



Redwood Coast Energy Authority

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E-mail: info@redwoodenergy.org Web: www.redwoodenergy.org

Redwood Coast Energy Authority Office
633 3rd St., Eureka, CA 95501

January 14, 2020
Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at the phone number, email or physical address listed above at least 24 hours in advance.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, all writings or documents relating to any item on this agenda which have been provided to a majority of the Community Advisory Committee, including those received less than 72 hours prior to the Committee's meeting, will be made available to the public in the agenda binder located in the RCEA lobby during normal business hours, and at www.redwoodenergy.org.

PLEASE NOTE: Speakers wishing to distribute materials to the Committee at the meeting are asked to provide 17 copies to the Clerk.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Agenda Item	What / Action	When
1. Open	<div><div><div>Roll Call:</div><div>Norman Bell</div><div>Jerome Carman</div><div>Colin Fiske</div><div>Larry Goldberg</div><div>Pam Halstead</div><div>Tom Hofweber</div><div>Robin Smith, Board liaison</div><div>Review meeting agenda and goals.</div></div><div><div>Richard Johnson</div><div>Luna Latimer</div><div>Dennis Leonardi</div><div>Kit Mann</div><div>Craig Mitchell</div><div>Kathy Srabian</div><div>Matty Tittman</div></div></div>	6 - 6:05 (5 min)
2. Approval of Minutes	Action: Approve minutes of: - Nov. 12, 2019 special meeting, and - Dec. 10, 2019 special meeting.	6:05 - 6:15 (10 min)
3. Oral Communications	This item is provided for the public to address the Committee on matters not on the agenda. At the end of oral communications, the Committee will respond to statements, set requests requiring action to a future agenda, or refer requests to staff.	
4. Annual Meeting Calendar	Action: Approve 2020 Community Advisory Committee annual meeting calendar.	6:15 – 6:20 (5 min)
5. Selection of Chair/Vice Chair	Action: Accept nominations for, and appoint, a Community Advisory Committee chair and vice chair for terms	6:20 – 6:30 (10 min)

	beginning April 14, 2020, and ending April 13, 2021.	
6. RCEA Resiliency Initiatives	<p>Receive updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Public Safety Power Shutoff Subcommittee (on islanding Humboldt County), • Airport Solar Microgrid Project (islanding critical facilities) and • the CPUC Self-Generation Incentive Program (for customer battery storage rebates). <p>Information only.</p>	6:30 – 7:20 (50 min)
7. Member Reports	This time is provided for Committee members to share information on topics not on the agenda. At the end of member reports, the Executive Director will set requests requiring action to a future agenda or refer requests to staff or the Board.	7:20 - 7:25 (5 min)
8. Close & Adjourn	Summarize actions, outcomes, Board communication items, next steps	7:25 - 7:30 (5 min)

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
RCEA Offices
633 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501



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Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Office
828 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501

November 12, 2019
Tuesday, 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE **SPECIAL MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**

The agenda for this meeting was posted on November 8, 2019. Community Advisory Committee Chair Matty Tittman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Norman Bell (arrived 6:03 p.m.) Luna Latimer
 Jerome Carman Dennis Leonardi
 Colin Fiske Kit Mann
 Vice chair Larry Goldberg Craig Mitchell
 Pam Halstead Kathy Srabian
 Tom Hofweber Chair Matty Tittman
 Richard Johnson Board Liaison Robin Smith

Staff present: Acting Executive Director Dana Boudreau
 Power Resources Director Richard Engel
 Demand Side Projects Manager Mike Avcollie
 RCEA Climate & Forests Consultant Michael Furniss

Minutes approval

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

Motion Johnson, Second Goldberg. Minutes of the July 9, 2019 regular meeting were approved by consensus.

Member Reports

Chair Tittman invited Community Advisory Committee member reports. There were none.

Oral Communications

Chair Tittman invited public comment on items not on the agenda.

Arcata resident Kelsey Reedy expressed opposition to biomass as clean and renewable energy, and to the Terra-Gen wind project. Ms. Reedy expressed further opposition to supporting large corporations as local energy providers instead of smaller power projects.

