

Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors Meeting – September 11, 2025



Public Comments

To Provide Public Comment on any agenda item please:

E-mail 300 words or less to: <u>meetings@valleycleanenergy.org</u>

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Emailed comments received **before** the item has concluded will be read into the record.

Emailed comments received <u>after</u> the item has concluded but before the end of the meeting will not be read but will be included in the meeting record.



Item 11 – AgFIT (Dynamic Pricing) Pilot Program Update

Background

- Power Outages in Summer 2020 led to the Emergency OIR on Summer Reliability
- VCE, Polaris and TeMix responded with Agricultural Flexible Irrigation
 Technology (AgFIT) proposal, granted in CPUC Decision for 3-year Pilot
- Designed to shift load off-peak
- 7 customers, 65 service points/meters
- Nearly 4 MW of enrolled load – PLUM
- Row crops, orchards



Item 11 – AgFIT (Dynamic Pricing) Pilot Program Update

Key Takeaways

- Price response outside of peak window (ramp hours)
- Automation drives customer action
- Most customers scheduled a week ahead with little/no modification in customer portal
- Community/industry connections, "word-of-mouth" marketing drove enrollment
- Customers need to see results of performance-timely access to data was an issue
- Pilot Expanded by CPUC early 2024 into Hourly Flex Pricing (HFP pilots
- Customers faced constraints that could limit response in some cases
- Most customers shifted load and saved money (2023 average bundled credit: \$325/month/service point)



Item 11 – AgFIT (Dynamic Pricing) Pilot Program Update

Next Steps: Hourly Flex Pricing (Expanded Pilots)

- AgFIT participants ineligible for incentives
- Pilot 1: Agricultural
 - 12 ag service points enrolled (includes 2 AgFIT customers)
- Pilot 2: Commercial and Residential
 - 7 Commercial; 1 Residential service points enrolled
- Integrating HFP into other program designs (e.g. REACT)



Irrigation automation equipment deployed in the field



VCE Board of Directors - 2026-2029 Strategic Plan Workshop September 11, 2025 – City of Woodland Council Chambers



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VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Overview

Overview

This workshop provides the Board with the opportunity for high-level feedback on the Initial Draft of the Strategic Plan Major Update for 2026-2029.

This presentation provides:

- 1. Background
- 2. Review of Major Plan Updates
 - a) General Updates
 - b) Goal 2 Update
- 3. Summary and Discussion





VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Background

VCE Strategic Plan Update – How we got here

- VCE's initial Strategic Plan covered a fixed period from 2021 to 2023
- First Update: 2023 through end of 2025
- Strategic Plan Guidelines VCE developed a "Rolling Approach"
 - Minor Updates Plan internal review/update every two years
 - Major Updates More Comprehensive review every four years



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Background

- Valley Clean Energy is a public energy agency based in Yolo County that is focused on achieving better energy outcomes for the customers and communities we serve.
- VCE's Strategic Plan guides the organization's long-term planning and actions to work toward those goals.
- This Strategic Plan Major Update will help VCE:
 - Identify Changes that we need to consider over the next few years: economics, policy, technology, etc.
 - Review key organizational elements: Mission, Vision, and Goals
 - Incorporate long-term adjustments to help meet strategic and customer requirements



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Background

Plan Update Foundation

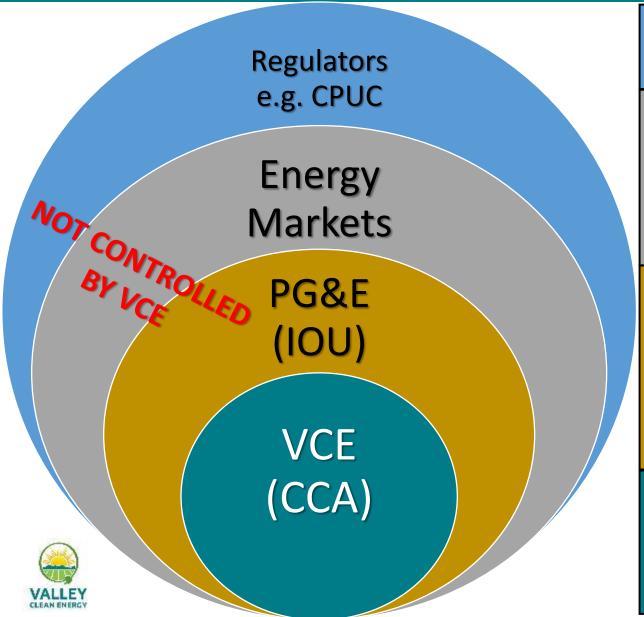
After the preliminary review, Staff and the Strategic Plan Task Group generally agreed VCE's existing strategic plan was:

- Robust and comprehensive
- Addressed key priorities; and
- Provided a solid base from which to move forward with a Plan update

Working from the existing Strategic Plan and using feedback gathered through CAC meetings/workshops, a survey, and CAC Task Group input, several iterations of the draft Plan Update were developed and considered during the update process.



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: What CCAs Do and Don't Do



Regulating IOUs, Regulating CCAs, Overseeing Compliance with state energy policies and mandates (e.g., RPS, RA, IRP)

CAISO - Wholesale electricity market / Grid operation IOUs (e.g. PG&E) - Transmission and Distribution Independent Power Producers - Sell electricity to CAISO, IOUs, CCAs.

Energy & Commodity Brokers/Traders – Trade electricity & futures

Transmission & Distribution of electricity (poles, wires, substations). (60% Utility Bill)

Metering, billing, and customer service—even for CCA customers.

Maintaining grid reliability and safety.

Power Cost Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) (~0-20% of VCE Generation Bill)

Purchasing or generating electricity

Setting electricity generation rates

Meeting/exceeding state-mandated energy goals

Long-term power procurement planning

Customer outreach and programs

Strategic Plan 2026-2029

Brief Survey Issued May 1st – Points allocation for customer priorities

MAJOR UPDATE TIMELINE

MAY 22 ND ESPARTO COMMUNITY CENTER - RISE



Goals Outreach

- 1) Financial Strength / Rates
- Procurement & Power Supply



June 26

JULY 24TH CITY OF WOODLAND CHAMBERS

CAC

Review of Preliminary Draft Strategic Plan recommendation & Initial (#1) Survey Results



SEPTEMBER 11TH
CITY OF
WOODLAND
CHAMBERS

Board

Workshop Review of CAC Strategic Plan Recommendations, Survey #1 Results and Next Steps



April 24

CAC
Introduction of
Strategic Plan Rough
Draft & Timeline

APRIL 24TH
CITY OF DAVIS
CONFERENCE
ROOM





CAC

Goals Outreach

- Customers and Community
- Decarbonization and Grid innovation

JUNE 26TH UCANR - DAVIS

July 24



August 28

CAC

2026-2029 Strategic Plan Major Update Recommendation



September 11

Board

Recommended
Strategic Plan Adoption



OCTOBER 9TH
CITY OF DAVIS
COUNCIL
CHAMBERS

VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Public Feedback

Plan Update Development Feedback/Input

Based on gathered feedback, general themes and several specific points outlined below were incorporated into the draft Plan Update.

- Affordability
- Incorporating additional local distributed energy resources into VCE's resource mix
- Specific reference to energy resilience and energy efficiency/weatherization
- Affirming commitment and focus on low-income and other vulnerable customers



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Customer Survey Results

Survey Results: Qualitative Feedback (200+ responses)

Feedback was varied but included some recurrent themes:

- Affordability/High Rates
- Education/VCE Marketing (more brand recognition needed)
- Desire for VCE Municipalization

Examples of free form responses:

"Cheaper electricity, right now there's not much real savings over just using PGE. Bills are too high to really think about other priorities."

"Customer service is a plus one being able to talk to someone for help."

"Customer education about electricity and gas prices even though gas is not your game."





VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: General/Administrative Updates

Categories of Plan Updates

- General/Administrative
- Specific Goal/Objective

General/Administrative Updates

General administrative updates that have been included in the draft Plan update include:

- Near-Term Vision (Launch) Transition Plan language to "completed during launch".
- "Affordability" as a focus Added throughout the document to emphasize and elevate existing customer rate priority.
 - For example, VCE MISSION Deliver cost-competitive <u>affordable</u> clean electricity, product choice, price stability, energy efficiency, and greenhouse gas emission reductions.
- Startup to Operational In general, VCE has completed key organizational startup steps and transitioned to operational effectiveness and efficiency.
 - Transitioned language related to startup phase in specific sections.
 - Language transitioned from "establish" or "obtain" to "sustain" or "maintain".



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Initial Draft Updates

Affordability – An emphasis has been generally incorporated in the Goals and Objectives of the attached draft Update.

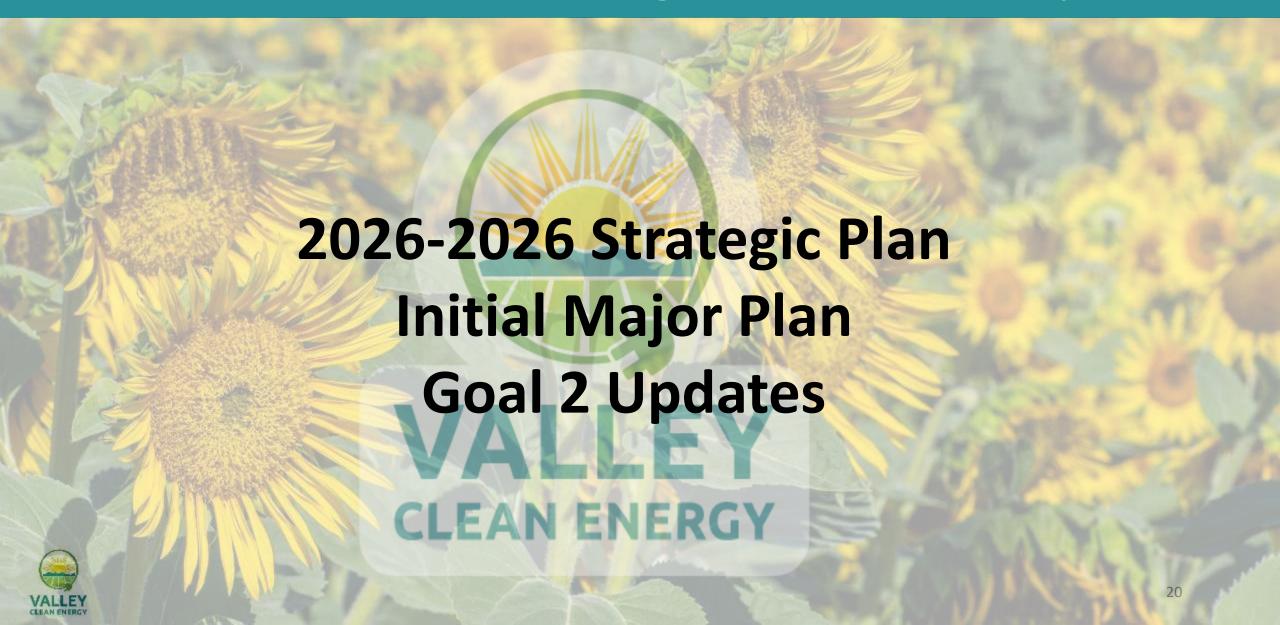
 e.g. Objective 1.4: Manage customer rates to optimize VCE's financial goals while maintaining rate affordability and competitiveness with PG&E.

Start-up to Operational – Growth in VCE's in independence, performance, and technology.

• e.g. 6.8 Objective: Deploy a modernized IT infrastructure Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) approach that enables knowledge management, dashboard analytics, and collaboration through robust use of live data and information resources

Re-emphasize commitment and focus on low-income and other vulnerable customers.

• e.g. Objective 3.7 Develop a roadmap to integrate and address the concerns and priorities of emerging and historically marginalized communities in the design and implementation of VCE's services and programs.



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Goal/Objective Updates

Revised Goal 2 and Objective 2.3 (Initial Draft)

These modifications are driven mainly by forecasted renewable projects' costs, regulatory changes to Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA), providing additional grid resiliency, and rate affordability to balance overall customer and community impact.

- Maintain a high renewable target (minimum 90%)
- Align with California's State 2045 goal of 100% carbon free
- Allows VCE to explore local investment in distributed energy

Updated Goal 2 (Initial Draft):

Manage power supply resources to consistently exceed California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) while working toward a resource portfolio that is <u>a minimum 90%</u> Renewable and 100% Carbon Free 100% renewable by 2030.



VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Goal/Objective Updates

Objective 2.3 (Initial Draft)

<u>Develop strategies to</u> identify and pursue cost-effective, local distributed energy resources. Identify and pursue cost-effective, local distributed energy resources, including both front-of-meter solar+storage resources for VCE's renewable energy supply portfolio, as well as behind-the-meter solar+storage aggregations (VPPs) to help reduce RA requirements. Strategies could include, but are not limited to, an allocation of resource portfolio investment in cost-effective local energy and storage resources even though such local investment may affect achievement of overall resource portfolio goals.





VCE 2026-29 Strategic Plan Workshop: Summary & Discussion

Summary

This workshop provides the Board with the opportunity for high-level feedback on the Initial Draft of the Strategic Plan Major Update for 2026-2029.

Staff, the Strategic Plan Task Group, and the CAC at large believe that the initial 2026-2029 Strategic Plan Major Update represents a balanced approach to moving the organization forward, setting reasonable goals for the near term based on input from VCE's stakeholders.

Staff plans to provide an updated 2026-2029 strategic plan to the VCE Board of Directors for consideration at the October 9, 2025, meeting.



