

# **AGENDA**

# Regular Meeting of Community Advisory Committee San Diego Community Power (SDCP)

April 11, 2024 5:30 p.m.

City of San Diego Metropolitan Operations Complex (MOC II) Auditorium 9192 Topaz Way, San Diego, CA 92123

Alternate Location: 7354 Eads Avenue, San Diego, CA 92037

The meeting will be held in person at the above date, time and location. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Members and members of the public may attend in person. Under certain circumstances, CAC Members may also attend and participate in the meeting virtually pursuant to the Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54953). As a convenience to the public, SDCP provides a call-in option and internet-based option for members of the public to virtually observe and provide public comments at its meetings. Additional details on in-person and virtual public participation are below. Please note that, in the event of a technical issue causing a disruption in the call-in option or internet-based option, the meeting will continue unless otherwise required by law, such as when a CAC Member is attending the meeting virtually pursuant to certain provisions of the Brown Act.

**Note**: Any member of the public may provide comments to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) on any agenda item. When providing comments to the CAC, it is requested that you provide your name and city of residence for the record. Commenters are requested to address their comments to the CAC as a whole through the Chair. Comments may be provided in one of the following manners:

- 1. Providing Oral Comments During Meeting. Anyone attending in person desiring to address the CAC is asked to fill out a speaker's slip and present it to the CAC Chair or the Secretary. To provide remote comments during the meeting, join the Zoom meeting by computer, mobile phone, or dial-in number. On Zoom video conference by computer or mobile phone, use the "Raise Hand" feature. This will notify the moderator that you wish to speak during a specific item on the agenda or during non-agenda Public Comment. Members of the public will not be shown on video but will be able to speak when called upon. If joining the meeting using the Zoom dial-in number, you can raise your hand by pressing \*9. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.
- 2. Written Comments. Written public comments must be submitted prior to the start of the meeting by using this (web comment form). Please indicate a specific agenda item when submitting your comment. All written comments received prior to the meeting will be provided to the CAC members in writing. In the discretion of the Chair, the first ten (10) submitted comments shall be stated into the record of the meeting. Comments read at the meeting will be limited to the first 400 words. Comments received after the start of the

meeting will be collected, sent to the CAC members in writing, and be part of the public record.

If you have anything that you wish to be distributed to the CAC, please provide it via <a href="mailto:xcrespo@sdcommunitypower.org">xcrespo@sdcommunitypower.org</a>, who will distribute the information to the Members.

The public may participate using the following remote options:

Teleconference Meeting Webinar

https://zoom.us/j/93647500600

Telephone (Audio Only)

(669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782 | Webinar ID: 936 4750 0600

**WELCOME** 

**ROLL CALL** 

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** 

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS

<u>ITEMS TO BE WITHDRAWN OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA</u>

#### PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Opportunity for members of the public to address the CAC on any items not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the CAC. Members of the public may provide a comment in either manner described above.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters are approved by one motion without discussion unless a CAC member requests a specific item to be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion. A member of the public may comment on any item on the Consent Calendar in either manner described above.

- 1. Approval of February 8, 2024 CAC Meeting Minutes
- 2. Update on Marketing, Public Relations, and Local Government Affairs
- 3. Update on Customer Operations
- 4. Update on Regulatory and Legislative Affairs

# 5. Update on Programs

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

The following items call for discussion or action by the CAC.

6. Update on Vehicle-Grid Integration Strategy Overview

Recommendation: Receive and File the Update on Vehicle-Grid Integration Strategy Overview

7. Recommend Board Approval of Power100 Green-e Certified Service

Recommendation: Recommend Board Approval of Power100 Green-e Certified Service

8. Update on Power100 Ad-Hoc Committee

Recommendation: Receive and File the Update on Power100 Ad-Hoc Committee

#### DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

There are two ways that the CAC may bring items to the attention of the Board at a Board meeting:

- 1. Standing CAC Report. The CAC report may be a standing item on the Board agenda, in which the CAC Chair, CEO, or designated staff reports on updates related to a recent CAC meeting. Consistent with the Brown Act, items raised during the CAC report may not result in extended discussion or action by the Board unless agendized for a future meeting.
- 2. Suggesting Board Agenda Items. The CAC may suggest agenda items for a Board of Directors meeting agenda by communicating with the CAC Chair and the designated SDCP staff, before and/or after a regular CAC meeting. If suggested during a regular meeting, there shall be no discussion or action by the CAC unless the item has been included on the CAC agenda. To be added to a Board agenda, items must have the approval of the SDCP Chief Executive Officer and the Chair of the Board of Directors. If approval is provided, staff must be given at least 5 business days before the date of the Board meeting to work with the CAC to draft any memos and materials necessary.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee Members may briefly provide information to other members and the public. There is to be no discussion or action taken on comments made by Committee Members unless authorized by law.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

SDCP Committee meetings comply with the protections and prohibitions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Individuals with a disability who require a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may contact (888) 382-0169 or <a href="mailto:info@sdcommunitypower.org">info@sdcommunitypower.org</a>. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations require different lead times and should be provided at least 72-hours in advance of the public meeting.

#### **Availability of Committee Documents**

Copies of the agenda and agenda packet are available at https://sdcommunitypower.org/resources/meeting-notes/. Late-arriving documents related to a CAC meeting item which are distributed to a majority of the Members prior to or during the CAC meeting are available for public review as required by law. Public records, including agendarelated documents, can instead be requested electronically at info@sdcommunitypower.org or by mail to SDCP at PO Box 12716, San Diego, CA 92112. The documents may also be posted at the above website. Such public records are also available for inspection, by appointment, at San Diego Community Power, 2305 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92106. Please contact info@sdcommunitypower.org to arrange an appointment.



# COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER (SDCP)

City of San Diego Metropolitan Operations Complex (MOC II) Auditorium 9192 Topaz Way San Diego, CA 92123

#### **MINUTES**

February 8, 2024

The Committee minutes are prepared and ordered to correspond to the Committee Agenda. Agenda Items can be taken out of order during the meeting.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented.

## **WELCOME**

Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego) called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Committee Member Andersen (County of San Diego) announced he was attending virtually under the just cause provision of AB 2449 and there were no individuals over the age of 18 present in the room with him.

#### **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego), Vice Chair Harris (La Mesa), Committee

Member Sclafani (Chula Vista); Committee Member Jahns (Encinitas), Committee Member Hammond (Encinitas), Committee Member Sandoval (Imperial Beach), Committee Member Webb (Imperial Beach), Committee Member Castañeda (National City), Committee Member Emerson (National

City), and Committee Member Andersen (County of San Diego)

ABSENT: Secretary Cazares (La Mesa) and Committee Member Price (City of San Diego)

VACANT: Seat 4 (Chula Vista) and Seat 12 (County of San Diego)

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego) acknowledged the Kumeyaay Nation and all the original stewards of the land.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego) introduced the following new SDCP staff members:

Veera Tyagi, General Counsel Michelle Porras, Senior Executive Assistant

## ITEMS TO BE WITHDRAWN OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA

There were no items withdrawn or reordered on the agenda.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

(Items 1 through 5)

<u>ACTION</u>: Motioned by Committee Member Castañeda (National City), and seconded by Committee Member Webb (Imperial Beach) to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 5. The motion carried by the following vote:

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego), Vice Chair Harris (La Mesa), Committee Member

Sclafani (Chula Vista); Committee Member Jahns (Encinitas), Committee Member Hammond (Encinitas), Committee Member Sandoval (Imperial Beach), Committee Member Webb (Imperial Beach), Committee Member Castañeda (National City), Committee Member Emerson (National City), and Committee Member Andersen

(County of San Diego)

No: None Abstained: None

## 1. Approval of January 11, 2024 CAC Meeting Minutes

Approved.

2. Update on Marketing, Public Relations, and Local Government Affairs

Received and filed.

#### 3. Update on Customer Operations

Received and filed.

#### 4. Update on Programs

Received and filed.

#### 5. Approval of the 2024 CAC Work Plan

Approved.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

### 6. Presentation on Mid-Year Budget Amendment

Chief Financial Officer (CFO)/Treasurer Washington and Financial Analyst Do provided a PowerPoint presentation on the mid-year budget amendment, highlighting the budget development timeline, the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 amended budget, and the change in the net operating revenue, total expenses and net position.

Following Committee questions and comments, no action was taken.

## 7. Update on Load Management Standards Compliance Plan

Senior Regulatory Analyst Gunther and Senior Rates and Strategy Analyst Lu provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Load Management Standards Compliance Plan, highlighting the Load Management Standards (LMS), requirements for the adoption of LMS amendments, the compliance plan requirements, the compliance plan roadmap, and next steps.

Following Committee questions and comments, no action was taken.

## 8. Community Grant Program Ad-Hoc End of Committee Report

Committee Member Castañeda (National City) reported on the objectives, discussions, and recommendations of the Community Grant Programs Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

Following Committee questions and comments, no action was taken.

#### 9. Update on Community Grant Program

Senior Program Associate Scurlock and Program Manager Lomeli provided an update on the Community Grant Program (Program), highlighting the Program background, goal, FY 2023-2024 partners, funding opportunity, guidelines, timeline, grant eligibility, evaluation criteria, promotion, and next steps.

Following Committee questions and comments, no action was taken.

### 10. Update on Residential Solar + Storage Program

Senior Program Manager Fisher provided an update on the Residential Solar + Storage Program (Program), highlighting the net billing tariff, the Program background, goals, stakeholder engagement, customer eligibility, incentives, approved installer requirements, battery requirements, application and installation process, and timeline.

Following Committee questions and comments, no action was taken.

### DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

There were no potential agenda items for Board of Directors meetings.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee Members made announcements and reported on various events taking place in the member jurisdictions. No action was taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Vasilakis (City of San Diego) adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER Staff Report – Item 2

To: San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee

From: Jen Lebron, Director of Public Affairs

Via: Karin Burns, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Marketing, Public Relations, and Local Government Affairs

Date: April 11, 2024

# RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file an update on marketing, public relations, and local government affairs activities for San Diego Community Power (SDCP).

#### **BACKGROUND**

SDCP has engaged in a variety of public relations, marketing, community outreach, and local government affairs activities to drive awareness, spark community engagement, and maintain high customer enrollment.

### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

SDCP's Public Affairs Department has been participating in events across our member agencies as it aims to increase general awareness and answer questions in a friendly, helpful manner.

Recent and Upcoming Public Engagement Events

Family Health Centers Spirit of the Barrio Luncheon

San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering

San Diego Women's Week

The Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment

National City Community Breakfast

SDSU Sustainable Career Fair

Juniper Canyon Cleanup

SunCoast Farmers' Market

Goodwill Employment Center Resource and Job Fair

"Understanding Your Bill" Virtual Workshop

Rolando Library

San Diego Wave Fútbol Club Home Opener Fan Fest

Carmel Mountain Ranch Library

Habitat Restoration - San Diego River Park Foundation

Urban Collaborative Project Transportation Expo City Heights Library Julian Community Trade Show South Bay Earth Day **Progressive Labor Summit** Spring Valley Library Biocom Earth Day Festival La Mesa Earth Day Sony Electronics Earth Day UCSD Climate Education Day Imperial Beach Library South County Economic Development Annual Economic Summit Downtown San Diego Partnership C Street Goes Green San Pascual Earth Day Uplift Institute Sustainable 'Hood Education Expo **Equality Awards** Moonlight State Beach Cleanup Imperial Beach Chamber of Commerce

# Marketing, Communications and Outreach

SDCP has been working with local media to provide the public with information about its renewable power procurement efforts. It is also working with partner organizations on press releases regarding long-term power purchase agreements that will provide customers with reliable, affordable power when new projects come online within the next few years.

The Community Engagement division of the Public Affairs worked closely with the Customer Operations team to lead SDCP's first "Understanding Your Bill" virtual workshop on March 20. This webinar is the first of a series of online and in-person workshops that will be aimed at answering customer questions and connecting customers with programs and practices that can save them money. Additional workshops are being planned for the remainder of the year that will focus on topics including solar customer billing and the benefits of SDCP service for large commercial and industrial customers.

The Public Affairs team has been working diligently behind the scenes to support soon-to-be-launched programmatic efforts, including rooftop solar and battery storage incentives, a program that helps customers repair their roofs to be ready for solar installations, and another that will distribute grants to small businesses that would benefit from more efficient refrigerators. The Public Affairs team is working closely with internal and external stakeholders to encourage participation in these programs and leveraging relationships with community partners to amplify our marketing and outreach efforts.

SDCP has continued its efforts to connect with local leaders through meetings and at community events.

The Public Affairs team will continue to develop new strategies, processes and capacity over the next several months to conduct more community outreach, expand marketing and brand awareness efforts, and provide timely, accurate information across multiple channels.

