



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 5:00 a.m.
City of Davis Conference Room
(inside Community Chambers building)
23 Russell Blvd., Davis, California 95616**

Chair Athalye established that there was a quorum present and opened the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) of Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, August 28, 2025 beginning at 5:00 p.m., held at the City of Davis Conference Room, inside Community Chambers building, located at 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California 95616.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Rahul Athalye (Chair), Keith Taylor (Vice Chair), Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Jennifer Rindahl, Danielle Ballard, Diccon Westworth, Ari Halberstadt, Cynthia Rodriguez

Committee Members Absent: None

Welcome Chair Rahul Athalye welcomed everyone and reminded everyone that VCE is still seeking candidates to fill the unincorporated 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 VCE staff Report

Task Group Reports:

1. Legislative & Regulatory – Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that the legislative session will end on September 12th and then the first year of the legislative session will begin. He provided updates on several legislative bills; reported that the Task Group is monitoring Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) and the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).
2. Bioenergy – Mark Aulman informed those present that this Task Group is on hiatus until the vacant Chief Operating Officer position has been filled.
3. Outreach & Programs – VCE Staff Rebecca Kuczynski reported that the Task Group continues to review Phase 2 of the Electric Vehicle program.
4. Strategic Plan – On the Regular agenda is the major update to the Strategic Plan. Nothing else to report.

Staff Report: VCE Chief Executive Officer Mitch Sears announced that VCE is currently seeking candidates for the Chief Operating Officer position. He announced that VCE Staff Edward Burnham will be the primary staff person for the CAC. VCE is expanding its Electric Advisor program services to business customers starting with working with the VCE member jurisdictions (County and Cities) and has brought on Chris Cole, a SMUD senior energy advisor to assist with the outreach, analysis, and recommendations. Mr. Sears announced that “prepaid savings” began with July 2025



Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) invoices; and, VCE Staff along with its consultants are continuing to analyze Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) projections. He informed those present that CC Power's long duration storage project is moving forward with an anticipated operational date by second quarter of 2026. Mr. Sears announced that VCE's website has been updated and revamped; and that several events which VCE is participating in: 1) Drive Electric week in Davis at the end of September, 2) Salmon Festival in Winters in November, and 3) the Winters and Woodland Farmers Markets this weekend.

Agenda

Consent Items

There were no written or verbal public comments as identified above. Mark Aulman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items, seconded by Diccon Westworth. Motion passed with Danielle Ballard abstaining. The following items were:

4. approved June 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes;
5. received Customer Participation update (2nd Quarter 2025); and,
6. received 2025 Long Range Calendar.

Item 7: Seeking feedback and recommendation on Major update of VCE's Strategic Plan for 2026-2029. (Discussion/Action)

VCE Staff provided an overview and background of updating the VCE's Strategic Plan; reiterated that Staff incorporated comments and feedback from the Strategic Plan Tsk Group, CAC from prior meetings, input from workshop participants from the public, and results from customer surveys. The draft major update emphasizes affordability, energy resilience, incorporating additional local distributed energy resources into VCE's resource mix, and affirming commitment and focus on low-income and other vulnerable customers.

The CAC discussed several topics with Staff, such as: definitions of renewable, carbon-free, and local energy; measurement of energy; solar and battery storage programs for customers; rate redesign; development of strategies; and, the role of energy efficiency and transportation. The CAC asked that some minor corrections be made to the draft major update. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Motion made by Lorenzo Kristov for the CAC to recommend to the Board that they adopt the Major update with minor corrections of VCE's Strategic Plan for 2026-2029, seconded by David Springer. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Taylor, Aulman, Kristov, Springer, Rindahl, Westworth, Halberstadt, Ballard, Rodriguez, Athalye
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None



Item 8 – Introduction and discussion of Large Electric Load Policy. (Discussion)

Mr. Sears introduced VCE’s consultant Don Dame who was present for the meeting. Mr. Dame introduced himself and gave a brief background on his experience and work with VCE Staff on drafting a Large Electric Load (LEL) Customer Service Policy. Mr. Sears reiterated the need for a LEL Customer Service Policy; issues/opportunities of such a policy; and, VCE’s request for discussion and input from the CAC.

The CAC and Staff discussed: the needs of large load customers; cost implications to all customers; possible effects on VCE’s services; principles of the draft policy; how other CCAs and IOUs are addressing and handling large load customers and the demands of providing large amount of power; the effects of large load business facilities; potential impacts to the power grid; the definition of a large load customer; possible agreement structure between a LEL customer and VCE; and, possible cost implications to VCE of providing power to large load customers.

There were no verbal or written public comments. The CAC requested that the discussion on a draft LEL Customer Service Policy be continued to the next CAC meeting. Chair Athalye asked CAC Members to email their questions and/or comments to Mr. Sears. At this time, the CAC is not ready to make a recommendation to the Board.

Item 9: Advisory Committee Member and Staff Announcements

There were no announcements by the CAC members or VCE Staff.

Adjournment to Next Meeting

The CAC has scheduled their next meeting for Thursday, September 25, 2025 at the City of Woodland Council Chambers located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst