

November 2021 News and Updates



REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

Welcome Eileen Verbeck, our new Deputy Executive Director!

Eileen came to us from the City of Arcata, where for the last 12 years she served as the Arcata Police Department's Business Manager. At RCEA, her newly-created position will oversee many of RCEA's internal functions, including human resources, risk management (workers compensation and employee safety), information technology, records management, and general internal administration and operations.



"I am excited to join the RCEA team, and look forward to providing support to the brilliant minds that are working to make Humboldt County a leader in sustainable energy initiatives."

Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid

The project's construction phase is complete, and the airport microgrid is now undergoing testing and commissioning with a goal to enter full commercial operation by the end of 2021 or early 2022. Testing has included feeding power onto PG&E's distribution lines, so the system is already starting to green the grid.



RCEA's Matthew Marshall visits with his brother Marc Marshall, a senior engineer at the Schatz Energy Research Center, while he conducts testing.



RCEA's Dana Boudreau, Matthew Marshall, Nancy Stephenson, and Aisha Cissna

Renewable Energy

On November 1 we closed our solicitation for mid-term reliability resources. The intent is to enter into contracts for electricity generating capacity and energy from new resources, with a preference for projects in our local area. We had a strong response to the solicitation. Staff will review and score the responses in the coming weeks, with a goal to bring the Board a shortlist of projects recommended for contracts in December.

2021 to date

Fall 2021

Residential EV Charging Equipment REBATE

6 approved



Electric Vehicles REBATE

16 approved



Heat Pumps REBATE

18 approved



Non-Res Services ASSESSMENTS

7 completed



Residential Services ASSESSMENTS

23 consultations
7 residential kits





Social Media

Follow us and share our posts to engage our community

Events

Run-of-the-River Hydroelectric Power Webinar

Tuesday, December 7, 2021, with Michael Furniss

Our October **Certify & Amplify Supplier Diversity Webinar** was a success. Watch the recording on our website: <https://redwoodenergy.org/supplier-diversity/>

Customer Energy Solutions

Community Grid Program with Swell Energy

Swell officially launched their customer program October 14.

Contractor and Vendor Network - RCEA released an open enrollment opportunity for contractors and vendors to be listed on the RCEA website. It will be a resource for RCEA customers for their energy projects.

RCEA Partner Contractor - We are entering into a contract with SacTown Contractors to help streamline RCEA direct install programs. Customers will have the option of using RCEA's partner contractor with set pricing, while always reserving the option to go with any contractor of their choice. Team trainings are being scheduled.

Workforce Education and Training - The DSM team is continuing to meet, strategize and set goals for RCEA's participation in County-wide workforce education goals to make sure new energy jobs can go to local skilled workers.

Rural Regional Energy Network - We are developing programs and budgets for a 5-year program beginning in 2023.

Mobile Home Solar

We have received the final plan set and engineer's estimate for our Mobile Home Solar Program, and are working with partners to plan for project implementation.

Heat Pump Installations RCEA was awarded a \$99,500 Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH) initiative Quick Start Grant to offer rebates for heat pump installations for non-natural gas (propane, kerosene, fuel oil or cord wood) users.



Agency Projects

City of Ferndale - solar and lighting

City of Rio Dell - solar, storage, generator

Eureka City Schools - solar, storage, EV bus charger

Southern Humboldt Unified School District - solar

Coastal Grove Charter - carbon monoxide monitors and HVAC assessment

Arcata Elementary - carbon monoxide monitors and HVAC assessment

Redwood Coast Montessori - carbon monoxide monitors and HVAC assessment

CA Redwood Coast Humboldt County Airport - exterior lighting project

Yurok Tribe - multiple project locations