

**REGULAR MEETING of the Citizens Advisory Committee
of the Peninsula Clean Energy Authority (PCEA)
Thursday, February 8, 2024
MINUTES**

In-Person, Video Conference, and Teleconference
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

PCEA Lobby, 2075 Woodside Road, Redwood City, CA 94061

Diane Bailey, Belmont
Steven Booker, Half Moon Bay
Michael Closson, Menlo Park
Kathleen Goforth, San Carlos
Mele Heimuli, East Palo Alto *arrived at 6:38 p.m.*
Jason Mendelson, Redwood City, Vice Chair
Cheryl Schaff, Menlo Park, *Chair*
Desiree Thayer, Burlingame
Robert Whitehair, San Mateo

*UC Merced, Sustainability Research and Engineering (SRE) 458, 5200 North Lake Rd.,
Merced, CA 95340*

Daniel Baerwaldt, Los Banos

Absent:

Aurelio Huizar, Burlingame
Margaret Li, South San Francisco

Remote participation under Gov't Code § 54953(j)(2)(B) (illness):

Gail Lee, San Bruno

An in-person quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ACTION TO SET THE AGENDA AND APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes for the January 11, 2024, Regular Meeting

Motion Made / Seconded: Booker / Bailey

Motion passed 10-0 (Absent: Heimuli, Huizar, Li)

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Chair Report (Discussion)

Cheryl Schaff, *Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair*, encouraged Committee members to share their input and ask questions during the meeting.

3. Recommendation on Program Design and Implementation of the Turnkey Home Electrification Service (Action)

Alejandra Posada, *Programs Manager, Customer Programs*, explained Peninsula Clean Energy's current support for single-family home electrification. Alejandra introduced the timeline, scope, and partners for Peninsula Clean Energy's new turnkey home electrification service.

Committee members discussed whether there are enough contractors experienced with heat pump installations to accommodate customer demand. Alejandra Posada shared her observation that the number of local contractors knowledgeable about electrification has increased.

Jason Mendelson, *CAC Vice Chair*, recommended that the emergency replacement service only install heat pump water heaters or electric water heaters. Jason said it is imperative to show customers that electric water heaters work well. Diane Bailey, *Committee Member*, recommended a split system, 120-volt heat pump water heater as a solution for emergency replacements, especially for tankless gas water heaters.

Robert Whitehair, *Committee Member*, inquired about whether Peninsula Clean Energy will partner with local jurisdictions to improve their permitting process. Blake Herrschaft, *Programs Manager, Buildings*, reported that Peninsula Clean Energy has researched this topic and plans to work with cities so that permits are approved in a timely manner. Committee members discussed opportunities to advocate for policies for streamlined permitting as it relates to building electrification.

The CAC made the following recommendation to the Peninsula Clean Energy Board of Directors:

The CAC enthusiastically recommends that the Board of Directors approve the Turnkey Home Electrification Service program and urges Peninsula Clean Energy to act expeditiously to implement the program. The CAC recommends that the emergency replacement program install only electric water heaters where feasible.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Schmidt inquired about what information about homes will be collected through the program, including the site assessment process.

Bruce Hodge asked whether the program administrator will bring on additional contractors as the demand for electric appliance installations increases, especially due to policies requiring electrification.

David Mauro asked if the program administrators will pay prevailing wage for each individual craft and who will ensure compliance.

John McKenna asked about how Peninsula Clean Energy plans to build trust with customers to encourage participation in the program.

Sam Fishman noted that SPUR is initiating a project around permitting and city code reform.

Motion Made / Seconded: Bailey / Whitehair

Motion passed 11-0 (Absent: Huizar, Li)

4. Update on Reach Codes (Discussion)

Blake Herrschaft, *Programs Manager, Buildings*, explained the benefits of reach codes and reviewed updates to Peninsula Clean Energy's model code, including an energy performance approach and air quality approach.

Kathleen Goforth, *Committee Member*, asked about how the updated model codes may apply to existing buildings. Blake noted that Peninsula Clean Energy is actively working to include existing building measures as options under both approaches.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Schmidt said that Menlo Spark is exploring whether jurisdictions can adopt both the energy performance and air quality approach.

5. Recommendation on Program Design and Implementation of the Electric Vehicle Managed Charging Program

Phillip Kobernick, *Senior Programs Manager, Transportation*, provided an overview of the Electric Vehicle (EV) Managed Charging Pilot, including objectives and results.

CAC members discussed the opportunities and challenges related to scaling participation in this program. Kathleen Goforth suggested marketing efforts to increase awareness of the EV customer rate among EV drivers.

The Committee made the following recommendation to the Peninsula Clean Energy Board of Directors:

The CAC recommends that the Board of Directors approve the implementation and growth of the Electric Vehicle Managed Charging Program. The CAC encourages the public to sign up for the program by going to the Peninsula Clean Energy website.

Motion Made / Seconded: Mendelson / Closson

Motion passed 10-0 (Absent: Baerwaldt, Huizar, Li)

6. Working Group Overview and Reports (Discussion)

The Local Solar + Storage Programs Working Group presented their initial research on utility programs for solar and storage.

Desiree Thayer, *Committee Member*, shared that the Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion (DEAI) Working Group has provided feedback on Peninsula Clean Energy's language technology access policy and equity framework. The Education Initiatives Working Group also convened to discuss Los Banos school programs.

7. Marketing and Community Liaison Update (Discussion)

Kirsten Andrews-Schwind, *Senior Manager of Community Relations*, announced that the Peninsula Clean Energy Executive Committee will consider changes to the CAC recruitment process.

8. Upcoming Topics for Discussion (Discussion)

Kirsten Andrews-Schwind previewed topics for the upcoming meetings of the Peninsula Clean Energy Board of Directors. Kirsten suggested a discussion on proposed changes to Peninsula Clean Energy's Net Energy Metering program.

Jason Mendelson tentatively suggested a presentation from the Local Solar + Storage Programs Working Group.

9. Committee Members' Reports (Discussion)

No Committee Member Reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.