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CPS ENERGY

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ENVIRONMENTAL STAKEHOLDER MEETING

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REMOTELY VIA WEBEX

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11

APRIL 30, 2020

12

6:00 p.m.

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## 1 A P P E A R A N C E S

## 2 CPS ENERGY EMPLOYEES:

3 Ms. Paula Gold-Williams, President & CEO  
4 Mr. Cris Eugster, Chief Operating Officer  
5 Mr. Fred W. Bonewell, Chief Security Safety & Gas  
6 Solutions Officer  
7 Ms. Felecia Etheridge, Chief, Business Excellence  
8 Mr. Frank T. Almaraz, Chief Administrative &  
9 Business Development Officer  
10 Ms. Carolyn E. Shellman, Chief Legal Officer &  
11 General Counsel  
12 Mr. Rudy D. Garza, Interim Chief Customer  
13 Engagement Officer  
14 Ms. Kimberly Stoker, Senior Director, Planning &  
15 Compliance  
16 Mr. John W. Kosub, Senior Director, Energy  
17 Portfolio Analytics  
18 Ms. Angela D. Rodriguez, Director, Climate Strategy  
19 & Sustainability  
20 Mr. Andrew J. Higgins, Senior Director, Product  
21 Development  
22 Mr. Benjamin L. Ethridge, Senior Vice President,  
23 Power Generation  
24 Mr. Cory P. Kuchinsky, Interim Vice President,  
25 Strategic Pricing &  
Enterprise Risk Management  
Mr. Curt D. Brockmann, Interim Vice President,  
Compliance, Ethics &  
Facility Master Planning  
Mr. Richard Lujan, Senior Director, Gas Solutions  
Ms. Krista R. Davis, Interim Director, Energy  
Supply & Market Operations  
Mr. Julius Moore, Interim Director, Gas Growth &  
Operations Compliance  
Mr. Gregory D. Lee, Interim Chief of Staff, Gas  
Services & Continuous  
Improvement  
Mr. John C. Leal, Director, Local Government  
Relations  
Mr. Louis S. Labatt, Senior Manager, Contractor  
Services  
Mr. James A. Carter, Manager, Special Assignments  
Ms. Kathleen S. Garcia, Vice President, Government  
& Regulatory Affairs &  
Public Policy

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Ms. Ann O. Kinnard, Interim Director Chief of  
Staff, Chief Customer  
Engagement Officer

PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS:

Ms. Christina Mann	Ms. Meredith McGuire
Mr. Terry Burns	Mr. Darby Riley
Mr. Mario Bravo	Mr. David Walter, CAC
Mr. Greg Harman	Ms. Diana Lopez
Ms. DeeDee Belmares	Mr. Adrian Shelley
Ms. Kaiba White	Mr. Abe Gallegos
Ms. Emily Speed	Ms. Eunice Lopez
Mr. Russell Seal	Mr. Harjot Kaur
Mr. Anatolii Kokoza	Ms. Celia Valles

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AGENDA ITEM #1: WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

1  
2  
3 MS. K. GARCIA: Again, my name is Kathy  
4 Garcia, Vice President of Governmental Relations,  
5 Regulatory Affairs & Public Policy at CPS Energy and I  
6 will be your facilitator this evening. I am  
7 spearheading this with Ann Kinnard who is helping us  
8 with the mechanics of the WebEx in the background. So  
9 we'll go ahead -- I'm going to start with a -- a couple  
10 of announcements, and then we'll turn it into the  
11 agenda.

\*\*\*\*\*

AGENDA ITEM #2: SAFETY MESSAGE

12  
13  
14 MS. K. GARCIA: But up front, I just want  
15 to mention to everybody that we are recording this  
16 meeting, it is being audibly reported and transcribed.  
17 And even though we are on a WebEx we continue to treat  
18 our safety messages as a first priority, so before we  
19 proceed any further Kim Stoker is going to provide us  
20 with a short safety message. Kim?

21 MS. K. STOKER: Good afternoon. Can you  
22 hear me?

23 MS. K. GARCIA: Yes. Good, Kim. Thank  
24 you.

25 MS. K. STOKER: Okay. In order to stay

1 safe, we should all stay diligent about wearing face  
2 coverings when appropriate. Many places will not let  
3 you enter without one. We need to continue to wash  
4 hands for 20 seconds with soap and water very  
5 frequently; and when it's not available use hand  
6 sanitizer. And we also need to continue our social  
7 distancing of at least six feet. We will get through  
8 this together.

9 That's the end of my safe- -- safety  
10 message. Zero harm through safety. Thank you.

11 \*\*\*\*\*

12 AGENDA ITEM #1 (CONT'D): INTERIM ESG TRI-CHAIRS,  
13 INTRODUCTIONS & DUTIES

14 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Kim.

15 As we all know, this pandemic has created  
16 many challenges while also presenting us with many  
17 opportunities to conduct our business in different ways,  
18 and conducting the stakeholder WebEx falls into that  
19 category, so please bear with us as we do our best to  
20 conduct today's meeting in an orderly and effective  
21 manner.

22 Prior to this evening's meeting, we shared  
23 with you a WebEx user guide. So we hope that for those  
24 of you that aren't yet familiar with WebEx that that has  
25 proven to be helpful. As we've gone through, every

1 participant that has registered has been identified, so  
2 we thank you for your cooperation on that. We have  
3 provided a list of the CPS Energy participants to you  
4 all ahead of this meeting. We have done that in our  
5 past meetings in person to reduce the time it takes for  
6 introductions and spend more time on our conversations.

7 I do want to mention that Paula  
8 Gold-Williams, our President and CEO, is on this WebEx  
9 today, as is our senior chiefs. We also have David  
10 Walter, our Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee,  
11 and many CPS Energy executives who are interested in the  
12 conversation.

13 All participants will be muted and we will  
14 ask that you use the "raise your hand" feature that can  
15 be found within the WebEx chat if you'd like to be  
16 called upon. We ask that you remain muted unless you're  
17 speaking just to reduce the background interference.  
18 And for Bandwidth purposes, most, if not all of us, will  
19 have our video off unless we are speaking. So we'll --  
20 we'll kindly ask that you do that, unless you're  
21 speaking, we would love to also hear and see you.

22 Because we are recording the meeting,  
23 we're going to ask that you identify yourself when  
24 you're speaking, and, as the moderator, I'll do my best  
25 to try to remind those that are -- are wanting to come

1 forward to speak.

2           Prior to today's meeting, we shared  
3 resource material to aid in our conversation, and we  
4 will do our best to pull those up on the screen as  
5 appropriate so all participants can view them as they're  
6 being discussed. The -- the slides were numbered. The  
7 slides and the pages have numbers on them that should  
8 coincide perfectly. So if you want us to reference a  
9 particular slide mentioning the page number will also  
10 help us.

11           Now, we'd like to offer an opportunity for  
12 the Environmental Stakeholder Group, the participants  
13 that are on the call, to introduce themselves and we  
14 certainly welcome the introductions and messages of the  
15 tri-chairs. So with that, I will turn it over to  
16 Chrissy, Diana and DeeDee.

17           And we recognize that it might take just a  
18 few minutes just to get off mute, so -- and I -- I'm  
19 looking for opening remarks from the tri-chairs.

20           MS. K. WHITE: DeeDee, if you're talking,  
21 it looks like you're still muted.

22           MS. D. BELMARES: Okay. Hi, everybody.  
23 My name is DeeDee Belmares, I am with Public Citizen,  
24 and I am also one of the tri-chairs.

25           Diana, you want to go next?

1 MS. K. GARCIA: The mute feature can be a  
2 little tricky. You'll have to make sure, if you're on a  
3 phone and a computer, that you are double un-muted, and  
4 then Ann, who is also helping us in the background here,  
5 can also try to help where she can with that.

6 MS. D. LOPEZ: I think you could see my  
7 video. Can you hear me?

8 MS. K. GARCIA: Yes. There you are.

9 MS. D. LOPEZ: Oh, perfect. Thank you.  
10 I'm Diana Lopez. I'm here from San  
11 Antonio and I'm here to support, mainly, the in- --  
12 inclusivity and offering any type of agreements and  
13 things like that towards the group, especially with such  
14 a group like this that has multiple stakeholders.

15 MS. K. GARCIA: Excellent. Thank you.  
16 Thank you for those comments.

17 Any others as we open?

18 MS. D. BELMARES: Can we go ahead and ask  
19 if we have everybody from the environmental  
20 stakeholders, the rest of their group, go ahead and  
21 introduce themselves? I'm waiting for Chrissy.

22 MS. M. McGUIRE: Hi, I'm --

23 MS. K. GARCIA: Do you want -- Go ahead.

24 MS. M. McGUIRE: I'm Meredith McGuire for  
25 the local Sierra Club.

1 MS. K. WHITE: Kaiba White with Public  
2 Citizens.

3 MR. A. SHELLEY: And Adrian Shelley with  
4 Public Citizen. Hi, everybody.

5 MR. T. BURNS: Terry Burns, the local  
6 Sierra Club.

7 MS. K. GARCIA: Are there any others on  
8 the call that would like to introduce -- I do -- I do  
9 mention, on WebEx we can see a list of the participants.

10 MR. G. HARMAN: I don't know if I'm muted  
11 or not at this point. This is Greg.

12 MS. K. GARCIA: I can hear you, Greg.

13 MR. G. HARMAN: Oh, okay. Great. Well,  
14 I'm just going to step in for Chrissy just to thank you  
15 all and to thank everybody from the community who took  
16 the time to join this call. I know everybody is en- --  
17 engaged and -- and deep and frequently stressful work  
18 these last several weeks, couple of months, and I'm  
19 really looking forward to this conversation advancing us  
20 a little bit further along the road into kind of  
21 integrating interests for a -- a durable sustainable  
22 fossil-free future, and so thank you everyone for being  
23 here. Greg at the Sierra Club.

24 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Greg.  
25 Appreciate that.

1                   Is there any others that wanted to just  
2 introduce? If not, we will move forward.

3                   \*\*\*\*\*

4                   AGENDA ITEM #3: MEETING AGREEMENTS FOR  
5                   RESPECTFUL DISCUSSION

6                   MS. K. GARCIA: Okay. Also, the  
7 tri-chairs had asked for an opportunity to discuss  
8 respectful discussion, and I wanted to turn it back over  
9 to the tri-chairs if there is some messages that you all  
10 would like to share.

11                   MS. C. MANN: Yes.

12                   MS. K. GARCIA: Hi, Chrissy.

13                   MS. C. MANN: So I remember what I -- I  
14 just messed up. I don't know why.

15                   MS. K. GARCIA: That's all right. You're  
16 here now.

17                   MS. C. MANN: I am -- I really thought it  
18 was at 6:30. I am really sorry, everybody. I had a  
19 6:30 last night and -- Anyway.

20                   Yeah. So do we have Diana on?

21                   MS. K. GARCIA: Yes. So we have actually  
22 heard from a couple of your participants. As well as  
23 Greg has said a few opening words and Diana and DeeDee  
24 have also --

25                   MS. C. MANN: Great.

1 MS. K. GARCIA: -- made some opening  
2 remarks --

3 MS. C. MANN: Yeah.

4 MS. K. GARCIA: Now for you.

5 MS. C. MANN: Yeah. On -- on the -- on  
6 this part on -- on meeting -- meeting norms and meeting  
7 engagement I was going to -- I was actually going to  
8 defer to Diana. She wanted to -- to speak more on this  
9 because she's well steeped in facilitating meetings and  
10 so...

11 MS. D. LOPEZ: Of course. Thank you. Let  
12 me make sure. It's the first time I've used this  
13 platform so I just want to make sure everybody hears.

14 And so I think for one, since this is also  
15 the first time that we have met, I think having  
16 agreements and having -- make sure there's clear  
17 communication could be very important in moving forward  
18 and making sure that everybody gets what they need out  
19 of today's meeting. And so a few things that'll make  
20 that a lot easier is: One speaker at a time. Usually  
21 when we're in the big room, we keep stack, but for this  
22 purpose, if we could, use the raise -- "raise your hand"  
23 voice or the "comment" box. If you have any questions,  
24 or if you need to step in, or anything like that, that  
25 would be very helpful in terms of communication and not

1 overstepping on anybody's time.

2           The other piece is ensuring that, as we  
3 speak, we are being as inclusive as possible and not  
4 burdening or throwing down anybody -- any other --  
5 anybody else. So we're asking everybody not to use any  
6 racist, homophobic, transphobic behavior in this  
7 meeting; and I think this is something that's extremely  
8 important in terms of ensuring the inclusiveness and  
9 diversity of the group and making sure everybody is  
10 comfortable enough to speak. And that's really what we  
11 want. We want to have a good, honest conversation and  
12 using language such as that really is -- is not  
13 inclusive and really ensures that certain populations  
14 are left out or stereotyped.

15           Another one is Step Up, Step Back. So  
16 this is the one that's used primarily in meeting spaces  
17 to ensure that everybody has a time to speak. So if you  
18 find yourself or find somebody else taking a lot of  
19 space in terms of speaking or taking a long time to  
20 reach their -- their message, I think it's -- is  
21 important to -- to really ask yourself why am I talking,  
22 why am I not talking, and encourages everybody to  
23 participate within the meeting.

24           And then the last one, and I think is a  
25 very important one, is the jargon finger. So

1 particularly for our -- our work, it's -- it could be  
2 tech- -- technical and there could be a lot of acronyms,  
3 so ensuring that there's opportunities to raise, what we  
4 call, a jargon finger. In this moment we're using the  
5 "comment" box and the "chat" box to ensure that  
6 everybody is understanding the language that -- that we  
7 are using at this meeting today. And so those are a few  
8 of the things that I think would make this meeting a lot  
9 more, really successful and ensuring that everybody  
10 at -- everybody really is able to communicate and  
11 understand what is happening.

12                   There is a question here that says "How  
13 would I raise my virtual hand," and --

14                   MS. K. GARCIA: So -- so when you -- on  
15 your computer, it might be different ways with different  
16 devices.

17                   But, for instance, Dr. McGuire, I think  
18 you might be on a computer, so scrolling over the bottom  
19 of the screen will raise bubbles/circles and within one  
20 of those circles there is a "chat" feature, and you can  
21 go into the "chat" feature and that allows you to raise  
22 your hand -- there's a little hand that comes up by your  
23 name -- and then you can lower it. Or you can just type  
24 a question in. And we're going to do our best to -- to  
25 call on people in the order which they raise their hands

1 and ask questions, but we may get -- we may get a little  
2 bumpy here and there, but we're going to do our best to  
3 follow that. So I hope everybody can see how to do  
4 that.

5 MS. D. LOPEZ: Of course. Thank you,  
6 everybody.

7 And as we move forward, you know, this is  
8 a new platform for everybody, so also asking for  
9 patience and asking if there's anybody who needs further  
10 type of communication, just let us know and we're here  
11 to support that.

12 MS. C. MANN: Thank you, Diana. I really  
13 appreciate it. And again, I'm really sorry I was late  
14 for this meeting that I have been hoping for, for days,  
15 so... but back -- back to you, Kathy.

16 MS. K. GARCIA: Diana, I was just going to  
17 say too, we -- we hear your message and we support those  
18 principles. Appreciate you bringing them forward.

19 As part of our People First foundation we  
20 believe in having a forum of courteous, constructive and  
21 considerate discussion that is truly devoid of personal  
22 attacks, verbally or in writing, and we, like you, like  
23 your -- your stakeholder group, value having an  
24 inclusive environment and appreciate individual  
25 differences because it fosters a culture where everyone

1 is accepted and heard. So thank you again for bringing  
2 those comments forward.

3 \*\*\*\*\*

4 AGENDA ITEMS #4 & #5: REVISIT PURPOSE OF  
5 MEETING, REVIEW OF AGENDA

6 MS. K. GARCIA: Chrissy, on the agenda --

7 MS. C. MANN: Uh-huh.

8 MS. K. GARCIA: -- the tri-chairs had  
9 mentioned wanting to revisit the purpose of the meeting.  
10 So that is the next item that we have on the agenda, and  
11 I -- I wanted to give an opportunity for comments on  
12 that item.

13 MS. C. MANN: Thanks, Kathy.

14 On this one, I think it's just -- we can  
15 maybe phrase it a little differently, like, just review  
16 or -- or make sure we're on the same page.

17 I know we had gone through some times  
18 where really -- we're not really getting out of this  
19 meeting what you think we want out of it and so just an  
20 opportunity to just check in as a group with each other.  
21 When I see -- when I think about the purpose of this  
22 meeting and what folks from the environmental  
23 stakeholder group are looking for is really open  
24 dialogue on specific issues, and moving away from,  
25 again, like, presentate- -- like, heavy data-intensive

1 presentations that we didn't have a lot -- whole lot of  
2 input in and asks related to, and we -- I think that  
3 that in particular has progressed really well. So we  
4 really appreciate that. And giving us materials in  
5 advance and able to think about some stuff ahead of time  
6 and really structure the -- the meeting itself as a --  
7 an opportunity for us to learn what y'all are thinking  
8 and, maybe, set up next steps for some of the -- you  
9 know, the work that we do and the advocacy that we're  
10 going to continue to do in the community and with y'all.

11           DeeDee, do you want -- or Diana, did y'all  
12 want to add anything in there that I missed? Or, quite  
13 frankly, anyone on the -- that has joined?

