

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Staff Report - Item 7**

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**TO:** Community Advisory Committee

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

**SUBJECT:** Formation of CAC Task Groups for 2025

**DATE:** January 23, 2025

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**Background/Discussion**

Each year Staff asks the CAC to consider forming task groups to assist VCE Staff and the Board with tasks and projects. Staff is recommending that CAC members form task groups and provide input on goal-oriented tasks and projects that can be accomplished, which are referred to as “Charges”. Throughout 2025, Staff may revisit with the CAC on forming additional task group(s) as needed to assist with tasks and projects as they become defined.

For reference, the 2024 Task Groups and membership are listed below and the existing 2024 Task Group “Charges” are attached. Task groups identified for formation in 2025 at this meeting will be finalized at the February meeting.

**2024 CAC Task Groups**

1. Legislative/Regulatory
  - A. Members: Lorenzo Kristov, Jennifer Rindahl, Rahul Athalye, Ari Halberstadt
2. Programs & Outreach
  - A. Members: Keith Taylor, David Springer, Mark Aulman, Diccon Westworth
3. Bioenergy
  - A. Members: Mark Aulman, Danielle Ballard, Diccon Westworth,

**Preliminary Staff Suggestions**

As in past years, Staff believes that fewer Task Groups helps efficiently allocate resources and focus on the most important issue/policy areas. Therefore, Staff is supportive of the formation of up to 4 task groups. With the continuing activity in the Task Groups listed above, Staff suggests that they would be reconstituted for 2024. In addition, as requested in Item 6, Staff would like to add a Strategic Plan Task Group.

**Attachments:**

1. Legislative/Regulatory Task Group 2024 Charge
2. Programs & Outreach Task Group 2024 Charge
3. Bioenergy Task Group 2024 Charge

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**2024 LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY TASK GROUP CHARGE**

**Members:** Lorenzo Kristov, Chair  
Jennifer Rindahl  
Rahul Athalye  
[Additional members to be added as identified]

**Staff:** Mitch Sears, Executive Officer  
Yvonne Hunter, Legislative and Project Specialist  
Mark Fenstermaker, VCE Lobbyist, Pacific Policy Group

**2024 Charge:**

Work with VCE staff and VCE's lobbyist to:

- Provide feedback, technical information and strategic advice to VCE staff on key legislative and regulatory issues facing VCE and the CCA community in general in 2024, including legislation and regulatory issues related to VCE's Legislative Platform, Strategic Plan and Environmental Justice Statement.
- Provide periodic reports to the CAC about legislation and regulatory issues.
- Solicit recommendations from the CAC to inform VCE positions on key legislation and regulatory proceedings.
- Work with staff and VCE's regulatory consultant to enhance the Task Group's and CAC's understanding of regulatory proceedings and their relationship to legislative matters, including ways to enhance VCE's Legislative Platform to include regulatory issues and possibly VCE's regulatory engagement.
- Contribute to VCE's engagement with legislators and other stakeholders.
- Discuss strategies to engage regulatory agencies and stakeholders to achieve a more level playing field for procuring local resources, address Resource Adequacy challenges, and to advance dynamic pricing programs, such as AgFIT, and other grid services opportunities, for VCE and other CCAs.
- Receive periodic updates about and discuss CalCCA legislative and regulatory priorities, emphasizing how VCE can most effectively contribute.
- Work with staff to periodically review and update VCE's Legislative Platform for consideration by the CAC and VCE Board.

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**2024 PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH TASK GROUP CHARGE**

**Members:** Keith Taylor (Chair)  
David Springer (Co-Chair)  
Mark Aulman  
Diccon Westworth

**Staff Lead:** Rebecca Boyles

**2024 Charge:**

Collaborate with VCE staff and consultants on policies, procedures and programs aimed at improving the customer experience and customer satisfaction in VCE, including:

1. Assist in the development of public information strategies, planning, and materials related to VCE customer marketing, outreach, policies and programs. As requested by staff, review draft materials and provide comments as appropriate; assist with customer-facing community outreach to, and liaison with, member communities.
2. Help define audience segments within VCE's service area and consult on appropriate messages and communications approaches; provide a sounding board to assist in message development and copy testing. Conduct review of marketing materials at the draft (pre-release) stage upon request from staff.
3. Assist with identification of statewide program opportunities and development of strategies for disseminating information on eligibility, rebate amounts, stacked incentives, and other details; assist Staff with finding and applying for external funding for potential programs.
4. Collaborate with Staff on an annual update to the 3-year Programs Plan, discuss 2024 program implementation with Staff; assist with the update of 2022 program design/implementation forms and program prioritization for implementation in 2024.
5. As requested by the Director of Customer Care and Marketing, provide outreach and messaging support for the efforts of other CAC task groups, as well as outreach to VCE's participating jurisdictions to encourage collaborative dissemination regarding programs, energy savings tips, rebates/incentives etc. on their websites and social media platforms.
6. Provide summaries and updates at monthly CAC meetings on Task Group activities.

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**2024 BIOENERGY TASK GROUP CHARGE**

**Members:** Danielle Ballard  
Diccon Westworth  
Mark Aulman

**Staff Lead:** Gordon Samuel

**Charge:**

Collaborate with VCE staff on development of recommendations to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) on bioenergy electricity generation which may be applicable to Valley Clean Energy. The final recommendation may or may not be supportive of some technologies. In addition, a recommendation may establish certain qualifying parameters to identify which bioenergy resources should be considered. Ultimately the plan is to take a recommendation to the VCE board later in 2024.

1. Identify bioenergy-based power generation technologies and resources which are currently available, or 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. Engage with external information sources including subject matter experts, relevant stakeholders, other CCAs, and others.
4. Provide summaries and updates at monthly CAC meetings on Bioenergy Task Group activities, including recommendations as appropriate.