

# MEETING MINUTES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024 1:00 P.M.

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# **CALL TO ORDER**

(1:02 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:02:12)

Chair Morris called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present: Chair Morris, Vice Chair Lipp, and Members Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Hagen, Heffler, and Nicholls. Members Wang and Kelly were absent with prior notice.

Member Nicholls notified the Committee and public that he was participating remotely pursuant to AB 2449 guidelines.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning & Analytics; Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager; and Kimberly Beltran, Technical Programs Manager.

### **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR**

(1:04 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:56)

- 1. Approve September 19, 2024, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve the Updated Financial Policy B.5 Investments
- 3. Receive the Updated AG-5-B and AG-5-E Rates Effective October 1, 2024

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the October 17, 2024, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Dowd

Second: Member Heffler

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Morris, Lipp, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Hagen, Heffler, Nicholls

ABSENT: Wang, Kelly

### **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR**

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

(1:06 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:06:23)

Geof Syphers, CEO, introduced Rebecca Simonson as the Director of SCP's new Capital Projects and Engineering Department. Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, announced that the Customer Center was in Phase 1 of changes being made in order to better serve customers. Director Reynolds gave an update on SCP's events and invited Kimberly Beltran, Technical Programs Manager, to give an update on GridSavvy. Ms. Beltran mentioned that Enel X Way USA (Enel X) would be ending their Juice Box Charger service, but she clarified that the chargers would still function for vehicle charging, however the software would no longer transfer usage data. She also mentioned that the timing of the announcement by Enel X caught SCP by surprise and more information was likely to unfold.

Member Hollinshead asked if SCP knew why Enel X made this decision and Ms. Beltran stated that their explanation was the company is changing management and focus. Member Heffler said he hadn't been given any advance notice as a customer. Chair Morris mentioned that she had received a message from Enel X that the box would still work, but she asked if it would have an impact on public chargers. Ms. Beltran answered that it would. Member Soto said that it is a problem if this could happen without warning. CEO Syphers added that it was still possible for another company to take over the software management capability.

CEO Syphers mentioned that SCP had just received a California Energy Commission grant for Virtual Power Plant Flex which would work on automated demand response within low-income communities, and that more information would be shared in upcoming meetings. Director Reynolds discussed financials and mentioned SCP would be receiving the annual external audit in December. Public Comment: None

5. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

(1:25 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:25:32)

CEO Syphers stated that the Board of Directors (Board) had reluctantly accepted the allocation of energy from Diablo Canyon, which the legislature had mandated SCP's customers to pay for. Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager, gave a legislative update and mentioned SCP's sponsored bill AB 1359 (Papan) was signed into law.

Chair Morris asked what happened with affordability bills and Mr. Horton replied that some passed, and some failed. Member Heffler congratulated SCP on its legislative victories. Member Hollinshead asked if the environmental exemption for large-scale data center backup power bill had been quashed and Mr. Horton confirmed that it had.

Public Comment: None

6. Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update

(1:41 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:41:25)

Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics, announced that he had attended a workshop with the Department of Energy (DOE) in Washington D.C. Director Tracey discussed the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and transmission. He discussed the California Energy Commission's upcoming grant workshop and stated that he would be working on a joint regional grant with Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake Counties.

Member Dowd stated that he wants SCP to keep up the good work with GeoZone. Member Hagen asked what the major roadblocks for GeoZone are, and Director Tracey answered it is mostly timelines for CEQA and exploratory drilling. Chair Morris asked if there have been any legislative attempts to streamline CEQA and Director Tracey said there have been bills, but most were happening at the federal level. Chair Morris then asked if the Federal report on transmission was coming out soon, and Director Tracey stated the DOE was taking an approach as to what makes sense. Member Nicholls stated that it would be beneficial for SCP to work with Sonoma and Mendocino County's Economic Development Districts and CEO Syphers stated he would like to discuss the GeoZone with them. Member

Hollinshead asked if fracking is used at the Geysers and Director Tracey described the methods used in the GeoZone and the differences between oil and gas fracking, versus the methods used for geothermal. Member Soto asked if the GeoZone could end up in capital projects and CEO Syphers answered that it is too soon to know, but having the capacity to build and operate facilities is something SCP is working toward over the coming years.

Public Comment: None

7. Receive an Update Regarding the Five-Year Contract with Sacramento Municipal Utility District for Data Management, Billing, and Contact Center Services

(2:16 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:16:34)

CEO Syphers thanked staff for their work on this item and discussed the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and its history. CEO Syphers discussed SMUD's customer satisfaction ratings, SCP's history using Calpine Energy Solutions' billing, data management services, and call center software. The contract was approved by the Board at the October meeting, but unfortunately negotiations hadn't been completed in time for the Committee to review ahead of the Board.

Public Comment: None

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(2:25 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:25:24)

Michael Heffler discussed billing and community benefits.

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

(2:31 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:31:05)

Public Comment: None

### **ADJOURN**

(2:33 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:33:33)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted

Darin A. Bartow, JD Clerk of the Board

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