Valley Clean Energy Board Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2025



Item 15 – CCCFA Prepay

## **Public Comments**

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**Executing a Valley Clean Energy Prepay Transaction** 

February 2025

PFM Financial Advisors LLC

1150 S. Olive Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, CA 90015

213.489.4075



#### **Prepayment Transaction Overview**

- Goal Reduce cost of power purchases by 8% or more
- How Leverage use of tax-exempt bonding capacity to secure long-term supply

#### Background

- Codified in the U.S. tax law
- Used since the 1990s largely for natural gas transactions
- Over 100 transactions totaling over \$75 billion completed in the U.S. mostly for gas
- 18 energy prepayment transactions totaling \$17.8 billion completed last few years for 10 California Community Choice Aggregators:
  - Ava Community Energy (AVA)
  - Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE)
  - Marin Clean Energy (MCE)
  - San Jose Clean Energy (SJCE)
  - Sonoma Clean Power (SCP)

- Pioneer Community Energy (Pioneer)
- Clean Power Alliance (CPA)
- Central Coast Community Energy (3CE)
- Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE)
- San Diego Community Power (SDCP)



#### Prepayments That Have Been Completed by CCAs in California

Date	Amt. (\$000)	Issuer	Description	Beneficiary	Prepay Counterparty	
09/2021	1,234,720	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SVCE, AVA	Morgan Stanley	
11/2021	602,655	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	MCE	Goldman Sachs	
07/2022	931,120	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	AVA	Morgan Stanley	
01/2023	459,640	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	Pioneer	Goldman Sachs	
01/2023	841,550	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SVCE	Morgan Stanley	
02/2023	998,780	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	СРА	Goldman Sachs	
06/2023	958,290	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	СРА	Goldman Sachs	
08/2023	997,895	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	AVA	Morgan Stanley	
10/2023	647,750	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	3CE	Goldman Sachs	
12/2023	1,038,285	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	MCE	Goldman Sachs	
01/2024	1,101,625	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SVCE	Morgan Stanley	
08/2024	1,524,180	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	СРА	Goldman Sachs	
10/2024	959,825	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	PCE	Goldman Sachs	
11/2024	1,243,210	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SJCE	Morgan Stanley	
11/2024	1,152,995	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	СРА	RBC Capital Markets	
11/2024	1,000,500	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SDCP	Morgan Stanley	
11/2024	775,590	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	SCP	Goldman Sachs	
12/2024	1,290,750	California Community Choice Financing Authority	Elec (Green)	СРА	Goldman Sachs	
Total	\$17,759,360					

All transactions to date have achieved @ 9.5% savings or better. Most recent transactions have been over 12%.





#### **Pre-Pay Deal Team**

#### **Municipal Advisor**

- Financial advisory
- Advice on structure, timing, and terms
- Fiduciary
  - responsibility to
- CCA
- PFM\*

#### **Prepay Counsel**

- Legal advisory
- Represents CCA's interests
- Orrick\*

#### Conduit Issuer

Valley Clean Energy

- Issuer of taxexempt bonds
- CCCFA

#### Prepaid Supplier

- Structures
   transaction
- Markets and underwrites bonds
- Goldman Sachs/J. Aron\*

Other Entities in Prepay Deal

#### Custodian/Trustee

- Manages prepay estate
- Bond interest payments
- US Bank\*

#### Rating Agency

- Rates bonds
- Moody's

#### Bond/Tax Counsel

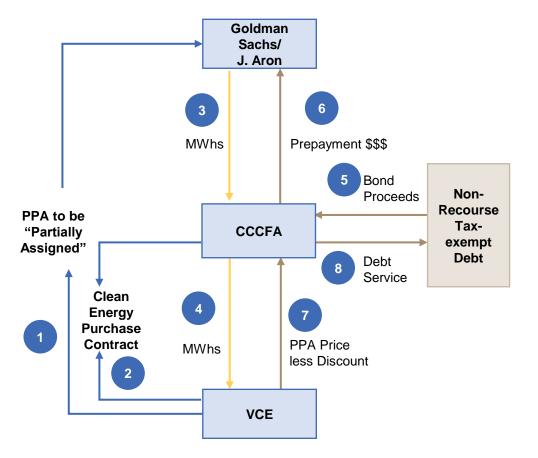
- Legal services
- Affirms tax-exempt bond status and validity of bond offering
- Orrick\*

Green Font = firms hired for the prepay transaction \*Fees paid on contingency from bond proceeds



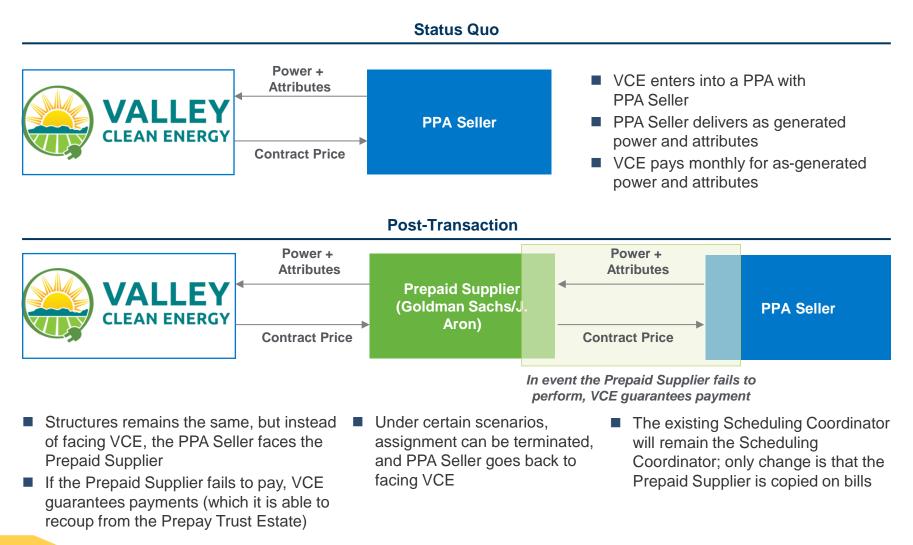
#### **Summary of Energy Prepayment Structure Mechanics**

- 1) VCE partially assigns PPAs to Goldman Sachs/J. Aron
- 2) VCE and CCCFA execute a Clean Energy Purchase Contract
- Goldman Sachs/J. Aron delivers power to CCCFA via a Master Power Supply Agreement
- 4) CCCFA delivers power to VCE
- 5) CCCFA issues non-recourse taxexempt bonds
- 6) CCCFA makes a prepayment to Goldman Sachs/J. Aron for a 30year power supply
- 7) VCE makes payments to the CCCFA net of savings
- 8) CCFCA makes debt payments with payments from VCE





#### **PPA Assignment**





#### Favorable Risk Allocation – "Take-and-Pay" Structure

Key Risk – Transaction terminates and VCE no longer receives expected savings

#### **Risk**

Counterparty default on energy delivery

VCE receives too much energy and is unable to have Qualified Use and/or has to meet new renewable mandates in the future

Debt obligation could obligate VCE over longterm

Rating agency treatment of prepay debt

Commodity swap or guaranteed investment contract (GIC) provider counterparty fails to perform

#### **Mitigation**

VCE only pays for energy if/when Counterparty delivers the energy

Counterparty assumes debt obligations in the event of Supplier default

Counterparty will remarket the energy to qualified entities to ensure VCE compliance with Qualified Use

Debt is non-recourse to VCE, and VCE's obligation is take and pay. Rating agencies do not count prepay transactions as debt or fixed costs of VCE

Documents allow for replacement of swap and GIC provider; Supplier is likely GIC provider (thus no additional risk)

Supplier/Guarantor bears the risk of the counterparty's performance, and in the event of default, the swap "tears up"



#### Summary of Deal Documents

Document	Description	Parties (incl. VCE)
Clean Energy Purchase Contract	30-year agreement under which VCE will purchase discounted electricity from CCCFA	• CCCFA
Form of Limited Assignment Agreement (LAA)	Governs the assignment of electricity and green attributes from selected PPAs; initial set of LAAs to be finalized prior to pricing	<ul> <li>PPA Sellers</li> <li>Goldman Sachs/ J. Aron</li> </ul>
Letter Agreement to LAA	Agreement on management of PPA portfolio assigned into Prepay	<ul> <li>Goldman Sachs/ J. Aron</li> </ul>
PPA Custodial Agreement	Creates a custody account at US Bank for receipt of payments from VCE and Goldman to settle monthly invoices	<ul> <li>CCCFA</li> <li>Goldman Sachs/ J. Aron</li> <li>US Bank</li> </ul>
LLC Agreement	VCE representative to be one of three directors of LLC setup specifically for Prepay	<ul> <li>Goldman Sachs/ J. Aron</li> <li>Independent Director</li> </ul>
Operational Services Agreement	Permits VCE to control various actions of CCCFA relating to Prepay project operations	• CCCFA
MOU with CCCFA	VCE responsible for rating agency and Green Bonds verification fees (paid from bond proceeds at closing)	• CCCFA
Preliminary Official Statement	Public offering document for tax-exempt bonds issued by CCCFA which describes VCE's organization and operations	



