



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors
AGENDA**

**Thursday, February 15, 2024
10:30 a.m.**

County of Ventura- Government Center

Hall of Administration-Main Plaza- Atlantic Conference Room

800 S Victoria Ave

Ventura CA 93009

REGARDING MEETING PARTICIPATION:

Members of the public may join in person or by Zoom link below.

<u>Topic</u>	Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
<u>Join Zoom Meeting</u>	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85693185636
<u>Meeting ID</u>	856 9318 5636
<u>Passcode</u>	None
<u>Telephone</u>	+16694449171,,85693185636# US +16699006833,,85693185636# US (San Jose) Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85693185636

REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS: IF YOU WISH TO MAKE EITHER A GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT OR COMMENT ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM BEING HEARD, YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR COMMENT VIA EMAIL BY 9.00 AM THE DAY OF THE MEETING TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: VCREA.ADMIN@VENTURA.ORG. PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN YOUR EMAIL: (A) MEETING DATE, (B) AGENDA ITEM NUMBER, (C) SUBJECT OR TITLE OF THE ITEM, (D) YOUR FULL NAME. DURING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEM SPECIFIED IN YOUR EMAIL, YOUR EMAIL WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hernandez

2. ROLL CALL

Kelly Cattanach

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW VCREA BOARD MEMBERS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 18, 2023 VCREA BOARD MEETING

6. AGENDA REVIEW

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

See Guidelines above

8. BOARD OF DIRECTOR COMMENTS

At this time members of the VCREA Board of Directors may comment on matters pertaining to VCREA

9. APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- YEAR END JUNE 30, 2023

10. APPROVAL OF THE 2024 AND 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

11. APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FY 24.25

12. 3C-REN PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

13. CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT OVERVIEW

14. RECEIVE AND FILE THE 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

15. RECEIVE AND FILE THE PROGRAM UPDATE

16. GENERAL UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

17. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

18. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is to be determined.



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board of Directors

Item 5

Subject: Minutes from the May 18, 2023 Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Approval of the Minutes from the May 18, 2023 VCREA Board Meeting

Attachments:

1. Draft Summary Minutes from the May 18, 2023 Board Meeting
-



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Action Minutes

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board Meeting May 18, 2023 10:30 a.m.

1. WELCOME/ CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hernandez at 10:38 a.m. Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order in honor of the Fallen Peace Officers who were being recognized at a ceremony outside the Government Center.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Mike Judge	City of Simi Valley
Laura Hernandez	City of Port Hueneme
Christina Villaseñor	City of Fillmore
David Newman	City of Thousand Oaks
Matt LaVere (Joined at 10.50, Item 10)	County of Ventura
Andy Sobel	City of Santa Paula
William Ulrich (Joined at 10.48)	Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Bert Perello (Alternate)	City of Oxnard
Bernardo Perez	Ventura County Community College District

Directors Not Present:

Gabriela Basua	City of Oxnard
Liz Campos	City of Ventura
Sabrina Rodriguez	Ventura Unified School District
Scott Quady	Calleguas Municipal Water District

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Newman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW VCREA DIRECTORS

The following individuals received the Oath of Office:

Director Perello
Director Ulrich

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 16, 2023, VCREA BOARD MEETING

Upon motion of Director Newman, seconded by Director Sobel, the Board approved the Minutes of the February 16, 2023, meeting. Director Perello abstained.

6. AGENDA REVIEW

No changes to the Agenda.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments were submitted.

8. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

No Director Comments were made.

9. APPROVAL OF JAVIER SAUCEDO CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Staff Alejandra Telléz provided a brief overview of Mr. Saucedo's Scope of Work.

There was discussion regarding the language in the contract pertaining to extensions as well going out to bid for such work. The County requires that contracts more than \$60,000 go out to bid, Mr. Saucedo's contract is under the \$60,000 threshold. Additionally, going out to bid for any contract would be at the discretion of the Board. Chair Hernandez spoke highly of Mr. Saucedo and how he offers a unique experience and that VCREA would be very hard pressed to find elsewhere. His service to the community and VCREA, she believes, is irreplaceable.

Upon motion of Director Sobel, seconded by Vice Chair Judge, the Board approved the Amendment.

10. APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FY 23.24

Staff Kelly Cattanach provided an overview of the proposed Budget for FY 23.24.

