

California State Legislature

Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities
and Communications

2013-2014 Legislative Bill Summary

Senator Alex Padilla, Chairman

INTRODUCTION

This publication is a comprehensive collection of summaries for bills that the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication considered during the 2013-2014 legislative session. This report also contains summaries for legislation that the consultants for the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication deem worthy of the committee's attention, yet were not assigned to the committee. This report does not reflect bills not considered in the Senate. Each bill summary includes the final status of the bill in italics. For your convenience, bills that the Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law are listed along with their chapter numbers. In general, chaptered legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2015. Bills that contain an urgency clause (not noted in this document) took effect immediately upon the governor's signature.

The committee uses the following abbreviations throughout this summary:

CARE = California Alternate Rates for Energy Program
CAISO = California Independent System Operator
CARB = California Air Resources Board
CAEATFA = California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority
CEC = California Energy Commission
CCA = Community Choice Aggregation
CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act
CPUC = California Public Utilities Commission
CSI = California Solar Initiative
CWIB = California Workforce Investment Board
DA = Direct Access
DRA = Division of Ratepayer Advocates
ECAA = Energy Conservation Assistance Account
EPIC = Electric Program Investment Charge
GHG = Greenhouse Gases
IEPR = Integrated Energy Policy Report
IOU = Investor-Owned Utilities
MW = Megawatts
NEM = Net Energy Metering
ORA = Office of Ratepayer Advocates
PACE = Property Assessed Clean Energy
POU = Publicly-Owned Electric Utilities
RPS = Renewables Portfolio Standard
SGIP = Self Generation Incentive Program
SONGS = San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
TNC = Transportation Network Companies

The Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication staff remains at your disposal to answer any questions regarding the content of this publication.

Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4107
Website: <http://seuc.senate.ca.gov/>

Table of Contents

Informational Hearings	1
Demand Side Management	1
Direct Access & Community Choice.....	2
Energy Efficiency	4
Energy Planning.....	5
Miscellaneous CEC Programs & Requirements	6
Miscellaneous CPUC Programs & Requirements	6
Proposition 39	8
Rates & Procurement	9
Renewables	100
Research & Mandated Studies	11
Safety: Railroads, Electric & Gas Pipeline Safety	12
Telecommunications & Broadband	13
Transmission & Distribution.....	16
Transportation Network Companies	16
Related Bills Not Referred to SEUC	16

Informational Hearings

January 28, 2013	Energy Efficiency: All Negawatts Are Created Equal, But Some are More Equal Than Others.
February 11, 2013	Emerging Communications Technologies and Public Safety Networks.
February 19, 2013	Energy Efficiency in School Facilities: Are the Light Bulbs On or Off?
June 4, 2013	(Subcommittee on Gas and Electric Infrastructure Safety) - Excavation Damage of Underground Gas and Electric Facilities.
July 10, 2013	Life After SONGS: Electrical System Stability and Reliability.
August 13, 2013	Life After SONGS: The Decommissioning of a Nuclear Power Plant.
October 28, 2013	(Subcommittee on Gas and Electric Infrastructure Safety) - Improving Safety Communication Among Cities, Utilities and CPUC.
November 18, 2013	(Subcommittee on Gas and Electric Infrastructure Safety) - Improving Safety Oversight at the California Public Utilities Commission.
February 24, 2014	Safe Rail Transport of Crude Oil.
March 18, 2014	California Public Utilities Commission and Office of Ratepayer Advocates Update.
August 6, 2014	(Subcommittee on Gas and Electric Infrastructure Safety) - Electric Grid Safety: What Do We Know? How Are We Doing?
August 12, 2014	Life After SONGS: An Update on Decommissioning Plans.

Demand Side Management

(Except for Energy Efficiency)

SB 1414 (Wolk) – Electricity: demand response.

This bill requires the three utilities and regulators to include demand response in resource adequacy plans, which currently only include generation resources. Its role in long-term procurement planning by: expanding the utilities' existing required competitive bid process to include demand response; clarifying that the utilities shall include demand response in their currently required portfolio of short and long term demand reduction strategies; and requiring utilities to incorporate demand response in their currently required risk management strategies. *Signed into law. Chapter 627, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 217 (Bradford) – Electricity: solar electricity: low-income households.

This bill extends the low-income programs of the CSI from 2016 until 2021, authorizes the collection of an additional \$108 million for these programs, and adds additional standards to the program. *Signed into law. Chapter 609, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 365 (Mullin) – Electricity: distributed generation.

This bill makes legislative findings and declarations as to clean onsite electricity generation and nonbypassable charges. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee (2014).*

AB 415 (Garcia) – Solar energy: water heating.

This bill modifies the eligibility criteria for solar water heater incentive rebates to include certification by an accredited listing agency according to standards adopted by the CPUC. *Signed into law. Chapter 612, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 628 (Gorell, Hall) – Energy management plans for harbor and port districts.

This bill provides a framework for the development of energy management plans between specified port and harbor districts and IOUs, POUs and CCAs, in order to reduce air emissions and promote economic development of the district. *Signed into law. Chapter 741, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 796 (Muratsuchi) – Advanced electrical distributed generation technology.

This bill extends by two years, from January 1, 2014 to January 1, 2016, a program that qualifies an “advanced electrical distributed generation technology” for the same rates for natural gas as those given to cogeneration technology. *Signed into law. Chapter 617, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1079 (Bradford) – Economic development: energy management area and plans.

This bill provides a framework for a local government to designate an energy management area for which it may develop an energy management plan, in collaboration with an electrical or gas corporation, to assist with either the stimulation of development or local manufacturing. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

AB 1624 (Gordon, Skinner) – Self-generation incentive program.

This bill extends authorization for the CPUC to collect funds from ratepayers for specified technologies to receive incentives under the SGIP until 2020 and extend administration of the SGIP until 2021. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2014).*

AB 1935 (Campos) – Electricity: clean distributed energy resources.

This bill adds clean distributed energy resources to a study regarding distributed generation impacts and create a new definition for “clean distributed energy resources.” *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 2584 (Nestande) – Electricity: wind energy co-metering.

This bill requires Southern California Edison to interconnect a 1.5 MW wind turbine located at the United States Marine Corp Logistics Base, Barstow. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 2649 (Mullin) – Public utilities: military installations: Independent generation facilities.

This bill requires the CPUC to determine criteria, by April 1, 2015, that would allow certain renewable generation resources on specified military installations to apply for expedited review of interconnection applications. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

Direct Access & Community Choice

SB 43 (Wolk) – Electricity: Green Tariff Shared Renewables Program.

This bill establishes, until January 1, 2019, a Green Tariff Shared Renewables Program to allow IOUs to administer a program that allows utility customers to voluntarily purchase electricity from renewable energy facilities. *Signed into law. Chapter 413, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 656 (Wright) – Electrical restructuring: natural gas restructuring: information practices.

This bill requires the CPUC to provide information only during certain periods when enrollment in the DA program grows by five percent each month and establishes a regulatory framework for core transport agents at the CPUC. This bill also extends various consumer protection provisions currently established for electric service providers customers to customers of core transport agents. *Signed into law. Chapter 604, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 687 (Hernandez) – Electricity.

This bill requires give public drinking water systems serving a disadvantaged community or a severely disadvantaged community the highest priority in acquiring electricity through DA subscription for the treatment and remediation of contaminated groundwater. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

AB 1295 (Hernandez) – Public utilities: renewable energy: community renewables option.

This bill requires IOUs to establish a program, by advice letter or an application approved by the CPUC, under which the customers of the state’s IOUs can purchase generation directly from a “community renewable facility” at a rate determined between the facility and the customer. The total capacity cap of interconnected resources would be 600 MWs allocated between the IOUs in proportion to the statewide peak electricity demand and distributed over the life of six-year program. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

AB 2145 (Bradford) – Electricity: community choice aggregation.

This bill places new requirements and restrictions on the establishment of, and activities by, CCAs. *Held on the Senate Floor (2014).*

Energy Efficiency

SB 35 (Pavley) – Higher education: energy conservation.

This bill requires the three higher education segments to adopt a "Systemwide Energy Solutions Action Plan" which is a long term strategy for energy efficiency and clean energy applications. The bill also establishes a separate account from which the projects are funded. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

SB 37 (De León) – Energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades: on-bill repayment program.

This bill authorizes the CPUC to require IOUs to develop and implement residential on-bill repayment programs for eligible energy efficiency, renewable energy, distributed generation, energy storage, or demand response improvements under which a customer pays down a loan from a third-party lender with payments that are listed as a separate line item on the customer's utility bill. *Failed passage in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

AB 39 (Skinner) – Energy: conservation: financial assistance.

This bill extends the sunset date of the ECAA program to January 1, 2020. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2013).*

AB 270 (Bradford) – Public utilities: ratepayer-funded energy efficiency assistance.

This bill requires the CPUC to direct IOUs to establish a single public Internet Web site containing aggregate information on ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs by June 1, 2014. *Signed into law. Chapter 610, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 341 (Dickinson, Gordon) – Green building standards.

This bill requires the Building Standards Commission to incorporate future green building standards directly into the relevant portions of the California Building Code and makes other changes to the process for developing green building standards. *Signed into law. Chapter 585, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 489 (Skinner) – Energy: conservation.

This bill allows state funds to be used to achieve energy efficiency improvements in existing buildings under the AB 758 program. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

AB 719 (Hernandez) – Energy: energy efficiency: street light pole.

This bill requires the CPUC to require IOUs to offer a tariff for local governments to use to fund energy efficiency improvements in street light poles owned by the utility. *Signed into law. Chapter 616, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 834 (Williams) – Energy efficiency standards: administrative enforcement.