## AD-HOC COMMITTEE AND/OR SUBCOMITTEE REVIEW

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT** 

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS** 

N/A





# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER Staff Report – Item 3

To: San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee

From: Lucas Utouh, Senior Director of Data Analytics and Customer Operations

Via: Karin Burns, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Update on Customer Operations

Date: April 11, 2024

### RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file an update on various customer operations.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Staff will provide regular updates to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) centered around tracking opt actions (i.e., opt outs, opt ups and opt downs) as well as customer engagement metrics. The following is a brief overview of items pertaining to customer operations.

#### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

## A) Mass Enrollment Update

#### Phase 4:

Mass enrollment for Non-Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers in National City and Unincorporated County of San Diego was officially completed as of May 3, 2023. As of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, SDCP is serving a cumulative total count of **953,551** active accounts. There are **174,678** active accounts currently enrolled in Unincorporated County of San Diego and **19,265** in National City.

Accounts on Net Energy Metering (NEM) within Phase 4 in National City and Unincorporated County of San Diego began enrollment into SDCP service in April 2023 and continued through customers' true up date through the end of March 2024. Enrolled customers receive 2 post enrollment notices through the mail at their mailing address on file within 60 days of their account switching over to SDCP service.

# **B) Customer Participation Tracking**

Staff and Calpine have worked together to create a reporting summary of customer actions to opt out of SDCP service, opt up to Power100, or opt down from Power100 to PowerOn. The below charts summarize these actions accordingly as of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

## I. Total Opt Outs - Including Active and Inactive

- · Active accounts still active at same premise
- · Inactive accounts that have moved out, or premise is terminated

Opt Outs by Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
City of Chula Vista	266	3,472	748	43	39	31	4,599
City of Encinitas	66	1,886	229	15	14	9	2,219
City of Imperial Beach	32	345	99	15	4	5	500
City of La Mesa	85	1,272	235	14	17	6	1,628
City of San Diego	1,077	19,278	3,187	200	174	130	24,04
County of San Diego			13,597	698	422	186	14,90
National City			284	11	5	5	305
Total	1,526	26,253	18,379	996	675	372	48,19
Opt Outs by Class Code	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Tota
Residential	36	25,717	16,762	957	628	347	44,44
Commercial/Industrial	1,490	536	1,617	39	47	25	3,75
Total	1,526	26,253	18,379	996	675	372	48,19
Opt Outs by Reason	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Concerns about government-run power agency	24	1,496	963	24	25	12	2,544
Concerns about lack of equivalent CCA programs		132	89	2	4	1	228
Decline to provide	227	3,596	2,528	102	73	30	6,556
Dislike being automatically enrolled	203	7,214	5,474	254	171	85	13,40
Existing relationship with the utility	2	2,394	1,968	108	65	19	4,556
Have grid reliability concerns	1	292	252	6	5	2	558
Have renewable Energy Reliability Concerns	6						6
Other	818	2,653	1,547	88	64	28	5,198

Opt Outs by Method	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Customer Service Rep (CSR)	1,098	7,002	4,380	270	179	110	13,038
Interactive Voice Response (IVR)	101	4,899	3,792	215	168	102	9,277
Web	327	14,353	10,208	511	328	160	25,886
Total	1,526	26,253	18,379	996	675	372	48,197

7,754

1,526 26,253 18,379

4,905

655

376

36

996

236

32

675

17

372

13,453

233

1,470

48,197

6

233

Rate or additional cost concerns

Rate or Cost Concerns

Total

Service or billing concerns

<sup>\*</sup>Historical opt outs including inactive accounts as of 03/25/2024.

# II. Opt Ups to Power 100 - Including Active and Inactive

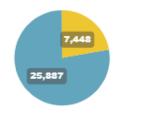
Opt Ups by Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
City of Chula Vista	701	168	55	3	1	1	929
City of Encinitas	18	1	1				20
City of Imperial Beach	60	29	11	1	1		102
City of La Mesa	148	118	19	1	2		288
City of San Diego	3,163	2,868	484	20	27	20	6,568
County of San Diego			200	10	8		218
National City			11		17		28
Total	4,090	3,184	781	35	56	21	8,152
Opt Ups by Class Code	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Opt Ups by Class Code Residential	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b> 2,895	<b>2023</b> 550	<b>2024-01</b>	<b>2024-02</b> 22	<b>2024-03</b>	3,511
Residential	3	2,895	550	30	22	13	3,511
Residential Commercial/Industrial	3 4,087	2,895 290	550 231	30 5	22 34 <b>56</b>	13 8 <b>21</b>	3,511 4,642
Residential Commercial/Industrial Total	3 4,087 <b>4,090</b>	2,895 290 <b>3,184</b>	550 231 <b>781</b>	30 5 <b>35</b>	22 34 <b>56</b>	13 8 <b>21</b>	3,511 4,642 8,152
Residential Commercial/Industrial Total Opt Ups by Method	3 4,087 <b>4,090</b> <b>2021</b>	2,895 290 <b>3,184</b>	550 231 <b>781</b> <b>2023</b>	30 5 35 2024-01	22 34 56 2024-02	13 8 21 2024-03	3,511 4,642 8,152 Total
Residential Commercial/Industrial Total Opt Ups by Method Customer Service Rep (CSR)	3 4,087 <b>4,090</b> <b>2021</b> 4,059	2,895 290 <b>3,184</b> <b>2022</b> 1,369	550 231 <b>781</b> <b>2023</b> 301	30 5 35 <b>2024-01</b> 9	22 34 56 2024-02 30	13 8 21 2024-03	3,511 4,642 8,152 Total 5,766

## Current Active Power100 Accounts

#### **Active Power100 Accounts**

TownOrTerritory	Count
City of Encinitas	25,887
City of San Diego	6,009
City of Chula Vista	874
City of La Mesa	254
County of San Diego	208
City of Imperial Beach	77
City of National City	26
Total	33.335

### **Active Power100 Opt vs Defaulted**



Encinitas Defaulted Opted Up

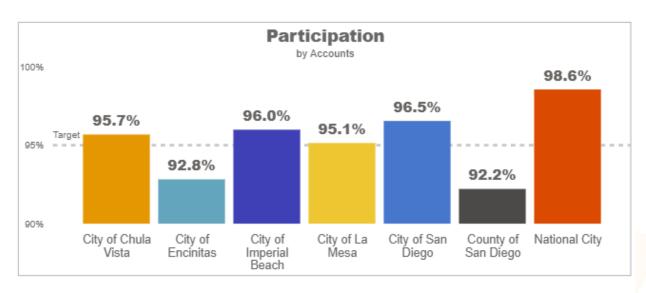
# III. Opt Downs from Power100 - Including Active and Inactive