#### **Benefits and Rational**

#### 1) Source of cost savings that can lower customer rates

- Four PPAs assigned; structure and economics could change depending on the outcome of ongoing Limited Assignment Agreement negotiations
- ~379,752 MWh assigned, representing ~55% of VCE's load in 2025
- Represents ~\$24.9 million of annual prepaid cash flows (i.e., energy procurement costs)
- Annual savings of ~\$2-3 million, depending on market conditions, or ~8-12% of assigned energy procurement costs

#### 2) Service provider fees paid from bond proceeds on a contingency basis

- Only sunk costs are staff time, CCCFA membership fee, and rating agency fee
- 3) VCE not responsible for bond repayment and debt is non-recourse to VCE



#### Recommendation

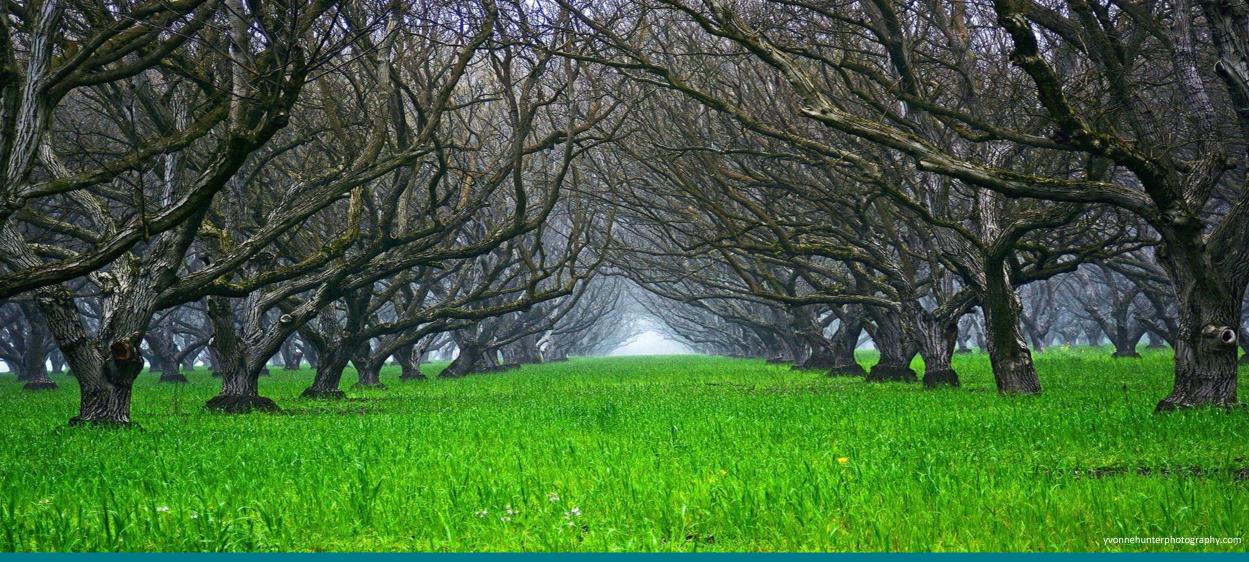
- Approval to complete a Prepay transaction subject to market conditions and minimum savings
  - Minimum savings threshold of 8%, which represents annual savings of ~\$2 million based on the current deal structure
- Authorization to execute the following documentation:
  - Clean Energy Purchase Contract with CCCFA
  - Form of Limited Assignment Agreement (LAA)
  - Letter Agreement regarding LAAs
  - PPA Custodial Agreement
  - Operational Services Agreement
  - MOU with CCCFA
  - Approval of Appendix A of the Preliminary Official Statement



Valley Clean Energy Board Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2025