This bill authorizes the Contractor's State License Board to institute disciplinary proceedings for failure to comply with energy efficiency building requirements. Also authorizes the CEC to bring a civil action based on unfair competition against any business for failure to comply with energy efficiency standards based on unfair competition. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

AB 1131 (Skinner) – Energy: renewable energy and energy efficiency projects: financial assistance.
This bill extends the Clean Energy Upgrade Program administered by CAEATFA from 2015 to 2017 and expands eligible properties to include residential projects of four units or fewer and mobilehomes, and repeals the loan limit of 10 percent of property value. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction (2013).*

AB 1918 (Williams) – Energy: design and construction standards.
This bill requires the CEC and the CPUC to take actions and implement programs to improve compliance with state building standard code compliance. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 1953 (Skinner) – Higher Education Energy Efficiency Act: financial assistance.
This bill requires the CEC to develop a financial assistance program for energy efficiency projects on the University of California and California State University campuses. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 2137 (Quirk) – Energy efficiency programs: information available for small businesses.
This bill requires the Office of Small Business Advocate within the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to include a link to the Energy Upgrade California Internet Web site on its homepage. *Signed into law. Chapter 290, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2229 (Bradford) – Energy efficiency: military bases and facilities.
This bill requires the CPUC to approve financial incentives for energy efficiency upgrades at military bases and facilities and United States Coast Guard facilities through existing energy efficiency programs administered by IOUs. *Failed passage in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2014).*

AB 2581 (Bradford) – Energy: appliance standards: public domain computer program: home energy rating.
This bill makes various changes to the requirements regarding appliance standards, modeling of building energy efficiencies, and modeling of predicted energy efficiency savings. *Vetoed (2014).*

AB 2597 (Ting) – Energy: PACE program.
This bill modifies the CAEATFA underwriting standard for the PACE program by providing that financing cannot exceed 15% for the first \$700,000 of the value of the property and 10% for the remaining value of the property, and substitutes the term “loan” with “financing” within various parts of the PACE program. *Signed into law. Chapter 614, Statutes of 2014.*

Energy Planning

SB 1078 (Jackson) – Electricity: emissions of greenhouse gases.
This bill requires, if the CARB establishes a post-2020 statewide GHG emissions limit beyond the 1990 GHG emissions level, as authorized or required by the Legislature, the CPUC and the CEC to convene a joint public proceeding to develop and make recommendations to the state board for compliance actions for the electricity and natural gas sectors to help achieve that limit. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee (2014).*

AB 1763 (Perea) – State energy plan for 2030 and 2050.

This bill directs the CEC, in consultation with the CAISO, other relevant state and local agencies, and interested stakeholders to develop a “state energy plan” for 2030 and 2050 as part of its 2015 IEPR. The bill defines “energy” as electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels that are used in the state. The bill directs the CEC to consider, when developing the plan, energy forecasts; an analysis of California’s current and future energy infrastructure needs; and recommendations on ensuring long-term energy resource reliability, sustainability, and affordability through 2050. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2014).*

Miscellaneous CEC Programs & Requirements

SB 448 (Leno) – Energy: petroleum supply and pricing.

This bill requires the CEC to investigate whether price manipulation of gasoline or diesel fuel has occurred. *Vetoed (2013).*

SB 456 (Padilla) – Disclosure of sources of electrical generation.

This bill requires that the information disclosed on the Power Content Label include the total electricity purchases derived from generation sources within the state, total electricity purchases derived from generation sources that are located outside the state, and the percentage of annual sales of electricity that was dispatched from an energy storage system. *Held in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (2014).*

SB 804 (Lara) – Solid waste: energy.

This bill requires the CEC to include in its 2015 PIER report an analysis of the opportunities for utilizing waste conversion technologies. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction (2013).*

AB 2661 (Bradford) – Political Reform Act of 1074: conflicts of Interest: Energy Commission.

This bill moves the conflict of interest provisions related to the CEC, from the Public Resources Code into the Political Reform Act. This bill also revises the limitations on appointments to the CEC if the appointee received income from a load serving entity in the two years prior to his/her appointment. *Vetoed (2014).*

Miscellaneous CPUC Programs & Requirements

SB 38 (Padilla) – Electrical restructuring.

This bill repeals or modifies several sections of the Public Utilities Code which were added in 1996 as part of statutes enacted to deregulate electricity and to address the later energy crisis. *Vetoed (2014).*

SB 454 (Corbett) – Public resources: electric vehicle charging stations.

This bill prohibits the provider of an electric vehicle charging station from requiring a subscription or membership as a condition of using the station; requires the total actual charges for the use of an electric vehicle charging station, including any network roaming charges, be disclosures at the point of sale; and requires that an electric vehicle charging station accept payment by credit card or mobile technology, or both. *Signed into law. Chapter 418, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 489 (Fuller) – Water corporations: sewer system corporations: appointment of receiver.

This bill authorizes the CPUC, as an alternative to petitioning a superior court to appoint a receiver, to enter into an agreement with another water corporation or qualified entity to serve as an interim operator of the water system, provides that this interim operator shall have the powers of a receiver, and authorizes the CPUC to approve the sale of the water corporation to a new owner without any court involvement. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

SB 611 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: organization: proceedings.

This bill changes DRA to the ORA within the CPUC, provides ORA more autonomy in its budget and staff, including attorneys, and authorizes ORA to seek rehearing and judicial review of CPUC decisions the same as other parties to a CPUC proceeding. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

SB 636 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: proceedings.

