



**MEETING MINUTES
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025
1:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

(1:02 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:02:34)

Chair Lipp called the meeting to order.

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

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager; Sean Dalton, Events Manager,

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

(1:03 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:34)

1. Approve February 20, 2025, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
2. Receive Monthly Financial Report
3. Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the March 20, 2025, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Dowd

Second: Member Nicholls

Motion passed by roll call vote.

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

ABSENT: Wang, Morris

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: 00:08:12)

Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, recommended that members review SCP’s annual report and provided updates on the Smart Thermostat Direct Install Program and the GridSavvy Program. Geof Syphers, CEO, shared that earlier in the week, SCP staff visited Covelo in Mendocino County to meet with members of the Round Valley Tribes. CEO Syphers also noted that both the City of Clearlake and the City of Lakeport have requested feasibility studies for expanding SCP service to their cities. CEO Syphers mentioned that Lake County had previously requested a feasibility study, but the costs were prohibitive at the time. CEO Syphers emphasized that the expansion process is being approached carefully, and that SCP staff would present data to the Board of Directors (Board) and the Community Advisory Committee (Committee).

Chair Lipp noted that Lake County residents cannot access CPUC assistance for installing electrical appliances and recommended that SCP consider this and potential assistance options as they plan for expansion. Vice Chair Kelly asked for a high-level description of what would make expansion feasible, and CEO Syphers replied that the economics of the service and its impact on existing customers are key considerations. Member Dowd expressed concern that an agreement to build in Lake County could lead to unforeseen cost increases. Member Nicholls noted that the expansion timeline is longer than the previous expansion to Mendocino County. CEO Syphers explained that the timeline is governed by new CPUC rules requiring SCP to procure prescribed amounts of energy in advance of adding a territory and the earliest service could begin in Lake County would be January 2027

Public Comment: None

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

(1:31 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:31:09)

Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, discussed gas line mapping and mentioned that SCP had submitted comments on SB 1221 advocating transparency, affordability, and climate goals.

Chair Lipp asked if there was any consideration given to pilot communities for undergrounding and retaining the same level of service as other ratepayers. Director Reardon said it would be important for implementation and a lack of coordination could be an issue. Member Nicholls asked if natural gas becomes obsolete can the service lines be used for undergrounding and CEO Syphers explained that reusing the lines would be difficult.

Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager, discussed 3 bills that SCP is supporting in California's legislative Assembly Bills 526 (Papan), 527 (Papan), and 531 (Rogers). The bills are currently waiting for referrals to committee. Mr. Horton then discussed SCP's Lobby Days on March 4th and 11th in Sacramento where the team met with key legislators and staff, including the chairs of relevant committees, and discussed geothermal and transmission issues.

Member Heffler asked where opposition for these bills would come from, and CEO Syphers explained that environmental issues are usually brought up. Member Heffler then asked if Governor Newsom was changing the rules regarding solar energy and Director Reardon answered that he would be discussing this in the future.

Public Comment: None

6. Receive an Update on Educational Partnerships and Youth Workforce Development Efforts

(1:49 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:49:25)

Sean Dalton, Events Manager, gave an update on SCP's educational partnerships and developments in the youth workforce.

Chair Lipp said that he liked seeing all this information given together and Vice Chair Kelly said that these partnerships were critical to SCP's mission. Member Nicholls asked what SCP was doing for West Sonoma County and Mr. Dalton answered that there was a lot of work done with Sonoma Water in that area. Vice Chair Kelly mentioned that SCP should work with school districts for all

electric programs and SCP should investigate loans for electrification. Member Soto stated that SCP is a model for internship programs.

Public Comment: None

7. Receive an Update on Events and Community Engagement Efforts

(2:16 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:16:52)

Mr. Dalton then gave an update on SCP's events and community engagement efforts.

Vice Chair Kelly asked if workshops held at the Customer Center were recorded and Mr. Dalton said they were and collected on SCP's website. Chair Lipp asked if SCP was working on making these available at priority locations in difficult to serve areas and Mr. Dalton said yes, but SCP was always trying to improve its outreach.

Public Comment: David Harris discussed EVs and limitations on holding meeting at the Customer Center.

8. Review and Provide Feedback on the Draft Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

(2:32 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:32:19)

Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, mentioned that this was the Committee's first look at the draft budget. The Committee will get an additional chance to review the draft budget and make a recommendation to the Board. The Board would also review the draft budget at two public meetings before voting to adopt it. He discussed revenues and expenditures. CEO Syphers explained the need to keep a reserve for events like the September 2023 heat event. CFO Salisbury then explained SCP's capital outlays and fund balances.

Vice Chair Kelly asked what the dollar figure was for 7% rate savings and CEO Syphers said that it was about \$50 million. Member Nicholls asked staff for an estimation of PCIA increases and CEO Syphers responded that there will probably be a large true-up and there is a large PCIA increase in the forecast.

2:53 p.m. Member Nicholls exited the meeting.

Public Comment: David Harris discussed the PCIA.

9. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve Proposed Energy Project Selection Criteria

(2:57 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:57:37)

CEO Syphers began the discussion of the item by giving a brief history of how the request for this item came from the Board and he mentioned that the Board wanted input from the Committee. He mentioned that this was a second draft and staff were trying to balance labor benefits and local projects. CEO Syphers discussed the selection criteria and added that the CPUC is a driver for project purchases because of procurement mandates. CEO Syphers said that it is difficult to add mandates because it can increase costs, but he added that some CCAs have adopted policies like this. He said that the goal of the policy is for SCP to try and meet some of labor's demands but also listen to local developers.

Chair Lipp explained to the Committee that he was looking for a high-level conversation and didn't want to get hung up on details. Vice Chair Kelly added that he didn't want to let perfection be the enemy of progress when discussing the policy. CEO Syphers explained that in drafting the policy there was a balance between allowing the highest standards but not losing bidders.

Member Dowd stated that a lot of work had been put into this policy, but he would like SCP to stay flexible. Member Hollinshead asked what the downside to postponing the adoption of this policy was and CEO Syphers responded that the ambiguity is not good. Member Soto asked how often it would be reasonable to revisit the policy and CEO Syphers said that it would be better to review as often as possible. Vice Chair Kelly asked how SCP's current portfolio would compare to implementation and CEO Syphers explained that the differences with large projects would be small, but small and out of state projects would be affected. Chair Lipp expressed concerns that priority workers would be left out of small projects, and he was concerned that this policy wouldn't help the community. CEO Syphers explained that he worried that lowering the level of MWs required for small projects would limit the amount of bids SCP received on projects. Member Hollinshead asked if this item could be tabled, and CEO Syphers said that was up to the Chair of the Board.

Public Comment: Holly Adams discussed the policy as it relates to her company SunZia and her comment is attached to these minutes.

Motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve proposed Energy Selection Criteria by Member Dowd

Second: Member Heffler

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Soto, Dowd, Hagen, Heffler

NOES: Lipp, Kelly

ABSTAIN: Hollinshead

ABSENT: Wang, Morris, Nicholls

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

(3:47 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:47:28)

Member Hollinshead announced that the Climate Action Committee of Mendocino County would be hosting all-electric home tours on April 26, 2025, in Ukiah. Member Soto announced that he had attended lunch with Adam Jorge, Senior Decarbonization Policy Manager, and they discussed Sonoma State University's Decarbonization policies.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

(3:48 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:48:37)

Public Comment: Tim Frank discussed the Procurement policy, and his comment is attached to these minutes.

ADJOURN

(3:49 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:49:17)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted,



Darin A. Bartow, JD
Clerk of the Board

Dear SCP Community Advisory Committee, Pattern Energy would like to submit comments below for Agenda Item 9 regarding the Energy Project Selection Criteria.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment to the SCP Community Advisory Committee. Pattern Energy is a leader in renewable energy and transmission infrastructure. We have developed or are currently developing and operating 29 GWs of wind, solar, transmission and energy storage projects across North America. Our projects have created over 10,000 construction and operations jobs.

SCP is one of several off-takers of SunZia Wind, which, together with SunZia Transmission, is the largest clean energy infrastructure project in U.S. history. This project is comprised of two wind energy facilities that will generate over 3,500 MWs of renewable energy much of which will be delivered to Southern California through the 550-mile transmission line under construction in New Mexico and Arizona.

SunZia fits well within SCP's IRP and provides renewable energy during hours most needed in the state of California. Critical projects like SunZia may have difficulty being selected under this draft policy. While we always try to hire local, the scale of SunZia makes 30% challenging. By applying an arbitrary percentage, it disadvantages large projects that probably hire more local workers than a smaller project on a pure numbers' standpoint.

Our experience is that local hire requirements may adversely impact workers by cutting workers ability to work in multiple areas. We need projects spread throughout California and neighboring states to deliver resource diversity. Workers need to be able to work on multiple projects, over multiple areas throughout their careers. On SunZia, the IBEW members working under the PLA have moved over a 550-mile two-state area.

Instead, Pattern supports local enrollment into qualified apprentice programs. This provides stable long-term employment that brings reliable, lower cost power. Please consider impacts to projects like SunZia, and whether SCP is willing to close the door on those opportunities due to this proposed policy.

Holly Adams

Vice President of Origination

The Workforce and EJ alliance proposal is for preferences, except for owned projects, so aligns well with many of the comments here.

Tim Frank