

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

*Order Instituting Rulemaking to Continue
Implementation and Administration of
California Renewables Portfolio Standard
Program.*

Rulemaking 11-05-005
(Filed May 11, 2017)

**MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS OF RURAL COUNTY
REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA**

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October 14, 2020

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OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

*Order Instituting Rulemaking to Continue
Implementation and Administration of
California Renewables Portfolio Standard
Program.*

Rulemaking 11-05-005
(Filed May 5, 2011)

**MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS OF RURAL COUNTY
REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA**

I. Introduction

Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) respectfully moves for party status in this proceeding in accordance with Section 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure.

II. Interest in this Proceeding

RCRC is an association of thirty-seven rural California counties, and its Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties. RCRC member counties contain much of California’s forested lands, including more than 70 percent of the State’s national forest lands, as well as high fire hazard severity zones. Our communities have borne the lion’s share of destruction caused by wildfires and have experienced most of the state’s Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) events. Our counties host numerous renewable energy facilities, including solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, and biomass.

III. Factual and Legal Contentions

RCRC will provide input based on our knowledge of California’s rural counties, our renewable energy resources, rural problems with energy reliability, and efforts to improve forest health and reduce the risk of future wildfires.

Of note at this moment, the biomass facilities in our counties play an integral role in crucially important forest health and wildfire prevention projects, including converting residual forest products (for which there is often no marketable use) into energy. From a forest management and wildfire prevention perspective, these facilities help to deal with material that would otherwise be left to decompose naturally, be managed through open burning, or fuel future wildfires.

RCRC is a party to several other deenergization, energy resiliency, communications, and broadband related proceedings before the Commission, including R.12-11-005, *Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for the California Solar Initiative, the Self-Generation Incentive Program and Other Distributed Generation Issues (and the subsequent R.20-05-012 Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for the Self-Generation Incentive Program and Related Issues)*; R.18-12-005, *Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine Electric Utility De-Energization of Power Lines in Dangerous Conditions*; R.18-10-007, *Order Instituting Rulemaking to Implement Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plans Pursuant to Senate Bill 901 (2018)*; R.18-03-011, *Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Emergency Disaster Relief Program*; and R.19-09-009, *Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Microgrids Pursuant to Senate Bill 1339 and Resiliency Strategies*, among others.

IV. Notice

Service of notices, orders, and other correspondence in this proceeding should be directed to RCRC at the address set forth below:

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IV. Conclusion

RCRC's participation in this proceeding will not prejudice any party and will not delay the schedule or broaden the scope of the issues in the proceeding. For the reasons stated above, RCRC respectfully requests that the CPUC grant this Motion for Party Status filing.

Dated: October 14, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John Kennedy

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