

Board Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee Meeting and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Time: Scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.

Location: SMUD Headquarters Building, Auditorium
6201 S Street, Sacramento, CA

Powering forward. Together.



AGENDA BOARD ENERGY RESOURCES & CUSTOMER SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING AND SPECIAL SMUD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025
SMUD Headquarters Building, Auditorium
6201 S Street, Sacramento, California
Scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.**

This Committee meeting is noticed as a joint meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. In order to preserve the function of the Committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board may attend and participate in the discussions, but no Board action will be taken. The Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee will review, discuss and provide the Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee's recommendation on the following agenda item(s):

Virtual Viewing or Attendance:

Live video streams (view-only) and indexed archives of meetings are available at:
http://smud.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=16

Zoom Webinar Link: [Join Board Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee Meeting Here](#)

Webinar/Meeting ID: 161 847 5583

Passcode: 919719

Phone Dial-in Number: 1-669-254-5252 or 1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)

Verbal Public Comment:

Members of the public may provide verbal public comment by:

- Completing a sign-up form at the table outside of the meeting room and giving it to SMUD Security.
- Using the "Raise Hand" feature in Zoom (or pressing *9 while dialed into the telephone/toll-free number) during the meeting at the time public comment is called. Microphones will be enabled for virtual or telephonic attendees when the commenter's name is announced.

Written Public Comment:

Members of the public may provide written public comment on a specific agenda item or on items not on the agenda (general public comment) by submitting comments via email to PublicComment@smud.org or by mailing or bringing physical copies to the meeting. Email is not monitored during the meeting. Comments will not be read into the record but will be provided to the Board and placed into the record of the meeting if received within two hours after the meeting ends.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. James Frasher Provide the Board with informational external and internal presentations and discussion about the **Prospects of Nuclear Energy for Deep Decarbonization**.
Presentation: 50 minutes
Discussion: 30 minutes

Speakers:

KATI AUSTGEN
DIRECTOR, PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & NEW NUCLEAR
NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

CHAD BOYER
SENIOR PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL LEADER
ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI)

MARK GAKE
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY PORTFOLIO MANAGER
BLACK & VEATCH

JAMES FRASHER
DIRECTOR, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, GRANTS & PARTNERSHIPS
SMUD
2. Public Comment
3. Brandon D. Rose Summary of Committee Direction.
Discussion: 1 minute

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

1. Conference with Labor Negotiators.

Pursuant to Section 54957.6 of the Government Code:

SMUD Designated Representative:

Tiffany Navarrette, Manager, Employee Relations

Employee Organization:

Organization of SMUD Employees (OSE).

Members of the public shall have up to three (3) minutes to provide public comment on items on the agenda or items not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of SMUD. The total time allotted to any individual speaker shall not exceed nine (9) minutes.

Members of the public wishing to inspect public documents related to agenda items may click on the Information Packet link for this meeting on the smud.org website or may call 1-916-732-7143 to arrange for inspection of the documents at the SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, California.

ADA Accessibility Procedures: Upon request, SMUD will generally provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so that they can participate equally in this meeting. If you need a reasonable auxiliary aid or service for effective communication to participate, please email Toni.Stelling@smud.org, or contact by phone at 1-916-732-7143, no later than 48 hours before this meeting.

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date

ERCS – 10/15/25

Board Meeting Date

N/A

TO				TO						
1.	James Frasher			6.	Brandy Bolden					
2.	Josh Langdon			7.	Frankie McDermott					
3.	Jon Olson			8.	Suresh Kotha					
4.	Bryan Swann			9.	Legal					
5.	Lora Anguay			10.	CEO & General Manager					
Consent Calendar		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <i>If no, schedule a dry run presentation.</i>		Budgeted	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <i>(If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)</i>	
FROM (IPR) Valentino Tiangco				DEPARTMENT Research & Development, Grants & Partnerships				MAIL STOP A210	EXT. 6795	DATE SENT 09/19/25
NARRATIVE:										
Requested Action:		Provide the Board with informational external and internal presentations and discussion about the Prospects of Nuclear Energy for Deep Decarbonization.								
Summary:		Representatives from Nuclear Energy Institute, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), Black & Veatch, and SMUD will be presenting a panel discussion on October 15, 2025, regarding the prospects of nuclear energy for deep decarbonization. Discussion topics will encompass an overview of nuclear energy, recent updates, cost and performance characteristics, key benefits, operational mechanics, societal perceptions, future innovations, and the resulting impacts on the market for deep decarbonization. Questions or topics can cover aspects such as safety, waste disposal, and emissions compared to fossil fuels and renewables. The conversations may also explore the challenges of institutional or public opposition and regulatory hurdles, along with technical, economic, and environmental ethical considerations regarding future generations. Understanding these nuances can provide clarity on nuclear energy's role in the energy landscape and zero carbon future. Further exploration reveals even deeper insights into its complexities and potential advancements, like Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and nuclear fusion.								
Board Policy: <i>(Number & Title)</i>		Strategic Direction SD-10, Innovation; Strategic Direction SD-4, Reliability; Strategic Direction SD-9, Resource Planning								
Benefits:		Increase the Board's knowledge about the overview of current state of NUCLEAR, technologies, production & safety, key benefits or attributes of nuclear energy compared to fossil fuels and renewables, costs and performance characteristics (including existing and advanced nuclear or SMRs), policy implications recent four executive orders on nuclear energy, changes at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), how nuclear energy address the climate change/crisis, role of nuclear energy in achieving carbon neutrality, contentious issues surrounding nuclear energy, societal perceptions surrounding nuclear energy (safety concerns), challenges that nuclear energy facing today, what technological innovations are being explored for nuclear waste management (spent nuclear fuel management), and some feedback on what we can do now, and how can we prepare ourselves if moratorium on nuclear in California is lifted.								
Cost/Budgeted:		There is no budgetary impact for this informational briefing.								
Alternatives:		Do not hold the panel discussion on nuclear energy; schedule presentation for another time.								
Affected Parties:		Power Generation, Resource Planning, Zero Carbon Energy Solutions								
Coordination:		Research & Development, Power Generation, Energy Trading & Contracts, Resource Planning								
Presenter:		Kati Austgen, Director, Public Engagement & New Nuclear, Nuclear Energy Institute Chad Boyer, Senior Principal Technical Leader, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Mark Gake, Associate Vice President, Nuclear Technology Portfolio Manager, Black & Veatch James Frasher, Director, Research & Development, Grants & Partnerships, SMUD								

