

Meeting of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) of Valley Clean Energy Alliance Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Via Video/Teleconference

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), legislative bodies may meet remotely without listing the location of each remote attendee, posting agendas at each remote location, or allowing the public to access each location, with the adoption of certain findings. The Board of Directors found that the local health official recommended measures to promote social distancing and authorized the continuation of remote meetings for the foreseeable future. Any interested member of the public who wishes to listen in should join this meeting via teleconferencing as set forth below.

Please note that the numerical order of items is for convenience of reference. Items may be taken out of order on the request of any CAC member with the concurrence of the other members. The CAC may decide to make a recommendation to the VCE Board regarding any of the agenda items below. Staff recommendations are advisory to the CAC. The CAC may take any action it deems appropriate on any item on the agenda even if it varies from the staff recommendation.

Members of the public who wish to listen to the CAC Webinar meeting may do so with the teleconferencing call-in number and Webinar meeting ID code.

Join meeting via Zoom WEBINAR:

a. From a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device with high-speed internet. (If your device does not have audio, please also join by phone.)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82322149524

Meeting ID: 823 2214 9524

b. By phone

One tap mobile:

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Dial:

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+1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 823 2214 9524

<u>Public comments may be submitted electronically or during the meeting.</u> Instructions on how to submit your public comments can be found in the PUBLIC PARTICIPATION note at the end of this agenda.

Committee Members: Yvonne Hunter (Interim Chair), Marsha Baird (Interim Vice Chair), Christine Shewmaker, Cynthia Rodriguez, Gerry Braun, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Jennifer Rindahl



5:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Public Comment: This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the CAC on any VCE-related matters that are not otherwise on this meeting agenda or are listed on the Consent portion of the agenda. Public comments on matters listed on the Regular agenda shall be heard at the time the matter is called. As with all public comment, members of the public who wish to address the CAC are customarily limited to two minutes per speaker, electronically submitted comments should be limited to approximately 300 words. Comments that are longer than 300 words will only be read for two minutes. All electronically submitted comments, whether read in their entirety or not, will be posted to the VCE website within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meeting. See the information under PUBLIC PARTICIPATION at the conclusion of this agenda about how to provide your public comment.
- 4. Brief VCEA Staff and Advisory Task Group Reports (≈ 15 minutes) Representatives of VCE staff and active Task Groups will provide updates on on-going staff and Task Group work. Task Group recommendations requiring Committee attention require a regular agenda item. Summaries of written reports received by the Committee in advance of the meeting will receive a time allocation of up to ten minutes. Otherwise, the time allocation will be five minutes, including questions and answers. The Committee may decide to allocate additional time at the end of the regular agenda.
 - A. Task Group Reports
 - **B.** Staff Report

CONSENT AGENDA (≈ 5 minutes)

- 5. Approval of A) November 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes and B) December 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes.
- 6. Receive Customer Enrollment update as of January 12, 2022.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 7. Consider Cost-based Customer Rates 2022 Customer Rates. (Discussion/Action) (≈ 20 minutes)
- 8. Review and provide comments on the draft VCE Carbon Neutral by 2030 report. (Discussion) (≈ 15 minutes)
- 9. Receive presentation on California Community Power Joint Powers Authority long duration energy storage project: Tumbleweed. (Informational) (≈ 20 minutes)
- 10. Update on Valley Clean Energy customer program development. (Informational) (≈ 10 minutes)
- 11. Formation of 2022 Task Groups and consideration of Task Group charges. (Discussion/Action) (≈ 30 minutes)
- 12. Review and discuss draft Collections Policy. (Discussion) (≈ 15 minutes)



- 13. Receive and update Community Advisory Committee 2022 Long-Range Calendar. (Discussion) (≈ 5 minutes)
- **14.** Advisory Committee Member and Announcements. (≈ 5 minutes) Action items and reports from members of the Advisory Committee, including announcements, reports on meetings, and information which would be of interest to the Committee or the public.
- **15. Adjournment.** The next CAC meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2022.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPCOMING VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022 AT 5:00 P.M.:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Public participation for this meeting will be done electronically via e-mail <u>and</u> during the meeting as described below.

<u>Public participation via e-mail:</u> If you have anything that you wish to be distributed to the CAC and included in the official record, please e-mail it to VCE staff at meetings@valleycleanenergy.org. If information is received by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the CAC meeting it will be e-mailed to the CAC members and other staff prior to the meeting. If it is received after 3:00 p.m. the information will be distributed after the meeting, but within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meeting.

<u>Verbal public participation during the meeting:</u> If participating during the meeting, there are two (2) ways for the public to provide verbal comments:

- 1) <u>Computer with a microphone:</u> activate the "participants" icon at the bottom of your screen, then press the "raise a hand" icon.
- 2) <u>Phone:</u> Press *9 to indicate a desire to make a comment. Once called upon, press *6 to unmute your microphone.

VCE staff will acknowledge that you have a public comment to make during the item and will call upon you by name or phone number when it is your turn to comment. Speakers will be limited to no more than two minutes. Speakers will be asked to state their name for the record.

Public records that relate to any item on the agenda for a regular or special CAC meeting are available for public review on the VCE website. Records that are distributed to the CAC by VCE staff less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be posted to the VCE website at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the CAC. Questions regarding VCE public records related to the meeting should be directed to Board Clerk Alisa Lembke at (530) 446-2750 or Alisa.Lembke@ValleyCleanEnergy.org. The Valley Clean Energy website is located at: https://valleycleanenergy.org/cac-meetings/.

Accommodations for Persons with disabilities. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the meeting materials, should contact Alisa Lembke, VCE Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst, as soon as possible and preferably at least two (2) working days before the meeting at (530) 446-2754 or Alisa.Lembke@ValleyCleanEnergy.org

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report - Item 5

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: CAC A) November 18, 2021Meeting Minutes and B) December 16, 2021 Meeting

Minutes

DATE: January 20, 2022

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached A) November 18, 2021 meeting minutes and B) December 18, 2021 meeting minutes.



MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 VIA TELECONFERENCE

Chair Christine Shewmaker opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2021 beginning at 5:01 p.m. via videoconference pursuant to the Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361). At the October 14, 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors found that the local health official recommended measures to promote social distancing and authorized the continuation of remote meetings for the foreseeable future.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Christine Shewmaker (Chair), Cynthia Rodriguez (Vice Chair), Yvonne Hunter, Marsha Baird,

Gerry Braun, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Jennifer Rindahl

Committee Members Absent:

Welcome and Approval of Agenda

Lorenzo Kristov made a motion to approve the October 28, 2021 meeting Agenda with Item 12 coming up first on the regular agenda, seconded by Gerry Braun. This motion was discussed briefly.

Christine Shewmaker made a substitute motion of the following regular agenda order: Items 9, 10, 12, 8, 11, seconded by Marsha Baird. A vote was taken on the substitute motion. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Shewmaker, Rodriguez, Baird, Aulman, Springer, Rindahl

NOES: Kristov, Braun, Hunter

ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment / Introductions

The Consent Agenda below is in the order identified in the passed motion above. Christine Shewmaker opened the floor for general public comments and on consent items. There were no written or verbal public comments on items not on the agenda and on Consent Agenda items.

Brief task Group and VCE staff Reports

Task Group Reports

Leg/Reg Task Group: No updates to report.

Outreach Task Group: No updates to report.

<u>Programs Task Group:</u> Marsha Baird reported that there are new PG&E rebates coming out in early December and these rebates will be highlighted on VCE's website.

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PG&E's rebates (heat pump hot water heaters, heat pump HVAC) line up with VCE's energy efficiency work. The EV Rebate program is moving forward and VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles is working on the Ag Pilot program, with the expectation that there will be a final decision in early December. The goal is to launch this pilot program in May 2022.

<u>Rates Task Group</u>: Chair Shewmaker announced that the Task Group will provide their input later on the cost-recover based policy and customer rate structure item on the regular agenda.

<u>Carbon Neutral Task Group:</u> Cynthia Rodriguez informed those present that the group met with Energeia, who are performing a carbon neutral resource portfolio study, and received information on the status of the study. Energeia provided some preliminary information foreshadowing their results.

11/10/21 special Board Meeting Summaries: Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed those present that the Board at their November 10, 2021 special meeting approved changing VCE's fiscal budget year to a calendar year, adopted rate cost, budget, and received/accepted VCE's annual audit performed by James Marta & Company. Staff introduced Sierra Huffman, VCE's Program & Community Engagement Specialist. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles providing Huffman's background and a brief summary of those items that she will be performing and working on.

<u>Staff Report:</u> Mr. Sears informed those present that at the CC Power Board meeting they discussed environmental justice policies and long duration storage (8-hour battery storage). It is anticipated that the CAC will consider long duration storage at their December meeting thereafter, to the VCE Board in January 2022.

Consent Items

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that the October 28, 2021 meeting minutes had a typo and a correction on who reported for the Leg/Reg Task Group. Mark Aulman made a motion to approve the November 18, 2021 Consent Agenda items with the October 28, 2021 meeting minutes amended, seconded by Yvonne Hunter. There were no written or verbal comments as identified above. Motion passed unanimously. The following items were:

- 5. approved October 28, 2021 meeting Minutes as amended;
- 6. received customer enrollment update as of November 10, 2021; and,
- 7. received update on SACOG Grant Electrify Yolo.

Item 9: Update on Quarterly Power Content. (Informational) VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided an update on VCE's power content for 2021, including load summary, target versus current estimations, and status of renewable energy contracts (Aquamarine, Putah Creek Energy Farm, and Tierra Buena). It was noted by Staff that the estimated power to be received from the PG&E large hydro allocation is significantly less than originally expected due to the drought. Also, due to

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increased ag pumping and heat storms this summer, additional short term RECs were purchased to meet the RPS requirement.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 10: GHG Free 2022 Attributes (Large Hydro and/or Nuclear) (Informational) Chair Shewmaker introduced this item. Mr. Samuel presented background information and solicited feedback from the CAC regarding VCE accepting 2022 and beyond allocation of GHG-free attributes (large hydro and/or nuclear) from PG&E. Mr. Samuel explained that PG&E has been offering GHG-free attributes on a yearly basis; when attributes are accepted a one year agreement is entered into; and, moving forward, if attributes are offered in 2023 and beyond and there are no significant changes in VCE's position, Staff would provide the offering to the CAC and Board as a consent agenda item.

The CAC discussed the timeline of an agreement with PG&E for these attributes and the possible outcomes of accepting both large hydro and nuclear. A member expressed their opinion that they favor accepting both attributes and has consistently voted to reflect their opinion.

Cynthia Rodriguez left at 5:45 p.m.

Yvonne Hunter made a motion to support Staff's recommendation to recommend to the Board that they accept 2022 allocation of large hydro carbon free attributes; reject 2022 allocation of nuclear power carbon free attributes; and, in the event the future attributes (2023 and beyond) are made available to VCE and there are no major changes in VCE's position, bring back to the CAC and Board on consent for approval. Mark Aulman seconded the motion.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Shewmaker, Hunter, Baird, Aulman, Kristov, Springer,

Rindahl

NOES: Braun

ABSENT: Rodriguez ABSTAIN: None

Item 12: Consider Cost-based Customer Rates – 2022 Customer Rates. (Discussion/Action) Mr. Sears provided an overview of the background on rates, financial update, what information has changed since this item was presented to the CAC and motion adopted by the Board. Mr. Sears reviewed the 2022 reserve target, rate recommendation, rates implementing procedure, and Staff's recommendation.

The CAC discussed the Board's decision about rates effective November 1, 2021, VCE's policy to match PG&E generation rates, and how that will affect future rates.

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The members of the Rates Task Group, Mr. Kristov and Mr. Braun, then gave a short report. They suggested that the methodologies and information used in forecasting be looked at and discussed soon. The CAC continued to discuss: PG&E's filing on November 8, 2021 updating PG&E rate increase and power charge indifference adjustment (PCIA) decrease, various budget scenarios, how VCE's resources will affect the budget, current and future forecast modeling, and Staff's recommendation.

Marsha Baird commented that she would make a motion slightly different than Staff's recommendation. Marsha Baird made a motion that the CAC recommend that the Board approve the following:

- Adopt customer rates for 2022 to match PG&E 2022 generation rates for all customer classes except CARE and FERA customers to cover VCE's FY 2022 budget expenditures and to achieve 120-150 days cash reserves by the end of 2022;
- Adopt a 2022 rates implementing procedure including the following:
 - a. Provide a 5% rate discount for CARE and FERA customers in 2022;
 - Direct staff to prepare an analysis of budget including an increase to 2022 renewable portfolio content percentage and return to CAC and Board in Q1/2 2022 with recommendations.
 - Direct staff to conduct a review of the VCE Dividend Policy and potential rate discounts including but not limited to:
 - i. Providing a 5% rate discount for all customer classes during peak summer months in 2022 (June – September.);
 - ii. Providing an additional 5% rate discount for CARE and FERA customers during peak summer months (June September.);
 - iii. Allocating additional funds for community program implementation; and,
 - d. Return to CAC and Board in Q1/2 2022 with recommendations.

This motion was seconded by Yvonne Hunter. A couple of members expressed their concern that the motion did not include specifically looking at forecasting. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Shewmaker, Hunter, Baird, Aulman, Springer, Rindahl

NOES: Braun, Kristov ABSENT: Rodriguez ABSTAIN: None

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Mr. Sears informed those present that a discussion on forecasting will be brought to the Rates Task Group for further exploration, with the intent of providing an overview of what was discussed back to the CAC at a future meeting.

Item 8: Introduction to community resiliency. (Information)

Chair Shewmaker introduced this item. CAC Member Lorenzo Kristov provided an introduction to community resiliency, defined sustainability and resiliency, and provided an overview of the layered architecture of community resiliency. After a brief discussion, the CAC expressed their interest in having future conversations on strategies and policies for building resilient communities, including energy resilience.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 11: Review
Near-term
Procurement
Directives and
Delegations for 2022
Power Procurement
Activities.
(Informational)

Mr. Samuel updated those present on the delegations and directives necessary for VCE and SMUD staff to continue procurement activities on behalf of VCE's power supply portfolio. Mr. Samuel provided a high-level overview of the products necessary to meet compliance obligations and maintain a balanced power portfolio while meeting power supply portfolio targets set by the VCE Board. He also review the next steps.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 13: Receive and update CAC 2021 Long-Range Calendar. (Discussion) Chair Shewmaker noted to those present that the November Strategic Plan update has been postponed to the CAC's December meeting.

There is no verbal or written public comment.

Advisory Committee Member and Announcements Lorenzo Kristov asked Staff about how Time of Use (TOU) rates were being received. Ms. Boyles informed those present that some residential customers have transitioned, but the majority will transition in April 2022. In addition, in speaking with other CCAs, customers appeared to understand the change and a few were confused about TOU and what it meant. VCE Staff will continue to monitor.

Yvonne Hunter commented that at the CalCCA Virtual Annual Meeting on December 1st, Senator Alex Padilla will be one of the speakers. He has deep local government roots and having him at the CalCCA event is wonderful.

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that the CPUC has initiated the process for ending subsidies for installing natural gas connections/pipelines in new construction.

Mr. Sears encouraged those who will be attending the CalCCA Annual Meeting to visit with other CCAs.

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David Springer expressed his excitement of the replacement of furnace and hot water heaters programs that are rolling out on December 1st and to look at comfortablehoimerebates.com website for more information.

Adjournment to Next Meeting

The December meeting has been scheduled for the 3rd Thursday on <u>December 16th at</u> <u>5 p.m.</u> due to the Christmas holiday. Thanks to everyone for participating.

Alisa M. Lembke Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst



MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2021 **VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Christine Shewmaker opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, December 16, 2021 beginning at 5:03 p.m. via videoconference pursuant to the Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361). At the October 14, 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors found that the local health official recommended measures to promote social distancing and authorized the continuation of remote meetings for the foreseeable future.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Christine Shewmaker (Chair), Cynthia Rodriguez (Vice Chair), Yvonne Hunter, Marsha Baird, Gerry Braun, Mark Aulman (arrived at 5:19 p.m./departed at 6:31 p.m.), Lorenzo Kristov, David

Springer (arrived at 5:11 p.m.), Jennifer Rindahl

Committee Members Absent:

Welcome and **Approval of Agenda**

Chair Shewmaker announced that Item 5 – Approval of the November 18, 2021 meeting Minutes have been pulled from the consent agenda per the Board Clerk's request. The November 18, 2021 CAC meeting Minutes will be presented for approval at the CAC's next scheduled meeting. Yvonne Hunter made a motion to approve the December 16, 2021 meeting agenda without Item 5 - November 18, 2021 meeting Minutes, seconded by Gerry Braun. Motion passed with David Springer and Mark Aulman absent.

