



**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
NARUC-NASEO TASK FORCE ON COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING  
TASK FORCE FEBRUARY 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT**

California has long been a leader in combatting climate change. The state’s policies, such as the commitment to meet retail sales and all state loads with 100% carbon free electricity by 2045 established in Senate Bill 100 (SB 100), will vastly increase deployment of renewable, efficient, and flexible resources at all scales, while also improving the health of Californians and our economy. Achieving these goals while maintaining electric system reliability and resilience to the impacts of climate change requires ongoing coordination among key agencies and balancing authorities in the state.

NARUC-NASEO Task Force activities consistently highlighted the value of and critical need for robust, systematic communication and collaboration across state energy agencies at multiple levels – from Commissioners to senior and professional staff – to work through increasingly complex issues and challenging timelines within the comprehensive approach required for planning and operation of a modern, reliable, carbon-free electric system.

The California Energy Commission (CEC), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and California Independent System Operator (California ISO) – together the Joint Agencies – each lead critical, interdependent forecasting, planning, and procurement processes that ensure future electric system reliability at lowest cost while supporting environmental goals. These processes include the CEC Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR); the CPUC Integrated Resource Plan Proceeding (IRP) and Distribution Resource Planning (DRP) process; and the California ISO Transmission Planning Process (TPP). Together with the California Air Resources Board, the agencies are in the final process of assessing various pathways to achieve the SB 100 decarbonization target and an initial assessment of costs and benefits.

In 2021, the Joint Agencies are actively engaged in continual improvements to the state’s single demand forecast, which informs resource adequacy requirements, procurement targets, and other energy planning activities. Collaborative discussions seek alignment around how to account rigorously for reduced energy demand from energy efficiency, growth of other distributed energy resources, impacts of climate change, and increasing electrification of transportation and heating end-uses within planning and procurement processes. Directed analytical work supports continuity between the forecast, infrastructure planning, and CA's transition to carbon-free electricity. The Joint Agencies are also exploring opportunities to share data and conduct analysis on the performance of distributed energy resources under various operating and climatic conditions, in order to better understand and leverage this important and rapidly growing sector.

