

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 2111 (Papan)

As Amended August 21, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Requires various actions to better incorporate uncertainty and risk in resource portfolio planning to inform transmission planning.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Deletes requirements for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to make publicly available on its website all nonconfidential input and output data used in the integrated resource planning and transmission planning processes and to use specified methods to account for planning uncertainties in the transmission-focused guidance.
- 2) Makes additional clarifying and restructuring changes.
- 3) Incorporates changes proposed by AB 2369 (Rogers) of the current legislative session to Public Utilities Code Section 454.57, if both bills are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

COMMENTS

California's clean energy goals. SB 100 (De León) Chapter 312, Statutes of 2018 established the state's goal of supplying 100% of retail electricity sales with renewable and zero-carbon resources by 2045. SB 1020 (Laird) Chapter 361, Statutes of 2022 added interim targets of 90% by 2035 and 95% by 2040. The 2021 SB 100 Joint Agency Report estimated that meeting these goals could require an average of six gigawatts (GW) of new renewable generation and energy storage annually.

Integrated Resource Planning (IRP). To plan for these resources, SB 350 (De León) Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015 requires load-serving entities (LSEs) to submit IRPs every two years. The CPUC uses these plans to identify the resources needed to meet the state's GHG reduction and reliability goals while minimizing costs. Publicly owned utilities submit their IRPs to the CEC. SB 887 (Becker, Chapter 358, Statutes of 2022) subsequently extended the planning horizon for resource portfolios used to inform transmission planning from 10 to 15 years.

Transmission Planning Process (TPP). In turn, the California Independent System operator (CAISO) uses resource portfolios developed through the CPUC's IRP process, along with CEC demand forecasts, to inform its annual TPP. Through this process, the CAISO identifies transmission projects needed to maintain reliability, support state policy goals, and reduce costs or congestion. The CAISO Board of Governors approves the resulting transmission plan. Beyond the annual TPP, the CAISO developed a 20-Year Transmission Outlook, in coordination with the CPUC and CEC, to examine longer-term transmission needs associated with the state's clean energy goals. In 2022, the three entities also entered into an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to better coordinate resource planning, transmission planning and development, procurement, permitting, and interconnection. SB 319 (McGuire, Chapter 390, Statutes of 2023) codified the MOU and requires it to be updated every five years.

At the federal level, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued Order 1920 in May 2024, requiring transmission providers to conduct long-term regional transmission planning over a horizon of at least 20 years using at least three plausible and diverse scenarios. FERC subsequently issued Orders 1920-A and 1920-B, which revised and clarified the rule. The order remains subject to ongoing federal litigation.

Energy-Only Resources. Within this planning framework, energy-only resources are generating resources interconnected to the grid without deliverability status. The CAISO has explored pathways through its Interconnection Process Enhancements to allow certain energy-only resources to seek deliverability after coming online when sufficient transmission capacity exists and network upgrades are not required. As a result, some projects may be able to begin operating as energy-only resources and later obtain deliverability if transmission capacity becomes available.

According to the Author

According to the author, : "AB 2111 modernizes California's transmission planning process by requiring the CPUC to account for a range of future scenarios and better align long-term demand projections with infrastructure and resource planning. This bill addresses limitations in the current process, which does not consistently account for sustained load growth, electrification, emerging technologies, or evolving system needs. By incorporating these factors into long-term planning, AB 2111 will help California maintain grid reliability, meet its climate goals, and provide long-term value for ratepayers."

Arguments in Support

AB 2111 is supported by community choice aggregators, environmental organizations, local governments, and clean energy advocates who contend that California's existing transmission planning framework does not adequately account for changing system conditions, load growth, electrification, and uncertainty in future energy demand and resource development.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the CPUC estimates ongoing costs of approximately \$1.8 million annually and one-time costs of approximately \$5.2 million over four years from ratepayer funds to ensure compliance with the bill's new requirements; analyze unaccounted-for transmission plan deliverability (TPD); develop, in coordination with the CEC and CAISO, an interagency website to centrally manage and publish integrated resource planning and transmission planning data; and work with load-serving entities (LSEs) to better understand which projects are receiving interconnection points through right-of-first-refusal offers in exchange for commercial interest points, among other activities. The CEC anticipates only minor costs associated with implementation of the bill.

VOTES:

ASM UTILITIES AND ENERGY: 17-0-1

YES: Petrie-Norris, Boerner, Calderon, Chen, Davies, Mark González, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Kalra, Papan, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Ta, Wallis, Zbur

ABS, ABST OR NV: Patterson

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-0-4

YES: Wicks, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache

ABS, ABST OR NV: Hoover, Dixon, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0-9

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

ABS, ABST OR NV: Arambula, Chen, Flora, Garcia, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

SENATE FLOOR: 40-0-0

YES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

UPDATED

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