

# California State Legislature

Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities  
and Communications

## 2015-2016 Legislative Bill Summary

Senator Ben Hueso, Chairman



Chief Consultant  
Jay Dickenson

Consultant  
Nidia Bautista

Committee Assistant  
Melanie Cain

# INTRODUCTION

This publication is a comprehensive collection of summaries for bills that the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication considered during the 2015-2016 legislative session. 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 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, 2017. 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:

ARB = California Air Resources Board  
CAISO = California Independent System Operator  
CASF = California Advanced Services Fund  
CEC = California Energy Commission  
CCA = Community Choice Aggregation  
CPUC = California Public Utilities Commission  
CSI = California Solar Initiative  
FiT = Feed-in Tariff  
GHG = Greenhouse Gases  
IOU = Investor-Owned Utilities  
MW = Megawatts  
NEM = Net Energy Metering  
OES = Office of Emergency Services  
POU = Publicly Owned Electric Utilities  
REC = Renewable Energy Credits  
RPS = Renewables Portfolio Standard  
SGIP = Self Generation Incentive Program  
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 4035  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 651-4107  
Website: <http://seuc.senate.ca.gov/>

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March 3, 2015	CPUC & ORA Annual Report to the Legislature and Initial Inquiry in to the Adequacy of Rules Governing Ex Parte Communication and Safety
March 5, 2015	ExxonMobil Torrance Refinery Explosion: Community Impacts, Emergency Response, and Long-term Safety
March 11, 2015	Ex Parte Communications and the CPUC Rule Making Process
March 24, 2015 Market	Up Like a Rocket, Down Like a Feather: The State of California's Gasoline
March 25, 2015	CPUC and Public Safety: a Focus on Energy Infrastructure
January 20, 2016	The California Clean Energy Jobs Act (Proposition 39): progress to date
February 17, 2016	Ride-hailing Disruption: Establishing a level-playing field in the transportation-for-hire market
March 15, 2016	The California Public Utilities Commission and the Office of Ratepayer Advocates Annual Update to the Legislature
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## California Energy Commission

### **SB-693 (Hueso) – State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: qualifications: conflicts of interest**

This bill increases, from \$10,000 to \$50,000, the maximum monetary penalty for violation of the conflict-of-interest and incompatible-activities provisions of the statute that created the CEC. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

### **SB-1207 (Hueso) – Energy: conservation: financial assistance**

This bill extends, by ten years, the sunset on Energy Conservation Assistance Account program and authorizes the CEC to pledge its loan portfolio to secure the bonds issued by the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank. *Signed into law, Chapter 675, Statutes of 2016.*

### **SB-1213 (Wieckowski) – Renewable energy: biosolids: matching grants**

This bill would have continuously appropriated \$20 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the CEC to fund competitive grants for capital projects that use biosolids to generate useful heat energy or electricity, liquid or gaseous fuels, or useful byproducts. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

### **AB-577 (Bonilla) – Biomethane: grant program**

This bill would have required the CEC to develop and implement a program for projects that produce biomethane, that build or develop collection and purification technology or infrastructure, or that upgrade or expand existing biomethane facilities. *Held in Senate Rules Committee.*

### **AB-590 (Dahle, Salas) – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund**

This bill would have provided that monies in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, upon appropriation, may be made available for expenditure by the CEC for the purposes of maintaining the current level of biomass power generation or geothermal energy generation in the state and revitalizing currently idle facilities in strategically located regions. This bill would have established requirements for an applicant to receive available funding for a facility's eligible electrical generation. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

### **AB-865 (Alejo) – State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: contracts, grants**

This bill requires the CEC to develop and implement an outreach program to inform the most qualified loan and grant applicants, and contractors, including, but not limited to, women, minority, disabled veteran, and LGBT business enterprises about workshops, trainings, and funding opportunities. *Signed into law, Chapter 583, Statutes of 2015.*

### **AB-1013 (Quirk) – Energy: public domain computer program: home energy rating**

This bill would have required the CEC to approve and make publicly available, not less than six months prior to the effective date of adopted or updated efficiency standards, a version of the public domain computer program that will function properly with the adopted or updated standards. This bill would have required the CEC, before approving the public domain computer program for use with adopted or updated standards, to perform preliminary tests of the public domain computer program

using common examples of residential and nonresidential buildings and building systems to ensure the usability of the program. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

## **California Public Utilities Commission**

### **SB-18 (Hill, Hueso) – Public Utilities Commission: outside counsel**

This bill would have required any contract entered into by the CPUC for outside legal counsel services to represent the CPUC in a criminal investigation be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review, and approved by a vote of the CPUC no sooner than 30 days after the contract has been submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. *Vetoed 2015.*

### **SB-48 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission**

This bill would have required a suite of reforms of the governance and operations of the CPUC, including: 1) requiring meetings in Sacramento, 2) applying the Code of Ethics from the Administrative Procedures Act to the CPUC's administrative law judges and, 3) clarifying and augmenting information the CPUC must provide the Legislature in its annual report, and others. *Vetoed 2015.*

### **SB-62 (Hill, Pavley) – Public Utilities Commission: Office of the Safety Advocate**

This bill codifies the Office of Safety Advocate within the CPUC, until January 1, 2020, to advocate for the continuous, cost-effective improvement of the safety management and safety performance of public utilities. *Signed into law, Chapter 806, Statutes of 2016.*

### **SB-215 (Leno, Hueso) – Public Utilities Commission**

This bill requires a suite of reforms of the rules, operations and procedures of the CPUC related to ex parte communications and criteria and process for disqualification of commissioners to a proceeding. *Signed into law, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2016.*

### **SB-512 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission**

This bill requires a suite of reforms of the operations and governance of the CPUC, including allowing intervenor compensation for certain local governments, requiring specified information be available to the public, requiring specified reporting of the CPUC regarding the timeliness of proceedings, applying the Code of Ethics from the Administrative Procedures Act to administrative law judges, and others. *Signed into law, Chapter 808, Statutes of 2016.*

### **SB-530 (Pan) – Charter-party carriers: pedal-powered quadricycles**

This bill applies the requirements of the charter-party carrier act, including regulation by the CPUC, to transportation for-hire service by means of pedal-powered quadricycles. This bill prohibits the consumption of an alcoholic beverage unless the local jurisdiction in which the pedal-powered quadricycle operates has authorized that consumption and imposes additional restrictions regarding the consumption of alcoholic beverages in pedal-powered quadricycles. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

### **SB-631 (Hueso) – Public Utilities Commission: fees**

This bill increases the fee, from \$75 to \$500, on utilities for filing a certificate of public convenience and necessity with the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 237, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-660 (Leno, Hueso) – Public Utilities Commission: proceedings: ex parte communication**

This bill proposed a suite of reforms of the governance, rules, operations and procedures of the CPUC, including: reform of the laws and rules related to ex parte communications; criteria and process for disqualification of commissioners to a proceeding; and authority of the CPUC to appoint the chief administrative law judge. *Vetoed 2015.*

**SB-697 (Hertzberg) – Charter-party carriers of passengers**

This bill repeals the requirement of the CPUC to issue a decal to charter-party carriers of passengers, extends the sunset date by one year on the CPUC's authority to issue financing orders, allows for the electronic filing of legislative reports, and makes additional codifying and technical changes to the Public Utilities Code related to CPUC reporting requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 612, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-1017 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: public availability of utility supplied documents**

This bill would have modified statutes that limit the CPUC from disclosing utility supplied documents to the public. This bill would have made a present or former officer or employee of the CPUC guilty of a misdemeanor for divulging information contrary to these provisions only if the officer or employee knowingly and willfully makes the disclosure with the knowledge that the information is not publicly disclosable, or with the knowledge that a substantive provision of law required that the information be kept confidential. *Held at the Assembly Desk.*

**SB-1055 (Hueso) – Payphone Service Providers Committee**

This bill eliminates the Payphone Service Providers Committee, which was intended to advise the CPUC regarding payphones, and the corresponding fund. *Signed into law, Chapter 213, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1222 (Hertzberg) – Public Utilities Commission: reports**

This bill makes various changes to the authorities of the CPUC and the reports the CPUC must provide to the Legislature. This bill: 1) changes dates by which the CPUC must submit specified reports, 2) changes and adds to the required contents of specified CPUC reports, 3) repeals requirements for the CPUC to submit specified reports, 4) extends CPUC's authority to issue financing orders from December 31, 2016, to June 30, 2022, 5) limits CPUC's authority to serve warrants and make arrests to investigators, 6) adds a January 1, 2023, sunset date to a specified reporting statute. This statute mandates electrical or gas corporations using ratepayer money to fund research and development projects report the findings of those projects to the Legislature. *Signed into law, Chapter 842, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-650 (Low) – Public Utilities Commission: regulation of taxicabs**

This bill would have enacted the Taxicab Transportation Services Act and by January 1, 2018, transferred most regulatory oversight of pre-arranged taxicab transportation services from local governments to the CPUC, except taxicab transportation services originating in the City and County of San Francisco and curbside pickups. This bill would have enacted various provisions relating to background checks, insurance, vehicle inspections, requirements of taxicab drivers and carriers, services for disabled population, enforcement, and other matters. *Vetoed 2016.*

**AB-825 (Rendon, Mark Stone) – Public Utilities Commission**

This bill would have required the State Auditor to appoint an inspector general to conduct oversight review and assess, audit, investigate, and report on the policies, practices, and procedures of the CPUC, as specified. In addition, this bill would have tasked the public advisor of the CPUC with the responsibility of ensuring that the activities of the CPUC are transparent to the public, as specified. Furthermore, the bill would have required the CPUC to post specified information on its website regarding electricity procurement contracts, pending proceedings, non-confidential documents, Public Records Act requests, and advice letters. *Vetoed 2015.*

**AB-1023 (Rendon) – Public Utilities Commission: proceedings: ex parte communications**

This bill would have required the CPUC to establish and maintain a weekly log that summarizes all ex parte communications in CPUC proceedings between decision makers and persons with an interest. *Vetoed 2015.*

**AB-1651 (Oberholte) – Public Utilities Commission: contracts**

This bill requires the CPUC to make available on its Internet Web site free of charge information about each contract it enters into, including information about the contract and contracting parties. This bill also requires the CPUC to make available on its Internet Web site audits conducted by the Department of General Services of the CPUC's contracting practices. *Signed into law, Chapter 815, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2120 (Weber) – Public Utilities Commission: proceedings: intervenor fees: customers**

This bill would have authorized compensation for participation or intervention in CPUC proceedings for a county office of education, or a consortium of public school districts or agencies participating or intervening on behalf of local K–12 educational agencies. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2168 (Williams) – Public Utilities Commission Audit Compliance Act of 2016**

This bill requires the CPUC to periodically review balancing accounts of utilities based on a risk-based approach to ensure transactions are for allowable purposes. This bill also deletes the requirement that the reports of the inspections and audits of utilities be furnished to the State Board of Equalization. *Signed into law, Chapter 805, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2746 (Oberholte) – Public Utilities Commission: contracts: electronic submissions**

This bill requires the CPUC to adopt procedures authorizing the submittal of electronic signatures and documents by all parties on contracts involving the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 334, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2902 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) – Public Utilities Commission: staff offices**

This bill would have required the CPUC to have offices outside of San Francisco, including in Los Angeles and Sacramento. This bill would have required the staff of the CPUC to be allocated among those locations in a way that meets the economic and efficiency requirements of the state, as determined by the Department of Finance. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2903 (Gatto) – Wharfingers: warehouseman: California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing**

This bill would have provided a suite of reforms of the operations of the CPUC, including clarifying the responsibilities and oversight of various positions; improvements to ethics practices; reports related

to telecommunications services and CPUC staffing; stating the intent of the Legislature to transfer most non-rail, for-hire transportation services to the State Transportation Agency. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**ACA-11 (Gatto, Gonzalez, Levine, Wilk) – Public Utilities Commission**

This measure would have authorized the Legislature to reallocate or reassign all, or a portion, of the functions of the CPUC to other state agencies, departments, boards, or other entities, consistent with specified purposes and repeals the provisions of the California Constitution pertaining to the CPUC effective January 1, 2019. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

## Energy Efficiency

**SB-350 (De León, Leno) – Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015**

This bill enacts the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, which creates or expands three related clean-energy goals to be achieved by 2030: (1) a 50 percent reduction in petroleum used in motor vehicles; (2) a doubling of the energy efficiency of existing buildings; and (3) generating 50 percent of total retail sales of electricity from renewable resources. *Signed into law, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015*

**SB-723 (Pavley, Roth) – Energy efficiency: United States Armed Forces bases and facilities**

This bill would have sought to increase the availability of funds for energy efficiency upgrades at military facilities. Most significantly, this bill would have authorized military facilities to calculate the savings from energy efficiency measures on military facilities differently than savings for other energy efficiency projects are calculated. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-726 (Hueso) – Energy conservation assistance**

This bill would have enabled the CEC to make loans to public agencies for energy efficiency projects to address peak electrical load, whenever that load occurs. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**SB-765 (Wolk) – Energy: California Market Transformation Administrator**

This bill would have required the CPUC to contract with an independent entity to serve as the California Market Transformation Administrator to achieve energy efficiency goals. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1207 (Hueso) – Energy: conservation: financial assistance**

This bill extends, by ten years, the sunset on Energy Conservation Assistance Account program and authorizes the CEC to pledge its loan portfolio to secure the bonds issued by the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank. *Signed into law, Chapter 675, Statutes of 2016*

**SB-1301 (Hertzberg) – Natural gas: greenhouse gas allowance: allocation**

This bill would have authorized the CPUC to require up to 25 percent of revenues received by a gas corporation as a result of the direct allocation of GHG allowances to natural gas suppliers to be used for clean energy and energy efficiency projects or programs. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1393 (De León) – Energy efficiency and pollution reduction**

This bill makes clarifying amendments to existing code that was originally added to statute as part of SB 350 (De Leon, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015). This bill: (1) clarifies that electricity generated by a municipal solid waste facility may qualify for credit under the RPS only if it was generated before January 1, 2017, thereby eliminating conflicting and ambiguous language that states electricity generated by an municipal solid waste facility may qualify for RPS credit if it was generated pursuant to a contract entered into before January 1, 2017; (2) eliminates language requiring a POU to report to the CEC information regarding the POU’s use of public goods funds and procurement plans; (3) conforms two existing RPS exemptions for POUs that own large hydroelectric facilities; (4) clarifies that a POU is to conduct efficiency studies and set targets only every four years; and (5) streamlines reporting requirements and eliminates duplicate reporting requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 677, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1414 (Wolk) – Energy**

This bill directs the CEC to approve a plan that will promote the installation of central air conditioning and heat pumps in compliance with California regulations, and authorizes the CEC to adopt regulations consistent with the approved plan. This bill also prohibits an IOU from paying a rebate or incentive for energy efficiency upgrades unless the recipient provides proof of permit closure and compliance with any requirements of the state’s building standards for energy efficiency. *Signed into law, Chapter 678, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-678 (O’Donnell) – Greenhouse gases: Energy Efficient Ports Program**

This bill would have required the ARB, in conjunction with the CEC, to develop and implement the Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Reductions Ports Program to fund energy efficiency upgrades and investments at public ports, as described. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-693 (Eggman, Williams) – Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program**

This bill establishes the Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program to provide financial incentives for energy efficiency and solar energy projects for eligible multifamily housing residences with the target of the program to install a combined generating capacity of at least 300 megawatts by requiring the CPUC to annually authorize \$100,000,000 or 10 percent of available funds, whichever is less, from the GHG allowance revenues received by electrical corporations beginning with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016, and ending with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and if the CPUC determines that revenues are available after 2020 and that there is adequate interest and participation in the program, continue authorizing the allocation of these funds through June 30, 2026. *Signed into law, Chapter 582, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-723 (Rendon) – Plumbing fixtures: WaterSense standards**

