



**AGENDA  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023  
1:00 P.M.**

---

EXCEPT AS PERMITTED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(F), MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE JULY 20, 2023, MEETING AT THE LOCATION SHOWN BELOW.

**SONOMA CLEAN POWER HEADQUARTERS  
431 E STREET  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404**

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING AT THE ABOVE PHYSICAL LOCATION OR REMOTELY THROUGH:

- Webinar link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89591222887>
  - Telephone number: 1 (669) 444-9171
  - Meeting ID: 895 9122 2887

How to Submit Public Comment When Participating Remotely:

The Chair will request public comment during the Public Comment period for all items on the agenda. Comments may be provided in person at the physical meeting location. Comments may be submitted in writing to [meetings@sonomacleanpower.org](mailto:meetings@sonomacleanpower.org) or during the meeting via the webinar "raise your hand" feature. For detailed public comment instructions, [please visit this page.](#)

For written comments, state the agenda item number that you are commenting on and limited to 300 words. Written comments received prior to the meeting and/or the agenda item you wish to comment on will be read into the record up to 300 words.

*DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires an accommodation or an alternative format, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (707) 757-9417, or by email at [meetings@sonomacleanpower.org](mailto:meetings@sonomacleanpower.org) as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.*

*Staff recommendations are guidelines to the Committee. On any item, the Committee may take action which varies from that recommended by staff.*

**CALL TO ORDER (Any private remote meeting attendance will be noticed or approved at this time)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

(Comments are restricted to matters within the Committee’s jurisdiction. Please be brief and limit spoken comments to three minutes, or 300 words if written.)

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve May 11, 2023, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (Staff Recommendation: Approve) **pg. 5**
2. Receive Geothermal Zone Update (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) **pg. 9**
3. Recommend that the Board Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute First Amendment to Contract with Frontier Energy, Inc. to add \$10,536 for an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$150,179 through August 30, 2023, to Close Out Remaining Projects with On-Bill Financing Agreements (Staff Recommendation: Approve) **pg. 13**
4. Review Resolution 2023-03 Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) **pg. 23**
5. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute an Agreement for Professional Services with Alternative Energy Systems Consulting, Inc. through December 31, 2024, with a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$118,000 to Provide Technical Assistance for Sonoma Clean Power’s Workplace Charging Research Project (Staff Recommendation: Approve) **pg. 29**
6. Recommend that the Board of Directors Authorize the CEO, or his Designee, to Execute a Contract with BlastPoint for New Data-Driven Customer Insights through June 30, 2024, with a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$176,000 (Staff Recommendation: Approve) **pg. 33**

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR**

7. Receive Internal Operations and Monthly Financial Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) **pg. 35**
8. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates, Provide Feedback and Recommend Positions to the Board on Bills as Appropriate (Staff Recommendation: Approve) **pg. 49**

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURN**

## COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS AND TERMS

CAC	Community Advisory Committee
CAISO	California Independent Systems Operator – the grid operator
CCA	Community Choice Aggregator – a public power provider
CEC	California Energy Commission
CleanStart	SCP’s default power service
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
DER	Distributed Energy Resource
ERRA	Energy Resource Recovery Account – one of PG&E’s rate cases at the CPUC
EverGreen	SCP’s 100% renewable, 100% local energy service, and the first service in the United States providing renewable power every hour of every day.
Geothermal	A locally available, low-carbon baseload renewable resource
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GRC	General Rate Case – one of PG&E’s rate cases at the CPUC
GridSavvy	GridSavvy Rewards are available to SCP customers for reducing household energy use when needed to help California ensure reliable low-emission power. A form of ‘demand response.’
IOU	Investor-Owned Utility (e.g., PG&E)
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan – balancing energy needs with energy resources
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
MW	Megawatt is a unit of power and measures how fast energy is being used or produced at one moment.
MWh	Megawatt-hour is a unit of energy and measures how much energy is used or produced over time.
NEM	Net Energy Metering. NEM is a billing mechanism that credits solar energy system owners for the electricity they add to the grid.
NetGreen	SCP’s net energy metering bonus
PCIA	Power Charge Indifference Adjustment – a fee charged by PG&E to all electric customers to ensure PG&E can pay for excess power supply contracts that it no longer needs.
RA	Resource Adequacy – a required form of capacity that helps ensure there are sufficient power resources available when needed.
RPS	Renewables Portfolio Standard refers to certain kinds of renewable energy which qualify to meet state requirements, including wind, solar, geothermal.
SCP	Sonoma Clean Power
TOU	Time of Use, used to refer to rates that differ by time of day

Page intentionally left blank for double-sided printing



**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023  
1:00 P.M.**

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

(1:02 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:01:33)

Vice Chair Quinlan called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present: Chair Morris, Vice Chair Quinlan, and Members Hollinshead, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, and Booth. Members Fenichel, Kelly, and Lipp were absent with prior notice.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Erica Torgerson, Managing Director of Customer Service; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; and Chris Golik, Finance Manager.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

(1:04 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:30)

Public Comment: None

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR**

(1:04 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:58)

1. Approve April 20, 2023, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
2. Receive Geothermal Zone Update
3. Recommend that the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the CEO or his Designee to Execute a New Contract with Sonoma Water for the Continuation of the Energy Education Program through June 30, 2025, with an Annual Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$300,000 and Aggregate Contract Value of \$600,000

Member Nicholls encouraged SCP to work with West County Schools.

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the May 11, 2023, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Dowd

Second: Member Nichols

Motion passed by roll call vote.

Chair Morris abstained from Item 1.

AYES: Morris, Quinlan, Hollinshead, Dowd, Wells, Nicholls, Booth

ABSENT: Fenichel, Kelly, Lipp

## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR**

4. Receive Internal Operations and Monthly Financial Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

(1:08 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:07:49)

Erica Torgerson, Managing Director of Customer Service, introduced Tania Gibbons, SCP's new Customer Service Manager. Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, announced SCP's new Art exhibit located at the Headquarters. She mentioned that SCP had been honored with the American Bicyclists Gold Award and Geof Syphers, CEO, invited the Committee to SCP's weekly Wednesday Bike Ride. Director Reynolds mentioned that Snoopy's Home Ice had just purchased a new battery-operated electric Zamboni and added that Jeanie Schulz had congratulated SCP on the purchase. She then invited Chris Golik, Finance Manager, to discuss SCP's investments. Mr. Golik mentioned that SCP has investments with 2 banks and the Sonoma County Investment Pool. Director Reynolds noted that SCP's 0% On Bill Financing Program has reached its initial goal, is on hiatus and being reassessed to determine how to improve on targeting future lending toward customers who need it most.

Chair Morris asked if the investment policy allows for investment in fossil fuels and CEO Syphers responded that this issue would come up in a future item when the Committee discusses investment policy.

Director Reynolds discussed the February Financials which included a budget adjustment and mentioned that the Board had approved the FY23/24 Budget at their May meeting.

Member Nicholls asked when the results of SCP's 0% On Bill Financing Program review would be available, and CEO Syphers responded it would take a few months.

Public Comment: None

5. Receive Legislative Regulatory Updates, Provide Feedback, and Recommend Positions to the Board as Appropriate

(1:26 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:25:34)

Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, stated that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) granted a clean energy micro-grid for Calistoga which will begin operation in 2025. He also stated that the CPUC passed a resolution that would prevent East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) from expanding to the City of Stockton, as well as prevent Central Coast Community Energy (CCCE) from expanding.

Member Dowd asked if the Committee could help with the legislature and CEO Syphers encouraged the public to speak up. Member Hollinshead asked if PG&E has a resource adequacy problem. Director Reardon responded that the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment credits SCP customers for excess resource adequacy PG&E had procured in the past, but PG&E keeps control of the resources, so are not generally short on the resource requirements, as set by the CPUC.

CEO Syphers discussed the Governor's Trailer Bill has been placed into AB 1373 so there will be a hearing on it. CEO Syphers expanded on the Governor's Budget by explaining there are three major policy elements which could affect SCP. First, it allows the CPUC to order any investor-owned utility or the California Department of Water to buy any power resource it wishes on behalf of any electric provider. The risk that introduces, CEO Syphers said, is that SCP could not ensure its own procurement could be financed when the CPUC could supersede that procurement with its own and apply costs to SCP's ratepayers.

Member Hollinshead asked who benefited from the Governor's Budget and CEO Syphers stated that it was unclear. Member Nicholls stated that the County was reviewing AB 817 regarding teleconference meeting and recommended SCP do the same.

Public Comment: None

6. Discuss 2023 Community Advisory Committee Goals

(2:10 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:09:42)

Member Wells stated that the Equity Ad Hoc had met and discussed the 2023 Community Advisory Committee Goals document. He said that SCP does a great job on diversity and requested staff provide an item summarizing equity and diversity issues. CEO Syphers explained that the issue can be boiled down to two categories: first, what is working in the community and how can SCP amplify it and second, how can we make SCP a place that is inviting to underserved communities.

Vice Chair Quinlan seconded the request for an equity item. Chair Morris stated that society now places a spotlight on the issues of equity and should be thought of in all aspects of SCP's work. Member Wells added it is important for SCP to educate underserved communities about SCP's mission.

Public Comment: None

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(2:35 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:34:49)

**ADJOURN**

(2:35 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:35:12)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.





## Staff Report - Item 02

---

**To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee**  
**From: Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning & Analytics**  
**Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer**  
**Issue: Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update**  
**Date: July 20, 2023**

---

### Background

SCP's Mission includes phasing out reliance on fossil fuel power sources altogether. Out of that desire, SCP began buying geothermal power in 2014 to ensure Sonoma and Mendocino County's robust solar power systems could be backed up with clean power every night and all through the winter instead of relying exclusively on natural gas power plants. EverGreen customers have played an important role in growing our local renewable sources, but the new construction has been limited to solar and battery storage to date.

As California's use of solar and wind has expanded, there is an urgent need to construct more renewable power that can operate through the winter, and regulators and lawmakers have ordered procurement of offshore wind and geothermal energy in response. There is also growing pressure by regulators for California to build new fossil fuel power plants to sustain grid reliability, and SCP is working to demonstrate those new plants are not needed.

The Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) was established by the SCP Board of Directors and the Boards of Supervisors in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties to help guide the development of local geothermal power so that local stakeholders can have a voice in the state's process. In addition, SCP's interest is in developing the resources necessary to allow SCP to stop relying on natural gas power plants altogether and to stop paying fossil fuel power plants for grid reliability. Since no fossil fuel power plants are located within SCP territory, and most are located in poor regions of California, the GeoZone is also working toward greatly reducing the air pollution we are causing in communities of concern. To these goals, the GeoZone is

seeking to sustain existing local geothermal production and add 600 MW of new geothermal capacity.

Ongoing updates, information, and materials about the GeoZone can be found at <https://sonomacleanpower.org/geozone>.

### **Private Partner Activity**

As required by their cooperation agreements, GeoZone partners delivered their first quarterly updates to SCP this past month. Below is a summary of the progress each partner has made towards achieving their obligations to deploy their technology in the GeoZone:

#### **Cyrq Energy**

Cyrq has selected a candidate technology for deployment at the GeoZone: the ENDURING sand-based system developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and optioned by Babcock & Wilcox (B&W). Cyrq selected the technology because of the durability and availability of sand, alignment with the operating specifications for a system at the Geysers, and the ability to domestically source the materials and engineering.

Cyrq has been working on preliminary engineering to understand the compatibility of thermal storage at an existing plant at the Geysers. Cyrq has been in discussions with Calpine to understand the primary engineering and commercial concerns with a demonstration project. SCP hosted a summit between Cyrq, B&W, and Calpine to align on near-term activities to enable a site hosting agreement for a demonstration and scale-up.

Cyrq submitted an application for the Department of Energy Office of Clean Energy Demonstration's Long-Duration Storage grant to partially fund the demonstration project. Cyrq's project team included SCP, NREL, Babcock & Wilcox, and EthosEnergy. Selections for the grant are expected later this year. Cyrq and SCP are anticipating further grant opportunities through the California Energy Commission (CEC) and Department of Energy (DOE).

#### **Chevron New Energies**

Chevron has completed a regional resource assessment using publicly available data on geology and temperature. Chevron's technical work is being used to select areas of interest for locating pilots and prioritize the work of Chevron's land team.

Meanwhile, Chevron has discussed interconnection requirements with PG&E and started characterizing the interconnection locations for potential project sites. Also, a third-party vendor has started working with Chevron on a detailed permitting plan for a pilot project and Chevron is evaluating different vendors for well technologies, power plants, and engineering firms.

Chevron applied for a GeoZone project to the Department of Energy's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) Demonstration grant.

### ***Eavor Inc.***

Eavor started an internal feasibility study for their GeoZone project, which includes collecting literature and well data and building a 3D geologic model. Eavor has also been on-the-ground meeting with prospective site hosts.

Eavor has also started reviewing transmission infrastructure to inform site selection and met with the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to review permitting requirements. Eavor has also dedicated significant resources to advocating for policy that is supportive of the GeoZone, including participating as panelists in industry conferences and meeting with the local congressional delegation in Washington D.C.

Eavor recently announced the first close of its Series B investment round—a CAD\$50 million investment from OMV. In addition to raising capital, Eavor is proactively monitoring grant funding and other financing opportunities for its work in the GeoZone.

### **Public Engagement**

Staff has selected September 18 for the next public engagement meeting for the GeoZone and is currently working on securing a venue in Cloverdale, which will be more convenient for those likely to be closest to GeoZone projects. Once finalized, SCP will notify everyone registered on its stakeholder roster. All input is welcome and interested parties are encouraged to e-mail [GeoZone@sonomacleanpower.org](mailto:GeoZone@sonomacleanpower.org) to be added to the roster.

### **Advocacy**

SCP continues to advocate for the GeoZone and the broader potential for renewable sources that can support the closure of fossil-fuel power plants. There are several important initiatives at the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) that could be impactful to GeoZone transmission planning: an updated study on the transmission

constraints impacting statewide resource planning and stakeholder initiatives to enhance the interconnection and deliverability allocation process. SCP is actively engaged in each of these discussions and expects to provide comments on the types of considerations CAISO should consider reducing the risk and burden of interconnecting high-value but locationally constrained resources like those being developed in the GeoZone.

At the end of June 2023, NREL released an update to their Annual Technology Baseline (ATB) that could be very influential in the role geothermal resources play in future resource planning. NREL revised its mid estimate for the cost of near-field Enhanced Geothermal System (EGS) geothermal power, which is indicative of the development envisioned in the GeoZone from \$301/MWh by 2030 to \$145/MWh. Many utilities and public utility commissions (including the California Public Utilities Commission) use NREL's ATB data as the primary source for cost data in optimizing resource portfolios. The decrease in cost—which is well-justified given recent advances in the industry—will raise the profile of geothermal as a commercial source for clean firm power and make it easier to advocate for the importance of supporting it through grant funding and transmission planning.

SCP continues working on building a coalition for supporting geothermal development. In the past month, staff organized meetings with D.C. staffers for Congressman Thompson and Congressman Huffman to share the GeoZone's vision and discuss federal policy opportunities to address potential challenges with grant funding, transmission planning, and permitting. SCP also had an introductory meeting with the Clean Air Task Force, and environmental NGO that shares SCP's vision of advanced geothermal technologies providing an important tool in eliminating emissions from the power sector.



## Staff Report - Item 03

---

**To:** Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

**From:** Felicia Smith, Program Manager  
Rebecca Simonson, Director of Programs

**Issue:** Recommend that the Board Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute First Amendment to Contract with Frontier Energy, Inc. to add \$10,536 for an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$150,179 through August 30, 2023, to Close Out Remaining Projects with On-Bill Financing Agreements

**Date:** July 20, 2023

---

### Recommendation

Staff requests that the Community Advisory Committee (Committee) recommend that the Sonoma Clean Power's (SCP) Board of Directors (Board) Delegate Authority to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute a first amendment to the contract with Frontier Energy, Inc. to add \$10,536 to the not-to-exceed amount and extend the term through August 30, 2023. This will cover costs to assist customers and contractors in final closeout and payments of the remaining projects with 0% interest on-bill financing agreements.

### Background

SCP's contract with Frontier Energy, Inc. was approved by the Board on July 1, 2022, to provide program administration of SCP's 0% interest on-bill financing program (Attachment B). The scope of work to administer 0% interest financing included: program development, project management, customer bid and agreement support, customer change order support, project completion verification, general and ongoing customer support.

## **Discussion**

This is the first amendment to the Frontier Energy, Inc. contract (Attachment A). The amendment would increase the not-to-exceed by \$10,536 bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$150,179 and extend the term through August 30, 2023. This requested increase is to fund the closeout of remaining financing projects and transfer processing knowledge to SCP staff through the month of June 2023.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The proposed amendment would increase SCP's costs by \$10,536 but would not require an increase to the total annual budget.

## **Attachments**

- Attachment A - First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement for the Sonoma Clean Power Authority with Frontier Energy, Inc. to administer and finalize the 0% interest on-bill financing program
- Attachment B - The Professional Services Agreement for the Sonoma Clean Power Authority with Frontier Energy, Inc. for the On-bill Finance Administrator Agreement with attached Scope of Work and Fee Schedule, available at [this link](#) or by request to the Clerk of the Board

AMENDMENT NO. 1  
TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY  
AND  
FRONTIER ENERGY, INC

This Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement (“Amendment No. 1”) is made and entered into as of this 30th day of June 2023, by and between Sonoma Clean Power Authority (“SCP”) and Frontier Energy, Inc (“Consultant”). SCP and Consultant are sometimes individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

Recitals

- A. Original Agreement. The Parties have entered into an agreement entitled “Professional Services Agreement” dated July 1, 2022 (“Original Agreement”), which is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein, for the purpose of Authority retaining Consultant to provide the Services set forth therein.
- B. Amendment Purpose. SCP and Consultant wish to amend the Original Agreement to increase the not-to-exceed amount from one hundred thirty nine thousand six hundred forty three dollars (\$139,643) to one hundred fifty thousand one hundred seventy nine dollars (\$150,179) and extend agreement term to August 30, 2023.
- C. Amendment Authority. This Amendment No. 1 is authorized pursuant to Section 26 of the Original Agreement.

Amendment

Now therefore, the Parties hereby modify the Original Agreement as follows:

- 1. Definitions. All capitalized terms used in this Amendment No. 1 not defined in this Amendment No. 1 shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Original Agreement if defined in the Original Agreement.
- 2. Replace Section. Section 4 of the Original Agreement hereby replaced with:

*Section. 4.*

NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE FOR SERVICES PERFORMED DURING THE TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT EXCEED one hundred fifty thousand one hundred seventy nine dollars (\$150,179). This dollar amount is not a guarantee that SCP will pay that full amount to Consultant but is merely a limit of potential SCP expenditures under the Agreement. In the event that this total payable amount is reached, Consultant shall continue to furnish and complete the Services at no additional charge.

- 3. Replace Section. Section 5 of the Original Agreement hereby replaced with:

*Section. 5.*

Term of the Agreement: The term of this Agreement shall be from the Effective Date to August 30, 2023, unless terminated pursuant to Section 6 or amended by a written, executed amendment to the Agreement. Consultant understands and agrees that funding for costs under this Agreement after August 30, 2023 is subject to approval by SCP's Board of Directors of a budget including such funding, and that SCP may terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 6 below if such funding is not approved. Consultant, shall promptly deliver to SCP all materials and work product subject to Section 16 upon the conclusion of the term of this Agreement.

4. Replace Exhibit. Exhibit A of the Original Agreement hereby replaced with the document entitled Program Administrator OBF Scope of Work 2022-2023, Revised Exhibit A, attached hereto as Attachment No. 1 and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.
5. Replace Exhibit. Exhibit B of the Original Agreement hereby replaced with the document entitled Budget and Fee Schedule, Revised Exhibit B, attached hereto as Attachment No. 1 and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.
6. Continuing Effect of Agreement. All provisions of the Original Agreement otherwise remain in full force and effect and are reaffirmed. From and after the date of this Amendment No. q, whenever the term "Agreement" appears in the Original Agreement, it shall mean the Original Agreement as amended by this Amendment No. 1.
7. Adequate Consideration. The Parties hereto irrevocably stipulate and agree that they have each received adequate and independent consideration for the performance of the obligations they have undertaken pursuant to this Amendment No. 1.
8. Severability. If any portion of this Amendment No. 1 is declared invalid, illegal, or otherwise unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY

FRONTIER ENERGY, INC

*Approved By:*

*Approved By:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Koszalka,  
Chief Operating Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Krausse  
Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Approved as to form:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

Agreement for Professional Services  
REV. July 20, 2023



## Revised Exhibit A Scope of Services

### Program Administrator OBF Scope of Work 2022-2023

The Program Administrator (Administrator) is a third party, independent of the Customer and the Contractor, which provides support services for Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA) Customers participating in the Sonoma Clean Power On-Bill Financing (OBF) program. The OBF program operates under the Sonoma Clean Power Lead Locally program. During operation of the OBF program, the Administrator shall perform the following services on behalf of SCPA.