Additional Links:

SUBJECT	Prospects of Nuclear Energy for Deep Decarbonization	ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)
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ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.



Kati Austgen
Nuclear Energy Institute
Director, Public Engagement & New Nuclear

Kati Austgen is a Director of Public Engagement & New Nuclear at the Nuclear Energy Institute. She specializes in advocacy for all new reactor technologies, including large light-water reactors, small modular reactors, non-light-water reactors, and micro-reactors.

Kati leads the NEI Advanced Nuclear Forum and Advancing Collaboration, Community Engagement & Public Trust (ACCEPT) Working Group – providing industry coordination and strategic guidance.

Kati holds a Bachelor and Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering from Oregon State University and the University of Missouri, respectively.



Chad Boyer
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Senior Principal Technical Leader

Chad Boyer is the Senior Principal Technical Leader, Nuclear at EPRI. He leads the Project Development and Execution technical focus area in the Advanced Nuclear Technology Program within the Nuclear Sector at EPRI. He started at a nuclear utility and had roles that included core designer, reactor engineer and system engineer. Over a 12-year period, he supported the domestic design and construction of the Westinghouse AP1000. In 2012, Chad took a sabbatical to participate in the ANS/AAAS Congressional Fellowship program working in the U.S. House of Representatives on energy policy.

Chad holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Nuclear Engineering and in Physics as well as a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering, all from NC State University. He is a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina and South Carolina.



Mark Gake
Black & Veatch
Associate Vice President and
Nuclear Technology Portfolio Manager

Mark Gake is an Associate Vice President and Nuclear Portfolio Manager for Black & Veatch with 30+ years of experience in fossil and nuclear energy projects. Previous Black & Veatch positions include Nuclear Projects Director and Nuclear Chief Engineer. Skilled in working with clients to capture new work and build lasting relationships.

Excellent background in engineering design, procurement, construction, scheduling, and budgeting. Experienced in ASME Section III and B31.1 piping design, nuclear and fossil equipment specification and procurement, nuclear and fossil plant arrangement and equipment layout design, Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), NQA-1, and ISO 9001. Professional Engineer (licensed in Kansas). Registered Professional Engineer (RPE) for ASME Section III work.

SSS No.
BOD 2025-005

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
ERCS - 2025
Board Meeting Date
N/A

TO				TO								
1.	Frankie McDermott			6.								
2.	Suresh Kotha			7.								
3.	Brandy Bolden			8.								
4.	Lora Anguay			9.	Legal							
5.				10.	CEO & General Manager							
Consent Calendar		Yes	x	No		If no, schedule a dry run presentation.		Budgeted	x	Yes	No (If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)	
FROM (IPR) Brandon Rose / Crystal Henderson				DEPARTMENT Board Office				MAIL STOP B307	EXT. 5424	DATE SENT 12/31/24		

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action: A summary of directives is provided to staff during the committee meeting.

Summary: The Board requested an on-going opportunity to do a wrap up period at the end of each committee meeting to summarize various Board member suggestions and requests that were made at the meeting to make clear the will of the Board. The Energy Resources & Customer Services (ERCS) Committee Chair will summarize Board member requests that come out of the committee presentations for this meeting.

Board Policy: Governance Process GP-4, Board/Committee Work Plan and Agenda Planning states the Board will focus on the results the Board wants the organization to achieve.
(Number & Title)

Benefits: Having an agendized opportunity to summarize the Board's requests and suggestions that arise during the committee meeting will help clarify the will of the Board.

Cost/Budgeted: Included in budget for internal labor.

Alternatives: Not to summarize the Board's requests at this meeting.

Affected Parties: Board of Directors, Board Office and Executive Office

Coordination: Crystal Henderson, Special Assistant to the Board

Presenter: Brandon Rose, ERCS Committee Chair

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Summary of Committee Direction –
Energy Resources & Customer Services (ERCS) Committee

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.