



Redwood Coast Energy Authority

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

July 12, 2022
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 16, 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, and extended on December 16, 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 Colin Fiske Catherine Gurin, Vice Chair Larry Goldberg Roger Hess Chris Honar Sarah Schaefer, Board Liaison </div> <div> Richard Johnson Luna Latimer Ethan Lawton Dennis Leonardi, Chair Kit Mann Emily Morris Jeff Tririgoff </div> </div> Review meeting agenda and goals.	6:00 – 6:05 p.m. (5 min.)
2. PASP/CalSHAPE Update	Hear a presentation by DSM Senior Manager Patricia Terry and Program Specialist Sam Smith. (Information only)	6:05 - 6:30 p.m. (25 min.)
3. Approval of Minutes	Action: Approve minutes of May 10, 2022, CAC meeting.	6:30 - 6:35 p.m. (5 min.)
4. 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 may respond to statements, or refer requests requiring action to the Executive Director or the Board of Directors.	6:35 – 6:40 p.m. (5 min.)
5. Offshore Wind Update	Receive an update by Director of Business Planning & Finance Lori Biondini. (Information only)	6:40 – 6:50 p.m. (10 min.)
6. RCEA Legislative Platform Update	Hear a presentation by Regulatory and Legislative Policy Manager Aisha Cissna. (Information only)	6:50 – 7:15 p.m. (25 min.)
7. Deputy Executive Director's Report	Receive an update from Deputy Executive Director Eileen Verbeck. (Information only)	7:15 – 7:20 p.m. (5 min.)
8. 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 p.m. (10 min.)
9. Close & Adjourn		7:30 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR CAC MEETING – Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Location to be determined.



REDWOOD COAST **Energy**Authority

STAFF REPORT Agenda Item # 2

AGENDA DATE:	July 12, 2022
TO:	Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Patricia Terry, Senior Manager, Demand Side Management Sam Smith, Demand Side Management Program Specialist
SUBJECT:	Update on RCEA's Public Agency Solar Program (PASP) and the California Schools Healthy Air and Plumbing Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE)

BACKGROUND

In February 2018 RCEA's Board of Directors approved \$170,000 in funding for the pilot **Public Agency Solar Program (PASP)**, which was launched by RCEA Demand Side Management (DSM) staff in May 2018. Its primary goal was to serve as a test case for a full-scale, turn-key program that would support local government agencies' adoption of cost saving energy generation projects. Pilot objectives included but were not limited to:

- Exploring solar projects at five to seven public agencies,
- Development of a flexible program design that can be scaled and replicated,
- An end-of-year evaluation including recommended programmatic next steps.

RCEA's approach has been to incorporate energy efficiency retrofits in the scopes of services where such measures have not already been implemented.

The California Energy Commission was authorized by Assembly Bill (AB) 841 (Chapter 372, Statutes of 2020) to design, administer, and implement the **California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE)**. CalSHAPE includes two grant programs, CalSHAPE Plumbing and CalSHAPE Ventilation, for eligible parties within the service territories of the large electric and natural gas utilities in California.

RCEA staff has worked with local schools to navigate eligibility for this program and submit applications for funding as part of RCEA's **Local Government Partnership (LGP) Program**. The LGP program is a partnership with PG&E launched in July 2020 to serve public agencies and other hard-to-reach customers in Humboldt County with energy services and is administered by DSM staff.

SUMMARY

PASP Achievements since 2018

The PASP saw immediate interest from public agencies in Humboldt County, with 12 public agencies signing up for services in the first year. PASP has served 24 agencies since the program launched. Program achievements are summarized in the table below.

Agencies Served	24
Solar Site Assessments	57
# of Projects Funded	13
Total Funding Awarded (\$)	\$4,486,378
Projects Completed	10
Projects In Progress	3
Total Capacity Installed (kW-DC)	779.5
Annual Energy Produced/Saved (kWh-AC)	1,346,003

CalSHAPE Achievements through RCEA's LGP Program

RCEA staff have helped Humboldt County schools qualify for and apply for CalSHAPE funding for HVAC and plumbing in Funding Rounds One and Two in 2021 and 2022. RCEA staff have provided public works project management services to the schools for projects funded through CalSHAPE. Staff are engaged and ready to work with local schools on applications for Funding Round Three when it launches in June and August 2022. Achievements are summarized in the table below.

Agencies Served	4
Number of Sites Assessed	6
Applications Submitted	4
Applications in Progress	3
Projects Awarded	4
Total Funding Awarded	\$185,859

Through the LGP Program, RCEA staff provide additional energy services to public agencies, including assessments, benchmarking, referrals for energy efficiency services, and more.

ALIGNMENT WITH [RCEA'S STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

2.4.1 Support Customer Installation of Distributed Generation. Support the deployment of behind-the-meter grid-connected renewable energy and storage systems as core strategies toward achieving environmental, economic, and community stability/resilience goals.

2.4.2 Implement the Public Agency Solar Program. Continue to implement the solar and energy storage technical assistance program for public agencies; integrate grid-connected resources, efficiency, electrification and microgrids as feasible.

2.2.3 Increase Equipment Efficiency through Market Transformation. Prioritize the development and implementation of programs and services that promote the use of the most energy-efficient equipment for space and water heating, ventilation, lighting, refrigeration, and air conditioning in all buildings, including residential, commercial and industrial facilities.

EQUITY IMPACTS

The PASP has worked with the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and the Wiyot Tribe performing solar site assessments, efficiency assessments and providing information about electric use and costs at selected sites. RCEA's work, through the PASP and staff's LGP work on CalSHAPE has focused on schools and public agencies that serve diverse and underserved communities. DSM staff are also working with the Yurok Tribe on multiple projects through the LGP program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

RCEA DSM staff have assisted Humboldt County public agencies in procuring over \$4.5 million in outside funding

ATTACHMENTS

A presentation will be made at the CAC meeting.



Public Agency Solar Program (PASP) and California Schools Healthy Air and Plumbing Efficiency (CalSHAPE)

Presentation to RCEA Board of Directors
June 23, 2022
Mike Avcollie, Project Manager DSM

- The California Energy Commission's (CEC's) **California School Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE)**
 - authorized by Assembly Bill (AB) 841
 - upgrade noncompliant plumbing fixtures and appliances
 - assessments and maintenance of heating, air conditioning, and ventilation (HVAC) systems.
- RCEA staff has worked with Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to navigate eligibility for this program and submit applications
- Leveraged RCEA's Local Government Partnership (LGP) Program serving public agencies and other hard-to-reach customers

CalSHAPE Program



CalSHAPE Program

- The first round opened to LEAs in areas determined to be Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) or low-income communities.
- RCEA assisted four LEAs in applying for Ventilation funding for that round.
- In the second round of funding, open to all LEAs, RCEA will assist one LEA with a Plumbing program application and two LEAs with Ventilation program applications for sites that were not in low-income communities.
- Future funding rounds may allow for projects that add ventilation where there is none existing and for upgrading inefficient equipment.



California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program - CalSHAPE

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) Served:

- Loleta Union School District
- Arcata School District
- Coastal Grove Charter School
- Redwood Coast Montessori



California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program - CalSHAPE

Program Achievements:

- Total Sites Assessed: 6
- Applications Submitted: 6
- Applications in Progress: 3
- Total Projects Awarded: 4
- Total Funding Awarded: \$185,859



RCEA's Public Agency Solar Program (PASP)

- Launched by RCEA Demand Side Management (DSM) staff in May 2018.
- The primary goal was to support local government agencies' adoption of cost saving energy generation projects.
- The program signed up 12 public agencies in its first year.
- PASP has served 24 agencies since launch.
- Work continues through LGP program and Key Account Management services.



