

# July 2022 News and Updates

## from the Redwood Coast Energy Authority



### Net Energy Metering (NEM):

RCEA paid a total of \$142,284 to NEM customers for excess on-site solar generation for the 2021/22 NEM Program payout.

### Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS):

Although the 2022 PSPS season is underway, Humboldt County has not been affected by any PSPS related outages. RCEA staff continue to monitor PG&E's PSPS portal for potential alerts affecting RCEA customers. An "Electricity Grid Alerts" banner is on the front of RCEA's website that provides updates and useful links, including signing up for Flex Alerts.

### Offshore Wind:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) completed its environmental review in May of potential impacts from offshore wind energy leasing activities in the Humboldt Wind Energy Area (WEA) and issued a finding of no significant impact. The review considered potential impacts from the issuance of leases, site assessment activities, site monitoring activities, and project easements and related right-of-way grants.

BOEM also filed a Proposed Sale Notice for the Humboldt WEA providing an opportunity for public input. BOEM is expected to hold its auction for offshore wind leases in Fall 2022.

Director of Business Planning and Finance, Lori Biondini, gave a presentation to the Marin Conservation League on July 15 on the status of offshore wind energy planning in California, and RCEA's proposed project for the Humboldt WEA. A senior attorney with the NRDC also presented, allowing attendees to consider some of the identified environmental concerns within the context of the State's and RCEA's energy goals.

# WE ARE HIRING!

### Current Employment Opportunities at RCEA

- Infrastructure Programs Manager
- Demand Side Management Tech/Sr. Tech Project Manager
- Finance Manager
- Demand Side Management Intake Coordinator
- Human Resources & Workforce Development Manager

### 2022 totals

Residential EV Charging Equipment REBATE	Electric Vehicles REBATE	Heat Pumps REBATE	Residential Services ASSESSMENTS	Non-Res Services ASSESSMENTS
11 approved	27 approved	50 approved 9 reserved	57 consultations 33 res kits	23 Completed (just 1 month)



## Mobile Solar and Battery Trailer:

RCEA facilitated a one-year assignment of a mobile solar and battery trailer for the Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs Association. The trailer, which is to be utilized by 17 fire agencies, was provided at no cost by the Empowered by Light Organization and Captain Richard Birt. It was delivered during an inter-agency training in Brice Land on June 11. This project will inform future mobile renewable energy deployment opportunities for essential services.

## Agency Projects - ongoing

**City of Ferndale** - solar and lighting project completed

**City of Rio Dell** - solar & storage installed, generator installation in progress

**Eureka City Schools** - solar, storage, and EV bus charger installation project is progressing

**Yurok Tribe** - benchmarking and making connections for multiple project locations

**City of Arcata** - outlining an energy efficiency project at Arcata Community Center

**City of Eureka** - upgrading solar and lighting at Water Treatment Plant and High Tank

**Burnt Ranch Elementary School** - contracting for roof-mounted solar array project

**Arcata School District** - helped with Board acceptance and paperwork processing for CalSHAPE program and contract assistance for the CalSHAPE HVAC project

**Redwood Coast Montessori School** - issued a re-bid for the ECAA-Ed project and assisted with the CalSHAPE RFQ for Plumbing services for phase two of the application

**Coastal Grove Charter School** - helped with Board acceptance and paperwork processing for CalSHAPE program and contract assistance for the CalSHAPE HVAC project

**Loleta Union Elementary School** - assisted with a board resolution and processed paperwork for acceptance in the CalSHAPE program.

**Rural REN** - We submitted our business plan to the CPUC and have met with commission staff and other stakeholders and are addressing any feedback.

**TECH Quick Start Grant** - We have secured partnerships with area contractors, identified potential customers, and are beginning outreach.

**Mobile Home Solar** - We have completed plan set for pole-mounted solar for mobile home installations and are identifying sites with Bear River Rancheria for installations.

## Transportation:

RCEA's Infrastructure and Transportation Team received a notice of proposed award for a \$700,000 Rural Electric Vehicle (REV) Charging grant (GFO-21-604) from the California Energy Commission. RCEA received the second highest scoring application in the state and is committed to supporting the adoption of zero emission vehicles in the region. RCEA will also provide technical assistance to Mendocino County for their proposed award.

HTA won a \$38.7M TIRCPs grant to bring 11 hydrogen buses and refueling infrastructure to Humboldt County. HTA will provide "over the fence" refueling for private vehicles, which will be a critical first step in exploring hydrogen as an advanced transportation fuel in our region. This development will inform our work on our CEC medium-duty/heavy duty vehicle blueprint grant (ARV-21-035).

RCEA is now facilitating a monthly regional transportation roundtable for various agencies and stakeholders to share project updates and collaborate on competitive state and national grant applications.