

# VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

## Staff Report – Item 10

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk / Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Committee June 24, 2021 Meeting Summary

DATE: July 8, 2021

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This report summarizes the Community Advisory Committee’s meeting held via Zoom webinar on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 5 p.m.

- A. Renewable Technology (front of the meter) discussion. (Informational / Discussion):** In preparation for further discussions and input from the CAC on VCE’s goal of carbon neutrality and portfolio study, CAC Members received information on primary renewable technology front of the meter (FOM) utility scale resources. The CAC asked questions and discussed pros, cons, and usage of photovoltaic (PV), PV paired with battery energy storage system (BESS), wind, geothermal, biomass, and energy storage.

Some key comments from CAC members included:

- Wind: Siting should address environmental concerns
- Geothermal: Attractive but limited availability
- Biomass/bioenergy: Covers a wide range of technologies. Projects need to clearly state which technology and which sources are being used so know the pros and cons. Local opportunities.
- Energy storage: Helps with need for resilience. Similar to biomass, lots of technologies and not all are the same.
- Important to include resiliency and net benefit when evaluating projects.

- B. Update on Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 Proceeding:** Staff provided a definition and brief history of NEM and the transition from NEM 1.0 and 2.0 to 3.0. Staff informed those present that currently NEM 3.0 is being discussed at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with an anticipated decision from the CPUC by the end of 2021, and implementation of NEM 3.0 by early 2022. Staff provided key issues that are to be considered by the CPUC, potential cost shift from NEM to non-NEM customers, compensation for surplus generation, equitable access to low-income customers, how to avoid grid costs from NEM customers, GHG emissions reductions, contribution to renewable portfolio standard (RPS) goals and T&D efficiencies. It was suggested that VCE adopt a policy on NEM Customers with the above considerations in mind. Staff are to look at other CCA’s policies towards their NEM customer base. Lastly, another consideration is the role of roof top solar in reaching VCE’s goals and its effect on load and storage.