Opt Downs by Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
City of Chula Vista		1	4				5
City of Encinitas	35	425	71	6	3	2	542
City of Imperial Beach		1					1
City of La Mesa		2					2
City of San Diego		26	13	2			41
County of San Diego			5				5
Total	35	455	93	8	3	2	596

Opt Downs by Class Code	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Residential		433	84	7	3	2	529
Commercial/Industrial	35	22	9	1			67
Total	35	455	93	8	3	2	596

Opt Downs by Method	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Customer Service Rep (CSR)	31	305	62	4	3	2	407
Interactive Voice Response (IVR)	4	26	3	1			34
Web		124	28	3			155
Total	35	455	93	8	3	2	596

# **Participation by Jurisdiction**



Jurisdiction	Active	Eligible	Opt Outs	Participation
City of Chula Vista	93,825	98,062	4,237	95.7%
City of Encinitas	26,407	28,449	2,042	92.8%
City of Imperial Beach	10,501	10,940	439	96.0%
City of La Mesa	28,022	29,453	1,431	95.1%
City of San Diego	600,853	622,348	21,495	96.5%
County of San Diego	174,678	190,238	14,819	92.2%
National City	19,265	19,555	283	98.6%
Total	953,551	999,045	44,746	95.5%

Phase 4 mass enrollment process in National City and Unincorporated County of San Diego for Non-Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers completed in May 2023. Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers were enrolled from April 2023 through March 2024 based on their true up date.

## **C) Contact Center Metrics**

Call volumes in February and March month-to-date have remained steady. With the transition to Board-approved rates effective as of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, call volumes are expected to likely increase.

The chart below summarizes contact made by customers into the Contact Center broken down by month through March 2024:

#### **V. Contact Center Metrics**



Interactive Voice Response (IVR) and Service Level Agreement (SLA) Metrics

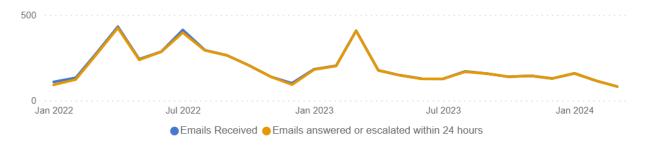
		100	ai				
	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Total Calls to IVR	2,289	47,118	52,977	4,798	3,774	2,818	113,774
<b>Total Calls Connected to Agents</b>	1,401	30,174	34,173	3,041	2,552	1,708	73,049
Avg Seconds to Answer	20	12	7	11	16	15	12
Avg Call Duration (Minutes)	8.5	9.8	9.6	9.8	9.3	9.2	9.4
Calls Answered within 60 Seconds (75% SLA)	96.23%	95.50%	97.57%	95.48%	92.62%	92.96%	96.22%
Abandon Rate	0.57%	0.36%	0.19%	0.46%	0.35%	0.58%	0.36%

Similar to other CCAs' service territories, SDCP anticipates the trend of customers calling into the Contact Center's Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system tree and being able to self-serve their opt actions using the recorded prompts as well as utilizing SDCP's website for processing opt actions to continue accounting for over 65% of all instances. The remaining portion of customer calls are connected to Customer Service Representatives to answer additional questions, assist with account support, or process opt actions.

# D) Customer Service Email Trends

# **Contact Center Call Volume Trends**

2022 - Current



#### **Customer Service Emails**

Total

	2021	2022	2023	2024-01	2024-02	2024-03	Total
Emails Received	272	2,894	2,116	159	115	82	5,638
Emails answered or escalated	257	2,821	2,107	159	115	82	5,541
within 24 hours							
Completion (%)	94%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%

As of this latest reporting month, SDCP still has a total of 13 Dedicated Customer Service Representatives staffed at the Contact Center and 2 Supervisors. Robust Quality Assurance (QA) procedures are firmly in place to ensure that customers are getting a world-class customer experience when they contact SDCP.

### AD-HOC COMMITTEE AND/OR SUBCOMITTEE REVIEW

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT** 

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS** 

N/A



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER Staff Report – Item 4

To: San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee

From: Laura Fernandez, Director of Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

Aisha Cissna, Senior Policy Manager Patrick Welch, Senior Legislative Manager Stephen Gunther, Senior Regulatory Analyst

Via: Karin Burns, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Update on Regulatory and Legislative Affairs

Date: April 11, 2024

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Receive and file update on regulatory and legislative affairs.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Staff will provide regular updates to the Community Advisory Committee regarding SDCP's regulatory and legislative engagement.

#### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

### A) Regulatory Updates

#### Green Access Programs

As outlined in the regulatory and legislative staff report for the March 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors (see pages 49-51), on March 5, 2024, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued a <u>Proposed Decision</u> that evaluates and modifies the current Green Access Program (GAP) tariffs as well as adopts a new community renewable energy program.

On March 24, 2024, a group of CCAs, including SDCP, that administer the Disadvantaged Communities Green Tariff (DAC-GT) and Community Solar Green Tariff (CSGT) programs within their service areas, filed opening comments on the Proposed Decision. The Joint CCA comments focused on modifications to the DAC-GT program as well as clarifying that CCAs have a pathway to participate in any newly adopted community renewable energy program. Specifically, the Joint CCAs made the following recommendations:

- Clarify how interested CCAs should participate in the newly adopted community renewable energy program.
- Increase the DAC-GT capacity cap for all CCA Program Administrators, not just those with contracted new capacity as of October 2023.
- Ensure the consolidation of the DAC-GT and CSGT programs protects existing CSGT customers and projects.
- Remove the creation of a central marketing website.
- Clarify that investor-owned utility (IOU) and CCA tariffs need not be uniform.
- Remove the adoption of auto-enrollment for the modified DAC-GT.
- Clarify timing and applicability of existing program rules.

Moreover, SDCP also filed <u>opening comments</u> jointly with Clean Energy Alliance (CEA) on issues specific to San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E) service area. These issues included addressing outstanding questions regarding cost recovery of SDG&E's Green Tariff Shared Renewables (GTSR) undercollection balances and expanding the definition of an eligible disadvantaged community in SDG&E's service area.

On April 2, the Joint CCAs filed reply comments to clarify and reiterate previous arguments. The earliest the CPUC can vote on a Final Decision is April 18, 2024.

# Income-Graduated Fixed Charges

## Background

On March 27, 2024, the CPUC issued a <u>Proposed Decision</u> within Phase 1, Track A of the Demand Flexibility Rulemaking (R.22-07-005) to address the income-graduated fixed charges (IGFC) and other requirements of Assembly Bill 205 (Stats. 2022, ch. 61.).

AB 205 authorizes IOUs to change the structure of residential customer bills by shifting a portion of fixed costs currently recovered through volumetric rates into a separate fixed monthly charge. This change is confined to distribution and transmission costs and therefore impacts charges that are currently recovered from SDCP customers by SDG&E, but does not impact generation rates nor CCA competitiveness. The intended result is to more closely align residential bills with the underlying utility cost structure, i.e., a greater share of fixed costs are recovered through fixed charges. As a result, total costs recovered by the utility will remain unchanged and the volumetric per-kWh charge will decrease, but the amount charged on residential utility bills will be less sensitive to changes in consumption.

For additional background leading up to the Proposed Decision, see the regulatory and legislative staff report for the September 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors, pages 56-58.

# Proposed Approach

The Proposed Decision adopts a gradual, incremental approach to implementing AB 205 requirements, including IGFCs. The billing structure will offer discounts based on existing income-verification processes such as the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs, and the Commission will consider improvements to the billing structure based on the initial implementation results and a working group proposal in the next phase of this proceeding. Additionally, the CARE discount calculation methodology used by the large electric utilities is also adjusted in the Proposed Decision.

#### Tiers and Income Verification

Southern California Edison (SCE) and SDG&E must begin to apply the adopted changes to residential customer bills during Q4 2025. IGFCs will be implemented by the large electric utilities via advice letter in the following three tiers:

- **Tier 1**: Customers enrolled in the CARE program shall automatically pay the lowest discounted fixed amount (approximately \$6 per month).
- **Tier 2**: Customers enrolled in the FERA program or who live in affordable housing restricted to residents with incomes at or below 80% of Area Median Income shall automatically pay a discounted fixed amount (approximately \$12 per month).
- **Tier 3**: All other customers will pay a fixed amount of \$24.15 per month.

Within SDG&E's service area, the fixed charges paired with reductions in volumetric distribution rates (i.e., \$0.068/kWh) are estimated to have the following impacts shown below in Table A-6 (Proposed Decision, Attachment A, page 4).

Table A-6: Estimated Impact of Adopted Fixed Charges on Average Monthly Bills of SDG&E Customers With Average Usage

Climate Zone	CARE	FERA*	Non-CARE/FERA**
Inland	\$ (6.63)	\$(10.31)	\$ 0.74
Coastal	\$ (3.78)	\$ (5.94)	\$ 2.39
Desert	\$(17.97)	\$(27.50)	\$ 0.33
Mountain	\$(19.79)	\$(30.89)	\$ (6.79)

<sup>\*</sup> FERA customers were modeled in the Public Tool as all non-CARE customers in the two lowest income quantiles.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Non-CARE/FERA customers were modeled in the Public Tool as all non-CARE customers except those in the two lowest income quantiles.

The initial implementation of the IGFCs will rely on utilities' existing CARE and FERA income verification processes, but the Commission may revisit income verification approaches in the future. For future improvement of the IGFCs and related processes, the Commission is establishing a working group to develop a proposal to improve IGFC processes.

## Next Steps

While the proposed changes do not impact the generation portion of a customer's bill, SDCP is analyzing the potential impacts on customers as well as coordinating with CalCCA. Opening comments on the Proposed Decision are due April 16 and reply comments are due April 22, 2024. The Proposed Decision may be heard as soon as the May 9, 2024, Commission meeting.

#### Provider of Last Resort

On April 3, 2024, CalCCA filed opening comments on the recently issued <u>Proposed Decision</u> within Phase I of the Provider of Last Resort (POLR) rulemaking (please see the regulatory and legislative staff report for the March 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors, <u>pages 51-52</u>, for details on the Proposed Decision). CalCCA's extensive comments include recommendations on the Financial Security Requirement (FSR) calculation, timing of the FSR calculations and posting, and modifications to the new financial monitoring requirements. Reply comments are due April 8, 2024, and the Proposed Decision may be heard as early as the April 18, 2024, Commission meeting.

## Self-Generation Incentive Program

## Background

The CPUC's Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) provides incentives for the installation of eligible behind-the-meter distributed generation and energy storage technologies that meet all or a portion of a customer's electricity needs. There are several SGIP Program Administrators (PAs) throughout the State of California: Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Gas, Southern California Edison, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (newly added PA), and the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE). CSE administers the program on behalf of SDG&E in SDG&E's service area.

Within SGIP, there are several budget categories:

- Large-scale storage
- Small residential storage

- Residential storage equity
- Non-residential storage equity
- Equity resiliency
- San Joaquin Valley Residential
- San Joaquin Valley Non-Residential
- Generation
- Heat pump water heaters

The "Equity" category is designed to serve Californians who are low-income or live in disadvantaged communities. The "Resiliency" category is intended to serve Californians who are impacted by wildfires or who are medically vulnerable. There are SGIP incentives for heat pump water heaters; however, this decision did not discuss that incentive category.

Summary: Decision Implementing Assembly Bill 209 and Improving SGIP Equity Outcomes (Adopted March 21, 2024)

Key outcomes from this decision include:

Allocation of AB 209 Funds: This decision allocates \$280M from the State's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the Residential Solar and Storage Equity budget. This budget category was previously termed the "Residential Storage Equity Budget"; however, this decision changed the name to reflect the inclusion of solar technologies alongside storage technologies within the equity budget. Of this \$280M, \$22M is allocated to CSE to administer on behalf of SDG&E. The table below is from the decision.

Program	Total FY 23 Funds	Percentage,
Administrator	(in \$ millions)	rounded (%)
Pacific Gas and Electric	\$110	39%
Company		
Southern California	\$97	35%
Edison Company		
Los Angeles	\$36	13%
Department of Water		
and Power		
San Diego Gas and	\$22	8%
Electric Company		
Southern California	\$15	5%
Gas Company		
Total	\$280	100%

 <u>Program Administration:</u> This decision adds a new <u>Program Administrator</u>, LADWP. This decision also allocates funds to each of the PAs using a new methodology which relies on the CalEnviroScreen 'Poverty' indicator.

- <u>Eligibility Criteria Modification for Low-Income Customers:</u> The eligibility criteria
  for low-income residential customers are modified to simplify access to the
  program and expand the pool of eligible customers. For example, customers
  who are enrolled in CARE, FERA, and ESA now have categorical eligibility.
- <u>Incentive levels:</u> The decision raises the maximum storage incentive level for the Residential Solar and Storage Equity budget from \$0.85/Wh to \$1.10/Wh and sets a solar incentive at \$3.10/W for both single-family and multi-family projects. The table below is from the decision and documents updated incentive levels.