Item 16 – 2024 Year-end Review





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2024 Year in Review: Impact



Cleaner Energy. Lower Rates. Lower Rates, New Tagline





Projected to increase to \$8.25M savings by the end of 2025

2024 Yearend Review: Power Portfolio







#### Power Resource Contracts

Kings 50 MV

(appro online

2. Putal Yolo C Solar F 3 MW/ (appro online 3. Indian Lake C 2.9 MV (appro online

4. Tierr Facility Sutter

VCE SH online 5. Aggro Respons Statew VCE sh online

6. Resur San Be Solar F 90 MV

(appro

online

marine Solar Facility County W PV-only ox. 130,000 MWhs) enow h Creek	7. Willy 9 Chap 2 (formerly Willow Springs Solar 3) Kern County Solar PV + Storage Project 72 MW (PV)/36 MW BESS* PV online now, BESS anticipated Q1 2025				
County PV + Storage Project /3 MW BESS* ox. 7,600 MWhs) 2 now	8. Gibson Yolo County Solar PV + Storage Project 13 MW/13 MW BESS**				
n Valley Hydro County W small hydro ox. 6,000 MWhs) e now	(approx. 50,000 MWhs) Anticipated Q2 2026 9. Tumbleweed Long-Duration Battery Storage (8 hrs) Kern County				
ra Buena Battery Storage (4 hrs) r County	VCE Share 2.9 MW Anticipated Q2 2026 10. Goal Line Long-Duration				
hare is 2.5 MW 2 now egated Demand se	Battery Storage (8 hrs) San Diego County VCE Share 2.25 MW Anticipated Q2 2028				
wide Resources hare is 7 MW ? now rgence Solar I	11. Fish Lake Geothermal Esmeralda County, NV VCE Share 0.42 MW (approx. 3.460 MWhs)				
ernardino County PV + Storage Project N (PV)/75 MW BESS* ox. 250,000+ MWhs) e now	Anticipated Q2 2027 Ormat Geothermal Portfolio Geothermal, Salton Sea VCE Share 4.63MW (approx. 35,380 MWhs) Anticipated Q4 2027				
	Anticipated Q4 2027				

\*Battery Energy Storage System (4 hrs) \*\*Battery Energy Storage System (5 hrs)

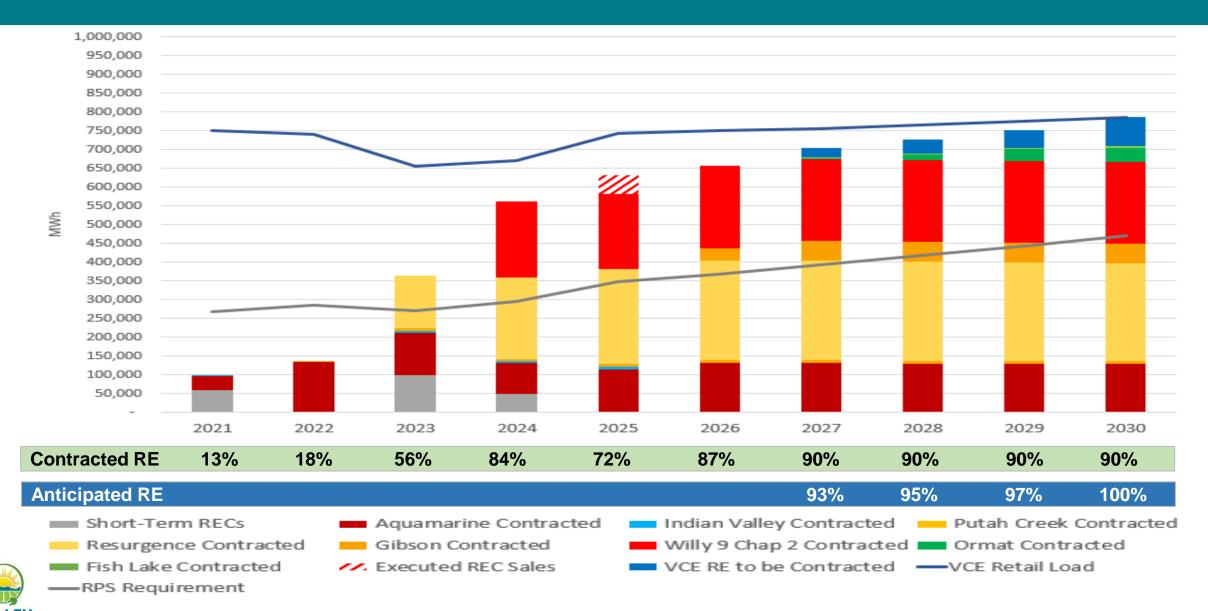




*Willy 9 Chap 2.* Formerly Willow Springs Solar Project<sup>1</sup>. PV portion is complete and is in commercial operation. BESS is awaiting final approvals.

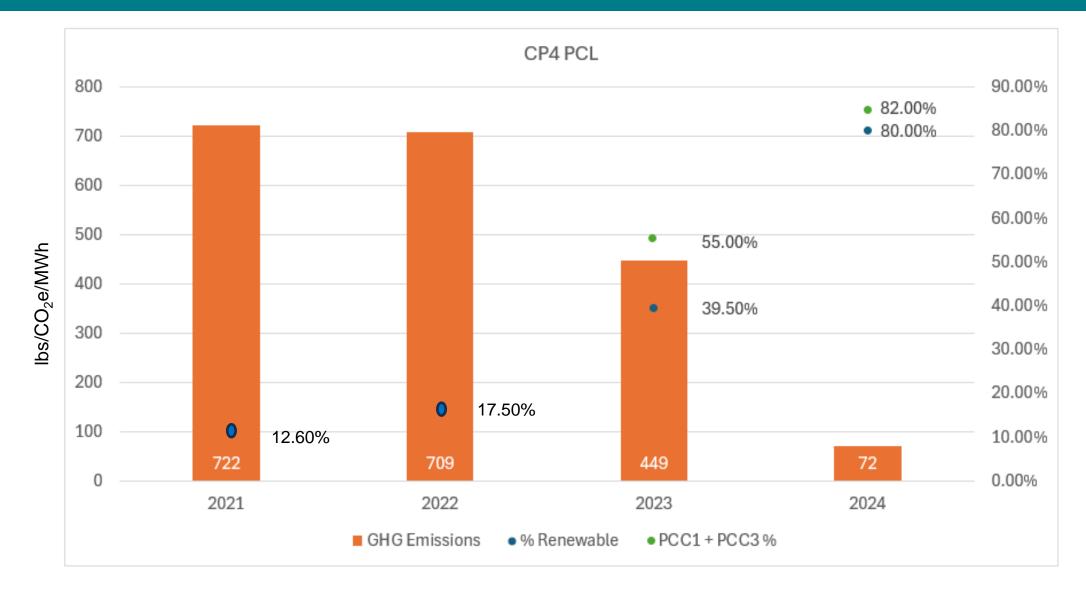
- Project size: 72MW PV + 36MW BESS
- PV delivering energy as of Jan 2024
- BESS anticipated online Q1 2025





Note: 2025 Contracted RE pre REC sale: 78%; 2025 Contracted RE post REC sale: 72%

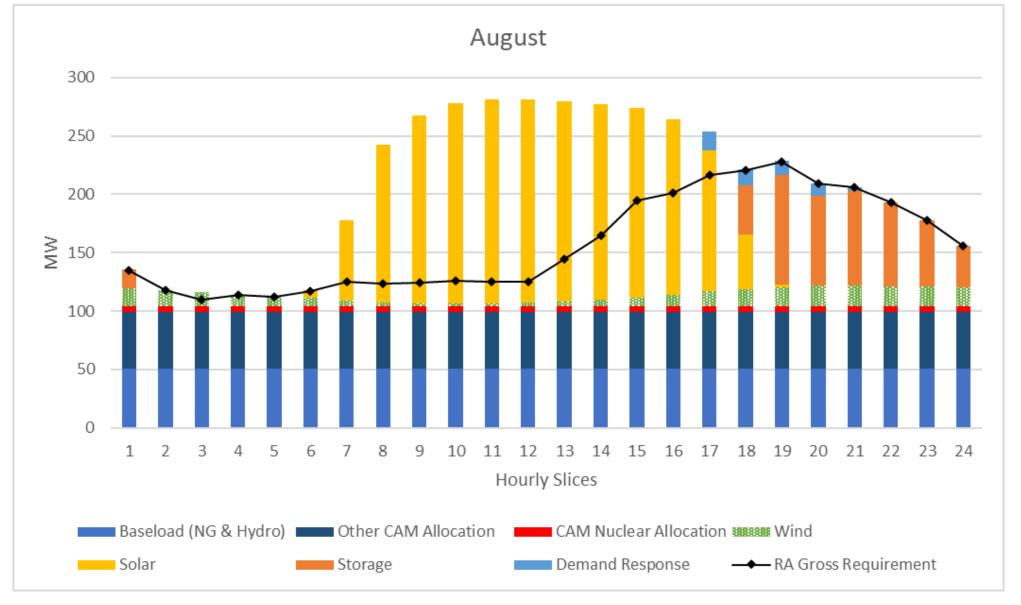
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Note: 2021-2023 are the actual power content label ("PCL") values. 2024 is a projection.

# Item 16 – 2024 Year-end Review: Slice of Day (SOD)



2024 Yearend Review: Marketing & Outreach





## **Outreach: Meeting Our Customers Where They Are**





YvonneHunterPhotography.com



Events: 9 events; 40,000+ people reached (including media, in-person)



Media: 4 press releases, 7 press placements, 1 media event, 200 + media contacts



Customer inquiries: rapid, tailored responses with emphasis on authenticity and engagement

2024 Yearend Review: Customer Care

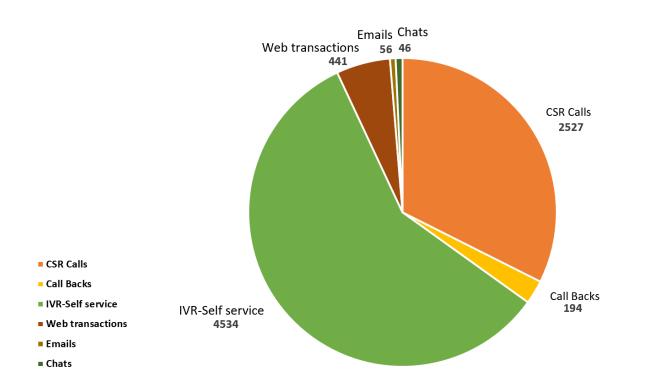




## **Customer Service Representative (CSR) Interactions**

#### **Total Contacts**

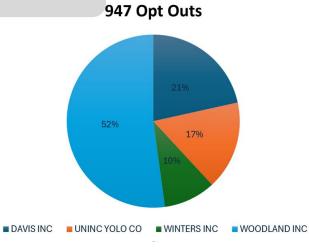
01/01/2024-12/31/2024

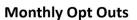


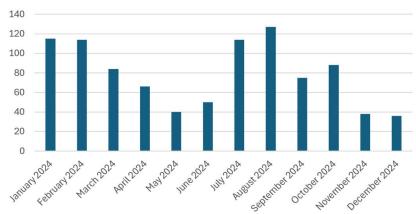
CSR Calls	32%
Call Backs	2%
IVR-Self service	58%
Web transactions	<mark>6%</mark>
Emails	1%
Chats	1%



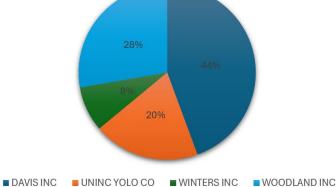
## Opt-outs & Opt-ups, 2024

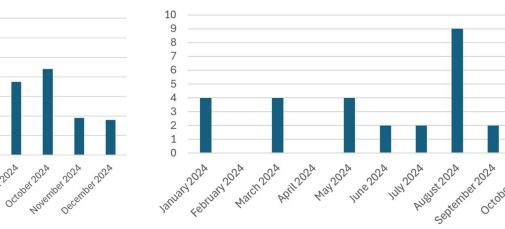






# 36 Opt Ups





#### **Monthly Opt Ups**

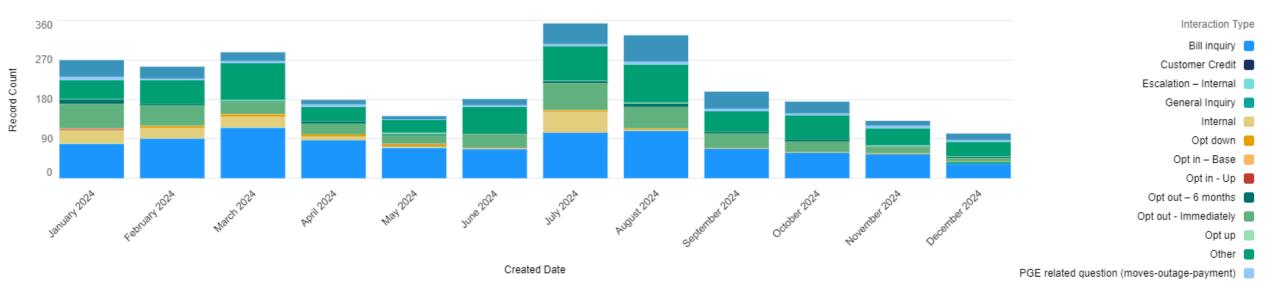
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November 2024

December 2024

October 2024

## Monthly Interaction Type





## Website Analytics: Page Views & Engagement

	Page title and screen class 👻 🕂	↓ <u>Views</u>	Active users	Views per active user	Average engagement time per active user
	Total	<b>89,209</b> 100% of total	<b>22,339</b> 100% of total	<b>3.99</b> Avg 0%	<b>1m 23s</b> Avg 0%
1	(not set) VCE Home	32,286	824	39.18	11m 29s
2	Home - Valley Clean Energy	12,317	7,749	1.59	27s
3	Credits & Rebates - Valley Clean Energy	3,757	2,623	1.43	32s
4	2024 Almond Festival - Valley Clean Energy	2,293	1,912	1.20	11s
5	Residential - Valley Clean Energy	2,114	1,355	1.56	32s
6	Board Meetings and Agendas - Valley Clean Energy	1,357	512	2.65	1m 38s
7	Opt out - Valley Clean Energy	1,306	969	1.35	34s
8	A Flexible Irrigation Pilot Program for Agriculture - Valley Clean Energy	1,197	703	1.70	23s
9	Solar Customers / Net Energy Metering (NEM) - Valley Clean Energy	1,188	889	1.34	1m 35s
10	Staff - Valley Clean Energy	1,156	836	1.38	48s

