

# Full Quarterly CAEECC Meeting #40 Summary

Date: Wednesday November 29, 2023

Time: 9:30am - 1:30pm PT

On November 29, 2023, the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee met for its fortieth quarterly meeting via Zoom. There were over 100 attendees, including representatives from 19 CAEECC Member organizations and 3 CAEECC Ex-Officio agencies as well as over 70 Members of the Public (see [Appendix A](#) for a full list of meeting attendees). This meeting was facilitated by Michelle Vigen Ralston (Ralston), and supported by Dr. Anthony Kinslow II (Kinslow) of Gemini Energy Solutions, Katie Wu (Wu) and Suhaila Sikand (Sikand) of Common Spark Consulting, Susan Rivo (Rivo) of Raab Associates. Additional presenters included Sheena Tran, (SDCP), Stacie Risley (SDG&E) and Margie Gardner (CalMTA).

Supporting meeting materials are available at:

<https://www.caeec.org/11-29-2023-full-caeccc-mtg>. Relevant materials include the Agenda and the Slide Deck.

## Overview

Key Meeting Takeaways:

- Members approved the Proposed Phase III DEI Training Plan. The dates for the plan are tentative and will be coordinated in conjunction with Full CAEECC Meetings and external Facilitator availability as appropriate.
- CAEECC Members received an update on the Compensation Pilot and the Evolving CAEECC Working Group. Several CAEECC Members supported the shift to written reflections while several Members of the Public raised frustration, and some hope for a Phase II.
- CAEECC Members discussed a Phase II of the Equity and Market Support Working Groups. Consensus was assumed on a plan to cover Goals and Objectives via Full CAEECC Meeting Sessions, Community Engagement Indicators in a Phase II of the Working Group, and Reporting on Participant Demographic Data via a small group draft and CAEECC Member discussion.
- CAEECC Members approved the preliminary 2024 Work plan and suggested topic-focused CAEECC Meetings. CAEECC Members also approved the CAEECC Meeting date holds.
- CAEECC Members approved co-chairs Lujana Medina (SoCalREN) and Lara Extension (NRDC).

- San Diego Regional Energy Network presented their Business Plan Proposal and offered Q&A. A more detailed summary and response will be released by December 8 EOD to the [11/29 Full CAEECC Quarterly Meeting Page](#).

*This meeting summary is intended to capture the overarching discussion of ideas, concerns, alternative options for proposals and consensus; it is a high-level summary and not a transcript. For more detailed discussion, please reach out to the [Facilitation Team](#).*

Key acronyms used in this document include California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Energy Division (ED), energy efficiency (EE), working group (WG), disadvantaged communities (DAC) and hard-to-reach (HTR) communities, justice equity diversity and inclusion (JEDI), CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan (ESJ Action Plan), Program Administrator (PA), Investor-owned utilities (IOU), Regional Energy Network (REN), community-based organization (CBO), market transformation (MT), Equity Metrics Working Group (EMWG), Market Support Metrics Working Group (MSMWG), Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG), Evolving CAEECC Working Group (ECWG), and Compensation Task Force (Compensation TF).

## Introductions and Background

*Slides 2 - 11*

Ralston presented the meeting objectives, which included:

1. Present and seek approval on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Phase III plan
2. Seek approval on 2024 CAEECC planning (including workplan, quarterly meeting dates, and co-chair nomination/confirmation)
3. Provide Working Group updates (including Equity & Market Support Working Group, Compensation Pilot, and Evolving CAEECC Working Group)
4. Provide feedback on SDREN's Business Plan Proposal.

To achieve meeting objectives, the facilitation team developed the following agenda:

- Introduction and Background
- [Session 1](#): CAEECC Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- [Session 2](#): Working Group Updates
- [Session 3](#): 2024 CAEECC Planning
- [Session 4](#): SDREN Business Plan Proposal
- [Session 5](#): Wrap-up
- Optional Assembly

Sikand provided general reminders, Zoom etiquette, meeting logistics. To encourage a space of inclusion and diversity, Ralston reviewed Proposed Meeting Norms and CAEECC Groundrules (see [Appendix B](#) for the full list). CAEECC Members were asked to introduce themselves through the chat.

## Membership Update

Ralston provided updates on Membership, including new Member leads for PG&E (Sonia Manrique), SoCalGas (Darren Hanway), RCEA/RuralREN (Patricia Terry & Faith Yakovleva), and CEDMC (Joe Desmond).

CAEECC has 23 total Members: 10 PAs, 5 government entities (3 of whom are Ex-Officio), 5 implementers, and 3 advocates (see image below).