Chair Tittman closed public comment.

Public Safety Power Shutoff (Information only)

Power Resources Director Richard Engel reported on past efforts by staff to find out from PG&E about islanding Humboldt County in the event of a public safety power shutoff (PSPS), conflicting reports on whether this is possible, the Board of Directors' October 24 formation of an ad hoc subcommittee to investigate the possibility of islanding Humboldt County, and staff communications with PG&E subsequent to that action. The Committee discussed:

- Technical requirements of islanding Humboldt County
- Possible need for CAISO region redefinition
- Importance of local energy generation
- Generator emissions during power shutoffs
- Possible Community Advisory Committee member attendance at ad hoc Board Public Safety Power Shutoff Subcommittee meetings
- The ability to island neighborhoods, as San Diego Gas and Electric does
- PG&E's poor public communication during the shut off events.

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

RePower Humboldt/Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy (CAPE) 2019 Update (Information only)

Staff Director Engel reported on previous strategic plans and technical analyses done with regional partners and the Board-approved Community Choice Energy program guidelines that were incorporated into the Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy revision, now retitled "RePower Humboldt." Community input and updated agency goals were described for each of on four different agency work categories (power procurement, integrated demand-side management, transportation and regional planning). RCEA Climate and Forests Consultant Michael Furniss summarized biomass power research from the Forests, Energy and the Environment meeting and public workshop, described biomass as a possible bridge solution until cleaner electricity sources are available, outlined biomass' health impacts and baseline power production role, and introduced biochar and other potential carbon-sequestration methods for mill waste.

The Committee members discussed:

- The importance of changing state "renewable" definitions and of an energy polyculture
- Routine experience of unreliable power in rural areas and the necessity of microgrids to make electrification initiatives equitable for these communities
- Offshore wind's risks, lack of consistent power production and grid interconnection study preliminary indications
- Possibility of offering competitively priced electricity to Direct Access customers
- The lack of "clean" energy goals in the power mix
- The need to specify action should biomass be found to not be carbon neutral
- The need to address equitable access
- RCEA's and the community's possible roles to address transportation targets, including more involvement with HCAOG and other local agencies
- The need for analysis of status quo, advanced and very aggressive scenarios, and probability analysis of different options such as offshore wind
- The desire for wave energy research and zero carbon release in 10 years
- The off-grid cannabis industry's mobile diesel use and lack of renewable energy requirements

- The need for the RePower document to state that it captures goals for one point in time and that the agency will look at other options should current energy sources become unfeasible.

Chair Tittman invited public comment.

Public commenters expressed:

- Concern over biomass' presence in RCEA's energy portfolio given the amount of atmospheric carbon biomass releases and public health impacts
- Preference for a 100% solar option such as provided by PG&E
- Concern that RePower does not limit the amount of biomass in RCEA's power mix despite 700 commenters opposing biomass and 800 commenters supporting biomass
- Local biomass facility emissions of climate pollutants beyond carbon dioxide, such as methane and black carbon

Public commenters requested:

- Removal of language on page 18 stating that RCEA will contract with biomass plants commensurate to the local supply of wood waste
- Research on alternative wood waste uses
- A life cycle assessment of Humboldt County biomass use and alternative uses
- Use of the cheapest renewable power sources
- Use of ratepayer funds to develop greenhouse gas reducing alternatives
- Development of a clean and resilient energy system with utility scale storage that moves away from base power model dependency.

Chair Tittman closed the public comment period.

Staff confirmed that it received needed information from the Committee and the public to continue its revision of the CAPE document.

The Committee requested the following agenda items for future meetings:

1. Discuss formation of a CAC subcommittee to address the definition of "clean," and include in a staff report background information on use of "clean" in the CAPE document
2. Staff clarification on how the public can change the CCE program's electricity mix
3. Updates on the Board Public Safety Power Shutoff Subcommittee and staff's work with PG&E to island Humboldt County
4. A presentation by Principal Power on the risks and benefits of offshore wind
5. A presentation by Humboldt Redwood Company on local biomass power's community benefits and possibilities for reduced emissions.

Chair Tittman requested and received confirmation of consensus to hold a special Community Advisory Committee meeting during the first week of December to discuss the definition and use of the term "clean" energy in relation to biomass.

Chair Tittman adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Avcollie
Demand-Side Projects Manager

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E-mail: info@redwoodenergy.org Web: www.redwoodenergy.org

December 10, 2019
Tuesday, 6 p.m.

1) Receive report on use of the term “clean” in the final draft of the CAPE/RePower Humboldt document.

Executive Director Matthew Marshall presented a staff report on the latest Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy strategic plan draft reflecting Board suggestions from their November meeting. The draft uses state definitions of “renewable” and “clean” from SB 100 and state 2045 goals, which RCEA is accelerating. The benefits of determining overall goals, then supplying specific project screening criteria and specific conditions to include in agreements, were described.

The Committee discussed the following:

- The difficulty for biomass plants to invest in technology with short-term contracts.
- Possible inclusion of biomass contract language stating that longer-terms would be considered if best available emission lowering technology is used.
- The likelihood of continued local biomass plant operation without RCEA contracts.
- The common public health interest in improving biomass plants.
- The offshore wind project’s potential impact on the need for biomass energy, project constraints and new technology implementation risks.
- Humboldt County’s relationship as a resource-rich area to populated, low-resource areas.
- The need for a diversified energy portfolio and the challenges of maintaining high living standards with lowered dependence on instantly-accessible but polluting energy.
- The need to quantify targets without specifying program mechanisms due to evolving technology.
- The need to refer back to the overall plan when describing different strategies.
- The tension between community members requesting no biomass energy and proposing non-energy biomass uses; people who would like the biomass electricity production status quo to continue; and pursuing gasification and less-polluting biomass energy technologies.
- The need to include the following in the strategic plan: quantitative CO2 emissions and health harming emissions language, a cost-benefit analysis of different energy technologies, and information on cradle to grave greenhouse gas impacts of different resources

Chair Tittman invited public comment.

Member of public Walt Paniak stated his opposition to ratepayers paying higher prices for biomass to pay for forest industry waste removal, and that biomass plant owners may claim tax benefits for plant improvements paid for by ratepayers.

Member of the public Wendy Ring asked the Committee to prioritize power procurement based on climate, resilience and local sources, in that order, and not to commit to expensive gasification. Ms. Ring added that further emissions and exposure studies are not needed, but that an air quality and energy consultant should be hired to advise on necessary public health measures.

UC Cooperative Extension County Director and Forest Advisor Yana Valachovic stated that the overall goal is to stop using fossil fuel and that a biomass technical advisory committee would provide an opportunity to discuss and educate the public about biomass and forest management for long-term carbon capture and storage.

Member of the public Ellen Golla stated that ratepayers and RCEA are not responsible for forest management and that the forest products industry may inappropriately use the technical advisory committee to promote their interests.

Chair Tittman closed public comment.

2) Determine an appropriate definition of the term “clean.”

The Committee discussed the following:

- Community member requests for a clear definition of “clean.”
- Public concerns about whether biomass energy use fits RCEA’s mission.
- RCEA Climate and Forests Consultant Michael Furniss’ advice to avoid use of “clean” because of the term’s many definitions.
- The CAPE revision’s working definition of “clean” as 100% net zero carbon renewable energy.
- Inclusion of tons of CO2 emitted and health and climate impacts as part of a “clean” definition.
- Extension of health impact considerations to include solar panel manufacture, mining and impacts of other energy technologies.
- The RCEA joint powers agreement use of the term “clean,” the agency’s lack of a formal definition and working use of the state definition of renewable, non-fossil fuel sources.
- The Board decision to defer air quality and emissions determinations to the Air Quality Management District when originally approving the biomass power agreements, and how contracts may be cancelled if emissions requirements are not met.
- Separation of the Air Quality District “clean” definition and carbon emissions issues.
- How determining energy source focus in the agency’s overall goals, then giving specific direction on a project-by-project basis, is constructive for policy implementation.

Chair Tittman asked for public comment on the definition of “clean.”

Member of the public Martha Walden stated that “clean” is hard to define but that burning wood emits carbon which pollutes the air, and biomass does not belong in the same category as solar and wind.

Member of the public Wendy Ring recalled that hundreds of community members signed a petition submitted to RCEA that biomass is not clean, and requested that local biomass plants be required to meet the same Clean Air Act requirements as coal-fired power plants.

Ellen Golla stated that Title V major polluters emitting more methane than the local PG&E power plant are not clean.

Walt Paniak distributed data on natural gas and diesel fuel used by the DG Fairhaven and Humboldt Sawmill Company plants to burn biomass and asked RCEA to consider supplemental fuel when determining whether energy is clean.

Mike Richardson, Humboldt Redwood Company Director of Operations stated that HRC’s power plant operates below emission limits, that the company has invested millions of dollars in the plant’s emissions control system and combustion efficiency which lowers emissions, and that RCEA’s contracts allow HRC enough certainty to invest in these improvements. He stated that Humboldt Redwood Company intends to operate the plant as efficiently as possible and compliantly per HRC’s permit and to invest in the plant as long as they have contract certainty.

UC Cooperative Extension County Director and Forest Advisor Yana Valachovic stated that all energy sources have impacts, that a good lifecycle analysis of all energy sources is needed, and that broader policy language is needed in order to have energy.

Member of the public Margaret Towser requested a table of carbon emissions for different types of energy from manufacture through power production.

Chair Tittman closed public comment.

3) Provide guidance to staff on incorporating revisions in the final CAPE/RePower Humboldt document for Board approval at December 19 meeting.

The Committee agreed that the meaning of the term “clean” remains ambiguous and requested inclusion of the following in the CAPE revision:

- Language on public health and environmental impacts in the overall goals section
- Sidebar discussion of use of the term “clean” in the introduction section
- Combine the “Pursue Funding for Biomass Best Practices” and “Plan for a Long-Term Transition Away from Direct Combustion of Forest-Derived Biomass and Toward Lower-Impact Uses of this Material” paragraphs to articulate different pathways (investigation of non-energy wood waste uses, status quo biomass energy production, and investigation of less-polluting energy from wood waste), stating that the different approaches may be used in combination or in phases.
- Broaden membership of the technical advisory committee to include local government agency partners as well as forest product industry members.

Board communication items, next steps

An agenda item request was made for a report on the Board Public Safety Power Shutoff Subcommittee’s work with PG&E to determine whether Humboldt County can be islanded in the event of another regional electric grid shutdown.

Chair Tittman adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lori Taketa
Clerk of the Board



REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT Agenda Item # 4

AGENDA DATE:	January 14, 2020
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM:	Lori Taketa, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT:	Annual CAC Meeting Calendar

SUMMARY

The RCEA Board's Operating Guidelines established the Community Advisory Committee and states that regular CAC meetings will be held quarterly at a regular date and time that will be established annually by the CAC. At the April 10, 2018 meeting, the Community Advisory Committee agreed to meet from 6-7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the first month of each quarter, and as needed for study sessions and special meetings.

If the Committee wishes to continue this meeting schedule, the 2020 schedule of regular Community Advisory Committee meetings would be as follows:

2020

- January 14, 2020
- April 14, 2020
- July 14, 2020
- October 13, 2020.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve 2020 Community Advisory Committee meeting calendar.

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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT Agenda Item # 5

AGENDA DATE:	January 14, 2020
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM:	Lori Taketa, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT:	Selection of CAC Chair and Vice Chair

BACKGROUND

Following procedure outlined in the Community Advisory Committee Charter, the chair and vice chair will be elected during the first quarter of each calendar year. The term for each role shall be one year, beginning in April and ending the following April. According to the Charter, no member will serve as chair or vice chair for more than two consecutive terms.

The CAC has been fortunate to have Matty Tittman serve as chair and Larry Goldberg serve as vice chair for two consecutive terms in 2018 and 2019.

The duty of the chair is to:

- Facilitate meetings, or request staff assistance to facilitate meetings
- On an as-needed basis, call special meetings between regularly scheduled meetings
- Encourage participation and help create a civil, collaborative environment
- Make sure each committee members' thoughts and ideas are heard and that input and feedback from the public is fairly considered for each discussion item
- Help group stay focused on task and build agreements.

The vice chair fulfils these roles when the chair is unavailable.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Accept nominations for, and appoint, a Community Advisory Committee chair and vice chair for terms beginning April 14, 2020 and ending April 13, 2021.

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REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT Agenda Item # 6

AGENDA DATE:	January 14, 2020
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM:	Matthew Marshall, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	RCEA Resiliency Measure Updates

BACKGROUND

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has designated RCEA as the regional energy authority to implement the County's General Plan Energy Element strategies through the Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy (CAPE). The RCEA Board is charged with maintaining this document and, after receiving community stakeholder input and evaluating successive drafts since August 2019, the RCEA Board adopted the RePower Humboldt/CAPE strategic plan update at its December 2019 meeting.

Some notable RePower Humboldt goals are to:

Regional Planning and Coordination

By 2030 fully establish Humboldt County as an energy secure community that can affordably and reliably meet its local energy needs with local renewable resources and has the robust local capabilities and infrastructure necessary to effectively respond to energy emergencies or disruptions in energy supply.

Integrated Demand Side Management

Develop a network of community microgrids and renewable-energy back-up power systems across the county to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to provide energy resiliency and long-duration emergency energy supply at all critical facilities by 2030.

The October Public Safety Power Shutoff events that turned off power for Humboldt County electricity customers highlighted the need for local and renewable energy resiliency for emergencies as well as to meet accelerated climate action goals.

SUMMARY

In addition to work on customer-side energy efficiency and obtaining power for its Community Choice Energy customers that meets community and state renewable energy goals, RCEA is actively pursuing the following resiliency initiatives:

- The Board Public Safety Power Shutoff Subcommittee will work with PG&E to continue to power (island) Humboldt County when the regional grid is deenergized.

- The Airport Microgrid Project will include a 7-acre, 2.5 MW solar array with a battery storage system to enable critical facility islanding during emergencies and power disruptions. Construction on this project begins this year.
- A forthcoming CPUC-funded Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) will provide battery storage rebates to targeted residents, businesses and government agencies in high fire risk areas and areas that have been affected by two Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Staff will discuss next month's outreach activities to prepare the community to take advantage of this fast-approaching opportunity.

RCEA and Schatz Energy Research Center staff will provide reports on the above initiatives at the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None - information only.

Public Comment

From: [Ken Miller](#)
To: [Lori Taketa](#); serc@humboldt.edu; cmcguigan1@co.humboldt.ca.us; rgannon@ci.eureka.ca.gov
Cc: mike.wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us; smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us; efennell@co.humboldt.ca.us; [Rex Bohn](#); [Virginia Bass](#)
Subject: Wallbox Quasar bidirectional home DC charger will turn EVs into a huge Tesla Powerwall - Electrek
Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:11:53 AM

<https://electrek.co/2020/01/06/wallbox-quasar-tesla-nissan/>

<https://www.sunrun.com/grid-services>

Essential pieces of the microgrid puzzle

Please share with Board and CAC

Time to avail the County of the many assets awaiting an invitation, much like the one extended to TerraGen, only now to solar afficianados

All they need is the data that RCEA, Schatz and County Planning can provide, let the jobs emerge!

But policy direction is essential, as is attending conferences such as these if we are serious about solarizing Humboldt.

These are where the innovative enterprising experts are to be found and solicited, who understand entrepreneurial opportunities and financing. These folks are the ones who define “feasibility.”

The April Oregon Solar Conference in Portland,

The Energy Fair in Custer, Co in June, and

Solar Power International in September in Anaheim,

Humboldt could host one for distributed onsite solar arrays, including microgrids with Vehicle to Grid (V2G) capability.

Thank you, Ken