

California Public Utilities Commission
Energy Division
R. 00-01-005
Concerning Undergrounding of Utility Lines

Notice of Further Workshops and Comments

On February 10 and 11, Energy Division conducted a workshop to identify issues in this proceeding. The participants identified the need for several further workshops. These workshops will be held between March 9 and 31, according to the attached schedule.

In the meantime, parties have been asked to prepare and serve by February 29th 1) a data “wish list,” and 2) a list of issues for discussion at the workshop. Energy Division will prepare a detailed agenda for each workshop a week in advance.

There are three interrelated goals for each workshop. The first is to reach consensus on a master data request to the respondents in this case. Parties requesting information should be ready to explain what they expect to do with that data, and how analysis of that data will guide the Commission in setting rules or policy. Respondents should be able to discuss what data can be made available and by when. Energy Division will ask parties to identify a sponsor to prepare and submit the master data request. Where consensus can not be reached, parties will be free to make individual, additional data requests.

The second goal is to identify areas of agreement, and perhaps specific proposals, favored by all parties. Third, where agreement cannot be reached, parties are encouraged to focus on what information would be necessary to narrow disagreements and to guide the Commission in setting rules or policy. Energy Division will issue a set of rough notes following each workshop.

Ten days after the last workshop, parties will submit and serve a position statement, including areas of agreement and disagreement, and discussions of why the disagreement is important to future public policy on undergrounding. Parties will also have the opportunity to comment on the order and priority that the Commission should give to the various issues.

Energy Division will issue a draft workshop report by May 1. Parties will have ten days to comment on the draft report. Energy Division will prepare a final report by May 25. A prehearing conference will be scheduled in early June, with hearings thereafter.