

Workforce and Environmental Justice Policy for Energy Procurement

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Central Coast Community Energy (CCCE) Community Advisory Council recommends to the Policy Board to adopt a resolution that directs staff to develop and implement a Workforce and Environmental Justice Policy for Energy Procurement which includes the following:

1. *Competitive, low carbon power supply*

CCCE shall supply low carbon power supply and services to customers at competitive rates.

CCCE shall further the low carbon power supply and competitive rates of its Members.

2. *Workforce*

Whether or not a construction project is a public work as defined by the California Labor Code, contracting partners shall comply with California prevailing wage provisions applicable to public works projects, including but not limited to the Labor Code sections pertaining to employment of apprentices on public works projects.

All construction work that falls within an apprenticeable occupation in the building and construction trades shall be performed by a skilled and trained workforce in accordance with Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code.

A preference for a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will be incorporated into the bidder evaluation ranking process:

- i. Work done under a PLA shall be deemed to meet the requirements of payment of prevailing wage and use of apprentices, and shall supersede the skilled and trained workforce requirement
- ii. For projects that do not implement a PLA, an audit will be required to ensure compliance with payment of prevailing wages, compliance with skilled and trained workforce

requirements and to demonstrate any employment of apprentices

Encourage the use of local labor with a deliberate emphasis on targeted hiring of women, minorities, gender non-conforming, residents of low income communities, the formerly incarcerated and veterans.

CCCE-developed projects shall be constructed through a multi-trade project labor agreement or through multiple such agreements, consistent with the Public Contract Code provisions authorizing such agreements by public agencies.

CCCE shall first give a preference to projects that are located in a county or city that receives electric service from CCCE , then to projects that are located within California, and then to projects whose first point of connection is within California.

3. *Environmental*

All projects must meet the permitting requirements of the appropriate governing authority/authorities

CCCE shall state a preference in the request for proposals for projects that avoid sensitive habitat areas and that comply with conservation plans such as the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan.

CCCE shall require in the request for proposals that developers of construction projects address how the project will avoid or mitigate, to the extent feasible, potential environmental and environmental justice impacts of the project.

The request for proposal shall request Global Electronics Council EPEAT ecolabel registration status and level for inverters and modules.

4. *Environmental Justice*

CCCE shall meaningfully engage with “disadvantaged community” stakeholders residing within the CCCE service area or proposed project area and incorporate input in the decision-making process.

CCCE shall identify disadvantaged community stakeholders (DAC) from the vicinity of projects using a variety of tools such as Cal EnviroScreen and the State Department of Housing and Community Development’s opportunity

maps. CCCE shall make information easily accessible to disadvantaged stakeholders using various outreach methods including workshops, virtual webinars, and presentations at existing community meetings or events.

CCCE shall require in the request for proposals that developers of construction projects conduct a cost/benefit impact analysis with an emphasis on evaluating disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged communities.

CCCE shall require in the request for proposals that developers of construction projects identify project benefits to communities in the project vicinity.

Developers of construction projects shall state opposition to using forced labor in the supply chain.

5. *Unbundled Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)*

CCCE shall avoid projects involving the use of unbundled renewable energy credits (RECs) to meet its members' renewable energy goals.

6. *Project evaluation and selection*

CCCE shall evaluate and select energy projects with a structured, multi-criteria evaluation process which utilizes the policy principles discussed herein. This evaluation process should holistically consider workforce, environmental justice, and community benefits balanced with technical and financial considerations.

CCCE shall publicly publish detailed project evaluation and selection documentation during project approval.

7. *CA Community Power (CC Power)*

CCCE's representative to the CA Community Power Board shall advocate for adoption of a CA Community Power Workforce and Environmental Justice Policy for Energy Procurement consistent with the terms of this resolution.

CCCE's representatives to the CA Community Power Board shall advocate to form a public advisory committee, including labor, environmental and equity representatives, to ensure transparency and public engagement in CA Community Power's operations and procurement practices.