#### Task 1 General Program Management

Administrator shall coordinate with SCPA to support general program management. This shall include twice-monthly reporting of program records as identified in the following tasks and once-monthly meetings with SCPA staff and key program stakeholders as identified by SCPA. In addition, Administrator shall maintain OBF program documentation and work with SCPA to update any documentation and/or agreements as necessary based on customer and contractor feedback or appropriate legal or regulatory findings or requirements. Administrator will also coordinate with SCPA as necessary to adjust and refine program protocols and processes to help meet SCPA's program and customer service goals.

Task 1 Budget: \$15,165

#### Task 1 Deliverables:

- Twice-monthly reporting of program records.
- Summary notes and action items from once monthly general program management meetings.

#### Task 2 Customer Bid and Agreement Support

SCPA shall provide Administrator with the necessary information from approved Customer OBF Applications and other required SCPA Incentive Applications. For eligible Contractors and Improvements proposed in a Contractor's bid, Administrator shall finalize the OBF Participant Agreement, including populating Exhibit B of the Participant Agreement, based on the Customer's OBF Application, other required SCPA Incentive Applications, and Contractor Bid.

Administrator shall send Customer Participant Agreement and notify Customer that they must return signed Agreement within 30 days. If Customer does not submit a signed Agreement within 30 days, notify customer that the Agreement has been terminated. If Customer notifies Administrator in writing that the Customer remains interested in participating in OBF, Administrator shall work with SCPA, at SCPA's discretion, to provide Customer with a new Participant Agreement, subject Agreement for Professional Services  
REV. July 20, 2023

to confirmation that the Customer continues to meet all of the program requirements.

Upon receipt of an Agreement signed by the Customer, Administrator shall provide Customer and Contractor with executed Agreement via email and notify Customer of the date by which they must have completed their project with an OBF Eligible Contractor to install the Improvements on the Property and have that Contractor provide a OBF Notice of Completion to the Administrator.

- a. If Notice of Completion has not been received in accordance with program timelines, send Close-out Reminders to Customer via email and phone at appropriate dates per program requirements agreed upon with SCPA that they need to submit a Notice of Completion or their Agreement will be terminated.
- b. If Contractor does not submit a Notice of Completion within these established dates, notify Customer and Contractor that the Executed Agreement has been terminated. If Customer notifies Administrator in writing that the Customer remains interested in participating in OBF, Administrator shall work with SCPA, at SCPA's discretion, to provide Customer with a new Participant Agreement, subject to confirmation that the Customer continues to meet all Program requirements.

Task 2 Budget: \$ ~~56,237~~ 66,773

Task 2 Deliverables:

- OBF Agreements issued to Customers.
- Close-out Reminders to Customers whose Contractor has yet to submit a Notice of Completion per program requirements.
- Termination Notices to Customers whose Contractor has yet to submit a Notice of Completion in accordance with the Customers' OBF Agreement.
- OBF Agreements reissued to Customers if approved by SCPA after Termination of original OBF Agreement.
- Records of OBF Applications Approved, Contractor Bids received, Contractor Bids with required corrections, OBF Agreements issued, OBF Agreements terminated, OBF Agreements reissued, and Notices of Completion received.

Task 3 Customer Change Order Support

For OBF projects with an Approved OBF Agreement, Administrator shall work with Customer to review requested changes to any Approved Improvements consistent with Program Terms. Customer is solely responsible for negotiating requested changes with Contractor.

- a. If Administrator approves the changes, Administrator shall provide Customer with a Modified Participant Agreement Exhibit B specifying the form is acting as a change order documenting the approved changes to the Improvements.

- b. Customer and Administrator must sign any Modified Exhibit B prior to Contractor's installation of the Improvements on the Property.

Task 3 Budget: \$36,594

Task 3 Deliverables:

- Change orders issued to Customers as a Modified Participant Agreement Exhibit B.
- Records of Modified Participant Agreement Exhibit B issued.

Task 4 Completion Support

Administrator shall review Contractor submitted OBF Notice of Completion and any final project close out documentation in accordance with Program requirements.

- a. For projects where installation or submitted documentation does not meet Program requirements, Administrator shall notify Customer and Contractor that they have 30 days to make required corrections.
  - i. Administrator shall review and or inspect corrections when notified by Customer.
  - ii. If Administrator is not notified within 30 days that corrections have been made, Administrator shall notify Customer and Contractor that the Participant Agreement has been terminated.
  - iii. If, after the Participant Agreement has been terminated, Customer notifies Administrator in writing that the corrections have been made and Customer remains interested in participating in OBF, Administrator shall work with SCPA, at SCPA's discretion, to provide Customer with a new Participant Agreement, subject to confirmation that the Customer continues to meet all Program requirements.
- b. For all projects with approved final project close out, Administrator shall notify SCPA of the final Loan Amount, OBF Installment Payment, Repayment Term, and Contractor payment.

Task 4 Budget: \$13,718

Task 4 Deliverables:

- Correction Notices issued to Customers and Contractors for installations or submitted documentation that does not meet Program Requirements
- Termination Notices issued to Customers and Contractor if required corrections are not made within 30-days of Correction Notice.

- Final project closeout documentation and notice to SCPA, including final Loan Amount, OBF Installment Payment, Repayment Term, and Contractor payment.
- Records of Correction Notices issued, OBF Agreements terminated after failure to address corrections, and final installed equipment, costs, Loan Amount, OBF Installment Payment, Repayment Term, and Contractor payment.

#### Task 5 General Customer Support

Administrator shall ensure staff are available to address OBF Customer and Contractor questions and inquiries during normal business hours Monday-Friday as such inquiries are forwarded by SCPA.

If Customer conveys to Administrator any concerns, Administrator will notify SCPA immediately for SCPA to follow up with Customer. Administrator shall support SCPA with engaging Customers for follow up surveys. At direction from SCPA, Administrator will assist with survey development, distribution, receipt of responses, and compilation of responses for reporting to SCPA.

At the direction of SCPA, Administrator will ensure staff are available at a mutually agreed upon time for Improvement(s) eligibility assessment, OBF participant request, and any ad hoc OBF support for the SCPA team during the term of this Agreement.

Task 5 Budget: \$13,776

#### Task 5 Deliverables:

- Records of OBF Customer and Contractor inquiries.
- Notice to SCPA of Customer and Contractor inquiries prioritized for escalation by SCPA.
- Support to resolve identified and reported problems per the Participant Agreement's Dispute language.
- Support of Participant satisfaction surveys.
- Records and escalation to SCPA of disputes, Customer balance/payoff inquiries, and survey activity.

#### Task 6 Ad Hoc Salesforce Support

SCPA may modify or replace the existing Salesforce-based data management system. This may require the Administrator's expertise and support in order to successfully extract program data while maintaining unbroken processes and system management rules. Administrator will assist SCPA in this process on an as needed basis.

Task 6 Budget: \$4,154

## Revised Exhibit B Budget & Fee Schedule

### Budget

Task #	Task Name	Budget
Task 1	Task 1 General Program Management	\$15,165
Task 2	Task 2 Customer Bid and Agreement Support	<del>\$ 56,237</del> <b>\$66,773</b>
Task 3	Task 3 Customer Change Order Support	\$36,594
Task 4	Task 4 Completion Support	\$13,718
Task 5	Task 5 General Customer Support	\$13,776
Task 6	Task 6 Ad Hoc Salesforce Support	\$4,154
	TOTAL	<del>\$ 139,643</del> <b>\$150,179</b>

The above budget is based on 30 OBF projects a month for the 2022-23 year. Should additional OBF projects require processing during the contract period, the below is a per unit cost for a project and a change order by calendar year.

### Per Unit OBF Project Processing Cost Table

Calendar Year	Project Unit Cost	Change Order Unit Cost
2022	\$237.50	\$125.00
2023	\$241.90	\$127.30

### Per Unit Costs Bases

OBF Project Role	Project Processor	Project Reviewer	Program Oversight			
Consultant Position	Senior Coordinator	Senior Coordinator	Senior Program Consultant	Total by Task	Total per Project w/ Change Order	Total per Project w/ Change Order
Hrs. per Task						
Task 2 Customer Bid Agreement and Support	1.00	0.25	0.10	1.35		
Task 3 Customer Change Order Support	0.75	0.25	0.10	1.10		
Task 4 Completion Support	0.25	0.25	0.20	0.70		
2022 Rates	\$110	\$110	\$150		\$237.50	\$362.50
Task 2 Customer Bid Agreement and Support	\$110.00	\$27.50	\$15.00	\$152.50		
Task 3 Customer Change Order Support	\$82.50	\$27.50	\$15.00	\$125.00		
Task 4 Completion Support	\$27.50	\$27.50	\$30.00	\$85.00		
2023 Rates	\$112	\$112	\$153		\$241.90	\$369.20
Task 2 Customer Bid Agreement and Support	\$112.00	\$28.00	\$15.30	\$155.30		
Task 3 Customer Change Order Support	\$84.00	\$28.00	\$15.30	\$127.30		
Task 4 Completion Support	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$30.60	\$86.60		

Agreement for Professional Services  
REV. July 20, 2023





## Staff Report - Item 04

---

**To:** Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee  
**From:** Chris Golik, Revenue Manager  
**Issue:** Review Resolution 2023-03 Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund  
**Date:** July 20, 2023

---

### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) review Resolution No. 2023-03 (Attachment A) authorizing investment of monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) which was adopted by the Board of Directors at their July 6, 2023, meeting.

### Background

SCP's investment policy, adopted on October 7, 2021, states that the agency's investment goals are safety of principal, liquidity, and return on investment. The investment policy also specifies authorized investments, and expressly allows investment in the California State Treasury's Local Agency Investment Fund.

LAIF was created by statute and began in 1977 as an investment alternative for California's local governments and special districts. This program offers local agencies the opportunity to participate in a major portfolio, which invests hundreds of millions of dollars, using the investment expertise of the State Treasurer's Office professional investment staff.

LAIF has grown from 293 participants and \$468 million in 1977 to 2,362 participants and \$26.3 billion at the end of May 2023.

### Discussion

LAIF provides local agencies with a way to invest cash held in the treasury pool that may be withdrawn as needed on a same-day basis to meet an agency's cash flow needs, while realizing interest. Consistent with SCP's investment goals, the investment policy of

the State Treasurer's Office places the goals of safety, liquidity, and yield above all others. Additional information about LAIF can be found in Attachment B.

To open a LAIF account, the State Treasurer's Office requires the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-03. This resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors at their July 6, 2023, meeting.

### **Attachments**

- Attachment A - Resolution No. 2023-03 Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund
- Attachment B - LAIF Program Description



## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE INVESTMENT OF MONIES IN THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND

WHEREAS, The Local Agency Investment Fund is established in the State Treasury under Government Code section 16429.1, et. seq. for the deposit of money of a local agency for purposes of investment by the State Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Sonoma Clean Power Authority ("Authority") hereby finds that the deposit and withdrawal of money in the Local Agency Investment Fund in accordance with Government Code section 16429.1, et. seq. for the purpose of investment as provided therein is in the best interests of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, that the Board hereby authorizes the deposit and withdrawal of Authority monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund in the State Treasury in accordance with Government Code section 16429.1, et. seq. for the purpose of investment as provided therein.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Sonoma Clean Power Authority:




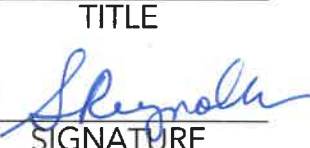
Section 1. Recitals. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct and a substantive part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Findings.

(a) The Board finds that the deposit and withdrawal of money in the Local Agency Investment Fund in accordance with Government Code section 16429.1, et. seq. for the purpose of investment as provided therein is in the best interests of the Authority.

(b) The Board hereby authorizes the deposit and withdrawal of Authority monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund in the State Treasury in accordance with Government Code section 16429.1 et. seq. for the purpose of investment as provided therein.

Section 3. The following Authority officers holding the title(s) specified herein below **or their successors in office** are each hereby authorized to order the deposit or withdrawal of monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund and may execute and deliver any and all documents necessary or advisable in order to effectuate the purposes of this resolution and the transactions contemplated hereby:

Geoffrey Syphers	Michael Koszalka	Erica Torgerson	Stephanie Reynolds
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME
Chief Executive Officer	Chief Operating Officer	Managing Director of Customer Service	Director of Internal Operations
TITLE	TITLE	TITLE	TITLE
			
SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE

Section 4. This resolution shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded by the Board by resolution and a copy of the resolution rescinding this resolution is filed with the State Treasurer's Office.

Section 5. Certification. The Board Clerk shall certify the adoption of this Resolution.

DULY ADOPTED this 6th day of July 2023

JURISDICTION	NAME	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN/ ABSENT
Cloverdale	Director Bagby	X		
Cotati	Director Ford	X		
Petaluma	Director Barnacle	X		
Rohnert Park	Director Elward	X		
Santa Rosa	Director Rogers	X		
Sebastopol	Director Zollman	X		
Sonoma	Director Farrar-Rivas	X		
Willits	Director Strong	X		
Windsor	Chair Fudge	X		
County of Mendocino	Director Gjerde	X		
County of Sonoma	Vice Chair Hopkins	X		

*In alphabetical order by jurisdiction*

  
Chair, Sonoma Clean Power Authority

Attest:

  
Clerk of the Board

## Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) Program Description

<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/pmia-laif/laif/program.asp>

The Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), a voluntary program created by statute, began in 1977 as an investment alternative for California's local governments and special districts and it continues today under Treasurer Fiona Ma's administration. The enabling legislation for the LAIF is Section 16429.1 et seq. of the California Government Code.

This program offers local agencies the opportunity to participate in a major portfolio, which invests hundreds of millions of dollars, using the investment expertise of the State Treasurer's Office professional investment staff at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

The LAIF is part of the Pooled Money Investment Account (PMIA). The PMIA began in 1955 and oversight is provided by the Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB) and an in-house Investment Committee. The PMIB members are the State Treasurer, Director of Finance, and State Controller.

The Local Investment Advisory Board (LIAB) provides oversight for LAIF. The Board consists of five members as designated by statute. The State Treasurer, as Chair, or her designated representative, appoints two members qualified by training and experience in the field of investment or finance, and two members who are treasurers, finance or fiscal officers or business managers employed by any county, city or local district or municipal corporation of this state. The term of each appointment is two years or at the pleasure of the Treasurer.

All securities are purchased under the authority of Government Code Section 16430 and 16480.4. The State Treasurer's Office takes delivery of all securities purchased on a delivery versus payment basis using a third party custodian. All investments are purchased at market and a market valuation is conducted monthly.

Additionally, the PMIA has Policies, Goals and Objectives for the portfolio to make certain that our goals of Safety, Liquidity and Yield are not jeopardized and that prudent management prevails. These policies are formulated by Investment Division staff and reviewed by both the PMIB and the LIAB on an annual basis.

The State Treasurer's Office is audited by the Bureau of State Audits on an annual basis and the resulting opinion is posted to the State Treasurer's Office website following its publication. The Bureau of State Audits also has a continuing audit process throughout the year. All investments and LAIF claims are audited on a daily basis by the State Controller's Office as well as an internal audit process.

Under Federal Law, the State of California cannot declare bankruptcy, thereby allowing the Government Code Section 16429.3 to stand. This Section states that

"moneys placed with the Treasurer for deposit in the LAIF by cities, counties, special districts, nonprofit corporations, or qualified quasi-governmental agencies shall not be subject to either of the following: (a) transfer or loan pursuant to Sections 16310, 16312, or 16313, or (b) impoundment or seizure by any state official or state agency."

During the 2002 legislative session, California Government Code Section 16429.4 was added to the LAIF's enabling legislation. This Section states that "the right of a city, county, city and county, special district, nonprofit corporation, or qualified quasi-governmental agency to withdraw its deposited moneys from the LAIF, upon demand, may not be altered, impaired, or denied in any way, by any state official or state agency based upon the state's failure to adopt a State Budget by July 1 of each new fiscal year."

The LAIF has grown from 293 participants and \$468 million in 1977 to 2,362 participants and \$26.3 billion at the end of May 2023.



## **Staff Report - Item 05**

---

**To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee**

**From: Brant Arthur, Programs Manager  
Rebecca Simonson, Director of Programs**

**Issue: Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute an Agreement for Professional Services with Alternative Energy Systems Consulting, Inc. through December 31, 2024, with a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$118,000 to Provide Technical Assistance for Sonoma Clean Power's Workplace Charging Research Project**

**Date: July 20, 2023**

---

### **Recommendation**

Recommend the Board of Directors approve and delegate authority to the CEO or his Designee to execute an agreement for professional services with Alternative Energy Systems Consulting, Inc. (AESC) through August 31, 2024, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$118,000 to provide technical assistance for SCP's workplace charging research project (Attachment A).

### **Background**

On October 20, 2022, the Community Advisory Committee received an overview of Workplace Electric Vehicle Charging Research Project Proposal and provided feedback on a research project to invite local employers to partner with SCP to provide and manage grid-enabled electric vehicle (EV) chargers at their workplaces.

The purpose of the research project is to determine how to deliver a cost-effective workplace charging program that supports grid reliability while focusing on providing access to charging for disadvantaged and low-to-moderate income (LMI) employees who may not have charging capability at home.

Workplace charging is an important tool in advancing transportation electrification and reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the following key reasons:

- Charging during the day when solar power is plentiful instead of evening or night-time hours helps support our region's climate goals, aids with grid reliability, supports the value of behind-the-meter-solar, and increases our ability to adopt more EVs;
- Charging at the workplace provides access to charging for drivers who live in apartments, condominiums, and rental housing, or otherwise aren't able to install charging infrastructure at home. This is critical to aid California's goal of phasing out the sale of gasoline-powered cars by 2035; and
- Encourages more people to make the switch to electric vehicles. Research shows that an employee with access to workplace charging is six times more likely than the average worker to drive electric<sup>1</sup>.

The research project will help SCP test various dispatching strategies, rate structures, and hardware configurations in anticipation of eventually running a larger regional initiative. A key first step of this research project is to identify a technical expert to conduct site assessments at workplace locations in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties to determine the most suitable sites for EV charging installation.

In March 2023, SCP issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify a firm best suited to conduct 4 to 10 site assessments with the goal of identifying up to 4 promising workplace locations and help put each project out to bid or select an installation contractor.

The RFP drew five responses from a variety of firms. Staff reviewed responses, created a short list for interviews, and interviewed respondents.

## **Discussion**

Based on their RFP response and interview, AESC was selected to provide site assessments, develop recommendations, and assist in the bidding process for level 2 EV charging stations at workplace locations.

---

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, "Workplace Charging Challenge," January, 2017, [https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/01/f34/WPCC\\_2016%20Annual%20Progress%20Report.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/01/f34/WPCC_2016%20Annual%20Progress%20Report.pdf)

AESC was selected based on their experience with the full journey of locating, assessing, designing, and installing workplace charging stations, plus strong recommendations from partners in previous projects.

The AESC team has over 10 years of transportation electrification engineering and consulting experience in California, including workplace charging studies, a CEC-funded Strategic Plug-in Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan for California, and Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmaps for municipal utilities to assist in grid, infrastructure, and program planning.

The scope of work for the agreement to provide workplace charging technical assistance includes the commitment to:

- Coordinate with SCP outreach staff to identify eligible workplaces to evaluate (as few as 4 and up to 10).
- Assess up to 10 sites and make recommendations for containing costs while maximizing any financial incentives or tax credits (including battery storage where it supports goals).
- Design and prepare necessary documentation for up to 4 locations (determined in coordination with SCP based on Task 2) to put project out to bid or to select installation contractor.
- Support site owners in developing documentation needed for soliciting bids or selecting an installation contractor once specific installation recommendations have been provided.
- Support to the site owners, on an as needed basis, with questions such as local permitting and technical questions for understanding the bids received.
- Make SCP aware of any site visits and accommodate periodic SCP requests to observe work.

This Agreement will go through December 31, 2024.

**Fiscal Impact**

The amount requested is within the Board approved FY23/24 budget for Program Implementation. Any budget remaining for FY24/25 will be brought before the Committee and Board for approval in subsequent budget cycles.

**Attachments**

- Attachment A - Agreement with Alternative Energy Systems Consulting, Inc., available at [this link](#) or by request to the Clerk of the Board.