There was discussion pertaining to the EV 2.0 grant funding, specifically for funding that may not be spent before the Grant's current term date due to supplier issues. Staff Heather Allen stated that VCREA is in discussion with the Energy Commission about such issues and possible resolutions, including a potential extension. Staff will report back to the Board once a resolution has been determined by the Energy Commission.

Director La Vere and Director Ulrich joined the meeting.

Service rates were discussed, and it was stated by staff that the proposed rates do take into account a cost-of-living adjustment. It was clarified that funding for the Local Government Partnership ended in December 2021. All-electric leaf blowers were also a topic of discussion.

Upon motion of Director Villaseñor, seconded by Director Newman, the Board approved the G&A Budget for FY23.24.

11. 3C-REN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Sustainability Division staff Ian Logan, Program Manager with 3C-REN, provided a presentation on 3C-REN programs including Home Energy Savings (HES), Energy Code Connect (ECC), and Building Performance Training (BPT). The presentation was included in the Agenda Revision No.1.

Questions from the Directors were answered during the presentation pertaining to toolkits, collaborative efforts, training opportunities and sponsorships, Passive House, HES budget and project results.

The Business Plan submitted to the California Public Utility Commissions (CPUC) for 2024-2032 was outlined and includes three new sectors: public sector, commercial sector, and agriculture. It was discussed how to show support for the CPUC's approval of the Business Plan. Clean Power Alliance and other Community Choice Aggregation programs were mentioned and their role with regards to rate payer funding contributions and program incentives to support 3C-REN HES programs. Reach codes were discussed as well.

12. UPDATES FROM THE EV COACH

Staff Nancy Clarin, EV Coach, provided a presentation on Electrified Transportation including workforce development and the *Power Your Future Scholarship*, purchase guidance with *EVs for Everyone*, and the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant opportunity.

AB1550 and California Air Resource Board census tracts were discussed. Staff time restrictions and additional staff support were discussed as well as resources for additional electrician participation in *Power Your Future Scholarship* program.

13. RECEIVE AND FILE THE PROGRAM UPDATE

Staff was available to answer questions regarding the Program Update provided in the Agenda Packet.

14. GENERAL UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Alejandra Telléz reminded the Board that VCREA will be hosting an Energy Champion Meeting on May 25, 2023.

15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None at this time

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 10.30 a.m. This meeting will be held in person at the following location:

County of Ventura- Hall of Administration
Anacapa Conference Room- Lower Plaza
800 S. Victoria Ave
Ventura CA 93009



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board of Directors

Item 9

Subject: Approval of the Financial Statements- Year End June 30, 2023

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Approval of the Financial Statements- Year End June 30, 2023

Attachments:

1. Financial Statements
-

Board of Directors
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Ventura, California

We have audited the financial statements of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) for the year ended June 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the VCREA solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated.

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence under the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") independence standards, contained in the Code of Professional Conduct.

We identified self-review threats to independence as a result of non-attest services provided. Those non-attest services included the preparation of the financial statements and recording journal entries detected during the audit process. To mitigate the risk, management has compared the draft financial statements and footnotes to the underlying accounting records to verify accuracy.

Additionally, we utilize a quality control reviewer to perform a second review of journal entries and the financial statements. We believe these safeguards are sufficient to reduce the independence threats to an acceptable level.

Significant Risks Identified

As a result of a new accounting pronouncement, Governmental Accounting Standards Board 96: Subscription IT Arrangements, we identified the new standard as a significant risk as part of the audit risk assessment.

Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the VCREA is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during fiscal year 2023. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments. The most significant estimate is the estimate of useful lives of capital assets when calculating depreciation expense.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no particularly sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards also require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole and each applicable opinion unit. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying those uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements currently under audit. There were no uncorrected misstatements noted as a result of our audit procedures

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. There were no material misstatements noted as a result of our audit procedures.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the VCREA's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management dated December 14, 2023.

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with the VCREA, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating and regulatory conditions affecting the entity, and operational plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the VCREA's auditors.

Other Information Included in the Basic Financial Statements

Pursuant to professional standards, our responsibility as auditors for other information, whether financial or nonfinancial, included in the VCREA's annual report, does not extend beyond the information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform any procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with such standards, we have read the information and considered whether such information, or the

manner of its presentation, was materially inconsistent with its presentation in the financial statements.