Public Comment / Introductions

There were no written or verbal public comments on items not on the agenda and on Consent Agenda items.

Brief task Group and VCE staff Reports

Task Group Reports

Leg/Reg Task Group: Chair Shewmaker informed those present that the draft 2022 Legislative Platform is on tonight's regular agenda. Yvonne Hunter announced that group has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. Lorenzo Kristov had nothing to add.

Outreach Task Group: Yvonne Hunter informed those present reviewed and provided comments on the Strategic Plan brochure. And, the group continue to meet monthly to review outreach items with VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles.

Programs Task Group: Marsha Baird informed those present that the group met yesterday, and the plan is to bring design implementation for the EV Program and

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dual heat fuel pump program forward to the CAC at the January 2022 meeting then on to the Board at their February 2022 meeting.

(David Springer arrived at 5:11 p.m.)

VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles provided an update on the Ag Pilot Program, called "Ag FIT" (flexible irrigation technology). Rebecca: Implementation advice letter will be submitted January 1, 2022 ????) Advice for the Ag FIT (flexible irrigation technology) working, May 2022 launch, outreach already to several growers

<u>Rates Task Group</u>: Lorenzo Kristov information those present that there was nothing new to report.

<u>Carbon Neutral Task Group:</u> Chair Shewmaker announced that the Task Group, Staff and Energeia USA will provide an update on the regular portion of the agenda.

Staff Report: Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed those present that over the past couple of months VCE has been engaged in the work around the implementation of PCIA (Power Charge Indifference Adjustment) and PG&E rates for 2022. The latest information is that implementation will be on March 1, 2022 instead of January 1, 2022. He provided an overview of the process, anticipated PCIA and PG&E generation rate costs, and the schedule of presenting information to the CAC and Board. Lastly, he informed those present that the Board's December 2021 meeting was cancelled due to the continued uncertainty on rates and PCIA from the CPUC, resulting in lack of information needed for the Board to make a business decision.

CC Power (JPA) is in process of procuring long duration storage on behalf of multiple CCAs, VCE is one of them. He reviewed the schedule of bringing the projects to the CAC and Board. The long duration storage is 8 hour battery storage project(s) which will help VCE with regulatory, resource adequacy (RA) and grid reliability objectives.

Staff will be bringing a draft Collections Policy to the CAC at their January meeting for consideration, then back again in February where Staff will be looking for a recommendation to the Board. The adoption of a collections policy is a good practice for VCE and other CCAs.

Mr. Sears informed those present that he had a conversation with CAC Member Gerry Braun about the CAC considering making a recommendation to the Board to add Ex Officio members to the CAC, specifically focused on staff representatives from each of VCE's member jurisdictions. The idea is to have greater communication and potential coordination between the jurisdictions and VCE. Mr. Braun commented that he has seen some of the larger CCAs doing specific collaboration with member jurisdictions, a trend that we (VCE) need to recognize.

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Marsha Baird asked if someone could give an update on the CalCCA virtual Annual meeting held on December 1st, which was attended by some CAC members and VCE Staff. Mr. Sears provided an update and comments were provided by a few CAC members who were in attendance.

Consent Items

Chair Shewmaker reminded those present that Item 6 – customer enrollment update, was the only item on the Consent agenda. Yvonne Hunter made a comment that she noticed that there was a large amount of opt ups in Davis. She has been speaking with VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles to find out if there is a reason for the increase. Ms. Boyles was going to check the QR code to see if the opt ups were coming from the sign at the Davis Food Coop or elsewhere.

(Mark Aulman arrived at 5:19 p.m.)

Yvonne Hunter made a motion to approve Consent Agenda item 6, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed unanimously. The CAC received the customer enrollment update as of November 10, 2021. There were no written or verbal comments as indicated above.

Item 7: Review and provide recommendation on VCE 2022 Legislative Platform. (Action)

Mr. Sears introduced this item mentioning that the "Platform" is used by VCE as guide for legislative engagement by VCE during the course of the legislative year. Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group, VCE's lobbyist consultant, reminded those present that the Legislative Platform outlines legislative issues and positions VCE would take in the 2nd year of the legislative session. He informed those present that Staff and the Leg/Reg Task Group provided their input to draft the 2022 platform being presented tonight. Mr. Fenstermaker reviewed the issue areas in detail. There was a brief discussion on restructuring the electricity utility sector, net energy metering (NEM) and representation of customers in that conversation. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Yvonne Hunter made a motion that the CAC recommend to the Board that the 2022 Legislative Platform outlining a number of legislative issues and positions VCE would take on each, be adopted, seconded by Cynthia Rodriquez. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Shewmaker, Rodriquez, Hunter, Baird, Braun, Aulman, Kristov, Springer, Rindahl

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Item 8: Receive preliminary results of zero-carbon portfolio study from VCE Staff Gordon Samuel reviewed several slides highlighting the preliminary results of the VCE zero-carbon portfolio study prepared by Energeia USA. Staff are seeking feedback from the CAC as the final study/report is being prepared for presentation to the Board for their January 2022 meeting. Mr. Samuel reviewed background and

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Carbon Neutral Task Group. (Discussion/Action) timeline then turned it over to Maggie Riley of Energeia USA who reviewed project deliverables, optimized portfolios, hour by hour versus carbon neutral balancing, peak and minimum days draft results, risk analysis, annual costs by portfolio, and next steps.

Each Carbon Neutral Task Group Member provided their input on the process of Energeia performing a zero-carbon portfolio study. Several subjects were discussed: generation, hour by hour, impact of electric vehicles (EVs), energy storage, capacity of supply, demand impacts to power plants, using the final report as a stepping stone to potentially modify VCE's renewable energy policy and portfolios, potential intermediary steps that could be taken towards carbon neutrality, and what approaches are being taken by other CCAs on carbon neutrality.

Mr. Sears reminded the CAC that Staff will be forwarding the final report to the Board at their January meeting for consideration.

Cynthia Rodriquez made a motion that VCE staff forward the information to the Board. Gerry Braun wanted to clarify that the final report has not been prepared, but that the slides reflect the study's findings. He suggested that the current slide deck be forwarded to the Board. Ms. Rodriquez clarified her motion that it was her intention to ask VCE Staff to forward the slide deck to the Board. Gerry Braun seconded the motion. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Shewmaker, Rodriquez, Hunter, Baird, Braun, Aulman, Kristov, Springer, Rindahl

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Item 9: Review and discuss formation of CAC Task Groups for 2022. (Discussion)

VCE Staff and CAC Members discussed which task groups should be formed based on the needs, tasks and projects in 2022. Mr. Sears reminded those present that task groups should be reevaluated yearly as they are temporary in nature; however, some goals are ongoing. It was agreed that the Legislative/Regulatory, Outreach and Programs task groups were needed in 2022.

(Mark Aulman departed at 6:31 p.m.)

VCE Staff and CAC Members continued to discuss the formation of other task groups, such as tasks focusing on rates, procurement, carbon neutrality, decarbonization, and resiliency. It was agreed that the Rates Task Group should continue into 2022, but that the "charge" would need to be updated. There was discussion about the Carbon Neutral Task Group continuing into 2022; however, now that the carbon neutral study has been completed, the group should be focusing on decarbonization tasks. As a result of their discussion, both the Rates and Carbon Neutral task groups would continue; however, their "charges" would need to be modified to reflect the current

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needs of the Board, Staff and goals outlined in VCE's Strategic Plan. The CAC asked that each task group provide a draft "charge" to be reviewed and discussed at the CAC's next meeting. The CAC asked that VCE's Strategic Plan (SP) be distributed to the CAC members for reference; for the task groups to incorporate the goals outlined within the SP into their draft "charges"; and, to work with VCE Staff, when needed, on drafting the "charges".

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 10: End of Year (Quarterly) Strategic Plan update. (Informational)

As indicated in the staff report, Staff are to provide an annual report on the status of goals, objectives and metrics of the Strategic Plan to the Board and CAC, with quarterly reporting to VCE Interim General Manager. Since the adoption of the Strategic Plan in November 2020, the cadence of reporting to the Board and CAC has been quarterly.