## **Staff Report - Item 06**

---

**To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee**

**From: Brytann Busick, Marketing and Events Manager  
Kate Kelly, Director of Public Relations and Marketing**

**Issue: Recommend that the Sonoma Clean Power Community Advisory Committee recommend that the Board of Directors Authorize the CEO, or his Designee, to Execute a Contract with BlastPoint for New Data-Driven Customer Insights through June 30, 2024, with a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$176,000**

**Date: July 20, 2023**

---

### **Recommendation**

Recommend the SCP Community Advisory Committee recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the CEO or his Designee to execute a professional services agreement with BlastPoint for data-driven customer insight services with a not-to-exceed amount of \$176,000 for a term of 1 year.

### **Background**

BlastPoint technology empowers companies to understand customer data, predict customer behavior, and become customer-focused organizations. Their AI-powered technology and easy-to-use, intuitive platform helps target the right customers with the right information, at the right time, using just the right channels. BlastPoint is currently working with approximately 20 utilities, providing similar services to those SCP plans to utilize to perform targeted and segmented marketing, and personalized marketing for improved customer participation.

### **Discussion**

BlastPoint offers A.I. Driven Segmentation & Personas, which will help Sonoma Clean Power to understand their customers at the household level. With the BlastPoint dashboard SCP will discover behavior patterns, demographics and values so SCP can

meet customers where they are with the offer, incentive, or services they need most and are most likely to respond to.

SCP can also utilize Customer Engagement Optimization to optimize channels for more effective targeting and outreach. BlastPoint's Sustainability Solutions provides solutions for smart EV planning and adoption, energy efficiency programs and technologies, and more. The BlastPoint Customer Intelligence Platform places AI-powered insights at the fingertips of business users, so companies don't have to worry about securing in-house AI talent or addressing infrastructure readiness gaps in order to utilize customer AI. BlastPoint will integrate with Sonoma Clean Power's existing systems and lead SCP through a data onboarding process.

With BlastPoint, the PR and Marketing Department will be able to conduct audience queries, cut data and mailing files in-house, employ segmented and targeted marketing, facilitate new marketing matrix campaigns, re-connect with existing customers, deepen relationships with single-service households, and potentially recapture previously opted-out accounts.

### **Fiscal Impact**

This agreement is for \$176,000 for one year. This amount is currently included in the 2023/2024 PR & Marketing Department budget.

### **Attachments**

- Attachment A - Professional Services Agreement with BlastPoint, available at [this link](#) or by request to the Clerk of the Board



## **Staff Report - Item 07**

---

**To:** Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

**From:** Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations  
Mike Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer

**Issue:** Receive Internal Operations and Monthly Financial Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

**Date:** July 20, 2023

---

### **WINDSOR VOTED YES ON EVERGREEN!**

The Town of Windsor's 2023 - 2025 Operating Budget, which includes upgrading 100% of their SCP accounts to EverGreen, was approved at the 6/21 Town Council meeting! A big thanks to those that worked together on this effort, including Councilmember Fudge, Windsor's Sustainability Coordinator Katharine Gabor, and SCP's own Commercial Accounts Manager Leif Christiansen.

### **RECENT AND UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

With community events in full swing, Sonoma Clean Power is sponsoring and participating in several events benefitting Sonoma and Mendocino counties including the recent Sonoma County Pride Celebration, trash removal through SCP's Adopt-a-Road agreement with the County of Sonoma, and the North Coast Wine and Food Festival (Presenting Sponsor). SCP also sponsored Country Summer with a new partnership benefiting the Redwood Empire Food Bank, Friday Night Live at the Plaza in Cloverdale and the Cotati Kids Day Parade and Festival.

Upcoming events include the Sonoma County Fair Hall of Flowers sponsorship, Sonoma County Winegrowers 2023 Grower BBQ Exhibitor, and the Cotati Music Festival.

### **CALPINE BENEFITS GRANT**

The Community Benefits Grant partnership between Sonoma Clean Power and Calpine Energy Solutions provides funding to organizations in Sonoma and

Mendocino counties helping to advance clean energy, green jobs, environmental education and stewardship, and equity and diversity efforts.

In Sonoma Clean Power's inaugural year of awarding these grants, the following non-profits were selected: Rebuilding Together Petaluma, CARE Cloverdale School, La Familia Sana, Geyserville Community Foundation, Boomerang Plus, and Sonoma Ecology Center.

## **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS**

As part of our Strategic Action Plan for Customer Offerings and Incentives, SCP has been actively conducting assessments in three important areas: transportation and mobility, residential energy use and resiliency, and agricultural energy use. A commercial energy use and resiliency study will begin later this year.

### *Transportation and mobility needs:*

SCP has been working closely with consultant EVNoire and reaching out to dozens of community organizations in our service area. Through eight interviews with key informants, staff have gathered valuable insights. Based on this information, a draft landscape assessment is being developed that includes important demographic data and studies on electric mobility. This will help SCP plan focus groups and a survey to better understand the community needs for transportation and mobility.

### *Residential energy use and resiliency needs:*

To better understand the needs of our residential customers, SCP is collaborating with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). SMUD conducted ten interviews with community representatives and seven interviews with contractors participating in SCP's rebate programs. In addition, SMUD completed a study evaluating how user-friendly SCP's website is for accessing offers and incentives. During the summer, SMUD will conduct a survey in both English and Spanish to gather more insights from our residential customers. Staff expect to use interview summaries, survey findings, and recommendations to consider new programs for the Committee and Board to consider.

### *Agricultural energy use:*

Working under the guidance of SCP staff, Tierra Resource Consultants conducted in-depth interviews with twenty agricultural customers in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. The interviews covered a wide range of sectors, including dairy, wine, livestock, crops, cannabis, and fruit. SCP also sent a survey to over 1,100 agricultural

customers to gather insights on business challenges, program participation, and their familiarity with Sonoma Clean Power. This information will help SCP understand how to better support our agricultural customers.

These assessments are aimed at gathering essential information to guide decision-making and develop new programs. Staff will bring the new program ideas to the Community Advisory Committee for review and seek approval from the Board of Directors. We remain committed to meeting the needs of our community and making informed choices for their benefit.

## **CHANGES TO ADVANCED ENERGY CENTER TECHNOLOGY INCENTIVES**

SCP launched the Advanced Energy Center and associated website and technology incentives in July 2021 as part of the California Energy Commission (CEC) Lead Locally Grant. The technology incentives offered are part of a match commitment to that grant under our agreement. There is also a portion of incentives that can be claimed as reimbursables from the CEC. The funds must be expended during the term of the grant, which has been extended to March 31, 2024.

From July 2021 through July 2022, we saw only 120 projects and just over \$100,000 of incentives toward the \$2.6M afforded and committed under the grant.

SCP then increased our incentives levels starting August 1, 2022, to create market movement and reach our committed amounts under the grant. The incentives were increased from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for heat pump heating and cooling and from \$700 to \$3,100 for heat pump water heaters. These were in line with statewide incentives that had expired at the time. We also started incentivizing induction cooking by adding a \$500 incentive to the free cookware already offered. For low-income customers, the incentives were set at a much higher level at 50% of the total project cost, up to \$10,000.

The increased incentives have been successful. There were 120 projects completed in the first year with lower incentives compared to 744 projects in the second year with higher incentives. In June 2023 alone, we incentivized 182 projects. In addition to the incentives that have been issued to date, SCP has focused on serving hard to reach and low-income projects and has partnered with local programs and reserved almost \$400,000 for multi-family affordable housing and mobile home park retrofit projects.

SCP incentives are meant to move markets and instigate action and are not meant to run in perpetuity. Once markets take off, incentives should be revisited and/or

redirected to where they are most needed and impactful. Since market movement has been created with the existing AEC incentives and we are now approaching the funding amounts we committed for the CEC grant, it is time to revisit incentive levels.

Starting August 1, 2023, our incentives will be modified as follows:

<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Current incentive</b>	<b>New incentive effective: 8/1/23</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Heat pump heating and cooling	\$3,000	<b>\$1,000</b>	Additional statewide incentives that can be stacked on SCP's incentive and tax rebates may be available.
Heat pump water heater	\$3,100	<b>\$700</b>	Additional statewide incentives that can be stacked on SCP's incentive and tax rebates may be available.
Induction cooking	\$500	<b>\$500</b>	Additional Bay Area incentive may be stacked for Sonoma County customers.  Induction has not seen the rapid uptick in growth that the other technologies have, so we have kept the incentive the same until market movement happens.
Air to water heat pump with hot water	\$6,100	<b>\$1,700</b>	This incentive is the combination of the heat pump heating and cooling and heat pump water heater incentives
Fresh air heat recovery ventilators	\$3,000	<b>\$1,000</b>	There has only been 1 project to date
<b>Low-income projects for all of the above</b>	<b>50% of total project cost up to \$10,000</b>	<b>50% of total project cost up to \$10,000</b>	<b>Includes equipment, labor, ancillary equipment, upgrades, and permits</b>

## **MONTHLY COMPILED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The year-to-date change in net position is better than projections by approximately \$13,652,000. Year-to-date revenue from electricity sales is slightly under budget by less than 1% and cost of energy is under budget projections by about 5%. Year-to-date electricity sales reached \$252,527,000.

SCP maintains a balanced portfolio by procuring electricity from multiple sources. Net position reached a positive \$198,297,000, which indicates growth as SCP continues to make progress towards its reserve goals. Approximately \$95,207,000 is set aside for operating reserves.

Other operating expenses continued near or slightly below planned levels for the year.

## **BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**

The accompanying budgetary comparison includes the 2022/23 budget approved by the Board of Directors.

The budget is formatted to make comparisons for both the annual and the year-to-date perspective. The first column, 2022/23 YTD Budget, allocates the Board approved annual budget at expected levels throughout the year with consideration for the timing of additional customers, usage volumes, staffing needs etc. This column represents our best estimates, and this granular approach was not part of the Board approved budget.

Revenue from electricity sales to customers is slightly under budget by less than 1% at the end of the reporting period. The cost of electricity is less than the budget-to-date by approximately 5%. Variation in this account is typically due to fluctuating market cost of energy on open position purchases.

Major operating categories of Data Management fees and PG&E Service fees are based on the customer account totals and are closely aligned to budget.

In addition to the items mentioned above, SCP continues its trend of remaining near or under budget for most of its operating expenses.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- May 2023 Financial Statements

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Board of Directors - August 3, 2023
- Community Advisory Committee - August meeting - CANCELLED
- Board of Directors - TBD





## ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

Board of Directors  
Sonoma Clean Power Authority

Management is responsible for the accompanying Budgetary Comparison Schedule of Sonoma Clean Power Authority (a California Joint Powers Authority) for the period ended May 31, 2023, and for determining that the budgetary basis of accounting is an acceptable financial reporting framework. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the accompanying statement nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on this special purpose budgetary comparison statement.

The special purpose statement is prepared in accordance with the budgetary basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This report is intended for the information of the Board of Directors of Sonoma Clean Power Authority.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the note disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in these interim financial statements. Sonoma Clean Power Authority's annual audited financial statements include the note disclosures omitted from these interim statements. If the omitted disclosures were included in these financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Authority's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to the Authority because we performed certain accounting services that impaired our independence.

*Maher Accountancy*

San Rafael, CA  
June 29, 2023

**SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY**  
**BUDEGTARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - OPERATING FUND**  
**Eleven Months Ended May 31, 2023**

	2022/23 YTD Amended Budget	2022/23 YTD Actual	2022/23 YTD Amended Budget Variance (Under) Over	2022/23 YTD Actual / Amended Budget %	2022/23 Amended Budget	2022/23 Amended Budget Remaining
<b>REVENUE AND OTHER SOURCES:</b>						
Electricity (net of allowance) *	\$ 253,973,072	\$ 252,014,607	\$ (1,958,465)	99%	\$ 279,200,000	\$ 27,185,393
Evergreen Premium (net of allowance)	2,183,792	2,455,778	271,986	112%	2,389,000	(66,778)
CEC Grant	1,192,655	285,481	(907,174)	24%	1,414,000	1,128,519
Investment income	1,298,282	2,235,031	936,749	172%	1,488,000	(747,031)
Miscellaneous Income	854,167	15,070	(839,097)	0%	1,025,000	1,009,930
Total revenue and other sources	259,501,968	257,005,967	(2,496,001)	99%	285,516,000	28,510,033
<b>EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES:</b>						
<b>CURRENT EXPENDITURES</b>						
Cost of energy and scheduling	179,380,345	169,558,139	(9,822,206)	95%	193,510,000	23,951,861
Data management	2,451,008	2,405,240	(45,768)	98%	2,677,000	271,760
Service fees- PG&E	898,204	904,463	6,259	101%	979,000	74,537
Personnel	6,959,332	6,776,712	(182,620)	97%	7,650,000	873,288
Energy Center, marketing & communications	2,629,758	1,995,400	(634,358)	76%	2,951,000	955,600
Customer service	261,285	155,773	(105,512)	60%	291,000	135,227
General and administration	1,086,128	1,033,297	(52,831)	95%	1,190,000	156,703
Legal	379,527	273,905	(105,622)	72%	430,000	156,095
Regulatory and compliance	402,765	198,772	(203,993)	49%	460,000	261,228
Accounting	238,233	249,900	11,667	105%	258,000	8,100
Legislative	191,333	88,000	(103,333)	46%	220,000	132,000
Other consultants	652,217	347,786	(304,431)	53%	746,000	398,214
Industry memberships and dues	515,857	431,874	(83,983)	84%	560,000	128,126
Program implementation	4,677,804	2,295,294	(2,382,510)	49%	5,456,000	3,160,706
Program - CEC grant	3,596,636	1,889,384	(1,707,252)	53%	4,180,000	2,290,616
Total current expenditures	204,320,432	188,603,939	(15,716,493)	92%	221,558,000	32,954,061
<b>OTHER USES</b>						
Capital outlay	509,359	166,743	(342,616)	33%	600,000	433,257
Total expenditures, other uses	204,829,791	188,770,682	(16,059,109)	92%	222,158,000	33,387,318
Net increase (decrease) in available fund balance	\$ 54,672,177	\$ 68,235,285	\$ 13,563,108		\$ 63,358,000	\$ (4,877,285)
* Represents sales of approximately 2,006,000 MWh for 2022/23 YTD actual.						
<b>RESERVES</b>						
Operating Reserve (as of June 30, 2022)	\$ 95,207,000	\$ 169,962,000	56%			

**SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY**  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - OPERATING FUND (CONTINUED)**  
**RECONCILIATION OF NET INCREASE IN AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE**  
**TO CHANGE IN NET POSITION**  
**Eleven Months Ended May 31, 2023**

Net increase (decrease) in available fund balance per budgetary comparison schedule:	\$ 68,235,285
Adjustments needed to reconcile to the changes in net position in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position:	
Subtract depreciation expense	(1,244,412)
Add back capital asset acquisitions	<u>179,606</u>
Change in net position	<u><u>\$ 67,170,479</u></u>



## ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

Management  
Sonoma Clean Power Authority

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Sonoma Clean Power Authority (a California Joint Powers Authority) which comprise the statement of net position as of May 31, 2023, and the related statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position, and the statement of cash flows for the period then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the accompanying statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, conclusion, nor provide any assurance on these financial statements.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the note disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in these interim financial statements. Sonoma Clean Power Authority's annual audited financial statements include the note disclosures omitted from these interim statements. If the omitted disclosures were included in these financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Authority's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to the Authority because we performed certain accounting services that impaired our independence.

*Maher Accountancy*

San Rafael, CA  
June 29, 2023

# SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY

## STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

As of May 31, 2023

### ASSETS

#### Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 60,217,724
Accounts receivable, net of allowance	27,107,395
Other receivables	2,206,384
Accrued revenue	11,218,760
Prepaid expenses	605,477
Deposits	8,810,774
Investments	86,194,406
Total current assets	196,360,920

#### Noncurrent assets

Land	860,520
Capital assets, net of depreciation	17,676,385
Deposits	846,256
Total noncurrent assets	19,383,161
Total assets	215,744,081

### LIABILITIES

#### Current liabilities

Accrued cost of electricity	8,903,434
Accounts payable	962,295
Advanced from grantors	3,074,682
Other accrued liabilities	3,841,773
User taxes and energy surcharges due to other governments	664,859
Total current liabilities	17,447,043

### NET POSITION

Investment in capital assets	18,536,905
Unrestricted	179,760,133
Total net position	\$ 198,297,038

**SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES**  
**AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION**  
**Eleven Months Ended May 31, 2023**

**OPERATING REVENUES**

Electricity sales, net	\$ 250,070,961
Evergreen electricity premium	2,455,778
Grant revenue	285,481
Total operating revenues	<u>252,812,220</u>

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

Cost of electricity	169,558,139
Contract services	8,301,570
Staff compensation	6,776,712
Other operating expenses	1,558,431
Program rebates and incentives	2,396,224
Depreciation	1,244,412
Total operating expenses	<u>189,835,488</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>62,976,732</u>

**NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)**

Grant revenue	1,958,716
Investment earnings (loss)	2,235,031
Nonoperating revenues (expenses), net	<u>4,193,747</u>

**CHANGE IN NET POSITION**

	67,170,479
Net position at beginning of period	<u>131,126,559</u>
Net position at end of period	<u><u>\$ 198,297,038</u></u>

# SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS Eleven Months Ended May 31, 2023

### CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Receipts from customers	\$ 257,723,053
Receipts from grantors	3,880,224
Other operating receipts	10,367,487
Payments to electricity suppliers	(183,250,284)
Payments for other goods and services	(10,463,003)
Payments for staff compensation	(6,668,407)
Tax and surcharge payments to other governments	(3,197,305)
Payments for program rebates and incentives	(3,913,223)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>64,478,542</u>

### CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Grant revenue	<u>1,958,716</u>
---------------	------------------

### CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Payments to acquire capital assets	<u>(281,655)</u>
------------------------------------	------------------

### CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Interest income received	958,579
Purchase of certificates of deposit	<u>(50,000,000)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	<u>(49,041,421)</u>

Net change in cash and cash equivalents	17,114,182
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>43,103,542</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 60,217,724</u>

# SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(Continued)

Eleven Months Ended May 31, 2023

### RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Operating income (loss)	\$ 62,976,732
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:	
Depreciation expense	1,244,412
Revenue adjusted for provision for uncollectible accounts	3,456,879
(Increase) decrease in:	
Accounts receivable	(3,660,362)
Other receivables	(278,674)
Accrued revenue	2,213,049
Prepaid expenses	2,355,766
Deposits	(3,347,793)
Increase (decrease) in:	
Accrued cost of electricity	(6,025,764)
Accounts payable	(351,155)
Advanced from grantors	3,074,682
Accrued liabilities	200,926
User taxes due to other governments	(10,556)
Supplier security deposits	2,630,400
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>\$ 64,478,542</u>





## Staff Report - Item 08

---

**To:** Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

**From:** Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs  
Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer

**Issue:** Receive Legislative Regulatory Updates, Provide Feedback, and Recommend Positions on Bills as Appropriate

**Date:** July 20, 2023

---

### Requested Action

Receive legislative and regulatory updates and provide feedback and recommend positions on bills as appropriate.

### Regulatory Updates

#### CPUC Approves Decision Granting CCA Customers Financial Credit for GHG-free Resources

The California Public Utilities Commission approved a Decision which will provide customers who have left bundled utility service (i.e., those receiving generation service from a CCA or Energy Service Provider) a financial credit for the GHG-free resources they pay for. California law makes a distinction between "renewable" and "GHG-free" resources, with GHG-free including hydroelectric facilities over 50 MW in size and nuclear facilities. The existing Power Charge Indifference Adjustment ("PCIA") mechanism provides CCA customers with a financial credit for the renewable resources procured on their behalf, but not the GHG-free resources.

CPUC staff concluded that the GHG-free resources held in utility portfolios do provide an incremental value for the utility, and that they should compensate CCA customers accordingly. The GHG-free credit will put downward pressure on customer bills by January of 2024. It does not have any impact on the resources SCP uses to provide clean generation to customers.

## CPUC Modifies Resource Adequacy Requirements to Align Resources with Hourly Load

On June 29th, the CPUC approved Decision D. 23-06-029, which addresses outstanding issues in Phase 3 of the Implementation Track within the Resource Adequacy ("RA") proceeding. Most notably, this Decision adopts the "slice of day" proposal put forth by Southern California Edison which requires load serving entities to show procurement of Resource Adequacy supply which correlates with fluctuating demand throughout the day. Historically, Resource Adequacy was based upon a single peak hour of demand. While this change will make compliance with RA requirements more complex, it also underscores the growing value of resources like geothermal that can generate energy 24 hours a day.