This bill prohibits any CPUC employee, agent or officer that is personally involved in the prosecution or in the supervision of an adjudication case from participating in, or advising CPUC on, the decision of that case or the decision of a factually related proceeding. *Signed into law. Chapter 548, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 711 (Padilla) – Public Utilities Commission: fees.

This bill permits the CPUC to charge up to \$500 for filing a certificate of public convenience and necessity as specified, and clarifies that all fees and charges collected be deposited into the CPUC Utilities Reimbursement Account rather than into the state General Fund. *Held in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (2014).*

SB 936 (Monning) – Utilities.

This bill authorizes the CPUC to allow the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and other financing entities to issue water rate relief bonds to finance water supply infrastructure. *Signed into law. Chapter 482, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1195 (Padilla) – Energy: electric restructuring.

This is a code clean-up bill revises and repeals sections of current law regarding deregulation which has largely been made obsolete as a result of the energy crisis, suspension of DA, and related budget and regulatory actions. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

SR 15 (Beall, Hill) – Division of Ratepayer Advocates.

This Resolution urges the Senate to support the DRA and the substantial contributions it has made to the residents of California. *Adopted into law, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1678 (Gordon) – Women, minority, disabled veteran, and LGBT business enterprise procurement.

This bill extends provisions of the Supplier Diversity Program at the CPUC to include Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender business enterprises. *Signed into law. Chapter 633, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2760 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) – Public utilities: contracting: women, minority, and disabled veteran business enterprises.

This bill clarifies applicability of the minority, women, and disabled veteran business enterprises procurement for renewable energy providers by adding a definition that references the existing definition of renewable energy in the Renewable Energy Portfolio statute. *Signed into law. Chapter 542, Statutes of 2014.*

Proposition 39

SB 39 (De León) – Energy: school facilities: energy efficiency upgrade projects.

This bill states the intent of the Legislature to appropriate moneys to the Office of Public School Construction from Proposition 39 for the purposes of awarding energy efficiency grants to the most disadvantaged schools in need of modernization for the purposes of energy efficiency upgrades. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction (2013).*

SB 64 (Corbett) – Proposition 39: implementation.

This bill requires the CEC to provide financial assistance, from monies resulting from the passage of Proposition 39, to school districts, cities, and counties to install energy efficiency or clean energy technology in public schools or municipal facilities. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction (2013).*

SB 73 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Energy: Proposition 39 implementation.

This bill contains necessary statutory and technical changes to implement Proposition 39, the California Clean Energy Jobs Act. *Signed into law. Chapter 29, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 114 (Salas, V.M. Perez) – Proposition 39: implementation: workforce development.

This bill requires Proposition 39 grant recipients to report to the CWIB the number of individuals trained, their demographic and geographic profile, number of training completions, and number of job placements. This bill, after one year, requires the CWIB to review and assess whether the competitive grant program is achieving the job training and workforce development goals, identify problems and barriers to achieve goals, and provide solutions to improve the program performance. *Held on the Senate Floor (2013).*

SB 267 (Pavley) – Proposition 39: implementation.

This bill requires the CEC to develop and administer a financial assistance program to assist the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California with energy efficiency and clean energy onsite generation projects. This bill requires the CEC to develop and adopt specific guidelines for the program. This bill appropriates for the 2013-14 fiscal year an unspecified sum from the Clean Energy Job Creation Fund to the CEC for the above purpose, thereby making an appropriation. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction (2014).*

AB 2227 (Quirk) – Citizens Oversight Board: implementation.

This bill establishes procedures and guidance for the Citizens Oversight Board created by Proposition 39. *Signed into law. Chapter 683, Statutes of 2014.*

Rates & Procurement

SB 196 (Cannella) – Utility rates: mobilehomes and apartment buildings.

This bill allows the management of mobilehome parks and apartments that are master-metered to post, in a conspicuous place, the Web site address of the current utility rate schedule as an alternative to posting the actual rate schedule and specifies that a current utility rate schedule be available to an individual upon request and at no cost. *Signed into law. Chapter 201, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 743 (Steinberg, Padilla) – Electricity: rates.

This bill allows increases in electricity rates for low-income households participating in CARE programs administered by the regulated electrical corporations to increase at the same rate as the Consumer Price Index but no more than 4% per year. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2013).*

SB 900 (Hill) – Public utilities: rate case application safety.

This bill requires the CPUC to consider safety in electric and gas rate cases. *Signed into law. Chapter 552, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1090 (Fuller) – Electricity rates: default time-of-use pricing.

This bill requires the CPUC to first explicitly consider evidence addressing the extent to which hardship will be caused to customers living in hot, inland areas before authorizing electrical corporations to impose default time-of-use residential rates. *Signed into law. Chapter 625, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 327 (Perea) – Electricity: natural gas: rates: net energy metering: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

This bill eliminates restrictions on IOU electric rates established during the energy crisis, caps the CARE program discount to between 30% and 35% of rates, authorizes fixed charges beginning in 2015 and time-of-use rates beginning in 2018, authorizes the CPUC to increase RPS procurement beyond “33% by 2020,” revises and sunsets the net energy metering program, requires the CPUC to establish a new tariff for customers who generate their own electricity from renewable sources, and requires the IOUs to submit distribution resources plans to the CPUC by July 1, 2015. *Signed into law. Chapter 611, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 922 (Patterson) – Electrical and gas service: rates: CARE program: eligibility.

This bill requires the CPUC to authorize IOUs to verify income for continued eligibility in the CARE program regardless of the means by which the participant was first enrolled into the CARE program. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2013).*

AB 1434 (Yamada) – Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program.

This bill requires the Department of Community Services and Development, in collaboration with the Board of Equalization, by January 1, 2016, to develop a plan for the funding and implementation of a program to provide funding assistance for water service to households with less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline level. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 2218 (Bradford) – Electricity and natural gas rates.

This bill requires electrical and gas corporations to develop and implement a program of rate assistance to eligible food banks, subject to discretion and supervision by the CPUC. *Signed into law. Chapter 581, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2672 (Perea) – Access to energy: disadvantaged communities: San Joaquin Valley.

This bill requires the CPUC by March 31, 2015, to initiate a new proceeding to identify disadvantaged communities in the San Joaquin Valley meeting specified requirements and to analyze economically feasible options to increase access to affordable energy in those disadvantaged communities. *Signed into law. Chapter 616, Statutes of 2014.*

Renewables

SB 124 (Corbett) – Public contracts: bid preferences: clean energy.

This bill requires state agencies and the California State University contracting for the installation of a clean energy device, technology, or system to provide a 5% preference for bidders who certify all parts, devices and technologies of the system were manufactured in California. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

SB 548 (Roth) – Public utilities: renewables portfolio standard: publicly owned electric utility.

This bill provides that, for a POU in existence on or before January 1, 2010, that provides 200,000 MW-hours or fewer of electricity to retail end-use consumers in its service territory during a calendar year, electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources may be used for compliance with the portfolio content requirements. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

SB 591 (Cannella) – Renewable energy resources: local publicly owned electric utility: hydroelectric generation facility.

This bill limits the Merced Irrigation District's RPS obligation to the electricity demands that are unsatisfied by the New Exchequer Dam. *Signed into law. Chapter 520, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 674 (Corbett) – Energy: renewable energy.

This bill requires the CPUC to adjust the payment rate for electricity purchased from electrical generation facility projects that integrate energy storage to adequately compensate for the additional value that energy storage system provides. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

SB 715 (Lara) – Renewable energy resources: municipal solid waste combustion.

This bill defines two additional municipal solid waste combustion facilities from Los Angeles County as eligible for RPS credit. This bill also requires the facilities to convert to non-combustion facilities by 2045 or forfeit eligibility for RPS credit. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

SB 767 (Lieu) – Public utilities: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: biomethane.

This bill extends the "flow deadline" established by AB 2196 (Chesbro), Chapter 605, Statutes of 2012, from April 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015. The flow deadline is a condition of RPS eligibility for sources of biomethane associated with pre-existing contracts that may be grandfathered under AB 2196. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction (2014).*

SB 1139 (Hueso) – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

This bill mandates that retail sellers procure a proportionate share of a statewide total of 500 MWs of electricity generated by baseload geothermal powerplants constructed after January 1, 2015. *Held on the Assembly Floor (2014).*

AB 407 (V. Manuel Pérez) – Renewable energy resources: Salton Sea.

This bill requires the CEC, in consultation with the CPUC and the CAISO, to convene a stakeholders group to identify impediments and recommended steps that should be taken to properly maintain, develop, integrate, and transmit electricity generated by eligible renewable energy resources located in and around the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area and the Geysers Geothermal Field. The bill would require the CEC to include its evaluations and recommendations in the next integrated energy policy report or energy policy review update. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2014).*

AB 793 (Gray) – Renewable energy: publicly owned electric utility: hydroelectric generation facility.

This bill prohibits a POU that owns and operates a hydroelectric facility from being required to procure eligible renewable energy resources in excess of retail sales not supplied by its own generation provided that the hydroelectric generation meets certain requirements. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee (2014).*

AB 2363 (Dahle) – Electricity procurement.

This bill requires the CPUC to adopt by December 31, 2015, a methodology for determining expenses resulting from integrating and operating eligible renewable energy resources, i.e., "integration costs," and requires the CPUC to direct electrical corporations to include integration costs in their proposed procurement plans. *Signed into law. Chapter 610, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2761 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) – Public Utilities Commission: report: renewable energy resources.

This bill modifies two existing reporting requirements of the CPUC concerning costs of the RPS program including conforming the reporting dates of the two reports to May 1, instead of the current February 1 deadline. *Signed into law. Chapter 299, Statutes of 2014.*

Research & Mandated Studies

SB 48 (Hill) – Public utilities: research and development projects.

