



Redwood Coast Energy Authority

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

November 9, 2021
Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

COVID-19 NOTICE: RCEA OFFICES ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to the AB 361 Brown Act open public meeting law revisions signed into law on September 17, 2021, Governor Newsom's State of Emergency Proclamation of March 4, 2020, and Resolution 2021-7 of the RCEA Board of Directors adopted on October 28, 2021, this meeting will not be convened in a physical location. CAC members will meet via an online Zoom video conference.

To listen to the meeting by phone, call (669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782. Enter webinar ID: 822 2338 1610. **To watch the meeting online**, join the Zoom webinar at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82223381610>.

You may submit written public comment before and during the meeting by email to PublicComment@redwoodenergy.org. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line. Comments received before the agenda item is heard will be read into the record, with a maximum allowance of approximately 500 words per comment. Comments received after the agenda item is heard and before the meeting's end will be included in the meeting record but not read aloud during the meeting.

To make a comment during the public comment periods, raise your hand in the online Zoom webinar, or press star (*) 9 on your phone to raise your hand. You will continue to hear the meeting while you wait. When it is your turn to speak, a staff member will unmute your phone or computer. You will have 3 minutes to comment.

While downloading the Zoom application may provide a better meeting experience, Zoom does not need to be installed on your computer to participate. After clicking the webinar link above, click "start from your browser."

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any member of the public needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting or access the meeting materials should email Ltaketa@redwoodenergy.org or call (707) 269-1700 at least 3 business days before the meeting. Advance notification enables RCEA staff to make their best effort to reasonably accommodate access to this meeting and its materials while maintaining public safety.

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 at www.redwoodenergy.org.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Agenda Item	What / Action	When
1. Open	Roll Call: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> Norman Bell Elizabeth Burks Jerome Carman Colin Fiske Catherine Gurin Larry Goldberg, Chair Pam Halstead Chris Curran, Board liaison </div> <div> Roger Hess Richard Johnson Luna Latimer Chris Honar Ethan Lawton Dennis Leonardi, Vice Chair Kit Mann </div> </div> Review meeting agenda and goals.	6:00 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes	Action: Approve minutes of September 14, 2021, CAC meeting.	6:00 - 6:05 (5 min.)
3. Non-Agenda Item Public Comment	This item is provided for the public to address the Committee on matters not on the agenda. At the end of public comments, the Committee will respond to statements, set requests requiring action to a future agenda, or refer requests to staff.	6:05 – 6:10 (5 min.)
4. Countywide Climate Action Plan	Hear presentation on Countywide Climate Action Plan. (Information only)	6:10 – 6:55 (45 min.)
5. CAC 2022 Goals	Discuss and provide input on potential committee goals for 2022.	6:55 – 7:20 (25 min.)
6. 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 – 7:30 (10 min.)
7. Close & Adjourn		7:30 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR CAC MEETING – Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Location to be determined.



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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

September 14, 2021 - Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

The agenda for this meeting was posted on September 11, 2021. Community Advisory Committee Chair Larry Goldberg called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., stating that the meeting was being conducted by teleconference pursuant to Brown Act waivers included in Governor Newsom's COVID-19 State of Emergency Executive Orders and in response to local efforts to reduce the spread of the virus. Chair Goldberg stated that the posted agenda outlined instructions for the public on listening to the meeting and providing comment.

Members present:

Norman Bell

Colin Fiske

Larry Goldberg, Chair

Catherine Gurin

Pam Halstead

Roger Hess

Christopher Honar

Richard Johnson

Luna Latimer

Ethan Lawton

Dennis Leonardi, Vice Chair

Members absent:

Elizabeth Burks

Jerome Carman

Kit Mann

Staff and others present:

Keith Brennan, RCEA Staff

Chris Curran, Board Liaison

Matthew Marshall, Executive Director

Colin Mateer, Power Resources Specialist

Nancy Stephenson, Community Strategies

Lori Taketa, Board Clerk

New Committee members Christopher Honar and Ethan Red Eagle Lawton introduced themselves. Mr. Lawton works as a Planning Engineer and Tribal Liaison for SHN Engineering, is originally from Alaska and now lives in McKinleyville. Mr. Honar is a former RCEA employee and currently serves as Facilities Manager for an Arcata cannabis extraction facility. He is an Arcata resident.