*No members had discussion about the Membership Update.*

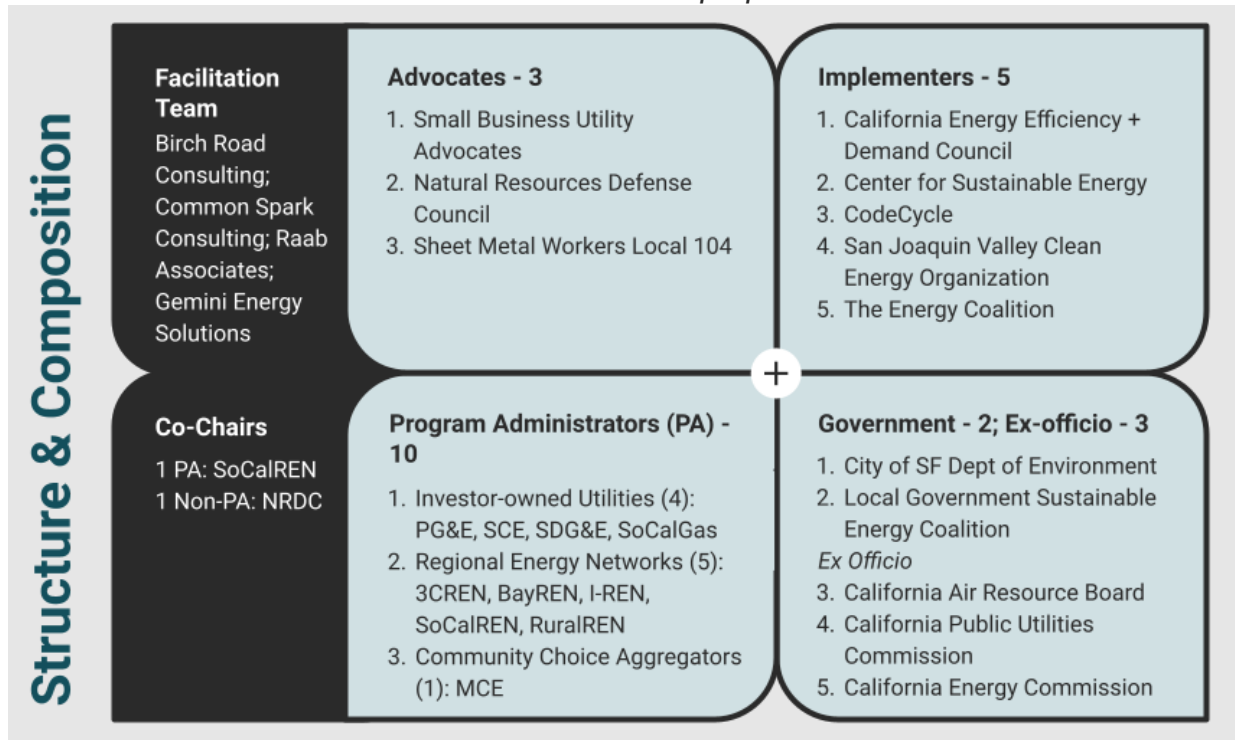


Image 1: Deconstruction the current structure and composition of CAEECC (no changes as of 9/21/23)

## Session 1: CAEECC Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Slides 12 - 29

Ralston presented a recap of the DEI Training CAEECC has undertaken thus far:

- In February, Dr. Anthony Kinslow II presented an overview of the EE space and described how inequity interacts and the need to re-think processes to develop programs in order to reach everyone.
- In May, Courageous Conversation provided training to CAEECC Members, Leads, and Ex-officio and presented on how to have conversations about race.
- In June, Sikand and Ralston hosted an interactive reflection section on CAEECC's inclusionary practices.

- In September, CAEECC Members provided feedback on a DEIJ Workplan.

Kinslow presented an overview of the Phase III Proposal, including the objectives of interactivity, inclusion of case studies, engagement in courageous conversation, and commitment to action. He shared the proposed three-part series on the Four Dimensions of Equity: Recognition/Restorative, Distributive, and Procedural.

Ralston tested for approval, no CAEECC Members opposed the plan and the plan was assumed approved.

## Summary of Discussion on CAEECC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- A CAEECC Member and an Ex-officio Representative asked clarifying questions on the timing and schedule of the trainings, whether they'd be within Full CAEECC Meetings, separate, and planned near Full CAEECC Meetings. *Facilitators noted to the extent possible, they will be at Quarterly Meetings, but a separate meeting may be scheduled. Recalled that when they first proposed this, they didn't have the 2024 Quarterly meeting schedule dates and noted that the dates are likely to change. Clarified that the training will be scheduled around the duration for each training.*
- A Member asked who the trainings are for. *Facilitators noted that currently it's for CAEECC Members, their Alternates, and Ex Officio. Offered that CAEECC can elect to open it up, but that would bring in considerations of whether or not CAEECC is well-equipped to host trainings open broadly to stakeholders.*
- A Member of the Public asked if Evolving CAEECC Working Group Members will be allowed into these trainings so that they can add their voices. Another Public Member asked what kind of input on equity will the Community have in the training. *Facilitators noted the creation of the trainings are based on work by community leaders and threaded throughout the trainings, however, the trainings themselves are meant for CAEECC Members, their Alternates, and Ex Officio specifically.*

## Session 2: Working Group Updates

Slides 20 - 35

### Compensation Pilot

Sikand provided an overview of the [Mid-Pilot Evaluation Report](#). She reminded CAEECC that the Compensation Pilot (Pilot) is a program to provide funding for participation in the Evolving CAEECC Working Group to Grantees who are historically underrepresented in CAEECC. Sikand provided context to the Mid-Pilot Evaluation Report, emphasizing it was a recommendation from the Compensation Task Force.

Sikand highlighted that most Evolving CAEECC Working Group Members are historically underrepresented, and all Grantees are due to eligibility criteria. She presented the acceptance rates of both the Evolving CAEECC Working Group and the Compensation Pilot as well as the effectiveness of outreach and recruitment.

Ralston provided an overview of the budget spend for the Pilot, highlighting that compared to the original Working Group prospectus, the budget spend is relatively in line. However, Ralston highlighted that the Pilot Administration spend is more than expected due to additional work to support budget changes and recipient participation..

Sikand presented a few high-level lessons learned from the Pilot, including the time for recruitment, need for compensation for evaluation surveys, the benefit and amount of compensation, the additional costs of administration, and the challenges with invoicing. Additional lessons learned were provided in the Report.

### Summary of Discussion on Compensation Pilot

- An Ex-officio Representative asked if the lessons learned are a final set of lessons. *Facilitators clarified this is the Mid-Pilot Report and a Final Pilot Report will build off this information and is expected by Q1 2024.*

## Evolving CAEECC Working Group

Sikand provided an update on the Evolving CAEECC Working Group. She described the events that have occurred since the 9/20 Full CAEECC Quarterly Meeting, including an Evolving CAEECC Working Group Meeting, post-meeting survey, and two Huddles. Sikand described how some Evolving CAEECC Working Group Members advocated strongly for a co-creative process and how the resources and structure that CAEECC established this working group within were inadequate to support the desired co-creative process. In addition, Sikand highlighted that the attempt of Facilitators to meet specific elements of the co-creative process as well as the conduct of some Working Group Members, impacted the ability for other Members to participate fully. Sikand shared that the Facilitation Team made the decision to shift the remainder of this working group activity from meetings into a written process that would allow Members to focus on the aspects of the topic most important to them; for everyone to speak for themselves; for those who want to work individually to do so or those who want to work in small groups can also do so; a document to capture the full breadth of ideas and priorities generated by the working group.

