



12th Annual CCEC Forum: Webinar 6

August 11, 2021 | 2:00 - 3:15 pm

Incorporating Environmental Justice Priorities into Regulatory and Enforcement Policy





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Zoom Features

Microphone

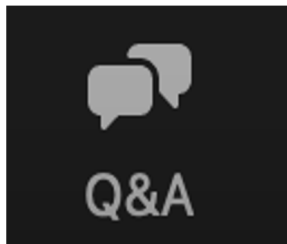
Keep yourself **muted** so that we can hear our speakers clearly



Q&A

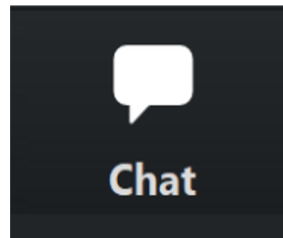
Submit questions for panelists through the Q&A module at any point during the webinar.

Upvote questions that you are interested in.



Chat

Communicate with other participants or reach out to LGC staff if you encounter technical issues.





Meet our Speakers!



Moderator

Monica Palmeira

*Analyst,
California Public Utilities
Commission*



**Martha Guzman
Aceves**

*Commissioner,
California Public Utilities
Commission*



Ashley Werner

*Directing Attorney,
Leadership Counsel for
Justice and Accountability*



Chanell Fletcher

*Deputy Executive Director,
Environmental Justice,
California Air Resources
Board*

Environmental and Social Justice Applications in CPUC proceedings

California Public Utilities Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves

@GuzmanAcevesPUC



California Public
Utilities Commission

Best practices for incorporating ESJ principles in CPUC work

1. Meaningful Public Participation (Early and Often)
2. Understand and Address Cumulative Impacts
3. Enforcement, enforcement, enforcement

About the CPUC ESJ Action Plan

Formally adopted by the
Commission in February 2019

Outlines a comprehensive
mission and operating
framework with which the
CPUC should address ESJ issues



Nine ESJ Goals

1. Consistently **integrate equity and access considerations** throughout CPUC proceedings and other efforts.
2. **Increase investment in clean energy resources** to benefit ESJ communities, especially to improve local air quality and public health.
3. Strive to **improve access to high-quality water, communications, and transportation services** for ESJ communities.
4. Increase **climate resiliency** in ESJ communities.
5. **Enhance outreach and public participation** opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the CPUC's decision-making process and benefit from CPUC programs.
6. **Enhance enforcement** to ensure safety and consumer protection for ESJ communities.
7. **Promote economic and workforce development** opportunities in ESJ communities.
8. **Improve training and staff development** related to ESJ issues within the CPUC's jurisdiction.
9. **Monitor the CPUC's ESJ efforts** to evaluate how they are achieving their objectives.

Implementation Structure

- Core Team & ESJ Liaisons
 - Represent each Division at the CPUC and tasked with tracking status of action items and serving as “ambassador” in Division for ESJ issues



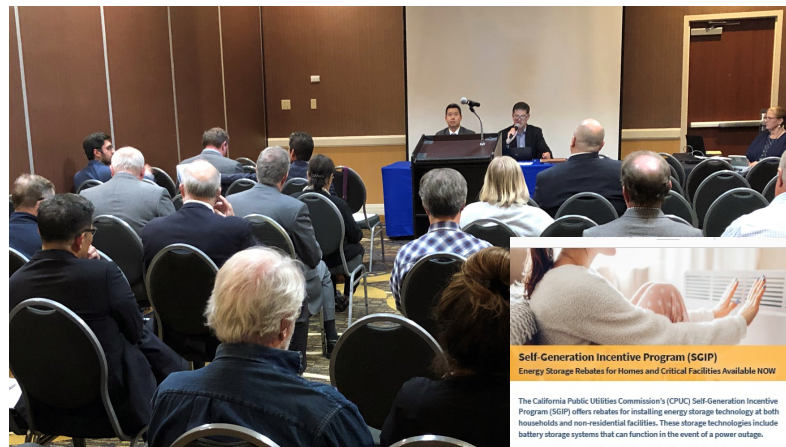
ESJ Action Plan – Highlights Thus Far

- **GOAL 1:** Incorporating ESJ Impacts into Proceedings
 - Scoping ESJ considerations and potential impacts into Scoping Memos and weaving throughout proceeding process



