California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee

Full Quarterly CAEECC Meeting #27

December 3, 2020 9:00 – 11:15

Teleconference

Draft Meeting Summary

Facilitators: Dr. Jonathan Raab, Raab Associates, Ltd. & Katie Abrams, CONCUR

On December 3, 2020, the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) convened a quarterly meeting of the full CAEECC via WebEx. 99 individuals participated, including 27 Full CAEECC Members, Proxies and Ex Officio. A full list of meeting registrants is provided in Appendix A.

Meeting facilitation was provided by Dr. Jonathan Raab (Raab Associates Ltd.) and Katie Abrams (CONCUR Inc.). Meeting materials, including presentations, are provided on the CAEECC website here: <https://www.caeecc.org/12-3-20-coordinating-committee-meet>

In this document, the majority of the discussion is captured with attribution at the organization level. Presentations are summarized only if the presenter did not use a PowerPoint presentation or if it is not available on the meeting webpages (see links above).

Following the presentations, key clarifying questions or comments are listed and relevant *responses to questions* are noted in *italics*. Where multiple responses were given, these responses are listed as sub-bullets. Public comment, and any responses given, is included following these discussion sections. Next Steps, at the end of this document, list all next steps discussed at the meeting.

**1. Introductions**

At the beginning of the meeting, CAEECC facilitator J. Raab opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and reviewed WebEx “housekeeping” protocols. The focus of the meeting is for Members to receive and discuss Working Group Updates and the Third Party Solicitation Process; to receive information and then provide feedback on the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) draft business plan; and to receive updates and discuss various CAEECC 2021 planning issues.

**2. IMPORTANT UPDATES & CAEECC DISCUSSION**

***CAEECC Energy Efficiency (EE) Filing Processes Working Group (WG)***

J. Raab provided the following update

* WG Filed report with consensus recommendations April 2020
* This Fall Energy Division (ED) asked CAEECC to reconvene the WG to discuss how to practically implement the WG’s recommendations, such that ED can better advise the Commission on the WG’s proposal
* ED provided the WG with questions it wanted to discuss, and ED and WG met twice to discuss them on October 30th and November 9th. Before each meeting with ED, the WG held prep sessions to discuss responses and designate a lead WG member(s) to provide the initial response to each question
* The four main topics were: A) Application Review: Zero-Based Budgeting & Testimony; B) Mid-Cycle Oversight; C) Aligning Goals and Budgets: Technical Inputs; and D) 2021 and Beyond
* On the last topic, the WG proposed that new applications (formally known as Biz plans) could be filed as early as the end of 2021 but that the PAs/CAEECC should have at least 9 months following the last CPUC decision/guidance that would impact the portfolio application to discuss and develop those applications. The WG also recommended that ABALs still be filed in 2021 for 2022 but without formal CAEECC review (this is relevant later today when we discuss CAEECC 2021 schedule)
* We now wait for the Commission’s decisions on these matters

Clarifying Questions and Comments:

* SoCalGas: Isn’t it a Decision requirement for ABALs to be reviewed with formal CAEECC review, yet the recommendation is to not have a CAEECC review for 2022 ABALs?
	+ *L. Ettenson explained that in the forthcoming CPUC process decision, this change would need to be specified; ABALs would still be posted and there would be an ability for stakeholders to review and comment*
	+ *E. Brooks, responding to her own question, said that she thought the proposed approach might be consistent with existing requirements because the act of posting and allowing review may satisfy requirements*

***Underserved WG***

L. Ettenson provided the following update

* Goal is to test the hypothesis that certain customers are not being served by the current programs; by first exploring data to inform what, if anything, needs to be changed to mitigate for customers left behind
* Sub-WGs are focused on Residential, small-medium businesses (SMB), and the Public sector
* We expect interim presentations this month for Residential and SMB, and Public will work into next year
* Researchers at UC Davis are leading Residential; UC Irvine for SMB; UC Santa Barbara for Public sector
* Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings and the info is all on the CAEECC website

J. Berg commented on the diversity of stakeholders involved in the UWG that bring unique perspectives.

Clarifying Questions and Comments:

* Are you looking at workers in addition to the businesses that are underserved?
	+ *NRDC: Current data is not strong on who is participating – let alone substance on workers; UC Berkeley Labor Center report that discussed evaluation techniques with recommendations for integrating such questions; hasn’t been integrated into reporting*

***Market Transformation WG (MTWG)***J. Raab provided the following update

* In March 2019, MTWG filed its report with consensus recommendations on all issues except who the Market Transformation Administrator (MTA) should be, and a couple of cost-effectiveness related issues
* Commission decision adopted almost all the MTWGs recommendations, decided the contested issues for the time being, and asked the MTWG to reconvene to work further on two issues in particular:
	+ How to attribute savings for market transformation initiatives and Other EE Efforts where there will likely be overlap
	+ How to set goals for market transformation initiatives and Other EE Efforts where there will likely be overlap
	+ Focus has been on potential overlaps between MTIs and RAs; and MTIs and C&S
* Since August, we have had 3 full MTWG meetings; 3 sub-WG meetings on savings attribution; and two sub-WGs on goal setting.
* Planning to wrap up in January so bidders for independent statewide MTA can take into account the WGs recommendations.
* We appear to have agreement on many principles and approaches, but it looks like we will not have consensus on at least one issue regarding whether savings attribution between MTIs and C&S’s should all be determined thru ex post evaluation or a portion of the allocation should be pre-specified.

Clarifying Questions and Comments:

* Is it possible that the WG will defer to the MTA to determine recommendations, in particular for savings attribution and goal setting?
	+ *J. Raab: We have concrete recommendations and agreement on numerous principles; per CAEECC Groundrules, we can put forward two or more options and list who supports each option. Some are suggesting to defer details of some of the final recommendations to another forum or set of stakeholders/experts, while others suggest the WG is the appropriate forum.*

***3rd Party Solicitation Process – Greg Nesbitt, Southern California Edison (SCE)***

G. Nesbitt, SCE, provided an update on the investor owned utility (IOU) third party (3P) solicitation process. This presentation is available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials, *IOU 3P Solicitation Update December 2020 (11.25.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”).

Clarifying Questions and Comments on SCE’s presentation:

* L. Ettenson noted that Advice Letters are posted to each IOU’s website, and suggested that final versions be posted to the CAEECC website. She also noted that Implementation Plans need to be publicly vetted; they’re posted to the CAEECC website and noticed via the CPUC listserv. We’re trying to make documents as assessable as possible but open to feedback on how to improve the process.
* Public comment: Can there be a central location for all Advice Letters (ALs)?
	+ *L. Ettenson: This may be challenging because there are multiple rounds of supplements to ALs, and it’s time-intensive for CAEECC Facilitators to post all the versions; she offered to work with E. Brooks and others on a solution that balances accessibility and ratepayer dollars (one idea was to post the AL number next to contracts on the CAEECC solicitation page, linking to IOU’s appropriate webpage)*
* Public comment: Can SDG&E explain what happened with the failure of the single family program to reach a contract?
	+ *SCE: Cannot publicly discuss this issue*
* Public comment: Do Implementation Plans need to be publicly approved?
	+ *L. Ettenson: Commission rules state that Implementation Plans need to be publicly shared but approval is not required*

**3. I-REN Business Plan Vetting - *Anthony Segura and Casey Dailey, Western Riverside Council of Governments***

A. Segura and C. Dailey presented Inland Regional Energy Network’s (I-REN) draft business plan. This presentation is available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials*, IREN CAEECC Dec. 2020 Presentation (11.25.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”). The Business Plan is also available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials*, I-REN\_BusinessPlan\_Draft11-24-20\_Optimized (11.25.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”).