This bill enhances the CPUC financial accountability by requiring non-competitive research proposals for all projects requesting more than \$1.5 million of customer funds to undergo peer review by independent experts. *Failed passage in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (2014).*

SB 418 (Jackson) – Energy: nuclear fission powerplants.

This bill requires a detailed study of project needs and costs to be provided to the CPUC when requesting ratepayer funding for a nuclear power plant seeking relicensing from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to provide a detailed study of project needs and costs. *Failed passage in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (2013).*

SB 1286 (Corbett) – 21st Century Energy System Decision.

This bill limits total funding for research and development projects for the purposes of cyber security and grid integration from exceeding \$60,000,000. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee (2014).*

AB 340 (Bradford) – Public utilities: Electric Program Investment Charge: contracting.

This bill requires the CPUC to establish a program to encourage the use of women, minority, and disabled veteran business enterprises as prime contractors and subcontractors for all grants, contracts, subsidies, financing, and activities administered through EPIC. *Vetoed (2013).*

AB 1257 (Bocanegra) – Energy: State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: natural gas.

This bill requires a report by CEC on strategies of natural gas use in transportation, energy production, and GHG mitigation. After review and modification by the Governor, the report will be incorporated into the IEPR and be established as state's energy policy for natural gas. *Signed into law. Chapter 749, Statutes of 2013.*

Safety: Railroads, Electric & Gas Pipelines

SB 291 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: safety enforcement: gas and electrical corporations.

This bill requires the CPUC to develop and implement a safety enforcement program for gas and electrical corporations by July 1, 2014, and January 1, 2015. *Signed into law. Chapter 601, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 1064 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: railroads: natural gas pipeline: safety.

This bill enacts provisions applicable to the National Transportation Safety Board safety recommendations and the Federal Transit Administration safety advisories concerning rail facilities. *Signed into law. Chapter 557, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1371 (Leno) – Natural gas: leakage abatement.

This bill requires the CPUC to open a proceeding to adopt rules and procedures that minimize natural gas leaks from CPUC-regulated gas pipeline facilities, with the goal of reducing GHG emissions. *Signed into law. Chapter 525, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1389 (Hill) – Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 2011.

This bill prohibits the use of historic operating pressures to determine the maximum allowable operating pressure for an intrastate gas pipeline. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

SB 1409 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: safety investigations.

This bill requires the CPUC to publish an annual report that includes descriptions of investigations into gas or electric safety incidents reported by any gas or electric corporations, and requires the CPUC to publish in its annual workplan a summary of these investigations, including those that remain open, along with a link to an Internet Web site containing the annual safety investigation report. *Signed into law. Chapter 563, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 1937 (Gordon) – Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 2011: school and hospital notification of nonemergency excavation or construction of gas pipelines.

This bill requires a gas corporation to provide at least three days' notice to a school or hospital prior to performing excavation construction of gas pipeline maintenance or testing of the work is located within 500 feet of a school or hospital. *Signed into law. Chapter 287, Statutes of 2014.*

Telecommunications & Broadband

SB 50 (Lieu) – Telecommunications: pay telephones.

This bill requires, effective January 1, 2015, owners and operators of public telephones that accept any form of payment to post rate information on or near the phone and requires the operator answering calls from a public telephone to identify itself to the consumer at the beginning of each call, quote the complete rates and charges, and permit the customer to terminate the call before it is connected and any charge incurred. *Signed into law. Chapter 140, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 129 (Wright) – Deaf and disabled telecommunications program.

This bill extends the sunset on the CPUC's authority to collect a surcharge on intrastate telephone service to fund the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program until January 1, 2020, extends the requirement until January 1, 2021, and requires the report to include an evaluation of modifications to maximize participation and funding opportunities under similar federal programs. *Signed into law. Chapter 332, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 380 (Padilla) – Communications: service interruptions.

This bill, until January 1, 2020, prohibits a governmental entity, or a communications service provider acting at the request of a governmental entity, from interrupting communications service except pursuant to a court order with specified findings, with an exception for an extreme emergency situation that involves immediate danger of death or great bodily injury. It applies to any communications service that is required to provide 911 service, including wireless and VoIP service. *Signed into law. Chapter 371, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 433 (Lara) – Emergencies: the State 911 Advisory Board.

This bill modifies the number of terms that may be served by members of the State 911 Advisory Board, an 11-member board appointed by the Governor to advise on specified subjects relating to the state's 911 emergency telephone response system. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee (2013).*

SB 740 (Padilla) – Telecommunications: universal service programs: California Advanced Services Fund.

This bill expands eligibility for broadband infrastructure grants from the California Advanced Services Fund administered by the CPUC, increases funding for the CASF by \$90 million, establishes a CASF program goal of broadband deployment to 98% of California households by December 31, 2015, and requires the CPUC to give priority to projects that provide last-mile broadband access to households that are unserved by an existing provider. *Signed into law. Chapter 522, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 962 (Leno) – Smartphones.

This bill requires smartphones manufactured after July 1, 2015, and sold in California to contain a technological solution at the time of sale that can render the essential features of the device inoperable when not in the possession of the authorized user, and also provides for a civil penalty of \$500 to \$2,500 per device sold in violation of these provisions. *Signed into law. Chapter 275, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1211 (Padilla) – Emergency services: Next Generation 911.