### Summary of Discussion on the Evolving CAEECC Working Group

- An Ex-officio Representative asked if the Facilitation Team is proposing a pathway for next steps and asked for CAEECC Member input. *Facilitators noted the Facilitation Team, with the support of co-chairs, felt the need to make the decision given the obligations to hold a safe and brave space, which this was not. Highlighted that the presentation was a report-out and not a proposal.*

- Many CAEECC Members supported the decision of the Facilitation Team to shift to written reflections. One noted that it is tough to moderate discussions and supported the decision for a written opportunity to share thoughts. Another noted that a level of understanding of energy efficiency and topics between members was imbalanced causing difficult moderation. Another offered support for Working Group Members in preparing written reflections and suggested a future working group with a more defined scope and purpose based on the reflections.
  - Another CAEECC Member and Member of the ECWG support the shift. They noted that despite preparation for hard conversations, the WG was harder than expected, in particular the difficulty to focus, the amount of time, and the original planned process. They noted that the Facilitation Team tried to curate an experience and provide synthesis to move forward, but some WG Members didn't feel it resonated with their ideas. This written opportunity to allow everyone to speak their truth unedited is a good idea so that the CPUC can hear directly what the Members want. Two other CAEECC and ECWG Members agreed.
- A CAEECC Member Alternate noted that some CAEECC Members previously proposed the CPUC look at this goal more broadly than just for CAEECC, as the dialogue is also occurring in other low income working groups.
- A CAEECC Member asked if the Compensation Pilot will cover the written reflections. *Facilitators clarified that compensation will be provided through the submission of written reflections.*
- An Ex-officio Representative asked about the process to initiate the working group and whether a CAEECC vote is needed to shift and requested follow-up on the process piece to ensure the process is being followed. *Facilitators noted the ECWG was a recommendation out of the Composition, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI) working group which was a CAEECC discretionary working group (it was based on the encouragement seen from the ESJ Action Plan, some comments from Commissioner Shiroma, and a desire by CAEECC members to think about alignment to those values). Stated that Katie Abrams supported and authorized this decision to shift to a written process before she went out on maternity leave. Noted that this question about CAEECC approval did come up, but due to the dynamics and the experiences of this working group, the Facilitation Team felt it necessary to stop the working group meetings and that they didn't feel like we could hold that space and meet our own obligations both ethically but also contractually to produce a productive working group space. Emphasized that this was an unprecedented situation, so there is no particular rule or process. Suggested that if it was only about the prospectus, CAEECC would have to approve a different one. Noted, however, that is not the case. Summarized that the Facilitation Team will not require members to join something that they no longer feel like they can participate in or show up safely at. Facilitators recognized this was an unprecedented scenario. Offered that CAEECC could add groundrules to*

*support a formal process to alter a working group. Noted however, there's an ethical responsibility of facilitators in terms of holding space.*

- A few Members of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group chatted that they were not given a chance to reach consensus because the working group stopped and that the written reflections could be an opportunity to re-center the group at a later time.

## Equity and Market Support Working Group

Wu presented an update on the Working Group with an overview of Phase I, including a Meeting and a Huddle in early November. Phase I is for WG Members to provide feedback to the PAs on clarifications necessary for the indicators adopted in D.23-06-055. Wu noted that equity indicators will be addressed at Meetings #2 and #3 on December 5 and December 6.

Wu noted that CAEECC Members will discuss whether Phase II will affect any of the remaining issues: Goals and Objectives for Segments, Community Engagement Indicators, and Reporting Demographic Participation Data. Wu noted that a Phase II would have its own recruitment process.

After [CAEECC Member Discussion](#) and one [public comment](#), Wu tried to test for consensus, however, due to time constraints this was pushed to Session 3. In Session 3, no CAEECC Member opposed the proposal below and consensus was assumed on the following Phase II plan:

- Goals and Objectives for Equity and Market Support Segments: Discussion and input will occur during Full CAEECC Meetings.
- Community Engagement Indicators will occur in a working group process.
- Reporting Demographic Participation Data will likely occur in a mini working group process and come back to Full CAEECC for input.

## Summary of Discussion on Equity and Market Support Working Group

- A CAEECC Member supported Community Engagement Indicators included in a Phase II working group and asked if they and others would be able to join just for Phase II. Another CAEECC Member agreed that Community Engagement Indicators are important for input, but did not specify the venue. One CAEECC Member shared no preference on Community Engagement Indicators. One CAEECC Member requested to not bundle Community Engagement Indicators with Goals and Objectives for Equity and Market Support Segments and another CAEECC Member supported this. *Facilitators clarified that CAEECC Members and others may join for Phase II as a new recruitment process would ensue. Clarified that Phase II would start no earlier than March 2024.*
  - A CAEECC Member asked if the Community Engagement Indicators are included in the September 2025 Advice Letter, noting that Community

Engagement Indicators are very different from Goals and Objectives (a Community Engagement Indicator will inform if a program is meeting local community touchpoints and how effectively). *An Ex-officio Representative clarified the decision says that the PAs are required to include the agreed upon community engagement indicators in their Mid-Cycle Advice Letters due September 1.*

- CAEECC Members discussed whether Goals and Objectives for Equity and Market Support Segments are needed in a working group. Two shared preferences that CAEECC could be involved through a presentation at a Full CAEECC Meeting with CAEECC discussion, but that a working group is not needed for this topic. Both provided reasoning that the working group process takes a lot of time.
  - One CAEECC Member noted that the IOUs have to hire a vendor for these studies and how that would interact with the CAEECC Process. *Facilitators clarified that if CAEECC decides to take on these processes through a CAEECC working group, then the Facilitation Team would develop a prospectus for that (using what's in the decision and our understanding of sort of the steps that are relating to goals development) and develop a prospectus for CAEECC to review and approve before the Phase II of the working group or it could also be a separate working group.*
    - An Ex-officio Representative provided the following context:

**From [D.23-06-055](#), Ordering Paragraph 25:**

To that end, by no later than the end of March 1, 2025, a Tier 3 advice letter should be submitted jointly by all PAs that:

- Defines the process for proposing and adopting long-term market support and equity goals.
  - Defines options for 2-3 goal constructs each for market support and equity segments, where a construct describes how to recognize success by:
    - Demonstrating alignment with objectives;
    - Identifying which metric(s) or indicator(s) should be used for goals;
    - Whether goals should be set statewide, by territory, or by portfolio administrator;
    - Anticipated timeline for goal achievement; and
    - Necessary baseline information.
  - Defines what study or studies process is necessary to quantify goals, and proposes a budget for each study that is capped by the \$1 million set aside from the IOU EM&V budgets, as directed above
- *Facilitators noted that the EMSWG Phase I process is tightly knitted with PAs. Noted that CAEECC would likely want to have collaboration*



*with PAs on specific topics and to do it in a way that is useful, timely, and coincides well with the PA process.*