Mr. Sears updated the CAC on progress of the goals outlined in VCE's 3 year Strategic Plan. Suggestions were provided by the CAC that the cadence of reporting could possibly be changed from quarterly reports to bi-yearly reporting and to assist with engagement of community and staff, that a staff representative from each jurisdiction attend the CAC meetings. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 11: Receive and update Community Advisory Committee 2021 Long-Range Calendar. (Discussion)

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that the January and February CAC calendar has not been reviewed as that will be up to the new Chair and Vice Chair. She also reminded those present that if there are any suggested topics, to please email Mitch Sears, Board Clerk Alisa Lembke, and the new Chair and Vice Chair.

It was suggested that sometime in June or July 2022, that Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 be added to the calendar. Mr. Sears provided the Board and CAC's schedule for January and February 2022:

- CAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 20th.
- Board special meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 27th.
- Board regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 10th.
- CAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 24th.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 12: Election of 2022 CAC Chair and Vice-Chair (Effective January 2022) (Action)

CAC Members were encouraged to take on the role of Chair and Vice Chair and to communicate their interest and/or questions to Interim General Manager Mitch Sears. There were no volunteers to serve as Chair or Vice Chair; however, Yvonne Hunter volunteered to serve as Interim Chair and Marsha Baird volunteered as Interim Vice Chair, both willing to serve for a few months.

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Cynthia Rodriguez made a motion for Yvonne Hunter as Interim Chair and Marsha Baird as Interim Vice Chair, both to serve for the next three (3) months, seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion carried.

Outgoing Chair Shewmaker expressed her hope that there would be more financial stability in the year ahead and that would allow the CAC more time to focus on long range goals consistent with VCE's long term mission. She also mentioned that she felt it was important to not lose sight of the importance of resiliency.

There were no verbal or written public comment.

Advisory Committee Member and Announcements

Mr. Sears thank Christine Shewmaker and Cynthia Rodriguez for serving as Chair and Vice Chair this past year.

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that New York City (NYC) passed an "electrification" resolution where any <u>new</u> building under seven stories be electrified beginning in 2024, There have been numerous other municipalities that have passed similar electrification resolutions, but NYC is one of the largest.

Adjournment to Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Staff Report – Item 6

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Rebecca Boyles, Director of Marketing & Customer Care

SUBJECT: Customer Enrollment Update (Information)

DATE: January 20, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Receive the Customer Enrollment update as of January 12, 2022.

Attachment:

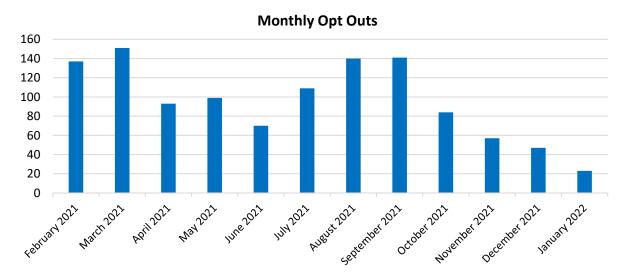
1. January 12, 2022 Customer Enrollment update

	Davis	Woodland	Winters	Yolo Co	Total	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Ag	NEM	Non-NEM
VCEA customers	27,977	20,540	2,540	10,750	61,807	53,771	6,081	7	1,860	10,827	50,980
Eligible customers	29,262	23,573	2,846	12,302	67,983	59,046	6,691	7	2,135	11,978	56,005
Participation Rate	96%	87%	89%	87%	91%	91%	91%	100%	87%	90%	91%

All Winters customers are now enrolled and are included in this table.

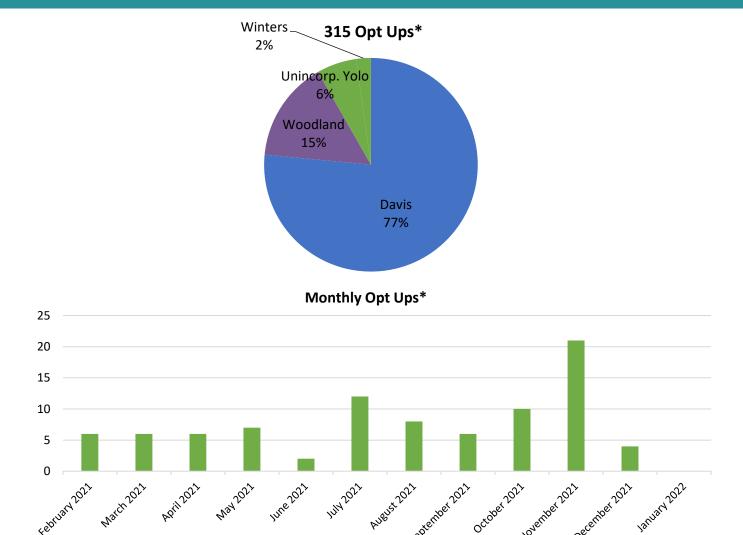
% of Load Opted Out

Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Ag	Total
10%	9%	0%	13%	10%

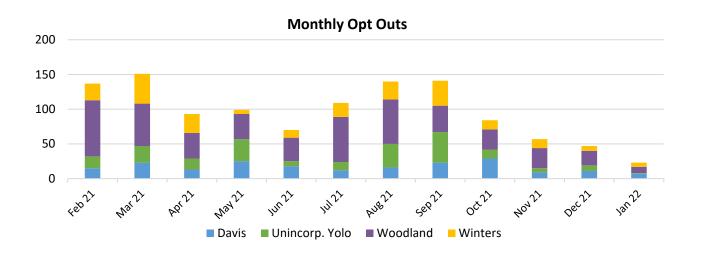


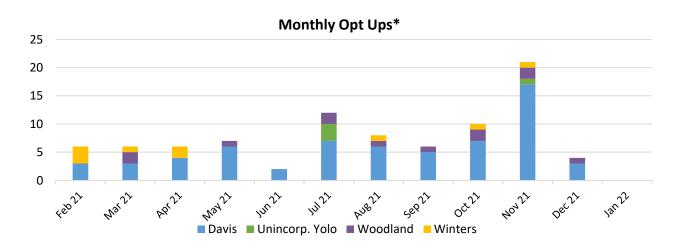


Status Date: 01/12/22



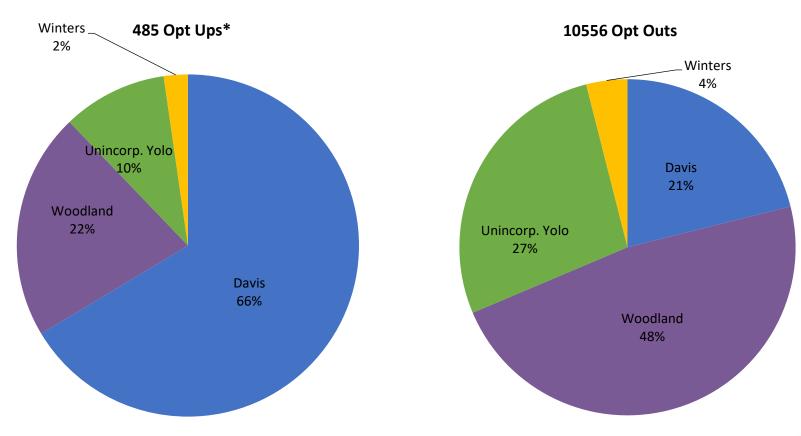
^{*} The numbers in the pie chart represent opt ups for customers who are currently enrolled. The numbers in the bar graph represent opt up actions taken regardless of current enrollment status.







^{*} These numbers represent all opt up actions ever taken regardless of current customer enrollment status.





^{*} These numbers represent all opt up actions ever taken regardless of current customer enrollment status.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 7

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

Edward Burnham, Director of Finance & Internal Operations

SUBJECT: Updated Cost-Based Rate Setting for 2022

DATE: January 20, 2022

RECOMMENDATIONS

Revise the November 2021 CAC recommendation to recommend that the VCE Board of Directors approve the following:

- Adopt customer rates for 2022 to match PG&E 2022 generation rates for all customer classes to cover VCE's FY 2022 budget expenditures and to achieve between 80-90 days cash reserves by the end of 2022;
- 2. Provide a 2.5% rate credit for CARE and FERA customers in 2022;
- 3. Conduct a mid-year rates review in Q2 2022 to assess rates forecast and determine the feasibility of providing additional rate credits for all customer classes during peak summer months in 2022 (June September.)

OVERVIEW

In November the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) approved a recommendation to the VCE Board regarding 2022 customer rates. The recommendation was based on the best available information for PCIA and PG&E rates for 2022 which projected a \$30M+ net position for VCE by the end of 2022. In late December updated information was provided in the CPUC proceeding that determines the 2022 PCIA and PG&E rates which results in a projected \$14M net position for VCE by the end of 2022. Note: since the CPUC is likely to order PG&E to amortize its rate increase over more than one year, part of the revenue projected in November is being deferred to 2023 resulting in lower projected revenue in 2022 but somewhat greater financial stability for VCE in 2023.

The purpose of this report is to update the CAC and allow for consideration of its November recommendation in light of the new information. Note: the CPUC is scheduled to make a final decision on January 27th, and as of the writing of this report, the proposed decision has not been released by the Commission. Although it is considered highly unlikely by CalCCA and VCE staff, It is possible that the CPUC will delay its decision further into 2022.

BACKGROUND

At its November 2021 meeting the CAC considered a staff recommendation for 2022 VCE customer rates. The recommendation was based on PG&E's November update for its 2022 Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) and Generation Rates. The PG&E filing was anticipated to be the final one before its 2022 PCIA and rates were finalized and implemented in January 2022.

In mid-December, in an unusual move, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) asked PG&E to submit options to spread its 2022 rate increase of over 30% over more than the normal 12-month period. PG&E filed these options in late December resulting in a range of a 27% rate increase over 24-months to a 33% increase over the normal 12-month period. In addition, the PCIA decrease for 2022 was revised from a -75% to a -59% based on incorporation of actual vs. projected value of PG&E's energy portfolio for October and November 2021.

On November 10, 2021 the Board adopted the following update to the VCE rates policy:

Cost-Based Rate Policy: VCE will set customer rates to collect sufficient revenue from participating customers to fully fund VCE's budget and establish sufficient operating reserve funds.

ANALYSIS

The CPUC is scheduled to finalize 2022 bundled rates inclusive of setting PCIA and Generation rates PG&E PCIA and rates at its January 27th meeting. The updated analysis and Staff recommendation shown above is based on the adopted rate policy and the best available information as of the writing of this report. Based on information from VCE and CalCCA's Analysts, VCE has incorporated the following assumptions in its updated financial forecasts for 2022 (assuming 2022 PG&E rates/PCIA are implemented on March 1, 2022):

- PCIA: 59% reduction over 2021 PCIA
 - Nov. projection: 75% reduction
- Generation rates: 27% increase in PG&E rates (note: the full 33% rate increase will be amortized over 24 months)
 - Nov. projection: 36% increase

Staff has updated VCE's financial model with these base assumptions for 2022. Based on previous discussions with the Board and CAC, Staff has run three scenarios to help inform the CAC's consideration of rate options for 2022, including:

- 1. Scenario 1 (Base Case): no modifications; all revenues directed to reserves.
- 2. Scenario 2 (Low Income/At-Risk* Credit): 2.5% rate credit for CARE/FERA customers; all other revenues directed to reserves.
- 3. Scenario 3 (Low Income/At-Risk* + Credit): 3.5% rate credit for CARE/FERA customers plus 1% rate credit for other customers; all other revenues directed to reserves.

Table 1 below shows the results of these three scenarios. Consistent with the adopted rate

^{*}Includes CARE/FERA and Medical Baseline customers

policy, staff is recommending that VCE set rates for 2022 at a level that will fully fund the 2022 budget, build back reserves that have been used over the past 18 months to stabilize customer rates, and provide a level of financial relief to VCE's low-income customers. Based on the updated information, Staff is recommending that VCE establish a target of 80-90 days cash reserve by the end of 2022. This would provide two key benefits: (1) increased financial stability while taking a significant step toward establishing an investment grade credit rating, and (2) preparing for future PCIA and power market volatility.

Table 1 – January 2022 Cost/Revenue Update

		Actuals		Actual YTD Oct. 31 (4 MO) + Forecast (2	Budget Scenarios	Preli	minary Forec	cast*
Scenario 1	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	CY2022	CY2023	CY2024	CY2025
Revenue	51,035	55,249	54,657	29,136	86,050	82,150	78,150	78,550
Power Cost	38,540	41,538	54,234	29,746	66,990	52,400	47,100	48,400
Other Expenses	3,850	4,346	4,267	2,350	5,105	5,140	5,269	5,400
Net Income	8,646	9,365	(3,844)	(2,961)	13,955	24,610	25,782	24,750
Scenario 2	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	CY2022	CY2023	CY2024	CY2025
Revenue	51,035	55,249	54,657	29,136	85,300	81,400	77,400	77,800
Power Cost	38,540	41,538	54,234	29,746	66,990	52,400	47,100	48,400
Other Expenses	3,850	4,346	4,267	2,350	5,105	5,140	5,269	5,400
Net Income	8,646	9,365	(3,844)	(2,961)	13,205	23,860	25,032	24,000
Scenario 3	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	CY2022	CY2023	CY2024	CY2025
Revenue	51,035	55,249	54,657	29,136	84,925	81,025	77,025	77,425
Power Cost	38,540	41,538	54,234	29,746	66,990	52,400	47,100	48,400
Other Expenses	3,850	4,346	4,267	2,350	5,105	5,140	5,269	5,400
Net Income	8,646	9,365	(3,844)	(2,961)	12,830	23,485	24,657	23,625

^{*} Notes: Revenues are highly subject to PG&E filings that impact generation rates and PCIA. Power costs are based of current forward market pricing that impact PPA values (cost reductions) and unhedged load costs. Red outline shows staff recommendation.

CAC November Recommendation

As noted, the November staff and CAC recommendations were based on information that changed. Staff is therefore recommending that the CAC revisit its November recommendation based on the updated information. For reference, the CAC November recommendation is shown below:

- Adopt customer rates for 2022 to match PG&E 2022 generation rates for all customer classes except CARE and FERA customers to cover VCE's FY 2022 budget expenditures and to achieve 120-150 days cash reserves by the end of 2022;
- Adopt a 2022 rates implementing procedure including the following:
 - a. Provide a 5% rate discount for CARE and FERA customers in 2022;
 - b. Direct staff to prepare an analysis of budget including an increase to 2022 renewable portfolio content percentage and return to CAC and Board in Q1/2 2022 with recommendations.
 - c. Direct staff to conduct a review of the VCE Dividend Policy and potential rate discounts including but not limited to:

- i. Providing a 5% rate discount for all customer classes during peak summer months in 2022 (June September.);
- ii. Providing an additional 5% rate discount for CARE and FERA customers during peak summer months (June September.);
- iii. Allocating additional funds for community program implementation; and,
- d. Return to CAC and Board in Q1/2 2022 with recommendations.

CONCLUSION

Overall, based on the best available information, staff believes its recommendation for VCE's 2022 customer rates is fiscally cautious and consistent with VCE's updated rates policy. The recommendation is designed to begin recovering reserves in 2022 with a built-in mid-year performance assessment to determine if costs/revenues are tracking with projections. Based on this mid-year assessment and financial performance, additional revenues could be allocated for customer credits.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 10

To: Community Advisory Committee

From: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

Rebecca Boyles, Director of Customer Care and Marketing Sierra Huffman, Program and Community Engagement Analyst

Subject: Update on VCE customer program development: Heat Pump Pilot Program

Date: January 20, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

None requested. Informational item.

BACKGROUND

Mid-2021, VCE began developing a Heat Pump Pilot Program within the context of a growing trend in home electrification programs available throughout the state. The shift in focus from traditional HVAC systems to Heat Pumps, alongside the availability of generous rebates for customers, motivated VCE to explore the most appropriate role its programs could fulfill. VCE is working to create a program that complements existing rebates and incentives, and from initial research and engagement, a key unfulfilled need could be providing Marketing, Education and Outreach (ME+O) to contractors, customers, and other key stakeholders such as realtors and HVAC manufacturers.

Staff believes that the emphasis on ME+O for the initial phase of this pilot is the best way to provide value while learning more about the intricacies of the heat pump landscape. After the conclusion of the initial ME+O phase, staff (with the assistance of the Programs Task Group, or PTG) will determine whether VCE can add value by designing and launching a complementary heat pump rebate pilot phase.

VCE's heat pump pilot will focus on Dual Fuel Heat Pumps (DFHP), as they are less expensive to install, highly efficient, and lead to the near elimination of greenhouse gas emissions from furnaces. A dual-fuel system is a type of heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) system that can switch between an electric heat pump and a gas furnace to maximize comfort and energy efficiency (i.e., the gas furnace is actually more efficient at space heating than the electric heat pump in very low temperatures).