Minutes Approval

There were no comments from committee members or the public on the last meeting's minutes.

Motion Leonardi, Second Latimer: Approve minutes of July 13, 2021, CAC meeting.

The motion passed with a roll call vote. Ayes: Bell, Fiske, Goldberg, Gurin, Halstead, Hess, Honar, Latimer, Leonardi. Noes: None. Abstain: Johnson, Lawton. Absent: Burks, Carman, Mann.

Non-Agenda Item Public Comment

There was no public comment on non-agenda items and Chair Goldberg closed the public comment period.

Wave Energy Report

Power Resource Specialist Colin Mateer reported on current wave energy research and development. Wave energy is wind energy transferred to water. The North American coastline has high wave power potential relative to other parts of the world. While wave intensity varies, ocean water moves constantly, making wave energy a potential source of baseload power. Currently there are no large-scale commercial wave energy projects in operation which makes efficiency comparisons with other renewable resources difficult. Many proposed wave energy converters (WECs) are being developed and no mature technology has yet emerged as a widely-accepted frontrunner.

PG&E's WaveConnect project which was planned for development on the Samoa Peninsula attempted to demonstrate wave energy's commercial viability. The project was discontinued in 2010 due to technological and regulatory challenges. Research on potential use of the Samoa site still exists should another WEC test site be planned for that location.

The University of Oregon's 20MW PacWave South test facility is being developed seven miles off the coast of Newport, Oregon. The site will have the capacity to test up to 20 WECs which will be pre-permitted to allow for rapid technology deployment. The project has taken 10 years to usher through the regulatory process and will begin operation in 2023. Staff anticipates significant progress toward WEC commercial viability, and an increase in environmental impact understanding, after PacWave launches.

Locally, the Schatz Energy Research Center is tracking wave energy developments and Arcata-based HD Harvey and Associates is performing wave energy research. RCEA was contacted by Atargis Energy Corporation, a company that is interested in translating aircraft airfoil technology to wave energy converters in Humboldt County. Staff suggested encouraging California Coastal Commissioners to visit the PacWave project to proactively address future WEC development projects issues.

No member of the public commented on this item. Chair Goldberg closed the public comment period.

Humboldt Sawmill Company Alternative Biomass Uses MOU

Executive Director Marshall presented highlights of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between RCEA and Humboldt Sawmill Company (HSC), which is supplemental to a ten-year power purchase agreement that the Board of Directors recently approved. The MOU proposes that RCEA and HSC representatives meet annually to assess the viability of other biomass uses and makes HSC biomass material supply data and HSC consultant biomass use findings available to RCEA. The CAC's Alternative Biomass Uses Subcommittee worked with Power Resources Director Richard Engel to draft the

MOU, which was subsequently successfully negotiated and vetted by HSC representatives. Staff hope to present the MOU to the Board for approval this month.

Committee members clarified reasons for the MOU's confidentiality clauses and language allowing for waste from other mills as source material. A member expressed concern regarding whether the power purchase contract should have been entered into given the energy source's carbon emissions and the urgency of the climate crisis. There was also concern that HSC could claim that no better biomass use exists and continue burning biomass. The MOU's reflection of the Alternative Biomass Uses Subcommittee's desire for continued consideration of alternative biomass uses was affirmed. A committee member expressed appreciation for a formalized process to assess lower greenhouse gas emission alternative uses. The qualified benefit of burning biomass locally was expressed, as trucking biomass to other plants for burning also creates additional carbon emissions.

Chair Goldberg invited public comment. No member of the public made comment.

RePower Humboldt Strategic Plan Update

Executive Director Marshall gave a report on progress made in the four focus areas of RCEA's strategic plan.

In the area of low-carbon transportation, a new electric vehicle (EV) charging station was installed in Arcata and another will be installed as part of the airport microgrid project. RCEA is offering a rebate for which local EV buyers can apply in addition to the state EV rebate. RCEA was awarded a CEC grant to plan local zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicle infrastructure.