Table 5: Updated Equity Solar and Storage Incentive Levels

Budget Category	Incentive Rate	Funds
Equity Resiliency	Storage: \$1.00/Wh	Ratepayer
Non-Residential Storage Equity	Storage \$0.85/Wh	Ratepayer
San Joaquin Valley Non-Residential	Storage: \$1.00/Wh	Ratepayer
Residential Solar and Storage Equity	Storage: \$1.10/Wh	AB 209 / Ratepayer
	Solar: \$3.10/W	AB 209
San Joaquin Valley Residential	Storage: \$1.10/Wh	Ratepayer

Other Program Modifications: The decision directs SGIP PAs to develop a proposal to provide 50% upfront payments to SGIP projects and set aside 2% of SGIP funding for tribal customers. It also requires the transition to NBT of NEM 1 and 2 customers who apply for SGIP incentives (except for Residential Solar and Storage Equity SGIP, low-income qualified Equity Resiliency residential, and San Joaquin Valley Residential SGIP customers). Additionally, this decision requires all new SGIP incentive recipients to be enrolled in an approved qualified demand response program.

# CCA Engagement and Impacts

SDCP contributed to Joint CCA <u>comments</u> submitted in February 2024 on the <u>Proposed Decision</u>. The Joint CCA comments focused on demand response (DR) program participation and evaluation of eligible incentive costs.

SGIP incentive recipients must enroll in a qualified DR program and maintain enrollment for ten years. The Joint CCAs proposed that the CPUC issue a decision to make it easier for CCA programs to be included on the SGIP's list of qualified DR programs. However, the final <u>decision</u> implemented a more complex procedure for CCAs to add programs, which SDCP intends to navigate for its forthcoming battery incentive program. Additionally, the Joint CCAs sought

clarification from the CPUC to allow recipients the flexibility to switch among qualified DR programs during the ten-year period, which was approved. They also advocated for additional evaluation through workshops to consider expanding the range of project costs eligible for SGIP incentives. This recommendation was also approved by the CPUC.

While this decision authorized additional SGIP solar and storage funding for low-income customers, overall SGIP funding is low. SDCP will continue to track and engage in SGIP developments as it impacts our customers' ability to adopt storage and other distributed energy technologies, and also informs SDCP program design.

# B) State Legislative Activities Update

# **Update on Supported Legislation**

SDCP is supporting <u>ACR 153 (Petrie-Norris)</u>, which declares March 14 of every year as California Utility Workers Appreciation Day. Successfully achieving SDCP's 100% renewable energy requirement relies on a strong utility workforce and ACR 153 (Petrie-Norris) is an opportunity for SDCP to express gratitude and appreciation for California's utility workers.

On March 28, the SDCP Board of Directors approved an amendment to the SDCP Legislative & Regulatory Policy Platform to allow SDCP to support legislative efforts that expand access to public participation in public meetings. Based on the Platform amendment, SDCP plans to support AB 817 (Pacheco), which is sponsored by the California League of Cities. The bill would make reasonable changes to agenda posting requirements under the Brown Act to enable more virtual participation in a subsidiary body (like the CAC) meetings.

# C) Federal Legislative Activities Update

# Summary of Joint-CCA Advocacy Trip to Washington D.C.

Laura Fernandez and Patrick Welch, on behalf of SDCP, joined staff from MCE, Ava Community Energy, the Orange County Power Authority, Clean Power Alliance, and Peninsula Clean Energy on a trip to Washington D.C. to advocate on issues related to transmission, program development, and affordability. Jointly, staff met with the offices of Senator Padilla and Butler, staff for the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, the House Committee on Energy & Commerce, the Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, and the Department of Energy.

SDCP staff also met with staff from the offices of Representatives Levin, Peters, Issa, Vargas, and Jacobs. We provided information on our recent procurement efforts, the issue of growing customer arrearages, and expressed SDCP's support for the Clean Energy and Transmission Acceleration (CETA) Act authored by Rep. Levin and the Building Integrated Grids with Inter-Regional Energy Supply (BIG WIRES) Act authored by Rep. Peters.

It was a successful trip that provided the opportunity for CCA representatives to connect with California's congressional delegation and other congressional leaders on evolving energy policy matters, and to highlight the successes and challenges of CCAs.

# AD-HOC COMMITTEE AND/OR SUBCOMITTEE REVIEW N/A

FISCAL IMPACT N/A

ATTACHMENTS N/A



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER Staff Report – Item 5

To: San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee

From: Colin Santulli, Director of Programs

Via: Jack Clark, Chief Operating Officer

Subject: Update on Programs

Date: April 11, 2024

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Receive and file update on customer energy programs.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Staff will provide regular updates to the Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") regarding the following SDCP customer energy programs: Building Electrification, Energy Education, Energy Efficiency, Flexible Load, Grant Programs, and Solar and Energy Storage.

#### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

Updates on customer energy programs are detailed below.

## **Building Electrification**

# California Energy Commission ("CEC") Equitable Building Decarbonization Program

<u>Status</u>: Since May 2023, Staff have been working with a coalition of Southern California agencies led by the Southern California Regional Energy Network ("SoCalREN") to prepare for the CEC's Equitable Building Decarbonization ("EBD") direct install program. On March 14, 2024, Staff attended the CEC's pre-solicitation workshop to seek input on the draft Request for Proposal ("RFP") for the EBD program administrators. The CEC walked interested parties through the RFP's rules, draft scope of work, and budget. At the workshop, Staff learned that the CEC expects to release the RFP on or after April 30, 2024, with responses due 60 days later.

<u>Next Steps</u>: With a tight timeframe to submit a response, Staff will continue to work with the coalition to prepare a strong response to the anticipated RFP for regional administrators.

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") Climate Pollution Reduction Grant ("CPRG") Program

<u>Status</u>: The U.S. EPA's CPRG Program provides \$5 billion in grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. Authorized under Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act, this two-phase program provides \$250 million for noncompetitive planning grants and approximately \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants.

During the first phase of the program (planning grants), the San Diego Association of Governments ("SANDAG") was awarded a grant to conduct climate action planning in the region. SANDAG worked with local governments, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders to create a Priority Climate Action Plan ("PCAP"), which was published in March 2024. It identifies near-term actions and policies that can be implemented quickly to reduce air pollution.