It also prevents Load Serving Entities which were noncompliant with year-ahead RA from expanding to serve new territory for the subsequent two years. So, a CCA that fails to meet its year-ahead requirement for Resource Adequacy (the 90% portion due on October 31<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year) would not be permitted to offer service to new communities for the next two years. However, if the CCA that fails to meet their year-ahead requirement does ultimately buy the required capacity by the month-ahead deadline they will be permitted to expand. Entities which are out of compliance with either year-ahead or month-ahead RA requirements will continue to be published on the CPUC website. Now, details about the type of deficiency, time frame, deficient amount, and collective number of violations will also be listed.

The function of PG&E as the central procurement entity for Local Resource Adequacy will continue, as will increased requirements for additional capacity in excess of expected peak need.

## **Legislative Update**

Leadership in the Assembly and Senate reached a broad budget deal on June 26. In the \$310.8 billion budget, spending on climate protection was ultimately cut less than 5% in a compromise brokered by Senate Democrats. The Governor's push to set timelines for environmental review of critical climate projects was eventually pared back significantly in the face of environmental and labor opposition.

The 2023-24 budget process is not over. It is anticipated a budget "junior" bill will be introduced when the Legislature returns from its summer recess in August and a complete picture of the amount of taxes received for 2022 will not be known until the 2022 taxes are filed on October 15.

For CCAs, an early victory was won by pressuring the Senate and Assembly to reject the Governor's policies that would have made it difficult and financially risky for CCAs to continue building new renewable energy and storage projects. Senator McGuire led the successful effort to keep those policies out of the budget deal. However, we expect to have to continue to battle through this entire session to prevent these policies from returning.

CalCCA led a coalition to testify in all of the hearings on the risks, costs and issues with pre-empting CCA authority to select power resources, adding new compliance penalties in a market with insufficient resources, and expanding the potential use of central procurement to include all resources.

#### *New Resource Adequacy Penalties*

Staff believe that efforts to educate legislators and their staff on the overall shortages of the existing Resource Adequacy (RA) market have successfully ended the efforts to create a new additional penalty on top of the existing penalties for missing compliance obligations. It was helpful to share with lawmakers that investor-owned utilities like PG&E are allowed to wait to sell their excess RA resources until after the compliance deadlines, are not required to sell their excess at any time and are financially protected from any harm related to failing to sell their excess.

#### *Central Procurement*

There is broad agreement in the legislature that central procurement is needed for very long lead-time resources needing new transmission pathways like offshore wind. Central Procurement is a process by which the State or a large utility buys a resource and applies the costs to everyone else, and it is used when there is no ability by individual power providers to procure the same resources. To counter the presumption that CCAs cannot build complex resources, CalCCA has illustrated how both offshore wind and large-scale new geothermal power resources were significantly initiated in California by CCAs, and that CC Power already has the financial capability to procure multi-billion-dollar resources.

The Governor's initial budget proposal to allow the CPUC to order PG&E and the other utilities to centrally buy any type of resource for any purpose was successfully beaten back by the CCAs. The reason this proposal is so dangerous for CCAs is that it would essentially prevent CCAs from building any new resources, since the CPUC would be free to assign similar resources to that same CCA later when the CCA would have no use for them, effectively causing ratepayers to pay for a resource they cannot use. The effect is that CCAs could have to stop building new resources altogether.

Regardless, some form of additional Central Procurement is likely to be proposed to solve the perceived inability of the electric power sector to build offshore wind. CalCCA's focus then is to ensure two things:

- All Central Procurement should be through the Department of Water Resources – a state agency – so that every single electric customer in the state will share in the expenses, rather than through the investor-owned utilities where costs could not be shared with the municipal power providers; and
- The types of resources should be limited to very long lead-time technologies that require new transmission pathways, including offshore wind and Salton Sea geothermal.

In the event that the legislature ultimately decides it needs to allow some aspects of Central Procurement to be ordered by the CPUC for the Investor-Owned Utilities to carry out, that focus should be further narrowed to ensure that sufficient opportunity is provided to all electric providers to self-procure before any orders are given.

### *Governor's Permit Streamlining*

The Governor's proposed infrastructure package included 11 measures that were aimed to streamline the permitting process among federal, state and local governments, limit the time courts have to hear challenges on environmental reviews, and increase funding to state agencies. The final compromise narrowed the types of projects that can take advantage of an expedited approval of permits, and left out the contentious proposed delta tunnel proposal, parts of the energy proposal, and transportation proposals. These proposals will be reviewed in the recently created Senate Select Committee on Infrastructure Streamlining and Workforce Equity. Senator McGuire is the Chair of the committee and the committee will take up the following issues as proposed in the Governor's infrastructure package:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Judicial Streamlining

CEQA Administrative Record Reform

Extension of SB 7 (Atkins), Chapter 19, Statutes of 2021: Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021.

Fully Protected Species

Progressive Design Build Contracting Authority for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Department of Water Resources

Job Order Contracting for Caltrans

National Environmental Policy Act Extension

Direct Contracting Authority for I-15 Wildlife Crossings

Environmental Mitigation for Caltrans

Workforce Equity in Infrastructure

### ***Existing Legislative Positions***

- **AB 50 (Wood) - Timely Electrical Interconnection - Support**

Sets reporting requirements for IOUs that are failing to timely connect new homes and businesses to the grid. Requires IOUs to share information about where the grid is deficient and will likely lead to problems with new construction, home electrification and EV charging.

- **AB 538 (Holden) - Regionalization - Watch**

Assembly Member Holden has indicated that this might become a 2-year bill. Would join California's largest grid reliability operations at CAISO with grid operators in other states to "regionalize" the reliability of our grid. The Author's goal is to increase coordination across state boundaries to create a more efficient wholesale power market, lower costs and lower emissions by allowing more day-ahead planning for the use of clean power resources outside California.

- **AB 593 (Haney) - Carbon emission reduction - Support**

Would require the CEC by June 2024 to identify an emission reduction strategy with milestones for the building sector. To date, the State's building codes have a number of implied emission reduction elements (e.g., energy efficiency) but are not explicitly linked. The strategy would need to maximize workforce development, minimize impacts on ratepayers, support the State's extreme heat goals, switch to heat pumps in areas with extreme weather, and reduce barriers for low-income households.

- **AB 643 (Berman) - Electricity Interconnection Timelines - DEAD**

This bill was held. Would have required reports to get more information about delays in connecting customer owned solar and battery resources.

- **AB 914 (Friedman) - Transmission upgrade CEQA timelines - Watch**

This bill originally proposed CEQA exemptions for expanding the capacity of existing transmission lines, but despite support from labor, the IOUs and municipal power, it was narrowed to simply setting a two-year timeline for permitting review. The bill pertains to infrastructure projects needed to accommodate increased electrical demand associated with transportation electrification, building electrification and distributed-energy projects, and the renewable energy and storage supply resources needed to provide for those new loads.

- **AB 982 (Villapudua) - Public Purpose Programs - Watch**

This bill is now a two-year bill. Would shift the financing from gas and electric rates to state general tax appropriations for most programs funding low-income weatherization, energy efficiency, customer-owned renewable energy and storage incentives, home insulation programs, rate assistance for food banks and the small-scale biomass program.

- **AB 1379 (Papan) - Open meetings: teleconference - DEAD**

This bill was held. Would have removed the restrictions on the ability of legislative body members to teleconference into open and public meetings.

- **AB 1538 (Muratsuchi) - Clean Energy Reliability - DEAD**

This bill was held. Would have established a Clean Energy Reliability Program to be administered by the CPUC to provide incentive payments to electricity providers that bring clean energy resources online earlier than their compliance requirements.

- **SB 83 (Wiener/Wood) - Interconnection Timelines - DEAD**

This bill was held. Would have imposed specific deadlines for an IOU connecting new homes, solar power systems, batteries and other resources.

- **SB 319 (McGuire) - Electricity transmission planning - Support**

Would require the CEC, CPUC, and CAISO to review and report on their transmission needs and plans over the next decade.

- **SB 410 (Becker) - Powering Up Californians Act - Support**

Would require the CPUC to ensure IOUs connect new buildings and electricity service capacity upgrades to customers on a reasonable timeframe. Sets an average and maximum timeline in which electrical utilities should connect customers to the grid.

- **SB 411 (Portantino) - Remote Meetings - Was Support; now No Position**

Originally, the bill would have allowed fully remote meetings for bodies whose members are appointed. However, the bill was amended in committee on April 20 to limit its scope to neighborhood associations in Los Angeles County, so SCP now has no position.

- **SB 527 (Min) - Neighborhood Decarbonization - Support**

Would require the CPUC for a five-year pilot period to facilitate neighborhood-scale retrofits from gas to electric infrastructure when it is cost effective (e.g., during times when the gas infrastructure would otherwise need major repairs or replacement), and where it prioritizes alleviating the pollution burden in areas with the highest impacts (e.g., low-income, disadvantaged). After five years, the pilot would be assessed and the CPUC would decide in its sole discretion whether to continue it. Critically, the bill would clarify that a gas company does not have an obligation to provide gas when AB 527 conditions allow a conversation to electric energy.

- **SB 537 (Becker) - Public meeting teleconference - Support**

Would allow multijurisdictional, cross county legislative bodies to use alternate teleconferencing provisions similar to the emergency provisions indefinitely and without regard to a state of emergency. Requires a multijurisdictional legislative body to provide a record of attendance on its internet website within seven days after a teleconference meeting along with immunocompromisation in the list of health exemptions from previous legislation.

### ***Positions Taken Since Last Meeting***

- **AB 1373 (E. Garcia) - Energy - NEUTRAL**

This bill was used as the vehicle to allow hearings and debate about the Governor's proposed energy policies. Originally, the Governor had placed a number of energy policies into his budget, which would have prevented

hearings on those topics.

After significant work by SCP, numerous other CCAs and the CalCCA trade association, AB 1373 was amended to address most of the serious concerns, including: (a) shifting central procurement from the investor-owned utilities to the State Department of Water Resources to ensure that all electric customers (including municipal customers) pay for critical statewide reliability resources; (b) eliminating a duplicative new financial penalty for resource adequacy deficiencies; and (c) narrowing the scope of central procurement to offshore wind and geothermal to prevent widespread market disruption and allow CCAs to continue building new resources.

The remaining issue with the bill is that while it detailed all the guardrails for central procurement by the State, in a separate section it left the door open for the CPUC to order central procurement by the investor-owned utilities without any limitations (i.e., they would be able to pre-empt CCA rights to procure and order the IOUs to centrally procure solar and batteries, wind and generally anything the CPUC deemed essential). See the attached letter to read the specific requests SCP continues to make on the bill.