This bill requires the Office of Emergency Services to develop a plan and timeline of target dates for testing, implementing, and operating throughout California a Next Generation 911 emergency communication system, including text to 911 service, requires the OES plan to incorporate, where consistent with public safety and technologically feasible, shared infrastructure with FirstNet and other public safety communications networks that receive state and federal funding, and requires a transparent process and public notice when OES annually determines the customer fee that funds the state 911 system. *Signed into law. Chapter 926, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1364 (Fuller) – Telecommunications universal service programs.

This bill extends until January 1, 2019, the repeal date of the California High-Cost Fund-A program and California High-Cost Fund-B program, which provide support to telephone corporations that serve high-cost areas in order to keep customer rates affordable. It also encourages the CPUC, in administering state universal service programs, to maximize participation in counterpart federal programs. *Signed into law. Chapter 520, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 300 (Perea) – Telecommunications: prepaid mobile telephony services: state surcharge and fees: local charges collection.

This bill establishes a customer surcharge on prepaid mobile telephony service to be effective for three years starting January 1, 2015, with the surcharge comprised of surcharges for the CPUC's universal service programs, 911 emergency telephone system, the CPUC's user fee, and local utility users taxes. *Vetoed (2013).*

AB 876 (Bonta) – Telecommunications: California Teleconnect Fund Administration Committee Fund.

This bill makes preschools and transitional kindergartens eligible for the CPUC's Teleconnect program, which provides price discounts on advanced communications services to schools, libraries and community based organizations. It also requires the CPUC to report to the Legislature by March 1, 2016, on the feasibility and expense of establishing a database of communication services purchased under the program. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 911 (Bloom) – Telephone systems: 911.

This bill establishes various requirements, effective January 1, 2016, to enable emergency 911 calls from multiline telephone systems to identify the location of the call such as floor of a building, or building within a campus, and to route the 911 call to the appropriate dispatch office. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

AB 1299 (Bradford) – Telecommunications: universal service programs: California Advanced Services Fund.

This bill authorizes the CPUC to use \$25 million from the California Advanced Services Fund for grants and loans to publicly supported multitenant affordable housing dwellings, with \$20 million for broadband infrastructure facilities, and \$5 million for broadband adoption programs. *Signed into law. Chapter 507, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1407 (Bradford) – Public utilities: voice communications service: lifeline program.

This bill changes the CPUC lifeline program that offers a low fixed rate on landline telephone service for eligible low-income customers to instead offer a fixed support amount that a customer can use like a discount coupon to reduce the price of any voice communications service (landline, wireless, prepaid wireless, or VoIP). This bill prohibits the CPUC from requiring state lifeline providers to offer more than is required under the counterpart federal lifeline program. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2013).*

AB 1409 (Bradford) – Public utilities: voice communications: Moore Universal Telephone Service Act.

This bill requires the CPUC, by June 1, 2014, to update the lifeline program that offers a low fixed rate on landline telephone service for eligible low-income customers to include rules that allow all providers to participate, including wireless and VoIP providers. *Vetoed (2013).*

AB 1693 (Perea) – Small independent telephone corporations: rates.

This bill requires the CPUC to issue a decision in a general rate case of a small independent telephone corporation within 390 days and provides that, if this deadline is not met, the proposed rates will take effect on an interim basis. *Vetoed (2014).*

AB 1717 (Perea) – Telecommunications: prepaid mobile telephony services: state surcharge and fees: local charges collection.

This bill establishes, effective January 1, 2016, a customer surcharge to be collected at the point of sale on prepaid mobile telephony service, with the surcharge comprised of surcharges for the CPUC's universal service programs, 911 emergency telephone system, the CPUC's user fee, and local utility users taxes. It requires a retailer seller to collect the prepaid surcharge from a customer and remit the amounts collected to the State Board of Equalization, minus a 2% administrative fee, and requires BOE to distribute the funds to the CPUC, state 911 office, and local agencies. *Signed into law. Chapter 885, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2272 (Gray) – Public works: prevailing wage.

This bill establishes that broadband infrastructure projects funded by the CPUC's California Advanced Services Fund are "public works" projects that are subject to prevailing wage requirements. *Signed into law. Chapter 900, Statutes of 2014.*

Transmission & Distribution

SB 699 (Hill) – Public Utilities: electrical corporations.

This bill requires the CPUC to consider adopting rules to address physical security risks to the distribution systems of electrical corporations. *Signed into law. Chapter 550, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 1277 (Steinberg) – Electricity: electrical restructuring: Independent System Operator.

This bill requires the CAISO to obtain the concurrence of the CPUC before submitting any tariff to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to implement a new auction- or market-based mechanism for ensuring that sufficient resources are procured to meet California's electricity needs. Before concurring the CPUC would be required to open a formal proceeding and would be precluded from concurring unless it finds a de minimus risk that the tariff would preempt or frustrate the electric resource procurement policies or just and reasonable electric rates. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file (2014).*

AB 66 (Muratsuchi) – Electricity: system reliability.