Staff found that although large rebates are available to both contractors and customers for the installation of heat pumps, no contractors based in Yolo County are currently certified to provide them. VCE staff connected with Franklin Energy, the implementers of the Comfortable

Home Rebate (CHR) program and Energy Solutions, the managers of TECH Clean California Rebates (TECH), to facilitate working together to engage local contractors. This pilot could provide support to Yolo County-based contractors in becoming certified to provide rebates through both CHR and TECH. Staff could provide contractors with assistance for applications, developing web materials, and hosting webinars/in-person meetings.

VCE's heat pump program could engage customers by hosting webinars/in-person workshops, and connecting with customers through collateral such as web materials, social media, and printed information. Webinars/in-person workshops (similar to CoolDavis' "Make a Plan for a Clean Energy Home" workshop in which VCE participated in fall 2021) give customers the opportunity to connect with contractors and ask them questions, as well as cover topics on owning and operating a heat pump. Collateral would explain the benefits of heat pumps such as lowering gas bills, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improved indoor air quality. Subjects such as duct installation, building envelope, and heat pump best practices could be addressed to ensure negligible rises in a customer's electricity bills and ensure customer satisfaction.

The next steps in this pilot program's development are to receive and integrate CAC feedback; complete a Preliminary Program Design/Implementation Form; and present the Form to the CAC before requesting a recommendation for adoption to VCE's Board.

Financial Impact: Staff projects that this pilot program phase could be efficiently run with a budget of no more than \$15,000. The funds would primarily go toward collateral development and printing, and potentially for consultant support to help with paperwork and application assistance.

CONCLUSION

Staff is requesting that the CAC provide feedback on this informational item.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report - Item 11

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Formation of CAC Task Groups for 2022

DATE: January 20, 2022

At the CAC's December 16, 2021 meeting, Staff discussed with the CAC the formation of task groups for the 2022 calendar year. It was agreed that the Legislative/Regulatory, Outreach and Programs task groups will continue into 2022. There was discussion on rates, procurement, carbon neutrality and decarbonization. Also, it was agreed that a Rates task group and a decarbonization focused task group should formed. CAC members, along with Staff input and guidance from VCE's Strategic Plan (SP), were asked to draft charges and tasks for presentment to the CAC for discussion. This staff report transmits the draft charges and tasks:

- Legislative/Regulatory: works with VCE's lobbyist and VCE Staff to provide feedback, technical
 information and strategic advice on key legislative and regulatory issues facing VCE and the CCA
 community in general.
- 2. <u>Outreach:</u> collaborates with VCE Staff and consultants on community outreach to, and liaison with, member communities by assisting in the development of public information strategies, planning, and materials related to VCE policies and programs.
- 3. <u>Programs:</u> development, planning and implementation of Customer Programs that meet with VCE's mission and Strategic Plan.
- 4. <u>Rates:</u> assist staff, consultants and Board in reviewing, considering and evaluating existing and/or new rate options. Staff would like to discuss the timing of "activating" this task group.
- 5. <u>Proposed Energy Resilience:</u> work with VCE Staff, its member jurisdictions, and any other local collaborators to address challenges related to climate disruption, focusing on building local energy resilience.

Attachments:

- 1. Leg/Reg draft charge
- 2. Outreach draft charge
- 3. Programs draft charge
- 4. Rates draft charge
- 5. Proposed Energy Resilience draft charge

2022 LEG/REG TASK GROUP CHARGE

Review Draft

- A. Members: 2022 members to be added
- B. 20224 Charge:

Work with VCE's lobbyist and VCE staff 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, including legislation
 and regulatory issues related to VCE's Strategic Plan and Environmental Justice Statement.
- Provide periodic reports to the CAC about legislation and regulatory issues.
- Solicit recommendations from the CAC on VCE positions on key legislation and regulatory proceedings.
- Contribute to VCE's engagement with legislators and other stakeholders.
- Advise VCE staff on CalCCA's regulatory work where and when appropriate.
- Work with staff to consider options to enhance the Task Group's and CAC's understanding of regularoty proceedings.
- Contribute to VCE's engagement with legislators and other stakeholders.
- Work with staff to periodically review and update VCE's Legislative Platform for consideration by the CAC and VCE Board.



CAC 20221 Outreach Task Group Charge

Mark Aulman – Chair Marsha Baird Yvonne Hunter

Staff lead: Rebecca Boyles

Charge

Collaborate with VCEA staff and consultants on community outreach to, and liaison with, member communities

Assist in the development of public information strategies, planning, and materials related to VCEA policies and programs. As requested by staff, review draft materials and provide comments as appropriate

Specific Tasks

- 1. Consult with staff and Green Ideals on short-term and long-term outreach strategies and communications projects
- 2. Help define audience segments within VCE's service area and consult on appropriate messages and communications approaches
- 3. Provide a sounding board to assist in message development and copy testing
- 4. Review development procedures for marketing communications and public relations projects
- 5. Conduct review of marketing materials at the draft (pre-release) stage
- 6. Provide concise summaries of activities at the monthly CAC meetings
- 7. Assist with projects designed to implement the VCE Outreach and Marketing Plan with emphasis on environmental justice and the VCE Strategic Plan
- 8. As requested by the Director of Customer Care and Marketing, provide outreach and messaging support for the efforts of other CAC task groups, e.g., Programs TG and Rates TG.

Programs Task Group

CAC Members: TBD at 1/20/22 CAC meeting

VCE Staff Contact: Rebecca Boyles

2022 Charge: The CAC Programs Task Group will assist VCE Staff with development and planning of Customer Programs that are prioritized for implementation by the criteria outlined in the 3-year Programs Plan adopted by the Board in June 2021. Specifically, the Task Group will:

- (1) advise on program details and review program design/implementation forms for programs prioritized for implementation in 2022,
- (2) assist VCE Staff with updates to programs already in place,
- (3) collaborate with Staff on annual update to the 3-year Programs Plan,
- (4) assist Staff with finding and applying for external funding for upcoming programs,
- (5) have preliminary discussions with Staff on programs in line for implementation in 2023, and
- (6) provide summaries and updates at monthly CAC meetings on Task Group activities.

2022 Rate Options Task Group

Members

To be determined

Charge

Assist staff, consultants, and the Board as requested, when existing or new rate options are being considered and evaluated.

Help staff evaluate the impact of current and potential rate options on VCE customer responses and other energy choices.

Specific Tasks

- 1. Conduct CAC Rate Options Task Group meetings and expand participation to other interested CAC members or external experts, as needed.
- 2. Review rate-related financial analysis conducted by staff and consultants and provide staff with input and feedback.
- 3. Review proposed staff recommendations regarding rate options, including Net Energy Metering, and provide input and feedback.
- 4. Inform CAC on rate options and analyses reviewed by the Task Group.

Potential "Energy Resilience Task Group" for VCE CAC 2022

January 12, 2022

CAC Members:

To be determined.

VCE Staff Contact: Gordon Samuel

<u>Concept:</u> Form a TG to consider practical ways that VCE can work with its member jurisdictions and other local collaborators to address imminent challenges related to climate disruption. The TG would focus initially on how VCE could contribute to building local energy resilience, i.e., the capability to maintain electric service for essential community needs and functions during planned and unplanned power system outages.

Energy Resilience TG Charge:

Work with VCE staff and other potential collaborators to develop specific ideas and initiatives for providing energy resilience benefits for Yolo County people and communities while maintaining VCE's financial health and core responsibilities.

Ideas the TG could explore include:

- Ways VCE could advance carbon-free, resilient, microgrids to serve Yolo County communities as "resilience hubs" for emergency power during grid failure and clean energy supply under normal conditions.
- Something like the MCE battery program: Incentivize/assist customers to install on-site battery storage, which VCE could operate as a virtual power plant (VPP) during peak load hours, to reduce VCE's Resource Adequacy (RA) requirement and reduce impacts on distribution grid circuits (possible intersection with Programs TG).
- Convene representatives of all VCE member jurisdictions and other local entities to discuss energy resilience strategies for Yolo County.
- Other possibilities TBD.

<u>Strategic Plan:</u> Goal 4. Promote and deploy local decarbonization and grid innovation programs to improve grid stability, reliability, community energy resilience, and safety.

