## Major Energy Storage Incentives Authorized by CPUC Can Help Safeguard those most Vulnerable to Wildfire and Power Safety Shut-offs

Greetings California Energy Colleagues,

I wanted to make sure community-serving energy professionals in CA were aware that the CPUC has recently authorized major modifications to the <u>Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)</u> to strengthen resiliency in communities facing the greatest risk of wildfires and Power Safety Shut-offs.

Since 2001, the SGIP has played a critical role in the deployment of distributed generation projects and the reduction of on-site electric demand and greenhouse gas emissions in CA. The recent modifications result in more than one billion dollars through 2025 largely for energy storage projects. The Decision sets aside 63% of the budget to fund "equity/resiliency projects" that seek to cover the full cost of energy systems to benefit low income and disadvantaged communities (including Indian Country) and medically vulnerable customers who are at most risk during electricity shut-offs. You can view the CPUC High Fire Risk Area (Tiers 2 or 3), DACs and Low-Income layered map to determine Equity Resilience Program eligibility and qualifying incentive levels.

For a more detailed overview of the recent SGIP expansion, see page 3 of the attached CPUC article "<u>CPUC Expands Self Generation Program in Advance of Wildfire Season</u>," which includes a link to the Decision. Additional details can be found in the updated <u>SGIP Program Handbook (March 2, 2020)</u>, which describes residential and nonresidential eligibility.

If you think your community may qualify and benefit from expanded SGIP incentives and you're in position to get the word out about this opportunity, it may be wise to begin learning and preparing now. Like other incentive programs, customers must reserve their incentive dollars while they last. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there is some uncertainty with respect to start of the application period, but some customer categories may be able to apply in the coming weeks. Potential program participants can obtain information and apply for incentive funding through the following Program Administrators:

- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
- <u>Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE)</u> (San Diego Area)
- Southern California Edison (SCE)
- Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)

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