14           MS. D. LOPEZ: No. I think --

15           MS. C. MANN: (Inaudible.)

16           MS. D. LOPEZ: Yeah. I think it's -- it's  
17 important to revisit some of these pieces as we actually  
18 move -- move through a lot of our work together. I know  
19 we've -- we've been meeting for a very long time.

20           I was at first meetings almost ten years  
21 ago and, now, coming back in -- into this space and so I  
22 think it's incredibly important to -- to remind  
23 ourselves of why we're -- we're present and ensure that  
24 we're focused on some of the pieces that -- that we want  
25 to move forward, especially around sustainability,

1 especially around the things that are going to protect  
2 our community and ensure that we move forward in a  
3 healthy, safe way.

4 MS. C. MANN: And, Kathy, did y'all want  
5 to respond to any of that, that we just said or is  
6 that -- does that -- do y'all feel like we are on the  
7 same page?

8 MS. K. GARCIA: I think we appreciate  
9 hearing your comments. We're glad to know that these  
10 meetings continue to evolve into meetings that you find  
11 beneficial and we'll always continue to try to find ways  
12 to make them more effective and more productive each  
13 time.

14 \*\*\*\*\*

15 AGENDA ITEM #6: RATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

16 MS. K. GARCIA: So, now, what I'd like to  
17 do -- I'm just going to pause. We are at a point now  
18 where we can turn to some of the agenda items. And I  
19 know a priority discussion is the right -- Rate Advisory  
20 Committee. I just want to offer -- we have, as I  
21 mentioned, our President and CEO, Paula Gold-Williams,  
22 and a number of our senior chiefs on the call today. So  
23 I just want to offer an opportunity, if they have any  
24 opening remarks, and otherwise we will transition into  
25 the Rate Advisory Committee. So I'll pause for just a

1 moment.

2 MS. P. GOLD-WILLIAMS: Kathy, this is  
3 Paula. No -- no, ma'am. I don't really have anything.

4 I want to listen, and -- and I think there  
5 were some really good topics, and I saw some of the  
6 preliminary information we even got today. So, no, I --  
7 I just want to just jump into it and -- and listen.

8 MS. K. GARCIA: Okay. Thank you, Paula.

9 So one reminder before we start our -- our  
10 discussion, we will try to make sure everybody is muted  
11 just to cut down on background noise. If you can, try  
12 to use the hand feature or as also has been directed, in  
13 the "chat" box you can also type questions. And again,  
14 we're going to do all we can to monitor that activity.  
15 We want this to be conversational, yet it's a -- we have  
16 to find ways to do that effectively here.

17 So with that, we're going to turn to the  
18 discussion on the Rate Advisory Committee. And we have  
19 a -- a very brief update, but -- but there has been  
20 activity occurring on this item and, I believe, Carolyn  
21 Shellman, our Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel,  
22 is going to provide a brief update, and then we'll -- we  
23 would welcome input and thoughts. Carolyn?

24 MS. C. SHELLMAN: Okay. I'm un-muted, I  
25 think.

1           Good to not see everyone but know that we  
2 can exchange information here. And I have been doing a  
3 lot of work on the Rate Advisory Committee. I know that  
4 you all will remember that it was at the end of January,  
5 on January 27th, that Mayor Nirenberg at the Board of  
6 Trustees meeting raised the -- his request that our  
7 Board consider creating a Rate Advisory Committee to  
8 review the utility's current and future rate structure  
9 and its generation planning. The Board, I think,  
10 believes that it's critical for CPS Energy customers to  
11 be informed about and given an opportunity to provide  
12 input about the utility's rate design and the generation  
13 assets that the utility owns.

14           On March 2nd, the Board adopted a  
15 resolution expressing support for the concept of this  
16 Rate Advisory Committee and directed the utility's  
17 management team to develop a committee framework to  
18 achieve the public input objective that the Mayor's  
19 proposal had raised, and Felecia Etheridge, and I, and  
20 Rudy Garza, now, have been doing work to create a  
21 framework for this Rate Advisory Committee.

22           The COVID-19 issue kind of interrupted  
23 some of our Board meetings and I think that that is one  
24 reason we've not had discussions about it in depth.  
25 Paula's tried to keep everybody alerted to the fact that

1 we're still working on it, but we haven't had any kind  
2 of robust discussion at the Board meeting. But don't be  
3 concerned, we are working on it.

4           We released on March 11th an RFP to seek  
5 proposals for a rate consultant to work with the  
6 leadership team and the Board of Trustees and the Rate  
7 Advisory Committee. The responses to that RFP have come  
8 in. We had canvassed over 300 different kinds of  
9 consulting businesses to try to make sure that we got a  
10 wide array of responses and we got a number of them. I  
11 am one of the people that is reviewing those responses,  
12 and there's some really good ones there from some really  
13 capable respondees. So we're reviewing those, and  
14 within the next few weeks, we'll develop some kind of  
15 recommendation about who should be hired.

16           The chosen consultant will provide subject  
17 matter expertise on rate design and cost, and really  
18 what our utility's rate setting process is, and feedback  
19 and guidance to the Rate Advisory Committee. We will  
20 key up issues for the Rate Advisory Committee's  
21 consideration, take input from what the committee thinks  
22 it wants to talk about and do everything we can to have  
23 lots of public feedback, transparency, engagement,  
24 public input through the committee process.

25           So I'm excited about it and look forward

1 to being able to hear what you all think are good things  
2 about the ones that you've seen at SAWS, for example,  
3 and what you would like to see in ours.

4 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Carolyn.

5 We will go ahead and open up the  
6 discussion. So if you have questions, comments,  
7 feedback we'd really welcome hearing them. I'll remind  
8 as you start talking to just announce your name for the  
9 recording. And again, we're monitoring hands up or  
10 chat.

11 I can see DeeDee has a question.

12 MS. D. BELMARES: Yes. I might -- I  
13 actually might have a -- a couple of questions.

14 So as y'all are for- -- formulating  
15 y'all's ideas or -- and with the help of a consultant on  
16 forming this Rate Advisory Committee, at what point does  
17 the public come in to having their input on what a  
18 community-driven Rate Advisory Committee should look  
19 like?

20 And I sent over our recommendations for  
21 what we see a Rate Advisory Committee to be, so I'm  
22 hoping everybody had an opportunity to -- to see that.

23 So our con- -- you know, the -- the -- the  
24 biggest -- the biggest concern being is that -- that the  
25 public have every opportunity to weigh in on this.

1 MS. C. SHELLMAN: Well, DeeDee, this is  
2 Carolyn. I would -- I would say that I -- I did have a  
3 chance to read it. I didn't have a lot of time to spend  
4 much time on it, but I thought you had some really  
5 thoughtful ideas; and there was nothing in there that I  
6 think is outside the realm of the kinds of things we're  
7 looking at. We'll just have to see what -- really, what  
8 the Board and the Mayor are wanting in terms of how they  
9 want us to pick the people, how they want to pick the  
10 people who are going to be on it. And I am confident  
11 it's going to be a very open, transparent process and  
12 that there will be lots of opportunity for the people  
13 who aren't on the committee to still come and attend the  
14 meetings and provide comments.

15 MS. M. McGUIRE: Hello. This is Meredith.

16 MS. K. GARCIA: Hi, Meredith. I was just  
17 going to make sure that DeeDee got -- got all her  
18 questions out.

19 DeeDee, that good for now, I mean, for the  
20 moment?

21 Okay, Meredith. Please go ahead.

22 MS. M. McGUIRE: Okay. I -- I agree with  
23 the whole issue about how important it is to have a lot  
24 of this be open and transparent, and I think that the  
25 more that the community learns about what CPS Energy is

1 doing -- I think that's part of the reason why in the  
2 long run it's going to be a win-win for CPS Energy to  
3 have more people understanding more of -- of what you're  
4 dealing with and so forth.

5           So my comment is about some of the things  
6 that SAWS is doing right that I hope that you will also  
7 copy. But then also some of the things that SAWS is  
8 doing less well and I hope that you find a better way of  
9 handling things at CPS Energy. I hope they find a way  
10 of handling it better.

11           Part of the whole issue is the importance  
12 of getting enough real information to the committee so  
13 that they aren't just talking about abstractions but  
14 that they're getting some real data and so forth to look  
15 at; and also the importance of really engaging the --  
16 the committee in a way that they learn enough to be able  
17 to make really useful advice to the -- the CPS Energy.

18           I've watched several different committees  
19 at SAWS and -- very impressed with some of them. I'm --  
20 I'm less impressed with the way the Rate Advisory  
21 Committee is operating right now. I'm hoping that they  
22 can improve it. But I think that the kinds of things  
23 that they have done really well in terms of having  
24 well-informed committees on some of the other committees  
25 have been very, very impressive, and I for -- certainly,

1 have come to have a great deal more respect for SAWS. I  
2 hope that I can learn a great deal more about CPS Energy  
3 and see you all really, you know, shine.