Our responsibility also includes communicating to you any information which we believe is a material misstatement of fact. Nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that such information, or its manner of presentation, is materially inconsistent with the information, or manner of its presentation, appearing in the financial statements.

This information is intended solely for the information and use of Board of Directors and management of Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Davis Farr LLP

Irvine, California
December 14, 2023

***VENTURA COUNTY
REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE***

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended June 30, 2023

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year Ended June 30, 2023

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Financial Section

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Ventura, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance ("VCREA") as of and for the year June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the VCREA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of VCREA, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of VCREA and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

VCREA's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about VCREA's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the VCREA's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the VCREA's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *management's discussion and analysis* be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the VCREA's 2022 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated January 20, 2023. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 14, 2023 on our consideration of the VCREA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the VCREA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Davis Farr LLP

Irvine, California
December 14, 2023

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Management Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

As management of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA), we offer readers of VCREA's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities and performance of VCREA for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the accompanying basic financial statements, which follow this section.

Financial Highlights

- VCREA's net position increased by \$47,191 from \$228,747 to \$275,938 resulting from the continuation of the Clean Transportation Energy Program Grant agreement (ARV-20-009) spanning from April 2021 through June 2024.
- Total revenues from all sources decreased by \$936,019 or 76.1%, from \$1,229,505 in 2022 to \$293,486 in 2023. The decrease resulted from the reimbursement of electric vehicles and charging stations in the prior fiscal year as part of the 3-year Clean Transportation Energy Program (ARV-20-009).
- Total expenses for VCREA's operations decreased by \$922,847 or 78.9%, from \$1,169,142 in 2022 to \$246,295 in 2023. The decrease resulted from the purchase of electric vehicles and charging stations in the prior fiscal year as part of the 3-year Clean Transportation Energy Program (ARV-20-009). Continued delays in equipment delivery have added to the significant drop in expenses for fiscal year 2023. VCREA has requested an extension to December 2025 to allow for sufficient time to complete all grant projects and is awaiting approval from the California Energy Commission.

Using This Financial Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities and performance of VCREA using accounting methods similar to those used by private sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of VCREA's investments in resources (assets) and its obligations to creditors (liabilities). It also provides the basis for computing a rate of return, evaluating the capital structure of VCREA and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of VCREA. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities. This statement measures the success of VCREA's operations over the past year and can be used to determine VCREA's profitability and creditworthiness.

Financial Statements

Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities

One of the most important questions asked about VCREA's finances is, "Is VCREA better off or worse off as a result of this year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about VCREA in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private sector companies and public enterprise agencies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Management Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Financial Statements (continued)

Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities (continued)

These two statements report VCREA's net position and changes in net position. Think of VCREA's net position – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure VCREA's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in VCREA's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, you will need to consider other non-financial factors such as changes in VCREA's grant funding and availability to assess the overall health of VCREA.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements. The notes to the basic financial statements can be found on pages 10 through 13.

Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of VCREA, assets of VCREA exceeded liabilities by \$275,938 as of June 30, 2023, compared to the \$228,747 at the end of the fiscal year 2022.

Condensed Statement of Net Position

	2023	2022	\$ Change	% Change
Assets				
Current Assets	\$ 295,304	\$ 687,844	\$ (392,540)	-57.1%
Non-current assets	<u>133,972</u>	<u>115,476</u>	<u>18,496</u>	100.0%
Total	<u>429,276</u>	<u>803,320</u>	<u>(374,044)</u>	-46.6%
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities	103,672	524,907	(421,235)	-80.2%
Non-current Liabilities	<u>49,666</u>	<u>49,666</u>	<u>-</u>	100.0%
Total liabilities	<u>153,338</u>	<u>574,573</u>	<u>(421,235)</u>	-73.3%
Net position				
Unrestricted	<u>275,938</u>	<u>228,747</u>	<u>47,191</u>	20.6%
Total net position	<u>\$ 275,938</u>	<u>\$ 228,747</u>	<u>\$ 47,191</u>	20.6%

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Management Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Financial Analysis (continued)

