

AGENDA COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025 1:00 P.M.

EXCEPT AS PERMITTED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(F), MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNE 12, 2025, MEETING AT THE LOCATION SHOWN BELOW.

SONOMA CLEAN POWER BUSINESS OFFICE 431 E STREET SANTA ROSA, CA 95404

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

Comments may be provided in person at the physical meeting location. Comments may be submitted in writing to <u>meetings@sonomacleanpower.org</u>. For detailed public comment instructions, <u>please visit this page</u>. Please note that live remote public comment will not be taken unless required by Government Code section 54953(f). If required, it will be announced by the Chair. Members of the public should attend in person or provide written comment to ensure they can provide public comment.

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 as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

For further clarification on any of the items listed please contact (855) 202-2139 and staff will be happy to assist.

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)

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

pg. 5 1. Approve May 15, 2025, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (Staff Recommendation: Approve) 2. Receive Monthly Financial Report (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) pg. 11 3. Recommend that the Board of Directors Approve Proposed Amendment to pg. 15 Customer Service Policy A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections and A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy (Staff Recommendation: Approve) 4. Recommend that the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the Chief pg. 23 Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute Task Order #2 of the Foundational Professional Agreement with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District for Debt Collection Services Effective through December 31, 2029 (Staff Recommendation: Approve) pg. 31 5. Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR** 6. Receive Internal Operations Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate pg. 35 (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) 7. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Feedback as pg. 41 Appropriate (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) pg. 45 8. Receive Update on Tribal Engagement Efforts (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File) 9. Receive Overview of Emerging Technologies for Potential Consideration in pg. 53 the 2025 Integrated Resource Plan and Provide Feedback as Appropriate (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File)

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.)

ADJOURN

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS AND TERMS

CAC Community Advisory Committee

CAISO California Independent Systems Operator - the grid operator

CCA Community Choice Aggregator - a community-owned 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 to

help California increase power reliability.

IOU Investor-Owned Utility - for-profit distribution utilities like 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.

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

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DRAFT MEETING MINUTES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2025 1:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

(1:02 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:02:21)

Chair Lipp called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present: Chair Lipp, Members Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Morris, and Nicholls. Vice Chair Kelly and Member Heffler were absent without prior notice.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics; and Adam Jorge, Senior Decarbonization Policy Manager.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

(1:03 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:28)

- Approve April 17, 2025, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2. Receive Monthly Financial Report
- 3. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Feedback as Appropriate
- 4. Recommend the Board of Directors Delegate Authority to the Chief Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with S2 Advertising for Comprehensive Media Consulting Services with a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$2,100,000 over a Three-Year Term
- Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute a New Contract with Sonoma Water for the Continuation of the Energy and Environment Education Program

through June 30, 2027, with an Annual Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$300,000 and Aggregate Contract Value of \$600,000

6. Receive Internal Operations Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

1:03 Vice Chair Kelly entered the meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the May 16, 2025, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Nicholls

Second: Member Dowd

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Morris, Nicholls

ABSENT: Heffler

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR

7. Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update and Recommend the Board Approve the Delegated Authority to the Chief Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute Amendment #1 to the Geothermal Opportunity Zone Cooperation Agreement with Eavor Inc.

(1:05 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:05:02)

Geof Syphers, CEO, introduced the item by giving background on SCP's legislative efforts regarding geothermal energy and introduced Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics. Director Tracey reported that SCP's GeoZone partners are not meeting original deadlines, and that SCP has ended its agreement with Cyrq Energy. Director Tracey explained that Eavor also faces delays due to difficulties securing a project site, and he stated that SCP proposes amending the agreement to retain Eavor as a partner and keep the project moving. Director Tracey mentioned that Eavor may bring in a third-party investor to provide capital and expertise.

Member Morris asked how third-party involvement would affect the project and Director Tracey explained the third party would offer financial, development, and technical support. Member Hollinshead inquired about geothermal equipment lifespan and costs and Director Tracey mentioned that initial costs are high, but long-term operational costs are low, and that SCP will likely purchase power from GeoZone projects via a 20-year fixed-price agreement, and he mentioned that Eavor's technology generates both electricity and heat, which could be used for heating and cooling nearby buildings. Member Hollinshead asked if the closed-loop system requires hot rock and Director Tracey clarified that while hot rock may be preferred, it is not required.

Public Comment: None

Motion to recommend the Board Approve the Delegated Authority to the Chief Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute Amendment #1 to the Geothermal Opportunity Zone Cooperation Agreement with Eavor Inc. by Member Hollinshead

Second: Member Nicholls

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Morris, Nicholls

ABSENT: Heffler

8. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve Revised Environmental Performance Targets for the Sonoma Clean Power Portfolio to Improve Rate Competitiveness

(1:18 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:18:05)

Director Tracey stated that in 2022 SCP created an ambitious environmental target of building a portfolio that by 2026 SCP would be delivering as much clean energy to the grid on an hourly basis as its load was incurring. Director Tracey explained that due to regulatory and market shifts, the cost of meeting this target has increased significantly and staff now recommend adjusting the voluntary target to 85% mitigation.

Chair Lipp asked if other CCAs have similar goals and Director Tracey noted that Peninsula Clean Power had a comparable target but has since scaled back, and some CCAs have no voluntary goals. Member Hollinshead questioned why economic collapse isn't factored into cost projections and CEO Syphers responded that while there's no perfect answer, SCP's role includes helping customers manage energy costs to maintain public support

for emissions reduction. Member Soto emphasized balancing economic concerns with SCP's leadership role and asked about differences between the 85% and 100% targets. CEO Syphers explained that the 85% goal still exceeds the standards of other California providers while reducing the cost burden on ratepayers. Vice Chair Kelly stressed the importance of price stability, while Member Hagen asked about nuclear power's role. Director Tracey said nuclear procurement has helped SCP reach its current mitigation level. Member Morris supported the 85% target as a balanced approach, though noted it doesn't account for the benefits of avoided CO_2 emissions, and she underscored the importance of hourly emissions tracking and urged continued progress toward 100%, especially as national emissions may rise in the future.

Public Comment: None

Motion to recommend the Board of Directors Approve Revised Environmental Performance Targets for the Sonoma Clean Power Portfolio to Improve Rate Competitiveness by Member Morris

Second: Member Dowd

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Morris, Nicholls

ABSENT: Heffler

9. Recommend the Board of Directors Determine that Expansion to Unincorporated Lake County, the City of Clearlake, and the City of Lakeport is Consistent with Policy D-4 and Begin Consideration of Proposed Expansion with an Intent to Offer Service After 60-Day Waiting Period

(1:43 P.M. - Video Time Stamp: 00:43:48)

CEO Syphers expressed support for expanding SCP service to Lake County, citing potential benefits for both Lake County and SCP's existing customers. He emphasized the need to consider expansion carefully because it is difficult to exit a CCA once it is joined. Director Ryan Tracey noted the expansion is projected to generate savings, which could be used for ratepayer relief or reserves.

Chair Lipp highlighted the importance of aligning expansion with key SCP priorities like the GeoZone. Member Dowd supported expansion, pointing to

Lake County's proximity to SCP's service area and geothermal fields, as well as limited future expansion opportunities. Vice Chair Kelly asked about future savings from utility debt repayments, and CEO Syphers responded that significant savings are unlikely, as aging fossil fuel resources are still in use. Member Hagen asked how Lake County compares to Mendocino County regarding risk and CEO Syphers said Lake County carries slightly higher nonpayment risk, which could be mitigated through small rate adjustments. Member Morris asked about the cost of propane vs. electricity and CEO Syphers explained propane is more expensive than natural gas and roughly comparable to electricity. Member Morris asked if SCP might issue bonds to fund reserve gaps and CEO Syphers responded it's uncertain but possible. Member Morris then asked whether opt-out rates in Lake County would likely match those seen in Mendocino, and CEO Syphers said opt-out rates are difficult to predict due to various factors. Member Wang asked if Lake could join another CCA, and CEO Syphers said nearby CCAs are unlikely to serve the area. Member Hagen inquired about the cost of switching from propane to electricity.

