



GRIDWORKS

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REMINDER: Survey for 3/12 High DER Future Grid Workshop #2

Lex Wodtke <dansmarin@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 8, 2024 at 3:07 PM

To: Neha Bazaj <nbazaj@gridworks.org>

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To: Neha Bazaj

It appears that you and Gridworks have put in a great deal of time and effort into developing a plan for modernizing the electric grid. I am afraid, however, that I cannot help you with your survey.

I don't pretend to have any technical expertise in the area of dispatching or distributing energy resources but, as a consumer, I believe that some thought should be given to the costs of developing this plan. It is clear that the journey on which you embark will necessarily require large expenditures to redevelop and animate system architecture so that consumers are able to better manage their energy use in the long term. Costs are not listed among the "operational needs" identified in your survey. And yet they are an essential element of the "iron triangle" concept considered in project management.

At the moment, consumers are being shocked by the extraordinary rate increases that are being placed in effect by California's privately owned utilities. According to a story in the Mercury News in July of last year, "[A study done by WalletHub](#) has revealed that the state ranks 46th out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia in total energy costs for 2023. California residents pay, on average, \$408 per month for electricity, natural gas, motor vehicle fuel and, if they use it, home heating oil."

<https://tinyurl.com/2cobje6z>

Representatives of the CPUC, Edison and the CEC speaking at the CEC's "Workshop on Load Management Standards Implementation" in January 2024, indicated they expected utility customers would be charged with the costs of implementing technological and other 'smart grid' changes. If consumers are asked to pay for system improvements, which would more properly be in the province of the utility's investors, stakeholders should be considering, as they prioritize operational needs, the dollar amount customers will be required to pay to satisfy these needs and how those charges will be allocated among customer classes.

As far as affiliation goes, I am an "Other: Utility customer."

Sincerely,
Alexis Wodtke

[Quoted text hidden]