## Average Time Spent on Websites Across Industries: 53 seconds (VCE: 1 minute 23 seconds)

E-Commerce Pages: 31 seconds-1 minute 43 seconds

## Blogs/Press Releases: 2 minutes

2024 Yearend Review: Programs





## **Program Highlights**



**AgFIT - CONCLUDED** 

#### Electric Advisor -LAUNCHED



Hourly Flex Pricing -LAUNCHED



#### **REACT - LAUNCHED**



#### Continued

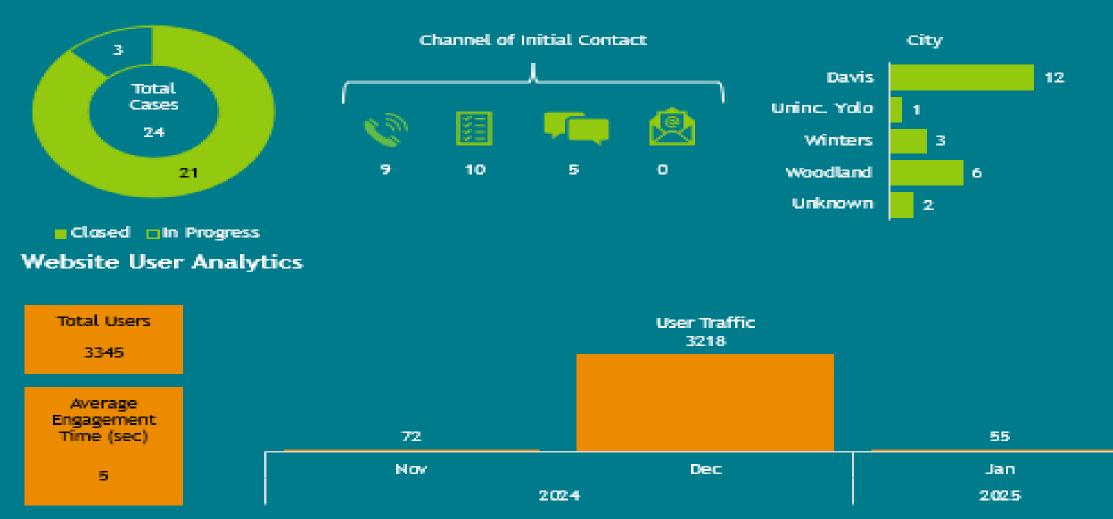
OhmConnect



Ag and Solar photos: YvonneHunterPhotography.com

## Program Spotlight: Electric Advisor

Cases



## **Program Spotlight: Electric Advisor**

#### Interactions





2024 Yearend Review: Finance





## **Finance Highlights**

• 2024 Customer Savings



- 2.5% "Stackable" CARE/FERA Discount \$350K to (low-income)
- 1%/2% Standard Green and UltraGreen Discount \$1.4M in Savings (Includes CARE/FERA)
- \$50K in Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)
- NEM \$0.01/kWh adder \$600K in incentives
- 2025 Customer Savings
  - 10% "Stackable" CARE/FERA Discount \$750K to (low-income)
  - 5% Standard and UltraGreen Discount \$5M in Savings (Includes CARE/FERA)
  - PIPP & NEM discounts incentives unchanged

## **Finance Highlights**

- Adoption of Updated Reserve Policy (2025)
  - Minimum 120+ Days Cash for Operating Reserve
  - Minimum 60+ Days Cash for Rate Stabilization Reserve
- PPA Prepay Transaction Q1 2025 ~2-3M in Annual Savings
- Investment Grade Credit Rating Q2 2025 \$250K in annual savings
- 2023 Clean Financial Audited Financials
- Reached \$4M for Programs Contribution \$1M allocated in 2024.
- Compliance with All Debt (Line of Credit) and Power Purchase covenants
- Implemented 3<sup>rd</sup> Customer Rate Option Base Green





## Valley Clean Energy Board Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2025

**Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process** 



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## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process