The second phase of the program (implementation grants) was open until April 1, 2024; for the general competition, EPA anticipates awarding individual grants between \$2 million and \$500 million, with funding tiers allowing comparably sized projects to compete against one another. SANDAG is leading a regional application for grant funding to implement measures included in the PCAP and SDCP, via its role as the proposed SDREN administrator, is identified as the regional program administrator for building electrification and solar + storage incentive programs. A proposed building electrification program would focus on providing upfront incentives for heat pump water heaters and space heating/cooling equipment that would nearly eliminate the incremental cost to install these technologies. A proposed solar + storage program would expand SDCP's Residential Solar and Storage Program's upfront incentive to the full San Diego County (instead of only SDCP customers), continuing to support the solar industry after Net Billing Tariff ("NBT") implementation. SDCP provided a Letter of Commitment to support the application in late March 2024.

Next Steps: Grant awards for the second phase of the program are anticipated in October 2024.

# **Energy Education**

# **Energy Education Website**

Please refer to <u>Item 4</u> of the February 2024 CAC staff report for the most recent update on this program.

# **Energy Efficiency**

# California Department of Food and Agriculture ("CDFA") Healthy Refrigeration Grant Program

Please refer to <u>Item 4</u> of the February 2024 CAC staff report for the most recent update on this program.

#### FLEXmarket Pilot

Status: On July 27, 2023, SDCP and Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC ("Calpine") amended its contract allowing Calpine and its partner, Recurve Analytics ("Recurve"), to develop and launch a Summer Peak Load Reduction Pilot ("Pilot"). The intent of the Pilot was to test out new approaches for meeting summer peak load utilizing Recurve's FLEXmarket approach (measured, pay-for-performance savings) and to evaluate pilot design and scalability for future summer and year-round peak load reduction programs. The total funding to support the Pilot is \$450,000 (\$150,000 from Calpine and \$300,000 from SDCP). Additionally, Calpine and Recurve are contributing \$100,000 of in-kind support to the Pilot. Under the Pilot, SDCP provides direct funding only for actual savings realized relative to a control group of buildings. Due to low program participation, actual savings have not been realized and SDCP has not yet incurred direct costs to support the Pilot.

Currently, the contract terms are effective through November 30, 2024, which includes a 12-month evaluation period for projects submitted through November 30, 2023. SDCP Staff intend to adjust the scope of work and extend the contract terms to accept additional projects. The adjusted scope of work includes having the eligibility requirements focus on small- and medium-sized commercial customers located in "hard to reach" communities to further inform the anticipated SDREN program of similar design.

<u>Next Steps</u>: SDCP will execute a no-cost contract amendment with Calpine for services related to the Pilot and will work with Calpine and Recurve through November 30, 2025 to implement the Pilot. The findings of this Pilot will inform future larger competitive procurement efforts expected through SDREN.

## Regional Energy Network ("REN") Formation

Please refer to <u>Item 4</u> of the February 2024 CAC staff report for the most recent update on this program.

#### Flexible Load

#### Flexible Load Strategy

<u>Status</u>: In Q1 2024, Staff contracted with a consultant to support with the DERMS procurement process. Staff are currently developing a software requirements document to guide the procurement and collecting responses from other public agency DERMS RFP processes.

Next Steps: Staff plan to complete the requirements documentation in April and begin reviewing existing bids from other RFP processes. Staff still anticipate the DERMS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A commercial customer is considered hard to reach if the business is located in a disadvantaged community per CalEnviroScreen and meets one of the following criteria, or if the business is outside of a disadvantaged community, the customer is considered hard to reach by meeting all of the following criteria: 1) Primary language spoken is not English; 2) Business has twenty-five or fewer employees and/or is classified as "Very Small" (customers whose annual electric demand is less than 20 kW and/or less than 10,000 therms); 3) Business is operating from leased or rented facilities.

software architecture will be identified and under contract by Q3 2024, for funding in FY 2024-25.

# Vehicle-Grid Integration ("VGI") Strategy

<u>Status</u>: Staff have been developing a VGI strategy to guide development of SDCP's V1G and V2X programs portfolio. At the April 2024 CAC meeting, Staff will present an overview of the strategy.

Next Steps: Staff plan on providing an update on the strategy at the April 2024 Board of Directors ("Board") meeting and designing and launching the associated pilot(s) beginning in Q3 CY 2024.

## **Grant Programs**

## Community Clean Energy Grant Program

Status: At the February 2024 CAC meeting, Staff presented an overview of SDCP's FY 2023-24 Community Clean Energy Grant Program and at the February 2024 Board meeting, SDCP's Board approved the updated Community Clean Energy Grant Program Policy. The FY 2023-24 grant cycle was open between February 26 and April 5, 2024. SDCP and San Diego Foundation (the program administrator) promoted the grant cycle through a press release, news interview, direct outreach to organizations, and website, social media, and newsletter updates.

Next Steps: The grant evaluation process will take place throughout April and May 2024. Staff anticipate grant agreements to be executed and grant awards to be made by June 2024.

# Member Agency Grant Program

<u>Status</u>: SDCP's FY 2023-24 Member Agency Grant Program opened on February 5, 2024. During the application period, San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative (the program administrator) is working directly with SDCP member agency staff to provide project development support and technical assistance.

Next Steps: The FY 2023-24 grant application closes on April 12, 2024. Staff anticipate grant agreements to be executed and grant awards to be made by June 2024.

# **Solar and Energy Storage**

# Net Energy Metering ("NEM") and Net Billing Tariff ("NBT")

Please refer to <u>Item 4</u> of the February 2024 CAC staff report for the most recent update on this program. Staff anticipate bringing back an item to the CAC in Q2 CY 2024 to update the tariff with support for virtual and aggregation versions of NBT.

# Residential Solar + Storage Program

<u>Status</u>: Staff sought feedback on the initial residential solar + storage program design at the February 2024 CAC meeting. Staff have continued to modify the program design

based on regular industry feedback and presented an updated program design at the March 2024 Board meeting.

Next Steps: Staff anticipate the program to launch in Q2 CY 2024.

# Disadvantaged Communities-Single-Family Affordable Solar Homes ("DAC-SASH") Readiness Pilot

Status: The DAC-SASH Readiness Pilot Agreement with GRID Alternatives ("GRID") was approved at the February 2024 Board meeting. The pilot will provide no-cost roof repairs or replacement to homes that are otherwise eligible to participate in the DAC-SASH program. By providing repairs or replacement of roofs, GRID will be able to enroll more homes in the DAC-SASH program and complete more solar system installations within SDCP's service territory. In addition, the pilot will allow Staff to gather data and insights on the overall repair and/or upgrade costs of low-income homes adopting clean energy technologies which will better help SDCP offer holistic programs that address many potential barriers to the adoption of clean energy technologies.

