



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
City of Davis CONFERENCE ROOM
(inside Community Chambers building)
23 Russell Boulevard, 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, June 27, 2024 beginning at 5:03 p.m., held at the City of Davis Conference Room located inside the Community Chambers building at 23 Russell Boulevard, California 95616.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Raul Athalye (Chair), Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, Jennifer Rindahl, Cynthia Rodriguez, Diccon Westworth, Danielle Ballard

Committee Members Absent: Keith Taylor (Vice Chair), David Springer, Ari Halberstadt

Welcome Chair Athalye welcomed everyone and congratulated those members who have been reappointed and Ari Halberstadt and the newest CAC member Ari Halberstadt representing the City of Davis. Chair Athalye announced that VCE are still seeking candidates for the Yolo County CAC seat.

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

Brief Task Group and VCE Staff Reports **Task Group Reports:**
Legislative/Regulatory: Per Lorenzo Kristov the Task Group has not met. Per VCE Staff Yvonne Hunter Staff have been monitoring and analyzing the State Budget. Mr. Kristov noted that many of the DER related bills are not moving forward, but Senate Bill (SB) 1374 (Net Energy Metering) for multiple-meters/sharing is headed to the Assembly Energy Committee.

Programs & Outreach: Per Mark Aulman, the Task Group has not met due to schedule conflicts. Nothing to report at this time.

Staff Report: VCE Chief Operating Officer Gordon Samuel, introduced Catherine Rowan, our intern, to the CAC Members. He reminded those present that the CAC will not have a meeting in July and the Board will not meet in August. The CAC's next meeting will be in August.



Consent Items

There were no written or verbal public comments as identified above. Jennifer Rindahl made a motion to approve the Consent agenda item, seconded by Lorenzo Kristov. Motion passed with Aulman and Westworth abstaining and Taylor, Springer, and Halberstadt absent. The following items were:

4. approved May 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes; and,
5. received Board Staff Report on supporting Energy Resources Program Account (ERPA) proposed budget trailer bill.

Regular Agenda

Mr. Samuel requested that Item 10 of the Regular Agenda be addressed first on the Regular Agenda, then the remaining Agenda items are to follow in their order.

Item 10: Review, provide feedback and approve 2024 CAC biomass Task Group draft Charge. (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Samuel reminded those present that the CAC had formed a Biomass Task Group at their last meeting. He informed those present that he is looking to broaden the name to the Bioenergy Task Group as indicated on the title of the draft Charge. The thought is that broadening it to bioenergy will allow the Task Group to explore all forms of bioenergy to formulate a position. Staff are looking for input from the CAC members on the draft Charge. Staff and the CAC discussed: conversion methods, initiating sites, different fuel sources with different emissions, benefits and liabilities of different sources, and whether there is an economic benefit to farmers. There were a few suggestions made to the draft. There were no written public comments.

Verbal Public Comment: Chris Granger of Cool Davis and also serving as an advisor to the Yolo County Climate Action Commission provided a verbal public comment that the Yolo County Climate Action Commission process has created great content on the natural working lands. And, the Technical Advisory Committee to the Commission has content as well. She suggested that these lists may be useful to the Task Group.

Jennifer Rindahl made a motion to approve the Bioenergy Task Group Charge as amended, seconded by Diccon Westworth. Motion passed with Taylor, Springer, and Halberstadt absent.

Item 6: Received 2024 Summer preparedness presentation. (Information)

Mr. Samuel introduced Jaclyn Harr of The Energy Authority who will be presenting a few slides. Mr. Samuel informed those present that this item is to provided information on how well VCE is prepared for Summer as well as the broader grid, when the most load is on the electric system. Ms. Harr provided a summary of CAISO and VCE Summer readiness by highlighting average to above average temperatures, power needs, including imports, and meeting hedging procurement requirements and load. She reviewed July, August and September weather forecasts across the United States; reviewed California’s seasonal water shortage; CAISO’s analysis of 2024 September supply and demand by the hour; and, reviewed VCE’s Summer energy position.



The CAC discussed: liquidated damages as a supply resource, hedging, load shifting and education, and demand response. There were no written public comments.

Verbal Public Comment: Chris Granger from Cool Davis emphasized that demand response and education of Customers along with getting the word out of the numerous energy efficiency programs that are available to assist Customers with making changes and improvements to their homes.

Item 7: Receive Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard update. (Information)

Mr. Samuel provided update on VCE's projects, how those projects are performing and VCE's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) position. He reviewed the expected and monthly generation of energy and comparing 2023 and 2024 from Aquamarine solar, Indian Valley hydro, Resurgence solar plus battery storage, Putah Creek solar plus battery storage, and Willy 9 Chaparral 2 solar plus battery storage. Mr. Samuel reviewed forecasted information for compliance period 4.

The CAC and Staff discussed: options for other "filler" resources rather than gas generation, prices, distribution of energy between commercial and residential, load, and, curtailment. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 8: Discuss and provide feedback on VCE Renewable Energy Credits. (Discussion)

Ms. Harr reviewed VCE Staff recommendation to provide feedback on VCE Renewable Portfolio optimization. Mr. Samuel reminded those present that last year a presentation was provided to the CAC on the different categories of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs). Ms. Harr informed those present that VCE is contemplating the selling some of VCE's excess renewable energy RECs with VCE retaining the renewable resources towards VCE's portfolio. Excess RECs are above the State targets, VCE's adopted goals for 2025, and compliance requirements. Three (3) options on selling PCC-1 category surplus attributes were presented for illustrative purposes. Ms. Harr noted that the profit from the sale of RECs will be used to fund other procurement needs in VCE's portfolio. Mr. Samuel is asking for the CAC's input and feedback on the idea of selling RECs rather than selecting a specific option, and if there are suggested boundaries around this topic.

The CAC and Staff discussed: REC buyers; market price, penalties, and longevity; surplus and retirement; load shift; revenue and financial benefits; the effects of resources coming online; and, VCE's renewable resource targets for the upcoming years. There were no written public comments.

Verbal Public Comment: Chris Granger of Cool Davis commented that the focus is on the Renewable Portfolio Standard rather than creating a revenue stream; however, possibly the sale could contribute to battery storage resources thereby keeping the renewable resources locally.



The CAC supports an approach that monetizes RECs as long as VCE remains at or above RPS compliance requirements.

Item 9: Review, provide feedback, and support the concept of a collaborative effort with Cool Davis. (Discussion / Action)

VCE Staff Yvonne Hunter presented a summary of the draft Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with Cool Davis, a Davis non-profit organization dedicated to recreating community resiliency using strategies that reduce GHG emissions and help others adapt to climate change. The MOU formalizes the relationship between VCE and Cool Davis of working together to accomplish shared goals. VCE Staff are seeking feedback and a recommendation from the CAC for the Board to approve the MOU. Chris Granger, Executive Director of Cool Davis, informed those present that many of their goals align with VCE's and Cool Davis recently completed their Strategic Plan, which includes expanding their resources to other communities. The CAC provided some comments and support the idea of a more formal relationship. The CAC also encouraged the collaboration to support outreach and resources for low income and disadvantaged communities within VCE's territory. It was requested that the draft MOU be provided to the Outreach and Programs Task Group for their information. There were no verbal or written public comments.

A motion was made by Diccon Westworth to support the idea of a more formal relationship with Cool Davis and recommend to the Board that they support Staff proceeding with the effort. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion passed with Taylor, Springer, and Halberstadt absent.

Item 11: Receive 2024 Long Range Calendar.

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

Item 12: Advisory Committee Member and Staff Announcements.

There were no announcements from the CAC or Staff. Mark Aulman reminded those present to review and provide their public comments on the Yolo County 2030 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), comments are due on July 10, 2024. Staff were asked to circulate a link to the CAAP.

Adjournment to Next Meeting

The July 25, 2024 meeting has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, August 22, 2024 at the City of Davis Conference Room, located in the Community Chambers building located at 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California 95616. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst