



CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION
ON THE ENVIRONMENT
AND THE ECONOMY

DRAFT AGENDA CFEE Energy Summit

Do We Need a Jolt to the System? How Can We Supercharge Our Energy Transition?

FEBRUARY 9-10, 2023

As California mobilizes to chase down a coveted carbon neutral future, it seems that business-as-usual planning, permitting, and posturing stands firmly in the way. Further challenged by a price tag that seems to grow by the day, and our energy transition is at real risk of falling well short of our stated ambitions and evolving needs.

Our 2023 CFEE Energy Summit will examine the enormity of the challenge before us, identify obstacles delaying and deterring our best laid plans, and explore the most promising policy opportunities to put California on a decisive, practical, and affordable path to decarbonization.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

11:30 – 12:45pm	Arrival – Check-In and Lunch
12:45 – 1:00pm	Welcome – Conference Overview and Roundtable Introductions

Preview of conference topics, speakers, and goals

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE

1:00 – 2:20pm	<u>Session 1</u> Black Box No More – The Best Energy 101 You’ve Ever Had
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Complex, acronym-laden, and rapidly evolving, California’s energy system is a veritable maze of mystery to outsiders (as well as many insiders!). Our opening session is broken down into two parts that will definitively crack open the black box of California energy.

Part I will make sense of the key organizations, infrastructure, and programs that make up our system. **Part II** will examine the state of California energy operations and assess where we are on track to meet the mounting list of historic goals.

1:00 – 1:40pm

Part I. A Soaring Overview of California’s Energy System

- Who are the key players providing electricity in California? Who is regulating?
- How does electricity get from the source to the people? Are we an electricity “island,” only relying on power plants and infrastructure within our state?
- What is the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and Resource Adequacy (RA)? How do these programs guide reliability, procurement, and planning efforts? How do they overlap?
- What about transportation fuels? From where are our fuels sourced – how much comes from California versus other states and countries?
- What does it take for a fuel to get from source to vehicles, homes, and businesses?
- What is the purpose of market-based programs like cap & trade and the Low Carbon Fuels Standard (LCFS)? How do they function? Have they been effective?

***Severin Borenstein**, Professor and Researcher, Energy Institute at Haas

Speaker, Academic – Transportation Fuels

1:40– 2:20pm

Part II. Are We On Track to Meet Our Energy/Climate Goals? What Must Happen in the Coming Days and Months to Take Us There?

- What is the mix of renewables in our energy system? Are we on track to have 60 percent renewable electricity by 2030?

- As our energy system evolves, how are our energy planners addressing reliability responsibilities? Are we ready for additional major heat waves that are certain to come?
- How are we doing on the reduction of our greenhouse gas emissions?
- With the desire to phase out of internal combustion vehicles in California right around the corner, what progress have we made in deploying charging/hydrogen fueling stations?

***Leuwam Tesfai**, Deputy Executive Director For Energy And Climate Policy, CPUC

Speaker, Academic/Consultant/Industry

2:20 – 2:30pm	Break
2:30 – 4:00pm	<u>Session 2</u> The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly – Project Development in California

Despite our best intentions to spur the development of hundreds of clean energy projects, the deployment of these vital resources is often bogged down by planning and permitting processes that many regard as sluggish and fragmented. Absent intervention, California’s ability to achieve carbon neutrality while keeping the lights on will be undermined by our inability to construct new energy infrastructure in a timely manner.

In this panel, we will start by looking at where we get it right, and why, and then explore the most promising opportunities to improve the project development (“The Good”). We will then conclude with several case studies that shed light on the major impediments to building energy projects in California (“The Bad and the Ugly”).

“The Good” – Opportunities to Accelerate Project Development

- What is California doing right when it comes to the planning and permitting process? Are there differences between traditional energy projects and new technologies?
- How can we better help the market respond to California policy goals? How have other countries enabled efficient project development without shirking regulatory oversight?
- What new financing tools can be leveraged to pay for these projects? What will it take for the market to leverage new funding mechanisms?
- How do we improve coordination between the agencies responsible for planning and permitting?

***Ted Bardacke**, CEO, Clean Power Alliance

Speaker, Environmental

Michael Brown, CEO, Ocean Wind

“The Bad and the Ugly” – What’s Not Working?