RCEA's Public Agency Solar Program (PASP)

Services Include:

- Electric Load Analysis
- Energy Efficiency Upgrade Options
- Solar Site Assessments
- Project Feasibility Studies
- Identification of Funding Sources
- Contracting Assistance



Ridgewood Electric Use vs Solar Output (kWh)



RCEA's Public Agency Solar Program

Program Achievements:

- Agencies Served: 24
- Solar Site Assessments: 57
- # Of Projects Funded: 13
- Total Funding Awarded: \$4,486,378
- Projects Completed: 10
- Total Installed Capacity: 780 kW (DC)
- Annual Energy Production: 1,346 MWh





Public Agency Solar Program (PASP) Projects

PASP Projects

Agency: City of Trinidad

Funding Source: Self
funded solar, SGIP
incentives for storage

Project Description: 14.4
kW solar array with
battery storage at Town
Hall



PASP Projects

Agency: City of Rio Dell

Funding Source: CalOES
Grant

Project Description: 22
kW solar array with
battery storage and
backup generator at City
Hall



PASP Projects

Agency: City of Ferndale

Funding Source: CEC
Loan

Project Description: 63
kW solar array at WWTP
And 5.6 kW solar array at
the Police Station



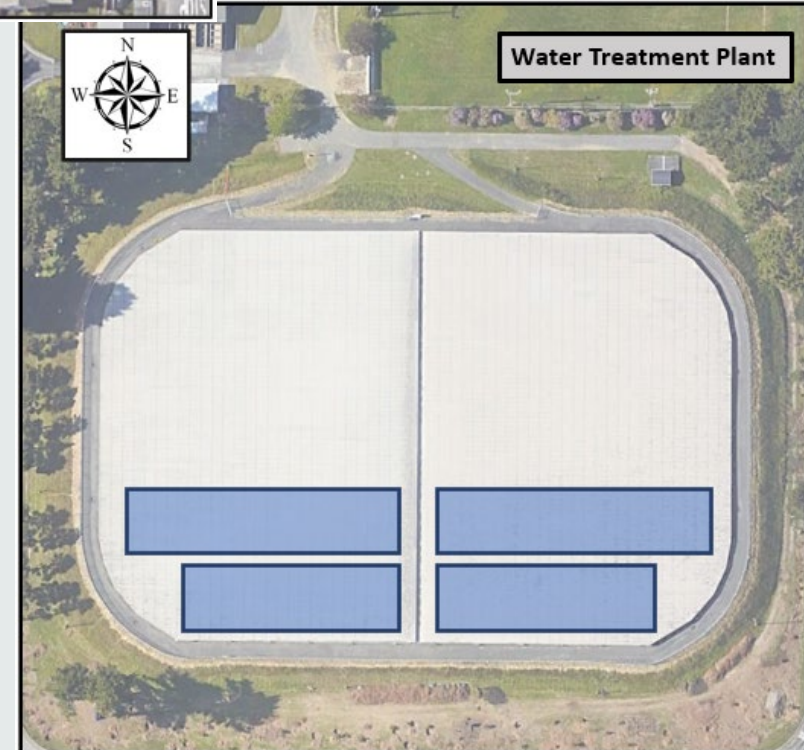
PASP Projects

Agency: City of Eureka

Funding Source: CEC
Loan

Project Description: 343
kW solar array at WTP

And 76 kW solar array at
the High Tank Site



PASP Projects

Agency: Cutten School District

Funding Source: CEC loan

Project Description: 52 kW solar array at Ridgewood Elementary



PASP Projects

Agency: Mattole School District

Funding Source: CEC loan

Project Description:
8 kW solar array at Mattole Elementary and
4.8 kW solar array at Honeydew Elementary



PASP Projects

Agency: Southern
Humboldt School District

Funding Source: CEC
loan

Project Description:
273 kW solar array at
South Fork High School
in Miranda

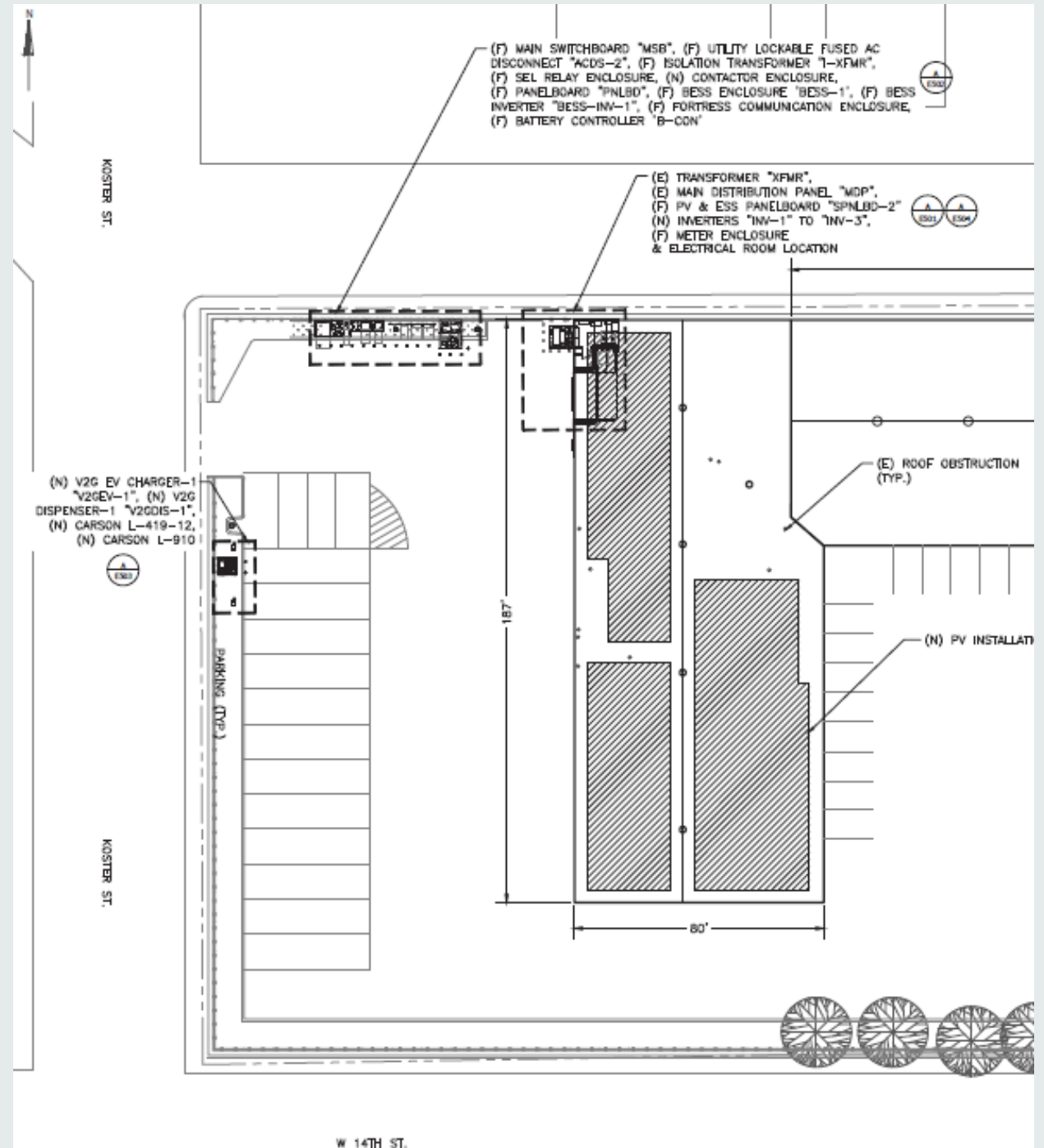


PASP Projects

Agency: Eureka City School District

Funding Source: CEC loan

Project Description: 144 kW solar array at the Corporation Yard



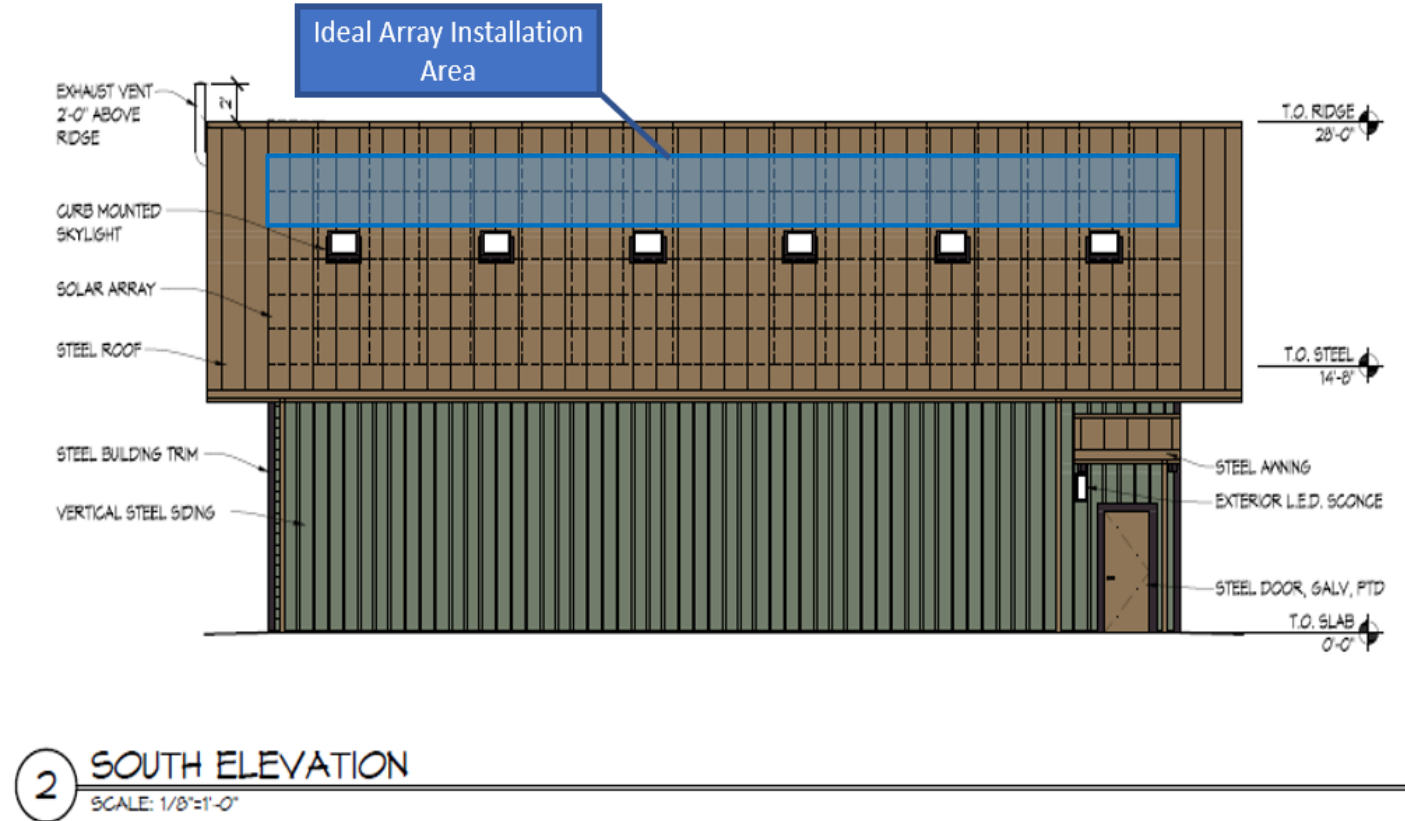
PASP Projects

Agency: Kneeland Fire Protection District

Funding Source: Private Grant

Project Description:

3.4 kW solar array with battery storage at new facility



PASP Projects

Agency: Burnt Ranch Elementary School

Funding Source: CalOES Grant

Project Description:
60 kW solar array





Thank You
Questions?



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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

May 10, 2022 - Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

The agenda for this meeting was posted on May 6, 2022. Community Advisory Committee Chair Dennis Leonardi called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., stating that the meeting was being conducted by teleconference pursuant to revised Brown Act provisions signed into law on September 16. Chair Leonardi stated that the posted agenda outlined instructions for public participation in this meeting.

Members present:

Norman Bell
Elizabeth Burks

Colin Fiske

Larry Goldberg

Catherine Gurin, Vice Chair

Roger Hess

Christopher Honar

Richard Johnson

Ethan Lawton

Dennis Leonardi, Chair

Kit Mann

Emily Morris

Jerome Qiriazzi (arrived 6:06 p.m.)

Jeff Trirogoff

Sarah Schaefer, Board Liaison (non-voting)

Members absent: Luna Latimer

Staff and others present:

Aisha Cissna, Regulatory and Legislative Policy Manager

Michael Richardson, Humboldt County Supervising Planner

Nancy Stephenson, Community Strategies Manager

Lori Taketa, Clerk of the Board

Eileen Verbeck, Deputy Executive Director

Two new Committee members introduced themselves. Emily Morris is a planner for Plan West Partners, a Cal Poly Humboldt graduate and lives in Arcata. Jeff Trirogoff is a solar and electrical contractor; a PV instructor, installer and system inspector; and an energy manager for an affordable housing developer.

Minutes Approval

No member of the public or committee commented on the draft minutes. Chair Leonardi closed the public comment period.

Motion Goldberg, Second Gurin: Approve minutes of March 8, 2022, CAC meeting.

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

Non-Agenda Item Public Comment

There was no comment from the public on non-agenda items. Chair Leonardi closed the public comment period.

Community Advisory Committee Charter Administrative Revisions

Deputy Executive Director Verbeck described minor proposed changes to the Community Advisory Committee Charter including revision of term expiration dates, removal of gendered pronouns, and aligning minute production timelines with current practice.

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

Motion Qiriazzi, Second Johnson: Approve revised Community Advisory Committee Charter.

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

Countywide Climate Action Plan Outreach Subcommittee Report

Regulatory and Legislative Policy Manager Aisha Cissna described the ad hoc CAC Climate Action Plan Outreach Subcommittee activities. The subcommittee will review draft CAP public comments and use them in RCEA outreach activities. The subcommittee will refine outreach strategies in the coming months.

County Senior Planner Michael Richardson presented the public review draft of the regional Countywide Climate Action Plan (CAP) that is being circulated to the different municipality and County governing bodies for comment before the draft plan's Environmental Impact Report is developed. The city councils and County Board of Supervisors are currently setting CAP goals and selecting actions, a one- to 1.5-year process, after which the jurisdiction governing bodies will adopt the Countywide CAP. Staff will then be hired to seek plan implementation funding. The collective implementation of draft CAP measures will barely get Humboldt County to the 40% below 1990 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission level target set by SB 32. It is not clear how Humboldt County will get to the 2045 statewide carbon neutrality goal. Mr. Richardson reviewed proposed strategies for regional GHG reduction. The County Board of Supervisors and different city councils, elected officials will be discussing what targets they believe are achievable and which specific measures they are willing to take to meet those targets. Public comment and participation in the discussion is encouraged.

The Committee discussed:

- Measures not included in the CAP, such as forest and wetland carbon sequestration and the need for baseline data to calculate sequestration potential.
- Whether to include point source emissions in the 1990 baseline. Not including these emissions in the baseline would help meet the 2045 zero emission target.
- The importance of including community services and tribal organizations in GHG emission reduction coordination.
- Forest and agricultural landowners' interest in selling carbon sequestration offsets for emissions in other areas, and how this sequestration cannot count toward local GHG reduction.
- The need to focus on CAP measures that are fully in local jurisdictions' control such as building-related emissions and vehicle miles traveled reduction.

- The need to identify an agency to spearhead telecommuting policies and incentives. How the current CAP telecommuting measure has minimal impact but experience gained through the COVID pandemic may modify this.
- The need to tie RCEA's electricity production decarbonization efforts to the regional Climate Action Plan.
- How the CAC's Climate Action Plan Outreach Subcommittee may be able to help develop a public engagement strategy for the Environmental Impact Review process in the next 1.5 years.
- Whether the CAC's CAP Outreach Subcommittee can stay in regular communication with the County Board of Supervisors' and city council-appointed CAP Committee after the regional plan is adopted.
- How to ensure that representatives from different industry groups such as the Humboldt Dairymen's Association are reviewing and commenting on the draft CAP.
- The need to engage a broader range of people in thinking about how to reduce emissions.

No member of the public responded to Chair Leonardi's invitation to comment. Chair Leonardi closed the public comment period.

Member Reports

Committee members supported in-person, virtual and hybrid meeting options. The RCEA Board will discuss future meeting plans at its May meeting.

Members requested: touring the Scotia biomass cogeneration plant; posting the Community Advisory Committee Charter on RCEA's website; asking Access Humboldt to record and post RCEA Board meeting recordings online; Schatz Energy Research Center presentations on offshore wind transmission feasibility, California Biomass Residue Emissions Characterization (C-BREC) modeling by Jerome Qirazi or Kevin Fingerman, and biomass lifecycle analysis; and a discussion of Sandrini solar project issues and whether RCEA's energy goals will be affected. Deputy Executive Director Verbeck explained that RCEA is working with developer EDP Renewables to renegotiate the Sandrini solar contract and address project delays. An RCEA response letter was submitted to the North Coast Journal for publication.

Member Burks asked Committee members to ride bicycles as much as possible as May is Bike Month. Member Fisk informed the Committee about a Cal Poly Humboldt graduate student's presentation on renewable energy transformation in Orleans.

Chair Leonardi adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Lori Taketa
Clerk of the Board



STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 5

AGENDA DATE:	July 12, 2022
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Lori Biondini, Business Planning & Finance Director
SUBJECT:	Offshore Wind Update

SUMMARY

Director of Business Planning and Finance Lori Biondini will report on current offshore wind-related activities.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

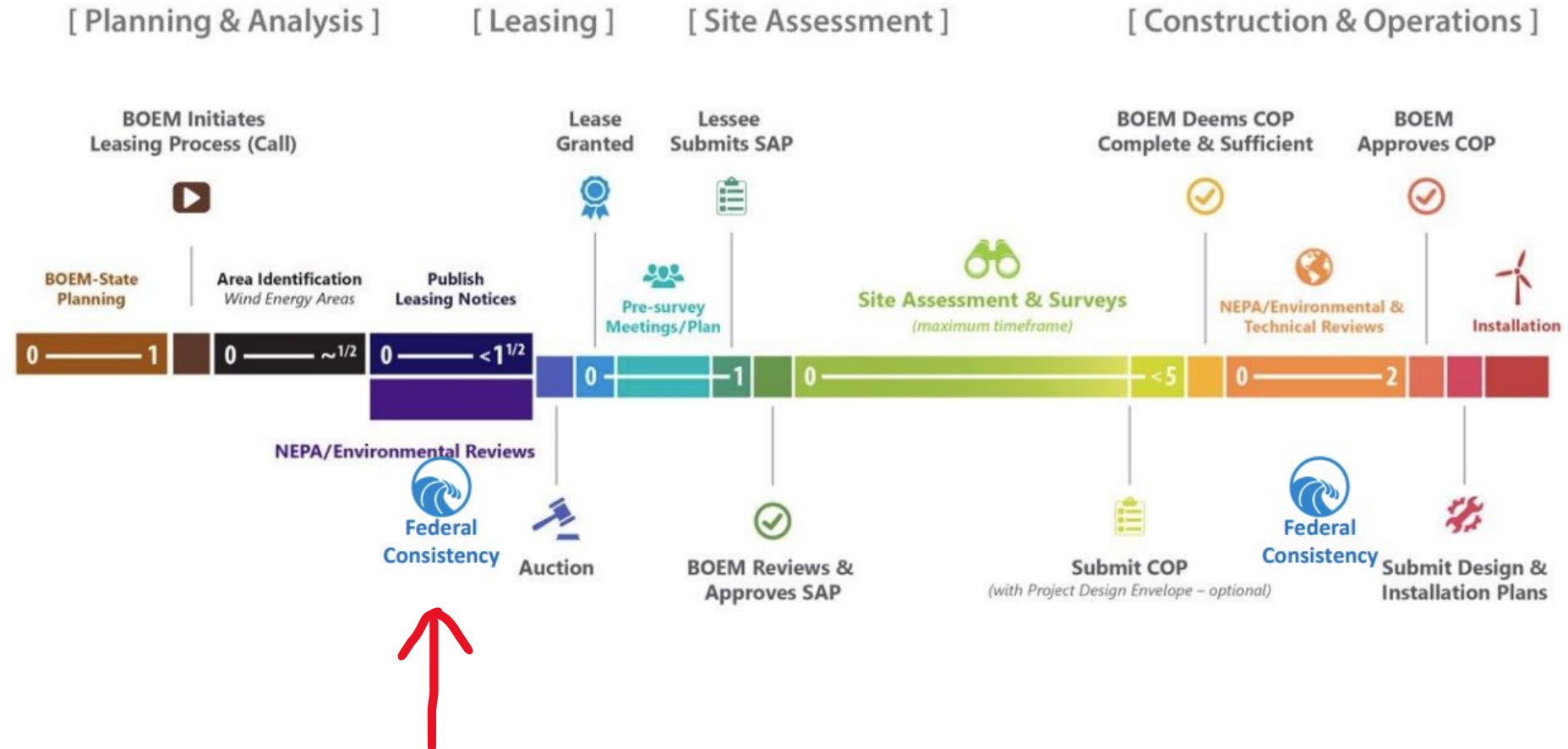
None-information only.

A photograph of three offshore wind turbines in the ocean. The turbines are white with yellow bases and are mounted on floating platforms. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The water is a deep blue. The text "Offshore Wind Energy Updates July 2022" is overlaid in white on the bottom left.

Offshore Wind Energy Updates

July 2022

BOEM's Renewable Energy Authorization Process:



