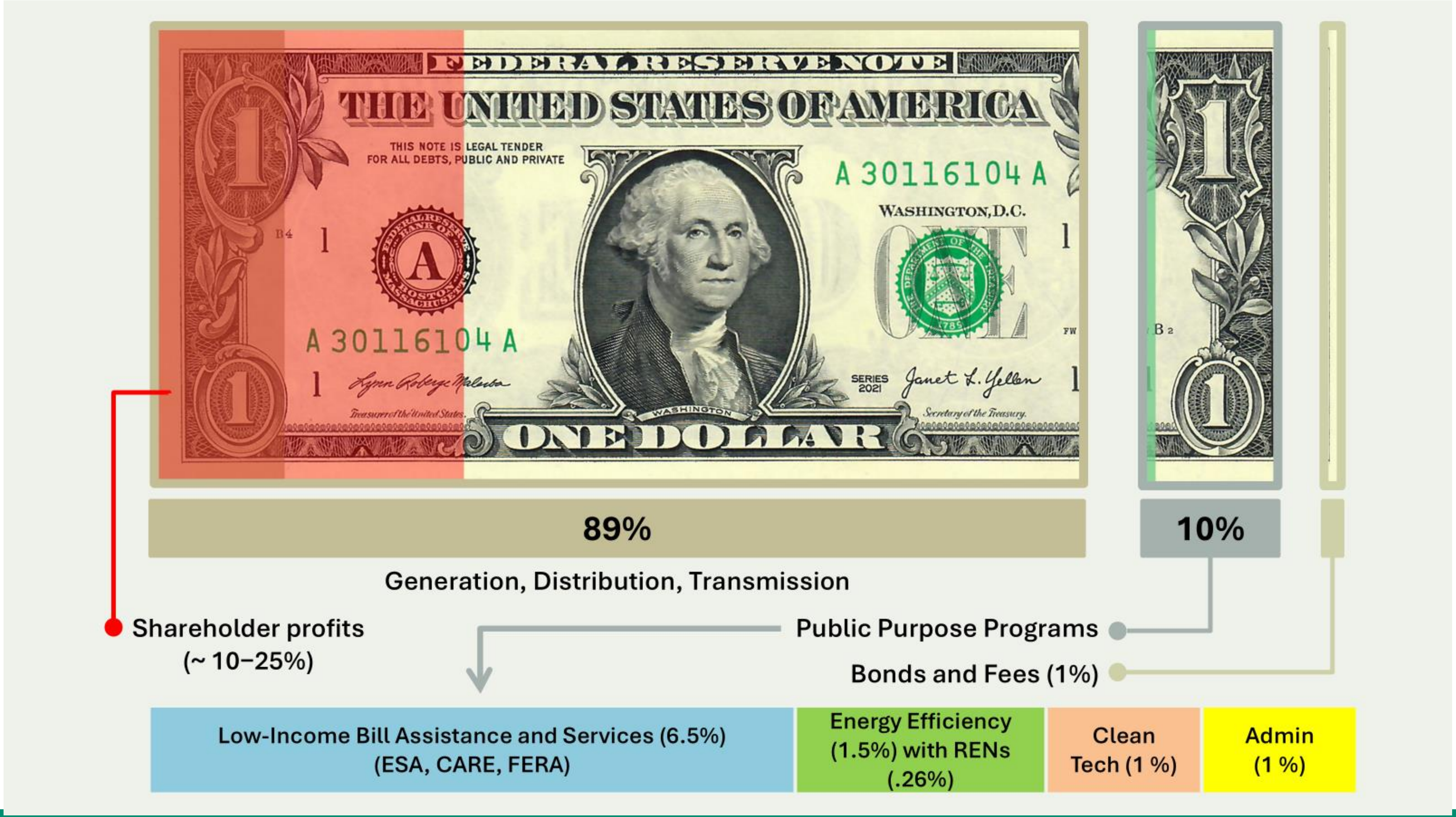
- Reduces bills directly — permanently lowering usage, not just shifting costs; Savings persist for the measure's lifetime — often 10–20+ years; One of the few ratepayer tools that directly lowers bills for not only income qualified and DAC customers **but for all ratepayers**
- California ranks #1 in the nation on energy efficiency (ACEEE). **In 2023, California had the lowest per-capita electricity consumption among all states (EIA).**
- **Reduced peak demand** defers transmission and distribution upgrades: by lowering grid stress during high-load periods, energy efficiency can delay or avoid transmission, substation, and distribution investments.

In 2024 alone, across all IOU territories, projected lifetime **bill savings for customers participating in energy efficiency programs total $11.3 billion.**

See PG&E, SDG&E, SCE, AND SOCALGAS 2024 ANNUAL REPORTS, available at CA ENERGY DATA & REPORTINGSYSTEMS

https://cedars.cpuc.ca.gov/documents/standalone/list/ (last visited Feb. 11, 2026).

How is a Customer Bill Divided Up?



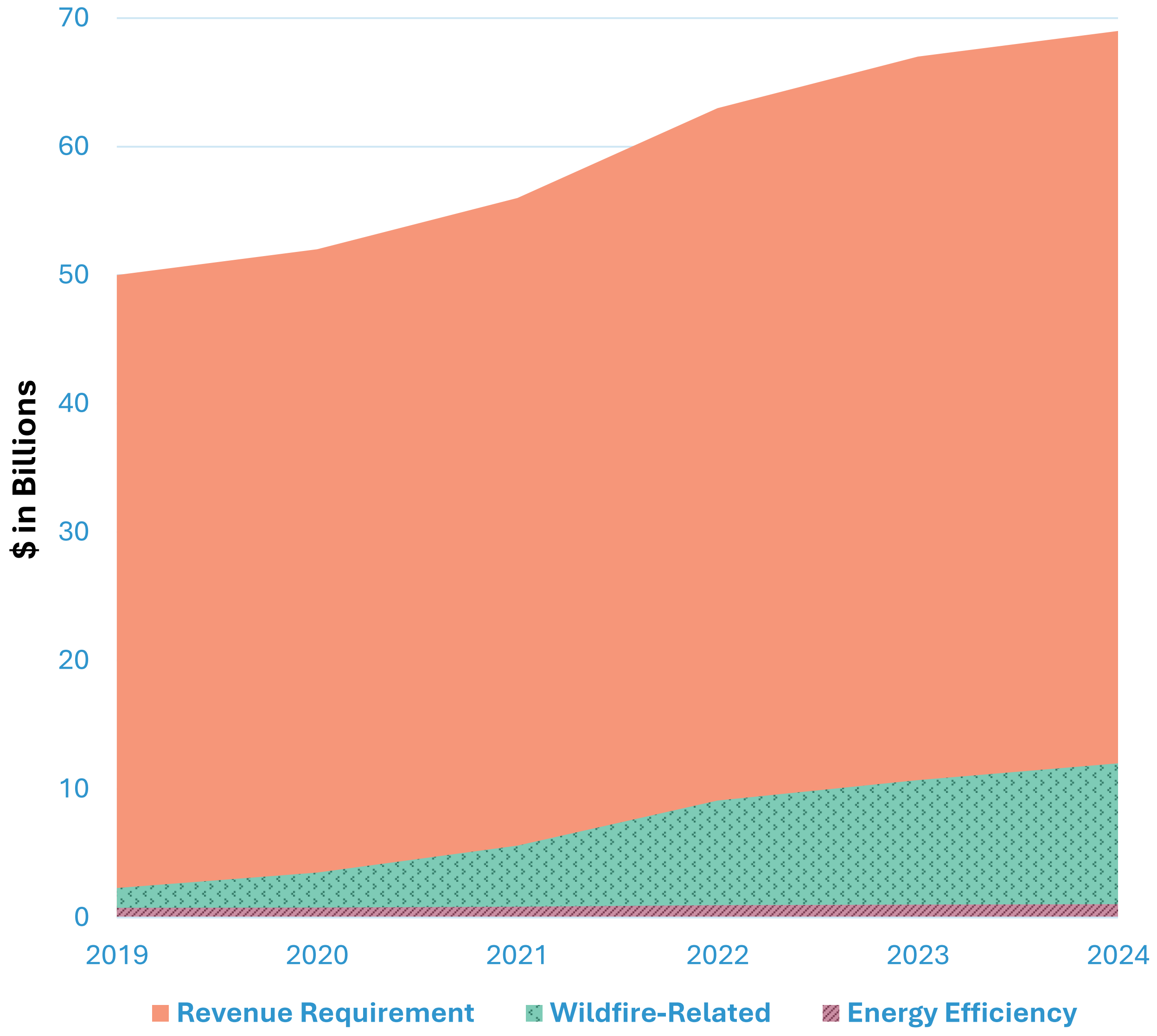
What is driving cost increases? Not Energy Efficiency.

Utility Revenue Requirements **rose by approximately 38%** between 2019 and 2024.

https://www.canarymedia.com/articles/utilities/californias-utility-bill-crisis-is-clear-to-all-the-solution-not-so-much

Wildfire-related costs **increased from about 5% to 17%** of revenue requirements over this period, driving roughly half of total growth.

Energy efficiency investments remained flat and **are not a driver of bill increases**.



Delivering energy bill savings and greenhouse gas emission reductions amidst affordability concerns while driving economic development.

As a steward of ratepayer funds, SoCalREN is delivering significant energy bill savings, supporting the clean energy economy, and leveraging non-ratepayer funding to multiply impact.

Impact of Our Work

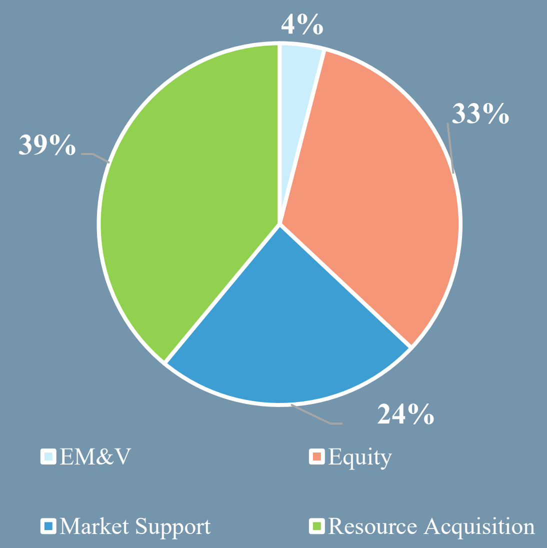
$411M

Lifetime Bill Savings in Public Buildings

418,181

Lifetime MTCO2e GHG avoided.= 97,543 cars off the road for one year.

SoCalREN Allocation of Programs and Services



SoCalREN

SoCalREN Highlights

124,500+

Households Impacted

2,800+

Jobs Supported

1,650+

Completed Building or Facility Upgrade Projects

Preparing for Green Economy

51,000+

Youths & Adults Trained or certified

SoCalREN Workforce programs are focused in preparing existing and new workforce entrants to participate in the Green Economy

Thank You!

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