Public Comment: None

Motion to recommend the Board of Directors Determine that Expansion to Unincorporated Lake County, the City of Clearlake, and the City of Lakeport is Consistent with Policy D-4 and Begin Consideration of Proposed Expansion with an Intent to Offer Service After 60-Day Waiting Period by Member Dowd

Second: Member Kelly

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Morris, Nicholls

ABSENT: Heffler

10. Receive a Presentation on Energy Sector Regulatory Agencies

(2:39 P.M. - Video Time Stamp: 01:39:14)

CEO Syphers introduced Adam Jorge, Senior Decarbonization Policy Manager, who gave a presentation on policy development, key energy regulatory agencies, and SCP's progress in this area. Vice Chair Kelly asked how customer interests are represented in California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) general rate cases, and Mr. Jorge explained that advocacy is primarily handled through CalCCA and other trade groups. CEO Syphers added that, despite 25 active CCAs, their influence on rates remains limited, as the CPUC is evaluated more on policy implementation than on rate outcomes. Member Morris asked if regulatory agency board members are appointed by the governor, and Mr. Jorge said they are with confirmation from the State Senate. Chair Kelly asked how CCAs collaborate in the regulatory process, and Mr. Jorge said SCP handles local issues in-house and works with CalCCA on statewide efforts.

Public Comment: None

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

(3:13 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:13:32)

Member Hagen announced she is now a grandmother.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

(3:15 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:15:03)

Public Comment: None

ADJOURN

(3:15 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:15:21)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.



Staff Report - Item 02

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

Chris Golik, Senior Finance Manager

Issue: Receive Monthly Financial Report

Date: June 12, 2025

Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Report is to inform the Community Advisory Committee (Committee) of monthly financial results and investment activity. Additionally, the Monthly Financial Report will include an Investment Report which is a summary of investments and investment activity in SCP's portfolio. The Investment Report and associated attachments are to inform the Board pursuant to the requirements of SCP's Financial Policy B.5 Investments and Government Code Section 53607. This is an informational item only.

Monthly Compiled Financial Statements

As a consequence of SCP's recent transition from Calpine to SMUD as our data provider, there have been some delays in securing the necessary data to produce the March unaudited financial statements. We hope to have this delay resolved in June to allow us to provide statements through the end of April and will provide updated financial statements at the July Committee meeting.

Monthly Investment Report

This report is to verify and report in writing to the Committee regarding the responsibilities designated to the SCP Treasurer pursuant to SCP Financial Policy B.5 Investments. The Investment Policy was amended in 2024 expanding the definition of Permitted Investments, adding several investment diversification requirements, best practices and requiring additional reporting requirements to the Board and stakeholders as follows.

Monthly Obligation to Report on New Investment Transactions

Government Code Section 53607 and SCP's Investment Policy require SCP to report to the Board and stakeholders any investment transactions (defined as purchases, sales or exchanges of securities) made during the month as soon as is practicable after the end of the month. Given the scheduling of the SCP's Committee meetings during the third week of the month, the investment report will indicate investment transactions that occurred the prior month (May 2025). SCP currently maintains bank accounts and investments at River City Bank (RCB), Summit State Bank, the State of California Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and USBank. Active individual securities are held at both RCB and USBank. Staff will provide Statements of Investments as required throughout the year.

Reportable Activities

USBank

In November of 2024, the Board approved amendments to SCP Investment Policy as recommended by SCP's investment advisor, Chandler Asset Management (CAM). As of May 31st, CAM managed about \$60 million of SCP's reserves. All investments directed by CAM are held at SCP's custodian, USBank. All investments held as of May 31, 2025, at USBank appear as Attachment 1 with new holdings purchased in May highlighted. USBank transaction details for the month of May, including sales and maturities of securities, are in Attachment 2.

River City Bank

A detailed statement of the investments held at River City Bank as of May 31, 2025, appears as Attachment 3. There were no investment transactions in the month of May at River City Bank.

State of California Local Agency Investment Fund

The LAIF investment balance as of May 31, 2025, appears as Attachment 4.

Attachments

- Attachment 1 Statement of Investments Held at USBank, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- ➤ Attachment 2 Statement of Transactions at USBank, available at <u>this link</u> or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- Attachment 3 Statement of Investments Held at River City Bank, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- Attachment 4 Statement of Investments Held at the Local Agency Investment Fund, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board





Staff Report - Item 03

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Erica Torgerson, Managing Director of Customer Service

Danielle McCants, Customer Operations Manager

Issue: Recommend that the Board of Directors Approve Proposed

Amendment to Customer Service Policy A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections and A.6

Emergency Consumer Protection Policy

Date: June 12, 2025

Recommendation

Recommend that the Board of Directors (Board) approve the amendment to Customer Service Policy A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections (Attachment 1) and A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy (Attachment 2).

Background

The Board adopted SCP Policy A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections in 2015, with subsequent updates in 2020 and most recently in October 2024. Since the last amendment, the Board approved a transition in data service providers from Calpine Energy Solutions (Calpine) to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). The proposed policy amendments reflect this transition, incorporating updated reporting mechanisms, revised processes, and new offerings such as "Here to Help" letters designed to enhance customer support and outreach.

Key Changes

• "Here to Help" Letters: In addition, or in lieu of, a late payment notice, staff may send a general outreach letter as part of the late payment noticing policy. The letter is intended to support customers with past-due balances

by offering information on ways to lower their bills, such as energy efficiency tips and, where applicable, access to low-income assistance programs.

• **Elimination of Pre-Collection Noticing:** Staff recommend discontinuing pre-collection notices due to their low effectiveness, with a collection success rate of approximately 3 percent. In addition, the timing of these notices does not align with the new SMUD process and would likely delay collection efforts, further reducing their impact.

Associated Policy A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy is triggered when a state of emergency is declared by either the Governor of California or the President of the United States. Once ratified by the Board, the policy provides protections for affected customers by suspending late notices, pre-collection notices, involuntary service transfers to PG&E, and collection activities for up to 12 months. Originally adopted in 2020 and amended in 2022, Policy A.6 now requires further updates to align with the revised processes outlined in Policy A.3 to ensure consistency across both policies.

Fiscal Impact

None

Attachments

- Attachment 1 A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections (Redlined)
- Attachment 2 A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy (Redlined)

Customer Service Policy A.3 Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, Collections

This policy sets Sonoma Clean Power Authority's (SCPA) general rules related to SCPA late payment noticing and pre-collection noticing to customers. It also provides SCPA's general rules for transferring a customer to PG&E service for non-payment and to SCPA's collection agency.

This policy in whole or in parts may be suspended or modified if a state of emergency proclamation is issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster that affects utility service or a health pandemic. At that time the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or his designee, may put into effect SCPA's Customer Service Policy A.6 - Emergency Consumer Protection Policy. If the CEO, or his designee puts SCPA's Emergency Consumer Protection Policy into effect, the decision must be ratified by the Board of Directors within 90 days or at the next regularly scheduled Board of Director's meeting.

I. <u>SCPA Late Payment Noticing Policy:</u>

a. All Accounts:

Customers may receive a Here to Help letter if they have a past due balance, regardless of the amount, as part of SCPA's general outreach and support efforts. The letter provides information to help customers reduce their bills, including energy efficiency tips and, where applicable, enrollment in low-income assistance programs.

a.b. Non-Residential Accounts:

Customers maywill be sent an SCPA Late Payment Notice if:

- I. The account has an SCPA aggregated balance of more than \$500.00 based on the sum of the 60-90 day and 90+ day total in SCPA's aging report invoice and/or final bill date; and
- II. The customer is not on a Payment Plan with PG&E or is not current with the payments required by a PG&E Payment Plan.

b.c. Residential Accounts:

Customers maywill be sent an SCPA Late Payment Notice if:

- I. The account has an SCPA aggregated balance of more than \$250.00 based on invoice and/or final bill datethe sum of the 60-90 day and 90+ day total in SCPA's aging report; and
- II. The customer is not on a Payment Plan with PG&E or is not current with the payments required by a PG&E Payment Plan.

II. Transfer of Service for Non-Payment Policy:

Adopted: January 8, 2015

Amended: October 1, 2020, July 10, 2025

SCPA may transfer a customer to PG&E service for non-payment¹.

- a. SCPA may transfer a customer who has been sent two consecutive SCPA Late Payment Notices and who has not paid the outstanding balance within the time set forth in the second Late Payment Notice may be transferred from SCPA service to PG&E service for non-payment of SCPA charges.
- b. All customers, regardless of whether the customer was sent one or more Late Payment Notice(s), that has been transferred to PG&E service under section II.a or has voluntarily opted out of SCPA service, moved, and/or closed his/her account is still required to pay any outstanding SCPA charges for the period in which he/she took service from SCPA.
- c. Service transfers between providers can only take place on a customer's meter read date.

III. Pre-Collection Noticing Policy

Customers with charges reversed by PG&E back to SCPA of \$50.00 or more will be sent one Pre-Collection Notice prior to the customer's account being transferred to SCPA's collection agency.

- a. A customer has 30 calendar days from the date of the Pre-Collections Notice to pay his/her outstanding SCPA balance.
- b. Negotiated settlements with a customer in excess of \$2,500 must be approved by the CEO or his designee.
- c. Balances not paid will be referred to SCPA's collection agency.

W.III. Collections Policy

Customers that have been transferred by SCPA service to PG&E service for non-payment, voluntary opt outs, and closed accounts with outstanding SCPA balances may be referred to a collection agency retained by SCPA.

The collection agency retained by SCPA shall be vetted to ensure all consumer protection laws are strictly followed. On no less than an annual basis, SCPA shall review the practices and results of any retained collection agency, taking immediate action to address any concerns that may arise.

a. Send to Collections:

- I. Balances of \$50.00 or more will may be referred to a collection agency retained by SCPA.
- II. Once accounts are sent to the collection agency, SCPA will no longer collect on the account and the customer must work with the collection agency on resolution of the charges owed.

b. Write-Offs:

Adopted: January 8, 2015

Amended: October 1, 2020, July 10, 2025

¹ Pacific Gas & Electric Company. Electric Rule 23, Section U, Subsection 2.

Balances of \$49.99 or less may be deemed uncollectible and written off, may be sent to the collection agency, or SCPA may take any action that it deems appropriate and cost effective.

Adopted: January 8, 2015

Amended: October 1, 2020, July 10, 2025

Customer Service Policy A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy

Purpose:

Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) directives and advice letters, residential and non-residential customers in areas where a state of emergency proclamation is issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster that affects utility service are eligible for consumer protection measure(s) under PG&E's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan¹. Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA) provides additional emergency consumer protections to its customers as described below.

Background:

SCPA established a series of billing and service modifications, and disaster relief to support customers recovering from the immediate aftermath of the October 2017 Northern California Wildfires. Although not required by law, SCPA implemented the CPUC's Resolution M-4833, Emergency Authorization and Order Directing Utilities to Implement Emergency Consumer Protections to Support Residential Customers of the October 2017 California Wildfires, with the adoption of this policy on October 1, 2020.

Applicability:

This Policy applies to SCPA Residential Customers and Non-Residential Customers when a state of emergency proclamation is issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory that:

- a. Results in the loss or disruption of the delivery or receipt of electric utility service: and/or
- b. Results in the degradation of the quality of electric utility service.

Eligibility for Emergency Consumer Protection Plan:

A customer will be eligible for SCPA's Emergency Consumer Protection Policy if the following criteria have been met:

- A state of emergency proclamation has been issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory;
- b. The customer is a Residential Customer or Non-Residential Customer of SCPA; and
- c. The customer's premise was or is Red Tagged and/or coded by PG&E as DSNT/DSST/DSBR/DSOV, as defined at the end of this Policy.

Emergency Consumer Protection Plan:

Adopted: October 1, 2020

Amended: December 1, 2022, July 10, 2025

sonomacleanpower.org

PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018. www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5378-E.pdf.

SCPA's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan goes into effect the day a state of emergency proclamation has been issued by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States due to a disaster in SCPA's Service Territory and includes the measures and parameters outlined below:

- a. Late Payment Notice: SCPA will stop sending Late Payment Notices to eligible customers for a period of 12 months.
- b. Pre-Collection Notice for Non-Payment: SCPA will stop sending Pre-Collection Notices for non-payment of SCPA charges to eligible customers for a period of 12 months.
- <u>C.b.</u> Transfer for Non-Payment: SCPA will not transfer eligible customers to PG&E service for non-payment of SCPA charges for period of 12 months.
- d.c. Collections: SCPA will halt collection activity for eligible customers for a period of 12 months.

SCPA's Board of Directors may change or extend these measures at its sole discretion.

Definitions:

For purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply. Customers may also wish to review PG&E's Emergency Consumer Protection Plan² for additional information.

- a. Residential Customer³: Class of customers whose dwellings are single-family units, multi-family units, mobile homes or other similar living establishments. A customer who meets the definition of a Residential Customer will be served under a residential rate schedule if 50% or more of the annual energy use on the meter is for residential end-uses. PG&E's tariff eligibility requirements will determine customer eligibility for this rate class.
- b. Non-Residential Customer⁴: Small and medium business customers that take service on a commercial, industrial, or agricultural rate. This definition does not include Non-Residential Customers who are on a fixed usage or unmetered usage rate schedule⁵.

Red Tag (Unsafe) - Buildings are damaged and pose an imminent threat to life or safety under expected loads or other unsafe conditions.

- c. PG&E REF|TD Codes PG&E will use the EDI billing codes outlined below to identify impacted SCPA customers per CalFire and/or County assessment(s). The codes allow for near real-time status of impacted customers.
 - i. **Disaster Red Tag Notice (DSNT)** pending bill relief decision. Stops SA and final/closing bill but will not complete bill temporary status.
 - ii. **Disaster Red Tag Standard (DSST)** bill relief not applied. Stops SA, final/closing bill, and completes bill (final status).

Adopted: October 1, 2020

Amended: December 1, 2022, July 10, 2025

² PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018. www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/adviceletter/ELEC_5378-E.pdf.

³ PG&E Electric Rule No. 1: Definitions, Sheet 30

⁴ PG&E Advice Letter 4014-G/5378-E. Dated Sept. 7, 2018.

⁵ PG&E Electric Rule No. 1: Definitions, Sheet 31

- iii. **Disaster Red Tag Bill Relief (DSBR)** bill relief applied. Stops SA, final/closing bill, completes bill and applies debt reversal adjustment for SA balance (final status).
- iv. **Disaster Red Tag Override (DSOV)** manual override. Process manually if needed (final status).

Adopted: October 1, 2020

Amended: December 1, 2022, July 10, 2025



Staff Report - Item 04

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Erica Torgerson, Managing Director of Customer Service

Danielle McCants, Customer Operations Manager

Issue: Recommend that the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the

Chief Executive Officer or his Designee to Execute Task Order #2 of

the Foundational Professional Agreement with the Sacramento
Municipal Utility District for Debt Collection Services Effective through

December 31, 2029

Date: June 12, 2025

Recommended Action

Staff requests that the Community Advisory Committee (Committee) recommend that the Board of Directors delegate authority to the CEO or their Designee to execute a contract with Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) for Debt Collection Services. Task Order #2 (Attachment 1) of the Foundational Professional Agreement (Agreement) (Attachment 2) contains the cost and scope of work.

Background

Starting in 2018, SMUD entered the CCA market for data, billing, and call center management to add a new revenue source for the benefit of its own customers through lower rates, more programs, and the betterment of its community. As a publicly owned utility, SMUD does not have shareholders and does not charge for profits. In 2018, Ava Community Energy (Ava), formerly East Bay Community Energy, and Valley Clean Energy (Valley) both started their service directly with SMUD, having never used Calpine (the only other provider in this space in California for CCAs). More recently in 2022, MCE switched from Calpine to SMUD.

Thanks to the Board and Committee approval, on March 21, 2025, SCP flipped the switch from Calpine to SMUD for services including data, billing, and call center services. Two months ago, SMUD offered a presentation on their work with Valley

Clean Energy on debt collection services. Their collection rate is significantly higher than what we have seen at the IOU and CCA level. Ava's (formally East Bay Community Energy) Board of Directors recently approved a contract with SMUD for debt collection. Prior to this contract, Ava did not have a debt collection agency.

When SCP launched, it signed a contract with Optio Solutions LLC (also known as Qualia Collections Services) for debt collection. Optio Solutions is based in Petaluma and has been a good partner to SCP and its customers. Agents are respectful, kind, and solution based. Optio Solutions takes a commission rate of 23% of what they collect with no administration fee.

SCP's Contract with Optio Solutions "shall continue in effect for the period of 12 months with an automatic renewal annually unless either party exercises its right to terminate said Contract. The parties may terminate this Contract with or without cause upon 30 days' written notice to the other party."

Discussion

Over the past few years, a series of external challenges including wildfires, floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly impacted our ability to collect on customer accounts. As a result, collection rates have decreased substantially.

In accordance with SCP Board Policy "Customer Service Policy A.3: Late Payment Noticing, Transfer of Service, Pre-Collection Noticing, and Collections (Attachment 3)," our "Emergency Consumer Protection Policy" (Policy A.6) (Attachment 4) is activated when a state of emergency is declared by either the Governor of California or the President of the United States. Once ratified by the Board, this policy protects affected customers from late notices, pre-collection notices, involuntary service transfers to PG&E, and collection activities for up to 12 months.

Following Governor Newsom's statewide emergency declaration due to COVID-19—and in alignment with state mandates requiring Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) to suspend service disconnections, SCP's Board of Directors extended protections for an unprecedented 3 years. While this action was necessary and aligned with our values, it has also contributed to long-term challenges in account recovery. Many customers are still struggling with the financial aftershocks of recent crises, which continue to hinder collections. Currently, SCP's collection rate is approximately 3.2%, consistent with trends reported informally by other Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs).

Although we have enjoyed our working relationship with Optio Solutions and appreciate its location in our territory, a change of providers to SMUD offers the efficiency of SMUD already doing our data management and billing. This should speed up the process of debt collection and increase the collection rate. Due to the rules and consumer protections necessary to be a debt collector, SMUD partners with a third-party corporation, IC Systems (ICS) to ensure compliance state and federal regulations. ICS was founded in 1938. It is a family-owned, privately held collection agency serving thousands of clients in industries such as healthcare, small business, financial services, government, communications, education, and utilities. ICS's purpose is to improve financial outcomes for consumers and their clients. ICS's niche is to be the best, most trusted provider of receivables management service.

Fiscal Impact

As noted earlier in this report, SCP's Community Advisory Committee and Board of Directors approved the execution of an Agreement with SMUD (October 2024) for billing, data, and call center needs, below is breakdown of that Agreement.

Existing SMUD Contract for Billing, Data, & Call Center				
Executed Contract	Executed Contract December 4, 2024			
Per Meter Fee	\$ 1.17			
Number of Accounts	239,000			
Monthly Cost	\$ 279,630			
Annual Cost	\$	3,355,560		
Contract Term	Dece	ember 31, 2029		

Over the course of the last year, SMUD has proven to be a strong partner, organized, reporting issues as they arise, great follow up, and they are proactive. In March 2025, SMUD presented to SCP their work as a debt collection agency for Valley Clean Energy (Valley). For Primary Placement¹ debt SMUD's collection rate was astounding at 28% in 2024. Just recently, Ava's Board approved a contract with SMUD for Debt Collection Services.

¹ Primary placement debt includes accounts that have not gone to other collection agencies.

As part of the Debt Collection Service contract, SMUD starts reaching out to customers earlier in the process compared to Optio Solutions who only do collections. SMUD will pull a list of customers who are past due and send a letter and/or email to each customer to let them know we are available to help. The letter/email will encourage a call with one of SMUD's Energy Advisors who can educate the customer about the programs available to them to help lower their bills, from energy efficiency opportunities to low-income programs, and provide information about payment options and programs to remove perceived barriers to payment.

Current Calpine Practice

- SCP transfers customers back to PG&E for non-payment of SCP charges to limit debt exposure and protect other ratepayers.
- Once a customer is transferred back to PG&E for non-payment, PG&E will not reverse SCP's portion of the debt until the customer closes their account with PG&E. This can lead to upset (former) customers because it delays PG&E's reversal on SCP debt for potentially years making collections more difficult.
- Only a small fraction of SCP's charges are currenlty recovered through collections due to reversal limitations and rules for debt collectors.

Alternative SMUD Option

- Keep delinquent customers active longer, allowing time for partial payments.
 Any payments PG&E receives will go to paying off the oldest debt proportionally between SCP and PG&E.
- When PG&E ultimately disconnects the customer, SCP will receive its portion of the customer's debt and can pursue collections at that time.
- This introduces some risk of growing debt exposure, however, it also increases the chance the customer could catch up on payments and remain an SCP customer.

Proposed SMUD Contract for Debt Collection Service					
Executed Contract		TBD			
Set up Fee	\$	75,000			
Monthly Fee (yr 1-3)	\$	3,500			
Monthly Fee (yr 4-5)	\$	5,000			
Annual Cost (yr 1-3)	\$	42,000			
Annual Cost (yr 4-5)	\$	60,000			
All In for 5 Years	\$	321,000			
Contract Term	Dece	ember 31, 2029			

of Set-up and Monthly Fees				
Description	Fee <u>s</u>			
Primary Placements	10% of debt collected			

<u>Description</u>	<u>Fees</u>		
Primary Placements	10% of debt collected		
Secondary Placements ²	22% of debt collected		
Attorney Referral ³	50% of debt collected		
Litigation ³	50% of debt collected		

SCP negotiated the monthly administrative fee down from \$5,000 monthly for 5 years to \$3,500 monthly for the first 3 years and \$5,000 monthly for the last 2 years of the contract saving SCP \$54,000.

As noted earlier in this report, SMUD's collection rate of 28% of Valley's primary placement debt seems aggressive based on SCP's experience. To take a more conservative approach, SCP looked at primary placements success rates at 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, and 28% collection rates.

² Secondary placements include accounts that have gone to other collection agencies already (e.g. Optio).

³ Requires pre-approval from SCP before any attorney referral or litigation.

The tables show a monthly version and an annual version of different success rates for debt collection. They only compare success rates for <u>Year 1</u>. The break-even point is approximately 6%.

MONTHLY	Monthly Average @ 5% Success	Monthly Average Monthly Average Monthly Average Monthly Average @ 5% Success @ 10% Success @ 15% Success @ 20% Success	Monthly Average @ 15% Success	Monthly Average Monthly Average @ 15% Success @ 20% Success	Monthly Average @ 28% Success
Average Debt Sent to Collections	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Return on Successful Debt Collection	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 56,000
SMUD Cut (10% on success)	1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,600
Administration Fee	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
SCP Take Home (Suc - SMUD Cut)	\$ 12,500	\$ 21,500	\$ 30,500	\$ 39,500	\$ 53,900

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ANNUAL	rea @ 5	Tearly Average @ 5% Success	© 5% Success © 10% Success	Tearly Average @ 15% Success	verage	rearry Average @ 20% Success	age	rearly @ 28%	Tearly Average @ 28% Success
Average Debt Sent to Collections	ક	2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000	s	2,400,000	\$ 2,400	2,400,000	\$	2,400,000
Return on Successful Debt Collection	\$	120,000 \$		\$	360,000	\$ 480	480,000	\$	672,000
SMUD Cut (10% success)	\$	12,000	\$ 24,000	\$	36,000	\$ 48	48,000	\$	67,200
Administration Fee	\$	42,000	\$ 42,000	\$	42,000	\$ 42	42,000	\$	42,000
SCP Take Home (Suc - SMUD Cut)	\$	\$ 000'99	\$ 174,000	\$	282,000	30)	390,000	\$	562,800
Year 1 Cost (\$75k Setup)	s	75,000 \$	\$ 75,000 \$		75,000 \$		75,000 \$	s	75,000
Net	\$	\$ (000'6)	000'66 \$	\$	207,000 \$		315,000	s	487,800

Based on the added service of SMUD's Energy Advisor and the synergy of SMUD already being SCP's billing and data management provider, this should be a win-win for SCP and its customers.

Attachments

- Attachment 1 Draft Task Order 2 Debt Collection Service with Sacramento Municipal Utility District, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- ➤ Attachment 2 Agreement Foundational Professional Agreement, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- Attachment 3 Policy A.3 Noticing, Transfers, & Collections_ Amended 2024.10.03, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board
- ➤ Attachment 4 Policy A.6 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy 2022.12.01, available at this link or by request to the Clerk of the Board

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Staff Report - Item 05

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning & Analytics

Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer

Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager

Claudia Sisomphou, Public Affairs & Advocacy Manager

Issue: Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update

Date: June 12, 2025

Background

The Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) is SCP's initiative to secure affordable, reliable clean energy for our customers by building 600 megawatts of new geothermal power capacity in Sonoma and Mendocino Counites. This will eventually enable SCP to phase out its dependence on natural gas power plants for reliability. The Community Advisory Committee (Committee) meetings are a regularly scheduled public forum for the community to receive updates and provide input on the GeoZone. The updates provided to the Committee each month, and minutes from any discussion are posted on SCP's website at https://sonomacleanpower.org/geozone-public-updates. Staff incorporate any feedback received from the Committee presentation into the monthly updates to the Board of Directors. Additional background on the GeoZone can be found on the GeoZone webpage at https://sonomacleanpower.org/geozone.

California Community Power Geothermal Strategic Initiative

California Community Power (CC Power) is the agency formed by nine CCAs, including SCP, to leverage collective purchasing power to increase the cost-effectiveness of procuring clean energy. Modeled after the GeoZone, CC Power initiated the Geothermal Strategic Initiative to explore early partnerships between geothermal developers and CC Power to mature early-stage geothermal projects. CC Power released a Request for Information (RFI) for partners in May and is currently evaluating responses. Shortlisted respondents will be asked to consider signing a Memorandum

of Understanding (MOU) with CC Power on shared responsibilities. CC Power will offer commercial interest, and regulatory and legislative advocacy support in exchange for a commitment from industry partners to work towards signing a future Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with CC Power. The CC Power Geothermal Strategic Initiative is open to any project that can deliver to the California Independent System Operator (CAISO).

SCP has proposed a framework to CC Power on how potential respondents with development interest in Sonoma, Mendocino, or Lake counties could also be considered for participation in the GeoZone. The proposed guidelines, which are under review by other CC Power members, would allow SCP to take a greater share of in-scope projects in exchange for leading local engagement and advocacy. Unlike current GeoZone projects, any non-staff costs and above-market pilot contracts would be shared over multiple CCAs. However, the scale-up potential would also be shared beyond just SCP.

GeoZone Partner Solicitation

Given the termination of the Cyrq contract and communicated delays with the Chevron New Energies development, staff are expecting to issue a solicitation for new GeoZone partners as soon as the fourth quarter of 2025. Although the CC Power Geothermal Strategic Initiative and GeoZone participation framework may result in new GeoZone partnerships, it's likely SCP will also seek partners independent of CC Power. Staff believe it is prudent to wait until Lake County decides on CCA service and GeoZone membership before seeking new partners—given an expansion to Lake County increases the breadth of potential opportunities. In the meantime, staff have been organizing meetings with many leading players in the industry to socialize the upcoming solicitation and collect feedback on how the solicitation and partnership can best be structured to attract industry interest. Thus far, one common theme is that some level of funding for early project development and exploration could be especially impactful.

State Funding and AB 526 Response

Staff have been exploring options for how the state government could fund an initial geothermal exploration well to test drilling techniques and collect data for deployment of next-generation geothermal technologies. The cost of this initial exploration well is expected to be \$20-\$30 million dollars, which is far beyond the budget of the state's current geothermal grant program that is funded from its share of royalties from geothermal development on federal land. Funding an initial well in the GeoZone, or

ideally at a handful of locations across the state, could be a huge catalyst for in-state geothermal investment. Constraints on the state budget and affordability concerns make this investment difficult to justify as part of the general fund or ratepayer programs. Staff are instead looking at opportunities available through the reauthorization of the state's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). Staff have been discussing the merits of early geothermal investment with several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in discussions on the GGRF.

Assembly Bill 526 (AB 526), which was SCP's sponsored legislation to create a strategic plan for in-state geothermal development, was unfortunately held in suspense in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Without AB 526 progressing, staff are concerned that California will be missing a key opportunity to coordinate between agencies on supporting in-state geothermal development. In response, staff are actively developing a strategy for accomplishing many of AB 526's provisions through regulatory processes or administrative action.

GeoZone Emulation

In just the past month, staff have had two meetings from utilities seeking to emulate the success of the GeoZone in their own regions. Staff met with Energy Northwest, a joint operating agency for public utilities in Washington that operates the Columbia Nuclear Generating Station as well as hydroelectric, wind, and solar projects. Energy Northwest is in the early stages of identifying opportunities to obtain geothermal capacity for its members. Staff also met with Xcel Energy, a large electric utility serving customers across eight states. Xcel is interested in early partnerships with the geothermal industry to progress geothermal development in Colorado.

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Staff Report - Item 06

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations

Mike Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer

Issue: Receive Internal Operations Report and Provide Feedback as

Appropriate

Date: June 12, 2025

NEW FACES AT SCP

SCP has recently welcomed several new faces to the team including an Administrative Assistant, Sarah Smith, HR Manager, Laura Liberty, and Capital Projects Engineer, Patrick Le. They are bringing a wide range of valuable experience and talent to the team, and we hope to introduce them at the meeting.

PROGRAMS UPDATES

GridSavvy Rewards

GridSavvy Rewards empowers customers to help SCP improve grid reliability by shifting electricity usage away from high demand times. Customers have flexibility in how they participate. They can enroll an eligible smart thermostat or EV charger or participate without installed devices. To participate without an installed device, customers decide to receive alerts via email, text, or phone call and then take simple actions like delaying using large appliances and turning off unnecessary lights.

To address summer peak demand, Alerts, EV chargers, and smart thermostats are active from May 1st to October 31st, annually and participation is entirely voluntary with no penalties for not participating.

Launch of the 2025 GridSavvy Rewards Season (May 1st - Oct 31st)

The launch of the 2025 GridSavvy Rewards season kicked off on May 1st and an initial test event was called on May 10th when we offered 13,000 participants the opportunity to save energy and earn rewards.

For more information about GridSavvy Rewards, please visit our website at: <u>sonomacleanpower.org/gridsavvy-rewards</u>

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING

Sonoma Clean Power is proud to sponsor, participate in, and host a variety of off-site events that support community engagement, education, and workforce development. Below are some highlights from recent and upcoming community events:

May

May 17 - Santa Rosa Rose Parade (in partnership with Snoopy's Home Ice) The entry won "Best Use of Flowers."

May 24-26 - Mendocino County Film Festival

May 31 - Sonoma County Pride Parade & Festival

May-July - Santa Rosa Wednesday Market

SCP donates booth space to local nonprofits on select dates.

June

June 7 - Community Support Network: Boots & Vines Event

June 8 - Food for Thought: Our Long Table

June 13-August 15 - Ukiah's Summer Fridays

June 14 - Sonoma County's 55th Annual MLK/Juneteenth Freedom Day

June 14 - North Bay Organizing Project: Cultura y Cambio

July

July 12 - Cotati Kids Day

July (ongoing) - Sonoma's Tuesday Night Market

August

August 7 - Volunteering at Food for Thought's Garden - Forestville AND,

Town of Windsor: Thursday Night on the Green

August 8 - Cloverdale Friday Night Live

August 9 - 9th Annual Noyo Headlands Race - Fort Bragg

August 30 - 4th Annual African Soul Festival - Rohnert Park

September

September 20 - Russian River Pride Parade & Festival - Guerneville

Ongoing Support

Redwood Empire Food Bank: Sponsored the Empty Bowls event, which raised \$800,000 for regional hunger relief. SCP staff regularly volunteer individually and as a group to support the Food Bank's efforts.

Recent Events at SCP's Customer Center

May 2 & 5 - Climate Action Field Trips with Sonoma Water for Casa Grande High School

May 9 - Skilled Trades Funders: Kitchen Table Discussion with CTE Foundation

A convening of national funders promoting youth education in the trades, including Harbor Freight Tools for Schools, the Smidt Foundation, Texas School Venture Fund, and more.

May 13 - Bring Back the Build Forum with the LIME Foundation

May 27 - Home Healthcare Documentary Screening with NorCal Public Media

Upcoming Events at SCP's Customer Center

June 3 & 17 - Emergency Preparedness Help for Seniors (Fully booked)

A free, interactive two-part workshop covering emergency planning, alerts, pet safety, and 2-1-1 resources.

June 7 - Interview Skills & Resume Writing Workshop with the LIME Foundation

June 20 - Climate Change & Resilience in the North Bay Teacher Workshop with Sonoma Water

June 25-27 - Host site for Mike Hauser Academy for high school English language learners pursuing STEM careers

SCP SHINES AT SONOMA COUNTY PRIDE PARADE

Team SCP made a vibrant showing at this year's Sonoma County Pride Parade with a colorful float that received enthusiastic responses from paradegoers. The staff and float even earned a brief spotlight in the Channel 7 ABC News coverage, visible around the 1:20 mark in this <u>linked segment</u>



Designed with reuse in mind, the float can be repurposed for future parades and community events.

RECENT AWARDS & RECOGNITION - NORTH BAY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Sonoma Clean Power was recently honored with the Paint the Community Green award by the North Bay Leadership Council. This award recognizes individuals, organizations, or initiatives demonstrating exceptional leadership in environmental stewardship – including achievements in sustainable development, green business practices, renewable energy, and climate action.

The recognition highlights significant contributions to environmental sustainability in the North Bay region, encompassing Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties. Award recipients are celebrated for reducing environmental impact, advancing clean energy, and fostering community engagement in sustainability efforts.

NORTH BAY BIZ MAGAZINE

Sonoma Clean Power was also honored to have been voted "Best Public Agency" by readers of NorthBay Biz magazine in this year's annual readers' poll–especially as this marks the first year the public agency category has been included.

Being recognized as the inaugural winner is a meaningful milestone, and we're grateful to our community for their continued support and trust in our mission.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ➤ Board of Directors July 10, 2025 (2nd Thursday due to the 4th of July Holiday)
- Community Advisory Committee July 17, 2025
- Board of Directors August 7, 2025
- Community Advisory Committee, August 21, 2025

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Staff Report - Item 07

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs

Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager

Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer

Issue: Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Feedback as

Appropriate

Date: June 12, 2025

Requested Action

Receive legislative and regulatory updates and provide feedback as appropriate.

Regulatory Updates

<u>California Public Utilities Commission Issues Proposed Decision to Modify Power</u> <u>Charge Indifference Adjustment Calculation</u>

On May 23rd, the CPUC issued a proposal to modify how CCA customers are granted financial credit for their forced investment in for-profit utilities assets. Specifically, this Proposed Decision modifies how the Resource Adequacy (RA) – a product required to support grid reliability – credit is calculated. There were five modifications introduced by CPUC staff. The stated goal of the modifications was to increase the number of transactions included and to increase the accuracy of the result. Sonoma Clean Power staff, working in conjunction with CalCCA, supported 4 of these: removing affiliate and sleeve transactions, combining all RA into the calculation, and calculating monthly values. The Proposed Decision would adopt all of those 4 with the exception of calculating monthly values.

However, it would also adopt the modification CalCCA was most strongly opposed to using historical RA prices instead of the current prices to determine market value. Most problematically, it would do so retroactively. In practice, this means the elevated RA prices observed in 2024 would not be fully granted to our customers but would instead be blended with transactions from 2021-2024. As the earlier years had

lower prices, the blended value is depressed which results in a lower credit to our customers and higher PCIA charge. We do not yet have the underlying data from the earlier transactions to calculate the impact on our customers. However, we estimate the impact will be in the tens of millions of dollars.

This rushed, retroactive change to rates without clear data on the impact is troubling. However, blending the higher 2024 RA prices into years 2025-2027 would be beneficial for customers' PCIA credit in the case that future prices do not remain as high. Ultimately, the most significant risk is that there is no guarantee this methodology – using 4 years instead of 1 – will stay in place. If the CPUC were to later adjust the credit calculation back to using 1 year of cost data in the future, the effect would be to transfer costs from one group of customers to another. Such an outcome would violate the CPUC's obligation to maintain cost indifference, so staff will be watching closely for any indication that the CPUC might be considering this type of future action.

The Commission intends to implement these rapid changes to the methodology by this Fall and could grant utilities the ability to apply them immediately. SCP staff are contributing to reply comments on this proposal and working to schedule meetings with Commissioners and their advisors to educate them on the negative impacts and dangerous precedent this sets.

Legislative Updates

Sonoma Clean Power is sponsoring two geothermal bills in the California Legislature this year, in partnership with Fervo Energy, the International Union of Operating Engineers, and others: Assembly Bill 527 (Papan), which would mirror federal policy by exempting geothermal exploration wells meeting a high standard of environmental stewardship from review under the California Environmental Quality Act; and Assembly Bill 531 (Rogers), which would allow proposed geothermal power plants to be approved through an existing "one-stop shop" process at the California Energy Commission. Unfortunately, a third bill - Assembly Bill 526 (Papan), which would have directed the state to craft a strategic plan to drive the development of new geothermal resources - was recently killed in the Assembly Appropriations Committee's "suspense file" process. Sonoma Clean Power staff are now in the early stages of exploring ways to accomplish many of Assembly Bill 526's objectives at the regulatory level.

Assembly Bill 527 passed off of the Assembly floor on a bipartisan vote of 67-0, and at the time of writing Assembly Bill 531 is awaiting its final vote in the Assembly. Once

passed, both bills will be referred to the relevant committees of jurisdiction in the Senate.

Sonoma Clean Power staff are also tracking the potential repeal or pullback of clean energy tax credits and other Inflation Reduction Act funding for clean energy at the federal level.

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Staff Report - Item 08

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Community Advisory Committee

From: Claudia Sisomphou, Public Affairs and Advocacy Manager

Issue: Receive Update on Tribal Engagement Efforts

Date: June 12, 2024

Recommendation

This is an informational item. No action is required. However, comments from the Community Advisory Committee and the public are encouraged.

Background

With the guidance of the Advisory Committee and Board, Sonoma Clean Power (SCP) has made steady progress on its Empower initiative over the past few years. In early 2024, SCP staff identified an opportunity to deepen engagement with local tribal governments and communities as part of this work. In response, the Board adopted improved tribal relations as a goal for the agency.

To support this effort, SCP brought on <u>K Street Consulting</u>, a full-service public affairs and government relations firm, to help build meaningful relationships with tribes in Sonoma and Mendocino counties.

SCP's service area includes nearly twenty distinct tribes, with five federally recognized tribes in Sonoma County and ten in Mendocino County.

As a public agency, SCP is both obligated and motivated to foster collaborative relationships with all jurisdictions in its territory, including tribal governments.

Through its Empower initiative, SCP is committed to improving the reach, relevance, and impact of:

- Partnerships and sponsorships
- Customer programs and services

• Education, engagement, and outreach

Building strong relationships with local tribes is essential to ensuring tribal communities are represented in SCP's surveys, programs, and strategic planning.

Last November, SCP staff invited Pamela Lopez, Partner at K Street Consulting, to present to the Board of Directors on SCP's tribal engagement efforts. Her briefing included insights on tribal sovereignty, best practices for government-to-government relations, and an overview of local tribal priorities.

Discussion

To date, SCP has conducted formal consultations with five local tribes and initiated a partnership with one – three in Sonoma County and two in Mendocino County. The agency's goal is to engage with as many local tribes and Native-serving organizations as possible by the end of fiscal year 2026, while continuing to nurture these relationships over the long term.

This update outlines the process SCP staff have developed to prepare for tribal consultations and shares key lessons learned from engagement efforts so far.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Tribal Engagement PowerPoint Presentation

Tribal Relations Update

SCP Community Advisory Committee

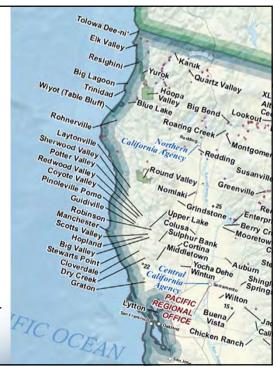
June 12, 2025

1

Background

- SCP's Empower initiative is about building meaningful community partnerships.
- Our service area includes nearly 20 tribes.
- Improving relationships with Native tribes and communities is a priority for the agency.

Map source: Bureau of Indian Affairs



2

47 of 65

Recent efforts

- Held formal consultations and began partnerships with five local tribes.
- Provided training for Board and staff on tribal sovereignty and best practices for engagement.
- Sponsored and participated in Native-led events.
- Monitored state-level tribal hearings and initiatives.

3

What guides our tribal consultations

Consultation means respectful, two-way dialogue between governments.

- Understand the tribe's priorities.
- Offer SCP's support as a clean energy resource.
- Listen for how we can collaborate or when to simply step back.

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48 of 65

2

Thoughtful preparation

Before consultations, SCP staff prepare with care and respect.

We aim to:

- Research the tribe's publicly shared history, culture, and leadership.
- Schedule around a tribe's availability.
- Meet as a team beforehand to align intentions.

5

Agenda for consultations

- Introduce Sonoma Clean Power: who we are and what we offer.
- Share services available to tribal governments, businesses, and households.
- Invite ideas for collaboration on future projects.
- Listen closely, take notes, and follow up on any open questions.

6

49 of 65

3

What we're learning

- Every tribe is unique there is no one-size-fits-all approach.
- **History matters** many tribes have experienced deep harm from governments.
- Respect leads to trust we're learning to listen, not lead.
- Energy independence is about more than economics it's about sovereignty and resilience.

7

Opportunities

SCP is committed to nurturing these relationships and exploring future opportunities, including:

- Following up with commercial energy assessments and rate analyses.
- Partnering on energy grant applications and projects.
- Supporting Native-centered events and programs.
- Continuing respectful, long-term relationship-building.

8

50 of 65

What's ahead

- Continue consultations with more local tribes through FY 2026.
- Deepen partnerships with existing contacts.
- Share learnings internally to improve SCP engagement practices.

Photo: SCP tabling at the Mending Indigenous Spirits Gathering at Ya-Ka-Ama.



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Thank you!

Questions/Comments?

Email us at community@sonomacleanpower.org

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Staff Report - Item 09

To: Sonoma Clean Power Authority Board of Directors

From: Spandan Gandhi, Senior Energy Analyst

Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning & Analytics

Issue: Receive Overview of Emerging Technologies for Potential Consideration

in 2025 Integrated Resource Plan and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

Date: June 12, 2025

Recommended Action

Receive a presentation on the types of energy technologies that are emerging which may play a critical role in California's transition to extremely low-emission resources. Provide input into the Committee's interests in such technologies to help guide staff's exploration and research for updating SCP's Integrated Resource Plan later in 2025.

Background

An Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is a comprehensive roadmap developed by electric utilities to forecast and plan for future energy needs over a multi-decade horizon. It evaluates a mix of energy resources (such as solar, wind, geothermal, storage, and demand-side measures) to determine the most cost-effective, reliable, and sustainable strategy to meet future electricity demand. The IRP process involves modeling energy supply and demand under various economic, policy, and climate scenarios, considering factors like load growth, fuel prices, emissions targets, and technology costs.

As a California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) jurisdictional power provider, SCP is required to submit a biennial IRP detailing its preferred supply resources for serving customers while meeting targets for reliability and electricity sector greenhouse gas emissions targets. SCP's next IRP filing is due in November 2025. It is important SCP submits a representative portfolio of the resources it expects will meet its load given that the CPUC directly uses IRP filings in guiding the transmission upgrades it directs CAISO to study and approve.

Emerging energy technologies are expected to play a critical role in achieving

California's SB 100 decarbonization goals, which mandate 100% clean electricity by 2045. While existing technologies like solar, wind, and lithium-ion batteries form the current backbone of clean energy deployment, they will not be cost-effective meeting the last ~20% of grid decarbonization—where challenges around intermittency, reliability, and seasonal storage become more pronounced. This is where California is actively exploring next-generation solutions such as long-duration energy storage, advanced geothermal, floating offshore wind, carbon capture on natural gas power plants, small modular nuclear reactors and other emerging technologies which have the potential to provide essential capabilities that traditional technologies cannot.

Emerging technologies have been absent from the state's IRP portfolios thus far, apart from 4.5 gigawatts of floating offshore wind. The CPUC released a Zero-Carbon Technology Assessment Report in September 2022 reviewing candidate emerging technologies and is proposing a robust representation of enhanced geothermal systems (EGS) in its forthcoming IRP, but portfolios developed by the CPUC continue to rely on retaining natural gas capacity to maintain provide reliability long-term. This option is contrary to SCP's work to lower greenhouse gas emissions, but is also increasingly leading to a situation where California will have an extremely expensive duplicate set of power sources – one that is close to 100% carbon-free in the daytime and seasonally, and one that is mostly natural gas to keep power flowing at night and through the winter.

SCP's last IRP portfolio in 2022 included one emerging technology: next-generation geothermal in the Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone). For the 2025 IRP, staff are expecting to include next-generation geothermal again but is also interested in exploring other emerging technologies. Earlier this year, the Committee expressed interest in methanol and long-duration energy storage. Based on this input, as well as broad industry trends, staff have assembled a list of emerging technologies to consider for further evaluation. Staff are asking for Committee input on how to narrow the list to 3-4 technologies to evaluate more comprehensively. Resources will ultimately only be included in the IRP portfolio if they are proven to be cost-effective and aligned with SCP's portfolio needs.

Note that non-energy solutions to these problems will also be explored, such as efforts to lower residential heating demand through efforts to better insulate homes or shift electric heating loads into daytime/solar hours. Those aspects of SCP's research are not a part of this supply-side discussion.

Discussion

Below is a high-level description of the different emerging technologies California agencies and power providers are exploring:

- Next-Gen Geothermal (EGS and Closed-Loop): Next-generation geothermal projects expand the opportunities to generate clean firm electricity from geologic heat. Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) use hydraulic fracturing to create permeability in hot dry rock, allowing water to circulate and generate power in regions without natural hydrothermal activity. Closed-loop geothermal circulates fluid through sealed underground wellbores to absorb heat, eliminating the need for fluid-rock interaction and expanding site potential. This will be included in SCP's 2025 IRP on the basis of past Board decisions prioritizing the GeoZone.
- **Floating Offshore Wind:** Floating offshore wind platforms are anchored to the seabed and allow turbines to be deployed in deeper waters where fixed-bottom structures aren't feasible. They access stronger, more consistent winds far from shore, enabling high-capacity, clean energy generation.
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** SMRs are compact nuclear reactors designed for modular deployment with enhanced safety features and reduced construction timelines. They offer zero-emission baseload power and reliability through weather events that are challenging for intermittent renewables.
- **Green Hydrogen:** Green hydrogen is produced by electrolyzing water using renewable electricity, creating a clean fuel with applications in power generation, industry, and transport. It can serve as seasonal storage or dispatchable fuel to balance variable renewables.
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS): CCS captures CO₂ emissions from industrial or power generation sources and stores them underground in geological formations. It targets lowering or potentially eliminating the greenhouse gas impacts of using fossil fuels or biomass.
- **Methanol:** Methanol can be used in direct methanol fuel cells (DMFCs) or reformed to produce hydrogen for power generation. It offers liquid-fuel flexibility and energy-dense storage, with potential for carbon-neutrality if synthesized from renewable sources or captured CO₂.
- Iron-Air Battery Storage: Iron-air batteries store energy through reversible

rusting – essentially charging by converting rust to iron and discharging by reoxidizing it. With durations of 100+ hours, they are promising for long-duration, grid storage to cover multi-day gaps in renewable supply.

• **Thermal Storage:** Thermal energy storage captures and stores heat for later use in generating electricity or providing direct heating. Technologies include solid materials (concrete, rocks, sand, etc.), molten salt, phase-change materials, and hot water systems.

Technology Evaluation

Staff have prepared an evaluation of the eight candidate technologies and their potential to support SCP's long-term needs. The evaluation included a characterization of each technology's readiness, conditions to become cost-effective, scale-up potential, and contribution to SCP's portfolio. Table 1 below provides a comparison of readiness, cost, and potential between technologies. Table 2 assesses the contribution of each technology to meeting SCP's portfolio needs. Both tables are color-coded (green = good; red = poor) to facilitate comparison. Staff's assignment of values is based on synthesizing an assumption after reviewing a variety of resources and should not be interpreted as a precise result.

Table 1. Emerging Technology Readiness, Cost, & Potential Comparison

Technology	Technology Readiness Level	Conditions for Cost Effectiveness	Potential & Key Notes
Next-Gen Geothermal	6-7	Demonstrated learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	Over 20 GW of potential in California alone; requires large capex and exploration
Floating Offshore Wind	6-7	Potential for learning curve, limited domestic supply chain, high infrastructure requirements	State target of 25 GW. Large infrastructure requirements (ports, boats, etc.) and federal policy pushback
Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)	6-7	Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	Current in-state moratorium on nuclear power, including SMRs. Local opposition to nuclear.
Green Hydrogen	6-7	Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, high infrastructure requirements	Scalability is limited by infrastructure (unless generation is collocated with loads) and water availability.
Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)	8	Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	Regulatory challenges and geography limited by the availability of underground storage.
Methanol Electricity	6	Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, high infrastructure requirements	Large infrastructure requirements to store and transport hydrogen and carbon dioxide.
Iron-Air Battery	ron-Air Battery 7 Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements		Lower power density, increased space requirements, low round-trip efficiency, and potential for degradation are key challenges

Thermal Storage	8	Potential for learning curve,	Low round-trip efficiency for power
		domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	generation. Difficult history in California with high-cost experiments in the past.

Table 2. Emerging Technology Portfolio Contribution Comparison

Technology	Hourly Carbon Mitigation	Winter Reliability	Local	SCP Perspective Summary
Next-Gen Geothermal	High	High	High	Firm, dispatchable, and local
Floating Offshore Wind	Medium	Medium	Medium	Complementary supply profile to net load, would provide regional (NorCal) capacity
Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)	High	High	Low	Firm and dispatchable, but would likely be remote to SCP territory
Green Hydrogen	High	Medium	Low	Seasonal balancing dependent on storage, unlikely to be sited locally
Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)	High	High	Low	Firm and dispatchable, but would likely be remote to SCP territory
Methanol Electricity	High	Medium	Low	Seasonal balancing dependent on storage, unlikely to be sited locally
Iron-Air Battery	Medium	Medium	Medium	Strong potential for multi-day storage and could be sited locally
Thermal Storage	Medium	Medium	Medium	High local value if paired with industrial or thermal loads

Based on a qualitative review of the comparison above, staff continue to be interested in supporting next-generation geothermal as an emerging technology. Next-generation geothermal has already demonstrated a learning curve that is working towards a target of \$45 per megawatt-hour (MWh). Unlike other technologies evaluated by staff it provides strong contributions to all three portfolio needs: it has high hourly carbon mitigation value, it provides a strong contribution to winter reliability, and it has high local development potential.

