



Redwood Coast Energy Authority

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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Jefferson Community Center Auditorium
1000 B Street, Eureka, CA 95501**

**November 14, 2023
Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.**

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. Assistive listening devices are available.

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.

NOTE: Speakers wishing to distribute materials to the Committee at the meeting, please provide 17 copies to the Board Clerk.

THIS IS A HYBRID IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING.

The Community Advisory Committee has returned to in-person hybrid meetings. When attending CAC meetings, please socially distance as much as possible and be courteous to those who choose to wear a mask.

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

To comment by phone or online 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 ask you to unmute your phone or computer. You will have 3 minutes to speak.

You may email written comments to PublicComment@redwoodenergy.org. **Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line.** Comments will be included in the meeting record but not read aloud during the meeting.

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."

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Agenda Item / What	How / Action <u>Underlined actions</u> indicate that a vote is needed.	When																
1. Open	<p><u>Roll Call:</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Norman Bell</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Luna Latimer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elizabeth Burks</td> <td>Ethan Lawton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colin Fiske</td> <td>Dennis Leonardi, Chair</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larry Goldberg</td> <td>Kit Mann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris Honar</td> <td>Emily Morris</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Richard Johnson</td> <td>Jeff Trirogoff</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(2 vacancies)</td> <td>Jerome Qiriazzi, V. Chair</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Kris Mobley, Board Liaison</td> </tr> </table> <p>Remote member participation:</p> <p>Action (if needed): <u>Approve teleconference participation request for this meeting by committee member pursuant to Brown Act revisions of AB 2449 due to an emergency circumstance to be briefly described.</u></p> <p>Review meeting agenda and goals.</p>	Norman Bell	Luna Latimer	Elizabeth Burks	Ethan Lawton	Colin Fiske	Dennis Leonardi, Chair	Larry Goldberg	Kit Mann	Chris Honar	Emily Morris	Richard Johnson	Jeff Trirogoff	(2 vacancies)	Jerome Qiriazzi, V. Chair		Kris Mobley, Board Liaison	6-6:05 p.m. (5 min.)
Norman Bell	Luna Latimer																	
Elizabeth Burks	Ethan Lawton																	
Colin Fiske	Dennis Leonardi, Chair																	
Larry Goldberg	Kit Mann																	
Chris Honar	Emily Morris																	
Richard Johnson	Jeff Trirogoff																	
(2 vacancies)	Jerome Qiriazzi, V. Chair																	
	Kris Mobley, Board Liaison																	
2. 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.	6:05 – 6:10 p.m. (5 min.)																
3. Consent Calendar	<p>All matters on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine by the CAC and are enacted in one motion. There is no separate discussion of any of these items. If discussion is required, that item is removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately. At the end of the reading of the Consent Calendar, CAC members or members of the public can request that an item be removed for separate discussion.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3.1. <u>Approve September 12, 2023, CAC Meeting Minutes.</u></p>	6:10 – 6:15 p.m. (5 min.)																
4. Items Removed from Consent Calendar	This time is set aside for discussion of items removed from the Consent Calendar.	6:15 – 6:20 p.m. (5 min.)																

Agenda Item / What	How / Action <u>Underlined actions</u> indicate that a vote is needed.	When
5. Arcata Gateway / McKinleyville Town Center Subcommittee Report	Action: Hear Local Major Projects Subcommittee update. (Information only)	6:20 – 6:40 p.m. (20 min.)
6. Annual CAC Work Goal Setting	Action: Provide input on draft Community Advisory Committee annual report and CAC 2024-25 work goals.	6:40 – 7:00 p.m. (20 min.)
7. Net Billing Tariff: Board Decision Report	Action: Hear a report on RCEA Board Net Billing Tariff implementation directions and next steps. (Information only)	7:00 - 7:20 p.m. (20 min.)
8. Member and Board Liaison Reports	This time is provided for Committee members and the Board Liaison 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. 8.1. Board Liaison 8.2. Committee Members	7:20 – 7:30 p.m. (10 min.)
9. Close & Adjourn		7:30 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR CAC MEETING – Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Jefferson Community Center Auditorium, 1000 B Street, Eureka, CA 95501.

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**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 1**

AGENDA DATE:	November 14, 2023
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM:	Eileen Verbeck, Deputy Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Member Teleconference Participation

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 State of Emergency ended on February 28, 2023, and RCEA Board and CAC meetings returned to meeting in-person at a physical location, with allowances under existing Brown Act rules or new AB 2449 Brown Act rules should a Board or CAC member need to participate from a remote location for certain reasons. If another state of emergency is declared, these bodies may be able to return to completely remote meetings.

SUMMARY

CAC members may attend up to two meetings per year from a remote location without making the location accessible to the public for the following reasons:

1. "Just cause"
 - a. To provide childcare or caregiving need to a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner;
 - b. Due to a contagious illness that prevents the member from attending in-person;
 - c. Due to a need related to a physical or mental disability as defined in Government Code sections 12926 and 12926.1 not otherwise accommodated; and
 - d. Due to travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.
2. "Emergency circumstance" due to a physical or family medical emergency that prevents the member from attending in person.

If the CAC member would like to attend the meeting remotely due to an emergency circumstance, the committee will take action by majority vote to approve the member's remote participation. A vote is not necessary for a request to attend remotely for just cause. A brief description, protecting the member's (or member's family member's) medical privacy, needs to be provided in both cases.

The remotely participating CAC member needs to publicly disclose at the meeting before any action (vote) is taken, whether anyone 18 years of age or older is present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the individual's relationship with the CAC member.

If the CAC member anticipates needing to participate remotely for more than 2 meetings per year or for non-just cause or emergency reasons, staff recommends arranging for a publicly and ADA accessible space with visual and audio meeting capabilities from which to participate in keeping with previous Brown Act teleconference meeting requirements.

Staff asks to be notified one-week in advance, if possible, of remote meeting attendance so the member's publicly and ADA accessible remote meeting address can be published in the agenda, as may be required per Brown Act open meeting laws.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve teleconference participation request for this meeting by committee member pursuant to Brown Act revisions of AB 2449 due to an emergency circumstance to be briefly described.



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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

September 12, 2023 - Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Community Advisory Committee Chair Dennis Leonardi called the hybrid in-person and teleconference meeting to order on the above date at 6:12 p.m. at the Jefferson Community Center auditorium, 1000 B Street, Eureka, CA. The agenda for this meeting was posted on September 8, 2023.

Members present:

Colin Fiske

Larry Goldberg

Christopher Honar

Richard Johnson

Luna Latimer (arrived 6:14 p.m.)

Ethan Lawton

Dennis Leonardi, Chair

Emily Morris (arrived 6:17 p.m.)

Jerome Qirazi

Jeff Trirogoff

Members absent: Norman Bell, Elizabeth Burks, Kit Mann

Board Liaison, non-voting: Kris Mobley

Staff present:

Juliette Bohn, Infrastructure Programs Manager

Matthew Marshall, Executive Director

Lori Taketa, Board Clerk

Eileen Verbeck, Deputy Executive Director

Non-Agenda Item Public Comment

Members of the public Dr. Ken Miller and Jesse Noell submitted written comment in favor of distributed solar energy.

Dr. Wendy Ring submitted written comment opposing biomass energy procurement from Humboldt Sawmill Company due to public health and emissions concerns. Dr. Ring reported on requests to present HSC emissions and health impact information to the RCEA Board and CAC. At the meeting Dr. Ring expressed concerns about the appropriateness of citizen science data gathering and Chair Leonardi's potential conflict of interest in HSC discussions due to his use of biomass plant fly ash fertilizer. Committee members requested a discussion or panel discussion on biomass' health impacts and local biomass plant emissions at the next meeting. The Biomass Technical Advisory Group's role of discussing technical considerations and making Board recommendations was described. Chair Leonardi closed the comment period.

Consent Calendar

- 3.1. Approve July 11, 2023, CAC Meeting Minutes.
- 3.2. Accept Local Major Projects Subcommittee Update.

No member of the public nor of the committee requested consent calendar item removal. Chair Leonardi closed the comment period.

Motion Qiriaz, Second Johnson: Approve consent calendar items.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ayes: Fiske, Goldberg, Honar, Johnson, Latimer, Lawton, Leonardi, Morris, Qiriaz, Trirogoff. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bell, Burks, Mann.

5. CAC Vice Chair Selection

Member Qiriaz volunteered to fill the remainder of the vice chair's term ending March 31, 2024, which was vacated when Catherine Gurin resigned from the committee. It was requested that former Vice Chair Gurin be recognized with a certificate of appreciation. No member of the public commented on this agenda item.

Motion Latimer, Second Goldberg: Appoint Jerome Qiriaz to be Community Advisory Committee vice chair to fill the remainder of a term ending March 31, 2024.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ayes: Fiske, Goldberg, Honar, Johnson, Latimer, Lawton, Leonardi, Morris, Qiriaz, Trirogoff. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bell, Burks, Mann.

6. Critical Facilities Subcommittee Report

Infrastructure Programs Manager Juliette Bohn described previous staff work to identify countywide critical facilities and rank them to determine funding pursuit as opportunities arise. The CAC's Critical Facilities Subcommittee's input on the list was described, as well as how staff assisted 17 non-populated area Humboldt fire stations to apply for a recent post-disaster resilience funding grant. Committee members were asked to identify facilities, including informal community gathering places, from which people around the county may seek help after a disaster, and to provide feedback on how to rank the facilities' post-disaster energy resilience infrastructure needs.

CAC members discussed:

- The goal of funding infrastructure so facilities can function without grid power post-disaster and provide services within their potentially isolated communities.
- Current funding opportunities, including from the Federal Inflation Reduction Act.
- Methods for prioritizing facilities: including remoteness from neighboring communities; whether resilience needs are already being met; whether vital services facilities have resilience infrastructure in communities that will be cut off from other areas due to failed roads and bridges; whether the facility is publicly-funded or privately-owned; and other considerations.
- Ensuring that local Tribe critical facilities are receiving resilience assistance.

- Electric vehicle batteries', and diesel fuel generators and batteries', resilience roles.
- Other groups providing critical disaster services, and RCEA's focus on renewable energy resilience and economic benefits.

Committee members requested the Critical Facilities Subcommittee continue its work by helping to create a clearer methodology for prioritizing facilities for which to pursue resilience funding. The Subcommittee agreed to continue its work and to sunset upon completion of a draft prioritized matrix of critical facilities in need of resilience infrastructure funding. There was no public comment for this item and Chair Leonardi closed the comment period.

7. Strategic Plan Status Update

Executive Director Marshall updated the committee on RCEA progress on its strategic plan goals. The Rural Regional Energy Network, which will provide energy efficiency services to rural communities across California and for which RCEA will serve as administrator, is set to launch in 2024. Completion of the Sandrini solar energy project, which is slated to provide for 40% of the County's electricity needs after completion, has been further delayed due to federal trade tariffs meant to ensure that the solar panels were not manufactured using forced labor. Alternate panels are being sourced but the delay will result in significant financial impacts next year.

Infrastructure Programs Manager Bohn reported on the upcoming e-bike rebate launch, which will follow the state's e-bike rebate program design and start date. Staff researched outcomes after RCEA's first electric bike rebate program, which the CAC promoted through a previous community program idea solicitation process. Research on the previous program's results, other rebate program results and interviews with local bike shop mechanics shaped the second rebate round, which will focus on larger rebates for income-qualified community members, purchase of repairable e-bikes through local bike shops as opposed to largely-unregulated direct-to-customer e-bike purchases, and emphasis on rider safety training and certified safe e-bike components. The program will provide a free 6-month or 100-mile tune up for rebate recipients. There were no public comments on this agenda item.

8. CAC Annual Report Subcommittee

Chair Leonardi and Vice Chair Qiriazzi will serve as Annual Report Subcommittee members. There were no public comments on this agenda item.

9. Member and Board Liaison Reports

Board Liaison Mobley praised Executive Director Marshall's update and did not have a separate report for the committee. Member Lawton expressed appreciation for the committee members' and staff's work. There was no public comment on this item.

Chair Leonardi adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Lori Taketa, Clerk of the Board

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

AGENDA DATE:	November 14, 2023
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Eileen Verbeck, Deputy Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Ad Hoc Local Major Projects Subcommittee Update

BACKGROUND

The CAC adopted the following work goal for 2022 and 2023: *monitor and advocate for implementation of RePower Humboldt Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy goals and notify staff of community activities and projects that may have significant impact on the ability to reach these goals.*

At the March CAC meeting, two major local development projects were identified which will likely impact the ability to meet RePower Humboldt strategic plan goals—the McKinleyville Town Center and Arcata Gateway Projects. Committee members also requested strategic plan impact consideration of City of Eureka-owned property development for housing and accessory dwelling unit inclusion in countywide jurisdictions’ General Plans.

An ad hoc local major projects subcommittee was formed at the May CAC meeting to identify at a high level the development projects’ intersection with RCEA goals. CAC members Burks, Fiske, Honar and Johnson volunteered to serve on this ad hoc subcommittee.

SUMMARY

Since the subcommittee’s formation, staff have identified other significant projects which warrant consideration for strategic plan intersection and impacts, including harbor development for offshore wind industry uses. The ad hoc local major project subcommittee met on August 29, 2023, and during that meeting the following projects were discussed:

- **Life Plan Humboldt** – Project in McKinleyville to build and support mixed-income housing. Life Plan Humboldt is a plan to have an “aging-in-place community in Humboldt providing secure, accessible homes and environmentally responsible setting that supports independence, socialization, personal growth, community involvement and intellectual stimulation.”
- **We Are Up** – Housing development in McKinleyville to provide 50 mixed-income rental homes for “diverse residents, including people with intellectual disabilities, seniors, students, and healthcare professionals.” The development will maintain 80% of the site open to farming and ecological preservation.
- **Accessory Dwelling Units Policy Development** – Policy development by jurisdictions to streamline permitting for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU).
- **McKinleyville Town Center** – Development of a town center that serves as a community focal point and contains a mixture of land uses with a center for social/community interaction.
- **Arcata Gateway Project** – Development of a strategic infill redevelopment program that would rezone and re-imagine 106 acres directly west of Arcata’s core downtown Plaza area. The Gateway Plan will establish streamlined permitting for projects in the urban core and allow for large-scale residential development.
- **Humboldt Bay Harbor Port Development** – The development of a heavy-lift offshore wind terminal and bay-side master plan for offshore wind development.

- **Eureka Parking Lot Housing Projects** – Development of affordable housing projects on City-owned parking lots.

Staff and the ad hoc Local Major Project subcommittee agreed on the following action items for each project.

- **Life Plan Humboldt, We Are Up, ADU Policy Development** – RCEA staff will work directly with developers and jurisdictions to provide technical assistance to assist in aligning the development with RCEA's strategic plan.
- **McKinleyville Town Center** – RCEA will track when the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is released. RCEA will submit comments during the NOP.
- **Arcata Gateway Project** – Staff to provide a letter of support to the City of Arcata.
- **Humboldt Bay Harbor Port Development** – Staff to work with the Harbor Commission to encourage them to add binding language in their agreements that they use commercially available zero emission equipment, which will not be dependent on cost.
- **Eureka Parking Lot Housing Projects** – RCEA will reach out to Eureka City staff and council to ask what action RCEA can take to support these projects.

At this time none of the action items have been completed. Staff will report back to the CAC on future action items and will continue to work with the ad hoc Local Major Project subcommittee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Hear Local Major Projects Subcommittee update. (Information only, no action required.)

Local Major Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee Update

Work Goal : Monitor and advocate for implementation of RePower Comprehensive Action Plan for energy goals and notify staff of community activities and projects that may have significant impact on the ability to reach these goals.

Local Major Projects

- **Life Plan Humboldt** – Mixed-income housing project in McKinleyville
- **We Are Up** – 50 mixed-income housing project in McKinleyville
- **ADU Policy Development** – Policy development by jurisdictions to streamline permitting.

Next Steps: Staff to work with developers and jurisdictions to provide technical assistance. Develop “cheat sheet.”



Local Major Projects

McKinleyville Town Center –

Development of a town center that serves as a community focal point with mixture of land uses.

Next Steps – RCEA staff to track when the Notice of Preparation of the Environmental Impact Report is released and comment.



Local Major Projects

Arcata Gateway Project – Strategic infill redevelopment program in 106 acres directly west of Arcata’s core downtown Plaza area.

Next Steps: Staff to provide letter of support to the City of Arcata.

Eureka Parking Lot Housing Project – Develop affordable housing on City-owned parking lots.

Next Steps: RCEA to reach out to Eureka City staff to ask what action RCEA can take to support these projects.

Local Major Projects

Humboldt Bay Harbor Port Development – Development of a heavy-lift offshore wind terminal and bay-side master plan for offshore wind development.

Next Steps – Staff to work with Harbor Commission to encourage them to add binding language in their agreements that they use commercially available zero emission equipment.



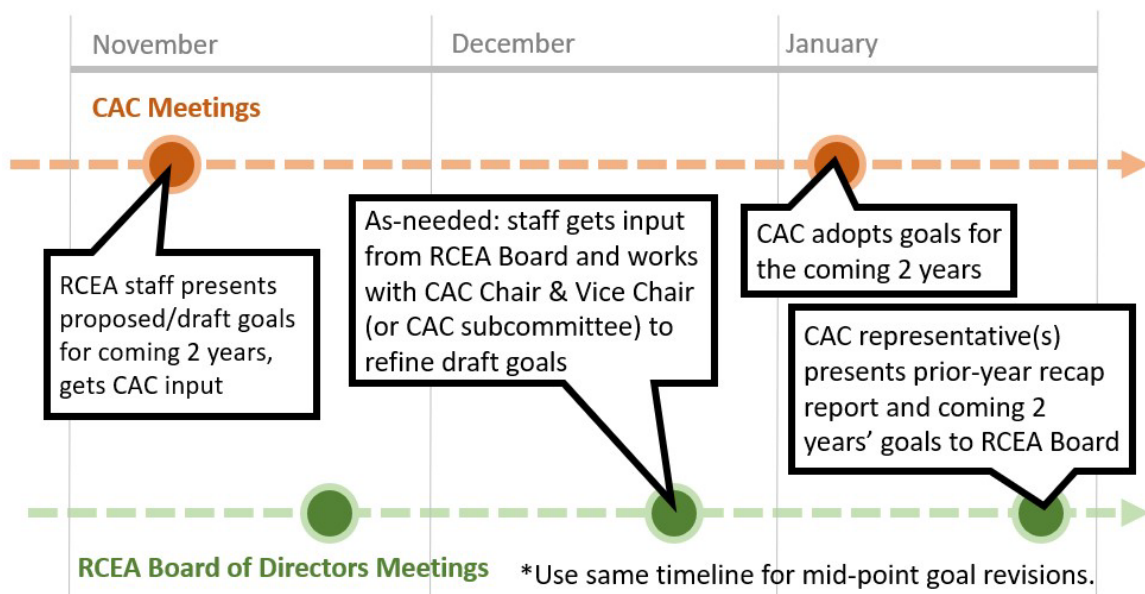
**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 6**

AGENDA DATE:	November 14, 2023
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Eileen Verbeck, RCEA Deputy Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Draft CAC Annual Report & 2024-25 Goals

SUMMARY

At the July 2021 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 aim of this process is to organize the CAC’s work within RCEA’s work goals and to help the Board thoughtfully utilize the committee as a resource to support Board decision-making and agency public engagement efforts. In November 2022, the Committee extended the goal setting process to every two years, with possible adjustments at the midway point.

**Community Advisory Committee
Goal-setting & Board Reporting
Biennial Timeline***



The Community Advisory Committee approved 2023 goals, which continued the work on 2022 goals (below) at its January 10, 2023, meeting. These goals were presented to the RCEA Board of Directors in March 2023.

Progress was made in several work areas, and delays have been experienced in others. Brief upcoming work descriptions are noted below. Work progress reports are included in the attached draft annual report. As many of the previously adopted goals align with long-term agency work goals, staff recommends maintaining 2023's work goals for the 2024-25 period.

- a. **Help guide community outreach and messaging for RCEA programs.**
After delays, the statewide Rural Regional Energy Network is scheduled to launch in January 2024. The network will fund the continuation of some previously offered energy efficiency programs and initiate others. CAC Customer Program Outreach Subcommittee input will be sought to inform RuralREN program planning as well as to provide outreach and messaging support.
- b. **Monitor and advocate for implementation of RePower Humboldt Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy goals and notify staff of community activities and projects that may have significant impact on the ability to reach these goals.**
The formation of ad hoc subcommittees to assess the relevance of CAPE goals to major development projects countywide has been an effective means of alerting RCEA staff to opportunities for early engagement and advocacy to further the region's energy strategic plans. Staff recommends continuing this procedure and work goal.
- c. **Support and help guide offshore wind energy community outreach.**
A subcommittee was formed to assist in community education and messaging regarding offshore wind development in March 2022. RCEA has waited to engage the subcommittee further until the role the County of Humboldt will play in the development of educational and outreach material has been determined. Staff anticipate the need to engage the subcommittee in 2024 to develop RCEA messaging and education materials complementing the County's efforts..
- d. **Provide input on the development of new and expanding RCEA customer programs.**
Staff had anticipated engaging the CAC on the development of new and expanded RCEA customer programs in the second quarter of 2023, after Rural REN launch in early 2023. Due to delays, engagement of the CAC's Customer Programs Outreach Subcommittee for program design input has also been delayed. Staff anticipates requesting subcommittee input in 2024.
- e. **Assist with identifying and prioritizing critical facilities and at-risk communities that would benefit from enhanced energy resilience infrastructure, including future microgrid deployment and/or facility-level renewable back-up power systems.**
After subcommittee input and full committee feedback on the critical facilities resilience infrastructure funding prioritization process and ranked facilities list at the September 2023 CAC meeting, the Critical Facilities Subcommittee was asked to continue working to help create a draft prioritized matrix of facilities needing resilience funding.

- f. **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.**

The Board of Directors approved issuing a Request for Proposals for bond development and issuance services to identify suitable financing mechanism(s) for one or more of the projects shortlisted by the Bond Subcommittee and staff, allowing for an additional project to be determined and prioritizing projects with community investment pathways. Presentation to the County Board of Supervisors and work to support resulting implementation efforts will likely continue through 2024-25.

- g. **Help facilitate community input on the finalization and adoption of the Humboldt Regional Climate Action Plan.**

The CAC Climate Action Plan Outreach Subcommittee will provide input to the RCEA and County-developed CAP outreach proposal.

The Chair and Vice-Chair have been enlisted to edit the attached draft Community Advisory Committee Annual Report. Input from the full Committee is being requested at this meeting. Staff will request input from the Board at its December meeting. The edited report will be brought back to the full CAC for approval in January 2024, prior to presentation to the Board in February.

