

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 7

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Gordon Samuel, Chief Operating Officer
Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Review 2025 CAC Bioenergy and Strategic Plan Task Groups draft “Charges”

DATE: April 24, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the draft 1) Bioenergy and 2) Strategic Plan Task Group Charges.

BACKGROUND

At the CAC’s February 27, 2025 meeting, Task Groups for 2025 were formed and at the March 27, 2025 meeting, the CAC Members approved the Legislative & Regulatory and Programs & Outreach Task Group Charges.

CAC Members have volunteered to continue to serve and serve on the Task Groups as follows:

1. Bioenergy
 - A. Members: Mark Aulman, Danielle Ballard, Diccon Westworth
2. Strategic Plan
 - B. Members: Lorenzo Kristov, Rahul Athalye, Danielle Ballard

This staff report transmits the draft Charges from the Bioenergy and Strategic Plan for the CAC’s approval.

Attachments:

1. Bioenergy Task Group draft charge
2. Strategic Plan Task Group draft charge

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2025 BIOENERGY TASK GROUP CHARGE

Members: Danielle Ballard
Diccon Westworth
Mark Aulman

Staff Lead: Gordon Samuel

Charge:

Based on what was learned by the task group in 2024, the 2025 BioEnergy Task Group will initially remain on “stand-by” in the event further study of these technologies is warranted. Initial investigation identified a very small number of actual projects in development within the near-term planning horizon. This has reduced the urgency for VCE to develop a formal position.

The task group may develop and collaborate with VCE staff on a request for information (RFI) for bioenergy electricity generation which may be applicable to Valley Clean Energy. This RFI may offer some insight as to the viability of actual projects, locally as well as within California. Information resulting from the RFI may help shape VCE’s position and ultimately result in a recommendation to the VCE board. The RFI may address the following:

1. Identify bioenergy-based power generation technologies and resources which are currently available, or which may be available in the future to Valley Clean Energy.
2. Evaluate technologies, including but not limited to the following considerations:
 - a. Fuel sources (e.g. feedstocks)
 - b. VCE baseload benefits
 - c. Overall air emission impacts
 - d. Other extrinsic benefits
 - e. Other extrinsic liabilities
 - f. VCE reputational and brand-related issues
 - g. Yolo county specific impacts
3. Provide summaries and updates at monthly CAC meetings on Bioenergy Task Group activities, including recommendations as appropriate.

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2025 STRATEGIC PLAN TASK GROUP CHARGE

2025 Members: Danielle Ballard (Chair)
Lorenzo Kristov
Rahul Athalye
Ari Halberstadt

Staff Lead: Edward Burnham

2025 Charge:

The CAC Strategic Plan Task Group will assist VCE Staff with the planning and development of a Major Update focusing on VCE achieving better energy outcomes for its customers and communities by guiding the organization's actions. The original 3-year (2021-2023) Strategic Plan was approved by the Board on October 8, 2020; on July 13, 2023, the Board adopted Strategic Plan Guidelines for a comprehensive alignment "rolling" approach; and, on September 14, 2023, the Board approved the 2021-2023 strategic plan *minor* update and extension of the plan through the end of 2025.

Specifically, the Task Group will:

- (1) conduct a more detailed comprehensive review/update, including review of VCE's Vision/Mission and existing goals and objectives,
- (2) participate with Staff conducting workshops at various levels of the organization, including community stakeholder engagement to obtain input to be incorporated into the Major Update,
- (3) focus on incorporating changing legislative, regulatory, customer, economic, and other requirements into the Major Update,
- (4) identify changes in the overall CCA environment (economics, policy, technology, etc.) and describe their relevance for VCE,
- (5) provide summaries and updates at monthly CAC meetings on Task Group activities.