

NRG Energy, Inc. Comments on July 18, 2017 Annual Initiatives Policy Roadmap Straw Proposal

Name	Company	Date Submitted
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With regards to the July 18, 2017 Annual Initiatives Policy Roadmap Straw Proposal ("Proposal"), NRG supports the CAISO's proposals to:

- Provide an explicit opportunity for stakeholders to suggest new initiatives (Proposal at 4);
- Eliminate the initiative ranking process (Proposal at 2, 5).
- Provide a detailed rationale for the CAISO undertaking specific roadmap initiatives and cost-benefit and implementation information for those initiatives (Proposal at 5). NRG is encouraged that cost/benefit information and implementation information will be presented up front and hopes that doing so will eliminate the uncertainty that hangs over many, if not, all, of the CAISO's stakeholder processes – namely, whether implementation costs and time frame will always trump market design policy; and
- Provide a three-year initiatives roadmap that maps to the CAISO's strategic vision (Proposal at 2, 5).

The CAISO's proposal sensibly eliminates a stakeholder ranking exercise that never had any bearing on what the CAISO actually chose to work on. This outcome, while positive, falls far short of the original goal of the ranking process, at least as stakeholders perceived it – that they would have a meaningful and collaborative way to have an influence on which issues the CAISO, and, consequently, its stakeholders, worked together. The CAISO's proposal improves a broken process – but it does not repair it. What will repair this broken process is an initiatives roadmap proposal that affords stakeholders a meaningful voice in what they will be working on together with the CAISO.