### ***Proposed New Legislative Positions***

None.

### **Attachments**

- Attachment A - SCP AB1373 Letter - Neutral
- Attachment B - Federal Register - Notice of Prelim. Permit Application





431 E Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
[sonomacleanpower.org](http://sonomacleanpower.org)

June 30, 2023

Senator Steve Bradford  
Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 3350  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Neutral on AB 1373 with requested amendments**

Dear Chair Bradford:

Based on amendments taken on May 22, the Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCP), serving the counties of Sonoma and Mendocino, has adopted a NEUTRAL position on the bill. If California walks down the path of central procurement of strategic resources, SCP supports AB 1373's approach of placing the responsibility solely with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and limiting the scope of resources to offshore wind and geothermal resources.

While SCP appreciates the Assembly's tailored approach to strategic central procurement, however, one critical clarifying amendment is needed. AB 1373 appropriately places adequate guardrails around DWR as a central procurement entity that will mitigate the risk of market disruption and protect ratepayers. However, while perhaps inadvertent, the bill establishes no guardrails around IOU central procurement and, in fact, appears to expand the IOUs' role. The IOU's role in central procurement should be clarified to prevent market disruptions, enable CCA customers to benefit from low cost public financing, and avoid interfering with other procurement required in Integrated Resource Planning. If a CCA or any other LSE fails to do their job, CalCCA's amendment (below) gives the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) a tool to keep the state moving in the right direction. For this reason, we request that the following provision to be added to PUC Section 380 in the proposal:

**The commission may not direct an electrical corporation to procure resources on behalf of another load-serving entity to expand resource diversity or meet the state policy specified in Section 454.53 unless:**

**(1) The commission has first identified the resources needed to meet these objectives and provided the opportunity for each load-serving entity to procure the resources on behalf of its customers; and**

**(2) The load-serving entity has not procured these resources within a reasonable time frame specified by the commission.**

We feel this amendment will give regulators the tools to ensure energy reliability and to reach our decarbonization goals while preserving the right for communities to make their own energy procurement decisions in the interest of the ratepayers they represent.

We greatly appreciate the many amendments already made to refine this proposal to better reflect the stated intent and look forward to continuing working with you to resolve our remaining concerns. If you have any questions, please contact Geof Syphers at 707-225-1073.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geof Syphers", with a large, fluid loop at the end.

Geof Syphers, CEO

cc: Senator McGuire

p. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202)502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

q. The Commission's scoping process will help determine the required level of analysis and satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping requirements, irrespective of whether the Commission prepares an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

### Scoping Meetings

Commission staff will hold two scoping meetings for the project to receive input on the scope of the NEPA document. An evening meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 2, 2023, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bakersfield, California, and will focus on receiving input from the public. A daytime meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the same day, at the same location, and will focus on the concerns of resource agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Indian tribes. We invite all interested agencies, Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to attend one or both meetings. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

#### Evening Scoping Meeting

*Date:* Wednesday, August 2, 2023.

*Time:* 6:00 p.m. (PST).

*Place:* Hilton Garden Inn.

*Address:* 3625 Marriot Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308.

*Phone:* (661) 716-1000.

#### Daytime Scoping Meeting

*Date:* Wednesday, August 2, 2023.

*Time:* 9:00 a.m. (PST).

*Place:* Hilton Garden Inn.

*Address:* 3625 Marriot Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308.

*Phone:* (661) 716-1000.

SD1, which outlines the subject areas to be addressed in the environmental document, was mailed to the individuals and entities on the Commission's mailing list and SCE's distribution list. Copies of SD1 may be

viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link. Follow the directions for accessing information in paragraph n. Based on all oral and written comments, a Scoping Document 2 (SD2) may be issued. SD2 may include a revised process plan and schedule, as well as a list of issues, identified through the scoping process.

### Environmental Site Review

The applicant and Commission staff will conduct an environmental site review of the project. All interested individuals, agencies, tribes, and NGOs are invited to attend. All participants are responsible for their own transportation to/from the project and during the site visit. Participants must wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, or boots. Please RSVP via email to [David.Moore@sce.com](mailto:David.Moore@sce.com) or notify David Moore at (626) 302-9494 on or before July 28, 2023 if you plan to attend the environmental site review. The time and location of the environmental site review is as follows:

#### Kern River No. 1 Project

*Date:* Tuesday, August 1, 2023.

*Time:* 9:00 a.m. (PST).

*Place:* Kern 1 Powerhouse.

*Address:* 21400 CA-178, Bakersfield, CA 93306.

Participants must meet at the Kern 1 Powerhouse parking lot to begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. with a tour of the powerhouse. After the powerhouse, we will travel to the Democrat Dam and the Democrat put-in/take-out recreation site.

### Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, Commission staff will: (1) initiate scoping of the issues; (2) review and discuss existing conditions; (3) review and discuss existing information and identify preliminary information and study needs; (4) review and discuss the process plan and schedule for pre-filing activity that incorporates the time frames provided for in Part 5 of the Commission's regulations and, to the extent possible, maximizes coordination of federal, state, and tribal permitting and certification processes; and (5) discuss the potential of any federal or state agency or Indian tribe to act as a cooperating agency for development of an environmental document.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns. Please review the PAD in preparation for the scoping meetings. Directions on how to obtain a copy of the PAD and SD1 are included in item n of this document.

### Meeting Procedures

Commission staff are moderating the scoping meetings. The meetings are recorded by an independent stenographer and become part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the project. Individuals, NGOs, Indian tribes, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meeting and to assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed in the NEPA document.

Dated: June 29, 2023.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2023-14262 Filed 7-5-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15287-000]

#### **HGE Energy Storage 3 LLC; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications**

On September 27, 2022, HGE Energy Storage LLC, filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Fort Ross Pumped Storage Project to be located in Sonoma County, California, adjacent to the Pacific Ocean, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of Fort Ross State Historic Park. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The pumped storage hydropower project will consist of: (1) a new upper reservoir with a surface area of 23 acres and a storage volume of 5,600 acre-feet at a maximum water-surface elevation of 1,500 feet mean sea level; (2) a 12,000 foot-long, 10-foot-diameter steel-lined conduit that connects the reservoir to the powerhouse; (3) a 250-foot-long, 30-foot-wide, 100-foot-high, steel-reinforced concrete powerhouse constructed 100 feet below ground level, with five 250-megawatt (MW) reversible variable-speed pump-turbines, with a combined installed capacity of 1,250-MW that discharge into the Pacific Ocean; (4) a 100-foot-high, 30-foot-wide

(2022). Because the filing deadline falls on a Saturday (*i.e.*, September 2, 2023), the filing deadline is extended until the close of business on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

vertical access tunnel from ground level to the powerhouse; (5) a vertical intake structure and breakwater of undetermined size and design to lead from the tailrace to the powerhouse and to dissipate discharge energy; (6) a 500-foot-long, 250-foot-wide concrete-lined tailrace; and (7) a 0.5-mile-long, 69-kilovolt line extending from the powerhouse to a planned AC-DC converter station. The estimated annual energy production of the project would be approximately 3,714,406 megawatt-hours.

**Applicant Contact:** Mr. Wayne Krouse, HGE Energy Storage 3 LLC, 2901 4th Avenue South, #B 253, Birmingham, AL 35233; email: [wayne@hgenenergy.com](mailto:wayne@hgenenergy.com); phone: (877) 556-6566 X 709.

**FERC Contact:** Shannon Archuleta; email: [shannon.archuleta@ferc.gov](mailto:shannon.archuleta@ferc.gov); phone (503) 552-2739.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members, and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202)502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov). Comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications should be submitted within 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters without prior registration using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please get in touch with FERC Online Support at [FEROnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FEROnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). Instead of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room

1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-15287-000.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed on the Commission's website (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number (P-15287) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, do not hesitate to get in touch with FERC Online Support.

Dated: June 29, 2023.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-14258 Filed 7-5-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2290-122]

#### Southern California Edison; Notice of Environmental Site Review

On August 1, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time), Commission staff and Southern California Edison (SCE), the licensee for the Kern River No. 3 Hydroelectric Project No. 2290 (project), will conduct an environmental site review of the project. All interested individuals, agencies, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

The site review will include the project powerhouse, Corral Creek Diversion, Salmon Creek Diversion, and commence at Fairview Dam. Please note that all participants are responsible for their own transportation to/from the project and during the site review tour. If you are interested in attending, or have questions regarding the site review, please RSVP David Moore with SCE at [David.Moore@sce.com](mailto:David.Moore@sce.com) or (626) 302-9494 on or before July 28, 2023.

Participants will meet at the put-in/take-out recreation site just downstream of the project's powerhouse located at: 15171 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA 93238. Participants should arrive early for coordination purposes and to begin the tour promptly at 1:00 p.m. Additionally, participants must wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, or boots.

Dated: June 29, 2023.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-14259 Filed 7-5-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings # 2

Take notice that the Commission received the following Complaints and Compliance filings in EL Dockets:

**Docket Numbers:** EL23-57-002.

**Applicants:** Lee County Generating Station, LLC v. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

**Description:** Joint Request of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. and Lee County Generating Station, LLC for Waiver of Tariff Provisions, Expedited Consideration and Shortened Comment Period.

**Filed Date:** 6/28/23.

**Accession Number:** 20230628-5195.

**Comment Date:** 5 p.m. ET 7/3/23.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

**Docket Numbers:** ER23-1770-001.

**Applicants:** Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.

**Description:** Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.17(b): AMEA Revised NITSA Amendment Filing (DNR LOC) to be effective 8/1/2023.

**Filed Date:** 6/29/23.

**Accession Number:** 20230629-5043.

**Comment Date:** 5 p.m. ET 7/20/23.

**Docket Numbers:** ER23-2295-000.  
**Applicants:** Invenergy Solar Project Development LLC.

**Description:** Petition of Invenergy Solar Project Development LLC for Prospective One-Time Limited Waiver Request of the Deadline Set in Section 212.4(C) of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. OATT.

**Filed Date:** 6/28/23.

**Accession Number:** 20230628-5184.

**Comment Date:** 5 p.m. ET 7/12/23.

**Docket Numbers:** ER23-2298-000.  
**Applicants:** Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., Union Electric Company.

**Description:** § 205(d) Rate Filing: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii): 2023-06-29\_Union Electric d/b/a Ameren Missouri Depreciation Rates to be effective 7/1/2023.