- What is the disconnect between IRP and RA? How does this affect load serving entities from procuring needed resources in a timely fashion?
- What is the consequence of a delayed, disjointed process? As things stand today, are we at risk of falling short of renewable or reliability targets?
- What market dynamics are further complicating matters?
- Why is transmission planning particularly challenging right now? If there is general agreement that additional transmission infrastructure is needed, why have projects languished in limbo?
- Is California at risk of losing out on federal funding opportunities due to permitting challenges?

Speaker, Investor Owned Utility

Speaker, California Independent System Operator

4:00 – 4:15pm	Break
4:15 – 5:30pm	<p><u>Session 3</u> Showing Their Cards...New Policymakers Take a Seat at the Table</p>

After significant turnover in the legislature and the administration, we have a new batch of energy leaders ready to take their seat at the table. Our final panel on Day One will give the floor to these policymakers to learn about their perspectives on California’s energy opportunities as well as their priorities in the coming months and years.

- What are your constituent’s primary energy-related concerns?
- What are the best opportunities to support the implementation of existing energy/climate goals?
- How can we rein in rising costs for paying for the energy transition?
- Do you envision greater engagement with other states and countries?

Chair, Energy, Utilities and Communications Utilities Committee, California State Senate

New Republican Member, Utilities and Energy Committee, California State Assembly

Karen Douglas, Senior Advisor for Energy, Office of Governor Newsom

6:00pm	Reception & Dinner
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

7:30 – 9:00am	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:20am	<u>Session 4</u> At What Cost? Reassessing the Affordability of the Energy Transition

As California pushes the envelope on ambitious energy goals, the costs of paying for the transition are not getting any cheaper. Yet at the same time, the need to decarbonize remains urgent as ever with climate impacts regularly afflicting our communities. How do we continue making progress while equitably sharing the costs of the energy transition?

- How are recently passed laws already affecting the pocketbooks of consumers, workers, and the state budget?
- How do we finance our carbon reductions without burdening middle and low income households? Should we more seriously explore electricity rate reform?
- How are current supply chain issues exacerbating our affordability challenge? What can California do to support a more resilient supply chain?
- How much will the federal Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act contribute to our decarbonization efforts?
- What level of state public funding must be committed to support this effort?
- The Governor has pushed the legislature to introduce a “windfall” tax on oil companies – what does it mean for day-to-day household expenses? Will this alleviate current energy prices and mitigate future spikes? Where does the money go?

Meredith Fowlie, Faculty Director, Energy Institute at Haas, UC Berkeley

***Debra Gore-Mann**, President & CEO, The Greenlining Institute

Speaker, CCA

Speaker, Oil & Gas

10:20 – 10:30am	Break
10:30 – 12:00pm	<u>Session 5</u> Hello From The Future! Dispatches from 2045 and What It Took to Get There

For our final panel of the conference, we have asked several time travelers from 2045 to reveal what California’s energy system looks like in their carbon neutral future. Each speaker is from a different timeline, so, of course, the energy mix –

and what it took to get there – is different for each scenario. So grab your lottery tickets and tune into this exclusive glimpse into what may soon come to pass.

- What are the most likely energy mixes in 2045?
- Do we have any GHG-emitting power plants still in 2045? Are there any internal combustion vehicles still on the road?
- How are we addressing the carbon emissions from the mining and manufacturing operations for renewable resources (eg. lithium-ion batteries, concrete, steel, etc.)?
- Is carbon capture and sequestration part of California’s carbon neutrality pathway? What did it take to support its deployment?
- Beyond Diablo Canyon, is there further appetite for more baseload, carbon free, though sometimes unpopular, nuclear energy? In scenarios including more nuclear power, how did the legislature and regulatory agencies support its expansion?
- What nascent technologies moved from promising opportunities to successful commercialization? How was it achieved?
- How did California buy down and share the costs of the energy transition?
- What investments in our workforce were needed to ensure we had an adequate supply of workers to build, operate, and maintain our energy infrastructure?
- In recognition that eliminating California GHG emissions is a small piece of the global climate challenge, how did we influence and coordinate with other states and countries drive down carbon emissions?

Liane Randolph, Chair, California Air Resources Board

Alice Reynolds, President, California Public Utilities Commission

****Michael Wara***, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

Speaker, Environmental

12:00pm

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE