

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 8

To: Valley Clean Energy Alliance Board of Directors

From: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

Subject: Legislative Update – Pacific Policy Group

Date: May 14, 2020

Pacific Policy Group, VCE’s lobby services consultant, continues to work with Staff and the Community Advisory Committee’s Regulatory and Legislative Task Group on numerous legislative bills.

The Legislature has returned from its unscheduled recess in response to COVID-19 and is back to work in Sacramento. The Assembly returned on May 4 and the Senate returned on May 11, but the Capitol building is still largely empty. Physical distancing measures being employed by both houses of the Legislature prohibit in person meetings with Legislators and restrict staff to only one physically present staff per legislator per day. While committees are conducting hearings, the number of bills being considered has largely been reduced as direction from leadership and committee chairs is that only those bills that relate to COVID-19 response, wildfires or homelessness should be pursued. The Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications Committee will conduct its one and only hearing on May 14 and the Assembly Utilities & Energy Committee will hold its sole hearing on May 20, but neither committee has noticed which bills will be considered at the time this report was drafted.

Lastly, a tentative agenda for the remainder of the legislative session has been released to reset deadlines and timelines to account for the unscheduled recess. The agenda is as follows:

Senate

- The Policy deadline that was April 24 will now be May 29.
- The Fiscal deadline that was May 29 will now be June 19.
- The House of Origin deadline will now be June 26.
- The Senate will take a one week recess from July 3 through July 12, returning to session on July 13.

Assembly

- The Assembly House of Origin deadline will be June 19.
- The Assembly will take a three-week recess starting June 19 and continuing through July 12, returning to session on July 13.

After July 13, the calendars of the Senate and the Assembly will be harmonized. All of these revised dates are proposed and will need to be approved.