In the Integrated Demand-Side Management or Customer Energy Solutions focus area, RCEA launched: a building electrification heat pump rebate program for water heaters, furnaces and air conditioners and a program with Swell Energy that incentivizes customers to allow their batteries to be used for grid reliability. RCEA's energy efficiency programs are increasing activity as COVID-restrictions ease.

In the area of Energy Generation and Utility Services, batteries have been installed for the airport microgrid solar array. The project will go through the commissioning process in the next months and is expected to be fully operational by the end of the year. The 100 MW Sandrini Solar Project is nearing the construction phase and is expected to be online by the end of 2022. The local solar feed-in tariff projects on Hatchery Road near Blue Lake are experiencing higher interconnection costs and delays with PG&E and have pushed back their timelines. RCEA's first customer grid reliability contract with LEAP began operating in June and was featured in the Los Angeles Times. The project aggregates customer resources like smart thermostats and EV chargers and reduces their energy use in response to peak energy demand times. Participation in this program benefits customers who help RCEA meet resource adequacy grid reliability requirements.

In the area of Regional Planning and Coordination, RCEA continues its work with the County and cities on the regional climate action plan. The public will have a chance to review the draft plan at the end of September and the CAC will discuss the draft plan at its November meeting. Staff is working with the Humboldt Area Foundation on energy,

climate resilience and decarbonization engagement with at-risk and underserved communities and the general local community to support of local government decision-making processes. Environmental review of the studies and surveys associated with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's offshore wind leasing process is beginning. This is a separate process from the environmental review of actual offshore wind farm construction. The Harbor District submitted a \$56 million U.S. Department of Transportation grant proposal to build an offshore wind dock. There is \$11 million earmarked in the state budget for Humboldt Bay wind energy dock facility development. This is the DOT grant's required match-funding amount. Public engagement for this project will be increasing. RCEA has submitted a grant proposal to plan for renewable energy resilience for critical facilities threatened by climate change impacts. This planning will complement the County's hazard mitigation plan by addressing facility-level energy needs. RCEA and PG&E are discussing how to prioritize this resilience planning for Eastern Humboldt. Member Latimer described how SAFE (Smoke Air Fire Energy) program members Schatz Energy Research Center, Blue Lake Rancheria and the Karuk Tribe are investigating ways for vulnerable communities outside the PG&E Humboldt Bay Generating Station islanded area to obtain reliable, clean energy during power shutoffs.

Chair Goldberg invited public comment. No member of the public made comment.

CAC Goal-Setting & Annual Report

Executive Director Marshall reviewed the proposed timeline for committee goal setting, Board and committee feedback and annual report presentation to the Board. Member Gurin, Vice Chair Leonardi and Chair Goldberg volunteered to serve on an ad hoc goal-setting committee to work with staff on developing goals for the coming year and on preparing the annual report for a Board presentation in January. It was suggested that absent member Kit Mann be asked whether he would like to volunteer for this ad hoc working group. There was no public comment on this agenda item.

Member Reports

Member Fiske reported that the California Air Resources Board is developing parameters for a statewide e-bike rebate program and requested that RCEA engage with this program.

Summarize actions, outcomes, Board communication items, next steps

There were requests for:

- a report on wave energy's biological and cultural impacts and potential mitigation strategies as well as the technology's lifecycle expectancy and maintenance findings, when this information becomes available;
- a report on small, modular nuclear reactors; and
- an update on Monument Ridge onshore wind development if this possibility is ever considered by any entity.

Chair Goldberg adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Lori Taketa
Board Clerk



**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 4**

AGENDA DATE:	November 9, 2021
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Matthew Marshall, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Countywide Climate Action Plan Development Update

BACKGROUND

The County of Humboldt is coordinating with other local agencies to develop a regional Climate Action Plan (CAP) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Humboldt County.

In early 2019, Humboldt County local governments decided to take a regional approach to climate action planning. The Regional CAP partnership consists of RCEA, the County of Humboldt and the city governments of Arcata, Eureka, Blue Lake, Ferndale, Fortuna, Rio Dell and Trinidad. Together, these local governments are working to draft a Climate Action Plan for our region. The plan will include locally-oriented strategies to reduce emissions from vehicle travel, improving efficiency of buildings and facilities, renewable energy generation, waste prevention, reduction and diversion, and carbon sequestration.

To gather input on this process the County and cities hosted a series of public workshops to introduce the Climate Action Plan in 2019 and early 2020. An administrative draft regional CAP was circulated to the cities and County staff for review, comment and edits in early 2021. County staff has been working with the cities to incorporate their edits and released a revised version in October that is presently undergoing a final review and comment cycle.

The County and city staff on Monday, November 8 will be finalizing a work plan for the public engagement and environmental review of the draft regional CAP. The workplan will build in sufficient time for city and County staff to bring the draft CAP to their elected officials for sanctioning as the environmental review draft. That workplan and the big picture contents of the latest draft regional CAP will be presented by County staff to the CAC at the November 9 meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A – Information only.



HUMBOLDT REGIONAL

Climate Action Plan



Purpose of Today's Report

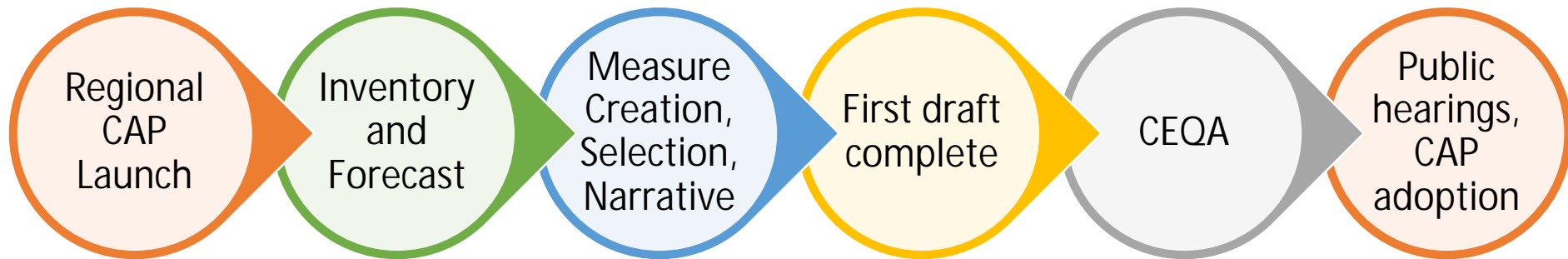
- Provide a high-level introduction to the Humboldt Regional Climate Action Plan
- Update on CAP activities to date, current status, and projection of upcoming milestones

CAP Project Goal

**A regional Climate Action Plan,
adopted by each jurisdiction, to reduce
greenhouse gas emissions throughout
Humboldt County**

High-Level Timeline

Fall 2018



2022



CEQA

- The State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15183.5) allow the GHG impacts of future projects to be evaluated using an adopted plan for reduction of GHG emissions which
 - Quantifies GHG emissions.
 - Establishes a level below which the contribution to GHG emissions would not be cumulatively considerable.
 - Identifies and analyzes the GHG emissions resulting from specific actions.
 - Specifies measures or a group of measures to achieve the specified emissions level.
 - Monitors and require amendment if the plan is not achieving the specified level.
 - Adopts the GHG emissions reduction plan in a public process following environmental review.



State GHG Targets

2020: 1990 levels (AB 32)

2030: 40% below 1990 levels
(SB 32)

2045: Statewide carbon
neutrality by 2045 (net zero;
EO B-55-18)

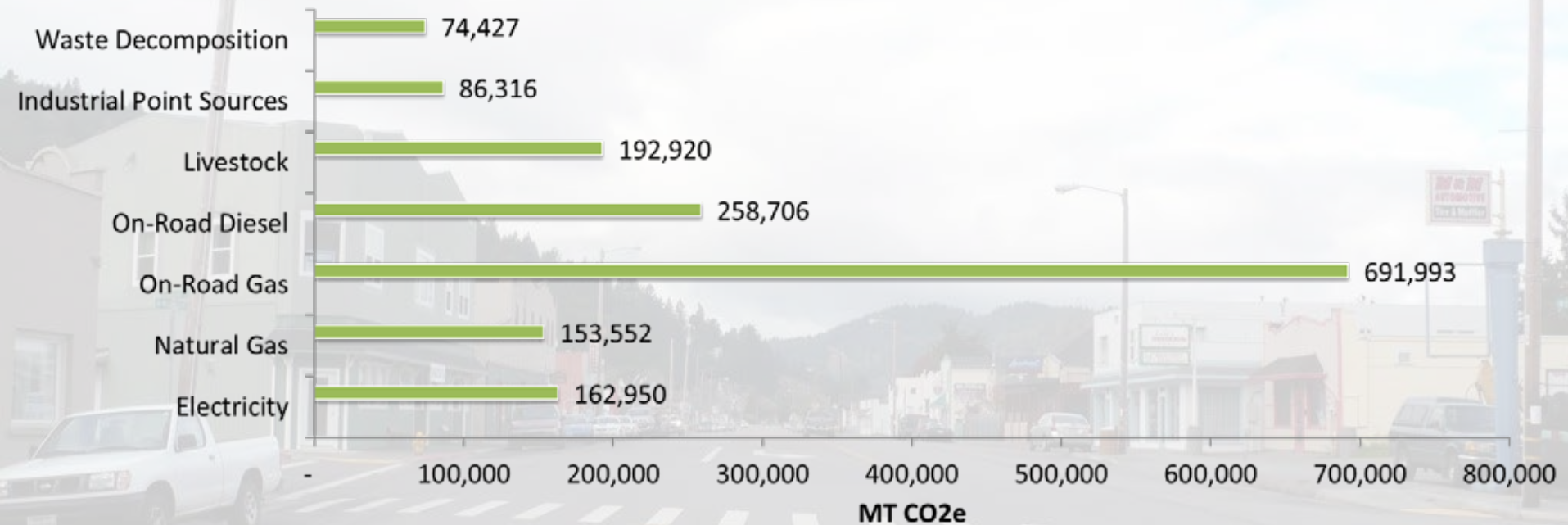


Recommended Humboldt County Target

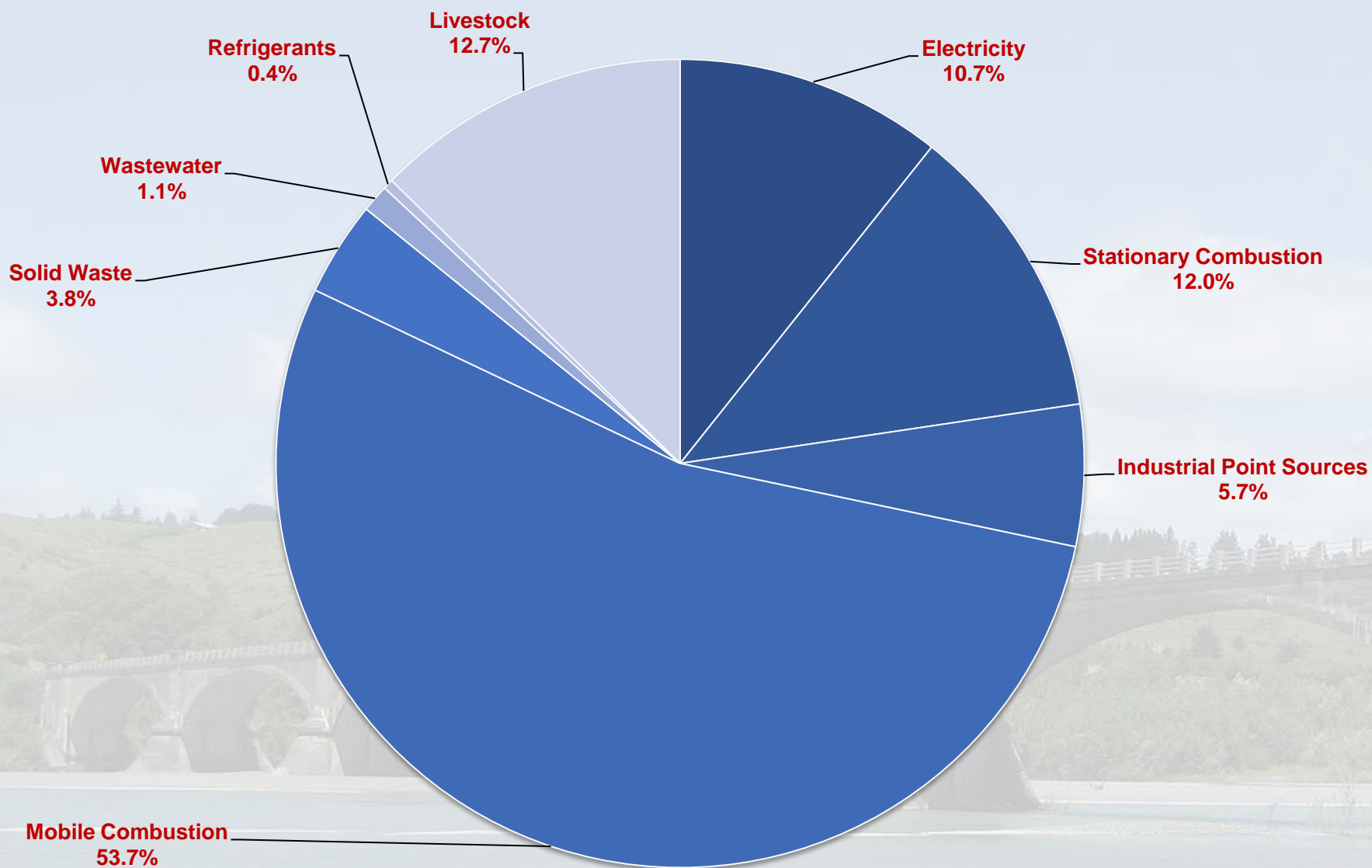
40% below 1990 levels by 2030



2015 County-Wide Inventory

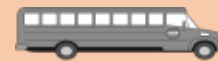
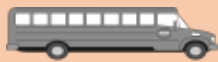


2015 County-Wide Inventory



Land Use Planning

Low-Carbon Transportation



Efficiency of Buildings and Facilities

Renewable Energy Generation

Waste Prevention, Reduction, Diversion

Carbon Sequestration



Sample GHG Reduction Measures

- Increase density of development
- Add additional bike lanes
- Promote electric vehicles
- Mode switching
- Increase use of low-carbon liquid fuels (i.e. renewable diesel for vehicles that can't be electrified)
- Switch from natural gas to electricity in buildings
- Increase energy efficiency of buildings



Sample GHG Reduction Measures

- Assist with zoning and implementation of small renewable energy development
- Support RCEA RePower Humboldt goals
- Promote forest and agricultural land stewardship
- Reduce construction and event waste
- Expand greenwaste programs



Thank you!



**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 5**

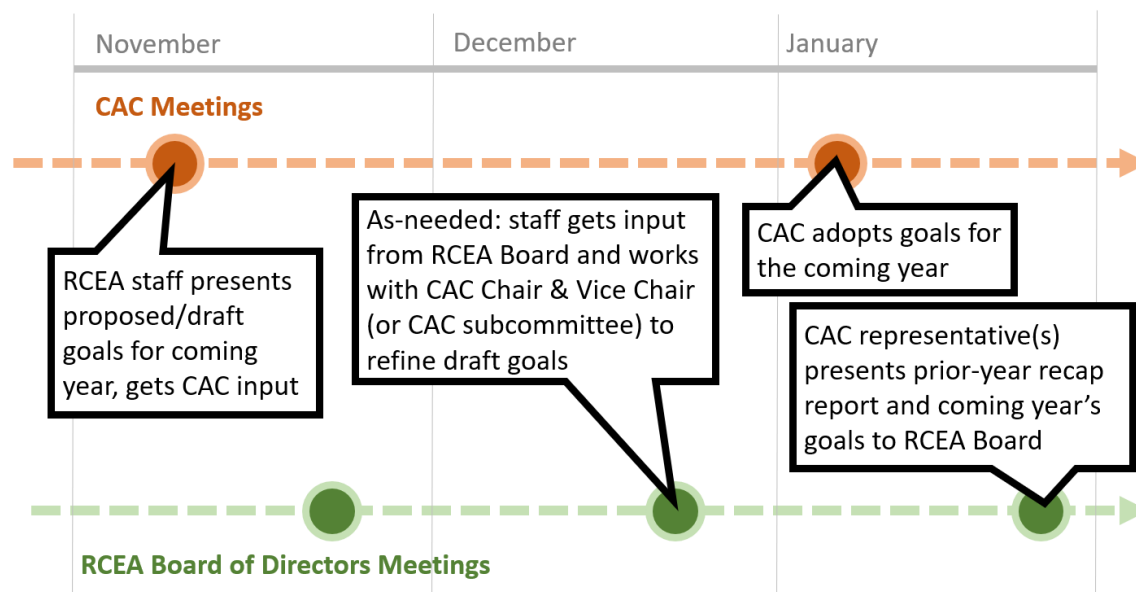
AGENDA DATE:	November 9, 2021
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Matthew Marshall, RCEA Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Developing 2022 CAC Annual Goals

SUMMARY

At the July Community Advisory Committee meeting, the CAC agreed to report the group's past year accomplishments and upcoming year goals annually to the RCEA Board of Directors. The process aims to organize the body's work and help the Board thoughtfully utilize the committee as a resource to support Board decision-making and agency public engagement efforts.

The group agreed to the schedule illustrated below:

**Community Advisory Committee
Goal-setting & Board Reporting**
Proposed Annual Timeline



Based on RCEA's overall 2022 workplan and anticipated areas of focus, some valuable potential CAC activities and goals for the coming year include:

1. Support and help guide offshore wind energy community outreach.
2. Finalize recommendations to the RCEA Board and County Board of Supervisors for energy-project bond and/or alternative financing opportunities, support any resulting implementation efforts as appropriate.
3. Help facilitate community input on the finalization and adoption of the Humboldt Regional Climate Action Plan.
4. Provide input on the development of new and expanding RCEA customer programs and help guide community outreach and messaging for those programs.
5. Assist with identifying and prioritizing critical community facilities that would benefit from enhanced energy resilience infrastructure, including future microgrid deployment and facility-level renewable back-up power systems.
6. Review and provide input on energy-specific considerations for large developments and local planning efforts (examples: Nordic Aquafarms, McKinleyville Town Center Master Plan, McKay Ranch Subdivision).

Staff will provide a brief overview of these options at the meeting and will request input and any additional or alternative suggestions.

Following the meeting, staff will work with the CAC ad hoc subcommittee established at the September meeting to integrate any CAC feedback to refine the proposed 2022 work goals. Those proposed goals will be presented to the RCEA Board in December, and any guidance provided by the Board will be incorporated into the final set of goals that will be brought back to the full CAC for adoption in January.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and provide input on potential committee goals for 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

RCEA news and updates October 2021

RedwoodEnergy.org (707) 269-1700 info@RedwoodEnergy.org



Lee Valenzuela & Dana Boudreau
RCEA's Transportation Team

Transportation

- The California Energy Commission authorized a Medium/Heavy Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Planning grant, pending RCEA Board approval
- We launched new branding for all RCEA charging stations

Social Media

Please join us in engaging our community



Job Openings

Demand-Side Management
Outreach Associate

Website

New Supplier Diversity page

Mailers/Emails

Power Content Label - Sent to all our 2020 customers

Joint Rate Mailer - Going out Oct. 29 & Nov. 5 to all current customers

Events

Redwood Coast Economic Summit - Oct. 21 & 22: Matthew Marshall is on the *Carbon Negative by 2030* panel and Stephen Kullmann will host a booth

Certify & Amplify Workshop - Promoting Supplier Diversity, Nov. 2, 10 a.m.
<https://redwoodenergy.org/supplier-diversity/>

Small Hydro Projects - Michael Furniss presents his findings this fall/winter to the Board, developers, and the community

Current
Rebates

Residential EV Charging Equipment

4

applications received



Electric Vehicles

14

applications received



Heat Pumps

35

applications received



Renewable Energy | Community Choice Energy



Offshore Wind

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is currently conducting initial environmental assessments of the Humboldt and Central Coast Wind Energy Areas lease process. The lease auction is anticipated in late summer 2022.



Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid

- Senator McGuire visited the microgrid for a tour on October 21 along with Supervisors Bass and Bushnell.
- A Japanese delegation will visit on November 15 and meet with Matthew Marshall.
- RCAM is fully constructed and has temporary permission to operate from PG&E.
- The project is in the testing phase, during which RCEA, the Schatz Energy Research Center and The Energy Authority are working closely together to optimize participation in the CA Independent System Operator's (CAISO) wholesale markets.



Sandrini Solar Project

- The project is moving forward with permitting and pre-construction activities.
- The Draft Environmental Impact Report was released on September 17 and public hearings with the Kern County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors are scheduled for December.
- Construction is anticipated to start in February 2022.



Tierra Buena battery energy storage project

The project is being constructed in Sutter County and is on track to be commercially operable in April 2022.



Feed In Tariff

- The Hatchery Road Solar Project in Blue Lake is experiencing significant delays and costs associated with interconnecting to PG&E's distribution grid. The project is anticipated to be commercially operable in April 2023.
- The North Coast Highway Solar Project is delayed due to a change in ownership. The project is anticipated to be commercially operable in October 2022.



Biomass

- The Memorandum of Understanding between Humboldt Sawmill Company and RCEA has been executed and staff are developing an MOU implementation framework.
- The framework will consist of a process for HSC to share new alternative biomass uses information with RCEA and for the parties to confer annually regarding such information.



Net Energy Metering

The legislation (AB 1139) that the RCEA Board voted to oppose in May is no longer active; however, NEM tariffs and rates can still be changed in the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) regulatory process. The CPUC is expected to arrive at a decision detailing the NEM successor tariff in January 2022. This CPUC decision poses potential major changes to the incentives provided to existing and future NEM customers.

Customer Energy Services

Current Projects & Programs

Non-residential services: 15 assessments and customized referrals to services.

Residential services: 46 residential assessments and customized referrals to services.

Community Grid Program with Swell Energy

- Swell announced their partnership with RCEA and Grid Alternatives in mid-October
- Mike Avcollie and Swell will be interviewed on KMUD on Oct. 26, 5:30-6 p.m.

Contractor and Vendor Network: We are creating a list of contractors and vendors that customers can refer to for energy projects.

Workforce education and training: In development

Rural Regional Energy Network: In development

Mobile Home Solar: We developed a plan set, in conjunction with Schatz Energy Research Center, for pole-mounted solar PV systems for mobile home installations. We're now working with partners for pilot installations.



Agency Projects - September & October

County of Humboldt - Lighting and Demand Reduction strategies

City of Arcata - Demand Reduction strategies

City of Eureka - Feasibility assessments and reports for solar arrays

City of Ferndale - Solar and lighting projects

City of Rio Dell - Solar, battery storage and generator projects

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria - Assessment of solar array, energy efficiency, and ongoing technical support for energy projects

Yurok Tribe - Energy finance consultation

Arcata Elementary School District - School Energy Efficiency Stimulus application (SEES)

Eureka City Schools - Solar, battery storage and EV bus infrastructure

Fortuna Union High School District - Prop 39 energy services

Loleta Elementary School District - SEES application

Mattole Unified School District - Prop 39 energy services

So. Humboldt Unified School District - Solar array at South Fork High

No. Humboldt Union High School District - Prop 39 energy services

Fieldbrook Elementary School - Prop 39 energy services

Freshwater School - Assisting with battery backup

Coastal Grove Charter School - SEES application

Laurel Tree Charter School - Construction finance assistance

Six Rivers Charter School - Prop 39 energy services

Redwood Coast Montessori - SEES application

Orleans Volunteer Fire Dept. - Solar, storage, & EV charging projects

USPS - Enrollment in a resource program