At the January 2024 meeting staff will present a proposed timeline of next steps and milestones for the current/ongoing CAC goals. Subcommittee membership can be revised at any time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Provide input on draft Community Advisory Committee annual report and CAC 2024-25 work goals.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Community Advisory Committee 2023 Annual Report

Redwood Coast Energy Authority
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT TO THE RCEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(For presentation in February 2024)

The Community Advisory Committee meets on the second Tuesday of odd-numbered months, supports RCEA public engagement efforts and provides decision-making support and input to the RCEA Board.

2023 Committee Members	Representing Jurisdiction:	Term Expiration
Norman Bell	Arcata	March 2025
Elizabeth Burks	Fortuna	March 2024
Colin Fiske	At-Large	March 2024
Larry Goldberg	At-Large	March 2024
Christopher Honar	County 3 (Southern Humboldt)	March 2025
Richard Johnson	Trinidad	March 2025
Luna Latimer	County 1 (Eastern Humboldt)	March 2025
Ethan Lawton	Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District	March 2024
Dennis Leonardi, Chair	Ferndale	March 2024
Emily Morris	At-Large	March 2024
Kit Mann	Blue Lake	March 2025
Jerome Qiriazzi	County 2 (McKinleyville Area)	March 2024
Jeff Trirogoff	At-Large	March 2024
Vacancy	Eureka	
Vacancy	Rio Dell	
<u>Other Members in 2023:</u>		
Roger Hess	Rio Dell, January-July	
Catherine Gurin, Vice Chair	Eureka, January-July	

Committee Liaison:

Matthew Marshall, Executive Director

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The CAC was involved in the following activities in 2023:

Dennis Leonardi was elected to serve as Chair and Catherine Gurin was elected to serve as Vice Chair in March. In September, after the Vice Chair stepped down from the CAC, Jerome Qiriazzi was elected Vice Chair to serve through March 31, 2024.

The Committee was updated on:

- a. Results of Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Offshore Wind Lease Area Auction and description of next steps
- b. RePower Humboldt Strategic Plan status (biannually)
- c. Net Energy Metering Successor Tariff changes
- d. Humboldt Sawmill Company's Annual Biomass Report to inform biomass alternative use possibilities
- e. RCEA's Second E-Bike Rebate Program, developed through the CAC's previous Citizen Sourcing program idea solicitation process.

The CAC ad hoc subcommittees accomplished the following in 2023:

Alternative Biomass Uses – SUNSET (Staff Liaison: Power Resources Director Richard Engel)

At its final meeting in September 2022, the Alternative Biomass Uses Subcommittee clarified that it would not serve as the Biomass Technical Advisory Group, whose formation was called for in the 2019 RePower Humboldt RCEA strategic plan, and whose function is to advise the Board on the technical feasibility and financial, environmental and health implications of biomass use alternatives. The CAC ad hoc subcommittee provided input on what interests should be represented on the BTAG and helped develop a list of potential members. It was agreed that the BTAG's formation would trigger the CAC's Alternative Biomass Uses Subcommittee's sunset.

The CAC Alternative Biomass Uses Subcommittee sunset upon formation of the BTAG in April 2023.

Bond Subcommittee (Staff Liaisons: Executive Director Matthew Marshall and Legislative & Regulatory Policy Manager Aisha Cissna)

- Based on this subcommittee's work in 2021 and 2022, staff followed through with presenter RaiseGreen's recommendation to identify specific projects on which RaiseGreen could assist with a feasibility analysis. Staff met with McKinleyville's We Are Up community housing project initiators to determine whether the project could be a potential solar site. Staff determined the site was not well-suited for utility-scale solar development. Staff's further investigation of other potential micro-bond financing and traditional municipal bond projects resulted in a subcommittee short list of projects.
- In January 2023, the CAC recommended that the Board direct staff to issue a request for proposals for bond development and issuance services to identify suitable financing mechanism(s) for one or more of the shortlisted projects, allowing for an additional projects to be determined at a later date, and prioritizing projects with community investment pathways. The Board approved issuing the RFP in February 2023.

- The RFP for bond development and issuance has not been released as of the writing of this report.

Climate Action Plan Outreach Subcommittee (Staff Liaison: Legislative & Regulatory Policy Manager Aisha Cissna)

- The subcommittee met in May after the County released the Climate Action Plan Notice of Preparation for the Environmental Impact Report.
- The Subcommittee received a report and overview of the Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Review timeline and outreach needs from the County's Supervising Planner Michael Richardson. The discussion focused on developing a coordinated community outreach effort to rural property owners, addressing this community's particular climate action concerns.
- Next steps were determined: RCEA will determine what resources can be dedicated to CAP outreach; RCEA and the County will jointly develop a CAP outreach proposal; the ad hoc subcommittee will provide input to this proposal.

Critical Facilities (and At-Risk Communities) Subcommittee (Staff liaison: Juliette Bohn)

- Subcommittee members helped rank staff's previously compiled list of critical facilities in the county based on resilience infrastructure funding urgency. The subcommittee-informed list was presented to the full CAC for further input.
- The CAC provided valuable insight on ways to determine resiliency funding priority and asked that the subcommittee help to create a clearer methodology for prioritizing facilities and a draft prioritized matrix of critical facilities in need of resilience infrastructure funding.

Customer Programs Outreach Subcommittee (Staff Liaison: DSM Director Kullmann)

Launch of the Rural Regional Energy Network, which will provide funding for new energy efficiency and other customer programs, has been delayed to 2024. This subcommittee has not yet been engaged due to the delay.

Humboldt's Electric Future Subcommittee - SUNSET (Staff Liaisons: Power Resources Director Richard Engel, Community Strategies Manager Nancy Stephenson)

- Assisted staff in the planning of and public engagement at the June 5 in-person and June 8 online community outreach events to provide public input into the two-year Integrated Resource Plan filing process.
- Assisted in compiling a community input report based on public workshop exercise results and discussions.
- Presented the report to the Community Advisory Committee at their July 11 meeting.
- Sunset** after presentation of the final Humboldt's Electric Future report to the Board of Directors at their July 27, 2023, meeting.

McKinleyville Arcata Major Project Subcommittee (Staff Liaison: Executive Director Matthew Marshall)

- a. The subcommittee was formed at the May CAC meeting to identify at a high level the following development projects' intersection with RCEA goals: McKinleyville Town Center and Arcata Gateway Projects, City of Eureka-owned property development and accessory dwelling unit inclusion in countywide jurisdictions' General Plans.
- b. After subcommittee formation, staff identified other significant projects warranting consideration for strategic plan intersection and impacts, including harbor development for offshore wind industry uses.
- c. The ad hoc local major project subcommittee met on August 29, 2023, and determined the following staff follow-up actions:
 - i. **Life Plan Humboldt, We Are Up, ADU Policy Development** – RCEA staff will work directly with developers and jurisdictions to provide technical assistance to assist in aligning the development with RCEA's strategic plan.
 - ii. **McKinleyville Town Center** – RCEA will track when the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Environmental Impact Report is released. RCEA will submit comments during the NOP.
 - iii. **Arcata Gateway Project** – Staff to provide a letter of support to the City of Arcata.
 - iv. **Humboldt Bay Harbor Port Development** – Staff to work with the Harbor Commission to encourage them to add binding language in their agreements that they use commercially available zero emission equipment, which will not be dependent on cost.
 - v. **Eureka Parking Lot Housing Projects** – RCEA will reach out to Eureka City staff and council to ask what action RCEA can take to support these projects.

Off-Grid Cannabis Greenhouse Gas Impact Subcommittee (Staff Liaison: Juliette Bohn, Infrastructure Programs Manager)

- b. This ad hoc subcommittee was formed at the January 2023 CAC meeting with the following work scope:
 - i. Arrange partnership with Cal Poly Humboldt to quantify off-grid cannabis cultivation's greenhouse gas emissions.
 - ii. Monitor the County's off-grid cannabis renewable energy fuel switching program.
 - iii. Develop innovative ways to encourage off-grid gas and diesel fuel use reduction.
 - iv. Include non-funded ways (e.g. education, project support) to reduce diesel use.
 - v. Include non-cannabis grower generator users.
 - vi. Focus on Southern Humboldt to intersect with grid upgrade planning.
- c. Due to staff capacity constraints and resource considerations to not duplicate work already being done through Climate Action Plan studies or through projects addressing Southern Humboldt grid issues, staff has not met with this ad hoc subcommittee.

Offshore Wind Outreach Subcommittee (Staff Liaison: Executive Director Matthew Marshall)

- a. Received update on offshore wind auction results in January 2023. The two lease area winning bidders and a development timeline were described.
- b. RCEA has waited to engage the subcommittee further until the role the County of Humboldt will play in the development of educational and outreach material has been determined. Staff anticipate the need to engage the subcommittee in 2024 to develop RCEA messaging and education materials complementing the County's efforts.

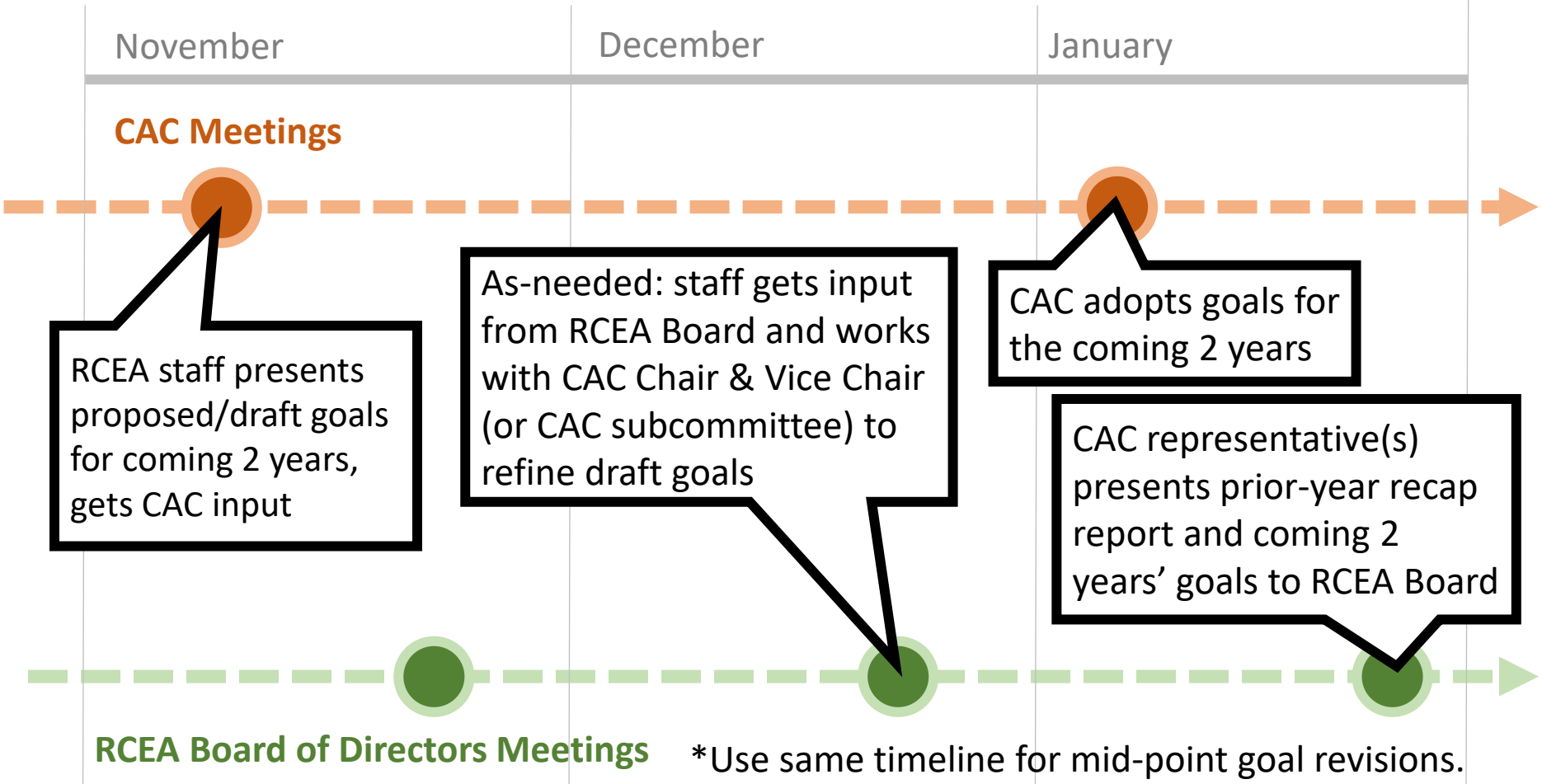
II. GOALS FOR 2024-2025

At their November 8, 2022, meeting, the Community Advisory Committee revised the timing of their goal setting process to be done every two years, with adjustments possible midway through the cycle. Due to the long project timeframes of many of the work goal focus areas, the CAC will continue work on the previously-adopted goal list for the 2024-25 time period and adjust goals at the midpoint if needed as goals are accomplished and new opportunities for CAC engagement arise.

- a. Help guide community outreach and messaging for RCEA programs.
- b. Monitor and advocate for implementation of RePower Humboldt Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy goals and notify staff of community activities and projects that may have significant impact on the ability to reach these goals.
- c. Support and help guide offshore wind energy community outreach.
- d. Provide input on the development of new and expanding RCEA customer programs.
- e. Assist with identifying and prioritizing critical facilities and at-risk communities that would benefit from enhanced energy resilience infrastructure, including future microgrid deployment and/or facility-level renewable back-up power systems.
- f. 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.
- g. Help facilitate community input on the finalization and adoption of the Humboldt Regional Climate Action Plan.

Current CAC Goals, Status, and Next Steps

Community Advisory Committee Goal-setting & Board Reporting Biennial Timeline*



Community Advisory Committee Goal-setting & Board Reporting

- CAC work goals to be updated every 2 years.
- Due to delays, Staff recommends maintaining the 2022 – 2023 work goals for 2024.
- Draft annual report is attached.

Work Goal 1 and 4: Guide Community Outreach and Messaging for RCEA Programs

Status/next steps: Rural Regional Energy Network (Rural REN) funding delayed until 2024; staff will engage subcommittee in the first part of 2024 to inform program design and outreach for 2024-2025 launch

2024

Jan-Mar

Apr-Jun

Jul-Sep

Oct-Dec



Staff will engage subcommittee to update on RuralREN status and funding categories, begin providing input on fleshing out program outreach

Programs designs substantively complete, begin developing outreach strategies

Outreach strategies developed, ready for program launch

Work Goal 2: Monitor and Advocate for RePower Humboldt Goals

Status/next steps: Ad hoc subcommittee formed to review multiple large-scale projects.

2024

Jan-Mar

Apr-Jun

Jul-Sep

Oct-Dec

RePower update to CAC with metrics dashboard

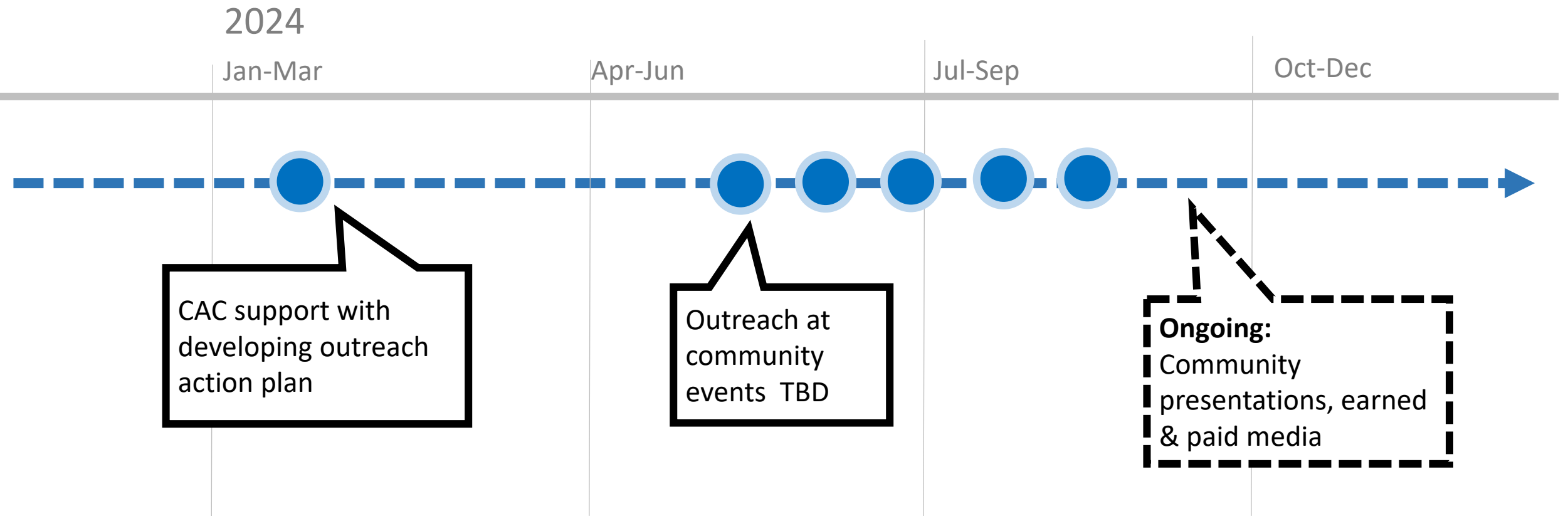
The diagram features a horizontal timeline for the year 2024, divided into four quarters: Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Jul-Sep, and Oct-Dec. A dashed blue line with an arrow at the end runs horizontally across the page. Two blue circles are placed on this line, one in the Jan-Mar period and one in the Jul-Sep period. Vertical lines connect these circles to callout boxes below. The first callout box, with a solid border, is connected to the first circle and contains the text 'RePower update to CAC with metrics dashboard'. The second callout box, with a dashed border, is connected to the second circle and contains the text 'Ongoing: monitor/address major projects as needed'. The third callout box, with a solid border, is connected to the third circle and contains the text 'RePower update to CAC'. There is no callout box for the Oct-Dec period.

Ongoing:
monitor/address major projects as needed

RePower update to CAC

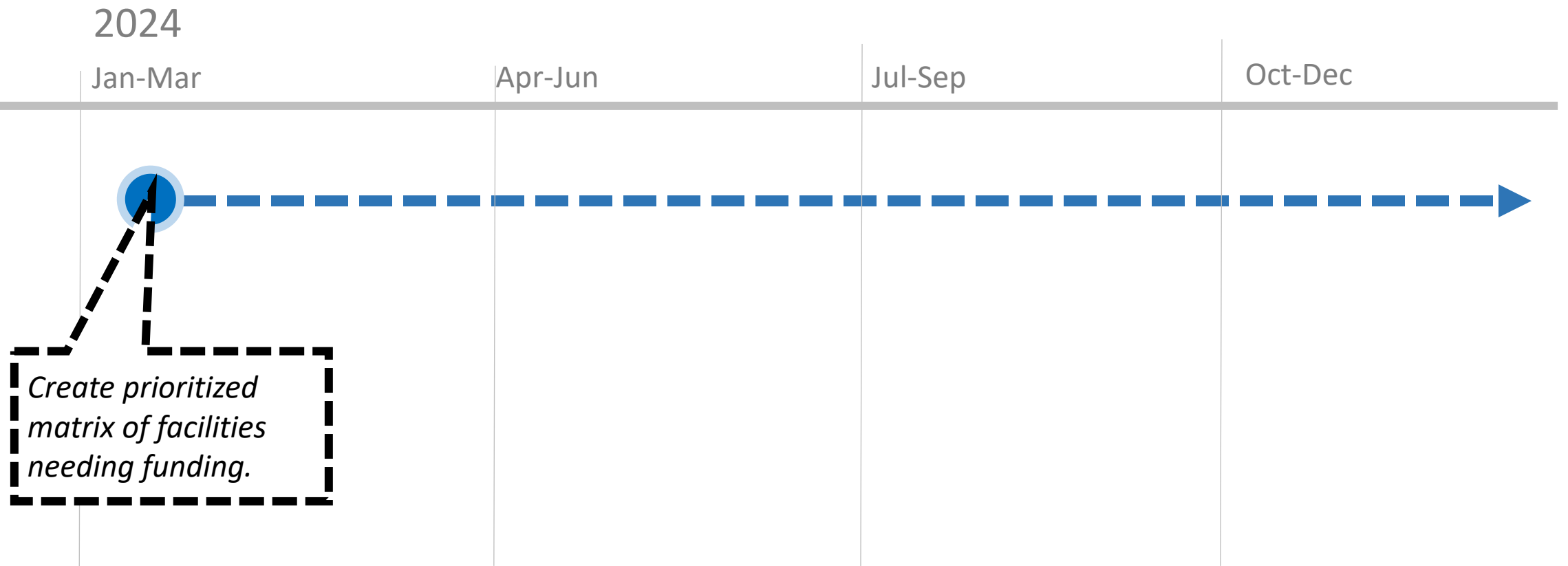
Work Goal 3: Support Offshore Wind Community Outreach

Status/next steps: Initial input on key topics/messages provided by CAC; outreach will ramp up in 2024, will be developing an outreach plan and coordinating with CORE Hub and other partners



Work Goal 5: Prioritize Critical Facilities for Energy Resilience Infrastructure

Status/next steps: Received subcommittee input and the subcommittee will continue to work with staff to create a prioritized matrix



Work Goal 6: Recommendations for Energy-Project Bond Financing Opportunities

- **Status/next steps:** CAC provided recommendations to the Board to issue a request for proposals for bond development and issuance services to identify financing for one or more of the shortlisted projects. Staff have not issued the RFP as of November 2023.

Work Goal 7: Community Input on Climate Action Plan

- **Status/next steps:** Subcommittee determined that outreach will be most effective/relevant after the Notice of Preparation of the EIR is issued by County, waiting on updates and direction on timeline from County staff.



**STAFF REPORT
Agenda Item # 7**

AGENDA DATE:	November 14, 2023
TO:	RCEA Community Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY:	Sally Regli, Account Services Manager
SUBJECT:	Net Billing Tariff (NBT) Implementation

BACKGROUND

In December 2022, the California Public Utilities Commission initiated a successor tariff to the Net Energy Metering program called Net Billing Tariff (NBT), also known as the Solar Billing Plan. Following presentations given to the Board in January and August of 2023, RCEA staff has developed a Board approved Net Billing Tariff with an effective date of December 15, 2023. The NBT is a billing procedure by which customers receive credit for solar energy produced by a customer that is more than their use. The NBT rates vary hourly based on the value of the energy at each time of day.

SUMMARY

The RCEA Board of Directors requested Staff to report back in the Spring of 2024 regarding the implementation of NBT. Additionally, the Board has requested staff to develop a battery storage incentive program for RCEA customers to encourage continued solar system installation in Humboldt. Staff will also be reporting financial impacts to the Board after the first 12 months of NBT implementation to consider additional tariff changes that may be appropriate.

Staff have begun the initial planning of a battery storage incentive plan and anticipate bringing the proposal back to the CAC for input prior to Board adoption.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A – Information only.

ATTACHMENTS


Presentation slides will be shared at this meeting.



REDWOOD COAST Energy Authority

**Presentation to the RCEA Community Advisory Committee
November 14, 2023**

Outline

- Net Billing Tariff (NBT) Overview
 - RCEA NBT Billing Components
 - RCEA NBT Development Considerations
 - Next Steps
 - Key Terms
- 
- A large yellow triangle is positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, pointing towards the top right.

NBT Overview

Recent Decision: The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) finalized the state's new solar Net Billing Tariff (NBT) on December 15, 2022.

PG&E's NBT went into effect on April 15, 2023.

RCEA's NBT will go into effect on December 15, 2023.

NBT methodology values imported and exported energy separately, no longer using retail rate values for both.



RCEA NBT Development Considerations

Align with PG&E NBT methodology.

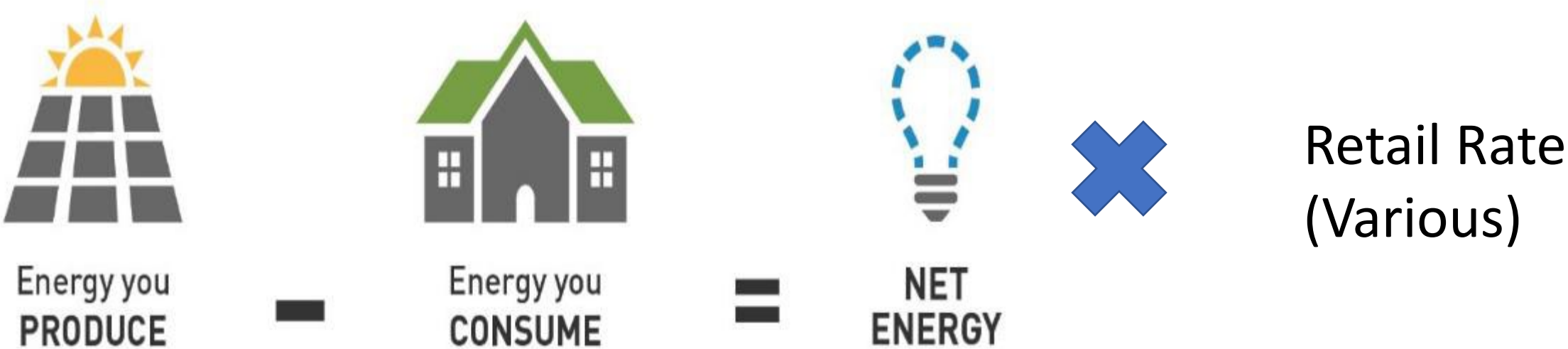
Align with billing system constraints.

Consideration for anticipated NBT customer base.

Compatibility with Net Energy Metering (NEM)
account processes.

Ability to provide pricing work products billing

Solar customers **excess** generation valued pre-NBT



And.....RCEA added an additional Generation Bonus of \$0.01/kWh

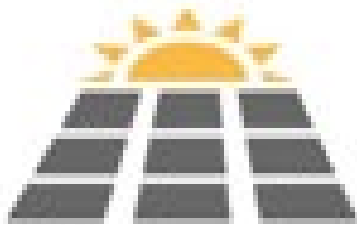
Solar residential customer excess generation valued post-NBT



Energy you
CONSUME



E-Elec Rate



Energy you
PRODUCE

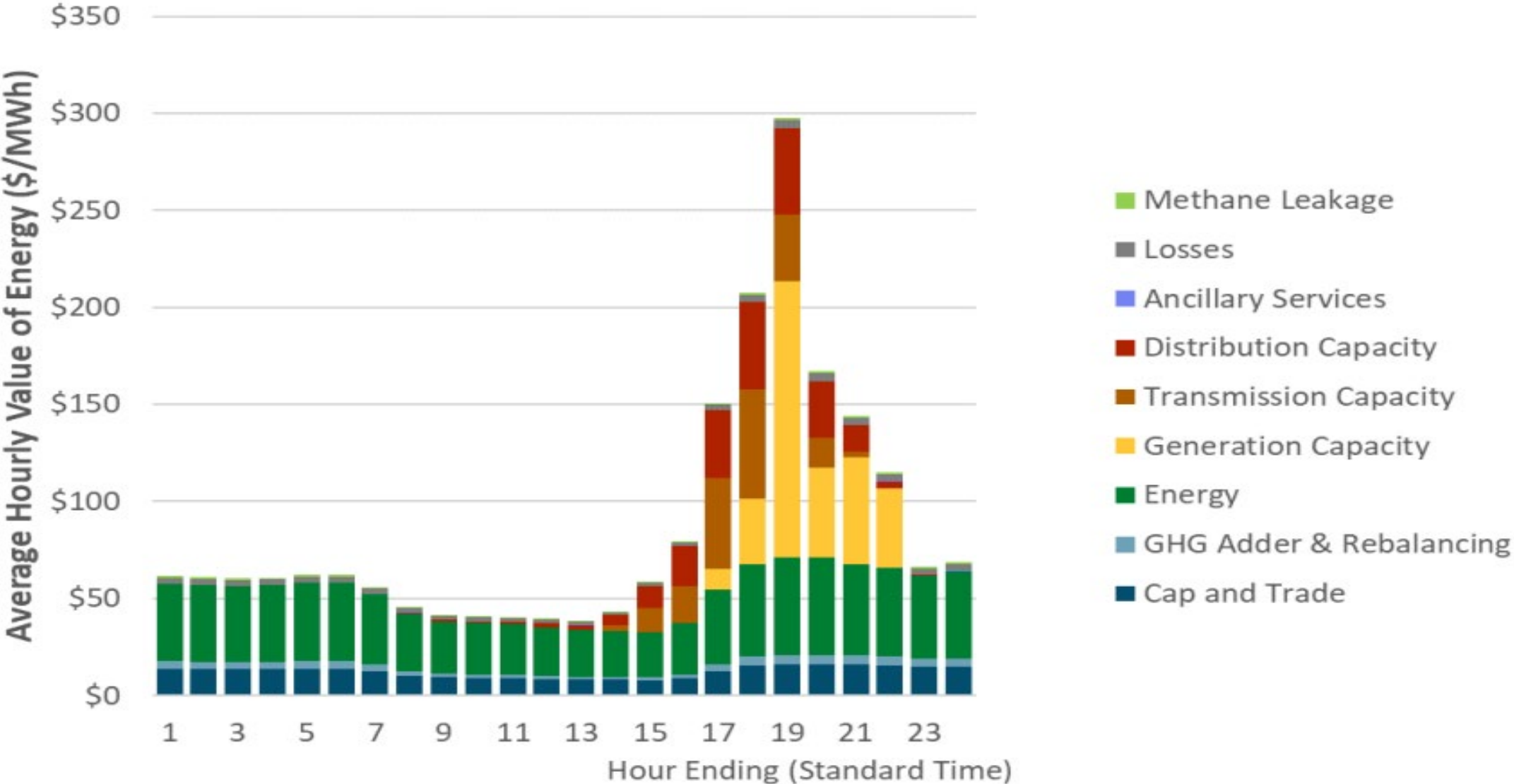


Energy Export
Credit

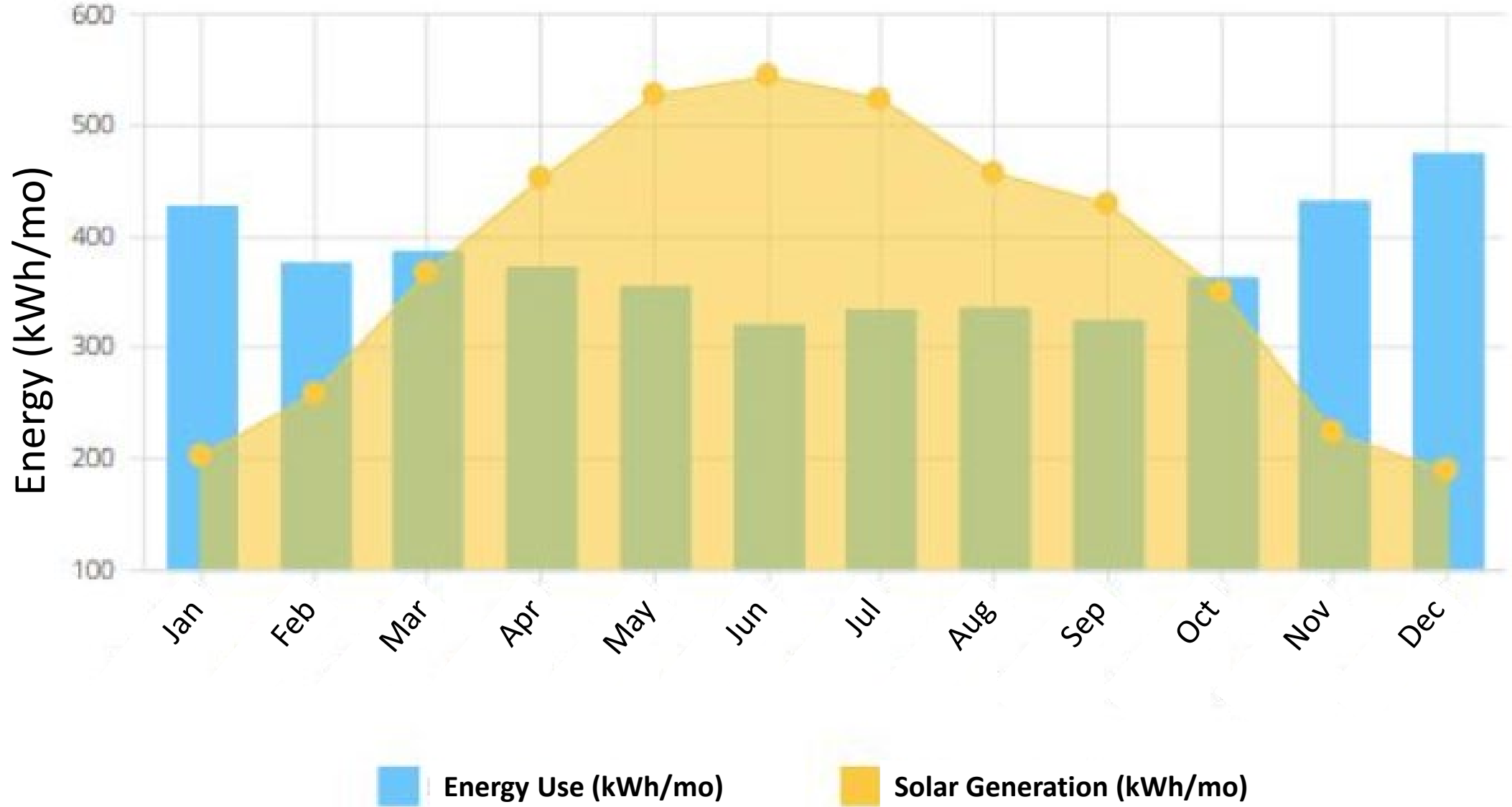
RCEA continues the Generation Bonus of \$0.01/kWh.

Figure 2. Average Hourly Avoided Costs (PG&E Climate Zone 12 in 2030)

2022 ACC



Monthly Energy Use vs Solar Generation



NBT Export Compensation Rates

Hourly export rates (\$/kWh) based on the Avoided Cost Calculator (ACC)

		2023 Weekday Base Export Compensation (no adders)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hour of Day	1	0.053	0.056	0.049	0.047	0.050	0.049	0.051	0.054	0.053	0.050	0.054	0.051
	2	0.053	0.056	0.049	0.048	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.057	0.050
	3	0.051	0.056	0.050	0.047	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	50	0.054	0.049
	4	0.051	0.055	0.050	0.048	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	50	0.053	0.049
	5	0.051	0.056	0.051	0.049	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	50	0.054	0.048
	6	0.053	0.057	0.052	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	51	0.056	0.051
	7	0.056	0.058	0.053	0.040	0.030	0.032	0.034	0.035	0.035	0.052	0.058	0.056
	8	0.057	0.060	0.048	0.014	0.018	0.045	0.050	0.056	0.048	0.051	0.061	0.061
	9	0.055	0.048	0.032	0.009	0.007	0.038	0.050	0.055	0.039	0.043	0.048	0.055
	10	0.048	0.031	0.020	0.011	0.011	0.037	0.050	0.055	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	11	0.046	0.026	0.018	0.008	0.012	0.039	0.050	0.050	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	12	0.046	0.028	0.018	0.004	0.007	0.039	0.050	0.050	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	13	0.045	0.027	0.018	0.002	0.008	0.041	0.049	0.049	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	14	0.044	0.028	0.018	0.001	0.008	0.088	0.051	0.049	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	15	0.046	0.029	0.021	0.001	0.009	0.143	0.060	0.049	0.040	0.043	0.046	0.048
	16	0.052	0.041	0.032	0.006	0.019	0.207	0.075	0.133	0.116	0.120	0.069	0.059
	17	0.061	0.062	0.051	0.024	0.038	0.225	0.213	0.315	0.135	0.167	0.067	0.063
	18	0.063	0.062	0.063	0.064	0.068	0.285	0.227	0.499	2.372	0.126	0.070	0.067
	19	0.066	0.064	0.073	0.072	0.074	0.251	0.226	0.727	2.680	0.120	0.071	0.069
	20	0.065	0.064	0.075	0.090	0.088	0.195	0.134	0.340	0.202	0.072	0.068	0.069
	21	0.062	0.063	0.067	0.068	0.076	0.088	0.092	0.281	0.089	0.066	0.065	0.067
	22	0.059	0.061	0.059	0.060	0.062	0.074	0.083	0.192	0.081	0.059	0.062	0.065
	23	0.056	0.059	0.052	0.056	0.057	0.058	0.055	0.061	0.061	0.054	0.060	0.057
	24	0.055	0.058	0.051	0.052	0.055	0.054	0.054	0.060	0.061	0.056	0.057	0.055

Mid-day in spring – lowest value when solar is over-producing regionwide, summer load hasn't hit yet

Early evening Sept. – highest value when sun going down, A/C loads at peak

RCEA NBT
Monthly
Billing
Components

- **Rate:** Residential customers are required to be on the Home Electric Rate (E-ELEC).
- **Energy Export Credits (EEC):** EEC value is based on CPUC Avoided Cost Calculation.
- **Net Generation Bonus:** RCEA NBT has a \$0.01/kWh adder for all customers.

- **Annual True-Up:** Each April a True-Up including application of a Net Surplus Calculation is completed.

-
- **Renewable Certificates:** RCEA and PG&E include a Renewable Attribute Adder for eligible customers.





- **Interim Billing:** Until PG&E and RCEA billing systems are fully operational, customers on RCEA NBT will be billed under the RCEA NEM schedule.

Next Steps

- Complete Billing implementation.
- Develop Battery Storage Incentive Program.
- Track and monitor costs and impacts.
- Provide Customer Support.



Additional Terms

PG&E is publicly marketing NBT as “Solar Billing Plan.”

Base Services Charge: A fixed charge paid to PG&E that all E-ELEC rate customers pay to maintain the grid in exchange for lower per kWh charges.



Additional Terms cont.

- **Energy Export Bonus Credit:** Additional credit available to eligible customers based on start date of system operation (PG&E only).

- **Net Surplus Compensation (NSC):** This part of the annual True-Up that utilizes PG&E generated rate sheet.

- **NBT Legacy Period:** This is a lock-in period of the EEC rate tied to the owner.



Questions?



Thank you!

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