

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

In the Matter of the Application of DCR  
TRANSMISSION, LLC for a Certificate of  
Public Convenience and Necessity for the Ten  
West Link Project

Application 16-10-012  
(Filed October 12, 2016)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION BY  
THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR CORPORATION**

Pursuant to Article 8.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) Rules of Practice and Procedure, the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) hereby files this notice of oral *ex parte* communications in the above captioned proceeding.

This filing provides a summary of the CAISO's *ex parte* discussion with Leuwam Tesfai, Chief of Staff and Legal Advisor to Commissioner Shiroma; Andrew Dugowson, Interim Energy and Transportation Advisor to Commissioner Shiroma; Anand Durvasula, Legal and Policy Advisor to President Batjer; and Nora Hawkins, Energy Advisor to President Batjer. Neil Millar, Vice President, Infrastructure and Operations Planning; Delphine Hou, Director, California Regulatory Affairs; and Jordan Pinjuv, Senior Counsel, participated via teleconference on behalf of the CAISO. The *ex parte* discussion occurred on September 16, 2021 from approximately 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The CAISO discussed its initial identification of the Ten West Link Project (Proposed Project) in its 2013-2014 transmission planning process to provide economic benefits to CAISO ratepayers. The CAISO then presented the timeline for present certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) testimony and briefing phases. The CAISO pointed to the record developed during these phases as support for the continuing need for the Proposed Project.

The CAISO explained that the extended testimony and briefing period in this proceeding has delayed other generation interconnection and transmission planning activities at the CAISO, causing significant challenges within the generation community relying on the Proposed Project to move forward. The CAISO emphasized that the Proposed Project will have significant network impacts on the transmission system, as it provides a new 500 kV connection on a key path connecting Arizona's Palo Verde area with southern California and the Los Angeles Basin

area. As a result, the outcome in this proceeding will have significant impacts on other transmission and generation planning activities in southern California.

The CAISO noted the transmission system will require significant infrastructure improvements in the next ten years to connect the expected generation and storage development necessary to meet integrated resource planning goals. The CAISO recommended the Commission to streamline the permitting process to the greatest extent possible to provide generation and transmission developers with the certainty necessary to achieve long-term policy and reliability goals.

The CAISO concluded the *ex parte* discussion by thanking the Commission for its efforts to move this proceeding toward resolution.

Respectfully submitted

**By: /s/ Jordan Pinjuv**

Roger E. Collanton  
General Counsel  
Anthony Ivancovich  
Deputy General Counsel  
Jordan Pinjuv  
Senior Counsel  
California Independent System  
Operator Corporation  
Folsom, CA 95630  
Tel. 916-351-4429  
Fax. 916-608-7222  
Email: [jpinjuv@caiso.com](mailto:jpinjuv@caiso.com)

Attorneys for the California Independent  
System Operator Corporation

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