Both iron-air and thermal storage also fair similarly well from staff's qualitative evaluation. As long-duration storage technologies, they provide contributions to carbon mitigation and winter reliability. Investment from industry in developing and deploying iron-air and thermal storage technologies is anticipated to reduce costs compared to lithium-ion and address technology-specific limitations. Long-duration energy storage is also a technology that could be sited locally.

SMRs and CCS are two technologies that California power providers are exploring to provide the low-emission firm capacity that will be needed as the state reaches deep levels of grid decarbonization. However, they both face regulatory challenges:

California currently has a moratorium on new nuclear, and CCS is often left out from eligibility for meeting state clean energy needs. Given past public discussions on nuclear power and concerns about supporting the fossil fuel industry, staff expect that support for these technologies would be limited at SCP. However, given the critical nature of making more rapid progress on lowering global greenhouse gas emissions, staff would like the Committee's feedback on whether SMRs and CCS should be further considered as parts of a future SCP IRP portfolio.

Floating offshore wind, green hydrogen, and methanol are all technologies that are dependent on large investments in infrastructure. These technologies provide winter reliability, but that reliability is either intermittent (in the case of offshore wind) or dependent on storage.

Next Steps

Feedback from the committee will be used by staff to select three to four technologies to further characterize as candidate resources for the 2025 IRP. Staff will complete increased diligence on estimating the cost, availability, and portfolio contributions of these technologies. SCP's portfolio optimization tool will then be used to identify if these candidate technologies are cost-effective at meeting SCP's energy, reliability, and environmental target needs. For the 2025 IRP, staff anticipate employing a more sophisticated model that evaluates portfolio needs across six different future buildouts of the California grid and tested for uncertainties in resource cost and load growth.

If any of the candidate resources are ultimately selected as part of the optimized IRP portfolio, staff will explore if there are opportunities for strategic support similar to SCP's efforts for next-generation geothermal in the GeoZone. SCP may want to explore early commercial partnerships or regulatory and legislative advocacy that supports a needed emerging technology.

As with past IRP cycles, staff will ask the Committee to review the final 2025 IRP portfolio before it is presented to the Board for approval. Staff are expecting the 2025 IRP portfolio presentation to occur in September.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Emerging Technologies for Integrated Resource Planning Presentation

Emerging Technologies for SCP's 2025 IRP

sonoma clean power.org

1

Background

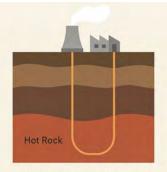
- Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is a biennial process to plan SCP's future portfolio and provide the CPUC guidance on needed infrastructure
- Emerging technologies are critical in the state cost-effectively achieving the last 10-20% of decarbonization
- SCP has supported next-generation geothermal as an emerging technology, but exploring a wider array of options for its 2025 IRP
- High-level overview of technologies and tradeoffs to follow
- Looking for Committee feedback on 3 to 4 technologies to study further

2

Next Gen Geothermal



Enhanced Geothermal System



Closed-Loop System

Water is injected into deep, hot, impermeable rock where artificial fractures allow it to absorb heat. The heated water is then extracted and used to generate steam for electricity production. A sealed loop of fluid circulates through underground pipes, absorbing heat from surrounding hot rock. The heated fluid is brought back to the surface to transfer energy without interacting with underground water or rock.

3

Floating Offshore Wind



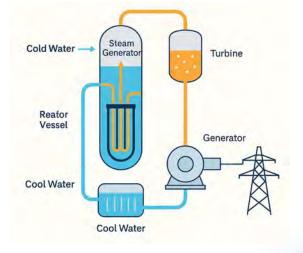


Floating turbines are placed on buoyant platforms tethered to the ocean floor with mooring lines. Suited for deeper waters—offers flexibility in site selection but involves more complex engineering.

4

60 of 65

Small Modular Reactor (Nuclear)

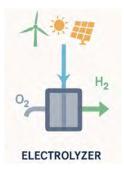




Installed in compact, secure facilities; use nuclear fission to heat water and generate electricity. Designed for modular deployment and built offsite.

5

Green Hydrogen



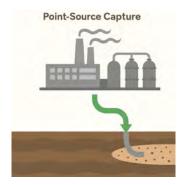




Electrolyzer uses electricity to split water into oxygen and hydrogen. Hydrogen is stored and potentially transported to fuel cell or combustion power plant to make electricity.

6

Carbon Capture Storage

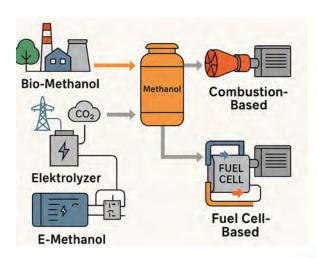




Captures CO₂ directly from power plant emissions before it enters the atmosphere. Stores captured carbon in an underground reservoir.

7

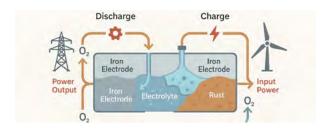
Methanol



Produced from organic material via gasification or anaerobic digestion (biomethanol) or synthesized by combining green hydrogen with captured CO₂ (emethanol). Methanol has higher energy density than hydrogen and as a liquid is easier to store. Methanol can either be combusted in a turbine to make electricity or as the feed to a fuel cell.

8

Iron-Air Battery

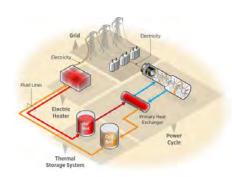




Iron-air batteries generate electricity by oxidizing iron into rust during discharge, releasing electrons. During charging, the rust is reduced back to iron using renewable energy. Iron-air batteries are lower energy density than lithium-ion and have lower round-trip efficiency, but can be made with lower cost materials with durations of 100 hours.

9

Thermal Storage





Stores thermal energy by using electricity to raise the temperature or changing the phase of a material. Discharged using a heat cycle that drives a turbine. Low round-trip efficiency due to heat cycle, but scalable to longer-durations due to lower material costs.

10

Technology Evaluation – Readiness & Cost

Technology	Technology Readiness Level	Conditions for Cost Effectiveness	Potential & Key Notes
Next-Gen Geothermal	6-7	Demonstrated learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	Over 20 GW of potential in California alone; requires large capex and exploration
Floating Offshore Wind	6–7	Potential for learning curve, limited domestic supply chain, high infrastructure requirements	State target of 25 GW. Large infrastructure requirements (ports, boats, etc.) and federal policy pushback
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Thermal Storage	8	Potential for learning curve, domestic supply chain, limited infrastructure requirements	Low round-trip efficiency for power generation.

11

Technology Evaluation – Contribution

Technology	Resource Type	Hourly Carbon Mitigation	Winter Reliability	Local	SCP Perspective Summary
Next-Gen Geothermal	Clean Firm	High	High	High	Firm, dispatchable, and local
Floating Offshore Wind	High CF Renewable	Medium	Medium	Medium	Complementary supply profile to net load, would provide regional (NorCal) capacity
Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)	Clean Firm	High	High	Low	Firm and dispatchable, but would likely be remote to SCP
Green Hydrogen	Seasonal Storage	High	Medium	Low	Seasonal balancing dependent on storage, unlikely to be sited locally
Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)	Clean Firm	High	High	Low	Firm and dispatchable, but would likely be remote to SCP
Methanol Electricity	Seasonal Storage	High	Medium	Low	Seasonal balancing dependent on storage, unlikely to be sited locally
Iron-Air Battery	Long-duration Storage	Medium	Medium	Medium	Strong potential for multi-day storage and could be sited locally
Thermal Storage	Long-duration Storage	Medium	Medium	Medium	High local value if paired with industrial or thermal loads

12

64 of 65

6

Discussion

- Next-generation geothermal continues to rank highly as an emerging technology of strategic interest to SCP
- Long-duration energy storage provide needed contributions to future portfolio, could be sited locally, and are on a positive trajectory for readiness and costeffectivenss
- SMRs and CCS provide clean firm capacity but are unlikely to be sited locally and SCP support could be challenging – looking for Committee feedback
- Floating offshore wind, green hydrogen, and methanol are highly dependent on large infrastructure investments
- Feedback from committee will guide staff in evaluating 3-4 technologies as candidate resources for 2025 IRP; inclusion in portfolio will be dependent on cost-effectiveness

13