4 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Meredith.  
5 Appreciate those comments.

6 In the "chat" box we have two comments, so  
7 I'll proceed, first; and then, Dr. Burns, I'll come to  
8 you next.

9 Chrissy has asked "Will there be two  
10 consultants: One to help shape the RAC and one to  
11 provide technical expertise, rate design and revenue  
12 requirements? Or is there just one expected consultant  
13 and will that consultant do both?"

14 MS. C. SHELLMAN: Chrissy, I -- I will try  
15 to answer that.

16 I think we're trying to find a group of  
17 people, not just one consultant but a consulting group,  
18 that can provide several different kinds of help to us,  
19 including what you've asked for. I mean, I -- I think  
20 that Dr. McGuire made a good point that teaching enough  
21 to the committee for them to really understand it is  
22 going to be important, and so we've got to make sure  
23 that all the things we're talking about are things that  
24 the committee feels comfortable enough with to really  
25 express opinions about and ask questions about. So I'm

1 hoping that we can find someone like that.

2 Felecia is working on this much -- as much  
3 as I am. She may have something to offer there.

4 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Yeah. Thank you,  
5 Carolyn. This is Felecia.

6 Primarily, to your question, we are really  
7 looking for a -- a consultant to help us with the  
8 technical aspects. The Board has -- really has the --  
9 the brief to -- to structure the RAC and determine how  
10 the RAC is shaped not a consultant.

11 MS. C. SHELLMAN: Oh, that's right. I --  
12 I misunderstood that. That is exactly right.

13 MS. K. GARCIA: Terry Burns, you -- you  
14 have raised a -- a comment in the "chat" box.

15 MR. T. BURNS: I need to be un-muted.

16 MS. K. GARCIA: We can hear you, sir.

17 MR. T. BURNS: Meredith referred to SAWS  
18 and I've participated in some of those meetings as well,  
19 and there was a recent opinion piece online from one of  
20 the SAWS consultants, let's see, Professor Manny Teodoro  
21 at Texas A&M and he's talking about water shut-offs in  
22 this crisis, and SAWS, of course, has temporarily  
23 suspended those as have you. But he's also addressing  
24 the larger issues of affordability so I just sent you  
25 the link.

1 I think it would be very interesting, as  
2 we, hopefully, go down this path of a RAC and looking at  
3 generation planning and rate structures, to consider his  
4 point that bail outs, essentially, and administrative  
5 procedures can be cumbersome and difficult, especially  
6 in crisis to ramp up, and pricing really can be key both  
7 as a signal to excess use and also to help people who  
8 are in a dis- -- distressed situation.

9 He has a simple proposal that the federal  
10 government use the EPA grant structure that already  
11 exists to simply look at the community percent poverty  
12 rate and give that percent of budget to the utility to  
13 help out in this situation. Of course, that depends on  
14 federal action, which we don't have, but I think it's a  
15 very interesting idea that you should look at. Thank  
16 you.

17 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Terry. You  
18 mentioned sending a link?

19 MR. T. BURNS: I've put it in the chat.

20 MS. K. GARCIA: Okay.

21 MR. T. BURNS: I hope you -- If you can't  
22 find it, e-mail me, I'll send it to you again, any of  
23 you at CPS. Thanks.

24 MS. K. GARCIA: That would be great.

25 We -- we want to make sure we obtain that from you.

1 I believe, DeeDee, did you have an  
2 additional question?

3 MS. D. BELMARES: I did.

4 I just -- I just want to clarify. So the  
5 Rate Advisory Committee and how it's going to look, how  
6 the -- the members will be elected will all be put  
7 together, and then y'all will present it to the  
8 community for feedback, input? How -- how is that going  
9 to work? Are we just going to roll it out and say, hey,  
10 here's our Rate Advisory Committee?

11 I'm still not understanding, like,  
12 where -- where the public comes into this process.

13 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: This is Felecia.

14 You know, that -- that's a -- a question  
15 that we have asked ourselves how -- exactly how that  
16 should work. We always want the feedback from all our  
17 community and our stakeholders. Yes. The Board has a  
18 lot of oversight over the committee. But, as you well  
19 know, DeeDee, the Board's very committed to us being  
20 transparent, and so I am sure that they will ask us that  
21 same question about making sure that we give the  
22 community and stakeholders a chance to weigh in on it.

23 MS. D. BELMARES: Okay.

24 MS. K. GARCIA: Chrissy, I noted you --  
25 noted you have a follow-up question?

1 MS. C. MANN: Yeah. So thanks for the  
2 information on the RFP related to the RAC.

3 I think that what may me -- might be  
4 helpful for me and, probably, others is understanding --  
5 another two or three RFPs were issued around the same  
6 time. So there's one related to, what I'm hearing from  
7 Felecia, is, technical consultancy around rate design,  
8 et cetera, for the RAC; and then there was the RFP  
9 related to the FlexPOWER Bundle, and, maybe, that's the  
10 one I had in the back of my head when I was thinking  
11 about somebody to help -- or a consultant to help with  
12 process and stakeholder engagement.

13 Is there a third one? And can someone  
14 talk about how these might work -- how these different  
15 consultants and processes might work together? As  
16 you'll note, in -- in the comments that DeeDee shared  
17 yesterday that one of -- one of the things that we're  
18 looking for is some interrelation, because it's obvious  
19 that there is one, between resource planning, your  
20 generation assets, all of that, and rates, rate design,  
21 and how all that fits together, right? And since -- and  
22 mini processes you might have a resource planning  
23 process that will feed into then, effectively, a rate  
24 case, whether you can review sort of the -- the -- the  
25 cost-effectiveness of those decisions as part of the

1 rate case.

2 So without me getting any wordier than  
3 that, and I apologize for how wordy that was, what are  
4 the RFPs that are out there? And this ongoing  
5 stakeholder processes, how do y'all see them working  
6 together?

7 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Hey, Chrissy. This is  
8 Felecia. Let me clarify something I've said, because  
9 I -- I -- I directly answered one of your questions  
10 without answering it fulsomely.

11 So, yes, we have the RFP for the RAC where  
12 we're looking for technical assistance. As well as that  
13 RFP also has asked for someone to help us with  
14 stakeholder engagement, as well as some facilitation.  
15 So I -- I -- I didn't clearly answer the original  
16 question. I answered part of your question about the  
17 technical expertise. It also has a -- a part in there  
18 about stakeholder engagement and facilitation.

19 MS. C. MANN: And that's separate from the  
20 POWER Bundle -- sorry -- FlexPOWER Bundle RFP, right?

21 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Yes.

22 MS. C. MANN: Okay.

23 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: So the RAC RFP was a  
24 separate RFP.

25 MR. C. EUGSTER: Hey -- hey, Kathy, can

1 you hear me?

2 MS. K. GARCIA: Hi, Cris. Yes, I can.

3 MR. C. EUGSTER: All right. Yeah. Let --  
4 Hey, Chrissy, how are you?

5 MS. C. MANN: Good, Cris. How are you?

6 MR. C. EUGSTER: Good. Let me just see if  
7 I can -- hold on just a minute. I'm going to -- I'll  
8 talk to the FlexPOWER Bundle RFP.

9 We -- we did a RFP for our consultants,  
10 we're reviewing a bunch of folks that have kind of bid  
11 on that. But, really, the -- the role of that  
12 consultant is to help us shape that -- that big, you  
13 know, 900-megawatt solar RFP with an all -- all-source  
14 all-resource component to -- to firm up the solar  
15 component to it. So that's really going to be the  
16 primary function of that RFP. Now, of course, they're  
17 going to have to work closely with the other pieces in  
18 this and that -- in my view, that would include the RAC.

19 I think one of the things that we want to  
20 think about the RFP on the FlexPOWER Bundle is, how do  
21 we have more of a DG focus on it (distributed  
22 generation) so that it has much more local impact,  
23 there's potential jobs that could happen here locally.  
24 So, really, that consultant's going to help us think  
25 through, you know, how to shape that RFP to meet those

1 objectives.

2 MS. K. WHITE: This is Kaiba. I'll just  
3 say I'm really glad to see that change of direction.

4 MS. K. GARCIA: Kaiba, I was just going to  
5 mention just your name in case it didn't quite pick that  
6 up. Thank you for the comment.

7 I don't see additional questions at the  
8 moment in the chat. Is -- Are there any others that  
9 would like to raise comments or provide additional  
10 feedback?

11 (No audible response.)

12 MS. K. GARCIA: Okay. Then with that,  
13 again, we stand ready to continue to hear from you all  
14 as you continue to think on this and share ideas. We  
15 can continue to talk more on the RAC as ideas come up.