Clarifying Questions and Comments on I-REN’s presentation – background and public sector strategies

* SoCalREN – Suggested a more targeted focus on low income and disadvantaged communities. In particular, while San Bernandino has three of the most impoverished based on the last Census, the letters of support are from more affluent communities. Suggest ramping up engagement and marketing efforts to disadvantaged local governments and communities. Second, for Public Sector strategy, appreciate seeing SoCal REN strategies replicated – since a main purpose of RENs is to focus on hard-to-reach communities
* BayREN: Expressed an appreciation of the focus on governance, infrastructure, and coordination plan for statewide programs and other actors. Noted the plan looks well thought out. Plan speaks to one of the founding principles/needs of RENs: serving hard to reach communities. Acknowledged that certain activities such as Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) which were previously funded by IOUs, are especially important in current times of declining local government funding.
* Small Business Utility Advocates: Agree with comments on SEEC, hard-to-reach (HTR), and low-income considering local government and economic conditions are very strained. This business plan is 2021-2025; small-medium business (SMB) plans is listed under the future business plan – will programs be offered to them sooner?
	+ *I-REN: This plan focuses on three sectors (Public, workforce, codes & standards). Looking towards SMB and residential, but focus is building a foundation before expanding. We’ve been in discussions on 3P solicitations; we’re working on as many parallel paths as possible.*
* SoCalREN: You’re proposing a resource program (for the public sector) that seems like it could be duplicative. The 3P solicitation is set to sail at the same time that I-REN’s business plan is reviewed. How have you ensured you’re avoiding duplication?[[1]](#footnote-1)
	+ *WRCOG: We added a Resource program for the Public sector based on the suggestion from Commission staff. If it’s duplicative, we can adjust as appropriate*

Clarifying Questions and Comments on I-REN’s presentation – workforce education & training (WET)

* BayREN: Suggest working with Randy Young or other CAEECC Members on workforce metrics
	+ *Sheet Metal Workers Union: IOUs and RENs must focus on cost-effectiveness, and sometimes miss contractors who have greater expertise in engaging disadvantaged communities; happy to discuss further offline; C. Dailey suggested he follow up with R. Young to further refine strategy on engaging hard-to-reach sectors*
* B. Kotlier from the California Labor Management Cooperation Committee offered to provide assistance on workforce and reaching disadvantaged communities
* NRDC: Suggest looking at the UC Berkeley Labor Center’s recently released report on workforce demand and supply. NRDC’s Bethany Jones was a witness for low income workforce; can share a document that provides key solutions. RENs have more opportunities to explore strategies that IOU and MCE PAs need to comply with
* Al Tellez from 3C-REN also offered support
* Sheet Metal Workers Local 104: On slide 22 (goals and strategies) looks more like goals. Echoed comments on disadvantaged communities; want to see it incorporated into workforce offering. Noted that applying to building departments can be an issue – what is the plan there?[[2]](#footnote-2)
	+ *The plan for Workforce education and training is through contractors and regional forum, and through high-school and community education. This will be covered in future slides*
* ED: What is the synergy between I-REN’s workforce education training and the CPUC low income energy assistance programs, and if there’s overlapping goals/duplication, how are you addressing that? [[3]](#footnote-3)
	+ *WRCOG: We’re working to ensure we don’t duplicate efforts*
	+ *BayREN: BayREN’s residential programs aren’t income qualified. Have seen success with MCE’s multifamily program, and we have case studies to show how we’ve layered the two programs. In sum, we work in partnership to provide a more holistic and higher incentive for low income*
	+ *SoCalREN: Our Workforce Education Program is nationally-recognized. We analyzed all programs, including IOU workforce education. My recommendation to I-REN, and RENs at large, is to continuously look for creative ways to offer value without duplication; programs must be customized so they don’t duplicate. There are still significant gaps that RENs can fill.*

Clarifying Questions and Comments on I-REN’s presentation – codes & standards and administration

[There were not clarifying questions or comments on these topics]

**4. CAEECC 2021 Planning Session**

This presentation is available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials*, 2021 CAEECC Planning Presentation Final (12.1.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”).

**Workplan & Proposed Quarterly CC Dates**

J. Raab provided the following update on the 2021 CAEECC Workplan:

* Four quarterly meetings
* 1-2 more UWG meetings for Phase 1 (plus sub-WG meetings) – possible phase 2 based on phase 1 findings & recommendations
* 1-2 MTWG meetings
* 2.5 New Portfolio Filing (aka Business Plan) WG and ½ day for reviewing PA’s draft Filings
* 2 unspecified workshops TBD and 2 unspecified WG meetings TBD
* Total is 6.5 to 8.5 WG meetings and 2 Workshops; but our budget for 2021 is based 7 WGs (lower end of WG range), 2 workshops, and 4 quarterly CAEECCC meetings;
* Note they are day-long meeting equivalents (so if we are still doing Webex meetings, this could in some cases double—as we don’t want to run WG meetings over 3ish hours)

Clarifying Question/comments on the Workplan

* Small Business Utility Advocates: In the event that the UWG needs to do additional research or surveys to formulate policies, what’s the plan?
	+ *NRDC: One recommendation could be to gather more data. Another possibility is that the Potentials & Goals could lead to substantial modifications. here may be an opportunity to explore policy shifts, while at the same time, we could formulate a proposal on data needs.*
* There were no other comments on the proposed workplan for 2021

J. Raab provided the following update on the 2021 CAEECC Quarterly meeting dates: March 17, June 24, August 5 (if CAEECC needs to review ABALs) or September 2 (if not), and December 2. He asked if there are any significant potential date conflicts the Facilitators should be aware of that might suggest moving a meeting date. No one responded with conflicts.

**2021 Co-Chairs**

J. Raab thanked current Co-Chairs Lara Ettenson and Jenny Berg for their tireless work this past year—in addition to their weekly meetings with Jonathan and being a conduit to our PAs and non-PA CAEECC Members, they have both spent countless hours on a wide range of CAEECC related issues, and the Facilitation Team couldn’t do its job without their support and willingness to jump in and help wherever and whenever its needed.

Lara and Jenny have both expressed a willingness to continue in their respective roles for 2021. Jonathan asked if that is OK with everyone, or if anyone want to propose an alternative?

R. Young, R. Murali, B. Kotlier, T. Howard thanked Jenny and Lara for their service, and offered support for their continued role as co-chairs. No one proposed an alternative.

J. Raab congratulated Jenny and Lara on their continued role as Co-Chairs.

**Process for Potential New CAEECC Members**

J. Berg presented the current CAEECC membership criteria and the proposed schedule for membership review. This presentation is available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials*, 2021 CAEECC Planning Presentation Final (12.1.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”). In addition, members can refer to *CAEECC Membership Criteria and Process\_updated (11.23.20)*, under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting” on the Meeting Page.

Then J. Berg posed the following questions:

* Does any Member organization now know they don’t plan to continue in 2021?
* Are there any other changes to lead representatives?
* CAEECC then heard the following intended changes:
* L. Morris will be taking over for Ryan Chan as PG&E’s lead representative
* C. Malotte will be taking over for Matt Evans as SCE’s lead representative
* D. White will followup with SDG&E’s 2021 representative/alternate
* A. LaBonte noted that while CPUC is not a CAEECC members, their representatives have changed. N. Stringberg has accepted a new role in the CPUC’s Communication division, and Peter Franzese has also changed roles. Alison will continue to be the CPUC lead on the full CAEECC.

**Process for CAEECC Annual Evaluation Survey. and Groundrules Review/Update**

**for discussion at. first quarter 2021 CC Mtg.)**

J. Berg requested members and stakeholders fill out the [CAEECC Evaluation](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2BBQ2CS), which was sent to all attendees during the meeting. She noted that evaluations are sent after each quarterly CAEECC meeting, as well as at the conclusion of each WG process.

She then presented a proposed approach for reviewing and updating Groundrules. This presentation is available on the CAEECC website (see link above to Meeting Materials*, 2021 CAEECC Planning Presentation Final (12.1.20),* under “Documents Posted Before the Meeting”).

There were no questions or comments about the proposed approach.

**5. WRAP UP/ next Steps**

J. Raab thanked participants for attending. Next steps are as follows:

**CAEECC Members:**

* Fill out the [CAEECC Evaluation](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2BBQ2CS) of the meeting (as required by our CAEECC groundrules) no later than COB Tuesday December 8th
* Comment on draft survey related to compliance with groundrules by facilitators, members, and co-chairs (January 2021)
* Make suggested additions/modifications to groundrules (in redline, ahead of March 2021 CAEECC meeting)
* L. Ettenson: Work with IOUs on a solution to post solicitation Advice Letters to a centralized location (balancing accessibility and ratepayer dollars)

**CAEECC Members and Other Stakeholders:**

* **I-REN Business Plan Review**:
	+ Provide WRCOG with any follow up written comments on the I-REN Draft Business Plan by Friday December 18, 2020 (note this was added after the meeting, in consultation with I-REN and Co-Chairs)
* **CAEECC Membership Review**:
	+ Inform Facilitator/Co-chairs if a member organization or representative does not plan to continue in 2021, or wishes to nominate a new member representative or proxy (by 12/18/2020)
	+ New member applications due (first week in January)
	+ Discuss and decide new member organization applications (March 2021 CAEECC meeting)
	+ Stakeholder cluster review (December 2021 CAEECC meeting)

**Facilitation Team:**

* **Meeting Facilitation:**
	+ Confirm scheduling and prepare for next Full CAEECC meeting (March 17, 2021).
	+ Develop, post and notice draft meeting summary (this document) to the meeting webpages by Thursday, December 10, 2020, COB.
	+ Review and analyze survey evaluations for continuous improvement opportunities
* **CAEECC Membership Review**:
	+ Notice CAEECC about new Member application process and criteria (first week in January)
* **Groundrules Review/Update**:
	+ Survey CAEECC members on current Groundrules (January)
	+ Add agenda time to discuss/modify Groundrules (March 2021 CAEECC meeting)

**Appendix A: Meeting Attendants**

|  |
| --- |
| **CAEECC Members/Proxies and Ex Officio** |
| **First** | **Last** | **Organization** |
| Alejandra | Tellez | 3C-REN |
| Douglas | Avery | Avery Energy Enterprises |
| Jenny | Berg | BayREN |
| Mike | Campbell | Cal Advocates |
| Brian | Samuelson | CEC |
| Greg | Wikler | CEDMC |
| Serj | Berelson | CEDMC |
| Bernie | Kotlier | CEE |
| Raghav | Murali | Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) |
| Lowell | Chu | City & County of San Francisco |
| Dan | Suyeyasu | CodeCycle |
| Peter | Franzese | CPUC |
| Alison | LaBonte | CPUC |
| Christie | Torok | CPUC |
| Lou | Jacobson | LGSEC - Eureka City Schools |
| Alice | Havenar-Daughton | MCE |
| Lara | Ettenson | NRDC |
| Matthew | Braunwarth | PG&E |
| Lucy | Morris | PG&E |
| Ivan | Jimenez | SBUA |
| Christopher | Malotte | SCE |
| Doug | White | SDG&E |
| Randy | Young | Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104 |
| Courtney | Kalashian | SJVCEO |
| Erin | Brooks | SoCalGas |
| Lujuana | Medina | SoCalREN/County of LA |
| Laurel | Rothschild | The Energy Coalition |
| **Other Participants** |
| **First** | **Last** | **Organization** |
| Jon | Griesser | 3C-REN |
| Alice | Sung | Alice Sung, Greenbank Associates |
| Yeymi | Rivas | BluePoint Planning |
| Kaylee | D'Amico | CA Hub for Energy Efficiency Financing |
| Stephen | Gunther | Center for Sustainable Energy |
| Charles | Segerstrom | Charles Segerstrom, Energy Efficiency Consultant |
| Benjamin | Druyon | Coachella Valley Association of Governments |
| Rebecca | Elmore | College of the Desert |
| Julie | Tan | SoCalREN |
| Nick | Brod | DNV GL |
| Steve | McCarty | EAJ Energy Advisors |
| Beckie | Menten | EBCE |
| Vicent | Llorens | ENGIE |
| Jeffrey | Guild | Enovity |
| Mike | Myser | ESP |
| Jim | Crossman | Financial Energy Mgmt |
| Chad | Ihrig | Franklin Energy |
| Nancy | Barba | Frontier Energy |
| Casey | Connorton | Frontier Energy |
| Margaret | Marchant | Frontier Energy |
| Anthony | Kinslow II | Gemini Energy Solutions |
| Theodore | Love | Green Energy Economics Group, Inc. |
| James | Quish | ICAST |
| Cody | Coeckelenbergh | Lincus, Inc. |
| Hob | Issa | Lincus, Inc. |
| Fernanda | Craig | Los Angeles County - SCR |
| Mark | Wallenrod | MWC |
| Jeff | Harris | NEEA |
| Dan | Sperber | Nexant |
| Kate | Schulenberg | PG&E |
| Lindsey | Tillisch | PG&E |
| Ashlyn | Kong | Public Advocates Office |
| Jonathan | Raab | Raab Associates |
| Marianne | Bithell | Redwood Coast Energy Authority |
| Aisha | Cissna | Redwood Coast Energy Authority |
| Stephen | Kullmann | Redwood Coast Energy Authority - Eureka, CA |
| Margie | Gardner | Resource Innovations |
| Princess | Hester | Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency |
| Kelly | Lynn | San Bernardino Council of Governments |
| Carlo | Gavina | SCE |
| Randall | Higa | SCE |
| Dave | Intner | SCE |
| Patricia | Neri | SCE |
| Gerard | Nesbitt | SCE |
| Brandon | Sanders | SCE |
| Bryan | Cope | SCPPA |
| Sandra | Baule | SDG&E |
| Mike | McConnell | SDG&E |
| Dominique | Michaud | SDG&E |
| Roland | Mollen | SDG&E |
| Sandra | Williams | SDG&E |
| Stephen | Miller | SEI |
| James | Dodenhoff | Silent Running LLC |
| Ted | Howard | Small Business Utility Advocates |
| Ana | Aceves | SoCalGas |
| Joe | Cruz | SoCalGas |
| Becky | Estrella | SoCalGas |
| Tina | Kashefinejad | SoCalGas |
| Regina | Lugani | SoCalGas |
| Benjamin | Piiru | SoCalGas |
| Brian | Prusnek | SoCalGas |
| Matt | Sullivan | Sullivan Consulting |
| Ross | Colley | TEAA, The Energy Alliance Association |
| Marc | Costa | The Energy Coalition |
| Matthew | Joyce | Tierra Resource Consultants |
| Andrew | Gustafson | TRC |
| Mabell | Paine | Viridis Consulting |
| Rick | Bishop | WRCOG |
| Casey | Dailey | WRCOG |
| Ani | Dhruva | WRCOG |
| Anthony | Segura | WRCOG |
| Carol | Yin | Yinsight, Inc. |

1. This comment was mentioned during the “background & public” sector presentation; but was moved in the meeting summary to the workforce education sector based on it’s relevancy to the WET section [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Same as footnote above [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Same as footnote above [↑](#footnote-ref-3)