<u>Next Steps</u>: Staff will work with GRID to finalize the pilot guidelines and start identifying eligible customers for potential program participation. Staff expect the roof repair/replacement work to begin in Q2 CY 2024.

#### Solar for Our Communities

<u>Status</u>: The Disadvantaged Communities Green Tariff ("DAC-GT") and Community Solar Green Tariff ("CSGT") Request for Offer ("RFO") closed on February 24, 2024. Staff received a total of 10 bids from two developers. The proposed project site locations are all within eligible Disadvantaged Communities ("DACs") in SDCP's or SDG&E's service territory. The proposed site locations are in the cities of Chula Vista, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, National City, and San Diego. Staff are currently reviewing all submitted offers as well as reviewing a recent Proposed Decision by the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") that has potential impacts to the existing Green Tariff programs.

<u>Next Steps</u>: Staff will present awarded bids to the Board for approval prior to submitting executed Power Purchase Agreements ("PPAs") to the CPUC via a Tier 2 Advice Letter for approval no later than 180 days following the notification of selected bidders. Once given approval, Staff expects to enroll eligible customers in both programs by Q1 CY 2025.

#### AD-HOC COMMITTEE AND/OR SUBCOMITTEE REVIEW

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS** 

N/A



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER Staff Report – Item 6

To: San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee

From: Tim Treadwell, Senior Program Manager

Colin Santulli, Director of Programs

Via: Jack Clark, Chief Operating Officer

Subject: Update on Vehicle-Grid Integration Strategy Overview

Date: April 11, 2024

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#### RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file the update on SDCP's Vehicle-Grid Integration Strategy.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Vehicle-Grid Integration ("VGI") is an important and growing source of grid flexibility. It has the potential to deliver significant cost savings to customers through time of use ("TOU") optimization and operational savings to Community Choice Aggregators ("CCAs") by reducing the amount and cost of energy and resource adequacy ("RA") obligations. Given this value, VGI has emerged as an important new resource for meeting the State's energy policy goals.

In October 2019, <u>Senate Bill 676</u> originally defined VGI and gave authority to the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") to revise the definition. Per the Decision, VGI is defined as:

"Electric vehicle grid integration means any method of altering the time, charging level, or location at which grid-connected light-duty electric vehicles, medium-duty electric vehicles, heavy-duty electric vehicles, off-road electric vehicles, or off-road electric equipment charge or discharge, in a manner that optimizes plug-in electric vehicle or equipment interaction with the electrical grid and provides net benefits to ratepayers by doing any of the following:

- Increasing electrical grid asset utilization and operational flexibility
- Avoiding otherwise necessary distribution infrastructure upgrades and supporting resiliency
- Integrating renewable energy resources

- Reducing the cost of electricity supply
- Offering reliability services consistent with the resource adequacy requirements established by Section 380 or the Independent System Operator tariff."

#### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

## **Purpose and Goals**

The goal of SDCP's VGI strategy is to design and deliver a portfolio of V1G and V2X programs that maximizes the size and value of SDCP's flexible resource base. This will enable customer load optimization, delivering direct bill savings to participants, while reducing procurement risks and costs, and enabling lower rates for the broader community. Moreover, this approach will align SDCP's efforts with the broader policy goals of the State.

To achieve this goal, Staff assessed the market for VGI vendors that can support the use of managed charging to reduce customer bills and reduce SDCP's operational costs while balancing risk and program scale considerations. Based on this research, Staff intend to launch a Pilot, enrolling hundreds of light-duty electric vehicles ("EVs"), residential customers beginning in Q3 CY 2024. Staff also intend to work with V2X vendor(s) that have received California Energy Commission ("CEC") funds to conduct a small-scale demonstration (less than 100 customers) of bi-directional charging for customer resiliency, bill savings, and SDCP cost management.

#### What is V1G?

V1G (i.e., "Managed Charging") is designed to optimize when EVs charge based on grid needs and/or electricity pricing, with an emphasis on reducing costs and optimizing grid load. V1G may involve charging primarily during off-peak hours or dynamically adjusting charging rates in response to real-time grid conditions. V1G can shed energy usage during peak load periods (commonly referred to as "demand response" or "DR") or shift energy usage to times when the grid is less congested, prices are lower, or generation is cleaner.

#### What is V2X?

V2X (i.e., "Bidirectional Charging") involves charging and discharging of vehicle batteries to meet site load or grid needs. This capability allows EVs to support grid operation, as well as act as resilience assets for customers during grid outages. V2X configurations include Vehicle-to-Home ("V2H"), Vehicle-to-Building ("V2B"), and Vehicle-to-Grid ("V2G") (see Figure 1). Both V2H and V2B use EVs to provide supplementary power to a building while connected to or disconnected from the grid that allows customers to save by reducing peak demand from the Load Serving Entity ("LSE") and/or is used to provide

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> V2X applications require <u>Rule 21</u> interconnection agreements if they are configured to operate in parallel to the grid.

backup power to a building during blackouts. V2G allows for discharge of electricity across the meter to support various distribution bulk system grid needs.

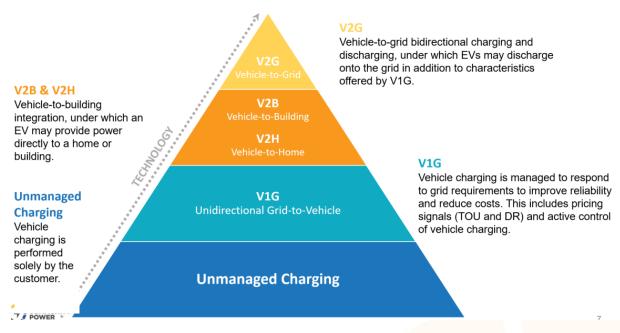


Figure 1 – VGI Categories Explained

# **Next Steps**

Given the State's focus on VGI and the operational benefits it can provide to SDCP, Staff are proposing a VGI Pilot ("Pilot") to be implemented in Q3 2024 as part of SDCP's flexible load strategy. The Pilot outlines the opportunity to drive operational efficiency and the current landscape of EV market dynamics, managed charging programs, and potential use cases for grid optimization through V1G and V2X (e.g., V2H, V2B, and V2G).

Staff expect to begin the procurement process for the V1G and V2X vendor(s) in late Q3 2024.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Staff anticipate the first-year cost of the VGI Pilot and V2X demonstration to be approximately \$500,000 (+/- 20%). Specific costs will be dependent on the Request for Proposal ("RFP") specifications, bids received, contract structure, and program uptake. Staff does not anticipate these costs being incurred until Fiscal Year 2024-25.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

N/A