16 To the tri-chairs, we've made a commitment  
17 that we would go wherever you wanted to go within the  
18 meeting for the -- based on the agenda. So I'll look to  
19 you on would you like to continue further on this or  
20 transition to another item on the agenda?

21 MS. C. MANN: It sounds like we're ready  
22 to transition. I am -- kind of related to my last  
23 question, and there may be things that relate back, and  
24 I -- Actually, I'll ask one question for folks. I know  
25 that we heard a comment at the Board meeting related to

1 like the Citizens Advisory Committee and the RAC, and I  
2 didn't know if anyone wanted to add anything, from our  
3 perspective there, to -- to sort of -- it doesn't feel  
4 like we need to have that conversation, because y'all  
5 are kind of moving full-steam ahead on the RAC, but just  
6 sort of reiterating the -- the importance and value of  
7 having a specific committee addressing these issues.  
8 Those public with full public engagement and as  
9 transparent which appear -- seems to have a slightly  
10 different purpose than -- or significantly different  
11 purpose than the existing Citizens Advisory Committee.  
12 So I just wanted to acknowledge that that conversation  
13 had come up and open it up for folks that might want to  
14 say something about that, because I -- because I know  
15 that that had been -- we had been having that  
16 conversation on this side.

17 MS. K. WHITE: This is Kaiba again.

18 I just -- I did have one question in terms  
19 of -- and -- and I'm sorry if I missed it -- the -- the  
20 timing of -- is there a time defined for these -- to  
21 start accepting proposals?

22 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Proposals for the RAC  
23 or --

24 MS. K. WHITE: Yes.

25 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: -- the things -- the

1 issue -- Oh, for the RAC.

2 MS. K. WHITE: Well --

3 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Kaiba, we --

4 MS. K. WHITE: Well, no, no. No. Sorry.

5 I just -- Okay. I -- I -- I'll hold that question.

6 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Okay.

7 MS. K. WHITE: I mean, if -- if we're --  
8 if we're just talking about the committee then -- then I  
9 will -- I will hold.

10 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Oh, okay.

11 MR. T. BURNS: This is Terry. I'd like to  
12 make a follow up to Chrissy's comment.

13 I would say that the suggestion that the  
14 Citizens Advisory Committee as currently formulated at  
15 CPS it takes the place of this proposed committee, I  
16 reject completely. I think there's no relationship from  
17 what -- whatsoever, from what I see. The -- the current  
18 existing committee, in my mind, is a black box. I've  
19 never been able to attend a meeting. I've never been  
20 able to speak at it. I've never seen minutes. And so I  
21 don't think it serves any kind of public function. It  
22 may serve a -- a private/public function to CPS  
23 management, but it does not at all serve the functions  
24 that are envisioned in the proposal before you. Thank  
25 you.

1 MS. C. MANN: Kathy, with that, I think  
2 we're ready to -- to move on to new topics now.

3 MS. K. GARCIA: Terry, I was going to -- I  
4 was just going to respond to Terry and mention that on  
5 our website the Citizens Advisory Committee has a page  
6 and we have posted the agenda for those meetings as well  
7 as a short recap of the meetings. So there is  
8 information. We have taken feedback from you to try to  
9 make sure that we are sharing where we can, how we can,  
10 and so if the -- if you -- if you take a look at the  
11 website for the Citizens Advisory Committee there may be  
12 some information there that would be informative.

13 MR. T. BURNS: Terry again. I thank you  
14 for that small step forward and I will look for that.  
15 Thank you.

16 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you.

17 So we'll go ahead then and transition. If  
18 the tri-chairs would like to give us some guidance on  
19 what agenda item they'd like to transition to, we'll be  
20 glad to do that.

21 MS. D. BELMARES: Kathy, this is DeeDee.  
22 I have one -- I have one last thing. I don't -- I do  
23 not want to drag out the Citizen Advisory Committee,  
24 based on especially what Terry just said, but I -- I  
25 think it helps put context into why our recommendations

1 are so important, why they are so important to us and --  
2 and -- and why we needed to give them to y'all for  
3 transparency. If --

4           When I look at the website, I -- I see  
5 the -- I see the minutes on the website for, like, the  
6 Citizen Advisory Committee, but I don't -- if -- if I  
7 were a constituent and I had a concern about a CPS  
8 Energy issue that person has to call -- contact a CPS  
9 Energy liaison or e-mailing Leal, J.C. Leal, at CPS  
10 Energy. So I -- I -- that's why the Rate Advisory  
11 Committee is so important is that it would be open to  
12 the public that -- the agenda and the minutes would be  
13 more detailed. Because I looked at the -- the minutes  
14 and they're not really detailed about what -- what was  
15 discussed. So we -- just like I said, we -- we want a  
16 open, transparent process that everybody can participate  
17 in and know exactly what is going on in -- in the  
18 meetings. So I just wanted to point that out; one last  
19 thing about the Citizens Advisory Committee.

20           MS. K. GARCIA: All right. Thank you.

21           You -- you did mention we -- on the  
22 website we do have that point of contact. John Leal is  
23 our Director of Local Government Relations, also, on  
24 this WebEx today. So is David Walter, our chair, of the  
25 Citizens Advisory. So, again, the -- the feedback that

1 you're providing today is information that we take back  
2 as well. So thank you.

3 Would the tri-chairs like to provide the  
4 next topic of discussion?

5 \*\*\*\*\*

6 AGENDA ITEM #7: FlexSTEP

7 MS. C. MANN: Yes. Let me find my agenda.  
8 I have a bunch of docs open.

9 I -- What was next on the list was  
10 FlexSTEP and -- and I would like, if we could, spend a  
11 little bit of time on that, it -- like, ten minutes or  
12 so, five or ten minutes, that would be really helpful.  
13 Because I know folks at Sierra Club were looking at a  
14 proposal, like, we're studying what could be done and --  
15 and so a really exciting important part of the work that  
16 doesn't get as much credit as I think it deserves on the  
17 energy efficiency side of things. So if you guys give  
18 us -- if y'all could give us an update then that would  
19 be great. And then Meredith may have a couple of points  
20 that she wants to add depending on whether or not it  
21 gets covered. That would be great.

22 MR. A.J. HIGGINS: Okay. Thanks. This  
23 is -- I am Drew Higgins and I'm the Senior Director of  
24 Products & Services. I want to thank you for this  
25 opportunity to share with you this FlexSTEP update.

1 I'm going to start on slide 4, and I want  
2 to verify that everyone can see the presentation. I  
3 think that's a good thumbs up, so I'll get right into  
4 it.

5 STEP was launched in 2009 with the vision  
6 of serving 771 megawatts over 12 years. CPS Energy  
7 exceeded that goal and achieved 833 megawatts in 11  
8 years while being \$130 million under budget. This is  
9 well known and -- and -- and understood.

10 The thing is CPS Energy is, still  
11 committed to providing this value and we're committed to  
12 providing the next generation of the Save for Tomorrow  
13 Energy Plan by utilizing that 12th year of the program  
14 to design -- to design a robust package of products and  
15 services that offer value and benefit to all the  
16 citizens of San Antonio. This next generation program  
17 will be called FlexSTEP with an aim to deliver  
18 approximately 600 megawatts.

19 While we go through this design process  
20 we're continuing to deliver energy -- energy efficiency  
21 and conservation programs to our customers through a  
22 one-year STEP Bridge program approved by the City  
23 Council. This will provide for a continuation of  
24 valuable customer programs that benefit so many in our  
25 community.

1                   Now, I'm going to go to slide 6.

2                   And that being said, COVID-19 has had  
3 impacts on the STEP biz- -- Bridge program like has it  
4 on everything throughout our great city, state and  
5 country. And just like all of San Antonio we are  
6 learning as we go through and we continue to push  
7 towards a 75-megawatt goal. I want to emphasize that  
8 we're taking every precaution in our operation to ensure  
9 that we are keeping people safe. Just like all  
10 employees of CPS Energy -- People First.

11                   So what does the next generation of STEP  
12 look like? While we are still deep in the design phase,  
13 I can tell you that it will be a generous mix of tried  
14 and true, along with a vision for tomorrow. The program  
15 will be customer focused and agile and offer a value to  
16 a broad spectrum of our customers.

17                   It is also a commitment -- a commitment of  
18 resources, time and effort. We are searching to find  
19 new technology and innovations that our customers can  
20 utilize to increase efficiency. We're looking to expand  
21 our solar programs while bringing our new programs  
22 around electric vehicles and battery storage. We're  
23 committed to achieving the 600 megawatts while ensuring  
24 that all of our customers have the opportunity to  
25 participate.

