



MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

City of Davis Conference Room

(located inside Community Chambers building)

23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California 95616

Chair Athalye established that there was a quorum present and opened the Community Advisory Committee of Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, December 18, 2025 beginning at 5:01 p.m., held at the City of Davis Conference Room located inside the Community Chambers building at 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California 95616.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Rahul Athalye (Cahir), Keith Taylor (Vice Chair), Lorenzo Kristov, Mark Aulman, David Springer, Cynthia Rodriguez, Ari Halberstadt

Committee Members Absent: Danielle Ballard, Diccon Westworth

Welcome Chair Athalye welcomed everyone and moved into the public comment period.

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

Item 3: Task Group and VCE Staff Reports Programs & Outreach: VCE Staff Rebecca Kuczynski informed those present that the Task Group met to review general updates, including the status of the SHELF grant, and worked on the 2025 Year-end report.

Legislative & Regulatory: VCE Staff Yvonne Hunter reported that Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group (PPG) informed the Task Group on the changes in the legislative session, budgets and regulatory issues. The Task Group worked on the 2025 Year-end report.

Local Energy: CAC Member Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that there was nothing to report at this time, but that the draft Charge is on tonight's Agenda.

VCE Staff Report: VCE Staff Edward Burnham informed those present that at the Board's December meeting, VCE Customer 2026 generation rates were adopted and the 2026 Operating budget was approved. In addition, the Board accepted large hydro and nuclear 2026 Greenhouse Gas Free (GHG) allocations from PG&E. Staff reported that VCE has submitted a Microgrid Incentive Grant application for the Esparto area to PG&E. Lastly, Chad Curran, VCE's Director of Power Services, introduced himself since there were a few CAC members who have not met him yet.



Agenda

Consent Items 4 and 5	Cynthia Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items, seconded by Ari Halberstadt. Motion passed with Danielle Ballard and Diccon Westworth absent. The following items were: 4. approved November 20, 2025 meeting Minutes; and 5. received 2025 and 2026 Long Range Calendar.
Item 6: Review and approved CAC Draft 2025 Task Group Year-end Reports. (Discussion/Action)	Chair Athalye announced that if the Year-end reports are approved, the Board Clerk will provide the reports to the Board at their February 2026 meeting. Mr. Kristov provided a brief overview of the draft Legislative & Regulatory Task Group 2025 year-end report. It was suggested that in the upcoming year, that legislative issues related to VCE and other Community Choice Aggregates (CCAs) be summarized for VCE customers on social media and/or the website. This was suggested in an effort to bring attention to issues being discussed in the CCA community. CAC Member Mark Aulman provided a brief overview of the draft Programs & Outreach Task Group 2025 year-end report. He noted that this Task Group is busy providing input to Staff on programs and enhancing communications to VCE's customers. He commented that this Task Group could use more membership from the CAC. Mr. Burham provided highlights of the draft Strategic Plan 2025 year-end report. Updates to the Strategic Plan line up with the off years of the Integrated Resource Plan scheduled updates. Mr. Aulman informed those present that the Bioenergy Task Group has been dormant for the past several months. He highlighted that information was gathered and distributed on various bioenergy products. The Task Group will not be reactivated until the Board and/or VCE Staff ask for advisory information.
	There were no written or verbal public comments.
	Lorenzo Kristov made a motion to approve the 2025 Task Group Year-end Reports with one correction to the Programs & Outreach Year-end report changing the year from 2024 to 2025, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed with Ballard and Westworth absent.



Item 7: Discuss and review draft CAC Local Energy Task Group “Charge”. (Discussion/Action) Mr. Kristov briefly reviewed the draft Local Energy Task Group “Charge”. Input was provided by the other CAC Members and Staff. Mr. Kristov informed those present that a final draft Charge will be provided to the CAC for their review along with the other draft Task Group Charges at the CAC’s January 22, 2026 meeting. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 8: Formation of 2026 CAC Task Groups. (Discussion/Action) The CAC briefly discussed the formation of Task Groups for the 2026 year reminding those present that the Local Energy Task Group was formed at the CAC’s October 2025 meeting. The CAC agreed to reaffirm the Legislative and Regulatory and Programs and Outreach Task Groups for 2026. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Chair Athalye made a motion to approve the formation of the Legislative & Regulatory and Programs & Outreach Task Groups for 2026, seconded by Ari Halberstadt. Motion passed with Ballard and Westworth absent.

The following CAC Members wish to serve on the following Task Groups:

- Legislative & Regulatory: Lorenzo Kristov, Rahul Athalye, and Ari Halberstadt
- Programs & Outreach: Mark Aulman, David Springer and Diccon Westworth
- Local Energy: Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Keith Taylor, Diccon Westworth and Ari Halberstadt

Board Clerk Alisa Lembke will send out an email to the CAC Members informing them of the Task Groups formed, which Task Groups are available to participate in, and ask the Task Groups to submit a draft 2026 Charge for the CAC’s January 22, 2026 meeting. Ms. Lembke informed the CAC that draft Charges will be due on Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

Item 9: Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026. (Discussion/Action) There were no written or verbal public comments.

Rahul Athalye made a motion to nominate Keith Taylor to serve as Chair for 2026, seconded by Ari Halberstadt. Motion passed with Keith Taylor abstaining and Ballard and Westworth absent.

Keith Taylor made a motion for Rahul Athalye to serve as Vice Chair for 2026, seconded by Cynthia Rodriguez. Motion passed with Rahul Athalye abstaining and Ballard and Westworth absent.



Item 10: Advisory Committee Member and Staff Announcements

Mr. Kristov informed those present that the town of Pescadero applied for an MIP grant. He will forward an article to the Board Clerk for distribution. He announced that the ACWA (Association of California Water Agencies) recently held their annual meeting. He found out that they have an Energy Committee that discussed have microgrids on water facility sites. And, Mr. Kristov informed those present that SMUD's Cayote Creek Project will remove approximately 4,000 Oak Trees. Mr. Kristov will forward the article to the Board Clerk for distribution.

Chair Keith Taylor informed those present that UC Davis will be hosting another cooperative conference in early Spring 2026, similar, but larger than the conference held in November 2025. Chair Taylor informed those present that electric cooperatives have been invited to attend.

Item 11: Announcement and Adjournment to Next Meeting

The CAC has scheduled their next meeting for Thursday, January 22, 2026 at the City of Woodland Council Chambers located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst