



Transforming Policy. Expanding Markets.

August 13, 2020

Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 95814

Dear Commissioner Shiroma,

Two years ago, the Legislature recognized, via Senate Bill 1339 (Stern, 2018), that microgrids are an important tool to ensure reliability, protect public safety, and build resiliency for the future. As the state prepares for another round of public power shut-offs and the coming wildfire season, microgrids remain a tried-and-true solution for boosting the availability of affordable, reliable, and clean power in communities and critical facilities vulnerable to natural disasters, aging infrastructure, and air pollution. We appreciate the Commission's ongoing consideration of regulatory and market pathways to accelerate microgrid deployment and the public benefits these technologies deliver. As part of this process, we encourage the Commission to develop tariffs and rules that embrace a broad range of microgrid solutions that maximize customer choice and accessibility, and simultaneously reduce the impacts of grid outages and air quality hazards.

Advanced Energy Economy is a national association of businesses working to make energy secure, clean and affordable. We are comprised of over 100 companies across the technology spectrum, including energy efficiency, solar, wind, storage, biofuels, electric vehicles, demand response, advanced metering, and enabling software. Our members also include companies that have made a commitment to power their operations with advanced energy and are working with us to break down the barriers that inhibit them from reaching their sustainability goals.

As a multi-technology organization representing a diverse range of innovative energy and transportation solutions, we support the development of microgrid regulations that provide market certainty and enable all forms of microgrid ownership to compete. An approach that utilizes the full breadth of innovative solutions and technologies will promote better public health outcomes and empower customers to choose the disaster preparedness strategies that work best for them, while contributing to the state's economic recovery by stimulating local, resilient infrastructure projects. Further, a robust approach to microgrid development in California also will help achieve the Commission's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting environmental justice in the electric sector.

Thank you for your commitment to increasing Californians' access to safe, reliable, and resilient advanced energy solutions.

Sincerely,

Emilie Olson  
Policy Principal, Advanced Energy Economy

cc: Marybel Batjer, President, California Public Utilities Commission  
Martha Guzman-Aceves, Commissioner  
Liane Randolph, Commissioner  
Clifford Rechtschaffen, Commissioner

