

Board Strategic Development Committee Meeting and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

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

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

Powering forward. Together.



AGENDA

BOARD STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AND SPECIAL SMUD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2026
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 Strategic Development Committee will review, discuss and provide the Strategic Development Committee's recommendation on the below agendized item(s):

Virtual Viewing or Attendance:

Live video streams (view-only) and indexed archives of meetings are available at:
<https://www.smud.org/Corporate/About-us/Company-Information/Board-Meetings/Watch-or-Listen-online>

Zoom Webinar Link: [Join Board Strategic Development Committee Meeting Here](#)
Webinar/Meeting ID: 165 156 4821
Passcode: 839260
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. Bryan Swann
Provide the Board informational internal and external presentations and discussion about **Enhanced Geothermal and Carbon Capture & Storage**.
Presentation: 55 minutes
Discussion: 30 minutes

Speakers:

ABHOYJIT BHOWN
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER, ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI)

JOE JEPHSON
STORAGE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, CALIFORNIA RESOURCES CORPORATION (CRC)

B. JOE ASHLEY
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF REGULATORY, CALIFORNIA RESOURCES CORPORATION (CRC)

ERIC MINER
VICE PRESIDENT OF CARBON STORAGE, CALIFORNIA RESOURCE CORPORATIONS (CRC)

LAURA CHIARAMONTE, PHD
GEOTHERMAL LEAD AND PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL LEADER, GENERATION SECTOR, ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI)

BRYAN SWANN
DIRECTOR, RESOURCE PLANNING & SETTLEMENTS
SMUD
2. Public Comment
3. Heidi Sanborn
Summary of Committee Direction.
Discussion: 1 minute

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 1-916-732-6155 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 Nicole.Looney@smud.org, or contact by phone at 1-916-732-6055, no later than 48 hours before this meeting.

SSS No.
ZCES 26-004

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
Strategic Development - 08/11/26
Board Meeting Date
N/A

TO					TO				
1.	James Frasher				6.	Jose Bodipo-Memba			
2.	Josh Langdon				7.				
3.	Joel Ledesma				8.				
4.	Frankie McDermott				9.	Legal			
5.	Scott Martin				10.	CEO & General Manager			

Consent Calendar	☐	Yes	☒	No <i>If no, schedule a dry run presentation.</i>	Budgeted	☐	Yes	☒	No <i>(If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)</i>
FROM (IPR)	DEPARTMENT				MAIL STOP	EXT.	DATE SENT		
James Frasher	Research and Development, Grants & Partnerships				K221	6082	07/17/26		

NARRATIVE:	
Requested Action:	Provide the Board informational internal and external presentations and discussion about Enhanced Geothermal and Carbon Capture & Storage .
Summary:	The intended purpose is to present to SMUD's Board of Directors about the state of the industry with respect to two zero carbon technologies - Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and geothermal energy. Bryan Swann, Director, Resource Planning & Settlements, will provide a high-level update of SMUD engagement with these two technologies followed by a deeper dive on these two topics by guest speakers. Abhoyjit Bhowan, Senior Program Manager, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and Joe Jephson, Storage Development Manager, Joe Ashley, Senior Director of Regulatory, and Eric Miner, Vice President of Carbon Storage, from California Resources Corporation (CRC) will address CCS while Laura Chiaramonte, Senior Technical Leader, EPRI, will address geothermal energy. EPRI will provide an overview of CCS technology and industry adoption. EPRI will also touch upon CCS-related tax credits and community engagement best practices learned from prior projects. CRC will present an overview of its carbon capture and Storage venture, Carbon Terravault (CTV). The presentation will highlight CRC's company background and growing portfolio of carbon storage projects including the CTV IV project, its technical scope and progress toward Class VI permitting. The presentation will emphasize regulatory compliance, long-term safety integrity, community engagement strategy with transparent communication, and detailing plans to build local partnerships. EPRI will introduce enhanced and advanced geothermal technologies and explain their comparison to traditional geothermal energy. Technology characterizations will include grid service capabilities and geological, geographic, and economic considerations. EPRI will also provide a state of industry update in how artificial intelligence (AI) data centers are accelerating investments in next generation geothermal.
Board Policy: <i>(Number & Title)</i>	Strategic Direction SD-10, Innovation
Benefits:	This update will provide the Board with greater insight into the emerging roles of CCS and geothermal energy in California's clean energy transition, helping inform strategic awareness of key industry trends, technology developments, and policy considerations. By engaging perspectives from external experts, the Board will be better positioned to evaluate how these resources may support SMUD's long-term reliability, affordability, and decarbonization objectives.
Cost/Budgeted:	There is no budgetary impart for this informational presentation.
Alternatives:	Provide information via written report through the CEO & General Manager; do not provide an update; schedule update for another date.
Affected Parties:	Zero Carbon Energy Solutions
Coordination:	Board Office, Executive Office, Grants and New Business Development, and Legal

Presenter: Bryan Swann, Director, Resource Planning & Settlements
Abhoyjit Bhowan, Senior Program Manager, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Joe Jephson, Storage Development Manager, California Resources Corporation (CRC)
Joe Ashley, Senior Director of Regulatory, CRC
Eric Miner, Vice President of Carbon Storage, CRC
Laura Chiaramonte, PhD, Geothermal Lead and Principal Technical Leader, Generation Sector, EPRI

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Enhanced Geothermal and Carbon Capture & Storage

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.



