
MEETING MINUTES
November 2, 2023
6:00 PM

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Roll Call

PRESENT: Victor Niemeyer, Desiree Grahn, Glen Garfunkel, Ted Marena, Karen Nelson, Todd Davidson, Ruth Merino, and Anthony Strawa

ABSENT:

- Staff present: San José Clean Energy (SJCE) Director, Lori Mitchell, Assistant Director Zach Struyk, Public Information Manager Amanda Rodriguez, Deputy Director Heather Dauler, Deputy Director Lina Williams, Senior Government Affairs Manager Scott Green, and Analyst Mahal Miles
- Community members in attendance: Adam Sweeney and Lilian Koenig

Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Chair Niemeyer convened the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission at 6:02 p.m.

II. Public Record

None on file.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Consent Calendar

Approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2023.

Document Filed: September 21, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Marena and seconded by Commissioner Nelson and carried, the minutes were approved (6-0-2).

V. Reports and Information Only

A. Chair Update: Chair Niemeyer thanked the commission and staff for their time and service to the commission.

B. Staff Update: Assistant Director Zach Struyk provided updates on the following items. Commissioners asked questions, and discussion ensued.

1. Microgrids for City critical facilities
2. Partial prepayment of power purchase agreements

3. Policy on returning customers to PG&E for nonpayment

VI. Old Business

There was no old business.

VII. New Business

A. Brief legislative update (Discussion and potential action)

- No public comment.
- Senior Government Affairs Manager Scott Green provided an overview of the end of the legislative session. He summarized several bills signed by the governor, including AB1373, which established a central procurement entity, a package of infrastructure bills, and several transparency bills regarding interconnection.

Action: None (discussion only)

B. Preview of 2024 rates and power mix (Discussion)

- Lilian Koenig commented that it was difficult to see the agenda online. The staff fixed the issue.
- Assistant Director Zach Struyk provided an update on SJCE's financial outlook and reserves. He provided a preview of SJCE's 2024 rates and power mix. Commissioners asked questions, and discussion ensued. Commissioners provided input on how SJCE should balance the prioritization of building reserves with other priorities like carbon-free energy content, customer discounts, and programs.

Action: None (discussion only)

C. Update from Ad Hoc Committee (Discussion)

- No public comment.
- Chair Niemeyer led a discussion to provide SJCE feedback on financial goals and 2024 rate-setting. The Ad Hoc Committee and commissioners appreciated the staff's clear explanation of the financial trade-offs between attainment of financial reserves goals in 2024 and funds available to fund programs, rate reductions and buy GHE-free power attributes, but were disappointed that the reserves goal has increased to accommodate higher power prices. The CECAC were left interested to know whether the 180 goal, the 30% estimated power cost increase, and the 1-year catch-up requirement were all firm requirements, or whether they were subject to reconsideration by the staff or the Council. If there is room for flexibility, the commissioners encouraged staff to propose stretching the timeline to build 180 days of financial reserves past 2024 in order to increase funds for customer programs and purchase carbon-free power content.

Action: None (discussion only)

D. Solar Billing Service Changes (Discussion)

- This item was held.

Action: None (item was held)

E. Transition of Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission into Climate Advisory Commission (Discussion)

- No public comment.
- Assistant Director Zach Struyk provided an update on the new Climate Advisory Commission and reminded commissioners whose terms end in 2023 to reapply for a seat on the new commission in 2024.

Action: None (discussion only)

VIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

IX. Adjournment

Chair Niemeyer adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:04 p.m.

Victor Niemeyer

VICTOR NIEMEYER, CHAIR

ATTEST:
CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY ADVISORY SECRETARY

Adrienne Barreto

Adrienne Barreto, COMMISSION SECRETARY