



POWER UP *with* VCE!

Valley Clean Energy Newsletter, Winter 2020

Here's what's happening:

- [VCE Purchases Local Renewables](#)
- [6,000 Megawatts of New Renewable Energy in California](#)
- [SMUD Loan Repayment](#)
- [VCE Welcomes Winters](#)
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Accomplishments



VCE Purchases Local Renewables

Valley Clean Energy is entering into two local power purchase agreements (PPAs), making good on our promise to solicit local renewables to supply up to 25% of its targeted 2030 renewable goal of 80%. These two projects will satisfy over 40% of this target.

VCE's PPA with Putah Creek Solar Farms LLC in Winters will procure 3 megawatts (MW) of solar co-located with a battery energy storage system in Yolo County. Another PPA, with Gibson Renewables LLC near Esparto in Madison, will procure 20 MW of solar combined with a battery energy storage system. Both projects are "pollinator friendly," with extensive plantings that will attract pollinators such as bees and monarch butterflies.

These two projects (Putah Creek Energy Farm & Gibson Solar) contribute 10% towards the Yolo County Climate Action Plan 2021 carbon reduction goals and will meet nearly 10% of VCE's load.

Planned educational uses at the Putah Creek facility include research to identify sustainable planting under solar arrays for agricultural and power production purposes. Owners and operators are multi-generational Winters residents and farmers (Martinez Orchards, Inc.), since 1956, with over 500 acres of active agricultural crops across Yolo County that support dozens of local jobs.

Accomplishments



Living up to our Fiscal Responsibilities

Just 2.5 years after launch, VCE has already made its final installment to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) for their assistance with operating services during our launch. The \$1.5 million in deferred charges and interest were paid off right on schedule.

This is the second of VCE's financial commitments that have been well met—the first included seed loans from its 3 founding jurisdictions of Davis, Woodland, and Yolo County, which were repaid years ahead of schedule.

Accomplishments

Community Choice is Working in California!

CCAs are expected to supply 36% of the electricity load in the state by 2022, according to the latest annual report of the California Community Choice Association in November.

VCE is one of 23 operational Community Choice programs in the state, which have collectively contracted for over 6,000 megawatts of NEW renewable energy. Forty-six percent of the new solar projects include storage. We couldn't be prouder! And we couldn't have done it without YOU.

Over 10 million customers served by the California Community Choice programs are driving up the demand for renewables. That's why more renewable energy projects are being built close to home, and hundreds of jobs are being created to build and support them.

It's good news for the environment, for green jobs, and for better health now and for our kids.

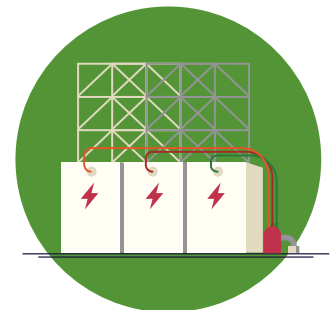
YOU are helping us create a clean energy future!



3,680 Megawatts
New Solar Panels



1,030 Megawatts
New Wind turbines



1,120 Megawatts
New Energy Storage



14 Megawatts
New Geothermal



7 Megawatts
New Biogas

Accomplishments



Welcome, Winters Customers!

Just weeks from now, on January 1st, Winters will join Davis, Woodland and unincorporated Yolo County in receiving electricity from VCE, with an immediate increase in the amount of renewables in their electricity. Our competitive pricing means that PG&E rates will be matched.

Residential and commercial customers will be enrolled in January, unless they have solar panels. Solar customers will roll in during their PG&E true-up month to ensure against the loss of any generation credits they may have accrued. The Winters City Council voted unanimously to join VCE last year and we're so excited to be officially "flipping the switch."

As you know, that means that every VCE electricity customer in Winters will have cleaner, greener electricity without paying any more than they have been.

So many people talk about wanting to make a difference on climate, but they don't know where to start. Now Winters customers, just like most of Yolo County, will be able to make a difference without having to do a thing.

If you're able to make a greater effort, please opt up to our 100% renewable, carbon-free UltraGreen service. It costs just 1.5 cents more per kWh, and will virtually eliminate your carbon footprint from electricity use. This is only about \$3-7 a month extra, depending on your usage.

Who knows? You may be in the UltraGreen Spotlight next quarter and realize your 5 minutes of fame!

News

New Leadership for the 2021 Board of Directors

Each calendar year brings fresh leadership to the VCE Board of Directors, as your elected officials continue to guide our not-for-profit agency on our collective path to a clean energy future.

Current Board Chair and Yolo Supervisor, **Don Saylor**, will be handing over the gavel after a year of excellent leadership. At our January 2021 Board meeting, we'll be swearing in our new Chair, **Dan Carson**, who is also a council member from the City of Davis. Council member Carson has been a member of VCE's Board of Directors for some time.

The position of Vice Chair will be assumed by **Jesse Loren**, the City of Winters Council member, and one of our newest Board members. Winters customers will join the program starting on January 1, 2021.



Dan Carson
City of Davis, Chair



Jesse Loren
City of Winters, Vice Chair

ultra green spotlight



Look Who's in the Spotlight!

Every day, you have a chance to opt up to UltraGreen, VCE's highest level of renewable service. It's completely renewable and carbon-free, and costs just a few dollars more each month for the average family.

Husband and Wife, **John Mott-Smith** and **Susan Sheldon** of Davis are basking in our sparkly green spotlight this quarter, having been carefully selected from recently opted-up customers in the VCE UltraGreen community. Their appreciation of the value of renewables is demonstrated by their rooftop solar array and by John's regular editorial column called "Per Capita" in the Davis Enterprise, which is ordinarily re-posted on the Cool Davis website. Susan is a well-known ceramic artist whose mural of Yolo

County life graces the entrance to the County Administration Building in Woodland. Another of her pieces is installed at the State Capitol.

When asked why they opted up to UltraGreen, here's what they told us:

"The UltraGreen option is a no-brainer! Thanks to Valley Clean Energy, for a very small additional cost anyone's electricity, whether with or without solar panels, can be produced 100 percent from renewables—and that puts a smile on our faces every time we think about it."

We couldn't agree more. And we so appreciate you, Susan and John, for spreading the word!

VCE Quarterly Mascot



He Could be Shadowing YOU!

Sweet-tempered Shadow is our Energy Mascot this quarter, happily sharing his tips on energy conservation. This orphaned 11-month old shepherd/pitbull mix plays catch with exuberance to keep his body temperature up, even in cool weather. He likes to use his doggie door, so the people door doesn't stay open too long. Shadow jumps at the chance to cool off by sticking his head out of a moving car window (but, confidentially, he prefers the quiet drive of EVs). Tops on his list is sleeping next to cuddly humans to conserve heat. Clever boy!

If this fun-loving, house-trained pup looks like someone you could love, consider giving him a forever home. Shadow is waiting for adoption by that perfect someone.

Please contact Pet Adoption and Wellness Services (PAWS) in Woodland for more information, at pawspetadoption.org. PAWS is a non-profit dedicated to rescuing homeless and abandoned animals, especially those who have been passed over by larger rescue groups. Because they're a small, all-volunteer group, PAWS needs your financial support. Please consider helping by adopting or donating.



Best wishes
FOR A **BRIGHT** HOLIDAY SEASON!

Your friends at Valley Clean Energy:
Mitch Sears, Gordon Samuel,
George Vaughn, Rebecca Boyles,
Alisa Lembke, Tessa Tobar

Happy Holidays!

As the holidays approach and the year comes to a close, we reflect on our many successes, and on the people who have inspired us to do all that we do.

It's because of you, our loyal and supportive customers, that Valley Clean Energy is encouraged to make such a big difference in our collective push for a clean energy future. Your kids and grandkids will grow up to enjoy cleaner air and a strong renewable energy infrastructure; you'll have been instrumental in making it possible. We're all in this together.

**All of us at VCE are wishing you the
happiest of holidays,
and a safe and healthy year ahead.**