- 4.1 Objective: Working with a variety of local, regional and state partners, develop a grid innovation roadmap for VCE's service territory that supports community energy resilience and reliability.
- 4.2 Objective: Develop a VCE decarbonization roadmap to guide near and long-term program decisions and offerings.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 12

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager

Edward Burnham, Director of Finance & Internal Operations

SUBJECT: Preliminary discussion on Collections Policy

DATE: January 20, 2022

RECOMMENDATIONS

Information item. No action is requested.

OVERVIEW

The Collection Policy is intended to govern the collection of accounts receivable that are no longer being collected by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and are due to VCE. Collecting outstanding receivables can reduce past-due balances and reduce VCE's bad debt expense, thus reducing upward pressure on rates for all other customers.

BACKGROUND

VCE's charges appear on PG&E's bills and are collected by PG&E. During the ordinary course of business, PG&E returns outstanding receivable amounts due to VCE when PG&E is no longer required to collect. Examples of circumstances in which PG&E returns receivables to VCE include:

- accounts that are closed (move outs)
- a customer has been disconnected due to non-payment
- a customer is bankrupt
- active accounts with receivables more than ~180 days past due

In March 2020, PG&E suspended disconnections as part of the state mandate and increased the threshold for returning receivables to VCE for active accounts. Receivables associated with active accounts have not been returned to VCE by PG&E, though this practice and the disconnection process will resume in the near future. California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) extended the moratorium on disconnections to the end of September to align with the eviction moratorium and allow the utility debt forgiveness funding to work through the system before any disconnection process resumes. The CPUC also ordered those customers whose debt has not been forgiven to be placed on a two-year repayment plan.

ANALYSIS

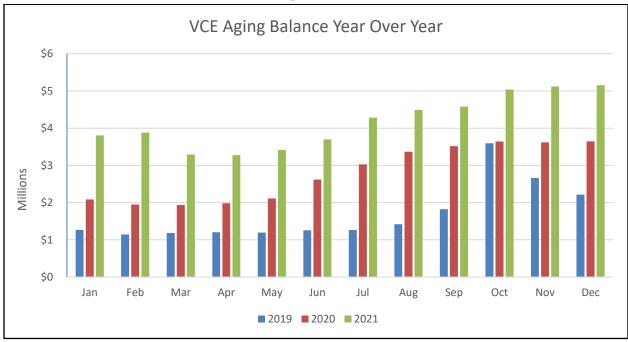
The CPUC policy decisions described above and collections by PG&E have resulted in an increase of \$1.4M for account balances greater than 120 days to \$2.9M, as shown in Table 1. below. VCE currently has a reserved balance of \$1.9M for uncollectable accounts, leaving a balance of approximately \$1.0M. The state has allocated \$1B in which VCE has received preliminary approval of over \$800K. The allocation of the funding by the state and the reserve account is helpful, but the lack of collections during COVID has cash impacts on the organization.

TABLE 1 Year Over Year - Aging Amounts by Days

Year	0 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	61 - 90 Days	91 - 120 Days	> 120 Days
2020	2,863,604	437,576	224,517	174,858	1,429,223
2021	3,095,400	1,071,500	656,100	786,700	2,892,900
Change	231,796	633,924	431,583	611,842	1,463,677

In addition to the impacts of COVID-19 on our account receivable balances, rising power costs have contributed to the amounts accumulated year over year. Chart 1 shows the year-over-year growth in receivables balances. The growing receivable balance is partly driven by delaying the annual true-up process of the receivables and the allowance of doubtful accounts. The delay was driven by the allocation from the funding from the state and planned with the Audit for FY2021-22 (6-Month).

CHART 1



To manage receivable balances effectively in the future, Staff has developed the draft collections policy. If adopted by the Board, Staff plans to establish and define internal collections processes in consultation with selected collection agent(s). Some of the issues that will be determined through the development of these operational processes include:

- Collections practices based on the total outstanding balance
- The minimum threshold below which it is not cost-effective to attempt to collect
- Conditions in which customer non-payment will be reported to a credit rating agency
- Criteria to identify customers experiencing hardship and are unable to pay in which VCE would not pursue collections for these accounts.

The customer accounts have been grouped below in Table 2 and Table 3 based on amounts and age that would be evaluated during the internal process development.

Bill Amount 0 - 30 Days 31 - 60 Days 61 - 90 Days 91 - 120 Days > 120 Days \$1,000> 302 133 75 45 518 \$100 - \$999 1,978 656 757 812 4,109 \$50 - \$99 3,838 1,635 2,067 1,744 1,735 \$25 - \$49 13,291 3,284 2,208 1,540 1,548 \$0 - \$24 27,118 7,994 2,734 1,664 3,235 Total 46,527 13,702 7,841 5,805 11,145

TABLE 2 – Quantity of Accounts - Aging by Days

TABLE 3 – Value of Accounts - Aging by Days

				0 0	•	
	Bill Amount	0 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	61 - 90 Days	91 - 120 Days	> 120 Days
	\$1,000>	1,449,600	586,000	237,900	81,600	1,339,800
	\$100 - \$999	564,900	181,000	161,600	149,900	1,339,100
	\$50 - \$99	250,700	108,300	144,600	123,200	124,800
	\$25 - \$49	458,900	117,300	81,400	56,800	55,800
	\$0 - \$24	371,300	78,900	30,600	375,200	33,400
	Total	3,095,400	1,071,500	656,100	786,700	2,892,900
г,						

Note: amounts listed the 0-30 days are currently due amounts and are normally paid in the normal course of monthly billing cycles.

VCE plans to contract with a collection agent or agents with experience collecting electric utility bills. VCE will evaluate potential collections agencies based on customer approach and financial effectiveness. Collections agencies that have demonstrated a customer-centric approach (e.g., displaying compassion and a helpful attitude toward customers in arrears) would be given preference. At present, customers whose receivables have been returned to VCE do not have charges appearing on a current PG&E bill, are not informed that they have outstanding balances with VCE, and are not offered a method to pay VCE charges. The collection agent would provide the following services:

- Inform customers of past due amounts owed to VCE consistent with the Fair Collections Practices Act and any other laws or regulations governing collections.
- Provide methods of payment and collect past due funds from customers
- Provide reporting of amounts collected and uncollectable balances to VCE and SMUD to accurately report accounts receivable balances
- Provide customer call center services and provide customers with final VCE charges

If approved by the Board, collection activity could begin in the second quarter of 2022 with the sending of pre-collections notices to customers whose accounts receivable have been returned by PG&E. Customer outreach strategy will be similar to sister CCAs:

- VCE's customer service representatives (CSRs) would receive training on VCE's collections policy and be given direction to handle collections questions with extreme sensitivity.
- VCE's Late Payment Notification would be appropriately branded and give clear direction to customers on how they can resolve their late payments.
- The Late Payment Notification and CSR training will reference the financial resources available to customers, including programs such as payment plans available through PG&E, the Arrearage Payment Plan, and the California Arrearage Payment Plan.

CONCLUSION

If adopted, the proposed Collections Policy is expected to have a positive fiscal impact and reduce any additional impairment by reducing accounts receivable and bad debt expense and increasing cash receipts.

Attachment:

1. Collections Policy Draft

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY DRAFT COLLECTIONS POLICY

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

a. This policy establishes Valley Clean Energy (VCE) rules governing late payment and precollection notifications to customers, and the process by which a third-party collection agent will collect past due VCE charges on VCE's behalf.