Condensed Statement of Activities

	2023	2022	\$ Change	% Change
Expenses				
Energy program	\$ 246,295	\$1,169,142	\$ (922,847)	-78.9%
Total Expenses	<u>246,295</u>	<u>1,169,142</u>	<u>(922,847)</u>	-78.9%
Program revenues	<u>293,486</u>	<u>1,229,505</u>	<u>(936,019)</u>	-76.1%
Total revenues	<u>293,486</u>	<u>1,229,505</u>	<u>(936,019)</u>	-76.1%
Change in net position	47,191	60,363	(13,172)	-21.8%
Net position - beginning	<u>228,747</u>	<u>168,384</u>	<u>60,363</u>	35.8%
Net position - ending	<u>\$ 275,938</u>	<u>228,747</u>	<u>47,191</u>	20.6%

The statement of activities shows how the government's net position changed during the fiscal year. In the case of VCREA, net position increased by \$47,191 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, compared to a \$60,363 increase for fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The increase is a result of the California Energy Commission awarding VCREA a Clean Transportation Program Grant (ARV-20-009) in the amount of \$3.9 million, spread over three years from April 2021 through June 2024. Fiscal year 2023 is the second year of the three year program.

VCREA was selected as the administrative lead and the County of Ventura on behalf of its General Services Agency (GSA) as one of the key partners in the implementation of this program. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on September 14 2021 between VCREA and the GSA which will span over three fiscal years, expiring on June 30, 2024. The GSA will implement their Electric Remote Motor Pool Expansion by procuring electric vehicles (EVs), plug-in hybrid vehicles and the necessary connecting chargers and other infrastructure required to operate this program. Together VCREA and the GSA are working together to implement the Ventura County Electric Vehicle (EV) Ready Blueprint with the goal to accelerate the deployment of electrified transportation within the Ventura County Region.

Requests for Information

VCREA's basic financial statements are designed to present users with a general overview of VCREA's finances and to demonstrate VCREA's accountability. If you have any questions about the report, annual financial statement or need additional information regarding operating activities please contact the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance, County of Ventura, 800 South Victoria Ave L #1950, Ventura, California 93009.

Basic Financial Statements

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VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023
(with comparative data for 2022)

	2023	2022
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 184,182	\$ 134,492
Accounts receivable	4,751	8,046
Grants receivable	106,371	545,306
Retention receivable	133,972	115,476
Total assets	429,276	803,320
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	14	466,100
Accrued salaries and wages	103,658	58,807
Retention payable	49,666	49,666
Total liabilities	153,338	574,573
Net position		
Unrestricted	275,938	228,747
Total net position	\$ 275,938	\$ 228,747

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
Year Ended June 30, 2023
(with comparative data for 2022)

	2023	2022
Revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 62,736	\$ 48,807
Grant revenue	230,750	1,180,698
Total revenues	293,486	1,229,505
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	44,851	58,807
Professional services	187,825	1,103,717
General and administrative	13,619	6,618
Total expenditures	246,295	1,169,142
Change in net position	47,191	60,363
Net position - beginning		
Unrestricted	228,747	168,384
Net position - ending	\$ 275,938	\$ 228,747

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended June 30, 2023
(with comparative data data for 2022)

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from customers for services	\$ 47,535	\$ 1,778
Receipts from operating grants	669,685	643,562
Payments to employees	-	(7,368)
Payments to vendors for materials and services	(667,530)	(600,877)
Net cash provided by operating activities	49,690	37,095
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	49,690	37,095
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	134,492	97,397
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 184,182	\$ 134,492
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Operating income (loss)	\$ 47,191	\$ 60,363
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in assets:		
Accounts receivable	3,295	68,447
Grants receivable	438,935	(537,136)
Retentions receivable	(18,496)	(115,476)
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(466,086)	509,458
Accrued salaries and wages	44,851	51,439
Total adjustments	2,499	(23,268)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 49,690	\$ 37,095

There were no significant noncash activities for the current year.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
Year ended June 30, 2023

Note 1: Reporting Entity and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Organization and Operations of the Reporting Entity

Formed in July 2003, the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) composed of public agencies working in collaboration to approach the availability, reliability, conservation and innovative use of energy resources in the Ventura County region. The current JPA consists of the County of Ventura and the cities of Ventura, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Fillmore, Port Hueneme, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks, along with the special districts of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District, Calleguas Municipal Water District, the Ventura County Community College District and the Ventura Unified School District.

Formed as a JPA, each member in VCREA has designated a locally elected public official to serve as a Member of the Board.

B. Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

VCREA reports its activities as an enterprise fund, which is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business enterprise. Revenues and expenses are recognized on the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned and expenses are recognized in the period incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place.

Operating revenues result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of VCREA. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues result from non-exchange transactions in which VCREA gives (receives) value without directly receiving (giving) value in exchange.

C. Financial Reporting

VCREA's basic financial statements are presented in conformance with the generally accepted accounting principles. VCREA has elected to follow all pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position

1. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Year ended June 30, 2023

Note 1: Reporting Entity and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position, continued

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

VCREA considers all highly liquid investments with initial maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

3. Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources are transactions that result in the consumption of net assets in one period that are applicable to future periods and are not considered assets. Deferred outflows of resources are required to be presented separately after assets on the statement of net position.

Deferred inflows of resources are transactions that result in the acquisition of net assets in one period that are applicable to future periods and are not considered to be liabilities. Deferred inflows of resources are required to be presented separately after liabilities on the statement of net position.

4. Net Position

The financial statements utilize a net position presentation. Net position is categorized as follows:

- **Net investment in capital assets** – This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation reduced by any debt outstanding against the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.
- **Restricted net position** – This component of net position consists of constraints placed on net position use through external constraints imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- **Unrestricted net position** – This component of net position consists of net position that do not meet the definition of *restricted* or *net investment in capital assets*. VCREA’s policy is to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position.

5. Comparative Data

Selected information regarding the prior year has been included in the accompanying financial statements. This information has been included for comparison purposes only and does not represent a complete presentation in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the government’s prior year financial statements, from which this selected financial data was derived.

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Year ended June 30, 2023

Note 2: Cash and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents as of June 30, 2023 consist of the following:

Deposits held with financial institution	<u>\$ 184,182</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 184,182</u></u>

Authorized Deposits and Investments

VCREA's investment policy only authorizes investments in the local government investment pools administered by the Ventura County Treasurer – Ventura County Pooled Investment Fund (VCPIF) and financial institutions.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for *deposits* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The California Government Code and VCREA's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for deposits, other than the following provision for deposits: The California Government Code requires that a financial institution secure deposits made by state or local governmental units by pledging securities in an undivided collateral pool held by a depository regulated under state law (unless so waived by the governmental unit). The market value of the pledged securities in the collateral pool must equal at least 110% of the total amount deposited by the public agencies. VCREA had deposits with a bank in the amount of \$184,182 at June 30, 2023. Bank balances are federally insured up to \$250,000.

The custodial credit risk for *investments* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. The Code and VCREA's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for investments. With respect to investments, custodial credit risk generally applies only to direct investments in marketable securities. Custodial credit risk does not apply to a local government's indirect investment in securities through the use of mutual funds or government investment pools.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The longer the maturity an investment has, the greater its fair value has sensitivity to changes in market interest rates. VCREA's investment policy does not discuss interest rate risk.

VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Year ended June 30, 2023

Note 2: Cash and Investments, continued

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

Concentration of Credit Risk

VCREA's investment policy contains no limitations on the amount that can be invested in any one governmental agency or non-governmental issuer.

Fair Value Measurement

VCREA has no investments subject to the fair value measurement hierarchy.

Note 3: Employee Benefits and Pension Plan

The County of Ventura has contracted to provide staff to VCREA. As employees of the County of Ventura, they will continue to participate in the cost sharing employer contributory defined benefit pension plan administered by the Ventura County Employees' Retirement Association and other post-employment benefits plan. These benefits are handled by the County of Ventura. Payroll for these employees is processed by the County of Ventura Auditor-Controller's Office payroll section. Total costs of payroll and benefits are reimbursed by VCREA to the County of Ventura throughout the year. In order to meet monthly operating expenses during the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint Grant Program (EV2.0) spanning from April 2021 through June 2024, VCREA has temporarily suspended reimbursements beginning July 2021, until EV2.0 is concluded in June 2024. At that time, the cumulative balance of payroll and benefits expenses from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024 will be transferred to the County of Ventura.