1           That being said, there is a cost  
2 associated with STEP program and I want to be sure that  
3 there is clear awareness that this progress is not free.  
4 Over the course of the STEP program CPS Energy customers  
5 bore an average bill impact of \$2.78 per month.  
6 Additionally, for the STEP Bridge year we're looking for  
7 a target bill impact of around \$3.43 per month.

8           One of the reasons we feel so confident  
9 that Flex -- that the FlexSTEP program will be so  
10 successful is that we'll be utilizing a mixture of  
11 programs that have proven and reliable value.

12           We will match these programs to programs  
13 that are innovative but show significant potential in  
14 terms of savings and energy savings. We'll operate in  
15 an agile and flax- -- flexible manner by continuously  
16 monitoring the efficacy of programs and as opportunistic  
17 or as needed we will introduce new programs that show  
18 promise and sunset programs that are underperforming.

19           Finally, I want to share with you the  
20 proposed timeline and highlight the points that we are  
21 moving very fast to deliver this program for the City of  
22 San Antonio.

23           I want to close by emphasizing that we  
24 welcome the Environmental Stakeholder Group to provide  
25 feedback. We only ask that you please be specific with

1 your feedback. What -- what should we do more of? What  
2 should we do less of? What new programs? And even the  
3 way that which you provide feedback could be feedback in  
4 itself. We're -- we're happy to do one-off meetings, if  
5 that's your preference, and all that we ask is that you  
6 provide that feedback.

7 At this point, I'd love to take any  
8 questions and open up for discussion.

9 MS. C. MANN: So, Meredith. This is  
10 Chrissy Mann.

11 Meredith, I was hoping that you could make  
12 a -- ask some questions or comments that you and I were  
13 speaking about earlier today. Thanks, Andrew, by the  
14 way, that was really helpful. Specifically --  
15 specifically -- Go ahead. Go ahead.

16 Was that DeeDee?

17 No. I was just going to ask Meredith  
18 to -- to -- to -- to follow up with Andrew on -- he's  
19 talked about getting more people or having as many -- I  
20 don't want to put words in your mouth, but effectively  
21 more -- having the availability to all potential  
22 customers to access these programs. I know that's  
23 something that you had talked about, Meredith.

24 MS. M. McGUIRE: Am I -- am I on mute  
25 still? Or can you hear me?

1 MS. K. GARCIA: Meredith, I can hear you.

2 MS. M. McGUIRE: Okay. Thank you.

3 So I -- I -- I'm concerned about a number  
4 of things and I'm not sure exactly which parts of these  
5 have to -- I have more questions than I have answers  
6 here.

7 But, as you probably know, I'm very  
8 concerned about the impacts of this -- the costs tied in  
9 with this COVID-19 crisis and, at the same time, I'm  
10 very eager to see more energy efficiency opportunities  
11 for especially low-income households. And I think that  
12 it's going to be very difficult but, at the same time,  
13 especially important, now, more than ever, that these  
14 kinds of programs could get expanded and improved.

15 And as I said, I have -- probably have  
16 some questions because I don't know enough about all the  
17 different ways by which you can go forward on this. But  
18 I'm very eager to see as much of that as possible  
19 happening as soon as possible.

20 And -- and, also, I'm especially eager to  
21 see the PACE program also going forward. I'm very glad  
22 that that got approved already and hope that this --  
23 the -- the financial fallout from the -- the COVID19  
24 issues, I hope that doesn't prevent those from being  
25 taken care of as quickly as possible.

1           And this, in some respects, also then ties  
2 in with the rates issue. Because I'm very deeply  
3 concerned that a lot of the people who can't afford to  
4 pay their bills right now -- I would hate to see them be  
5 literally forced to leave their homes or whatever,  
6 because of the whole issue about how are they ever going  
7 to be able to afford to pay their bills after this whole  
8 mess.

9           So let's just start with the -- the  
10 regular Casa Verde program as you were doing well with,  
11 but there's some limitations to that program. Do you  
12 have ideas for how you're going to do it differently  
13 this time so that there wouldn't be so many people who  
14 got so disqualified from that program? That might be a  
15 way to get started.

16           And, Chrissy, if I've -- if I've forgotten  
17 some of the things we talked about earlier today, feel  
18 free to -- to pinch hit for me.

19           MS. C. MANN: No. I think that was it.  
20 Specifically, that last question. How to make sure more  
21 folks are eligible to participate.

22           MS. M. McGUIRE: Right.

23           MR. R. GARZA: So, Meredith, this is --  
24 Can you hear me? This is Rudy Garza. I'm the interim  
25 Chief Customer Engagement Officer.

1           Drew and I have worked together and we are  
2 spending a lot of time right now thinking about how to  
3 safely reintegrate our STEP program once our community  
4 gets back to some level of normalcy. We stay firmly  
5 committed to the goals that we've set forth for this  
6 year. And we recognize that there's a new normal of  
7 safety protocols that we're going to have to think about  
8 as we go forward, and we're going to -- frankly, going  
9 to have to work harder to identify customers that are  
10 eligible for our Casa Verde, and all of our energy  
11 efficiency programs, and beat the bushes to -- to bring  
12 them to the table to get us the opportunity to serve  
13 them.

14           So we're talking to our vendors right now  
15 about what our new operating procedures look like going  
16 forward, so that when our economy opens back up safely  
17 we can give customers the assurance that we can serve  
18 them safely and they don't have to worry about getting  
19 sick because our contractors are in their homes.

20           So we've got some work to do, but we're  
21 talking about it every day and we're going to continue  
22 to -- to pursue the goals that we've set forward and  
23 create a robust program going forward into the future.

24           MS. K. GARCIA: Terry Burns, I'll call on  
25 you. You posted a comment and may want to make a

1 comment?

2 MR. T. BURNS: Yeah. Hi. Thank you.  
3 This is Terry.

4 I just wanted to say I -- I do not think  
5 the next energy efficiency program should include any  
6 support or subsidy for continued natural gas  
7 distribution to homes and buildings in the community.  
8 This is something that needs to be phased out rather  
9 than encouraged with further development. So I would  
10 urge the plan not to include anything to further and  
11 support natural gas. Thank you. Natural gas  
12 distribution, I should say.

13 MR. A.J. HIGGINS: All right. Just --  
14 just as a side step. STEP Bridge and FlexSTEP will --  
15 will -- do not or -- or will not contain any subsidies  
16 for natural gas.

17 MR. T. BURNS: Thank you.

18 MR. R. GARZA: Well, and -- and if I may,  
19 this -- again, this is Rudy Garza.

20 We are leaning into all of our  
21 policymakers in a conversation about what the future  
22 holds. So we're having individual, you know, meetings  
23 with our council members over at the City of San Antonio  
24 to make sure that their perspectives are factored into  
25 our future programs. So I want just to -- to

1 reiterate -- as is our Board. So I want to just  
2 reiterate that they are very much primary stakeholders  
3 in this conversation.

4 MS. K. WHITE: This is Kaiba. I have a  
5 follow-up question on that.

6 So when you say that FlexSTEP doesn't  
7 include natural gas -- or rebates for natural gas  
8 appliances or incentives for them is that just because  
9 that -- that those -- those incentives are still  
10 continuing, they're -- the money is just coming from  
11 somewhere else, or that those incentives are going away?

12 MR. R. GARZA: So, again, this is Rudy  
13 Garza.

14 What I would say is that we -- we -- we  
15 have an open kind of a blank canvas for what the future  
16 holds. So, you know, certainly, Mr. Burns, we'll --  
17 we'll take, you know, your feedback into consideration.  
18 You know, what the future holds for natural gas, I  
19 think, remains an ongoing conversation. So -- so we're  
20 going to continue to talk about how natural gas, you  
21 know, factors into the Flex- -- FlexSTEP program. But  
22 we certainly will take your feedback into consideration  
23 as -- as we move forward. So -- so thank you for that.  
24 We appreciate that.

25 MS. K. GARCIA: In the "chat" box -- I'm

1 trying to keep up. Felecia, did you have something you  
2 wanted to add? And then I'll go to Darby.

3 MS. F. ETHERIDGE: Yeah. This is Felecia  
4 again. I just wanted to go back to something about the  
5 income-qualified customers or the low-income customers.

6 They are a key focus. I will tell you  
7 many of the customers who we -- who we were unable to  
8 help in the past few years wasn't necessarily for a lack  
9 of trying. Their homes were just not structurally sound  
10 and so we were unable to make improvements to the home,  
11 and that's -- that's definitely something that we're  
12 looking at. But I will tell you that has been a  
13 challenge for us, working with low-income customers, to  
14 make sure that -- that we can find programs that work  
15 for them and will be beneficial to them within the  
16 structures in which they live.

17 And so I hear that loud and clearly. They  
18 are -- they are very important to us. They are  
19 customers that we pay a lot of attention to and would  
20 welcome any other additional ideas you might have on how  
21 we -- how we serve low-income customers who have  
22 structural issues.