This bill requires the CPUC to require an electrical corporation to include information on geographical information on the frequency and duration of electrical service interruptions in their annual reliability reports. *Signed into law. Chapter 578, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1274 (Bradford) – Privacy: customer electrical or natural gas usage data.

This bill restricts data disclosure for companies that provide home area network connectivity or commercial area network connectivity if the network device receives utility consumption data from a smart meter. Establishes private right of action for ratepayer against network provider. *Signed into law. Chapter 597, Statutes of 2013.*

Transportation Network Companies

AB 612 (Nazarian) – Charter-party carriers of passengers: permit requirements: drivers.

This bill requires all charter-party carriers, including TNCs, to submit all of its drivers to a Department of Justice criminal background check and to participate in the Department of Motor Vehicle's pull-notice system. *Failed passage in the Assembly Transportation Committee (2014).*

AB 2293 (Bonilla) – Transportation network companies: insurance coverage.

This bill, beginning July 1, 2015, amends the Passenger Charter-Party Carriers' Act to require liability insurance coverage for TNCs and their drivers. *Signed into law. Chapter 386, Statutes of 2014.*

Related Bills Not Referred to SEUC

SB 96 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Budget Act of 2013: public resources.

This trailer bill, to the Budget Act of 2013, makes statutory changes related to resources, environmental protection, energy and agriculture including:

- Requires the CAEATFA to develop and administer a risk mitigation program for PACE loans;
- Requires the CEC, in administering EPIC as developed by the CPUC, to develop and administer this program with a focus on ratepayers and with annual reporting to the Legislature. Does not change the authorization status of the program; and
- Makes several changes to the CPUC including: a) approves \$30 million for cyber-security research at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; b) provides for a zero-based budgeting exercise at the CPUC to be reported to the Legislature in 18-months; c) creates the ORA as a separate budgetary program at the CPUC with separate budget and positions; and, d) requires notice to the Legislature of future litigation settlements. *Signed into law. Chapter 356, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 338 (Hill) – Charter-party carriers of passengers: limousines: fire extinguishers.

This bill requires owners of limousines offered for hire in California to equip their limousines with two fire extinguishers, one in the drivers' compartment and at least one accessible to the passengers, as specified, and requires the California Highway Patrol to establish and administer an inspection program for certain limousines. *Vetoed (2013).*

SB 861 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Public resources: trailer bill.

This trailer bill, to the Budget Act of 2014, makes statutory changes related to resources, environmental protection, energy and agriculture including:

- Technical changes to financial components of the CSI, including the New Solar Homes Partnership, and EPIC; and
- Extends the sunset date for SGIP by five years and makes various technical changes and program reforms to specify eligibility for incentives under the program limited to distributed energy resource technologies. *Signed into law. Chapter 35, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 862 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Greenhouse gases: emission reduction.

This trailer bill, to the Budget Act of 2014, makes statutory changes related to resources, environmental protection, energy and agriculture and allows for the use of cap-and-trade funds for weatherization activities in low-income communities administered by the Department of Community Services and Development, for a revolving loan fund to finance energy efficiency activities in state owned-buildings, and modifies the net energy metering program to accommodate projects by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. *Signed into law. Chapter 36, Statutes of 2014.*

SB 871 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Property taxes: new construction exclusion: active solar energy system.

This trailer bill, to the Budget Act of 2014, extends the sunset for a solar tax exemption for new active solar energy systems on new construction. *Signed into law. Chapter 41, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 792 (Mullin) – Utility user tax: exemption: distributed generation systems.

This bill, until January 1, 2020, exempts from a utility users tax, the consumption of electricity generated by a distributed clean energy resource, as defined, for use by a single consumer, or the customer's tenants. *Signed into law. Chapter 534, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1060 (Fox, V. Manuel Perez) – Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

This bill helps ensure close coordination between local government planning efforts and the continued development of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, as well as support renewable energy development in the California desert, San Joaquin Valley, and San Luis Obispo by reappropriating funds to the CEC for renewable energy planning grants in key California counties. *Signed into law. Chapter 621, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1422 (J.E.D. & E.) – California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority: participating party.

This bill provides code maintenance and technical clean-up to the sales and use tax exemption program administered through the CAEATFA. *Signed into law. Chapter 540, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1478 (Committee on Budget) – Public resources.

This trailer bill, to the Budget Act of 2014, makes statutory changes related to resources, environmental protection, energy and agriculture including:

- Establishing a subaccount for GHG funding through the State Energy Conservation Assistance Account for purposes of tracking and provides that the loans within this program may be used by state agencies, including the University of California and the California State University;
- Modifies the SGIP; and
- Modifies the definition of an “eligible renewable energy resource” for purposes of the Renewables Portfolio Standard. *Signed into law. Chapter 664, Statutes of 2014.*

AB 2441 (Mullin) – Electricity: distributed generation.

This bill requires the IOUs to collect nonbypassable charges from customers who generate their own electricity from specified sources, based only on the actual metered consumption of electricity delivered to the customer. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee (2014).*