

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 11

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Edward Burnham, Finance and Operations Director
Mitch Sears, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Authorize the Executive Officer to approve and authorize the execution of a joint powers agreement providing VCE associate membership to the California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”)

DATE: September 12, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Officer to approve and authorize the execution of a joint powers agreement providing VCE associate membership to the California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”)

BACKGROUND

At the June 13, 2024 Board meeting, the Board received a presentation ([Item 13](#)) for an overview regarding the energy prepayment transaction by VCE’s financial Advisor PFM. At the July 11, 2024 Board meeting, the Board received [Item 12](#) which presented an overview regarding the energy prepayment transaction and the conduit issuer, California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”). In addition, the Board authorized the Executive Officer to approve Energy Prepayment Counsel and Energy Prepayment Counter Party (“Underwriter”) Agreements. Following a request for proposals process, VCE has engaged Goldman Sachs as Underwriter and Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe as Counsel for the prepay transaction.

DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

As discussed in the July Board meeting, the prepay transaction requires membership in the CCCFA. Staff has concluded that joining as an associate member is most beneficial to VCE at this time. The out-of-pocket cost to VCE will be \$50,000 (“membership fee”) to join CCCFA.

Transaction Update

This initial transaction will amount to approximately \$600 million of procurement costs running through the prepay with an estimated \$2 million to \$3 million dollars in annual savings for VCE during the initial Put Bond period. It is important to note that the savings estimate is subject to market change

and is therefore deemed preliminary. The energy prepay market continues to remain strong. On August 27, 2024, CCCFA issued \$1.5B in par for an energy prepay where the southern California CCA Clean Power Alliance (“CPA”) was the sole participant. CPA was able to achieve savings above 12% for the initial Put Bond period.

Timeline

Based on the general direction provided by the Board at its July meeting, staff has begun working on the prepay transaction. The targeted timeline is to have draft documents prepared for deal execution by the end of the year to provide 2025 savings as early as possible. As presented in the July Board materials, the details of the prepay agreement will be brought to the Board for review and approval once the documents are negotiated and prepared over the coming months.

Tentative Schedule for Prepay Transaction:

- September 2024: Board Approval of Prepayment Counsel Contract and CCCFA membership (Current)
- October 2024: Estimated PPA savings incorporated into the Preliminary 2025 Budget.
- Q4 2024/ Q1 2025: Board Approval of Final Prepay Transaction.
- Q2 2025: Estimated Power Purchase Transaction Implementation.

Note: Board Updates and formal contract approvals will be brought before the Board as needed throughout the process.

CONCLUSION

Staff recognizes that resource adequacy, weather, and regulatory conditions outside VCE's direct control continue to impact financial results and create volatility for power costs. VCE's current power portfolio provides the opportunity to reduce power costs through a PPA prepayment transaction allowing VCE to more easily set rates to meet costs/build reserves. Additionally, the transaction enhances local control, customer choices, cost competitiveness, and VCE's ability to execute local programs. Authorizing the Executive Officer to approve and authorize the execution of a joint powers agreement providing VCE associate membership to the California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”) will enable VCE to take the next step in the process of the prepay transaction.

ATTACHMENTS

1. California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”) JPA Agreement
2. Resolution 2024-XXX

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY CHOICE FINANCING AUTHORITY JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

This Joint Powers Agreement (this "Agreement") is made by and among those public agencies who are signatories to this Agreement, and those public agencies which may hereafter become signatories to this Agreement (all such parties, except those which have withdrawn as provided herein, are referred to herein as the "Members" and those parties initially executing this Agreement are referred to as the "Founding Members"), creating a separate joint powers agency, which is named "California Community Choice Financing Authority" ("CCCFA").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, each Member is a "community choice aggregator," as that term is defined in Section 331.1 of the Public Utilities Code of the State of California (the "Public Utilities Code"), having duly adopted, established and implemented a community choice aggregation program pursuant to Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code, with the authority to group retail electricity customers to solicit bids, broker, and contract for electricity and energy services for those customers, and to enter into agreements for services to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity and other related services, and to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate and manage energy-related programs; and

WHEREAS, each Member is a "public agency," as that term is defined in Section 6500 of the Government Code of the State of California (the "Government Code"); and

WHEREAS, Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, being Section 6500 and following (the "Act"), authorizes a joint exercise by two or more public agencies of any power which is common to each of them and the creation of an entity that is separate from the parties to the joint exercise of powers agreement; and

WHEREAS, it is to the mutual benefit of the Members and in the public interest that an agency by the name of the California Community Choice Financing Authority be created, by which the Members jointly exercise for their common benefit and for the purposes specified herein certain powers that they have in common or are otherwise provided for by applicable law, including but not limited to (i) the acquisition and operation of power supplies, resource adequacy and renewable attributes, and (ii) the provision of other energy services or programs which may be of benefit to one or more Members; and

WHEREAS, the Act conveys upon joint exercise of powers authorities certain additional powers, including but not limited to the power to issue revenue bonds and incur other evidences of indebtedness for such purposes as are specified in the Act; and

WHEREAS, CCCFA's purpose is to assist Members by undertaking the financing or refinancing of energy prepayments that can be financed with tax advantaged bonds on behalf of one or more of the Members by, among other things, issuing or incurring Bonds (as such term is defined herein) and entering into related contracts with Members.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Members, for and in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements herein contained, do hereby agree as follows:

Article I. DEFINITIONS

In addition to the other terms defined herein, the following terms, whether in the singular or in the plural, when used herein and initially capitalized, shall have the meanings specified throughout this Agreement.

Section 1.01 “**Act**” means Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code (Section 6500 *et seq.*), as supplemented and amended from time to time, including without limitation the Marks-Roos Local Bond Pooling Act of 1985.

Section 1.02 “**Agreement**” means this Joint Powers Agreement, as it may be supplemented and amended from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof.

Section 1.03 “**Associate Member**” means any Public CCA Agency that is a signatory to this Agreement and that has met the requirements of Section 3.02 below to become an Associate Member. The term “Associate Member” shall, however, exclude any Associate Member which shall have withdrawn or been excluded from CCCFA pursuant to Section 3.04 below.

Section 1.04 “**Board**” means the Board of Directors of CCCFA as established by this Agreement.

Section 1.05 “**Bonds**” means bonds, notes, commercial paper, installment purchase, lease purchase and similar agreements and certificates of participation therein, and any other evidences of indebtedness.

Section 1.06 “**CCCFA**” means the California Community Choice Financing Authority, the Joint Powers Authority established by this Agreement.

Section 1.07 “**Director**” means each Director duly appointed and serving on the Board as provided in Article IV of this Agreement.

Section 1.08 “**Founding Member**” means each of the Public CCA Agencies initially executing this Agreement, and any Public CCA Agency that becomes a Founding Member pursuant to Section 3.01 below. The term “Founding Member” shall, however, exclude any Founding Member which shall have withdrawn or been excluded from CCCFA pursuant to Section 3.04 below. The initial Founding Members are Central Coast Community Energy, East Bay Community Energy, Marin Clean Energy, and Silicon Valley Clean Energy.

Section 1.09 “**Government Code**” means the Government Code of the State of California.

Section 1.10 “**Member**” means a Founding Member or an Associate Member.

Section 1.11 “**Prepayment Project**” means, in connection with the financing or refinancing of energy prepayments that can be financed with tax advantaged bonds and other obligations: (i) the purchase and sale of electric energy and associated capacity and environmental attributes, (ii) the design, acquisition, maintenance, or operation of any Public Capital Improvement (as defined in the Act) or other facility or improvement, or the leasing thereof, (iii) the provision of working capital, and (iv) any other project, program, public capital improvement or purpose authorized by the Act or other law to be undertaken, financed, or refinanced by CCCFA, subject to CCCFA’s approval of an application from one or more Members for support of such project, program, public capital improvement or authorized purpose and in connection with the financing or refinancing of energy prepayments that can be financed with tax advantaged bonds and other obligations.

Section 1.12 “**Prepayment Project Contract**” means a contract among any Members and CCCFA in connection with the undertaking, financing or refinancing of a Prepayment Project by such Members and CCCFA in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

Section 1.13 “Public CCA Agency” means any community choice aggregator, as such term is defined in Section 331.1 of the Public Utilities Code, that is a public agency, as such term is defined in the Act, which has implemented a CCA program pursuant to Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code.

Section 1.14 “Public Utilities Code” means the Public Utilities Code of the State of California.

Article II. FORMATION OF AUTHORITY

Section 2.01 Creation of CCCFA. Pursuant to the Act, there is hereby created a public entity, to be known as the “California Community Choice Financing Authority,” which shall be a public entity separate and apart from its Members. The debts, liabilities and obligations of CCCFA shall not constitute debt, liabilities or obligations of any Member.

Section 2.02 Purpose. This Agreement is made, and CCCFA is being established, pursuant to the Act to provide for the joint exercise of powers common to the parties hereto to assist the Members in financing or refinancing energy prepayments that can be financed with tax advantaged bonds and other obligations on behalf of one or more of the Members, including by undertaking, financing or refinancing Prepayment Projects on behalf of one or more of the Members and/or CCCFA, all as further described in Section 2.03 hereof. CCCFA will fulfill the purposes of this Agreement by, among other things, undertaking the sale and issuance or incurrence of Bonds to finance or refinance Prepayment Projects on behalf of one or more of the Members and/or CCCFA in accordance with the Act. CCCFA is not being formed for the purposes of providing municipal services within the meaning of Section 6503.6 or Section 6503.8 of the Act.

Section 2.03 Powers. CCCFA, in its own name, shall have any and all power to undertake Prepayment Projects on behalf of one or more of the Members and/or CCCFA, and to finance or refinance such Prepayment Projects through the sale and issuance or incurring of Bonds for the purposes set forth in Section 2.02 hereof. CCCFA is empowered to exercise any and all common powers of the Members, and any other powers provided to it by any applicable laws, beneficial for the issuance or incurrence from time to time of such Bonds pursuant to Article VII hereof. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, CCCFA, in its own name, shall have the power:

- (a) to acquire, purchase, finance, operate, maintain, utilize and/or dispose of one or more Prepayment Projects and any facilities, programs or other authorized costs relating thereto;
- (b) to make and enter contracts (including without limitation interest rate, commodity, basis and similar hedging contracts intended to hedge payment, rate, cost or similar exposure);
- (c) to employ agents and employees;
- (d) to acquire, manage, maintain or operate any building, works or improvements;
- (e) to acquire, hold, lease or dispose of property;
- (f) to incur debts (including without limitation through the issuance or incurrence of Bonds), liabilities or obligations (which shall not constitute debts, liabilities, or obligations of any of the Members);
- (g) to sue and be sued in its own name;
- (h) to receive gifts, contributions and donations of real or personal property, funds, services and other forms of assistance from any source;
- (i) to receive, collect, invest and disburse moneys;
- (j) to apply for, accept, and receive all licenses, permits, grants, loans or other aids from any federal, state, or local public agency;
- (k) to make and enter into service agreements relating to the provision of services necessary to plan, implement, operate and administer energy-related programs;
- (l) to defend, hold harmless, and indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by law, each Member from any liability, claims, suits, or other actions;

(m) to exercise any other power and take any other action permitted by law to accomplish the purposes of this Agreement.

Such powers shall be exercised by CCCFA subject only to such restrictions upon the manner of exercising such power as are imposed upon Silicon Valley Clean Energy in the exercise of similar powers, as provided in Section 6509 of the Act, and, should Silicon Valley Clean Energy withdraw or be excluded from this Agreement pursuant to Section 3.04 hereof, the manner of exercising any power shall be subject only to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising such powers as are imposed upon Marin Clean Energy in the exercise of similar powers; *provided, however*, that nothing herein shall limit the powers of CCCFA under Article 4 of the Act.

Any Bonds issued or incurred by CCCFA shall not constitute general obligations of CCCFA, but shall be payable solely from the moneys pledged to the payment of principal of or interest on such Bonds under the terms of the resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which the Bonds are issued or incurred, as further described in Article VII hereof. Such Bonds shall not constitute debts, liabilities or obligations of the Members.

Any of the Prepayment Projects acquired, financed or refinanced by CCCFA shall be operated by a Member or CCCFA for and on behalf of CCCFA, either directly or pursuant to contract or agreement with a third party designated by the applicable Member or Members and approved by CCCFA. None of the Members or CCCFA shall have liability for the breach, negligence or willful misconduct of any such third party.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.01 Founding Members. A Public CCA Agency will be qualified to join as a Founding Member only if it possesses the power to purchase and sell electric energy and enter into related contracts for such purposes. Public CCA Agencies may be added as parties to this Agreement and become Founding Members, and existing Associate Members may be elevated to Founding Members, upon: (1) the filing by such Public CCA Agency with the Board of an executed counterpart of this Agreement, together with a copy of the resolution of the governing body of such Public CCA Agency approving this Agreement and the execution and delivery hereof, and requesting to be added as a Founding Member of CCCFA; (2) the approval at a regular or special meeting of the Board by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Board, and the adoption of a resolution of the Board approving the addition of such Public CCA Agency as a Founding Member; and (3) the deposit with, or the written agreement to pay to, CCCFA a share of organization, planning and other costs and charges as determined by the Board to be appropriate, if any. Upon satisfaction of such conditions, the Board shall file such executed counterpart of this Agreement as an amendment hereto, effective upon such filing. Upon completion of the foregoing, the Public CCA Agency shall become a Founding Member for all purposes of this Agreement.

Section 3.02 Associate Members. A Public CCA Agency will be qualified to join as an Associate Member only if it possesses the power to purchase and sell electric energy and enter into related contracts for such purposes. Public CCA Agencies may be added as Associate Members of CCCFA upon: (1) the filing by such Public CCA Agency with the Board of an executed counterpart of this Agreement, together with a copy of the resolution of the governing body of such Public CCA Agency approving this Agreement and the execution and delivery hereof, and requesting to be added as an Associate Member of CCCFA; (2) the approval at a regular or special meeting of the Board by a majority vote of the Directors in attendance, provided a quorum is established and maintained, and the adoption of a resolution of the Board approving the addition of such Public CCA Agency as an Associate Member; and (3) the deposit with, or the written agreement to pay to, CCCFA a share of organization, planning and other costs and charges as determined by the Board to be appropriate, if any. Upon satisfaction of such conditions, the Board shall file such executed counterpart of this Agreement as an amendment hereto, effective upon such filing. Upon completion of the foregoing, the Public CCA Agency shall become an Associate Member for all purposes of this Agreement.

Section 3.03 Cost Allocations.

- (a) Unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board, each Member shall pay an equal share of one Member one share for general and administrative costs as determined by the Board associated with all operations of CCCFA. General and administrative costs do not include any costs that relate solely to any specific Prepayment Project Contract.
- (b) The costs of each Prepayment Project shall be allocated solely to the Member or Members undertaking or participating in such Prepayment Project or on whose behalf CCCFA undertakes such Prepayment Project, which allocation shall be described in a Prepayment Project Contract relating to such Prepayment Project.

Section 3.04 Withdrawal or Exclusion of Member.

- (a) Any Member may withdraw from CCCFA upon the following conditions:
 - (i) The Member shall have filed with the Board Secretary a certified copy of a resolution of its governing body expressing its desire to so withdraw. If a Founding Member files a resolution to withdraw with the Board Secretary, that Founding Member no longer has any voting rights on the Board;
 - (ii) Members undertaking or participating in Prepayment Projects or on whose behalf CCCFA undertakes a Prepayment Project shall remain subject to the cost allocation, participation and withdrawal terms and conditions, as applicable, set forth in the applicable Prepayment Project Contract; and
 - (iii) Prior to the Board accepting the Member's filing of such resolution, any Member so terminating shall be obligated to pay its share of general and administrative costs then due. However, this obligation shall take into account any refunds due to the Member and shall not extend to debts, liabilities and obligations of CCCFA. The debts, liabilities and obligations of CCCFA shall not constitute debt, liabilities or obligations of any Member.
 - (iv) No such withdrawal shall, or shall be permitted if it would, result in (a) CCCFA having fewer than three Founding Members; or (b) the dissolution of CCCFA so long as any Bonds remain outstanding under any resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which such Bonds are issued or incurred.
- (b) Upon compliance with the conditions specified in Section 3.04(a), the Board shall accept the withdrawing Member's resolution and the withdrawing Member shall no longer be considered a Member for any reason or purpose under this Agreement and its rights and obligations under this Agreement shall terminate. The withdrawal of a Member shall not affect any obligations of such Member under any Prepayment Project Contract or other program agreement.
- (c) Any Member which has (i) defaulted under this Agreement, a Prepayment Project Contract, or other program agreement, (ii) if such Member is a Founding Member, failed to appoint a Director to serve on the Board in accordance with Section 4.02 below, or (iii) failed to pay any required share of costs in accordance with Sections 3.01, 3.02, and 3.03 above, may have its rights under this Agreement terminated and may be excluded from participation in CCCFA by the vote (taken at a regular or special meeting of the Board) of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Board (including the Director representing the defaulting Member, if such Member is a Founding Member). Prior to any vote to terminate participation of any Member, written

notice of the proposed termination and the reason(s) for such termination shall be delivered to the Member whose termination is proposed at least 60 days prior to the Board meeting at which such matter shall first be discussed as an agenda item. The written notice of the proposed termination shall specify the particular provisions of this Agreement or a Prepayment Project Contract or other program agreement which the Member has allegedly defaulted on, or whether the proposed termination is based on failure to appoint a Director (if such Member is a Founding Member) or pay any required share of costs. The Member subject to possible termination shall have the opportunity to cure the violation prior to the meeting at which termination will be considered. At the meeting where termination of the Member is considered, the Member shall be given the opportunity to respond to any reasons and allegations that may be cited as a basis for termination prior to a termination vote. Any excluded Member shall continue to be liable for its obligations under any Prepayment Project Contract or other program agreement and for any unpaid contribution, payment, or advance approved by the Board prior to such Member's exclusion. No such termination shall, or shall be permitted if it would, result in (a) CCCFA having fewer than three Founding Members; or (b) the dissolution of CCCFA so long as any Bonds remain outstanding under any resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which such Bonds are issued or incurred.

- (d) The withdrawal or termination of a Member shall not affect the provisions or obligations set forth in Article VIII or Section 11.04 below.

Section 3.05 Contributions and Advances. Contributions or advances of public funds and of personnel, equipment or property may be made to CCCFA by any Member for any of the purposes of this Agreement. Payment of public funds may be made to defray the cost of such purpose. Any such advance shall be made subject to repayment, and shall be repaid in the manner agreed upon by such Member and CCCFA at the time of making such advance. It is mutually understood and agreed that no Member is under any obligation to make advances or contributions to CCCFA to provide for the costs and expenses of administration of CCCFA, even though any Member, in its sole discretion, may do so. Any Founding Member may allow the use of personnel, equipment or property in lieu of other contributions or advances to CCCFA.

Article IV. POWERS OF BOARD & MANAGEMENT OF CCCFA

Section 4.01 Board. CCCFA shall be administered by a Board which shall consist of one Director representing each Founding Member. Such Board shall be the governing body of this CCCFA, and, as such, shall be vested with the powers set forth in this Agreement, and shall execute and administer this Agreement in accordance with the purposes and functions provided herein. The Board shall have the authority to provide for the general management and oversight of the affairs, property and business of CCCFA.

Section 4.02 Appointment and Vacancies. Each Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer, General Manager, Executive Director, or designee of the Chief Executive Officer, General Manager, or Executive Director, of each Founding Member and shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Founding Member that the Director represents, and may be removed as Director by such Founding Member at any time. If at any time a vacancy occurs on the Board, a replacement shall be appointed by the Founding Member to fill the position of the previous Director in accordance with the provisions of this Article IV within 60 days of the date that such position becomes vacant or the Founding Member shall be subject to the exclusion procedures in Section 3.04(c) above. Each Director may appoint an alternate to serve in their absence.

Section 4.03 Notices. The Board shall comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 6503.5, 6503.6 and 53051 of the Government Code requiring the filing of notices and a statement with the Secretary of State and the State Controller.

Section 4.04 Committees. The Board may create committees to provide advice to the Board or conduct the business of CCCFA subject to delegation of authority from the Board as permitted in the bylaws and any applicable laws.

Section 4.05 Director Compensation. Compensation for work performed by Directors, including alternates, on behalf of CCCFA shall be borne by the Founding Member that appointed the Director. The Board, however, may adopt by resolution a policy relating to the reimbursement of expenses incurred by Directors.