## **Overview**

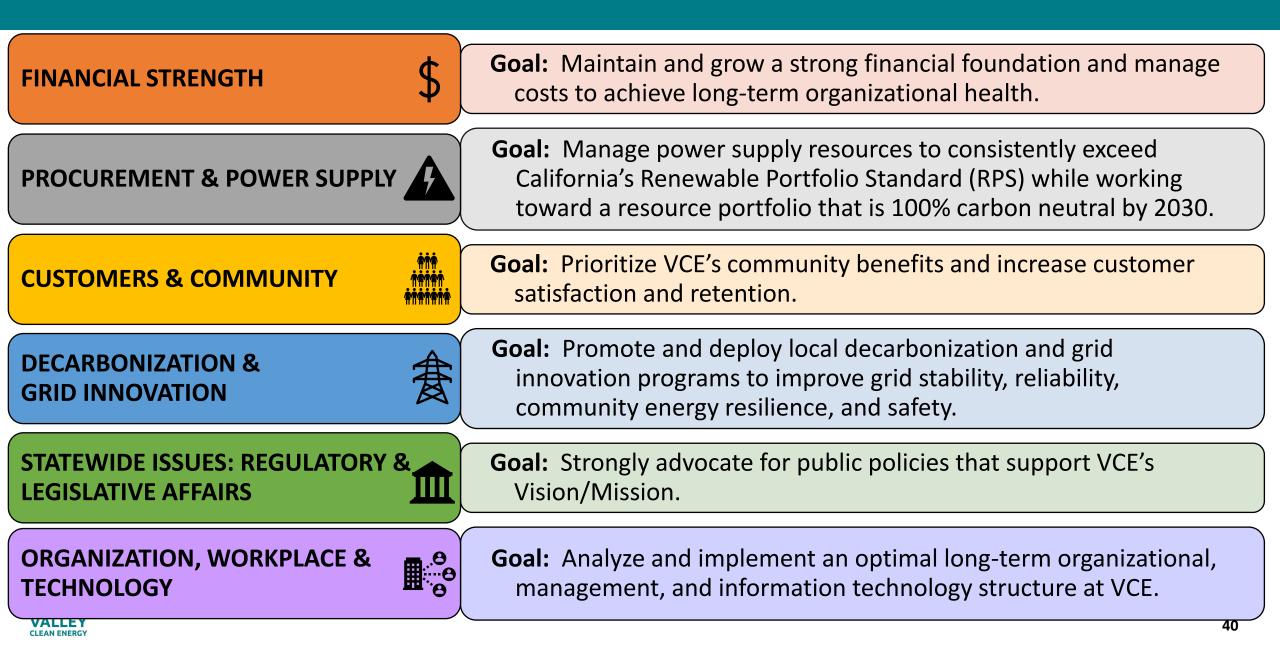
Introduce VCE's Strategic Plan Major Update process and 2025 schedule.

## This presentation will provide:

- Strategic Plan (Recap)
- Strategic Plan Guidelines Overview
- Major Update Timeline



## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process: Background



## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process: Guidelines

## **Strategic Plan Guidelines**

## Initial strategic plan "Rolling" update in 2023 (completed)

- One-year extension in 2024
- Maintain a three-year outlook starting in 2023.

## Strategic Plan Schedule for Regular Updates (Major and Minor) beginning in 2025

- Major updates every four years that do not align with Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) updates
- Minor Updates by Staff every other intervening year

Extension of 2021-2023 Plan		Strategic Plan			Strategic Plan					
2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Minor		Major		Minor		Major		Minor		Major
Update		Update		Update		Update		Update		Update
	IRP WORK		IRP WORK		IRP WORK		IRP WORK		IRP WORK	

#### The Strategic Plan incorporates the following schedule for status reporting:

- Quarterly Report to VCE Management Staff reports quarterly to the Executive Officer on the status of goals, objectives and metrics under their responsibility.
- Annual Report to Board and CAC Staff reports annually to the Board and CAC on the status of goals, objectives and metrics, and recommends any mitigations or amendments as may be necessary for Board approval.

## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process: Major Update

#### **Key Objectives of Strategic Plan Major Updates**

Major Update – The purpose is a more detailed review/update of the Strategic Plan, including a review of VCE's Vision/Mission and existing goals and objectives. Major Plan updates may include more comprehensive reviews incorporating workshops at various levels of the organization, including community stakeholder engagement. The baseline activities would incorporate those enumerated in the Minor Update.

### Key activities in a Major Update include:

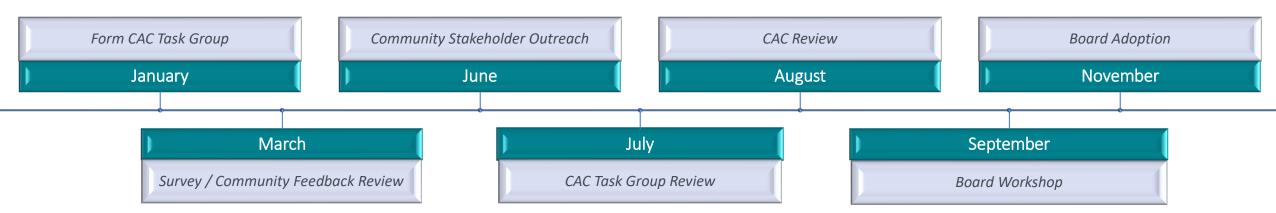
- Identify changes in the overall CCA environment (economics, policy, technology, etc.) and describe their relevance for VCE
- Review key organizational fundamentals (Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan Goals)
- Long-term adjustments based on strategic and customer requirements

## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process: Timeline

## **Proposed Plan Development Process and Timeline**

The Major Plan update is organized into four components that will occur over the course of 2025.

- Q1 Review of existing Plan and development of Initial Draft Plan Update
- Q2 Gather community and stakeholder feedback on Draft Plan Update
- Q3 Develop Draft Plan Update; present Draft Plan Update to Board
- Q4 Develop final Draft Plan Update; present to Board for adoption



#### Timeline: 2025 Strategic Plan Major Update

## Item 17 – VCE Strategic Major Update Process: Discussion

## **Discussion**