This bill requires the CEC, when setting plumbing fixture water efficiency standards, to consider the performance requirements established by the WaterSense standards set by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction.*

**AB-793 (Quirk) – Energy efficiency**

This bill furthers the adoption of “energy management technology” – meaning a product, service, or software that allows a customer to better understand and manage energy use in the customer’s home or business – through mandatory education efforts, monetary awards and inclusion of such technology in

home weatherization programs for low-income electric or gas utility customers. *Signed into law, Chapter 589, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-802 (Williams) – Energy efficiency**

This bill requires the CPUC, by July 1, 2016, to authorize electrical corporations and gas corporations to recover in rates the reasonable costs of programs providing incentives or rebates to increase the energy efficiency of existing buildings. This bill requires the CPUC to authorize electrical corporations and gas corporations to count all energy savings achieved toward overall energy efficiency goals or targets established by the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 590, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1013 (Quirk) – Energy: public domain computer program: home energy rating**

This bill would have required the CEC to approve and make publicly available, not less than six months prior to the effective date of adopted or updated efficiency standards, a version of the public domain computer program that will function properly with the adopted or updated standards. This bill would have required the CEC, before approving the public domain computer program for use with adopted or updated standards, to perform preliminary tests of the public domain computer program using common examples of residential and nonresidential buildings and building systems to ensure the usability of the program. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-1330 (Bloom) – Energy efficiency**

This bill requires the CPUC to ensure that there are sufficient monies available for electrical and gas corporations to meet efficiency targets, and, if the CPUC finds that additional monies are necessary to meet those targets, to increase available monies up to 20 percent per year until the monies available for energy efficiency savings and demand reduction doubles from the amount authorized on January 1, 2016. *Signed into law, Chapter 812, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2715 (Eduardo Garcia, Alejo, Dodd) – Agricultural Working Poor Energy Efficient Housing Program**

This bill would have established the Agricultural Working Poor Energy Efficient Housing Program, within the Department of Community Services and Development, to provide weatherization services to improve energy efficiency in farmworker housing. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

## Energy Storage

**SB-886 (Pavley) – Electricity: energy storage systems**

This bill would have required the CPUC to adopt energy storage system procurement targets applicable to electrical corporations, community choice aggregators, and the governing board of each local POU to adopt comparable energy storage procurement targets; each load-serving entity and locally owned public electric utility to plan for the procurement of energy storage systems before fossil-fuel-based generation; and each IOU to propose measures to encourage customers to install energy storage systems. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-33 (Quirk) – Electrical corporations: energy storage systems**

This bill obligates the CPUC, in consultation with the CEC, to evaluate and analyze the potential for all types of long-duration bulk energy storage resources to help integrate renewables into the electric grid. *Signed into law, Chapter 680, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1637 (Low) – Energy: greenhouse gas reduction**

This bill doubles the annual funding authorization for the SGIP, which permits the CPUC to collect an additional \$83 million/year from utility customers to fund payments to distributed energy resources until 2019 (\$249 million total). It also extends the NEM program for fuel cells for five years, increases the individual project cap from one MW to five MW, increases the statewide cap of 500 MW by subtracting existing facilities, and updates emission standards applicable to each fuel cell participating in NEM program for fuel cells. *Signed into law, Chapter 658, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2868 (Gatto) – Energy storage**

This bill requires the CPUC to direct the state’s three largest IOUs to file applications for programs and investments to accelerate widespread deployment of distributed energy storage systems and to prioritize those programs and investments that provide distributed energy storage systems to public sector and low-income customers. *Signed into law, Chapter 681, Statutes of 2016.*

## Miscellaneous

**SB-180 (Jackson) – Electricity: emissions of greenhouse gases**

This bill would have directed the CPUC and the CEC to develop GHG emission performance standards for nonpeaking and peaking electricity generation for load-serving entities and local POUs. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1298 (Hertzberg) – Electrical restructuring: financing orders**

This bill would have extended, from December 31, 2016, to December 31, 2017, the authority of the CPUC to issue financing orders, upon application of an IOU, to facilitate the provision, recovery, financing, or refinancing of transition costs. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction.*

**SB-1305 (Morrell) – Advanced electrical distributed generation technology**

This bill deletes provisions relating to advanced electrical distributed generation technology. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction.*

**AB-385 (Chu) – Daylight Saving Time**

This bill would have required an initiative be placed on the ballot allowing voters to decide to eliminate Daylight Saving Time, also known as Pacific Daylight Time or summer time, as it currently exists and switch to year-round standard time, also known as winter time. *Failed passage on the Senate floor.*

**AB-682 (Williams) – Mobilehome park: electric and gas service: master-meter customers**

This bill authorizes alterations from the utility-owned line to the electrical subpanel or gas inlet of the mobilehome for mobilehomes that are subject to a specified CPUC decision without a Department of Housing and Community Development permits. The bill also requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to inspect all the above alterations and assess an hourly technical service fee. *Signed into law, Chapter 581, Statutes of 2015.*



**AB-895 (Rendon) – Utility rate refunds: energy crisis litigation: Public Utilities Commission: judicial review**

This bill would have required the Attorney General or the CPUC to enter into an energy settlement agreement solely on a monetary basis and would have prohibited the agreement from including nonmonetary compensation in lieu of monetary compensation. This bill would have prohibited the CPUC from distributing or expending the proceeds of claims in any litigation or settlement to obtain ratepayer recovery for the effects of the 2000–02 energy crisis and would have required that the proceeds, after reimbursing the CPUC’s litigation and investigation expenses, be deposited into the Ratepayer Relief Fund. This bill would have required the monies in the fund to be appropriated for the benefit of ratepayers. *Vetoed 2015.*

**AB-1008 (Quirk) – Public utilities: sale of hydrogen to public as a motor vehicle fuel**

This bill provides that the ownership or operation of a facility that sells hydrogen at retail to the public for use only as a motor vehicle fuel does not make a corporation or person a public utility solely because of that ownership, operation, or sale. *Signed into law, Chapter 109, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1119 (Rendon) – Public utilities: municipal corporations: rights of way**

This bill provides that a county has the right to require an agreement on the terms and conditions for a proposed utility infrastructure project that is owned, constructed and operated by a municipal corporation within unincorporated county territory. This bill authorizes the municipal corporation proposing to use the street, alley, avenue, or highway within a county to bring an action in the superior court against the county if the municipal corporation and the county are unable to agree on the terms and conditions and location of the use within three months after a proposal. *Signed into law, Chapter 670, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1150 (Levine) – Energy: University of California and California State University partnership**

This bill requests the Regents of the University of California, and requires the California State University, to consider aligning their GHG reduction goals with those of the statewide institutional partnership between the California State University, the University of California, and IOUs and with those of the state. As a condition for participation in the expanded partnership, this bill requires the California State University and the University of California to report to each IOU or local POU the annual reduction in emissions of GHGs from the expanded partnership at all California State University and University of California facilities within that utility’s service territory. *Signed into law, Chapter 597, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1269 (Dababneh) – Alternative energy**

This bill extends the sunset on the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority advanced manufacturing program from July 1, 2016, to January 1, 2021. *Signed into law, Chapter 788, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1524 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) – Electricity: energy crisis litigation**

This bill extends, by two years, the authority of the Attorney General to represent the Department of Finance and to exercise the powers of the now-defunct Electricity Oversight Board in any litigation related to the 2000-02 energy crisis. *Signed into law, Chapter 382, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1525 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) – Electrical restructuring**

This bill deletes an obsolete section of statute concerning establishment of the Fuel Price Index Mechanism to enable the transition to a competitive energy market. *Signed into law, Chapter 135, Statutes of 2015.*

**AJR-28 (Oberholte) – Daylight saving time**

This resolution urges the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States to enact legislation that would allow a state to adopt daylight saving time year round. *Signed into law, Chapter 167, Statutes of 2016.*

## Natural Gas

**SB-360 (Cannella) – Biomethane**

This bill would have authorized the CPUC to consider providing the option to all gas corporations to engage in competitive bidding and direct investment in ratepayer financed biomethane collection equipment and would have required that any ratepayer financed processes authorized by the CPUC take into account the value of the collected biomethane delivered to ratepayers and seek to return equivalent value to ratepayers over the life of any authorized project. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**SB-687 (Allen) – Renewable gas standard**

This bill would have required the ARB, on or before June 30, 2017, in consultation with the CEC and the CPUC, to adopt a carbon-based renewable gas standard under which gas sellers must provide specified percentages of renewable gas. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-888 (Allen) – Gas corporations: emergency management**

This bill establishes the OES as the lead agency for emergency response to a leak of natural gas from a natural gas storage facility. Specifies how penalty money assessed against a gas corporation for a gas storage leak should be spent. *Signed into law, Chapter 536, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1043 (Allen) – Biogas and biomethane**

This bill would have required the ARB to consider and, as appropriate, adopt policies to significantly increase the sustainable production and use of biogas. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1153 (Cannella) – Greenhouse gases: scoping plan: biomethane**

This bill would have required the ARB, in consultation with specified state entities, to provide a comprehensive overview of state efforts to encourage the development of in-state biomethane and renewable natural gas as part of the update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1301 (Hertzberg) – Natural gas: greenhouse gas allowance: allocation**

This bill would have authorized the CPUC to require up to 25 percent of revenues received by a gas corporation as a result of the direct allocation of GHG allowances to natural gas suppliers to be used for clean energy and energy efficiency projects or programs. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1441 (Leno, Pavley) – Natural gas: methane emissions**

This bill would have prohibited, to the extent feasible, the CPUC from allowing gas corporations to seek or receive cost recovery from ratepayers for the value of natural gas lost to the atmosphere from certain natural gas facilities when establishing rates. *Failed passage on the Assembly floor.*

**AB-577 (Bonilla) – Biomethane: grant program**

This bill would have required the CEC to develop and implement a program for projects that produce biomethane, that build or develop collection and purification technology or infrastructure, or that upgrade or expand existing biomethane facilities. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee.*

**AB-1903 (Wilk) – Aliso Canyon gas leak: health impact study**

This bill would have required the CPUC to authorize a study, paid for by Southern California Gas Company, by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment of the long-term health impacts of the natural gas leak from the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-1937 (Gomez, Williams) – Electricity: procurement**

This bill requires an electric IOU that bids for new gas-fired generation resources to consider, and give preference to, bids for resources that are not gas-fired generation resources located in communities that suffer from cumulative pollution burdens and directs the CPUC to ensure IOU procurement plans include showings that the IOU proposals contains this element. *Signed into law, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2206 (Williams) – Renewable gas**

This bill would have required ARB to adopt a policy to increase “renewable gas,” generated by an eligible renewable energy resource that meets the requirements of the RPS or generated by direct solar energy. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee.*

**AB-2313 (Williams) – Renewable natural gas: monetary incentive program for biomethane projects: pipeline infrastructure**

This bill (a) increases the monetary incentive amounts available to biomethane projects and (b) directs the CPUC to consider whether to allow recovery in utility rates the costs of utility infrastructure for biomethane interconnection with the natural gas pipeline network. *Signed into law, Chapter 571, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2454 (Williams) – Energy: procurement plans**

This bill directs the CPUC to require an IOU to demonstrate compliance with its approved procurement plan prior to approving the IOU’s contract for any new gas-fired generating unit and consider the findings of the Demand Response Potential Study. *Signed into law, Chapter 826, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2798 (Gatto) – Energy conservation: power facility and site certification: notice of intention**

This bill would have specified that the CEC, when reviewing factors related to safety and reliability of a proposed electricity generating facility, is to consider the extent to which the facility will increase or decrease reliance on underground natural gas storage. *Held at the Senate desk.*

## Net-Energy Metering

### **SB-550 (Hertzberg) – Net energy metering**

This bill would have defined the “aggregate customer peak demand” for the purposes of calculating the NEM program limit for electric utilities that are not large electrical corporations. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

### **AB-1637 (Low) – Energy: greenhouse gas reduction**

This bill doubles the annual funding authorization for the SGIP, which permits the CPUC to collect an additional \$83 million/year from utility customers to fund payments to distributed energy resources until 2019 (\$249 million total). It also extends the NEM program for fuel cells for five years, increases the individual project cap from one MW to five MW, increases the statewide cap of 500 MW by subtracting existing facilities, and updates emission standards applicable to each fuel cell participating in NEM program for fuel cells. *Signed into law, Chapter 658, Statutes of 2016.*

### **AB-2163 (Williams) – Net energy metering: Imperial Irrigation District**

This bill would have required the Imperial Irrigation District to provide net metering service to eligible customer-generators that meet certain requirements. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

## Nuclear Power

### **SB-657 (Monning) – Diablo Canyon Units 1 & 2: enhanced seismic studies and review**

This bill requires the CPUC to convene, or continue, until August 26, 2025, an independent peer review panel to conduct an independent review of enhanced seismic studies and surveys of the Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 powerplant, including the surrounding areas of the facility and areas of nuclear waste storage. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction.*

### **SB-968 (Monning) – Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 powerplant**

This bill requires the CPUC to cause an assessment, to be completed by no later than July 1, 2018, conducted by an independent third party, of the adverse and beneficial economic impacts, and net economic effects, that could occur, and of potential ways for the state and local jurisdictions to mitigate the adverse economic impact, if the Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 powerplant were to temporarily or permanently shut down before the powerplant’s current operating licenses expire or when Pacific Gas and Electric closes the powerplant upon the expiration of its current licenses. *Signed into law, Chapter 674, Statutes of 2016.*

### **SJR-23 (Bates) – Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2016: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station**

This measure urges the passage of the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2016 and urges the United States Department of Energy to implement the prompt and safe relocation of spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to a licensed and regulated interim consolidated storage facility. *Signed into law, Chapter 76, Statutes of 2016.*

### **AB-361 (Achadjian) – Nuclear powerplants**

This bill extends the sunset date for the Nuclear Planning Assessment Special Account from July 1, 2019, to August 26, 2025, to continue funding emergency service programs and planning activities for

the Diablo Canyon Power Plant County. In addition, this bill requires the CPUC to convene, or continue, until August 26, 2025, the independent peer review panel to review Pacific Gas and Electric's seismic studies of Pacific Gas and Electric's Diablo Canyon Power Plant. *Signed into law, Chapter 399, Statutes of 2015.*

**AJR-29 (Chávez) – Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2015: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station**

This measure urges the passage of the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2015 and urges the United States Department of Energy to implement the prompt and safe relocation of spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to a licensed and regulated interim consolidated storage facility. *Signed into law, Chapter 112, Statutes of 2016.*

## **Rates & Procurement**

**SB-286 (Hertzberg) – Electricity: direct transactions**

This bill requires the CPUC to allow individual retail nonresidential end-use customers to contract directly for their electricity supplies, known as direct access. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-502 (Leno) – San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District: purchase and delivery of electricity**

This bill authorizes the Bay Area Rapid Transit system to purchase electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, defined as those eligible under California's RPS program. *Signed into law, Chapter 146, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-886 (Pavley) – Electricity: energy storage systems**

This bill would have required the CPUC to adopt energy storage system procurement targets applicable to electrical corporations, community choice aggregators, and the governing board of each local POU to adopt comparable energy storage procurement targets; each load-serving entity and locally owned public electric utility to plan for the procurement of energy storage systems before fossil-fuel-based generation; and each IOU to propose measures to encourage customers to install energy storage systems. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-919 (Hertzberg) – Water supply: creation or augmentation of local water supplies**

This bill would have required the CPUC to address the oversupply of renewable energy resources through development of a tariff or other economic incentive available to facilities that create or augment local water supplies. *Vetoed 2016.*

**SB-1041 (Hueso) – Energy: electric and gas rates: public elementary and secondary schools**

This bill would have required the CPUC to consider the effects of establishing a rate for electric service specific to public elementary and secondary schools. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1441 (Leno, Pavley) – Natural gas: methane emissions**

This bill would have prohibited, to the extent feasible, the CPUC from allowing gas corporations to seek or receive cost recovery from ratepayers for the value of natural gas lost to the atmosphere from certain natural gas facilities when establishing rates. *Failed passage on the Assembly floor.*

**SB-1453 (De León) – Electrical generation: greenhouse gases emission performance standard**

This bill would have eliminated the ability of an electrical corporation that provides electricity service to 75,000 or fewer California customers to file a proposal with the CPUC for alternative compliance with the state's GHG emission performance standard and makes other unrelated changes. *Held at the Assembly desk.*

**AB-802 (Williams) – Energy efficiency**

This bill requires the CPUC, by July 1, 2016, to authorize electrical corporations and gas corporations to recover in rates the reasonable costs of programs providing incentives or rebates to increase the energy efficiency of existing buildings. This bill requires the CPUC to authorize electrical corporations and gas corporations to count all energy savings achieved toward overall energy efficiency goals or targets established by the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 590, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1110 (Ting) – Greenhouse gases emissions intensity reporting: retail electricity suppliers**

This bill requires the CEC, in consultation with the ARB, to adopt a methodology for the calculation of GHG emissions intensity for each purchase of electricity by a retail supplier to serve its retail customers. This bill requires a retail supplier, including an electrical corporation, local POU, electric service provider, and community choice aggregator, to also disclose both the GHG emissions intensity of any electricity portfolio offered to its retail customers and the CEC's calculation of the GHG emissions intensity associated with all statewide retail electricity sales. *Signed into law, Chapter 656, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1266 (Gonzalez) – Electrical and gas corporations: excess compensation**

This bill prohibits an electrical corporation or a gas corporation from recovering from ratepayers expenses for excess compensation, as defined, paid to an officer of the utility for a period of five years following a triggering event, as defined, unless the utility obtains the approval of the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 599, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1330 (Bloom) – Energy efficiency**

This bill requires the CPUC to ensure that there are sufficient monies available for electrical and gas corporations to meet efficiency targets, and, if the CPUC finds that additional monies are necessary to meet those targets, to increase available monies up to 20 percent per year until the monies available for energy efficiency savings and demand reduction doubles from the amount authorized on January 1, 2016. *Signed into law, Chapter 812, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1530 (Levine, Gordon) – Electricity: distributed generation**

This bill exempts from certain fixed charges, otherwise levied against all electricity used by customers, the electricity used by customers of the state's three largest IOUs who use certain onsite generation technologies to produce that electricity. *Held in Senate Environmental Quality Committee without a hearing.*

**AB-1937 (Gomez, Williams) – Electricity: procurement**

This bill requires an electric IOU that bids for new gas-fired generation resources to consider, and give preference to, bids for resources that are not gas-fired generation resources located in communities that suffer from cumulative pollution burdens and directs the CPUC to ensure IOU procurement plans include showings that the IOU proposals contains this element. *Signed into law, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2454 (Williams) – Energy: procurement plans**

This bill directs the CPUC to require an IOU to demonstrate compliance with its approved procurement plan prior to approving the IOU's contract for any new gas-fired generating unit and consider the findings of the Demand Response Potential Study. *Signed into law, Chapter 826, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2700 (Brown) – Electrical corporation: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: procurement plans**

This bill would have required the CPUC to update the "least-cost, best-fit" criteria used to rank contracts under the RPS to identify the value of maintaining existing baseload resources to achieve the goal of a balanced portfolio of eligible renewable energy resources. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

## Renewable Energy

**SB-350 (De León, Leno) – Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015**

This bill enacts the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, which creates or expands three related clean-energy goals to be achieved by 2030: (1) a 50 percent reduction in petroleum used in motor vehicles; (2) a doubling of the energy efficiency of existing buildings; and (3) generating 50 percent of total retail sales of electricity from renewable resources. *Signed into law, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-360 (Cannella) – Biomethane**

This bill would have authorized the CPUC to consider providing the option to all gas corporations to engage in competitive bidding and direct investment in ratepayer financed biomethane collection equipment and would have required that any ratepayer financed processes authorized by the CPUC take into account the value of the collected biomethane delivered to ratepayers and seek to return equivalent value to ratepayers over the life of any authorized project. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**SB-502 (Leno) – San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District: purchase and delivery of electricity**

This bill authorizes the Bay Area Rapid Transit system to purchase electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, defined as those eligible under California's RPS program. *Signed into law, Chapter 146, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-539 (Hueso) – Renewable energy resources: geothermal**

This bill would have deleted a provision of existing law that authorizes the CPUC to prohibit an IOU from curtailing the generation, production, or transmission of electricity from a geothermal powerplant operated by the IOU. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**SB-687 (Allen) – Renewable gas standard**

This bill would have required the ARB, on or before June 30, 2017, in consultation with the CEC and the CPUC, to adopt a carbon-based renewable gas standard under which gas sellers must provide specified percentages of renewable gas. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-728 (Morrell) – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program**

This bill would have required that the CPUC evaluate the benefits and costs to the California economy, including upon low- and middle-income individuals and families and disadvantaged communities, before exercise of its authority to increase the procurement of eligible renewable energy resources in excess of the specified quantities. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-793 (Wolk) – Green Tariff Shared Renewables Program**

This bill requires an IOU that offers a Green Tariff Shared Renewables Program to permit a participating customer to subscribe to the program and be provided with a nonbinding estimate of reasonably anticipated bill credits and bill charges, as determined by the CPUC, for a period of up to 20 years. *Signed into law, Chapter 587, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-1043 (Allen) – Biogas and biomethane**

This bill would have required the ARB to consider and, as appropriate, adopt policies to significantly increase the sustainable production and use of biogas. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1153 (Cannella) – Greenhouse gases: scoping plan: biomethane**

This bill would have required the ARB, in consultation with specified state entities, to provide a comprehensive overview of state efforts to encourage the development of in-state biomethane and renewable natural gas as part of the update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1213 (Wieckowski) – Renewable energy: biosolids: matching grants**

This bill would have continuously appropriated \$20 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the CEC to fund competitive grants for capital projects that use biosolids to generate useful heat energy or electricity, liquid or gaseous fuels, or useful byproducts. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1299 (Hertzberg) – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Programs:renewable energy credits**

This bill would have created a REC associated with electricity generated by certain renewable energy resources, known as “qualifying facilities”, and grants ownerships of the REC to the owner of the qualifying facilities. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1393 (De León) – Energy efficiency and pollution reduction**

This bill makes clarifying amendments to existing code that was originally added to statute as part of SB 350 (De Leon, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015). This bill: (1) clarifies that electricity generated by a municipal solid waste facility may qualify for credit under the RPS only if it was generated before January 1, 2017, thereby eliminating conflicting and ambiguous language that states electricity generated by an municipal solid waste facility may qualify for RPS credit if it was generated pursuant to a contract entered into before January 1, 2017; (2) eliminates language requiring a POU to report to the CEC information regarding the POU’s use of public goods funds and procurement plans; (3) conforms two existing RPS exemptions for POUs that own large hydroelectric facilities; (4) clarifies that a POU is to conduct efficiency studies and set targets only every four years; and (5) streamlines reporting requirements and eliminates duplicate reporting requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 677, Statutes of 2016.*



**AB-33 (Quirk) – Electrical corporations: energy storage systems**

This bill obligates the CPUC, in consultation with the CEC, to evaluate and analyze the potential for all types of long-duration bulk energy storage resources to help integrate renewables into the electric grid. *Signed into law, Chapter 680, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-197 (Eduardo Garcia) – Public utilities: renewable resources**

This bill modifies the RPS procurement process to require consideration of the statutory GHG emissions limit and grid reliability. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee’s jurisdiction.*

**AB-577 (Bonilla) – Biomethane: grant program**

This bill would have required the CEC to develop and implement a program for projects that produce biomethane, that build or develop collection and purification technology or infrastructure, or that upgrade or expand existing biomethane facilities. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee.*

**AB-590 (Dahle, Salas) – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund**

This bill would have provided that monies in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, upon appropriation, may be made available for expenditure by the CEC for the purposes of maintaining the current level of biomass power generation or geothermal energy generation in the state and revitalizing currently idle facilities in strategically located regions. This bill would have established requirements for an applicant to receive available funding for a facility’s eligible electrical generation. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-645 (Williams, Rendon) – Electricity: California Renewables Portfolio Standard**

This bill would have increased the RPS target to require that 50 percent of electricity come from renewable energy resources by 2030. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-693 (Eggman, Williams) – Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program**

This bill establishes the Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program to provide financial incentives for energy efficiency and solar energy projects for eligible multifamily housing residences with the target of the program to install a combined generating capacity of at least 300 MW by requiring the CPUC to annually authorize \$100,000,000 or 10 percent of available funds, whichever is less, from the GHG allowance revenues received by electrical corporations beginning with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016, and ending with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and if the CPUC determines that revenues are available after 2020 and that there is adequate interest and participation in the program, continue authorizing the allocation of these funds through June 30, 2026. *Signed into law, Chapter 582, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1144 (Rendon) – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: unbundled renewable energy credits**

This bill would have altered the RPS by modifying the electricity product content categories so that unbundled renewable energy credits count in category one if the electricity is generated by an entity other than an electrical corporation and used by a wastewater treatment facility that is owned by a public entity and first put into service on or after January 1, 2016. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-1773 (Oberholte) – Local government renewable energy self-generation program**

This bill expands the Renewable Energy Self-Generation Bill Credit Transfer program to allow participation by joint powers authority that are public agencies located within the same county and within same electrical corporation service territory. *Signed into law, Chapter 659, Statutes of 2016*

**AB-1923 (Wood) – Bioenergy feed-in tariff**

This bill increases, from three MW to five MW, the limit on the nameplate capacity of a bioenergy electric generation facility that may participate in the IOU bioenergy FiT programs, so long as the generation facility delivers no more than three MW to the grid at any time. *Signed into law, Chapter 663, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1979 (Bigelow) – Renewable feed-in tariff: hydroelectric facilities**

This bill makes an exception to the FiT program three-MW limit on the generating capacity of an eligible electric generation facility to newly allow participation by a conduit hydroelectric facility with a nameplate generating capacity of up to four MW that meets certain conditions. *Signed into law, Chapter 665, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2206 (Williams) – Renewable gas**

This bill would have required ARB to adopt a policy to increase “renewable gas,” generated by an eligible renewable energy resource that meets the requirements of the RPS or generated by direct solar energy. *Held in the Senate Rules Committee.*

**AB-2313 (Williams) – Renewable natural gas: monetary incentive program for biomethane projects: pipeline infrastructure**

This bill (a) increases the monetary incentive amounts available to biomethane projects and (b) directs the CPUC to consider whether to allow recovery in utility rates the costs of utility infrastructure for biomethane interconnection with the natural gas pipeline network. *Signed into law, Chapter 571, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2460 (Irwin) – Solar thermal systems**

This bill would have revised the program to set the maximum funding for the solar thermal program between January 1, 2017, and July 31, 2022, at \$250 million reserve 50 percent of the total program budget for the installation of solar thermal systems in low-income residential housing or in buildings in disadvantaged communities, and extend the operation of the program through July 31, 2022. This bill would have also required the governing body of each POU providing gas service, until August 1, 2022, to adopt, implement, and finance a solar thermal system incentive program. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2630 (Salas) – San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy and Jobs Act**

This bill would have required the CAISO, when undertaking transmission planning activities, to take into account a specified report relating to solar photovoltaic system development in the San Joaquin Valley and specified principles of transmission corridor planning developed by the CEC. This bill would have required the CEC, the CPUC, and the CAISO, when undertaking activities as part of the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, to take into account the above-specified report and principles. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2700 (Brown) – Electrical corporation: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: procurement plans**

This bill would have required the CPUC to update the "least-cost, best-fit" criteria used to rank contracts under the RPS to identify the value of maintaining existing baseload resources to achieve the goal of a balanced portfolio of eligible renewable energy resources. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

## Research & Mandated Studies

**AB-1903 (Wilk) – Aliso Canyon gas leak: health impact study**

This bill would have required the CPUC to authorize a study, paid for by Southern California Gas Company, by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment of the long-term health impacts of the natural gas leak from the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2271 (Quirk) – Electricity: research programs: peer review**

This bill would have required the CPUC to establish a procedure for an independent peer review of certain research programs proposed by an electrical corporation for approval by the CPUC. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

## Safety

**SB-62 (Hill, Pavley) – Public Utilities Commission: Office of the Safety Advocate**

This bill codifies the Office of Safety Advocate within the CPUC, until January 1, 2020, to advocate for the continuous, cost-effective improvement of the safety management and safety performance of public utilities. *Signed into law, Chapter 806, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-888 (Allen) – Gas corporations: emergency management**

This bill establishes the OES as the lead agency for emergency response to a leak of natural gas from a natural gas storage facility. Specifies how penalty money assessed against a gas corporation for a gas storage leak should be spent. *Signed into law, Chapter 536, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1028 (Hill) – Electrical corporations: local publicly owned electric utilities: electrical cooperatives: wildfire mitigation plans**

This bill requires each IOU, local POU, and electrical cooperative to construct, maintain, and operate its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire posed by those electrical lines and equipment and require each electrical corporation to annually prepare a wildfire mitigation plan. *Signed into law, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1049 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: electrical and gas corporations: close call reporting programs**

This bill authorizes the CPUC to establish procedures and processes to implement confidential, nonpunitive, and independent close call reporting program to facilitate the identification of accident precursors by persons familiar with electrical or gas corporation operations in order to help protect public, employee, or contractor safety. *Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**SB-1250 (McGuire) – Telecommunications: major rural outages: notifications and reporting**

This bill would have made specific notification and operations requirements of facilities-based providers of telecommunications services that the Federal Communications Commission requires to provide access to 911 service when service outages occur in rural areas, as specified, including notifying the OES within 60 minutes of discovering the outage. This bill would have required OES to keep responder outage notifications confidential, except the bill would have required OES to notify any applicable county office of emergency services and the sheriff of any county affected by the outage. *Held in Assembly Rules Committee.*

**SB-1463 (Moorlach) – Electrical lines: mitigation of wildfire risks**

This bill would have required the CPUC, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to prioritize areas in which communities are subject to conditions that increase fire hazards associated with overhead utility facilities when determining areas in which it will require enhanced mitigation measures for wildfire hazards posed by overhead electrical lines and equipment. *Vetoed 2016.*

**SJR-23 (Bates) – Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2016: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station**

This measure urges the passage of the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2016 and urges the United States Department of Energy to implement the prompt and safe relocation of spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to a licensed and regulated interim consolidated storage facility. *Signed into law, Chapter 76, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-361 (Achadjian) – Nuclear powerplants**

This bill extends the sunset date for the Nuclear Planning Assessment Special Account from July 1, 2019, to August 26, 2025, to continue funding emergency service programs and planning activities for the Diablo Canyon Power Plant County. In addition, this bill requires the CPUC to convene, or continue, until August 26, 2025, the independent peer review panel to review Pacific Gas and Electric's seismic studies of Pacific Gas and Electric's Diablo Canyon Power Plant. *Signed into law, Chapter 399, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-510 (Rodriguez, Williams) – Wireless 911 calls: emergency telephone user surcharge**

This bill would have required the OES' California 911 Emergency Communications Branch to work with the California Highway Patrol to determine whether wireless 911 calls should be routed to a local public safety answering point or a California Highway Patrol call center and would have modified the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge, which is imposed on amounts paid by every person in the state for intrastate telephone service to fund 911 emergency telephone system costs, at a flat monthly rate of between \$0.15 and \$0.75, determined annually by OES. *Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**AB-853 (Roger Hernández) – Electrical and gas corporations: security of plant and facilities**

