

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 10

TO: Valley Clean Energy Alliance Board of Directors

FROM: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Committee July 9, 2020 Special Meeting Summary

DATE: August 13, 2020

This report summarizes the Community Advisory Committee’s special meeting held via zoom on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 5 p.m.

- A. **New CAC Members:** CAC Members and VCE Staff welcomed new Committee member, Cynthia Rodriguez representing unincorporated Yolo County. We currently only have one unincorporated Yolo County seat vacant on the Committee.
- B. **Priorities for the types of energy technologies for future local renewable resource procurement (Informational / Discussion):** This item arose out of the CAC’s review and discussion at its last meeting of the Legislative Platform. After discussing biomass as included in the document, the CAC agreed on the need for a discussion and prioritization of the different renewable resource technologies and their relationship to possible local renewable resource technologies. VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided information and definition of the different types of energy technologies that are in the “front of the meter” or “utility side of the meter”. At a future CAC meeting, potential priorities for VCE will be discussed.
- C. **Review of final draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and Action Plan and recommendation to the Board (Action):** Dr. Olof Bystrom reviewed highlights of the final draft IRP confirming the conforming 46 MMT as the selected preferred portfolio and the mandatory 38 MMT portfolio. During the discussion, CAC member Christine Shewmaker raised the concept of incorporating the goal of carbon neutrality by 2030 (similar to SMUD’s new goal) to the staff recommendation. It was agreed that the CAC should have further discussion on the concept at a future CAC meeting and Dr. Bystrom agreed to provide information on SMUD’s plans. Additionally, a modification was made to the staff recommendation to make efforts to exceed the 46MMT path.

The CAC adopted the following recommendation to the Board (11-0-0):

- a. accept Staff’s recommendation to adopt the IRP report and supporting documentation with the conforming 46 MMT selected as Preferred Portfolio; and,
- b. to change bullet #2 of Staff’s recommendation, which read as “38MMT portfolio is mandatory to submit but is not the recommended path” to “while mandatory

38 MMT portfolio is not the recommended path forward due to financial projections, we encourage the Board to make ongoing efforts at VCE to exceed the 46 MMT path.”

- D. **Updates on energy and energy storage procurement items: a) request for offers for local renewable projects and Incremental Resource Adequacy; and, b) renewable energy procurement reporting process (Informational):** VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided an update on the current status of VCE’s local request for offers (RFO), joint RFO with Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA), and a joint CCA request for information on long duration storage.
- E. **Update on VCE’ response to address current environmental and social justice issues (Informational):** Interim General Manager Mitch Sears provided a verbal update on the Board’s working group formed to address environmental and social justice issues. The working group consisting of Don Saylor, Lucas Frerichs and Jesse Loren has been working with VCE Staff on a statement that is action focused. The Board working group will be reaching out to stakeholders to get their feedback and input. The CAC requested that the CAC Members be given the opportunity to provide names of stakeholders as there were several CAC Members who were very interested in being involved with this issue. CAC Members were encouraged to send recommendations of organizations to be contacted to the working group.
- F. **Update on Strategic Plan process (Informational):** Mr. Sears provided a verbal update of the Strategic Plan process and timeline, with the goal of presenting a 3 year Strategic Plan to the Board in October 2020. Mr. Sears will be setting a few meetings with the CAC’s Strategic Planning Task Group to discuss further.
- G. **Long Range Calendar:** At the last meeting, CAC Member Lorenzo Kristov asked if an agenda item could be added regarding when a bidder responds to a VCE request for offer, what rights does VCE have to look at how the property was obtained. Mr. Kristov informed those present that he will prepare a short description of the issue and send it to Mr. Sears, Ms. Hunter and Ms. Baird (the CAC chair and vice chair) as background for a future agenda item. As noted above, the discussion on setting a goal of carbon neutrality for VCE will be included on a future CAC agenda.