

## ASSEMBLY THIRD READING

AB 2369 (Rogers)

As Amended May 18, 2026

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Modifies the transmission-focused information the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) provide, pursuant to existing law, to the California Independent System Operator (CAISO).

**Major Provisions**

Requires the CPUC and CEC, in providing transmission-focused information to CAISO, pursuant to current law, that helps CAISO to identify and approve transmission facilities needed to interconnect resources and reliably serve the needs of load centers, to identify cost-effective opportunities to increase the reliability contribution or mitigate congestion of planned or existing energy-only resources through transmission capacity expansions.

**COMMENTS**

*Coordinated Transmission Planning.* The Accelerating Renewable Energy Delivery Act requires the CPUC and CEC to provide annual transmission-focused guidance to CAISO regarding expected future renewable and zero-carbon resource portfolios. In 2022, the three energy entities formalized this coordination through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) integrating demand forecasting, resource planning, and transmission planning. As part of this process, the CEC develops long-term demand forecasts, the CPUC develops forward looking resource portfolios, and CAISO uses those portfolios to identify and approve needed transmission projects. The portfolios look at least 15 years ahead to provide adequate lead time for transmission planning, permitting, and construction.

*Transmission Constraints.* California has experienced increasing transmission constraints that limit the delivery of renewable and zero-carbon electricity across the grid. In some areas, renewable generation exceeds available transmission export capacity, preventing electricity from being fully delivered to other parts of the state. In other areas, limited transmission import capacity restricts the ability to bring available clean energy resources into load centers with high electricity demand. As electricity demand grows from transportation and building electrification, these transmission limitations may make it more difficult to deliver renewable and zero-carbon electricity where it is needed.

*Energy-Only Resources.* Some renewable and zero-carbon resources are unable to obtain "deliverability" because of limitations on the transmission system. Deliverability generally refers to whether electricity generated by a resource can be reliably transmitted to load under stressed system conditions. Resources that do not have deliverability are referred to as "energy-only" resources. These resources can still generate and sell electricity into wholesale energy markets, but transmission limitations may restrict when and where that electricity can be delivered across the grid. In some areas with significant renewable resource potential, existing transmission

limitations may also prevent new renewable generation and energy storage projects from obtaining deliverability needed to deliver electricity to demand centers.

*This Bill* seeks to incorporate consideration of energy-only resources into the existing CPUC-CEC-CAISO transmission planning process. The bill would require the CPUC and CEC to identify transmission expansion opportunities that could reduce congestion affecting planned or existing energy-only resources or improve their ability to contribute electricity to the grid.

### **According to the Author**

According to the author, "Today, most of California is functionally off-limits to new renewable energy development due to a lack of interconnection availability caused by transmission constraints. This is especially acute in Northern California, where there is great potential for expansion of wind and geothermal resources. Over 21 gigawatts of projects currently in the queue are functionally unable to be interconnected to the grid, and that's just in 2026. The state risks losing hundreds of GWs of projects over the next two decades if this challenge is not addressed, along with the associated ratepayer benefits, jobs, and reinvestment in our communities. A new approach to grid management can help resolve this problem by allowing vastly more clean energy resources to interconnect to the grid through a smarter approach to grid management. Simply put, California will not reach our ambitious clean energy goals without a better approach to interconnecting new projects to the grid."

### **Arguments in Support**

AB 2369 is supported by environmental organizations, clean energy developers, community choice aggregators, and renewable energy advocates who argue that existing transmission constraints and interconnection limitations are preventing significant amounts of clean energy resources from being developed and connected to the grid.

*Note: Support letters were submitted prior to the amendments adopted in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and may only partially reflect the bill as amended.*

### **Arguments in Opposition**

None on file.

## **FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, this bill would create new analytical responsibilities for the CPUC and, to a lesser extent, the CEC, related to identifying cost-effective opportunities to increase the reliability contribution of, or reduce congestion associated with, planned or existing energy-only resources through transmission capacity expansions. The resulting workload for both agencies is expected to be minor and absorbable.

## **VOTES**

### **ASM UTILITIES AND ENERGY: 16-0-2**

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

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Chen, Ta

**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 12-1-2**

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

**NO:** Tangipa

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Dixon, Ta

**UPDATED**

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