ESJ Action Plan – Highlights Thus Far

- **GOAL 5:** Increasing Participation of ESJ Stakeholders in CPUC Processes
 - Public Comment on Docket Card
 - CBO Outreach
 - Bill Insert Templates
 - New Tribal Advisor



Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)
Energy Storage Rebates for Homes and Critical Facilities Available NOW

The California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) offers rebates for installing energy storage technology at both households and non-residential facilities. These storage technologies include battery storage systems that can function in the event of a power outage.

In preparation for the next rebates season, the CPUC has allocated funding of more than \$1 billion for SGIP. This funding includes prioritization of communities living in high fire-threat areas, communities that have experienced one or more utility Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), as well as low-income and historically underserved customers. The funds are also available for "critical facilities" that support community resilience in the event of a PSPS or wildfire.

There are two categories of rebates: highest rebates for SGIP-Energy and Energy-Resilience. Both categories aim to ensure low-income, historically underserved, and at-risk facilities receive rebates on the basis of the level of the rebate to ensure competitive bidding for battery storage.

Total SGIP Budget Availability by Category for 2020-2024	
Energy	~ \$44 million
Energy-Resilience	~ \$613 million

The Energy and Energy-Resilience SGIP rebates lower the cost of energy storage technology to customers. If not available, the cost of energy storage is higher. Depending on which category a customer is eligible for, they can receive \$0.50 per kilowatt-hour under the Energy category or \$1.00 per kilowatt-hour under the Energy-Resilience category. Both of these amounts would mean an energy storage system for the home or facility would be almost, or generally completely, free of cost.

The SGIP rebates function as a reimbursement, but some facilities may pay for the system before the rebates. This includes both the cost of the technology and the installation. The CPUC and utilities are discussing creating financing programs to ensure up-front costs are not a barrier to participation.

Local Program Administrators will conduct other outreach on SGIP. We encourage you to reach out to them to learn more about eligibility and incentive levels. Your Program Administrator depends on who your utility is:

- PG&E: www.pge.com/energy
- PG&E: www.pge.com/energy
- Southern California Edison (SCE): www.sce.com/SGIP
- San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E): www.sdge.com/SGIP
- Southern California Gas Company (SCG&E): www.scg&e.com/SGIP
- Western: www.western.com/SGIP
- San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E): www.sdge.com/SGIP
- San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E): www.sdge.com/SGIP
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ESJ Action Plan – Highlights Thus Far

- **GOAL 8:** Training and Staff Development
 - State Agency Community Engagement & Outreach Training
 - Cal Enviro Screen Staff Training with OEHHA
 - CCORE: Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity
 - ESJ Session at New Employee Orientation



R.15-03-010 San Joaquin Valley Affordable Energy Options Case Study

- AB 2762 Seeking solutions for communities lacking access to natural gas and affordable energy options in SJV (therefore reliant on propane and wood)
- Identified 170+ communities (many historically disinvested farmworker communities) that meet statutory definition



California Public
Utilities Commission

California Public Utilities Commission



Engaged Community Early and Often

- Designed Community Outreach with CBO's- held more than 16 meetings/workshops in the affected region
- Included formal and informal opportunities to engage, tours of towns, etc.
- CBO parties engaged communities through various methods: door-to-door canvassing, phone, social media, house meetings, surveys.



More examples of ESJ incorporation in CPUC

- Disconnections Proceeding
- Incarcerated People Calling Proceeding
- Public Safety Power Shutoff Proceedings
- Net Energy Metering Proceedings
- Broadband Infrastructure Deployment/BB4All Proceeding (Digital Redlining Ruling)



ESJ Action Plan Timeline & Next Steps

ESJ Liaison Working Group Meetings	Ongoing Monthly
Status Report & Presentation to Commissioners	May 2020
Workshop on Updating ESJ Action Plan	February 2021
Post Draft Revised ESJ Action Plan for Public Feedback	September 2021
Updated ESJ Action Plan for Commission Approval	November 2021

Thank you!