Abhoyjit S. Bhowan
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Senior Program Manager
Advanced Generation & Carbon Capture and Storage

Abhoyjit S. Bhowan is Senior Program Manager for Advanced Generation & Carbon Capture and Storage at the Electric Power Research Institute in Palo Alto, California. He leads a group of engineers and scientists focused on reducing CO₂ emissions from power generation, industrial sources, and the atmosphere.

His work includes the development and assessment of novel carbon capture technologies, and service on research advisory boards at national laboratories, universities, and industrial organizations. He has over 35 years of experience developing separations technologies across a wide range of industries.

He recently co-authored *The Energy Transition: A Primer*, a concise book providing the scientific foundation needed to understand and discuss approaches to decarbonizing the energy system. He holds a B.S. from Auburn University in Alabama, M.S. from the University of California, Davis, and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, all in chemical engineering. He also holds an M.S. in mathematics from the University of Minnesota.



Joe Jephson
Carbon TerraVault (CTV)
Storage Development Manager

Joe Jephson currently serves as Storage Development Manager for Carbon TerraVault (CTV), where he leads the permitting and development of underground CO₂ storage projects, including reservoir characterization, well engineering, and monitoring systems. With more than 20 years of experience in the energy industry, Joe has played a key role in building CTV's carbon storage portfolio since its inception in 2021, establishing the company as a technical leader in carbon capture and storage (CCS). He has presented at international industry conferences, helped secure DOE funding for CCS demonstration projects, and supported federal CCS policy initiatives. Prior to CTV, Joe held technical, operational, and management roles at CRC and Schlumberger, and earned a B.S. in Geosystems Engineering and Hydrogeology from The University of Texas at Austin.



B. Joe Ashley
California Resource Corporations (CRC)
Senior Director of Regulatory

Born and raised in North Carolina, Mr. Ashley started working in California's San Joaquin Valley in 1995 as a biologist who spent countless hours working on threatened and endangered species issues for Oil & Gas projects. In 1998 he met his wife Lisa, a Bakersfield native. They spent the next few years working together all throughout the Central Valley as environmental consultants. Joe joined California Resources Corporation (formerly Occidental Petroleum Corporation) in 2004 and since then has been working on Oil & Gas projects from Huntington Beach to Humboldt on topics ranging from endangered species and cultural resources to compliance and permitting, to State and Federal environmental policy issues. Most recently, Joe's team lead the land use permitting for the first Carbon Capture and Sequestration project in a depleted oil and gas reservoir in the United States and the first CO₂ geologic sequestration project in California.

Mr. Ashley holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Biology and is the proud father of two wonderful children Lauren and Ian.



Laura Chiaramonte, PhD
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Geothermal Lead and Principal Technical Leader, Generation Sector

Laura's area of expertise is Geothermal Energy, Geological Storage of CO₂, and Geologic Hydrogen. Prior to joining EPRI, Laura worked at the Palo Alto Innovation Center of Baker Hughes for three years, as a Research Scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 5 years and at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for a year, where she worked on the Geomechanical aspects of Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS), Carbon Sequestration and Shale Gas. Before attending graduate school with a Fulbright Scholarship, Laura worked for 5 years in Repsol-YPF oil company as a Reservoir, Exploration and Structural Geologist.

Laura holds a PhD in Geophysics (2008) and a MS in Structural Geology and Geomechanics (2004) from Stanford University as well as a bachelor's degree in Geological Sciences (1996) from the University of Buenos Aires.

SSS No. BOD 2026-006

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT
- 2026Board Meeting Date
N/A

TO					TO							
1.	Frankie McDermott				6.							
2.	Jose Bodipo-Memba				7.							
3.	Joel Ledesma				8.							
4.	Scott Martin				9.	Legal						
5.					10.	CEO & General Manager						
Consent Calendar			Yes	☒	No <i>If no, schedule a dry run presentation.</i>		Budgeted	☒	Yes	No <i>(If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)</i>		
FROM (IPR) Bryanna Schaefer / Crystal Henderson					DEPARTMENT Board Office					MAIL STOP B304	EXT. 5424	DATE SENT 12/18/25

NARRATIVE:

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

Summary: The Board requested an ongoing 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 Strategic Development Committee Chair will summarize Board member requests that come out of the committee presentations for this meeting.

Board Policy: *(Number & Title)* 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.

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

Cost/Budgeted: Included in budget.

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

Affected Parties: Board of Directors and Executive Office

Coordination: Board Office

Presenter: Heidi Sanborn, Strategic Development Committee Chair

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Summary of Committee Direction – Strategic Development Committee

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.