23 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Felecia.

24 I'm going to turn to Darby. Darby, you  
25 had posted in the chat "Is there a goal to reduce the

1 energy use per capita? Californians use half the energy  
2 we do." So I'll -- I'll yield to you for a question and  
3 comment. Did you want to expand on that?

4 Darby, we are unable to hear you and it  
5 might be a double-mute issue on the computer and the  
6 phone. So I'll just restate the question and see if we  
7 have the ability to answer it.

8 Oh, there -- very good, Darby. Okay.

9 MR. D. RILEY: Okay.

10 MS. K. GARCIA: Darby, I heard you say  
11 okay, and then we do not hear you anymore.

12 MR. D. RILEY: Can you hear me?

13 MS. K. GARCIA: Yes. Now, we can hear  
14 you.

15 MR. D. RILEY: Okay. Well, the question  
16 is that in the effort to do the -- the Flex plan, I -- I  
17 think one of the main goals is to increase efficiency.

18 In California efficiency is the -- the  
19 main source of energy, and, of course, they for many  
20 years have been really excellent at that and -- and they  
21 use, by my understanding, half the energy per capita  
22 that Texans do and San Antonians do. And if we can use  
23 a lot less energy, of course, we clean up the air and  
24 the enviro- -- the atmosphere and we have many, many  
25 benefits.

1           So, you know, that's the -- the value of  
2 the efficiency program, and I -- but I -- is there a  
3 goal there? Have we looked at how much energy we use  
4 per capita? How do we compare to other cities and, you  
5 know, do we have a -- a way of -- of getting to a lower  
6 amount per -- per capita?

7           MR. R. GARZA: So, Mr. Riley, I'll -- I  
8 will try to answer your question as best I can. This is  
9 Rudy Garza again.

10           You know, my uncle out in San Diego  
11 doesn't have an air conditioner and, I think, one of the  
12 primary drivers of -- you know, of that usage issue, you  
13 know, is the fact that -- that every home in San Antonio  
14 has got an air conditioner.

15           But with that, I will say that -- that our  
16 goal is, collectively, to achieve an energy efficiency  
17 phase across our system. So, you know, every home we  
18 can get into to, you know, increase the efficiency of  
19 that air conditioner or, you know, weatherize it to, you  
20 know, make it more, you know, the -- the air transfer,  
21 you know, make air transfer improvements and more  
22 efficient helps us on a per capita basis.

23           So that is a -- certainly, information  
24 that we track and we will continue to take a look at.  
25 And the more homes we get into, the better -- the better

1 we'll do there. So -- so we're looking at it on both  
2 a -- a system basis and, certainly, you know,  
3 individually.

4 MS. K. WHITE: I -- I look forward --

5 MR. D. RILEY: Does anybody know how we  
6 compare -- does anybody know how we compare to other  
7 cities in Texas in terms of energy use per capita?

8 MR. R. GARZA: I don't know if we have  
9 that in- -- information at our fingertips, Mr. Riley,  
10 but I bet you we can do -- we can do some -- do some --  
11 take a look and -- and get back with you on that.

12 MR. D. RILEY: Okay. Thank you.

13 MR. C. KUCHINSKY: Yeah, Rudy. This is  
14 Cory. I -- I'm happy to take that action item. I know  
15 we have some data.

16 MS. K. GARCIA: We've got a couple of  
17 comments that I'm going to try to get to in the "chat"  
18 box. Terry Burns, you had, I believe, one or two  
19 comments or questions?

20 MR. T. BURNS: Yeah. Thank you, Kathy.  
21 This is Terry.

22 And, yeah, I didn't think the slide  
23 presentation speaker really answered Kaiba's question  
24 about gas subsidies for this year, whether they were  
25 actually still occurring or not, and so that was one

1 specific follow up.

2 I would also, secondly, like to make a  
3 follow up to Darby's comments, which I fully support.  
4 And there's an important linkage between his comments  
5 and the efficiency goals we have and the City's Climate  
6 Action Plan. We really have to reduce carbon emissions  
7 enormously over the next ten years, and so efficiency is  
8 one of our fastest and most cost-effective ways to do,  
9 and so I think this really needs to be an important part  
10 of your consideration.

11 And when you present numbers like, you  
12 know, 600 megawatts and things, I -- I think it'll be  
13 really important, as you go through this, to also  
14 present data related to predicted reductions in carbon,  
15 how this relates to our overall efficiency and carbon  
16 production per capita in this city. Thank you.

17 MS. K. GARCIA: I think Chrissy has a  
18 comment; and then, Meredith, I'll come to you. Chrissy?

19 MS. C. MANN: I had an earlier comment. I  
20 think it's been answered.

21 I'd like us to spend the next 15 minutes  
22 on the remaining items. So, Meredith, if you could be  
23 very brief, it would be super appreciated so we can talk  
24 about the -- the remaining items on the agenda.

25 MS. M. McGUIRE: Sure. I'm -- I'm very

1 good at being brief on this one.

2           So, basically, what I was raising was  
3 something that we discovered in the climate action  
4 planning process, and that is that a number of cities  
5 are having ordinances that have the requirement that  
6 before a house can be sold there has to be an energy and  
7 a water efficiency measurement for that house. And I  
8 think once we start getting that kind of thing going  
9 here in San Antonio, it'll make a big difference.

10           One of the kinds of things that some of  
11 the other cities have been doing is to also then supply  
12 families with the upgraded energy efficient appliances.  
13 So, for example, in El -- El Paso they literally gave  
14 low-income families who had old, old, old refrigerators  
15 that were wasting a lot of energy, they gave them  
16 appliances and very quickly got the energy reduction  
17 down. So it's worth doing.

18           MS. C. MANN: Look at you, Meredith, all  
19 brief and whatnot.

20           MS. K. GARCIA: Well, thank you for the  
21 commentary on that; and there are some items there we  
22 will follow back up with.

23           Chrissy, you mentioned wanting to  
24 transition to another agenda item and I -- I do want to  
25 note the time. I show it as about -- approaching 7:20



1 we -- we appreciate the -- the change in course here in  
2 allowing for a competition between different sources and  
3 I think that some of the questions that we had put forth  
4 are kind of answered in those slides.

5           One thing that I am wondering is the  
6 timing of these RFPs. Are they going out together? Are  
7 they going to be issued as they're ready? And, you  
8 know, what is the timeline on all of that? Maybe, we  
9 can start there because I don't think that was clear.

10           MR. C. EUGSTER: Hey, Kathy. Can you hear  
11 me?

12           MS. K. GARCIA: Yes. Clear, Cris. Thank  
13 you.

14           MR. C. EUGSTER: Yeah. I -- I'll take  
15 that one.

16           So the RFP for the FlexPOWER Bundle  
17 consultant -- this is not for the POWER Bundle itself,  
18 but the -- for a consultant to help us kind of think  
19 through this, you know, fairly, you know, very  
20 innovative, complex, you know, bundle -- has -- has  
21 already gone out and we have up- -- we've already had  
22 respond -- respondents. I think there's a page in there  
23 that said there were 20-plus respondents that -- that --  
24 that bid on that work.

25           We -- Our team is looking through that

1 right now and we hope to make a decision kind of here in  
2 the -- you know, in the coming month or months. With  
3 all the COVID going on, it's hard to kind of really, you  
4 know, understand exact timelines, but we -- we are  
5 looking at actual respondents to the FlexPOWER Bundle  
6 consultant.

7           That consultant will really help us kind  
8 of shape that RFP, help us with the stakeholder process,  
9 because we do want to have input from the community on  
10 the FlexPOWER Bundle itself, and so that is the first  
11 step. And the timing of that consultant is -- is  
12 happening and it -- and it -- it -- it's imminent, so  
13 we -- we will have a consultant on board here in the --  
14 in the near future.

15           Now, when the -- the RFP for the FlexPOWER  
16 Bundle goes out, I think we want to have a stakeholder  
17 process there to really kind of get input on that.  
18 There are also some supply chain things that we're kind  
19 of looking through on how COVID has affected supply  
20 chains, especially in those -- in the -- in the area of  
21 solar. So we are looking at that and seeing what kind  
22 of impact that that will have on the ultimate RFP for  
23 the FlexPOWER Bundle.

24           And I would say -- and again, I get -- go  
25 back to my sort of response to Chrissy's question.

1 It -- we are trying to think about the FlexPOWER Bundle  
2 RFP in two ways: One is, you know, it's going to be  
3 replacing to fossil capacity, so, you know, it's going  
4 to be a big deal. But we really have to figure out how  
5 it meets our load requirements, and so that all-source  
6 component to firm up the solar will be a critical piece  
7 of it.