Section 4.06 Board Officers. At its first meeting in every second calendar year, the Board shall elect or re-elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair, each of whom shall be selected from among the Directors and shall also appoint or re-appoint a Secretary, and a Treasurer/Controller, each of whom may, but need not, be selected from among the Directors.

- (a) **Chair and Vice-Chair.** The duties of the Chair shall be to preside over the Board meetings, sign all ordinances, resolutions, contracts and correspondence adopted or authorized by the Board, and to help ensure the Board's directives and resolutions are carried out. In the absence or inability of the Chair to act, the Vice Chair shall act as Chair.
- (b) **Treasurer/Controller.** The Board shall appoint a qualified person to act as the Treasurer/Controller, who does not need to be a Director. Where a certified public accountant has been designated as Treasurer/Controller of CCCFA, the auditor of one of the Founding Members or of a county in which one of the Founding Members is located shall be designated as auditor of CCCFA. Subject to the provisions of any resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument providing for a trustee or other fiscal agent in connection with any Bonds, and, except as may otherwise be specified by resolution of CCCFA, the Treasurer/Controller shall be the depository of CCCFA to have custody of all the money of CCCFA, from whatever source, and, as such, shall have the powers, duties and responsibilities specified in Section 6505.5 of the Government Code. The Treasurer/Controller is hereby designated as the public officer or person who has charge of, handles, or has access to any property of CCCFA, and such officer shall file an official bond in an amount determined from time to time by the Board as required by Section 6505.1 of the Government Code. The Treasurer/Controller shall cause an independent audit to be made by a certified public accountant, or public accountants, in compliance with Section 6505 of the Government Code. The Treasurer/Controller shall also create or caused to be created a report in writing on the first day of each fiscal quarter to CCCFA and each Founding Member, which report shall describe the amount of money held by the Treasurer/Controller, the amount of receipts since the last such report, and the amount paid out since the first such report.
- (c) **Secretary.** The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Board and all other official records of CCCFA, and responding to public records requests of the JPA.

Section 4.07 Management of CCCFA. The Board may appoint a part-time or full-time General Manager, and may appoint one or more part-time or full-time Assistant General Managers, to serve at the pleasure of the Board. If a General Manager has been appointed, the General Manager shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of CCCFA. If no General Manager shall have been appointed, the Treasurer/Controller shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of CCCFA. The General Manager, if any, and the Treasurer/Controller may each enter into and execute contracts in accordance with the policies established and direction provided by the Board, and shall file an official bond in the amount determined from time to time by the Board.

Section 4.08 Other Officers and Employees. The Board shall have the power to appoint such other officers, deputies, legal counsel (which may be the legal counsel to one or more of the Members) and staff as it may deem necessary who shall have such powers, duties and responsibilities as are determined by the Board, and to retain independent accountants, legal counsel, engineers and other consultants. The Founding Members may contract with CCCFA to provide staff to perform services for CCCFA, but such employees shall at all times, and for all purposes including benefits and compensation, remain employees of the Founding Member only.

Section 4.09 Budget. The budget shall be approved by the Board. The Board may revise the budget from time-to-time as may be reasonably necessary to address contingencies and expected expenses. All subsequent budgets of CCCFA shall be approved by the Board in accordance with rules as may be adopted by the Board from time to time. All expenditures must be made in accordance with the adopted budget.

Section 4.10 Fiscal Year. Unless changed by resolution of the Board, the fiscal year of CCCFA shall be the period from January 1 of each year to and including the following December 31.

Article V. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

Section 5.01 Regular Meetings. The Board shall hold at least one regular meeting per year, but the Board may provide for the holding of regular meetings at more frequent intervals. The date, hour and place of each regular meeting shall be fixed by resolution of the Board. Regular meetings may be adjourned to another meeting time.

Section 5.02 Special Meetings. Special and emergency meetings of the Board may be called in accordance with the provisions of Government Code Sections 54956 and 54956.5, as amended.

Section 5.03 Brown Act Compliance. All meetings of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 *et seq.*), and as augmented by rules of the Board not inconsistent therewith. Directors may participate in meetings telephonically or by other electronic means, with full voting rights, to the extent permitted by law.

Section 5.04 Minutes. The Secretary shall cause to be kept minutes of the meetings of the Board, both regular and special, and shall cause a copy of the minutes to be forwarded promptly to each Director.

Section 5.05 Quorum. A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of the Directors, except that less than a quorum may adjourn from time to time in accordance with law.

Section 5.06 Voting. Each Founding Member shall have one vote, which may be cast on any matter before the Board by each Director or alternate. Except to the extent otherwise specified in this Agreement, or by law, a vote of the majority of the Directors in attendance shall be required and sufficient to constitute action, provided a quorum is established and maintained.

(a) Special Voting Requirements as specified in this Agreement:

- (i)** Action of the Board on the matters set forth in Section 3.01 related to addition of Founding Members shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Entire Board.
- (ii)** Action of the Board on the matters set forth in Section 3.04(c) related to involuntary termination of a Member shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Board.

- (iii) Action of the Board on the matters set forth in Section 9.01 related to termination of this Agreement shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Board approved by resolution of each Founding Member's governing body.
- (iv) Action of the Board to amend any other provision of this Agreement shall be subject to the voting requirements set forth in Section 11.03 below.

Section 5.07 Rules and Regulations. CCCFA may adopt, from time to time, by resolution of the Board such bylaws, policies or rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and affairs as may be required.

Article VI. PREPAYMENT PROJECTS

Section 6.01 Prepayment Projects. The Board has the power, upon majority vote of the Directors in attendance, provided a quorum is established and maintained, to approve the application of any Member for the undertaking, financing, or refinancing of any Prepayment Projects within the purpose and power of CCCFA and to adopt guidelines for their implementation.

Section 6.02 Prepayment Project Contract. The costs and other expenses of each Prepayment Project, including without limitation applicable administrative costs of CCCFA with respect to the Prepayment Project, shall be allocated solely to the Member or Members undertaking or participating in such Prepayment Project or on whose behalf CCCFA undertakes such Prepayment Project, which allocation shall be described in a Prepayment Project Contract relating to such Prepayment Project, which will be separate and distinct from this Agreement.

Article VII. BONDS AND OTHER INDEBTEDNESS

In addition to the other powers conferred on CCCFA by this Agreement, CCCFA shall have the power to issue, incur, sell and deliver Bonds in accordance with the provisions of the Act and other applicable laws for the purpose of acquiring, undertaking, financing, or refinancing one or more Prepayment Projects. The terms and conditions of the issuance or incurrence of any such bonds or indebtedness shall be set forth in a resolution, indenture trust agreement, or other instrument pursuant to which the Bonds are issued or incurred, as required by law and as approved by the Board. CCCFA's debts, liabilities and obligations with respect to Bonds issued or incurred under this Agreement and contracts or obligations entered into to carry out the purposes for which Bonds are issued or incurred, shall not constitute a debt, liability or obligation of any of the Members.

Any Bonds issued or incurred by CCCFA shall not constitute general obligations of CCCFA, but shall be payable solely from the moneys pledged to the payment of principal of or interest on such Bonds under the terms of the resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which the Bonds are issued or incurred.

Article VIII. LIMITATION ON LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Section 8.01 Pursuant to Section 6508.1 of the Government Code, no debt, liability or obligation of CCCFA shall be a debt, liability or obligation of any Member. Nothing contained in this Article VIII shall in any way diminish the liability of any Member with respect to any Prepayment Project Contract such Member enters into pursuant to this Agreement.

Section 8.02 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement or otherwise, CCCFA shall not have the power to and shall not enter into any retirement contract with any public retirement system (as defined in Section 6508.1 of the Government Code) for any reason. The provision in this paragraph is intended to

benefit Members and to be a confirming, irrevocable obligation of CCCFA which may be enforced by Members individually or collectively.

Article IX. TERM; TERMINATION; LIQUIDATION; DISTRIBUTION

Section 9.01 Term and Termination. This Agreement shall become effective when at least three Founding Members execute this Agreement. This Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until terminated as provided in this Article; *provided, however*, this Agreement cannot be terminated while either (a) any Bonds of CCCFA remain outstanding under the terms of the resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which such Bonds are issued or incurred, or (b) CCCFA is the owner, lessor or lessee of any real or personal property financed from the proceeds of any Bonds. This Agreement may be terminated by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board that is approved by resolution of each Founding Member's governing body; *provided, however*, that this Agreement and CCCFA shall continue to exist after termination for the purpose of disposing of all claims, distribution of assets and all other functions necessary to conclude the obligations and affairs of CCCFA. In any event, CCCFA shall cause all records regarding its formation, existence, the Prepayment Projects, any Bonds issued or incurred by it and proceedings pertaining to its termination to be retained for at least six years (or as otherwise required by law) following termination of CCCFA or final payment of any Bonds issued or incurred by CCCFA, whichever is later.

Section 9.02 Liquidation; Distribution. Upon termination of this Agreement, the Board shall liquidate the business and assets and the property of CCCFA as expeditiously as possible, and distribute any net proceeds, after the conclusions of all debts and obligations of CCCFA, to any Members in proportion to the contributions made or in such manner as otherwise provided by law. The Board is vested with all powers of CCCFA for the purpose of concluding and dissolving the business affairs of CCCFA. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no dissolution of CCCFA shall be permitted while either (a) any Bonds of CCCFA remain outstanding, or (b) CCCFA is the owner, lessor or lessee of any real or personal property financed from the proceeds of any Bonds.

ARTICLE X. ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS

Section 10.01 Establishment and Administration of Funds. CCCFA is responsible for the strict accountability of all funds and reports of all receipts and disbursements. It will comply with every provision of law relating to the establishment and administration of funds, including without limitation Section 6505 of the Government Code. CCCFA shall establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by good accounting practice or by any provision of any resolution, indenture or other instrument of CCCFA securing its bonds or other indebtedness, except insofar as such powers, duties and responsibilities are assigned to a trustee appointed pursuant to such resolution, indenture or other instrument. The books and records of CCCFA shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times to each Member and its representatives.

Section 10.02 Annual Audits and Audit Reports. The Treasurer/Controller shall cause an annual independent audit of the accounts and records of CCCFA to be made by a certified public accountant or public accountant in accordance with all applicable laws. If permitted by applicable law and authorized by the Board, the audit(s) may be conducted at the longer interval authorized by applicable law. A report of the financial audit will be filed as a public record with each Member not later than 270 days after the close of the fiscal year or fiscal years under examination. CCCFA will pay the cost of the financial audit and charge the cost against the Members in the same manner as other administrative costs.

ARTICLE XI. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 11.01 Conflict of Interest Policy. CCCFA, unless otherwise exempt, shall adopt a conflict of interest policy as required under applicable laws of the State of California. Counsel to CCCFA for financing

matters, including bond counsel, shall not be considered a consultant or other designated position for purposes of the conflict of interest policy.

Section 11.02 Successors and Assigns. This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the successors of the parties. Except to the extent expressly provided herein, neither a Member nor CCCFA may assign any right or obligation under this Agreement without the consent of all other Members.

Section 11.03 Amendments. Subject to any requirements of law, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board will be required to amend Articles II, III, VIII, and IX of this Agreement, and an amendment of Section 8.02 and Section 11.03 of this Agreement shall require an affirmative vote of the entire Board. Once an amendment of Articles II, III, VIII, or IX is adopted by the Board, the amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the Founding Members pursuant to each Founding Member's applicable approval process, and an amendment of Section 8.02 and Section 11.03 of this Agreement shall require an affirmative vote of all Founding Members pursuant to each Founding Member's applicable approval process. All other provisions of this Agreement may be amended at any time or from time to time by an amendment approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board. Written notice shall be provided to all Members of proposed amendments to this Agreement, including the effective date of such amendments, at least thirty (30) days prior to the date upon which the Board votes on such amendments. Each Member hereby agrees to take any actions necessary on its part to approve any amendment adopted pursuant to this Section 11.03, and if any Member fails to perform any such actions, such Member shall be deemed to have submitted a resolution of withdrawal pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.04 hereof.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement shall not terminate while any Bonds of CCCFA remain outstanding under the terms of the resolution, indenture, trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which such Bonds are issued or incurred.

Section 11.04 Indemnification and Insurance. To the fullest extent permitted by law, CCCFA shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Members and each Director, alternate, officer, employee and agent from any and all claims losses damages, costs, injuries and liabilities of every kind arising directly or indirectly from the conduct, activities, operations, acts, and omissions of CCCFA under this Agreement to the extent not otherwise provided under a Prepayment Project Contract. CCCFA shall acquire such insurance coverage as the Board deems is necessary and appropriate to protect the interests of CCCFA and the Members.

Section 11.05 Waiver of Personal Liability. No member, director, commissioner, officer, agent or employee of CCCFA or the Members, respectively, past, present or future, shall be individually or personally liable for the observance or performance of any terms, conditions or provisions hereof or for any claims, losses, damages, costs, injury and liability of any kind, nature or description arising from the actions of CCCFA or the actions undertaken pursuant to this Agreement; provided, however, that nothing herein shall relieve any such person from the performance of any official duty provided hereby or by applicable provision of law.

Section 11.06 Limitation of Rights. All of the covenants, agreements, terms and conditions in this Agreement to be observed or performed by or on behalf of CCCFA or the Members shall be for the sole and exclusive benefit of CCCFA and the Members, whether so expressed or not, and nothing contained herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall give any other person other than CCCFA and the Members any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim hereunder.

Section 11.07 Notices. The Board shall designate its principal office as the location at which it will receive notices, correspondence, and other communications, and shall designate one of its Directors or staff as an officer for the purpose of receiving service of process on behalf of CCCFA. Any notice given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be dated and signed by the Member giving such notice. Notice to each Member under this Agreement is sufficient if mailed to the Member, and separately to the Director appointed by such Founding Member, to their respective addresses on file with CCCFA.

Section 11.08 Severability. Should any portion, term, condition, or provision of this Agreement be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law of the State of California, or be otherwise rendered unenforceable or ineffectual, the remaining portions, terms, conditions, and provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Section 11.09 Section Headings. The section headings herein are for convenience only and are not to be construed as modifying or governing the language in the section to which they refer.

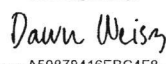
Section 11.10 Choice of Law. This Agreement will be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

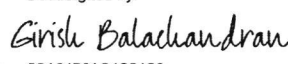
Section 11.11 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and each executed counterpart shall have the same force and effect as an original instrument and as if all Members had signed the same instrument.

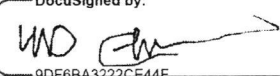
Section 11.12 Dispute Resolution. The Members shall make reasonable efforts to informally settle all disputes arising out of, or in connection with, this Agreement. Should such informal efforts to settle a dispute fail, the dispute shall be mediated in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Board. In the event such mediation fails to settle a dispute, the parties may pursue any remedies provided by law.

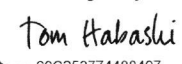
[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member hereto has caused this Agreement to be executed as an original counterpart by its duly authorized representative on the date indicated below.

DocuSigned by:
By: 
A59878416EBG4F8...
Name: Dawn Weisz
Title: CEO
CCA Name: MCE
Date: June 25, 2021

DocuSigned by:
By: 
5CA64B9AC4C24C3...
Name: Girish Balachandran
Title: CEO
CCA Name: Silicon Valley Clean Energy
Date: June 25, 2021

DocuSigned by:
By: 
9DF6BA3222CE44F...
Name: Nick Chaset
Title: CEO
CCA Name: East Bay Community Energy
Date: June 25, 2021

DocuSigned by:
By: 
69C25377448R497...
Name: Tom Habashi
Title: CEO
CCA Name: central coast community energy
Date: June 25, 2021

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member hereto has caused this Agreement to be executed as an original counterpart by its duly authorized representative on the date indicated below.

E-SIGNED by Donald Eckert

By: on 2022-09-02 12:27:33 PDT

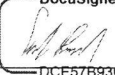
Name: Donald Eckert

Title: Executive Director

CCA Name: Pioneer Community Energy

Date: September 02, 2022

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member hereto has caused this Agreement to be executed as an original counterpart by its duly authorized representative on the date indicated below.

By:  DocuSigned by:
DC57B93CTDA48A...
Name: Ted Bardacke
Title: Chief Executive Officer
CCA Name: Clean Power Alliance of Southern California
Date: 9/6/2022

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member hereto has caused this Agreement to be executed as an original counterpart by its duly authorized representative on the date indicated below.

By: Lori Mitchell

Name: *Lori Mitchell*
Lori Mitchell (Jun 17, 2024 10:54 PDT)

Title: Director Community Energy

CCA Name: San Jose Clean Energy

Date: 06/17/2024

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-_____****RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE (VCE) TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT PROVIDING VCE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP TO THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY CHOICE FINANCING AUTHORITY TO ISSUE MUNICIPAL BONDS FOR ENERGY PREPAY TRANSACTIONS**

WHEREAS, the pursuit of an energy prepayment on a tax advantaged basis enables a meaningful power procurement cost savings opportunity in which the Valley Clean Energy Alliance (“VCE”) can utilize its tax-exempt status to access the municipal bond market to prepay existing energy supply contracts at a discounted rate; and

WHEREAS, long-term power prepay transactions utilize the municipal bond market and therefore VCE requires a bond issuing entity to participate; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Choice Financing Authority (“CCCFA”) is a joint exercise of powers agency established under California Government Code section 6500 et seq. (the “JPA Law”) and a Joint Powers Agreement (the “CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement”) among various California Community Choice Aggregators (“CCAs”) for the purpose of undertaking the financing and refinancing of energy prepayments that can be financed with tax advantaged bonds on behalf of one or more of its members by, among other things, issuing or incurring bonds and entering into related contracts; and

WHEREAS, VCE is a community choice aggregator, as such term is defined in Section 331.1 of the Public Utilities Code of the State of California (the “Public Utilities Code”), that is a public agency, as such term is defined in the JPA Law, which has implemented a CCA program pursuant to Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code, and possesses the power to purchase and sell electric energy and enter into related contracts for such purposes and, therefore, VCE is eligible to become a member of CCCFA under the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement; and

WHEREAS, for CCCFA to finance or refinance energy prepayments and issue bonds on behalf of VCE, VCE must become an associate member of CCCFA; and

WHEREAS, VCE has determined that CCCFA is the best-fit least-cost option for a bond issuing entity to enable VCE to participate in one or more energy prepayment transactions and therefore VCE desires to become an associate member of CCCFA; and

WHEREAS, to become an associate member of CCCFA, the Board of Directors of VCE must file an executed counterpart of the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement with CCCFA, together with a copy of the resolution of the Board of Directors of VCE approving the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement and the execution and delivery thereof, and requesting to be added as an Associate Member of

CCCFA and VCE must further agree in writing to pay CCCFA a share of organization, planning and other costs and charges as determined by the Board of CCCFA to be appropriate, if any; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2022, the CCCFA Board established a new membership entry fee of \$50,000 for a new associate member’s portion of organization, planning, and other costs, in addition to each member’s equal share of general and administrative costs as determined by the CCCFA Board; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2022, the CCCFA Board established a transaction fee of \$20,000 to cover the “Prepayment Project” costs as defined in Section 1.11 of the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement; and

WHEREAS, under the JPA Law and the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement, CCCFA is a public entity separate and apart from the parties to the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement, and the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the CCCFA will not constitute debts, liabilities, or obligations of VCE.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance hereby finds, declares, and resolves as follows:

- Section 1.** The above recitals are true and correct.
- Section 2.** The CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement on file with the Secretary of the Board of Directors of VCE is hereby approved. The Executive Officer of VCE is authorized and directed, on behalf of VCE, to execute the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement, and request that VCE become an associate member of CCCFA.
- Section 3.** VCE hereby agrees to pay CCCFA for its share of organization, planning and other costs and charges as determined by the Board of CCCFA to be appropriate.
- Section 4.** The officers, employees, and agents of VCE are hereby authorized and directed, jointly and severally, to execute and deliver any and all documents, agreements and instruments and to do any and all things which they may deem necessary or advisable to carry out, give effect to and comply with the terms and intent of the CCCFA Joint Powers Agreement and this Resolution.
- Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED, at a regular meeting of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance, held on the ____ day of _____ 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Lucas Frerichs, VCE Chair

Alisa M. Lembke, VCE Board Secretary