- A CAEECC Member requested confirmation that the study vendor(s) cannot be hired until after the Tier 3 is approved. *An Ex-officio Representative clarified that the Decision requires the PAs to propose a scope and process to conduct the studies in the Tier 3 AL. Presumably, hiring a vendor(s) would come after this.*
- CAEECC Members showed support for continued work on Reporting Demographic Participation Data and in some collaboration with the Policy Coordination Group (PCG). One proposed to have focused touchpoints on subjects like proxies, demographic variables, and/or data collection methodologies. Another suggested the PCG be a partner after a draft has been written to scope the feasibility of including the data desired in the software (because the PCG is highly technical and focused on how to report on CEDAR, the software platform). Two CAEECC Members agreed that a smaller team would be beneficial to provide a first draft that Full CAEECC can provide feedback on.
  - A CAEECC Member asked who the PCG is and how EMSWG would work with the PCG. *An Ex-officio Representative clarified that the technical reporting PA staff coordinate with CPUC Staff to coordinate on the technical components of energy efficiency portfolio reporting and meets every 2 months. Facilitators noted that in order to identify a proper role and scope for a Phase II working group, coordination with PCG would be beneficial. Raised an initial idea to host conversations to help fill into the PCG report.*
  - An Ex-officio Representative clarified that the demographic participation data, as written on page 66 of [D.23-06-055](#), “the report addressing these questions should be submitted by the midcycle advice letter filing date (September 1, 2025). Based on the analysis included in the report, the PAs should propose, in their next portfolio filings due in 2026, their preferred approaches to reporting regularly demographic participation information.” Noted that while they aren’t the same document, they are filed at a similar time and may inform one another.
- Facilitators provided context on the community engagement indicators: CAEECC had an Equity Metrics Working Group (EMWG) and there was the Market Support Metrics Working Group (MSMWG). Within the EMWG there was originally a subset of recommended indicators around community engagement that were conveyed as non-consensus in their final report to the Commission. As such, the Commission declined to adopt the indicators, instead recognizing that developing them would probably require a broader process to better understand what and how to measure.
- An Ex-officio representative clarified that the Objectives have been adopted and there is no requirement or ask to modify or add to the Objectives.
- A CAEECC Co-Chair warned that if all these topics are to be included in Full CAEECC Meetings, then there will be more than four CAEECC Meetings next year. Shared their historically underrepresented background as in response to

concerns of PA intentions. Suggested for the PAs to begin with a draft and then for CAEECC to provide feedback from both CAEECC and non-CAEECC Members.

## Public Input on EMSWG

- A Member of the EMSWG disagreed with the direction CAEECC Members were heading in their comments. Summarized CAEECC Member Discussion for Goals and Objectives that only PAs would be allowed to comment and formulate the goals and objectives for the segments. Summarized CAEECC Member Discussion for Community Engagement Indicators that it would be developed by a working group but it's unclear if it would be the EMSWG. Summarized for Reporting Demographic Participation Data that the proposal seems to only be for PA engagement. Requested clarification on who can participate in any of these topics. Highlighted that in order for CPUC to address these issues, you must include voices silenced from ECWG and composition must be equitable; it cannot be left to current status quo. Asked to reconsider for all these topics be in a Phase II. Raised concern that Working Groups are squished into a three-month period which is inadequate for community representation. Noted that PAs get more time than Working Groups. Proposed that these three topics be brought fully into an equitable process that includes invitations from beyond the current membership. Proposed the process to begin as soon as possible and before March 2024.
  - *An Ex-officio CAEECC Member agreed, noting it doesn't make sense for only PAs to develop goals that they will be accountable to. Highlighted that CAEECC is the venue for non-PA engagement on these issues.*

## Public Comment on Session 2

*Public Comment was taken at the end of the session on all prior session topics. Below is a summary of each public comment.*

- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group raised concerns about the ECWG given their role as a Compensation Pilot Grantee and ECWG Leadership Team Member. Noted previous experience in community engagement processes that are complex and opposed the destructive narrative shared by the Facilitation Team for the closure of the working group. Provided examples of the “disruptive behavior” referred to by the Facilitation Team, sharing that some Working Group Members were actively calling out power imbalances and that caused discomfort. Noted that this is a natural and core part of equitable processes. Called out the Facilitation Team for not addressing these disruptive behaviors or discomfort until they shut down the process. Highlighted that the shift to written processes feels like silencing. Noted it does not feel in line with the Jemez Principles. Expected CAEECC to want more engagement from historically underrepresented groups, and those groups are currently engaged through ECWG, however, shutting it down indicates that CAEECC isn't interested in equity.

- *An Ex-Officio Member agreed with this member that the challenges were "growing pains" and would have been resolved. Suggested, however, a smaller scope and more organized direction could have mitigated some of this.*
- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group noted they do not doubt the reporting of serious issues that hindered the ECWG process. Noted, however, that the new approach approved feels against all principles of JEDI and in essence the exact opposite of ECWG scope and insufficient. Recommended strongly that a new and improved facilitation process be created and maybe at the ask of the working group be modified or more clearly defined. In order to move forward and come up with recommendations that represent everyone's opinions, lift experience and expertise. Noted irony that a working group with a mission to incorporate justice, equity, diversity and inclusion would be let to fail because the working group itself was not able to bring those principles in its own space. Questioned how the environmental and social justice could move forward at all in energy efficiency.
- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group and Compensation Pilot Grantee recalled that from the very beginning, our working group was told that we were reimagining CAEECC to bring equity into its processes and policies. Found that equity is really hard to implement in existing structure that only serve market rate customers. Noted that the ECWG has made considerable progress in creating a foundation for understanding and most importantly trust, especially in the Huddles. Raised concern that there was no warning about violations to community guidelines nor lack of productivity until November 15. Noted that the survey results were overwhelmingly positive. Raised concern that some members found voices who represent equity threatening. Noted that they are from a disadvantaged community and could view the voices of those who represent non equity experiences as threatening, but didn't. Highlighted that ECWG wasn't advised of the issues so wasn't provided an opportunity to fix the issues. Suggested to continue to allow folks to work together sooner than later and with those willing to participate and with the Compensation Pilot.
- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group elevated and supported the previous comments. Noted they have been a committed member and that the beginning portion of the working group was an effort to figure out what was happening since there was no clear direction provided. Elevated that the Leadership Team came up with a schedule of meetings and the working group came up with equity components. Raised concern that relegating all the work that ECWG has done to a letter or a piece of paper is against the first principle of the movement ECWG is in—give those who haven't been heard the opportunity to be heard. Raised concern that CAEECC cannot hear ECWG as loud or as clear on paper as one can in person and that person to person interaction always works out better than offline communications to each other. Raised hope that CAEECC will make sure to bring back this group to work together and continue to work together. Noted that initially there were so many different levels of expertise and

knowledge that have now found a way to work together. Suggested to keep the Compensation Pilot.

- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group recalled that the Facilitation Team has had the patience to work with this group. Shared that the first few meetings didn't have a good flow but by the third meeting, more people came together and some believed this could have been a moment to move forward, but instead it became a pivot. Noted that true equity takes time and if it were easy it would've already been accomplished. Raised concern that the written reflections take away from the passion and the care of responses. REquested that the group be brought back after written reflections with a hope that people are being more focused on what to do instead of feeling challenged. Raised concern that the working group never got an opportunity to fix the harm done to other members and highlighted that allowing space to fix it is a core piece to equity. Provided a few conceptual examples of where this could have showed up and reiterated that there wasn't a moment to fix it. Requested to use the written statements as a path forward and issue a second phase with a little bit more focus over the direction.
- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group supported the idea to use the written reflections as a Phase 2 of the working group. Supported to reframe this from a failure to a setback and a regroup is important to not lose the energy of the working group. Noted that trust has been eroded. Suggested for a reboot to include a budget for an in-person meeting to rebuild trust and relationship. Noted the Facilitation Team did the best job they could and worked hard, but ultimately the space left folks feeling unsafe and unheard. Elevated there's a sadness from the working group because it felt like finally there was energy in the room and that progress was being made and it's hard to see that that progress halted. Raised hope that the written statements can be a first step to capturing that energy and we can move forward from there.
- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group noted it's hard to express thoughts in 60 seconds or even 120 seconds. Raised to question who benefits from the disbanding of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group; who suffers; who could benefit; and who could not suffer. Noted that if this process were aligned with justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, it would not disband for superficial reasons or lack of funds or lack of capacity. Highlighted that Working Group Members should not be punished for that. Requested that the remaining process not be extractive or exploitive or siloing. Summarized that we need to do this in community and not in siloed individual reflections. Noted those may be helpful, but ultimately it is in our collective recommendations that we will find the truth.
- A Member of the Public requested that if there is a reboot moving forward that there be compensation for it and to provide sufficient funds for it. Noted that the previous working groups (where they were a member) worked very hard to get compensation in place. Noted that the members of previous working groups may have short-cheated the scoping of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group. Raised importance for adequate funding for the Facilitation Team to support the needs

of the working group. Felt some responsibility for the inadequate resourcing for the EVWG.

- A Member of the Evolving CAEECC Working Group shared their comments via the chat: I support the comments of the ECWG members that have spoken - the work should continue to support equity and environmental justice.

## Session 3: 2024 CAEECC Planning

Slides 49 – 54

### 2024 Proposed Workplan

Ralston presented the proposed 2024 Workplan.

Ralston tested for consensus for the preliminary plan, knowing that it usually changes and that the Facilitation Team is usually advised by co-chairs of potential new topics that may need to be addressed, and checks with Energy Division if any major decisions are anticipated.

#### Summary of Discussion on the 2024 Proposed Workplan

- CAEECC Members demonstrated support for the preliminary proposed workplan.
- A CAEECC Member asked if the other activities metrics and solicitation issues have a specific topic. *Facilitators noted this should be “Other Topics” that are up in the air and whether or not it’s discretionary and logistics around these topics. Noted that as such, these topics are kind of up in the air. Requested if folks feel strongly about a topic, that’s helpful for us to know.*
- A CAEECC Member proposed small topic-focused meetings, knowing the amount of time CAEECC requires and the limited time in Full CAEECC Meetings. *Facilitators noted that more likely than not, DEI Phase III will be its own meetings. Supported the idea for small topic-focused meetings. Noted that the next topic will include discussing how some Full Quarterly CAEECC Meetings may be 1.5-2 days long.*
- An Ex-officio Representative noted that the “Bi-Annual Business Plan Review”, is actually the annual and semi-annual reports for the Portfolio Performance. A CAEECC Member asked how the Portfolio Performance Reports will be presented in the Full CAEECC Meetings. *A Co-Chair responded that there are double the amount of PAs and so there would need to be an additional meeting to host the reviews and that they would create a template (guided by CAEECC input) for each PA to fill out for the presentation.*
- A Member of the Public asked if the DEI training for CAEECC and Ex-officio Members funding come out of ratepayers like the public purpose charge funds. *[A response was not captured or provided during the meeting.]*

### 2024 CAEECC Quarterly Meeting Dates + Location

Ralston provided the proposed Quarterly CAEECC Meeting dates and locations for 2024. She noted that only one CAEECC Member provided conflicts and a few provided flexible preferences. In addition, Ralston noted that the Portfolio Performance Reports would need to be presented and reviewed by CAEECC Members in 2024, and thus suggested two Quarterly CAEECC meetings with a 1.5 or 2 day agenda.

Ralston sought approval from CAEECC on holding all the times listed for either Quarterly CAEECC Meetings or Full CAEECC topical sessions as previously proposed in the 2024 Workplan discussion. These dates are:

- Q1 (virtual): 3/14
- Q2 (hybrid in SoCal or if both days, fully virtual): 5/14 and 5/15
- Q3 (hybrid in TBD or if both days, fully virtual): 9/17 and 9/18
- Q4 (virtual): 11/13

### Summary of Discussion on the 2024 Meeting Dates and Location

- An Ex-officio Representative asked if the sequencing for the Semi Annual and the Annual reports work with the meeting dates. Co-chair and the Ex-officio Representative discussed the timing of the two reports (Annual and Semi Annual Performance Reports) and concluded that the Annual Report is due May 1, so both Q2 dates would be adequate for presentation of that report. The Semi-Annual Report is due 11/1 and so the Q4 11/13 date would also be adequate. If additional time is needed, the Facilitation Team could circulate a poll to members to identify a secondary date for continued discussion.

## 2024 Co-Chair Nomination/Confirmation

Ralston introduced the current 2023 Co-Chairs (Stakeholder seat: Lara Ettenson of NRDC and Program Administrator seat: Lujana Medina of SoCalREN) and noted that the Q4 Meeting is the annual point that CAEECC confirms the next years' Co-Chairs.

Ralston asked CAEECC Members if they would like to keep the current Co-Chairs in 2024 or if they would nominate someone else. Countless CAEECC Members supported both nominations and no one objected. Lara Ettenson of NRDC was confirmed for the stakeholder seat and Lujana Medina of SoCalREN was confirmed for the PA seat.

## Session 4: SDREN Business Plan Proposal

*Slides 55 - 95*

Sheena Tran, Senior Program Manager from SDCP. Co-presenting with Collin Santulli and joined by Rebecca Pell and Brenda Garcia Milan. Tran noted that the proposal must be presented at CAEECC.

Santulli noted that currently no REN operates in SDG&E Territory. San Diego is a decarbonization leader and works with many regional partners and with various climate plans.

