

News Release

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ISO hosts public meeting on regional integration studies

FOLSOM, Calif. – Hundreds of stakeholders participated in a public meeting hosted by the California Independent System Operator (ISO) today to review methodologies of studies on economic and environmental impacts and benefits of a regional energy grid.

Today's event kicked off a series of public meetings being held by the ISO, as outlined in historic climate change legislation, Senate Bill 350, which was signed into law last fall. The Clean Energy and Pollution Control Act sets a 50-percent renewable energy goal for California by 2030, and outlines a way for the ISO to transform into a multi-state, regional power grid.

The meetings will collect input on regionalization of the grid from many different voices from across the west, including stakeholders, industry leaders, consumers, environmental advocates and regulators. The participants came to the meeting in person, or logged in to the meeting through dial-in or web conferencing.

“SB 350 lays out how we can build the energy grid of tomorrow, a cleaner, more efficient and coordinated grid that has the potential to save billions of dollars in electricity costs,” said Stacey Crowley, ISO's vice president of regional and federal affairs. “The California governor and the Legislature gave the industry a roadmap for getting to the new, greener power grid of the future. We look forward to exploring the possibility of making an integrated regional grid a reality.”

A regional electric network is seen as key to bringing more renewable energy onto the grid, while cutting fossil fuels from the western energy mix, reducing costs and improving reliability.

SB 350 calls for the ISO to conduct studies on the effects of a regional energy market on jobs, the environment, disadvantaged communities, greenhouse gas emissions, grid reliability and renewable energy integration. The public will be encouraged to give feedback throughout the process, which will culminate in a report expected to be submitted to Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. this summer.

For more information, click [here](#) to visit the ISO's regional energy market page.

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The California ISO provides open and non-discriminatory access to one of the largest power grids in the world. The vast network of high-voltage transmission power lines is supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive grid planning. Partnering with about a hundred clients, the nonprofit public benefit corporation is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates for the benefit of consumers. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help meet a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.