

MINUTES

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

Thursday, April 20, 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 1:10 p.m. and Christian Cruz, Community Outreach Manager, conducted a roll call.

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

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise stated.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes from the February 16, 2023, Community Advisory Committee Meeting
2. Update on Implementation of Workplan Priorities

Motion	Committee Member Tom, San Gabriel Valley
Second	Committee Member Gutierrez, Westside
Vote	The consent agenda was approved by a roll call vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. Net Energy Metering 3.0 Update

CC Song, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs, and Karen Schmidt, Director, Rates and Strategy, provided a presentation on the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 decision.

Ms. Song reviewed CPA's NEM policy goals and rate design objectives and explained the effects of the CPUC's final NEM 3.0 decision on CPA customers. Ms. Schmidt reviewed three NEM policy options. Staff recommended that CPA follow the NEM 3.0 approach on export compensation, paired with a robust and broad-based storage incentive program.

Committee Member Gutierrez inquired about other types of storage support CPA can provide to customers. Ms. Song noted that staff has not considered additional support but will take the feedback and look at opportunities, as it pertains to storage. Committee Member Gutierrez commented on storage incentives as it pertains to batteries dispatch into the system. Matthew Langer, Chief Operating Officer, indicated that NEM 3.0 provides value to battery dispatch during the peak hours; NEM 2.0 provided less of an incentive to use the battery at peak dispatching hours.

Chair Fromer emphasized the importance of ensuring the battery installers are optimizing the batteries correctly and the incentive programs are clearly understood so customers can take advantage of the Avoided Cost Calculator (ACC) calculation on a daily basis. Mr. Langer noted that staff would link incentives to participate in the CPA Power Response program as an added mechanism.

Committee Member Novstrup inquired about the average customer load used for the customer value comparison of NEM 2.0 and NEM 3.0. Ms. Schmidt explained the average customer load was based on CPA's current NEM population and reflects an example of the typical load for CPA's service territory and customer base. Mr. Langer indicated that CPA's diverse territory yields different averages. Chair Fromer requested that staff identify a range of average customer examples to meet the needs of the diverse service territory.

Committee Member Haake inquired about the number of CPA customers eligible or enrolled in either the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program or the

Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) program. Mr. Langer indicated that 1/3 of CPA customers are enrolled in CARE/FERA, and over 90% of eligible customers are enrolled in the CARE program.

Committee Member Haake asked about the possibility of expanding the definition of low-income in the NEM 3.0 program to widen the pool of eligible customers. Ms. Schmidt explained there are large administrative barriers to implementing change to the threshold definition. Chair Fromer added that there is also a risk of creating confusion about eligibility, as Southern California Edison (SCE) portion of the customer bill would be determined only by CARE/FERA enrollment.

Committee Member Hernandez inquired about the non-participating customer impacts of NEM 2.0 and NEM 3.0. Mr. Langer explained that rates are currently 1.6% to 2.1% higher than they would be without NEM 2.0 and that there are currently no proposed changes for existing customers. Existing customers would simply roll off legacy status after 20 years.

Vice Chair Bugarin recommended that staff conduct educational campaigns as it pertains to incentives and programs for storage adoption. He noted that additional education will help customers understand the offerings available to them when making decisions on adoption. Ms. Schmidt's response was that staff have been and will continue to be in communication with customers, particularly in the outreach and education of consumers.

4. Fiscal Year 2023/24 Rates and Budget Priorities

David McNeil and Karen Schmidt provided a presentation on the rate setting approach and budget priorities for FY 2023/24. Mr. McNeil reviewed the budget and rate setting timeline for FY 2023/24. Ms. Schmidt identified and explained the factors considered by staff for the rate setting approach, including product pricing differentials, bill comparison levels, updated subset rates, and the rate approach for new communities enrolling in 2024.

Staff noted that customers in our newest agencies of Hermosa Beach, Monrovia, and Santa Paula will be placed on Southern California Edison's (SCE's) 2023 vintage Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) rates when CPA begins service in March 2024.

Mr. McNeil reviewed the operational priorities for FY 23/24, provided operating expense context and overview, identified various CPA customer programs, and explained the staffing budget priorities.

Committee Member Haake inquired about the pros and cons of bringing on new cities. Staff indicated that they evaluate a number of different factors when considering member agency expansion, including the agency mission and financial impact to the agency.

Committee Member Tom emphasized the importance of providing context to the board about the employee retention issues and what staff are doing to address them. Mr. McNeil agreed to implement the suggestion, adding that the retention and

employee turnover issues appear to be widespread and not specific to Community Choice Aggregations (CCAs).

Committee Member Hernandez also inquired about industry-specific workforce trends. Mr. Langer explained that the energy industry growth in California has led to an increase in talent competition across the industry; opportunities to grow cause turnover. Staff have taken action to improve employee retention, including updated salary bands, salary adjustments to bring some employees closer to market rates, and work flexibility with remote work and hybrid options.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Christian Cruz reminded CAC members to support upcoming Earth Month events.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no comments.

ADJOURN

Chair Fromer adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.