

REGULAR MEETING of the Energy Planning & Resources Committee
of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California
Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 12:15 p.m.

MINUTES

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

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Committee Chair McKeown called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and Clerk of the Board, Gabriela Monzon, conducted roll call.

ROLL CALL			
Alhambra	Jeffrey Maloney	Committee Member	Remote
Arcadia	Tom Tait	Committee Member	Absent
Carson	Reata Kulcsar	Committee Member	Remote
Santa Monica	Kevin McKeown	Committee Chair	Remote
Thousand Oaks	Helen Cox	Committee Member	Remote
Ventura County	Carmen Ramirez	Committee Member	Remote

All votes are unanimous, unless otherwise stated.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes from December 16, 2020 Energy Committee Meeting
2. Receive and File November and December 2020 Risk Management Team Reports

Motion: Committee Member Ramirez, Ventura County

Second: Committee Member Maloney, Alhambra

Vote: The consent agenda was approved by a roll call vote, with Committee Members Parkhurst and Cox abstaining.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. Approve Shortlist Projects as Recommended by the Review Team for the 2020 Clean Energy Request for Offers (RFO)

Natasha Keefer, Director of Power Planning & Procurement, and Erik Nielsen, Senior Manager of Structured Contracts, provided a background on the RFO results, noting that CPA enters long-term contracts to ensure affordable, reliable, clean power that supports load-resource balance and meet compliance obligations. This RFO is the third cycle with a targeted procurement of 1.5 to 2 million megawatt-hours (MWh) of annual generation. Ms. Keefer explained that the RFO Review Team consisted of Chair McKeown and Committee Member Cox and reviewed confidential offer information that formulated a recommended shortlist and waitlist. Ms. Keefer reviewed the RFO process, goals, eligibility, and key considerations, specifically noting that CPA has a strong preference for near-term online date projects to fulfill CPA's requirements under Senate Bill (SB) 350 and support CPA load requirements with a diverse portfolio of cost-effective and clean technologies. Ms. Keefer reviewed CPA's current online portfolio, SB 350 compliance position, and local procurement opportunities through the CPA Local Programs Strategic Plan, noting that there were significant gains over the past year in contracting for new resources, but generation is needed through the night when solar is not generating. Mr. Nielsen reviewed the offers received by technology and resource type, stating that there were limited local projects; only generation projects count toward SB 350; reviewed the qualitative range of offers. Mr. Nielsen touched on the evaluation criteria and discussed the quantitative valuation approach, adding that offers were valued and ranked based on their Net Present Value (NPV) per MWh and noted that a handful of fourth quartile offers were a combination of alternative technologies, out of market bids, and long-duration storage. Ms. Keefer provided a detailed analysis of the shortlist recommendation, which also includes a waitlist; and demonstrates a preference for near-term online date projects; secures diverse resources for load-resource balance; and noted that the 13 shortlist projects had a high NPV value, high qualitative scores, 2021 to mid-2023 online dates, with the exception of one in-state wind project, and provided diversity in technology. Additionally, Ms. Keefer noted that 24 offers were removed from consideration in the initial screen that scored low in environmental stewardship or were out of state PV projects. Ms. Keefer concluded with a review of metrics and the RFO schedule and highlighted key takeaways: workforce development was high across the offers and there were a significant number of projects in disadvantaged communities (DACs); and noted that there were not many geothermal projects in California.

Committee Member Cox noted that staff simplified the RFO process, making it easy for the RFO Review Team to make decisions on projects. Committee Member Parkhurst asked how agricultural land ("Ag land") was evaluated using the environmental stewardship criteria. Committee Member Kulcsar inquired as to the term of contracts and the distinction between

workforce development and the DAC evaluation criteria. In response, Ms. Keefer stated that prime ag land is one of CPA's avoidance criteria, the standard contract term is 15 years, with those offers with better value deviating from that term; and explained that workforce development evaluation considers commitments to project labor agreements or other targeted hire commitments; the DAC evaluation criteria considers whether or not the project is located within a DAC and is committing to local hires within a DAC or providing other non-workforce economic benefits to the community.

In response to an additional question from Committee Member Parkhurst about project delays and for further clarification on the neutral category of the environmental stewardship criteria, Ms. Keefer clarified that the power purchase agreements (PPAs) are intended to deal with risks associated with either development or operation of a project. Staff explained that environmental stewardship aims to categorize projects that do not demonstrate multiple benefits but are also not on an avoidance area for CPA, and further noted that the low category in environmental stewardship is unique in that projects placed in the low category are actually harmful to the environment.

Motion: Committee Member Parkhurst, Sierra Madre
Second: Committee Member Maloney, Alhambra
Vote: Item 3 was approved by a roll call vote.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Committee Member Cox thanked staff for their handling of the RFO. Chair McKeown noted the importance of President Biden's recent decision to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, and Santa Monica's commitment to its principles by participating in CPA. Committee Member Parkhurst emphasized that CPA is creating a renewable energy economy, with a vast majority of projects located in Southern California.

ADJOURN

Chair McKeown adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m.