This bill would have required an electrical corporation or a gas corporation, except as provided, to utilize employees of that corporation for any work associated with the design, engineering, and operation of its nuclear, electrical, and gas infrastructure, unless the utility files a request to contract persons who will replace those employees. *Held at the Senate desk.*

**AB-1289 (Cooper) – Transportation network companies: participating drivers: penalties**

This bill requires a TNC to conduct, or have a third party conduct, a local and national criminal background check for each participating driver, that includes multistate and multijurisdiction criminal records locator. This bill prohibits a TNC from retaining a driver who is required by any law to register as a sex offender or has been convicted of specified list of felonies. This bill sets minimum and maximum fines for violating these requirements and exempts consumer report agencies from furnishing TNCs with currently prohibited non-conviction information of applicant drivers. *Signed into law, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1422 (Cooper) – Transportation network companies**

This bill provides that a TNC is eligible and required to participate in the Department of Motor Vehicles' pull-notice system to regularly check the driving records of a participating driver regardless of whether the participating driver is an employee or an independent contractor of the TNC. *Signed into law, Chapter 791, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1453 (Rendon) – Electrical corporations: underground electrical facilities: worker safety**

This bill would have required the CPUC, by January 1, 2017, to adopt a rule regulating work performed in underground electrical facilities by, or on behalf of, an electrical corporation. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**AB-1564 (Williams) – Emergency services: wireless 911 calls: routing**

This bill requires OES, working with the California Highway Patrol, and county coordinators to review and ensure the most efficient routing of mobile calls to the 9-1-1 emergency telephone system. *Signed into law, Chapter 241, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2798 (Gatto) – Energy conservation: power facility and site certification: notice of intention**

This bill would have specified that the CEC, when reviewing factors related to safety and reliability of a proposed electricity generating facility, is to consider the extent to which the facility will increase or decrease reliance on underground natural gas storage. *Held at the Senate desk.*

**AJR-29 (Chávez) – Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2015: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station**

This measure urges the passage of the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2015 and urges the United States Department of Energy to implement the prompt and safe relocation of spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to a licensed and regulated interim consolidated storage facility. *Signed into law, Chapter 112, Statutes of 2016.*

## Telecommunications

**SB-486 (McGuire) – Telecommunications: reliability standards: 911 emergency service**

This bill would have required the CPUC to establish service outage reporting and response requirements applicable to 911 network service providers and all facilities-based local exchange carriers that ensures the timely reporting of outages impacting customers in sparsely populated areas of the state. Additionally, this bill would have required the CPUC, when considering the need for reliability standards, to consider standards governing the construction, operation, and maintenance of utility boxes, serving area interfaces, cross-connect facilities, cabinets, vaults, pedestals, and similar equipment located outside telephone corporation plant environments, particularly in areas that have

previously experienced damage that caused a 911 outage. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**SB-745 (Hueso) – Telecommunications: universal service: California Advanced Services Fund**

This bill makes changes to the CASF program for broadband service. Specifically, this bill provides that remaining funds in the Public Housing Account are available for an additional four years (until December 31, 2020) before they are transferred back to other CASF Accounts and limits eligibility to unserved public housing developments. This bill requires the CPUC to provide additional information in its annual report to the Legislature of the CASF program, including county-level data and efforts to leverage other resources, and moves the date by when the report is due to April 1. *Signed into law, Chapter 710, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1055 (Hueso) – Payphone Service Providers Committee**

This bill eliminates the Payphone Service Providers Committee, which was intended to advise the CPUC regarding payphones, and the corresponding fund. *Signed into law, Chapter 213, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1122 (Cannella) – Telecommunications: small independent telephone corporations: rates: universal service: California High-Cost Fund-A**

This bill would have required the CPUC to make a final decision in a general rate case of a small independent telephone company no later than 390 days following the company's filing and, if the deadline is missed, provided that the utility may file a tariff implementing interim rates that may be increased by an amount equal to the rate of inflation. *Held in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee without a hearing.*

**SB-1212 (Hueso) – “2-1-1” information and referral network**

This bill authorizes the CPUC to expend up to \$1.5 million from the California Teleconnect Fund Administrative Committee to help close 2-1-1 referral service gaps in counties lacking access to the service, including implementation of a coordinated publicly owned database, if the CPUC determines that doing so is an appropriate use of funds collected from ratepayers. *Signed into law, Chapter 841, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1250 (McGuire) – Telecommunications: major rural outages: notifications and reporting**

This bill would have made specific notification and operations requirements of facilities-based providers of telecommunications services that the Federal Communications Commission requires to provide access to 911 service when service outages occur in rural areas, as specified, including notifying the OES within 60 minutes of discovering the outage. This bill would have required OES to keep responder outage notifications confidential, except the bill would have required OES to notify any applicable county office of emergency services and the sheriff of any county affected by the outage. *Held in Assembly Rules Committee without further action.*

**AB-57 (Quirk) – Telecommunications: wireless telecommunications facilities**

This bill provides that a collocation or siting application for a wireless telecommunications facility is deemed approved if the city or county fails to approve or disapprove the application within the reasonable time periods specified in applicable decisions of the Federal Communications Commission, all required public notices have been provided regarding the application, and the applicant has provided a notice to the city or county that the reasonable time period has lapsed. *Signed into law, Chapter 685, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-510 (Rodriguez, Williams) – Wireless 911 calls: emergency telephone user surcharge**

This bill would have required the OES' California 911 Emergency Communications Branch to work with the California Highway Patrol to determine whether wireless 911 calls should be routed to a local public safety answering point or a California Highway Patrol call center and would have modified the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge, which is imposed on amounts paid by every person in the state for intrastate telephone service to fund 911 emergency telephone system costs, at a flat monthly rate of between \$0.15 and \$0.75, determined annually by OES. *Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**AB-1262 (Wood) – Telecommunications: universal service: California Advanced Services Fund**

This bill reallocates funding among two accounts within the CASF for purposes of encouraging broadband deployment in the state. Specifically, this bill results in a reduction of \$5 million from the Broadband Infrastructure Revolving Loan Account and a corresponding increase to the Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Grant Account. *Signed into law, Chapter 242, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1564 (Williams) – Emergency services: wireless 911 calls: routing**

This bill requires OES, working with the California Highway Patrol, and county coordinators to review and ensure the most efficient routing of mobile calls to the 9-1-1 emergency telephone system. *Signed into law, Chapter 241, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2570 (Quirk) – Telecommunications: universal service: wireless communications**

This bill requires the CPUC to adopt a portability freeze rule for the LifeLine program by January 15, 2017, that limits the ability of subscribers to change services, and requires the CPUC to consider including certain features as part of the rule. *Signed into law, Chapter 577, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-2788 (Gatto) – Wireless telecommunications facilities**

This bill would have permitted the use of a small cell, as defined, without a city or county discretionary permit or aesthetic review in all zoning districts, subject only to a building permit or administrative permit, as applicable. This bill would have required a city or county to issue those permits, as applicable, within 60 days. Additionally, this bill would have required the city or county to renew a permit with a duration of less than 10 years for an equivalent duration unless the city or county finds that wireless telecommunications facility does not comply with the codes and permit conditions applicable at the time the permit was initially approved. This bill would have also prohibited a city or county from precluding the leasing or licensing of a site owned by the city or county for the installation of a small cell, except as specified. This bill would have authorized a city or county to impose a fee associated with a permit application for construction or reconstruction of a development project for a wireless telecommunications facility only if similar fees are charged within the city or county for similar types of commercial development. By imposing new duties on local agencies, this bill would have imposed a state-mandated local program. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

## **Transmission & Distribution**

**AB-568 (Dodd) – Reclamation District No. 108: hydroelectric power**

This bill allows Reclamation District No. 108, on the western edge of the Sacramento River, to construct and operate a hydroelectric powerplant and transmission lines. *Signed into law, Chapter 134, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1453 (Rendon) – Electrical corporations: underground electrical facilities: worker safety**

This bill would have required the CPUC, by January 1, 2017, to adopt a rule regulating work performed in underground electrical facilities by, or on behalf of, an electrical corporation. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**AB-1530 (Levine, Gordon) – Electricity: distributed generation**

This bill exempts from certain fixed charges, otherwise levied against all electricity used by customers, the electricity used by customers of the state's three largest IOUs who use certain onsite generation technologies to produce that electricity. *Held in Senate Environmental Quality Committee without a hearing.*

**AB-2630 (Salas) – San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy and Jobs Act**

This bill would have required the CAISO, when undertaking transmission planning activities, to take into account a specified report relating to solar photovoltaic system development in the San Joaquin Valley and specified principles of transmission corridor planning developed by the CEC. This bill would have required the CEC, the CPUC, and the CAISO, when undertaking activities as part of the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, to take into account the above-specified report and principles. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-2861 (Ting) – Electricity: distribution grid interconnection dispute resolution process**

This bill authorizes the CPUC to establish an expedited distribution grid interconnection dispute resolution process with the goal of resolving disputes over interconnection applications within the jurisdiction of the CPUC in no more than 60 days from the time the dispute is formally brought to the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2016.*

## Transportation

**SB-247 (Lara) – Charter bus transportation: safety improvements**

This bill places new operating and equipment requirements on charter buses designed to carry 39 or more passengers and requires the Department of the California Highway Patrol to adopt standards and criteria for the implementation of these equipment and safety requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 705, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-372 (Galgiani) – Transportation network companies and taxicabs: sex offenders**

This bill would have prohibited a TNC from hiring, contracting with, employing, or continuing to employ a driver who is required by law to register as a sex offender. This bill would have also prohibited a taxicab transportation service operator from hiring or retaining a driver who is required by law to register as a sex offender. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**SB-530 (Pan) – Charter-party carriers: pedal-powered quadricycles**

This bill applies the requirements of the charter-party carrier act, including regulation by the CPUC, to transportation for-hire service by means of pedal-powered quadricycles. This bill prohibits the consumption of an alcoholic beverage unless the local jurisdiction in which the pedal-powered quadricycle operates has authorized that consumption and imposes additional restrictions regarding the



consumption of alcoholic beverages in pedal-powered quadricycles. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**SB-541 (Hill) – Public Utilities Commission: for-hire transportation carriers: enforcement**

This bill codifies recommendations from the State Auditor's report on strengthening the CPUC's oversight of transportation-related activities of household good and charter-party carriers. Specifically, this bill requires the CPUC to hire an independent entity to assess the agency's capabilities, in consultation with carrier trade associations, related to specific goals and report its findings to the Legislature. This bill also expands enforcement authority to other peace officers, beyond just the California Highway Patrol, for most transportation for-hire CPUC licensing requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 718, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-697 (Hertzberg) – Charter-party carriers of passengers**

This bill repeals the requirement of the CPUC to issue a decal to charter-party carriers of passengers, extends the sunset date by one year on the CPUC's authority to issue financing orders, allows for the electronic filing of legislative reports, and makes additional codifying and technical changes to the Public Utilities Code related to CPUC reporting requirements. *Signed into law, Chapter 612, Statutes of 2015.*

**SB-812 (Hill) – Charter-party carriers of passengers and passenger stage corporations**

This bill makes changes to the California Highway Patrol's authority to inspect charter-bus terminals and order vehicles out of service, with the goal of increasing regulatory scrutiny of operators with poor safety records. *Signed into law, Chapter 711, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB-1035 (Hueso) – Transportation network companies**

This bill would have reiterated the CPUC's general authority over TNCs, required the CPUC to study insurance and disabled community accessibility issues, required the CPUC to study background check protocols and adopt regulations, and allowed peace officers to impound vehicles and conduct enforcement action of CPUC rule violations by TNCs. *Failed passage in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee.*

**AB-650 (Low) – Public Utilities Commission: regulation of taxicabs**

This bill would have enacted the Taxicab Transportation Services Act and by January 1, 2018, transferred most regulatory oversight of pre-arranged taxicab transportation services from local governments to the CPUC, except taxicab transportation services originating in the City and County of San Francisco and curbside pickups. This bill would have enacted various provisions relating to background checks, insurance, vehicle inspections, requirements of taxicab drivers and carriers, services for disabled population, enforcement, and other matters. *Vetoed 2016.*

**AB-828 (Low, Chang) – Vehicles: transportation services**

This bill would have excluded motor vehicles operating in connection with a TNC from the requirement to register as a commercial vehicle, if certain conditions are met. This bill also would have required the CPUC to conduct an investigation to consider whether existing rules related to transportation services serve the public interest, encourage innovation, and create a fair and competitive transportation market between companies that provide regulated transportation services. *Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

**AB-1289 (Cooper) – Transportation network companies: participating drivers: penalties**

This bill requires a TNC to conduct, or have a third party conduct, a local and national criminal background check for each participating driver, that includes multistate and multijurisdictional criminal records locator. This bill prohibits a TNC from retaining a driver who is required by any law to register as a sex offender or has been convicted of specified list of felonies. This bill sets minimum and maximum fines for violating these requirements and exempts consumer report agencies from furnishing TNCs with currently prohibited non-conviction information of applicant drivers. *Signed into law, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-1360 (Ting) – Charter-party carriers of passengers: individual fare exemption**

This bill would have allowed charter-party carriers of passengers, including TNCs, to charge individual fares, rather than a single group fare when providing carpool services. *Held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee without a hearing.*

**AB-1422 (Cooper) – Transportation network companies**

This bill provides that a TNC is eligible and required to participate in the Department of Motor Vehicles' pull-notice system to regularly check the driving records of a participating driver regardless of whether the participating driver is an employee or an independent contractor of the TNC. *Signed into law, Chapter 791, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-1574 (Chiu) – Vehicles of charter-party carriers of passengers and passenger stage corporations**

This bill requires the CPUC, beginning January 1, 2018, to verify with the Department of Motor Vehicles that the buses, limousines, and modified limousines used by a passenger stage corporation or a charter-party carrier has been reported and meet safety requirements. *Held at the Senate desk.*

**AB-2763 (Gatto) – Transportation network companies: personal vehicles**

This bill defines a personal vehicle as a vehicle that is used by a participating driver to provide prearranged transportation services for compensation, with a passenger capacity of eight persons or less, including the driver, that is owned, leased, rented for a term that does not exceed 30 days or otherwise authorized for use by the participating driver, meets all inspection and other safety requirements imposed by the CPUC, and is not a taxicab or a limousine. *Signed into law, Chapter 766, Statutes of 2016.*

## Water

**SB-1112 (Cannella) – Utilities: water and sewer systems corporations: transactions**

This bill authorizes the CPUC to retroactively approve sale transactions related to property valued at \$5 million or less of small water or sewer corporations when the utility fails to obtain prior approval from the CPUC. *Signed into law, Chapter 631, Statutes of 2016.*

**AB-401 (Dodd) – Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program**

This bill requires the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), in collaboration with the State Board of Equalization and relevant stakeholders, no later than January 1, 2018, to develop a plan for the funding and implementation of the Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program and report to the Legislature on its findings. *Signed into law, Chapter 662, Statutes of 2015.*

**AB-723 (Rendon) – Plumbing fixtures: WaterSense standards**

This bill requires the CEC, when setting plumbing fixture water efficiency standards, to consider the performance requirements established by the WaterSense standards set by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. *This bill was later amended to address an issue outside of the committee's jurisdiction.*

**AB-1180 (Cristina Garcia) – Rates and charges for water service: payment transaction fee**

This bill allows, until January 1, 2022, large water corporations to seek CPUC approval to operate a pilot program that evaluates customer interest in using credit cards, debit cards and prepaid cards to pay utility bills. *Signed into law, Chapter 254, Statutes of 2016.*