Necessity of an EJ Lens in State Regulatory and Enforcement Work

- Wide-ranging and deep environmental injustice
- Rooted in explicitly & implicitly racially discriminatory practices
- No “neutral” action
- Dedicated grassroots leaders working for change
- Incredible state power to prevent and reverse harm

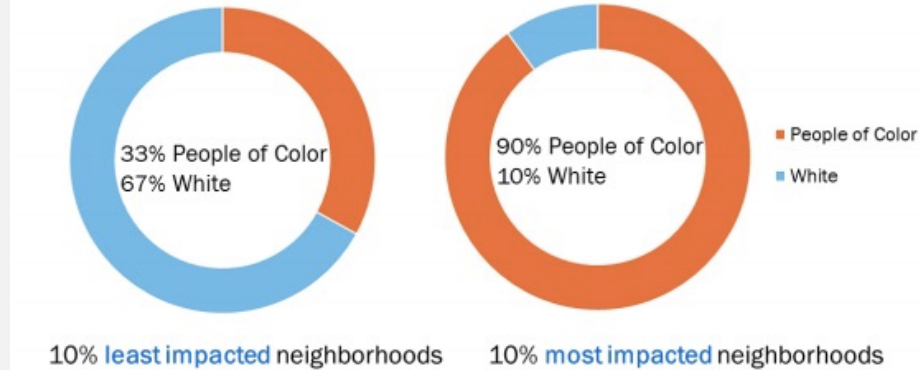
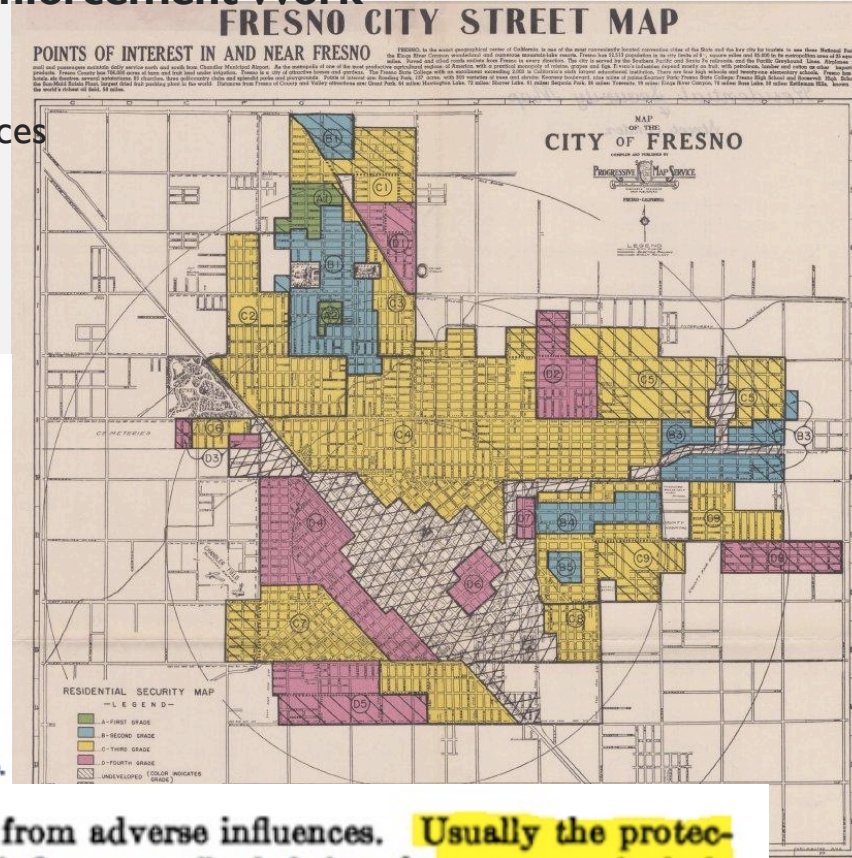


Figure 2. Race in the Least and Most Impacted Census Tracts by Draft CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Decile.



the locations within it from adverse influences. Usually the protection against adverse influences afforded by these means include prevention of the infiltration of business and industrial uses, lower-class occupancy, and inharmonious racial groups. A location close

An Example: Attorney General's Office & ARB Step Up for South Central Fresno

Issues

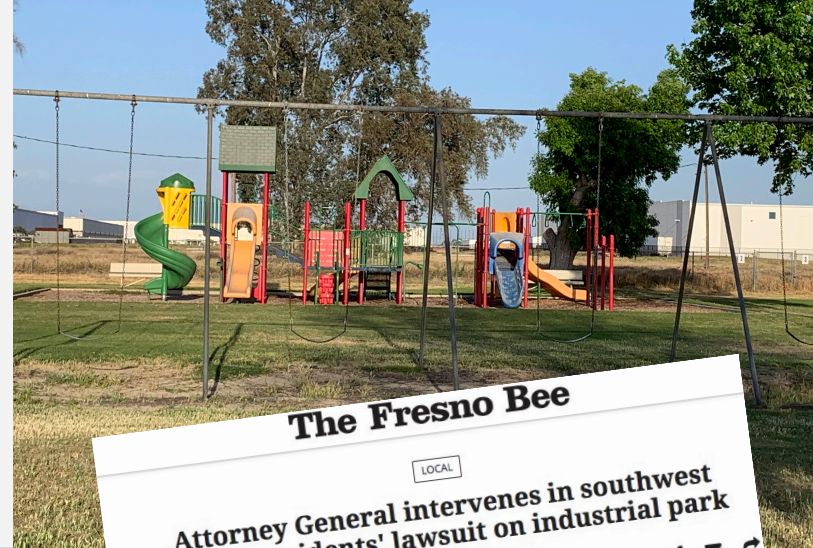
- Excluded from investment
- Environmentally impacted, ~5,000 acres industrial zoning
- Influx of distribution centers without community input

Agency Pro-EJ Practices

- Visited community
- Built relationships with grassroots leaders
- Acted on short notice
- Guided by principle
- Stayed the course *for years*

Positive Outcomes

- Protection from harmful land uses
- > political will to find solutions
- > public process
- > public awareness



A group of southwest Fresno residents and their advocates gathered Thursday, March 1, in front of the B.F. Sisk Courthouse in downtown Fresno, where they have filed suit to block plans for an industrial park in their neighborhood. SPECIAL TO THE BEE

Challenges

- Local control mantra in land use
- Agency unwillingness to exercise authority
- Insufficient staffing and expertise to apply EJ lens

And opportunities

- Evolving fair housing & civil rights mandates
 - AB 686 (2018)
 - Fair Employment and Housing Act Regs
 - Pending 11135 regs
- Envir. Enforcement & Training Act amendments
- Local, regional, and state planning requirements
 - 6th Cycle housing elements
 - Groundwater Sustainability Plans
 - SJV Air District PM2.5 Plan for 1997 standards



"...affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking **meaningful actions** that, taken together, **address significant disparities in housing needs** and in **access to opportunity**, replacing segregated living patterns with **truly integrated and balanced living patterns**, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws." Gov. Code § 8899.50



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Upcoming Events



12th Annual California Climate & Energy Forum

Transforming Tomorrow Together

August 3 - 19, 2021

WEEK 2

- **8/12 Webinar 7:**
The Future is Local: Just and Equitable Clean Energy Transformation
- **8/12 Lunch 4:**
BPC Spotlight Event: How Local Governments Can Be Competitive in Today's Funding Climate
- **8/12 Webinar 8:**
Preparing Workers to Build Back Cleaner

Post-Session Survey:
bit.ly/CCEC-Post-Session-Survey

To view the entire program visit eecoordinator.info/forum-program/