The proposed SDREN would be led by San Diego Community Power and the County of San Diego and Santulli provided an overview of the Governance Structure. Santulli also provided a description of the proposed SDREN Service Territory.

SDREN's proposed **Vision** is: SDREN's vision is to be a driving force for communities to adopt clean, reliable energy through community driven solutions that contribute to local and state energy efficiency and climate goals. SDREN's proposed **Core Values** are: Integrate a collaborative and purposeful investment in the region's underserved and hard-to-reach communities; Grow a regional clean power economy that creates opportunities for the local workforce; Be a trusted local resource to coordinate regional policy, partnerships, and programs. SDREN's proposed **Goals** are: Advance decarbonization; Provide robust EE services that improve outcomes for underserved and HTR communities; Accelerate the clean energy economy through workforce opportunities.

SDREN is initially proposing three commercial programs, two residential programs, two public sector programs, two workforce education and training programs, and one codes and standards programs.

*Feedback was provided during the CAEECC Meeting and is available in the Appendix. SDREN Leads provided responses where available and will provide more detailed responses by December 8 EOD to the [11/29 Full CAEECC Quarterly Meeting Page](#).*

## Session 5: Wrapping Up

*Slides 96 - 102*

### Proposed Topics

Ralston outlined Proposed Topics for the 3/14/24 Meeting, including updates on Working Groups, CAEECC Membership, stakeholder input as part of portfolio oversight (POG) process, CEC update on Equitable Building Decarbonization program and the Inflation Reduction Act programs. Ralston opened the meeting for CAEECC Member discussion. No CAEECC Members had additions.

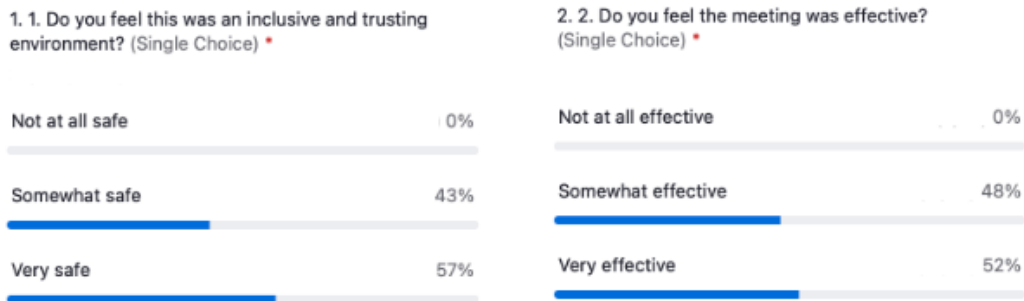
- A Member of the Public requested follow-up to the questions posed in the SDREN presentation.
- A Member of the Public requested for the continuation of the ECWG moving forward and noted the continuation of specific topics like composition and accountability. *Facilitators thanked the member for their input. Noted that the Facilitator recommendations is not to resurrect the same working group at the same cadence. Highlighted this isn't the end of the discussion, but that the*

*working group could benefit from stepping back and assessing how to do this differently, better, and more effectively with a broad scope beyond market-rate but a narrow scope in terms of focus. Acknowledged the role of Energy Division and the impact of their commitment and demonstration to continue the work.*

## Meeting Evaluation

Ralston provided a summary of the Evaluation Survey from the 9/20/23 Full Quarterly CAEECC Meeting. In general, participants felt the 9/20/23 meeting was successful. Ralston reminded participants about this meeting's evaluation survey, and invited submissions until 12/6/23.

A live meeting evaluation was conducted among all participants and responses were neutral to positive, although only about 50% of participants answered the live meeting evaluation.



- A CAEECC Member Alternate requested if CAEECC Members could have discussions without the Facilitation Team. The Facilitators noted they would raise the idea with Co-Chairs.

## Next Steps

Ralston summarized the next steps:

- Meeting summary will be posted within 5 business days
- Meeting Evaluation: due 12/6/23 (required for members and encouraged for everyone else) Facilitators to incorporate feedback in meeting design

## Session 6: Optional Assembly

Slides 103 - 121

## Solicitation Updates

Stacie Risley, SDG&E provided updates on the Solicitations from IOUs (slides 104-108).



- A CAEECC Member requested program segmentation to the solicitation tables moving forward. Risley noted it's a work in progress to coordinate among the PAs and hopefully will be able to find the correct contacts to implement this.

## CalMTA

Margie Gardner, CalMTA, presented an update on the Market Transformation Initiatives (MTI) development process. She noted the Request for Ideas closed on August 18 and overall, there were 117 ideas. Gardner highlighted there are three Batch 1 Ideas to roll out soon: portable/window heat pumps, induction cooktops and ranges, and efficient commercial rooftop units (ERTU). Gardner also noted that CalMTA developed a MTI evaluation framework. These will be discussed at the CalMTA Board Meeting in early December.

### Summary of Discussion

- A CAEECC Member raised curiosity about the social cost of carbon and recommended using a societal discount rate given the MTI initiative is really important for future generations as well as under served communities. Gardner and an Ex-officio Representative responded that the Total System Benefit (TSB) is a compliance cost and therefore not the full cost of carbon and that the discount rate isn't as low as 2% to their knowledge. A Member of the Public responded that societal benefits and cost of carbon are not included in the TSB today.
- A Member of the Public asked if the ERTUs include any gas-fired rooftop units. Gardner responded that they can and that's what CalMTA is hoping to get input on as California would like to go electric.

## Appendix A: Attendees

Organization	Name
<b>CAEECC Members</b>	
3C-REN	Alejandra Tellez
BayREN	Jane Elias
CEDMC	Joseph Desmond
Code Cycle	Dan Suyeyasu
CSE	Fabiola Lao
IREN/WRCOG	Benjamin Druyon
LGSEC	Demian Hardman Saldana
MCE	Alice Havenar-Daughton
PG&E	Sonia Manrique
Redwood Coast Energy Authority	Stephen Kullmann
Small Business Utility Advocates	Ted Howard
SCE	Jessica Lau
SDG&E	Stacie Risley
SF Dept of Environment	Lowell Chu
Sheet Metal Workers Local 104	Randy Young
SJVCEO	Courtney Kalashian
SoCalGas	Darren Hanway
SoCalREN	Lujuana Medina
The Energy Coalition	Laurel Rothschild
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	
CEC	Kristina Duloglo
CPUC Energy Division	Ely Jacobsohn
CPUC Energy Division	Pamela Rittelmeyer
CPUC Energy Division	Coby Rudolph
CPUC Low Income Oversight Board	Gillian Weaver
<b>Other Interested Stakeholders</b>	
3C-REN	Erica Helson
AMBAG	Amaury Berteaud
American Eco Services	Nicole Milner
BayREN	Karen Kristiansson
Blue Point Planning	Allisia Sandoval
Bruder Consulting	David Bruder
CalMTA	Margie Gardner
CalMTA	Rachel Good
CalMTA/RI	Nils Strindberg
CalPA	James Ahlstedt
ClearResult	Josh Tiernan