II. COLLECTIONS

- a. All customers must pay all outstanding VCE charges for the period in which the customer received service from VCE.
 - i. Customers should be returned to Investor Owned Utility (IOU) services for account balances greater than 90 days and no payment plan arrangements with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E).
 - 1. Customers that fail to remain current with payment plans will be returned to IOU services.

b. Late Payment Notifications

- i. Customers may be sent additional late payment notice to a customer's last known mailing address or if customer consented to receive electronic notices or electronic bills, at customer's last known e-mail address if the account has a VCE balance that is 90 days or more past due and the customer is not on a payment arrangement with PG&E.
- ii. Late payment notices will indicate that an outstanding balance is overdue and that failure to pay VCE charges to PG&E or to enter a payment arrangement with PG&E may result in being referred to a collection agent designated by VCE.

c. Collections Criteria

- Except as provided in Section b.ii, any customer account with an outstanding VCE charge that is not subject to collection by PG&E may be referred for collections to a collection agency designated by VCE.
- ii. Customers enrolled in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA), or Medical Baseline programs at the time PG&E returns a receivable to VCE are not subject to the collections criteria in Section c.i. if the balance is \$500 or less.

d. Pre-Collection Notification

i. Any customer account that meets the collections criteria specified in Section II.c. may receive a pre-collection notice informing the customer that charges owed to VCE are outstanding and that the customer's account is collectible through a collection agent designated by VCE.

e. Collection Agent

- i. VCE may engage one or more collection agents to collect past due funds from VCE customers on VCE's behalf (Collection Agent).
- ii. Once VCE sends a customer account to the Collection Agent, the customer must work directly with the Collection Agent to resolve outstanding charges owed.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY DRAFT COLLECTIONS POLICY

- iii. The Collection Agent retained by VCE shall comply with all laws and regulations relating to consumer protection, credit reporting or monitoring, debt collections, customer confidentiality, or other similar laws or regulations.
- iv. The Collection Agent is prohibited from selling information provided by VCE to the Collection Agent.
- v. On no less than an annual basis, VCE shall review the practices and results of the Collection Agent and shall take immediate action to address any performance concerns.
- vi. VCE may authorize the Collection Agent to reach settlements with customers that result in the recovery of past due funds. Negotiated settlements with a customer in the amount of \$2,500 or more must be approved by the Interim General Manager or the Interim General Manager's designee. Negotiated settlements with a customer in excess of \$50,000 original balance must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- vii. No VCE interest, penalties, or fees will be assessed on any customer account.
- viii. If customer has not paid within 180 days following the initiation of the collections process, the Collection Agent may file credit reporting information on the customer with all applicable credit monitoring agencies.
- ix. Collections Agent is authorized to pursue legal action on behalf of VCE consistent with the Fair Collections Practices Act and any other laws or regulations governing collections.
- f. Executive Director Discretion.

The Interim General Manager or the Interim General Manager's designee may, in their discretion, cancel, recall an account from the Collection Agent, or otherwise deviate from the collection process specified in this policy for reasons including but not limited to cases of unforeseeable events, exigent circumstances, or customer hardship for amounts less than \$2,500.

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 13

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Board and CAC 2022 Long Range Calendar

DATE: January 20, 2022

Please find attached the 2022 Board and Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Long Range Calendar listing upcoming meetings and proposed topics for discussion.

The CAC's November and December 2022 meetings need to be moved due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The proposal is to schedule them for the 3rd Thursday for the following dates:

- November 17, 2022
- December 15, 2022

Please advise.

Thereafter, a calendar invite will be sent out scheduling the 2022 CAC meetings.

Attachment:

1. 2022 Board and CAC Long Range Calendar

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY

2022 Meeting Dates and *Proposed* Topics – Board and Community Advisory Committee

MEETING DATE		TOPICS	ACTION
January 13, 2022 Special Meeting scheduled for January 27, 2022	Board WOODLAND	 Election of Officers for 2022 (Annual) Near-term Procurement Directives and Delegations for 2022 Power Procurement Activities Calendar Year Budget and 2022 VCE customer rates GHG Free Attributes 2022 Legislative Platform Receive CAC 2021 Calendar Year End Report (Annual) 2021 Year End Review: Customer Care and Marketing 	 Action Action Action Action Action Informational Informational
January 27, 2022 January 20, 2022	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Formation of CAC Task Groups Update on 2022 Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) and Rates Update on customer program development CC Power long duration storage (placeholder) Draft Collections Policy Draft Carbon Neutral report 	 Action Informational Informational Action: Recommendation to Board Informational/Discussion Discussion
February 10, 2022	Board DAVIS	 CC Power long duration storage (placeholder) Update on customer program development Update on 2022 PCIA and Rates Update on Time of Use (TOU) (placeholder) Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) Strategic Plan Update (Annual) Carbon Neutral Report 	 Action Informational Informational Informational Informational Informational Informational/Discussion
February 24, 2022	Advisory Committee DAVIS	 Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) 2022 Task Groups Tasks/Charge (Annual) Update on Time of Use (TOU) (placeholder) Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard Update 	InformationalDiscussion/ActionInformationalInformational

March 10, 2022	Board WOODLAND	 Presentment of customer program concept Draft Collection Policy Receive Enterprise Risk Management Report (Bi-Annual) Collections Policy Presentment of customer program concept Update on Time of Use (TOU) (placeholder) 	 Action: Recommendation to Board Action: Recommendation to Board Informational Discussion/Action Action Informational
March 24, 2022	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Update on Time of Use (TOU) (placeholder) Update on customer program concept 	Informational Informational
April 14, 2022	Board DAVIS	• 7/1/21 thru 12/31/21 Audited Financial Statements (James Marta & Co.)	• Action
April 28, 2022	Advisory Committee DAVIS	 2022 and 2023 Power Content Update Quarterly Strategic Plan update Presentment of customer program concept 	 Informational Informational Informational Action: Recommendation to Board
May 12, 2022	Board WOODLAND	 Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) Presentment of customer program concept 	InformationalAction
May 26, 2022	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Power Planning 2023 / Renewable Content Update 3-Year Programs Plan Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 (placeholder) Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) 	Discussion/ActionInformationalInformationalInformational
June 9, 2022	Board DAVIS	 Re/Appointment of Members to Community Advisory Committee (Annual) Extension of Waiver of Opt-Out Fees for one year (Annual) Update 3-Year Programs Plan 	ActionActionInformational
June 23, 2022	Advisory Committee DAVIS	 Prioritizing types of energy (placeholder) Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 Update (placeholder) 	Discussion/ActionInformational

July 14, 2022	Board WOODLAND	Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 Update (placeholder)	Informational
July 28, 2022	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard update Legislative Bills update 	InformationalInformational
August 11, 2022	<mark>Board</mark> DAVIS	•	•
August 25, 2022	Advisory Committee DAVIS	•	•
September 8, 2022	Board WOODLAND	 Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) 2022 Operating Budget / RPS update Certification of Standard and UltraGreen Products (Annual) Enterprise Risk Management Report (Bi-Annual) 	InformationalInformationalActionInformational
September 22, 2022	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Legislative End of Session Update Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) Update on Customer Dividend and Programs Allocation 2023 Operating Budget 	InformationalInformationalInformationalInformational
October 13, 2022	<mark>Board</mark> DAVIS	 Update on 2023 draft Operating Budget Customer Dividend and Programs Allocation report 	InformationalAction
October 27, 2022	Advisory Committee DAVIS	 Update on Power Content Label Customer Mailer Review Draft Committee Evaluation of Calendar Year End (Annual) Strategic Plan update 	InformationalInformational / DiscussionInformational
November 10, 2022	Board WOODLAND	 Certification of Power Content Label (Annual) Preliminary 2023 Operating Budget (Annual) 	Action Informational
November 24, 2022 (Thanksgiving holiday. Would like to	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Finalize Committee Evaluation of Calendar Year End (Annual) Review draft revised Procurement Guide (placeholder)(Annual) 	Discussion/ActionAction: Recommendation to Board

reschedule for the 3 rd Thursday of the month to Thursday, November 17, 2022)		 FY22/23 Operating Budget / RPS update Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard Update Review CAC Charge (tentative) (Annual) 	InformationalInformationalDiscussion / Action
December 8, 2022	<mark>Board</mark> DAVIS	 Approve 2023 Operating Budget (Annual) Receive Enterprise Risk Management Report (Annual) Approve revised Procurement Guide (placeholder)(Annual) Enterprise Risk Management Report (Annual) FY22/23 Operating Budget / RPS update Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) Receive CAC 2022 Calendar Year End Report (Annual) Election of Officers for 2023 (Annual) 	 Action Informational Action Informational Informational Informational Informational Nominations
December 22, 2022 (Approaching Christmas holiday weekend. Would like to reschedule for the 3 rd Thursday of the month to December 15, 2022)	Advisory Committee DAVIS	 2023 CAC Task Group(s) formation (Annual) Election of Officers for 2023 (Annual) Revise CAC Charge (tentative) (Annual) Update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo (placeholder) 	 Discussion/Action Nominations Discussion / Action Informational
January 12, 2023	Board WOODLAND	 Oaths of Office for Board Members (Annual if new Members) Approve Updated CAC Charge (tentative) (Annual) Update on Customer Rate/Policy Structure Implementation 	ActionActionInformational
January 26, 2023	Advisory Committee WOODLAND	 Update on Customer Rate/Policy Structure Implementation Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard Update Strategic Plan update 	InformationalInformationalInformational

Note: CalCCA Annual Meeting typically scheduled in November