8 We also want to see if we can put a -- a  
9 larger DG component to it so it can really -- we can see  
10 more of that solar showing up in San Antonio and jobs  
11 associated with that which is ultimately good for the --  
12 for the community as well. So that's the added piece  
13 that we've been thinking about here recently.

14 So does that answer your question, Kaiba?

15 MS. K. WHITE: Well, personally, I guess  
16 my question is about the timing and it sounds like the  
17 timing is uncertain. I guess, I'm wondering the  
18 magnitude of that uncertainty, you know, in part,  
19 because, you know, the solar investment tax credit is  
20 declining at the end of this year, and then at the end  
21 of next year and -- you know, so tech- -- timing, you  
22 know, does matter. And not to mention that, you know,  
23 getting -- getting that solar on the grid has  
24 environmental benefits, so, you know, indefinite kind of  
25 waiting also has -- has a cost in terms of -- certainly,

1 in terms of environmental benefit, but potentially other  
2 costs as well.

3 So, yeah, just trying to -- to get a -- a  
4 better sense on the -- the timing of -- of when an RFP  
5 would get out, and, therefore, when projects might  
6 reasonably be considered.

7 MR. C. EUGSTER: Well, yeah, again, I  
8 think the big thing, COVID has changed quite a few  
9 things here for us. And -- and I think we really need  
10 to see how the coming months play out in terms of what  
11 the new normal looks like both here in Texas as well as  
12 around the -- around the -- the globe.

13 So I think we'll have a better sense of  
14 the timing once we -- once we get -- once we get some  
15 more clarity on how COVID's going to play out here in  
16 the -- in the coming months.

17 MS. K. WHITE: Okay. Well, I guess, I  
18 think we'll -- we will all be eager for -- for an update  
19 on timing.

20 You know, the other questions were really  
21 around clarification of the -- the natural gas or other  
22 firming resources and the engagement process that I  
23 think you just answered that you -- basically, those are  
24 unknown until the consultant is on board. Is that  
25 accurate?

1 MR. C. EUGSTER: Yeah. No. I mean, we're  
2 very committed to an all-source component to --

3 MS. K. WHITE: Uh-huh.

4 MR. C. EUGSTER: -- transition to solar,  
5 so that's -- that's not changed. So we're -- we're a  
6 hundred percent there.

7 MS. K. WHITE: Right. And so, I guess,  
8 well, is the element that's unknown kind of exactly how  
9 to define that resource need?

10 MR. C. EUGSTER: No. I would say the  
11 unknown is really how -- how COVID is going to play out  
12 for us in terms of, you know, supply chains,  
13 procurement. You know, this is going to be a huge --  
14 huge deal and so we want to make sure that we can  
15 deliver on it. So I think what I'm talking about, the  
16 unknown is really the timing of the RFP for the  
17 FlexPOWER Bundle itself. The component, there will be  
18 a -- an all-source component to firm it up, so that --  
19 that's not changed.

20 MS. K. WHITE: Okay. Maybe -- maybe I can  
21 put this a different way.

22 Can you, maybe, give us just real briefly,  
23 like, what -- what it is that the consultant will be  
24 doing in relation to that RFP?

25 MR. C. EUGSTER: So two things. One is,

1 again, this will be replacing -- this will be replacing  
2 actual, you know, fossil capacity over the next decade  
3 and so, really, how an intermittent resource coupled  
4 with firming capacity can -- can meet our load  
5 obligations that is going to be a -- a big piece of it.  
6 So that's one piece.

7           And then the second piece is, we really  
8 want to have a very strong stakeholder engagement on  
9 this and get it -- get -- you know, get input on it and,  
10 you know, they're going to help us engage all of the  
11 stakeholders through this process.

12           So we're even thinking about, maybe, we'll  
13 have two consultants: One on the technical side and --  
14 and the -- the other one on the stakeholder engagement  
15 side that can help support that.

16           MS. K. WHITE: Okay. Thanks.

17           I don't know if others have questions or  
18 thoughts on this topic to add.

19           MS. C. MANN: No. I think that we can --  
20 with the five minutes, like, related to the resource  
21 planning sort of question broadly and this being a part  
22 of it, y'all -- y'all have a -- a topic in here on this  
23 first power plants. One of them was something we had  
24 asked for, which was, hey, we -- we've been talking  
25 about 2025 and 2030 retirement and remodeling here for a

1 couple of years now. We saw some resource mixes that  
2 would work, but we hadn't seen anything come up out of  
3 that. And -- and whether or not something like an  
4 all-source RFP might follow to replace Spruce might  
5 follow the current RFPs out.

6                   And then I'm going to go out on a limb and  
7 say brand new to me, never heard y'all talk about it  
8 before, talked about Deely, but never Spruce was -- as a  
9 Spruce gas conversion, and so that was a surprising  
10 addition to this -- to the portfolio of your things to  
11 talk about today.

12                   So I know, Kaiba, sometimes you do some  
13 deep thinking about gas and how -- and how it should or  
14 shouldn't be part of this mix. I don't know if you  
15 wanted to briefly touch on that or if we just want to  
16 listen and -- and hear -- and hear what folks have to  
17 say.

18                   MS. K. WHITE: I mean, I -- I think the --  
19 the -- the letter that we -- the memo that we put  
20 together regarding our position on natural gas use and  
21 expansion, I think -- not that letter shares all of our  
22 thoughts. There's, I guess, more that could be said.  
23 But I think those -- those are the big ones that, you  
24 know, from the position of our coalition and -- and I  
25 think, at least, the majority of the -- the people here

1 that have engaged, we -- we do not see an environmental  
2 benefit to switching to -- from coal to -- to natural  
3 gas.

4           And in fact, there's new research coming  
5 out, even just, I think, a few days ago, about how  
6 under-accounted methane emissions are, and that that is  
7 coming from the oil and gas industry, and -- and it's --  
8 it's really just catastrophic in terms of climate  
9 impact. And, you know, so it -- it's just absolutely,  
10 you know, imperative to look at the full life cycle and,  
11 you know, not just the power plant point source  
12 emissions when considering, you know, such conversions  
13 from -- or -- or, you know, switching in any way from  
14 coal to natural gas.

15           So I -- I know we are -- we are on limited  
16 time here, so I'm not going to say more than that. But  
17 I just want to, I think, be clear that I think this --  
18 this group is -- is not in support of that. And  
19 frankly, I am a little surprised that it would be  
20 considered for economic reasons as well.

21           \*\*\*\*\*

22           AGENDA ITEM #11: Q&A/CLOSE

23           MS. K. GARCIA: So we are approaching 7:30  
24 and I don't see additional hands or comments in the  
25 "comment" box. So with that, I think it's a good

1 opportunity for us to start to conclude.

2 I -- I want to say thank you to everybody,  
3 you all. I think this meeting flow went very well for a  
4 first-time try and we, certainly, appreciate everyone's  
5 patience and ability to work through how to have  
6 dialogue on this. You know, we look forward to your  
7 feedback on this as well as additional agenda items that  
8 we -- that we have or may not have gotten to.

9 I will pause and see if any of the senior  
10 leaders on our call have any closing remarks.

11 MS. P. GOLD-WILLIAMS: I want to thank  
12 everybody for joining into the call. Technology is  
13 actually helpful. Hopefully, this was convenient for  
14 everyone, and I thought it was really well organized,  
15 and so -- so now we know we have an option to utilis- --  
16 utilize this as we go through it. We're watching the --  
17 the governor's actions, but I will tell you, for us, as  
18 a utility, we're having to be really careful. We're  
19 going to stick with the social distancing aspects of it  
20 probably longer than most other people. We really have  
21 to be careful for our employees. But that still, I  
22 really appreciate everybody making time. And we know  
23 that distance -- physical distance isn't a barrier to  
24 talk about the things that are important. So I want to  
25 thank everybody.

1 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you, Paula.

2 And thank you to the tri-chairs and to  
3 everybody that brought wonderful conversation, input and  
4 thoughts. We -- we are listening and it matters. So  
5 thank you all.

6 And, Chrissy, I see your note. Yes. We  
7 will follow back up. So until the next time.

8 In the meantime, we'll both be working  
9 on -- on following up on the items that we have. And I  
10 appreciate everybody -- everybody's time tonight.

11 MS. P. GOLD-WILLIAMS: Thank you. Y'all  
12 be safe.

13 MS. C. MANN: Thank you.

14 MS. K. GARCIA: Thank you.

15 MR. T. BURNS: Thank you.

16 (Teleconference concluded 7:32 p.m.)

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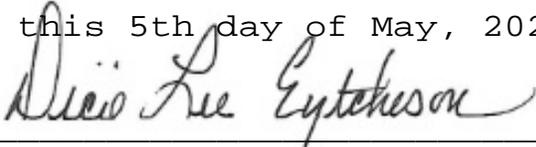
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