

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 5

TO: Community Advisory Committee
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: CAC November 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes
DATE: December 15, 2022

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached November 17, 2022 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair David Springer opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022 beginning at 5:00 p.m. via videoconference pursuant to the Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361). The Board of Directors found that the local health official recommended measures to promote social distancing and authorized the continuation of remote meetings for the foreseeable future.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: David Springer (Chair), Marsha Baird (Vice Chair), Christine Shewmaker, Lorenzo Kristov, Gerry Braun, Jennifer Rindahl, Mark Aulman, Kristin Jacobs (arrived at 5:04 p.m.), Cynthia Rodriguez (arrived at approximately 6:15 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Rahul Athalye, Keith Taylor

Welcome and Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Christine Shewmaker to approve the November 17, 2022 meeting agenda, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed with Rahul Athalye, Keith Taylor, and Cynthia Rodriguez absent.

Public Comment / Introductions

There were no written or verbal public comments on items not on the agenda and on Consent Agenda items.

Brief Task Group and VCE staff Reports

Chair Springer reminded those present that at CAC's December meeting, the election of officers for 2023 will be made for Chair and Vice Chair. If interested in serving as Chair or Vice Chair, please contact Gordon Samuel and Alisa Lembke and if you have questions about the positions, please contact Mr. Springer or Ms. Baird.

Task Group Reports

Outreach: Mark Aulman informed those present that there was nothing to report.

Energy Resilience: Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that the Task Group has not met and there was nothing to report.

Leg/Reg: Mr. Kristov informed those present that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued a rewritten Proposed Decision (PD) on Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0. The CPUC started their demand flexibility proceeding with VCE being one of the two CCAs that have a pilot program on demand flexibility, the AgFIT program. VCE Staff Yvonne Hunter informed those present that VCE is participating in



the dynamic pricing proceeding. She also referred the CAC members to the legislative report provided to the Board at their November 10, 2022 meeting. Pacific Policy Group will provide a legislative update/summary to the CAC at their January 2023 meeting.

Programs: Marsha Baird provided an update on VCE's current programs: EV Rebates, Home Energy, OhmConnect, and AgFIT. She also reported that TECH funding sources for home energy efficiency rebates are becoming available again. She reported that the Board at their November meeting approved VCE's VGI (Vehicle Grid Integration) pilot program, a program in partnership with Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD), who approached VCE and another CCA to apply for funding. The Yolo Energy Efficiency program that VCE Staff are working on with Yolo County to provide energy efficiency rebates is anticipated to launch at the end of 2023. Chair Springer informed those present that he attended an energy smart home programs webinar which would provide substantial rebates for home electrification. He also reported that the energy smart home program rebates could be layered in with CCA and TECH rebates.

November 10, 2022 Board meeting update: Assistant General Manager Gordon Samuel highlighted that the Board approved accepting excess energy from the Tumbleweed CC Power project, approved a 2023 Leg Platform, and received 2023 operating budget update.

Staff Report: Mr. Samuel reported that Staff recently met with legal counsel to discuss the Brown Act and AB 2449 (new legislation on teleconferencing meetings). He informed those present that effective March 2023 Board and CAC meetings will be held in person. Ms. Hunter provided highlights of the key NEM 3.0 provisions, what it proposes, and the implementation timeline. Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE continues to pursue expansion of the AgFIT program and participating in the CPUC proceeding on dynamic pricing.

Consent Items

Christine Shewmaker made a motion to approve the Consent agenda, seconded by Lorenzo Kristov. Motion passed with Rahul Athalye, Keith Taylor and Cynthia Rodriguez absent. The following items were:

5. approved October 27, 2022 meeting Minutes;
6. received 2022 long-range calendar;
7. received 2023 Operating Budget update; and,
8. approved and support Staff's recommendation of the 2023 Greenhouse gas (GHG)-free attributes.

There were no written or verbal comments as identified above.



Item 9: Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard update. (Information)

Mr. Samuel provided an update on the Aquamarine project (showing the amounts delivered and curtailed against the forecasted energy), 2022 RPS targets and progress, and long term Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) forecasting and PPA timing of anticipated projects coming on line. The CAC discussed the impacts of the Yolo County municipal accounts opting up to UltraGreen, specifically with forecasting; definitions of production, delivery and curtailment of energy; where VCE will be in meeting its goal of 20% local energy sources; and, Putah Creek Solar Farm. The CAC suggested that the Board receive a "Power Procurement / Renewal Renewable Portfolio Standard update" at least once a year.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 10: Discussion of current 80% Renewable by 2030 Policy. (Discussion)

Mr. Samuel provided the background on VCE's power content targeting 80% renewable by 2030, which also set a goal of 25% of this amount be from local resources; provided the current renewable portfolio trajectory out to the year 2030; and, showed a comparison study of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) preferred conforming portfolio. Staff sought feedback from the CAC of possibly modifying VCE's current policy of 80% renewable by 2030 policy; presenting this item to the Board at their December meeting for discussion; then, back to the CAC and Board in mid-2023 on a formal proposal for consideration.

The CAC discussed with Staff: speeding up the plan for a formal proposal from Quarter 3/Quarter 4 of 2022 to mid-2023; portfolio diversity; VCE's definition of local resources; possible other types of resources, such as wind; adding battery storage to existing solar; alignment of VCE's goals with portfolio; other options to reach portfolio goal; and, setting a larger target than 80% by 2030, such as 95% or 100% goal, now. Several members expressed the advantages to setting an aspirational or reach goal now rather than in mid-2023 and noted a number of other CCAs that have set similar 100% by 2030 goals.

Christine Shewmaker made a motion that the CAC recommend to the Board that the Board set a target now of reaching 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 2030, which is in line with other CCAs' 100% target. Motion seconded by Jennifer Rindahl.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

After further discussion, Ms. Shewmaker amended her motion to: that the CAC recommends that the Board set a target now of reaching 100% RPS by 2030, of which 25% is local. Jennifer Rindahl seconded the amended motion. Motion carried with Athalye, Taylor and Rodriguez absent.

Item 11: Seeking recommendation from CAC to the

VCE Staff Edward Burnham introduced Don Dame, VCE's consultant, who is present to assist answering questions.



Board to adopt Rate Adjustment System. (Discussion/Action)

Staff presented a final draft of the Rate Adjustment Policy. Staff sought additional input from the CAC and a recommendation to the Board to adopt the Rate Adjustment System (RAS) policy. Staff will present a final draft to the Board for adoption at their December 2022 meeting.

The CAC discussed with Staff: what other CCAs had this type of policy; the mechanics of the policy, such as what is a qualifying event, purpose of monthly adjustment and annual cumulative limit, amortization of rate increase, when, who and how many times reviewed; perception and reaction of customers to rate increase; other “lines of defense” available to deal with unanticipated events, such as a drought; and, how policy and a rate increase is perceived by customers.

(Cynthia Rodriguez arrived at approximately 6:15 p.m.)

Lorenzo Kristov made a motion that the CAC recommend to the Board that the Board adopt a Rate Adjustment Policy including the following key elements:

- a. Customer rate adjustments shall be calculated no more than once per month;
- b. Such monthly adjustment shall not result in more than a 7.5% increase/decrease to VCE's weighted average total generation rate;
- c. The net annual cumulative limit for within-year customer rate adjustments authorized under this policy is a total of 15% unless modified by the Board;
- d. Rates are reviewed annually by VCE Board as part of the annual budget process.

Vice Chair Baird seconded the motion.

The CAC discussed the monthly adjustment percentage proposed at 7.5% and annual cumulative limit percentage proposed at 15% as outlined in Staff's recommendation.

Jennifer Rindahl made a substitute motion that the CAC recommend to the Board that that the monthly adjustment shall not result in more than a 5% increase/decrease instead of 7.5% and the net annual cumulative total limit be 10% instead of 15% as outlined in Staff's recommendation. This motion was seconded by Gerry Braun.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

The following substitute motion was voted on.

The CAC recommends that the Board adopt a Rate Adjustment Policy including the following key elements:

- a) customer rate adjustments shall be calculated no more than once per month;
- b) such monthly adjustment shall not result in more than a 5% increase/decrease to VCE's weighted average total generation rate;
- c) the net annual cumulative limit for within-year customer rate adjustments authorized under his policy is a total of 10% unless modified by the Board; and,



d) rates are reviewed annually by the Board as part of the annual budget process. Motion passed with Lorenzo Kristov abstaining and Rahul Athalye and Keith Taylor absent.

**Advisory Committee
Member and
Announcements**

Christine Shewmaker thanked Mr. Samuel and Mr. Burnham for their presentations. She informed those present that it was recently announced that Assemblyperson Anthony Rendon will stay on as speaker of the Legislature until June 2023 then Assemblyperson Robert Rivas will take over as the speaker.

No other announcements were made.

**Adjournment to
Next Meeting**

Due to the Christmas holiday, the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 5 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst