

**MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING of the Community Advisory Committee of the  
Clean Power Alliance of Southern California

Thursday, January 19, 2023

1:00 p.m.

CPA Office 801 S. Grand Ave., Suite 400 Los Angeles, CA 90017	Ventura County Government Center - CEO Channel Islands Room, 4th Floor Hall of Administration 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009
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**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Fromer called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and Christian Cruz, Community Outreach Manager, conducted a roll call.

<b>East Ventura/West LA County</b>	Angus Simmons	Remote
<b>East Ventura/West LA County</b>	Jennifer Burke (Vice-Chair)	Remote
<b>East Ventura/West LA County</b>	Debbie West	Remote
<b>San Gabriel Valley</b>	Richard Tom	Absent
<b>San Gabriel Valley</b>	Kim Luu	Absent
<b>West/Unincorporated Ventura County</b>	Lucas Zucker	Remote
<b>West/Unincorporated Ventura County</b>	Vern Novstrup	Remote
<b>South Bay</b>	Vacant	
<b>Gateway Cities</b>	Irella Perez	Remote
<b>Gateway Cities</b>	Genaro Bugarin (Vice-Chair)	Remote
<b>Westside</b>	Cris Gutierrez	Absent
<b>Westside</b>	David Haake	Absent
<b>Unincorporated Los Angeles County</b>	Neil Fromer (Chair)	Remote
<b>Unincorporated Los Angeles County</b>	Kristie Hernandez	Absent

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise stated.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes from October 20, 2022, and November 17, 2022, Community Advisory Committee Meetings
2. Update on Implementation of Workplan Priorities
3. CAC Standard Operating Procedures - Letters of Support

**Motion**                      Committee Member Simmons, East Ventura/West LA County  
**Second**                      Vice Chair Bugarin, Gateway Cities  
**Vote**                              The consent agenda was approved by a roll call vote

## REGULAR AGENDA

4. Oral Update from the Chief Executive Officer on CPA Operations

Ted Bardacke, CEO, thanked the Committee for their patience with technology challenges arising from the transition back to in-person meetings. Mr. Bardacke indicated that the monthly CPA newsletter featured the Community Advisory Committee and its recent change in leadership.

Mr. Bardacke discussed the significant turnover in the Board of Directors as a result of term limits. Mr. Bardacke highlighted the two new Board vice chairs, Lindsey Horvath of Los Angeles County and Vianey Lopez of Ventura County.

Mr. Bardacke provided an update on the disruption to the electricity market due the increase in natural gas prices. Mr. Bardacke reviewed charts displaying natural gas prices over the last two years as well as electricity prices to show budgeted fiscal year prices versus actual/expected prices to demonstrate the fiscal impact to CPA.

Chair Fromer asked about the pricing chart and what was reflected in it. Mr. Bardacke clarified that the chart highlighted the increase in natural gas prices and its impact on wholesale electricity prices. . He also noted that Southern California Edison (SCE) recently implemented their new rates for 2023, reflecting an increase in generation and delivery rates.

Committee Member Simmons inquired about the rates chart and if it included an adjustment for the increased gas prices and impacts on SCE and CPA. Mr. Bardacke indicated that the chart highlights the rates a customer is currently being charged, as CPA have made market adjustments. Committee Member Simmons also asked if there was an expectation that both SCE and CPA would be impacted equally. Mr. Bardacke indicated that is the expectation and staff will be bringing an interim rate adjustment to the Board for a vote in March and implementation in April.

Committee Member Novstrup asked how the change in natural gas prices affects renewable energy charges. Mr. Bardacke explained that when the price of gas increases, there are changes to the spot market price of electricity from all sources, adding that most of CPA's exposure is to the unhedged position for system energy. Committee Member Novstrup inquired if CPA has a lower exposure than SCE, given that CPA uses a substantially higher percentage of renewables. Mr. Bardacke

responded CPA's prices will not change as quickly or significantly as SCE's prices because of the conservative approach taken by CPA. Responding to Committee Member Novstrup's observation concerning the reason for the natural gas increase, Mr. Bardacke indicated there were several factors involved, including weather, pipeline constraints, and the unique unreliability of California's natural gas storage assets. He also noted that Aliso Canyon has restrictions on the amounts of storage allowed there due to public health risks.

Committee Member Zucker inquired whether staff has a communication plan to advise customers and member agencies of the reason for the proposed increase in rates. Mr. Bardacke stated that the rate communication will highlight CPA's competitiveness with SCE and point to CPA's conservative view of exposure to the market.

Committee Member Bugarin asked if staff will be revisiting the frequency and timing of how CPA adjusts its rates. Mr. Bardacke noted that given climate change and market transitions, staff expects more volatility in the future and CPA is looking to purchase more long-term contracts at fixed prices and that the goal is to set rates just once a year.

Responding to Committee Member Novstrup's question concerning solar and wind energy, Mr. Bardacke indicated there is no current curtailing of solar and wind energy due to market conditions, adding that this typically happens in April/May and September/October.

##### 5. Building Electrification Program Update

Joanne O'Neill, Director, Customer Programs, and Xico Manarolla, Electrification Program Manager, provided a presentation on the Building Electrification Program. Ms. O'Neill reviewed the three pillars of the Clean Energy Future Plan, including resilience and grid management, building and transportation electrification, and local procurement, and the seven programs offered under those three pillars.

Committee Member Bugarin inquired whether there will be a review to evaluate local programs. Ms. O'Neill indicated that there will be a midpoint review of the 5-year local programs strategic plan. The review will provide an opportunity to evaluate market and policy changes. Staff is looking to create action plans in the three different pillar categories to map out further advancements as more funding may become available in the future.

Committee Member Zucker expressed a desire for staff to research best practices to support customers in existing buildings and low-income customers who wish to implement electrification changes. Mr. Manarolla indicated that part three of the Building Electrification Program will look into what CPA can do regarding incentives.

Committee Member Simmons highlighted that the incubator series was a great aid in attaining reach codes in the city of Santa Monica and should be used on an active scale in the future.

Responding to Committee Member Burke's questions regarding reach codes, Mr. Manarolla indicated that there are reach codes for all new construction electrical codes in Unincorporated Ventura County, and CPA will provide support for both commercial and residential jurisdictions to produce reach codes. Committee Member Burke expressed concern for the general lack of skilled tradesmen and electricians to provide the updates, inquiring whether CPA can bring awareness of the new technologies involved for education purposes. Mr. Manarolla stated that is one of the reasons behind CPA's workforce development program, adding that there are trainings to be held in March for advanced electricians to work on Green buildings and other technologies useful in those types of structures.

Chair Fromer commented that it is important for CPA to include incentives within this program to encourage the adoption of strong requirements for workplace EV charging in order to meet the charging time goals.

Committee Member Novstrup suggested that bi-directional charging and cyber security should be two focuses of CPA staff as this program moves forward.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Committee Member West recognized the Port of Hueneme for its plug-in infrastructure, expressed appreciation for the Building Electrification Program presentation, and commented that Ventura County now has 15 plug-in school buses and libraries, offering residents the ability to check out induction cooktop ovens for trial use.

Mr. Cruz advised that all Committee Members will receive by email a self-identification survey that will inform CPAs annual report to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Chair Fromer requested future discussion concerning the impacts that Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 will have for CPA customers and community working groups.

### **ADJOURN**

Chair Fromer adjourned the meeting at 2:32 p.m.