Stakeholder Comments

Review Transmission Access Charge - Wholesale Billing Determinant June 2, 2016 Issue Paper



Californians for Energy Choice

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Submitted by	Company	Date Submitted
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Dear CAISO Board members,

I write on behalf of Californians for Energy Choice, a statewide coalition of Community Choice energy supporters that helped coordinate the successful fight in 2014 to defeat AB 2145 and protect the advancement of renewable energy and Community Choice Aggregation programs in California. We are writing to express our support for the changes in the implementation of Transmission Access Charges (TAC) proposed by the Clean Coalition.

The cornerstone of California's Community Choice programs is that they group together the buying power of all customers in a community in order to use that buying power to purchase, and more importantly build, local clean energy sources and efficiency measures. The most important clean energy and efficiency resources to Community Choice programs are for the most part, small scale distributed resources behind the substation level which are not transferred over the regional transmission grids and which directly serve resource adequacy, and local economic and environmental benefits to Community Choice programs. The current structure of the Transmission Access Charges penalizes these crucial local resources, makes them less economically viable, and makes it less likely that communities and local commercial and residential customers will pursue installing distributed resources.

Placing Transmission Access Charges in their proper place on the grid at the substation level, where electricity transported over the transmission grid actually enters that grid, will give vital fairness and relief to local Community Choice and other local clean energy programs, and to electricity customers, so that these local programs can be far more robust, competitive and viable, and so that customers are given far better incentives to participate in their own local energy generation, sustainability, and resilience.

Please adopt the Clean Coalition's proposed changes in order to help make the growing Community Choice clean energy movement in California vibrant and strong.

Sincerely,

Eric Brooks, Co-Coordinator Californians for Energy Choice