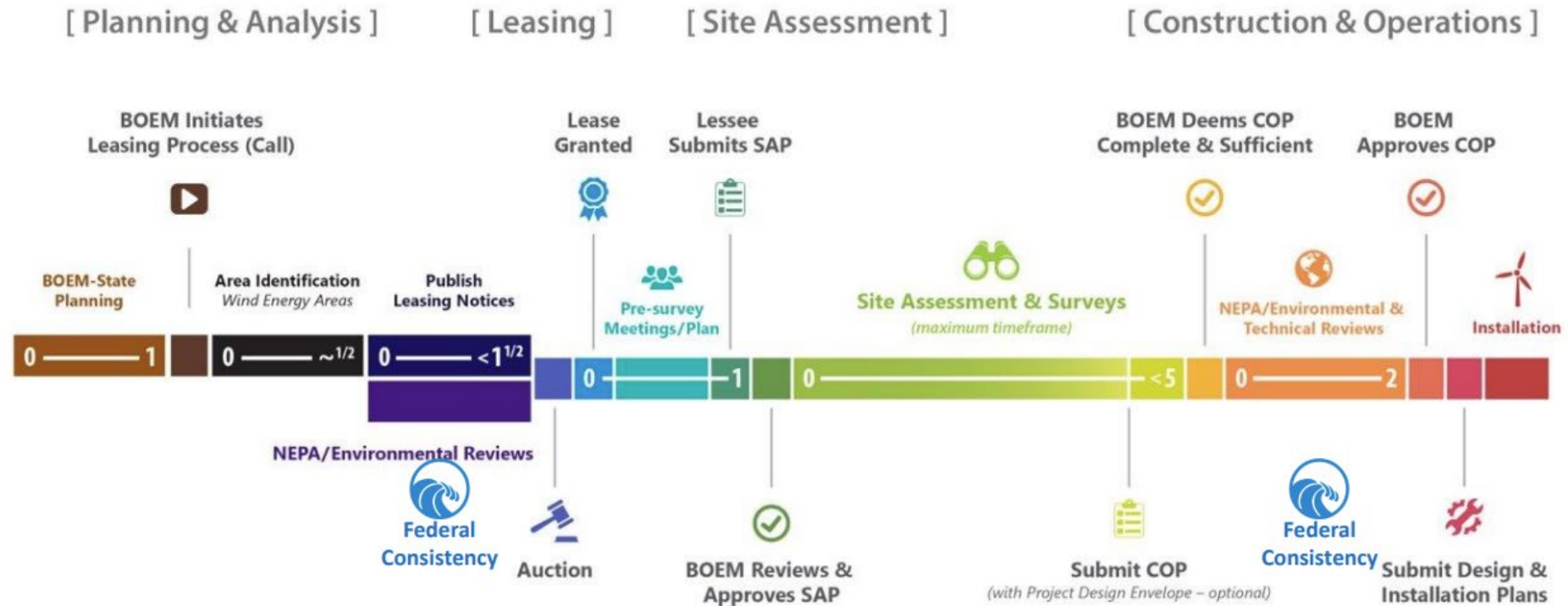
Milestones just completed:

- Environmental Assessment (EA) considers potential impacts from the issuance of leases within the WEA. Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).
 - Boem.gov/HumboldtEA
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)- describes the process for state review of federally permitted projects for consistency with a state's Coastal Management Program.
- Consistency review also covers many of the same issues that BOEM has identified through their own outreach and the Intergovernmental Task Force.
- “Consistency Determination” for federal projects (process for proposed leasing); “Consistency Certification” for federally permitted projects (process for proposed construction of a specific project).
 - coastal.ca.gov/upcoming-projects/offshore-wind/

Next steps:

- Federal: Proposed Sale Notice comment period ends August 1; then Final Sale Notice published
- State: AB 525 outreach and workshops to develop strategic plan; economic benefits of seaport and workforce investments, and permitting roadmap reports due December 2022
- Local: continued outreach via Lost Coast Wind and Fisherman's Marketing Association; CORE Hub participation; support Harbor Commission's efforts
- RCEA: Meet with RCEA Board Offshore Wind Subcommittee; Comment on the Proposed Sale Notice; continue working with Redwood Offshore Wind partners in preparation for auction

BOEM's Renewable Energy Authorization Process:



↑
Fall 2022

————— Several Years —————→



REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

STAFF REPORT Agenda Item # 6

AGENDA DATE:	July 12, 2022
TO:	Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Aisha Cissna, Regulatory and Legislative Policy Manager
SUBJECT:	RCEA 2022 Policy Platform

BACKGROUND

On March 24, 2022, the RCEA Board of Directors adopted the RCEA 2022 Policy Platform ("Platform").

The purpose of the Platform is to deliver on RCEA's RePower Humboldt goals and maintain the operation of its various programs. RCEA regularly tracks policy developments in both the regulatory and legislative space to fulfill these goals.

Examples of RCEA legislative advocacy include submitting letters in support or opposition of specific bills, as well as meeting with legislators in the California State Senate, the California State Assembly, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate.

Most of RCEA's regulatory advocacy is germane to the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC"), the primary State agency responsible for executing legislation and issuing regulations pertinent to Community Choice Energy operations. However, RCEA's operations are also impacted by other state and federal agencies including but not limited to the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. In some cases, engagement also extends to the Governor's Office and White House. Each of these bodies develop and implement policy that is of interest to RCEA. Examples of advocacy in this sphere include meeting with agency staff, decision-makers, and submitting comment letters.

Previously, RCEA needed Board authorization to adopt a position on any given piece of legislation. Prior to Platform adoption, RCEA brought individual pieces of legislation to the Board for direction prior to adopting an official stance on a policy matter. For example, in 2021 RCEA sought Board authorization to submit letters of support to Senate Bill 99 (The Community Energy Resilience Act), Senate Bill 612 (Power Charge Indifference Adjustment bill), Assembly Bill 525 (Offshore wind strategic planning bill), and a letter of opposition to Assembly Bill 1139 (Net Energy Metering bill). Seeking authorization on a case-by-case basis was more time-consuming, but necessary because the frequency of RCEA Board meetings typically does not align with the pace of the legislative process. The ultimate purpose of establishing the Platform is to implement a more efficient and structured advocacy approach akin to what other Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) have in place. The Platform allows the RCEA Executive Director (or their designee) to be nimbler in adopting positions on legislative matters

in a timely manner without full Board approval if the position is aligned with the Board-approved priorities. This Platform also helps inform RCEA's regulatory activities to ensure staff engagement aligns with the Board's priorities and RCEA's goals. As noted in the Platform, staff is authorized to engage in regulatory matters without Board consultation.

SUMMARY

The Board adopted the attached Platform, which is intended to support the following overarching policy priorities:

- To maintain local control for the purpose of preserving the ability to self-procure its power resources, and to self-determine rates and the energy programs RCEA offers to its residents, businesses, and communities it serves, through the mechanisms of local governance,
- To provide lower and more stable rates for RCEA customers,
- To provide greater economic benefits to the local community,
- To have maximum flexibility to utilize and develop local resources in the most economically efficient manner possible and with a high degree of local control,
- To maintain the financial stability of CCA operations, and
- To maintain an efficient, transparent governance structure and operations.

The Platform also supports policy developments that enable, protect, and enhance the development of Community Choice Aggregation programs, the development of local energy generation resources in a financially feasible manner to meet the needs of load-serving entities, and that support CCA autonomy in operations policy, procurement, program deployment, management, and decision-making.

While the attached Platform attempts to address a full range of issues of interest to RCEA, it is not intended to limit RCEA's engagement in other issues that may impact RCEA in a positive or negative way. Issues not addressed in the Platform will continue to be brought to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

This Platform will be brought to the RCEA Board of Directors on an annual basis for review and input. To keep the Board abreast of RCEA advocacy activities, a quarterly report will be provided summarizing legislative engagement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

None - information only.

ATTACHMENT

- Redwood Coast Energy Authority 2022 Policy Platform



REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY 2022 POLICY PLATFORM

INTRODUCTION

Redwood Coast Energy Authority (“RCEA”) is a joint-powers authority of the cities of Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna, Rio Dell, Trinidad, County of Humboldt, and the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District. The mission of RCEA is to develop and implement sustainable energy initiatives which reduce energy demand, increase energy efficiency, and advance the use of clean, efficient, and renewable resources available in the region for the benefit of the Member agencies and their constituents.

This Policy Platform serves as a guide for regulatory and legislative engagement which is based on principles set forth in RCEA’s RePower Humboldt strategic plan. To review RCEA’s strategic plan, please see <https://redwoodenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RePower-2019-Update-FINAL-.pdf>

This platform will be brought to the RCEA Board on an annual basis for review and input.

AVENUES AND EXAMPLES OF ADVOCACY

Legislation and regulation are two distinct, but related, policy tools. Legislation sets principles of public policy, while regulation implements these principles and brings legislation into effect.

Examples of RCEA legislative advocacy include submitting letters in support or opposition of specific bills, as well as meeting with legislators in the California State Senate, the California State Assembly, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate.

Most of RCEA’s regulatory engagement takes place through the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”), the primary State agency responsible for executing legislation and issuing regulations pertinent to Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”) operations. However, RCEA’s operations are also impacted by other state and federal agencies including but not limited to the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Each of these agencies develop and implement regulations that are of interest to RCEA. Examples of advocacy in this sphere include meeting with agency staff, agency decision-makers, and submitting comments in response to regulations.

PROCEDURES

Regulatory Engagement: RCEA regulatory engagement at the CPUC and other agencies is conducted at the staff level under the authority of the Executive Director in a manner consistent with RCEA's mission, this policy platform, RCEA's strategic plan, and any applicable RCEA policies.

Legislative Advocacy: The RCEA Executive Director, or their designee, is authorized to adopt positions on legislative matters in a timely manner without Board approval if the position is aligned with the issue areas described below.

Prior to adopting a legislative position, the Executive Director shall confer with the Board Chair and Vice-Chair on the matter. If both the Chair and Vice-Chair concur that the position is consistent with the Legislative Platform and/or the mission of RCEA then the Executive Director may take the position.

To keep the Board apprised of advocacy activities, staff will notify the full Board of any legislative positions taken by RCEA and deliver a quarterly report to the Board summarizing legislative engagement. Furthermore, this platform will be brought to the Board for review and input on an annual basis.

While the platform attempts to address a full range of issues of interest to RCEA, it is not intended to limit RCEA's engagement in other issues that may impact RCEA in a positive or negative way. Issues not addressed in the platform will continue to be brought to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

ISSUE AREAS

1. Governance and Statutory Authority

RCEA will:

- a. Oppose policies which limit the local decision-making authority of local governments or CCAs, including rate-setting authority and procurement of energy and capacity to serve their customers.
- b. Oppose policies which limit RCEA's ability to effectively serve its customers.
- c. Support efforts of CCAs to engage with their customers and promote transparency in their operations. Similarly, RCEA will oppose policies which restrict or limit these abilities.
- d. Support policies which make it easier for other cities and counties to form a CCA, become members of RCEA or other CCAs, and oppose regulations and legislation which restricts which ability.

2. Restructuring the Electricity Utility Sector

RCEA will:

- a. Support policies and advocate for reforms to the utility regulatory and business model to transform IOUs into entities that solely provide transmission and distribution services.

- b. Support policies and advocate for reforms to the utility regulatory and business model to ensure Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) deliver greater benefits to ratepayers, increase safety and reliability, and reduce costs.
- c. Support local governments' ability to form municipal electric utilities, including supporting legislation which expands opportunities for CCAs to become municipal electric utilities.
- d. Advocate for greater collaboration to occur between CCAs, tribes, local governments, and incumbent IOUs, particularly in local planning efforts related to energy, EV charging, community resource centers, and customer programs.
- e. Support efforts which result in IOUs providing meter data in real time to enable CCAs to better forecast and schedule load.

3. Resource Adequacy

RCEA will:

- a. Support the efforts of CalCCA to create a central procurement entity for residual Resource Adequacy needs.
- b. Advocate for and support efforts to remove barriers to demand response, microgrids and behind the meter resources to provide Resource Adequacy or other demand-reduction value.

4. Power Cost Indifference Adjustment (PCIA)

RCEA will:

- a. Support CalCCA efforts to increase the transparency of IOU electricity contracts which provide the basis for Power Cost Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) charges which RCEA (and its customers) and other CCAs must pay.
- b. Support efforts which create a pathway to wind down the PCIA.
- c. Support policies which would bring stability to the PCIA and/or provide new mechanisms for CCAs to securitize PCIA charges.
- d. Oppose policies which would increase or expand exit fees, including PCIA, on CCA customers.

5. Public Safety Power Shut-Offs (PSPS)

RCEA will:

- a. Support policies which increase the notification and transparency requirements on IOUs as they implement a PSPS.
- b. Support policies which create standards for PSPS implementation and penalties on IOUs which execute PSPS below those standards.
- c. Support policies which create rules and procedures to ensure PSPS are implemented narrowly and only as absolutely necessary.
- d. Support policies which require IOUs to notify impacted cities, counties, tribes, and CCAs of impending PSPS events.

6. COVID-19 Response

- a. To the extent that it does not harm RCEA's financial health and standing, support regulatory policies, legislation, or budget appropriations to alleviate residential and commercial financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic that could disrupt electricity service to RCEA customers or restrict RCEA customers accessing clean energy opportunities. This could include, for example, assistance to avoid electric service disconnection or economic recovery funding for transportation electrification.

7. Community Resilience

RCEA will:

- a. Advocate for and support funding for programs implemented by local governments and CCAs to increase community resilience to wildfires, PSPS events and other potential service disruptions.
- b. Support policies which reduce barriers to microgrid development by CCAs and other local entities including tribes and local governments.
- c. Support policies that expand the ability of non-IOU entities to develop microgrids (e.g., ensuring CCA access to ratepayer funds to develop microgrids).
- d. Support policies which increase the development of community level resources and distributed energy resources which reduce the need for new transmission and distribution infrastructure.

8. Renewable Energy Generation Sources

RCEA will:

- a. Support policies which expand opportunities for or reduce barriers to the development of renewable energy sources, including, but not limited to, wind, solar, bioenergy, battery storage, small hydro, and geothermal, as long as local development and siting criteria are consistent with city and county land use authority, other local and state regulatory requirements, and informed by input from tribal governments.
- b. Support policies which expand opportunities for offshore wind, including investment in requisite infrastructure (e.g., harbor facilities and transmission) and workforce training necessary to support such development.
- c. Oppose policies which require CCAs to purchase specific renewable energy products, thus limiting the ability of CCAs to meet local energy needs in a cost-effective manner and in conflict with their local procurement and rate setting authority.

9. Environmental Justice

RCEA will:

- a. Engage in regulatory and legislative developments which directly or indirectly impact the ability of rural, low-income, and underserved communities in the RCEA service territory to have affordable, reliable, and clean energy.

- b. Support policies which strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- c. Support policies that enable all communities, including emerging and historically marginalized communities, and individuals, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, age, disability, or socioeconomic status, in California to participate in the decarbonization of the state's electrical grid, building stock, and the transportation sector in a cost-effective manner.

10. RCEA Programs

- a. Protect RCEA autonomy to administer programs, and support policies that expand opportunities for or reduce barriers to the development of RCEA programs including but not limited to:
 - i. Integrated demand side management (microgrids, distributed energy resources, demand response, energy efficiency, electrification, distributed generation and storage, vehicle-to-grid storage)
 - ii. Low-carbon transportation (advanced fuel deployment, fuel efficiency, fueling infrastructure)
 - iii. Energy generation and utility services (rates and tariffs, transmission and distribution infrastructure)

11. Local Economic Development and Environmental Objectives

RCEA will:

- a. Support policies which enhance opportunities for local governments and CCAs to promote local economic and workforce development through locally designed programs which meet the unique needs of its member agencies and customers.
- b. Support efforts to enhance development of local and regional sources of renewable energy.
- c. Support policies which enable CCAs to collaborate with their member jurisdictions on local energy resources and projects to advance environmental objectives.

12. Direct Access/Electric Service Providers

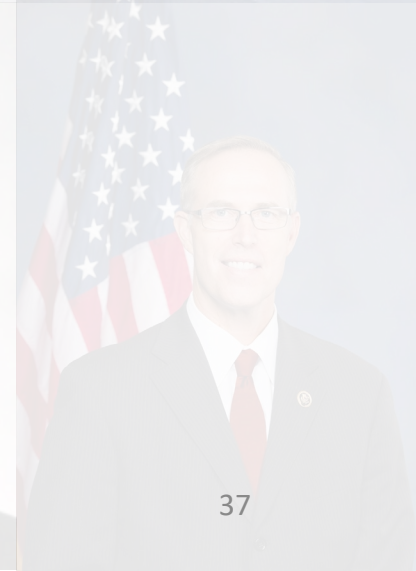
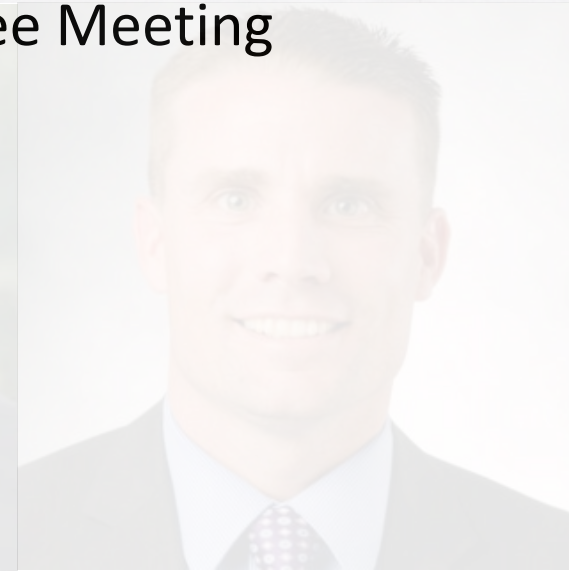
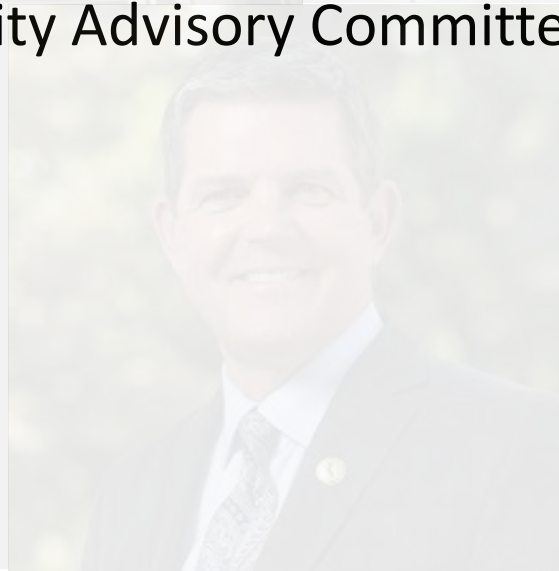
RCEA will:

- a. Oppose policies which expand direct access or the ability or economic incentives for electric service providers to selectively recruit CCA or IOU customers.

RCEA 2022 Policy Platform

July 12, 2022

Community Advisory Committee Meeting



Overview

1. Background
2. Purpose
3. Procedures
4. Overarching Platform Goals
5. Overview of Platform Issue Areas



Background

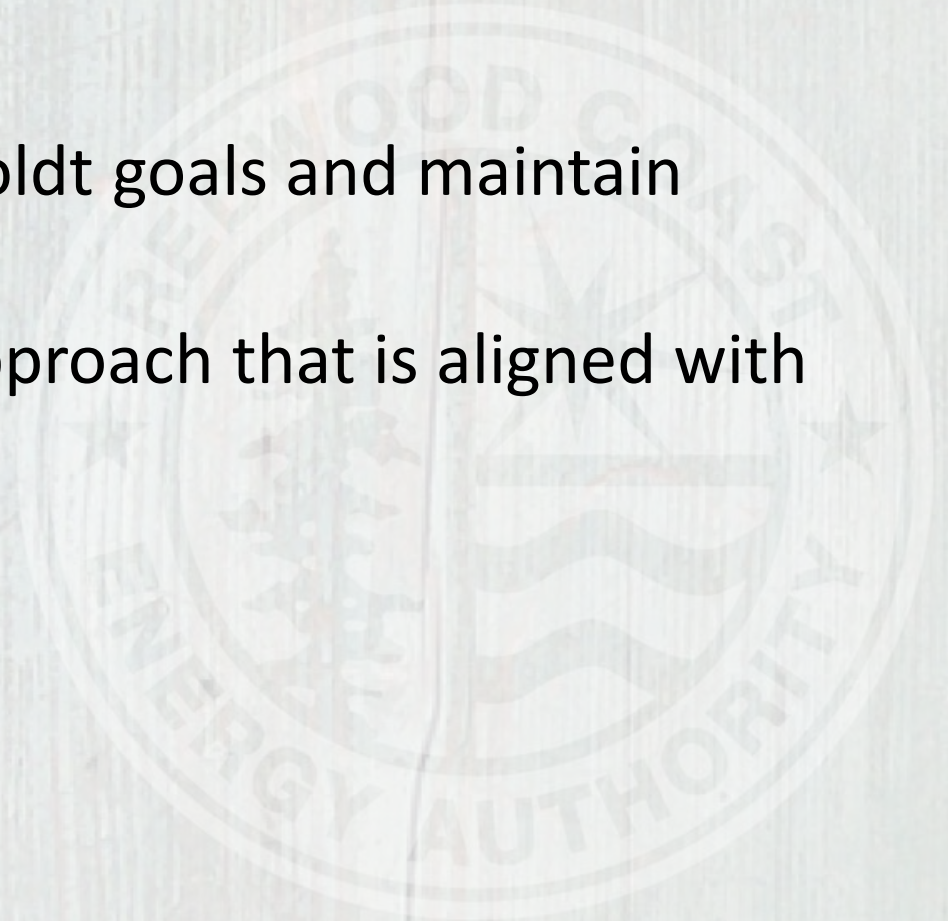
- Legislation and regulation are two distinct, but related, policy tools



- RCEA primarily engages in state-level advocacy, with a growing interest in federal advocacy
- Not focused on local policy

Purpose of Platform

1. To deliver on RCEA's RePower Humboldt goals and maintain operation of RCEA programs
2. Achieve a more efficient advocacy approach that is aligned with Board priorities



Procedures

- Regulatory engagement: Conducted at the staff level under the authority of the Executive Director in a manner consistent with RCEA's mission, policy platform, strategic plan, and other applicable policies
- Legislative advocacy: RCEA Executive Director, or their designee, is authorized to adopt a position on legislation without Board approval if the position is aligned with the Platform
 - Prior to adopting a position, the Executive Director will confer with Board Chair and Vice Chair to confirm whether position is consistent with Platform

Procedures Cont'd

- Quarterly report to the Board summarizing legislative positions adopted by RCEA
- Platform is subject to annual review and input by RCEA Board
- Platform seeks to be comprehensive; it is not intended to limit RCEA engagement in other issues
- Issues not addressed in the Platform will continue to be brought to the Board on a case-by-case basis

Overarching Platform Goals

Maximize flexibility to utilize and develop local power resources in an economically efficient manner and with a high degree of local control

Provide greater economic benefits to our community

Provide lower and more stable rates

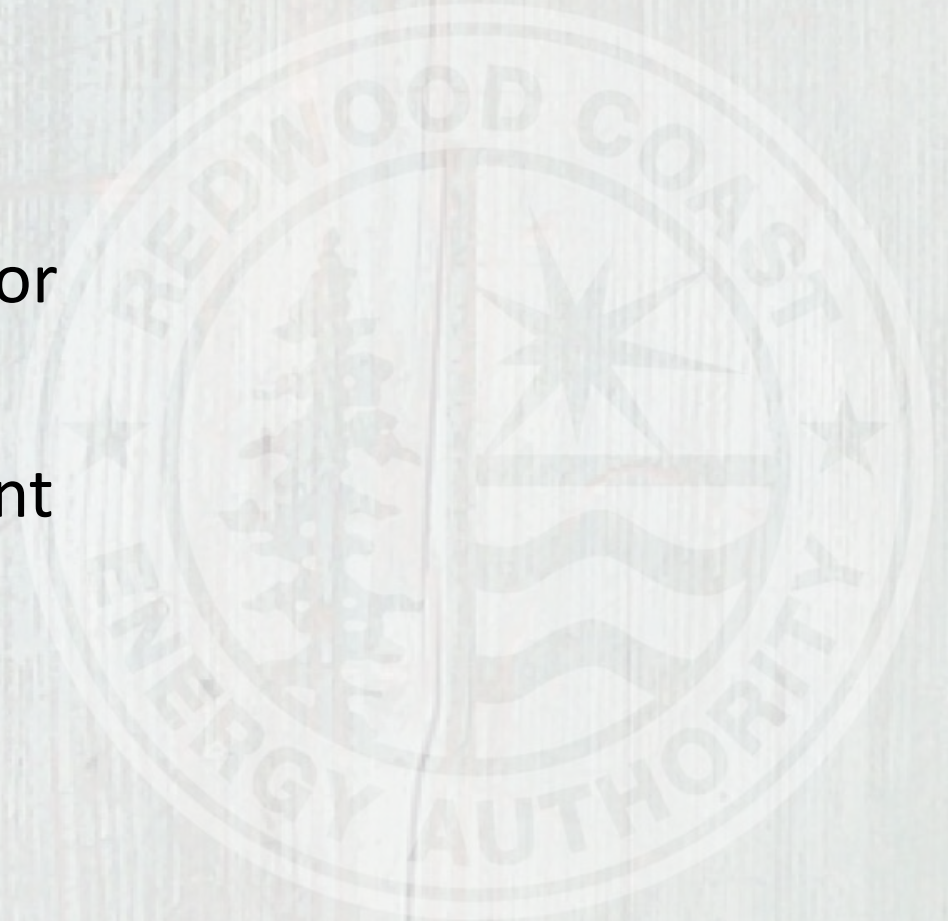
Maintain an efficient, transparent governance structure and operations

Maintain the financial stability of CCA operations

Maintain local control to preserve RCEA's ability to self-procure power resources, and to self-determine rates and the energy programs RCEA offers

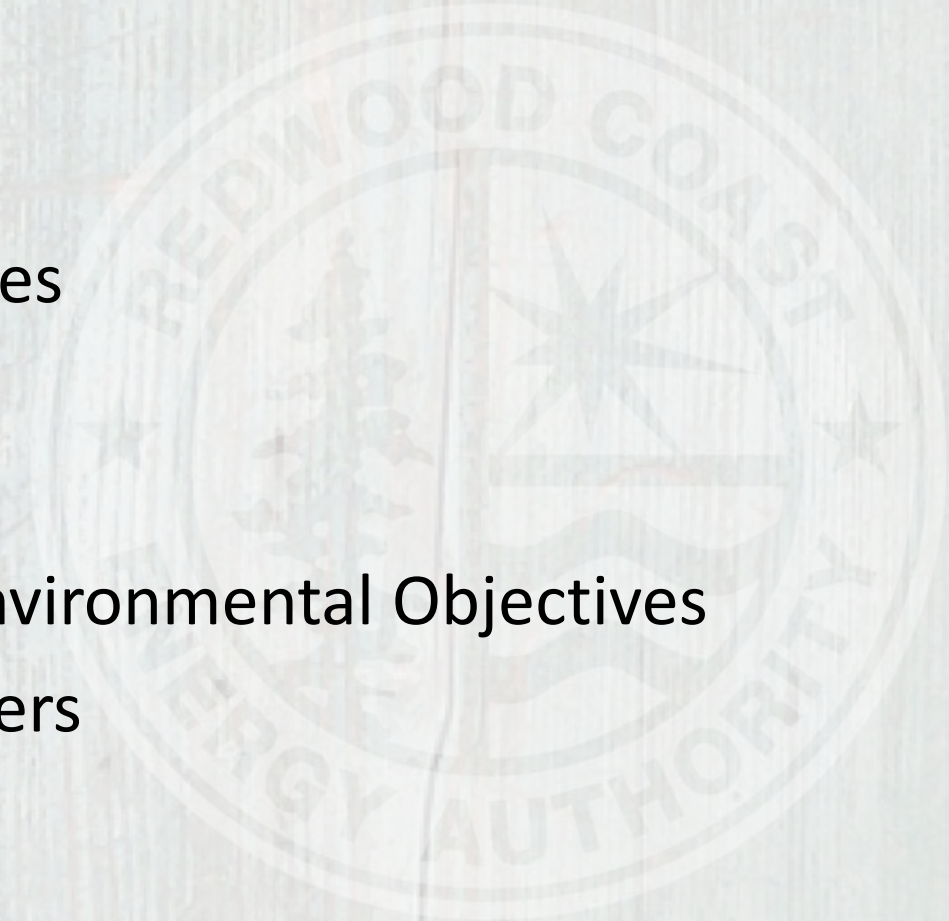
Overview of Platform Issue Areas

1. Governance and Statutory Authority
2. Restructuring the Electric Utility Sector
3. Resource Adequacy
4. Power Charge Indifference Adjustment
5. Public Safety Power Shut-Offs
6. COVID-19 Response



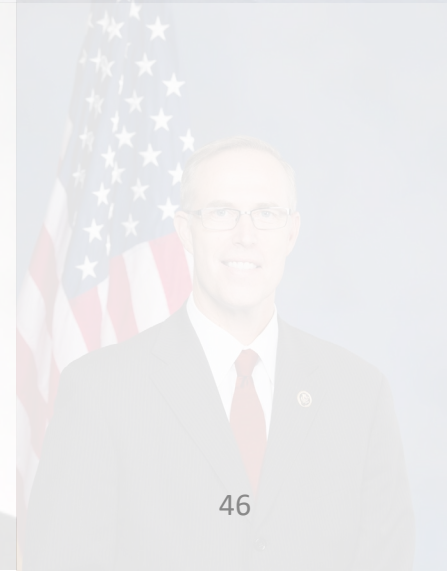
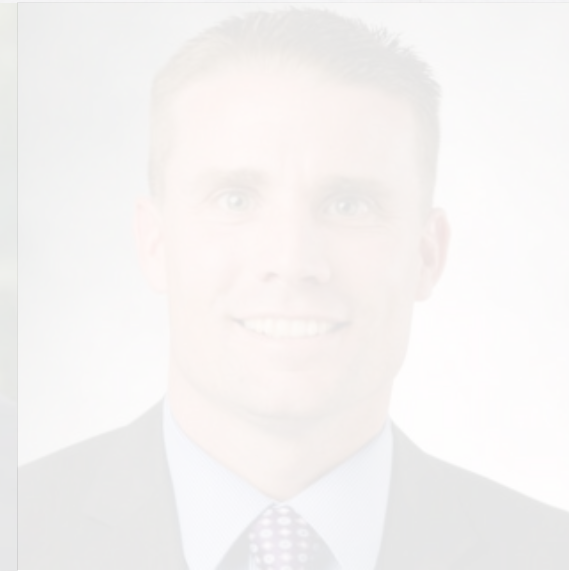
Overview of Platform Issue Areas Cont'd

- 7. Community Resilience
- 8. Renewable Energy Generation Sources
- 9. Environmental Justice
- 10. Customer Programs
- 11. Local Economic Development and Environmental Objectives
- 12. Direct Access/Electric Service Providers





Thank you!





REDWOOD COAST **Energy**Authority

STAFF REPORT **Agenda Item # 7**

AGENDA DATE:	July 12, 2022
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM:	Eileen Verbeck, Deputy Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Deputy Executive Director's Report

SUMMARY

Deputy Executive Director Eileen Verbeck will provide a brief update on:

- Hybrid meeting options,
- Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid grand opening, and
- Other topics as needed.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. (Information only.)



Thank you
Jeff and Kit
Super Chair-oes