

MEETING of the Executive Committee of the  
Clean Power Alliance of Southern California  
Wednesday, April 15, 2020 1:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

*The Executive Committee conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 and COVID-19 pandemic protocols.*

**I. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Diana Mahmud called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. and Clerk of the Board Gabriela Monzon conducted roll call.

<b>Roll Call</b>			
<b>Agoura Hills</b>	Deborah Klein Lopez	Committee Member	Remote
<b>Beverly Hills</b>	Julian Gold	Committee Member	Remote
<b>Los Angeles County</b>	Sheila Kuehl	Vice Chair	Remote
<b>Oxnard</b>	Carmen Ramirez	Committee Member	Remote
<b>Rolling Hills Estates</b>	Steve Zuckerman	Committee Member	Remote
<b>Santa Monica</b>	Kevin McKeown	Committee Member	Remote
<b>South Pasadena</b>	Diana Mahmud	Chair	Remote
<b>Ventura County</b>	Linda Parks	Vice Chair	Remote
<b>West Hollywood</b>	Linsey Horvath	Committee Member	Remote

All items are unanimously approved unless otherwise stated.

**II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve Minutes from March 18, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting

**Motion:** Vice Chair Kuehl, Los Angeles County

**Second:** Committee Member Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates  
**Vote:** Item 1 was approved by a roll call vote, with 1 abstention by Committee Member Lopez.

#### IV. REGULAR AGENDA

##### 2. Oral Update from Executive Director on CPA Operations

Ted Bardacke, Executive Director, provided an oral update on CPA's actions to secure temporary office space and the organization's financial status during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to Chair Mahmud and Director Zuckerman's questions, Mr. Bardacke explained that trends would be more notable in May and that CPA budgets for one half of one percent non-payment, however, non-payment has been less than that.

##### 3. Review Draft Agenda for May 7, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting

Mr. Bardacke discussed CPA's progress on renewable energy and storage deals, noting that suppliers continue to see the organization as a well-managed partner to conduct business with.

Vice-Chair Kuehl asked for clarity on the process for prioritizing projects for recommendation to the Board. Matt Langer, Chief Operations Officer, responded that projects are prioritized based on the complexity of negotiations and the viability of such projects. Chair Mahmud added that scoring of proposals was based on various metrics, but because of counterparties' responses, the highest priority projects will not necessarily be those for which negotiations are completed first. Mr. Langer continued to describe the process, noting that once agreements were received from counterparties, priority is placed on those that can be completed in a more timely manner and within those projects, CPA begins negotiations with parties whose projects conform to IRP mandated deadlines.

Mr. Langer provided a presentation on rate adjustments for 2020, including the following topics: proposed rate adjustments, a comparison of generation related charges for residential and non-residential customers, average customer bills for Lean, Clean, and 100% Green, and also provided additional details on streetlighting rates, COVID-19 financial relief, and a summary of next steps.

Director Zuckerman asked if rate increases are due to line hardening and other wildfire protections, and Mr. Langer confirmed that is the case and

that forecast was based on the status quo low and the rate-setting approach for subset rates would continue.

Vice-Chair Parks opined that providing a bigger discount off 100% Green rate would make more sense, based on the guiding concept that CPA provides a cleaner composition with comparable rates to Edison; and Director Lopez asked for further information on the call center training surrounding the explanation of the rate increase due to generation or transmission costs. Vice-Chair Kuehl asked if staff needed direction on streetlighting rates and expressed support for the policy, stating that it would be a benefit to agencies. Director Zuckerman added that an explanation about rate adjustments included in customers' bills would help to clarify the increase.

Mr. Bardacke responded that call center staff know to address the details on the bill, including changes in delivery vs. generation rates.

Director Gold agreed that communication relating to a rate increase due to transmission costs would be necessary and expressed concern over revisiting the rate setting process. Chair Mahmud asked if staff was aware of the stability of Edison's rate methodology to prevent costly implementation of a streetlighting program. Chair Mahmud further explained that as Edison was seeing a continual diminution of generation services within its territory, it is anticipated the agency would focus on revenue generation activities. Director Lopez inquired about the ongoing cost for the streetlighting program.

Mr. Langer clarified that the streetlighting program would need to be sustainable enough to prevent member agencies from opting in and out; and added that to continue the policy, staff would evaluate the total difference in revenue from rates set at the SCE comparison level or at the cost of service level and indicated staff can work with member cities to conduct custom impact rate analysis. The Committee directed staff to discuss the streetlighting rate policy in more detail at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Director McKeown pointed out that more outreach and focus on messaging can inform customers that rate increases are impacted by the rise in generation fees from Edison and Director Horvath agreed with committee member comments and expressed support for a rate assistance program.

Mr. Bardacke presented an idea for providing \$1 million worth of assistance for customers impacted by Covid-19. Key questions to be answered are should CPA offer this, should it be spread across many customers or more targeted assistance, and if the assistance should be tied to energy or in the form of general relief like donations to food banks.

Chair Mahmud discussed Prop 26 and requested that the General Counsel vet the legality of a rate assistance program. At Chair Mahmud's request, Mr. Bardacke clarified that in addition to suspending disconnections, Edison extended payment plans, eliminated CARE rates verification and doubled credits on electricity bills through the energy assistance fund.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members, with most members expressing support for providing targeted rate assistance to customers. Director Zuckerman encouraged the participation and input of Community Advisory Committee Members in the development of the rate assistance program. Mr. Bardacke thanked the Executive Committee for input and noted that the feedback provided more insight to develop proposals to bring to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Bardacke provided a presentation of budget priorities for fiscal year 2020/2021, discussing staffing and program goals. Mr. Bardacke added that a discussion on organizational and personal goals would be part of the closed session discussion. Chair Mahmud and Vice-Chair Kuehl praised the Executive Director's leadership and commended CPA staff.

There were no public comments on this item.

## **V. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Mahmud welcomed Committee Member Lopez to the Executive Committee.

## **VI. ADJOURN**

Chair Mahmud adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.