County of San Luis Obispo	Jordan Garbayo
Don Arambula Consulting	Don Arambula
ECWG Member/Individual	Aislyn Colgan
ECWG Member/Individual	Tanisha-Jean Martin
ECWG Member/Gateway Cities Council Govt.	Sumire Gant
ECWG Member/Bright Line Defense	Sarah Xu
ECWG/Marie Harrison Community Foundation	Tonia Randell
ECWG Member/Valley Clean Air Now	Tom Knox
ECWG Member /Nevada County Energy Action	Jan Maes
ECWG Member/Individual	Charles Reed
ECWG Member/Greenbank Associates	Alice Sung
ECWG Member/CFAT	Kate Woodford
Frontier Energy	Nancy Barba
Frontier Energy	Margaret Marchant
High Sierra Foundation	Pam Close Bold
ICF	Dany Kahumoku
ICF	Courtney Owen
Lincus	Patrick Ngo
Lincus	Hob Issa
Michael's Energy	Liz Fitzpatrick
Michael's Energy	Teressa Lievre
Mark Wallenrod Consulting	Mark Wallenrod
Okapia Architecture	Debbie Ebel
Okapia Architecture	Cesar Rios
Okapia Architecture	Ying Wang
Opinion Dynamics	Bob Ramirez
PG&E	Lindsay Tillisch
Puget Sound Energy	Lance Rottger
RCEA	Faith Yakovleva
RCEA	PatriciaTerry
Resource Innovations/CalMTA	Nils Strindberg
Resource Innovations	Kevin Simmons
SCE	Ashley Hall
SCE	Patricia Neri
SCE	Larry Tabizon
SCE	Cody Taylor
San Diego Community Power	Aisha Cervantes Cissna
San Diego Community Power	Colin Santulli
San Diego Community Power	Sheena Tran

San Diego County	Rebeca Appel
SD County Office of Social Environmental Justice	Brenda García Millán
SDG&E	Hollie Bierman
SDG&E	Vanessa Garcia
SDG&E	De De Henry
SDG&E	Alton Kwok
SDG&E	Jen Palombo
SDG&E	Jeremy Reefer
SDG&E	Kate Zeng
SDG&E/SoCalGas EE Partnerships	Frank Spasaro
Sierra Business Council	Sherry Hao
Silent Running	James Dodenhoff
SoCalGas	Rodney Davis
SoCalGas	Carlo Gavina
SoCalGas	Sandra Gonzalez
TEAA	Ross Colley
Techflow	AJ Perkins
The Energy Coalition	Rebecca Hausheer
The Energy Coalition	Craig Perkins
The Energy Coalition	Amy Whitehouse
The Mendota Group, LLC	Grey Staples
Timber Cove Energy Solutions	Spencer Lipp
Tre' Laine	Pepper Hunziker
Wildan	Lou Jacobson
<b>Facilitators</b>	
Michelle Vigen Ralston	Common Spark Consulting
Dr. Anthony Kinslow II	Gemini Energy Solutions
Katie Wu	Common Spark Consulting
Suhaila Sikand	Common Spark Consulting
Susan Rivo	Raab Associates

## Appendix B: Meeting Norms & Groundrules

### Meeting Norms

To encourage a space of inclusion and diversity, meeting participants were asked to agree to the following meeting norms:

- Make space, take space (share the mic).

- Stories shared here stay here; what is learned here leaves here.
- Share your unique perspective: share your unpopular opinion.
- Generative thinking: "yes, and" instead of "yes, but".
- Listen from the "We", speak from the "I".
- Offer what you can; ask for what you need.
- Be inquisitive.
- Assume best intent and hold each other accountable.
- Be empowered to share impact.

### *Creating a space of inclusion and diversity*

## **Groundrules**

1. Attend all meetings (or send designated alternate)
2. Do your homework (complete pre-and post-meeting work to ensure productive meetings and that a complete deliverable is finalized)
3. Facilitation team posts materials 5 days before the meeting
4. If there are recommendations you don't agree with, propose alternatives or think creatively to try to bridge the gap

See Goals, Roles & Responsibilities for the full list of Ground Rules:

<https://www.caeec.org/caeccc-info>

## Appendix C: Discussions

The format of this appendix has shifted. For detailed conversations, please consult the Facilitation Team.

### Session 4: SDREN Business Plan Proposal Comments and Questions

*At the request of SDREN, the following feedback was attributed.*

#### CAEECC Members

- Fabi Lao, CSE: Asked if SDCP would bring forward any SDREN program design ideas to its Community Advisory Committee or to a similar body at the County.
  - *Summarized that the programs in the proposed Business Plan portfolio were formed by a market assessment within the region. Noted that feedback was gathered with the San Diego Community Power Community (SDCP) Advisory Committee as well as over twenty-five presentations in the region to various stakeholder groups and CBOs. Highlighted a consistent theme from feedback which was the challenges of program outreach to hard-to-reach communities. Noted as such, in the program development, we consulted the SDCP Community Advisory Committee as well as countywide bodies and smaller groups that represent either stakeholders in the county or different geographies within the county. Noted that community would play a critical role in the development and implementation of plans and programs in the future.*
- Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC: Asked how SDREN will ensure success in multi-family programs where there are so many challenges.
  - *Clarified that yes, SDREN recognizes that the multi-family sector is a challenging segment to serve and represents 40% of the residential customer so it's crucial that effective energy efficiency programs are designed and delivered to this sector. Noted that SDREN will learn from all previous and current multi-family programs in the state that have been implemented both by RENs and IOUs to borrow what has been successful and adopt them to the unique multi-family barriers in San Diego County. Highlighted SDREN's confidence that they'll be able to build on experiences of other pieces to deliver energy efficiency services to this important segment.*
- Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC: Asked who will deliver services to residential customers, their eligibility criteria if they are home improvement contractors and the draw for them to participate in the program.
  - *Noted that SDREN will work with local trusted partners who will conduct engagement and outreach who would determine eligibility for appropriate programs that would go beyond SDREN programs. All SDREN programs will*

*be solicited and be implemented by third party providers. SDREN WE&T programs will also support training and recruitment for SDREN programs, such as the residential program.*

- Ely Jacobsohn, CPUC: Asked how savings will be measured in residential and multi-family programs.
  - *Clarified that savings will be measured in residential and multi-family by utilizing deemed measures that are currently approved and active in the ETRM (the technical reference manual database) and follow the statewide deemed work paper rule book. Noted that projects that are more appropriate for customer meter based approaches will be funneled to other programs.*
- Kristina Duloglo, CEC: Asked about a timeline for the direct install program.
  - *Responded that they anticipate launching programs in 2025 pending CPUC Authorization.*
- Fabi Lao, CSE: Asked if Tribes in the region have been approached about the Tribal programs.
  - *Noted that though they haven't approached Tribes about the Tribal programs specifically the program is intended to be designed in partnership with the Tribes and, or with Tribal partners. Highlighted that guidance we received from the county's Tribal liaison and other stakeholders in the region suggested to approach the Tribes once SDREN had something tangible. Noted that if approved, the approach would be to work together with the Tribes to develop that program and put more meat on the bones. Noted that the county Tribal liaison sits within the ESJ division and is thinking through how best to design a Tribal program.*
- Fabi Lao, CSE: Asked how SDREN envisions working with labor representatives and unions for the Workforce, Education & Training programs.
  - *Noted SDREN is talking to labor partners regularly and they intend to work with them on the development of the workforce education training programs. Hoped that labor partners would join the advisory committee, which won't be built out until SDREN is approved. Noted in the meantime, they'll continue the relationship with labor partners into EE programs.*
- Stacie Risley, SDG&E: Highlighted two themes of their comment: supporting SDREN and affordability. Noted in alignment with D.19-12-21, SDG&E, SDCP and consultants have coordinated over several meetings all in support of the San Diego Region and that this partnership has been really informative and beneficial. Highlighted that SDREN will be the first REN in SDG&E territory if approved and the proposal seeks to fill existing gaps, including tribal communities. Noted that SDG&E is committed to continued coordination to reduce duplication and confusion of programs. Highlighted that the proposed budget of \$125M over 4 years is incremental to SDG&E's \$310M, and that SDG&E customers will absorb the total cost of SDG&E and SD REN through the Public Purpose Program Charge, which ultimately increases rates for customers. Summarized that an ongoing portfolio optimization is essential to ensure that customers are receiving the

greatest value possible for their energy efficiency investment while ensuring affordability and efficacy. Hoped for continued coordination and cooperation with SDREN as their motion is considered by the CPUC.

- Ted Howard, SBUA: Noted the Business Plan is very impressive. Asked how small businesses and diverse businesses will be directly engaged as contractors and subcontractors, given that they are often most knowledgeable about community energy needs.
  - *Noted that SDREN will be soliciting third party vendors with details forthcoming. Highlighted that the strategies are culturally-sensitive language, work with trusted partners, and so on. Noted intent to work more on small businesses in early engagement and that will continue moving forward.*
- Courtney Kalashian, SJVCEO: Congratulated the proposed SDREN proposal. Noted that getting to this point is a success and they look forward to what SDREN can accomplish for its communities!
- Benjamin Druyon, I-REN: Raised appreciation for SDREN reaching out to the other REN's (including I-REN) prior to submitting the business plan and look forward to continued collaboration
- Fabi Lao, CSE: Noted they're from San Diego and have heard excitement from community members. Thanked the team for the presentation.

## Members of the Public

- Jim Dodenhoff, Silent Running: Asked if SDREN will use third party implementers for any of its programs.
  - *Confirmed that it's anticipated that most programs will be third party implemented.*
- Jim Dodenhoff, Silent Running: Asked if some of the "equity" segment programs may have TSB given use of program approaches like Direct Install.
  - *Clarified that's correct.*
- Alice Sung, Independent: Asked about SDREN's plans for DEI and small emerging business as well as minority women business contract procurement in all of their third party implementor solicitations. Asked if the procurement barriers to local small emerging BIPOC led implementers are being addressed in any solicitation process and contract.
  - *Noted that SDREN will be following the procurement process and requirements of SDCP (during the meeting SDCP has a supplier diversity program that is detailed below)*
    - *Through the statewide Supplier Diversity Program, established by General Order 156 from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the state aims to connect an increasing portion of these utility expenses with CPUC-certified minority-owned, women-owned, disabled veteran-owned, and/or LGBTQ-owned businesses.*
    - *Per California Senate Bill 255 (2019), community choice aggregators (CCAs) like SDCP are required to report to the CPUC on spending*



with diverse businesses, as defined by CPUC General Order 156. SDCP's Annual Reports can be found here:

<https://sdcommunitypower.org/supplier-diversity/>

- To assist SDCP with its reporting obligations under Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(m) and with evaluating its supplier outreach and other activities, proposers that are awarded the contract will be asked to voluntarily disclose their certification status with the CPUC Clearinghouse, as well as their efforts to work with diverse business enterprises, including WBEs, MBEs, DVBES, and LGBTBEs.
- To increase the diversity of contractors and services that are utilized by SDREN, SDCP plans to post SDREN solicitations to the Supplier Clearinghouse portal which is visible to certified businesses. While SDCP, as a public agency, is subject to Proposition 209 constraints that prohibit preferential contracting based on race, sex, and ethnicity, it conducts outreach at events such as the CPUC Small Business Expo and within its own community to educate suppliers on the benefits of certification.
- Jim Dodenhoff, Silent Running: Asked for clarification on SDREN's governance structure and if SDREN is a division within SDCP reporting to the same board.
  - Noted that SDREN is not a division of SDCP. It is proposed to have a County-wide footprint and will be led by both SDCP and the County of San Diego. Staffing will be similar to SoCalREN's structure. SDCP personnel will primarily staff SDREN, but it is not considered a division. The County and SDCP are responsible for portfolio oversight and administration. SDCP holds lead portfolio administrator role to take on legal, financial obligation and risk associated with it.
- Alice Sung, Independent: Asked how the Advisory Committee will be created, specifically the makeup, criteria qualifications, DEI, and compensation support.
  - Noted that details will be finalized after authorization is provided by the CPUC. Highlighted they have selected a few members part of an initial advisory committee who represent many jurisdictions. Noted that SDCP's CAC are compensated as well as San Diego Association of Governments. Noted that SDREN cannot commit to compensation for SDREN's CAC right now, but will consider it.
- Alice Sung, Independent: Look forward to seeing any SDREN progress