Note 4: Contingencies

Litigation

In the ordinary course of operations, VCREA is subject to claims and litigation from outside parties. As of June 30, 2023, VCREA believes the ultimate outcome of such matters, if any, will not materially affect its financial condition.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Ventura, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the VCREA's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 14, 2023.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the VCREA's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the VCREA's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the VCREA's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the VCREA's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which

could have a direct and material effect on the financial statement. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Davis Farr LLP

Irvine, California
December 14, 2023



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board of Directors

Item 10

Subject: 2024 and 2025 Meeting Schedule

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Approval of the 2024 and 2025 Meeting Schedule

Attachments:

1. None
-

Based on feedback received, there is value in hosting Energy Champion Meetings. These meetings are open to all VCREA partners and their staff and provide an opportunity for collaboration as well as sharing updates and best practices.

Staff proposes to host the Energy Champion/Study Session Meetings in lieu of one or two Board meetings per year, unless there is pertinent business to conduct. The following is a quarterly meeting schedule and is presented to the Board for discussion, consideration, and approval:

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Thursday, August 21, 2025

Thursday, November 20, 2025



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 11

Subject: Approval of the General and Administrative Budget FY 24.25

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Approval of the General and Administrative Budget FY 24.25

Attachments:

1. General and Administrative Budget
 2. Comparative Analysis FY 24.25 & Service Rates
-

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance- FY 2024/2025 General and Administrative Budget

	Previously Approved FY 2023/2024		FY 2024/2025 ¹	
	REVENUE	EXPENSES	REVENUE	EXPENSES
Ventura County Green Business Program (VCGB)				
California Green Business Network (CAGBN)	\$28,735		\$0	
Contractor: Javier Saucedo		\$28,735		\$0
VCGB Total	\$28,735	\$28,735	\$0	\$0
EV 2.0²				
CA Energy Commision	\$1,173,007		\$451,237	
VCREA Staff		\$41,665		\$8,000
Contractors:				
EV Coach(es)		\$166,670		\$20,000
Gold Coast Transit District		\$422,900		\$158,850
County of Ventura General Service Agency		\$71,587		\$71,587
MV Transportation		\$199,100		\$159,000
City of Thousand Oaks		\$177,087		\$0
MICOP		\$73,285		\$26,000
Other (Travel, materials)		\$20,712		\$7,800
EV 2.0 Total	\$1,173,007	\$1,173,007	\$451,237	\$451,237
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	\$1,201,742	\$1,201,742	\$451,237	\$451,237

¹ FY budgets are based on the assumption that current funding levels will remain the same. Staff will continue to seek additional funding sources.

² Funding total is \$2,500,000, grant has been extended to June 2026

Comparative Analysis FY 2024/2025

Your Board approved the FY 2023/2024 General and Administrative Budget on May 18, 2023, since then the following has occurred;

- CalEPA Grant funding for the Ventura County Green Business Program (VCGB) concluded December 2023.
- The EV 2.0 Grant request for extension to April 2026 has been submitted to the California Energy Commission. The extension allows for the flexibility of spending the Grant funds beyond the initial end date of June 2024. As a result, expenses will decrease from FY 2023/2024 (\$1,173,007) to FY 2024/2025 (\$451,237) resulting in an approximated decrease in VCREA’s overall budget of 62 percent. The remaining balance of \$405,290 for EV2.0 will be allocated to FY 2025/2026.
- Staff will continue efforts to pursue other funding sources that align with our mission and goals and will come back to the Board when other funding sources are secured.

Service Rates FY 2024/2025:

Management Analyst II	\$154.69
Management Assist IV-C	\$97.95
Program Admin I	\$94.05
Program Admin II	\$110.52
Program Admin III	\$132.04
Program Assistant	\$97.80
Program Management Analyst	\$187.63
Senior Program Administrator	\$127.74
Snr Deputy Executive Officer	\$245.40
Student Worker III	\$0.00
Deputy Executive Officer	\$223.04

VCREA Contracts and Agreement

	Service	Entity	Type	Amount
1.	Fiscal and Annual Audit Services	VRSD	Contract, Amendment 1 Executive Director executed	Time & material basis
2.	Marketing and Outreach Support	Javier Saucedo	Contract (Jan 2024- Dec 2024) Board approved February 16, 2023	\$22,500
3.	Ventura County Electric Vehicle Ready Blueprint (EV2.0)	CA Energy Commission	Agreement (April 2021-June 2026) Board approved February 18, 2021	\$2,500,000

4.	EV Coach Services	Parker Abt	Contract (Oct 2023-June 2024) Board approved February 18, 2021	\$92,000
5.	Clean Transportation Communication Services	Kendal James	Contract (Nov 2023-April 2024) Board approved February 18, 2021	\$5,000

Future contracts and consultant positions will be reviewed and approved by the Executive Director with approval of the Board for those contracts exceeding \$25,000 per year. Additional contractors may be utilized as needs arise.



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 12

Subject: 3C-REN Programs Overview

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. None

Attachments:

1. Presentation Slides
-

VCREA UPDATE

PRESENTATION ON 3C-REN'S EXPANDED PROGRAM PORTFOLIO

February 15, 2024



Agenda

- Introduction to 3C-REN
- Overview of 3C-REN's Current Programs
- Overview of 3C-REN's New Programs
- Q&A



3C-REN Vision & Mission

Vision: To create a sustainable, equitable and economically vibrant Central Coast for all

Mission: 3C-REN supports local climate goals through the delivery of energy saving programs that empower a sustainable local economy and reduce social disparities in the Central Coast



Overview of 3C-REN

- Three counties working together to improve energy efficiency in the region
- Since 2019 have offered services for 2 key audiences—
 - **Building Professionals:** industry events, training, and energy code compliance support
 - **Households:** free and discounted home upgrades
- New business plan expands to 3 new audiences starting in 2024—
 - **Agriculture, Commercial, Public Sector**



3C-REN Program Portfolio with Sector and Budget

3C-REN Program	Market Sector	REN Activity			Existing or New	Portfolio Plan Budget (\$)*** 2024-2027	Strategic Plan Budget (\$)*** 2024-2031
		Gap Filling	Pilot	HTR*			
MARKET SUPPORT							
Agriculture Technical Assistance	Agriculture	X			New ✓	3,035,434	6,538,938
Building Performance Training	Cross-Cutting	X			Existing	9,439,825	21,340,806
Energy Assurance Services	Cross-Cutting	X		X	New ✓	1,778,906	3,939,661
EQUITY							
Commercial Marketplace	Commercial	X		X	New ✓	10,015,293	21,379,645
Single Family Home Energy Savings	Residential	X		X	Existing	19,772,391	41,931,865
Multifamily Home Energy Savings	Residential	X		X	Existing	16,651,320	37,274,745
CODES AND STANDARDS							
Energy Code Connect	Cross-Cutting	X			Existing	7,819,621	16,747,290
EM&V							
					3C-REN EM&V	785,042	1,709,043
					CPUC EM&V	2,069,657	4,505,662
TOTAL							
7 Programs	4 Market Sectors	X		X	4 Existing 3 New	71,367,489	155,367,654



TRI-COUNTY
REGIONAL ENERGY
NETWORK

Overview of Current Programs



Current Programs



ENERGY
CODE
CONNECT



BUILDING
PERFORMANCE
TRAINING



HOME
ENERGY
SAVINGS





ENERGY
CODE
CONNECT

- **What:** Makes the Energy Code easier to follow
- **Audience:** All building professionals
- **Services:**
 - Energy Code Coach
 - Training
 - Regional Forums
 - Reach Code / Permitting Support
- **Sector:** C&S





ENERGY
CODE
CONNECT

Case Study: Model Forms for ADUs

County of Ventura Building Department staff sought County-approved, Title 24-compliant construction documents for three sample ADU floor plans (700, 900 and 1200 sqft) for ADU/farmworker housing units in three climate zones (6, 9, 16)

Objectives

- *Increase energy code compliance*
- *Reduce design and construction costs*

Outcomes

Code Coaches provided 9 design packages (3 floor plans x 3 climate zones)

- *All met or exceeded 2019 Title 24 requirements*
- *Performance approach with all-electric or mixed fuel options*
- *Key energy saving measures: Variable Capacity Heat Pump, Insulation, HPWHs*
- *Designs are being updated for the 2022 code cycle*





BUILDING PERFORMANCE TRAINING

- **Why:** Help workers thrive as industry evolves
- **Who:** Current and prospective professionals
- **What:** Technical skills (e.g., envelope, air sealing, heat pumps), continuing education units, certifications
- **Sector:** Market support





**BUILDING
PERFORMANCE
TRAINING**

Case Study: CET Collaboration

Collaboration with the Centers for Employment Training in Oxnard and Santa Maria where 3C-REN instructors presented to students in the Green Building Construction Skills Program

Objectives

- Expose students to energy career opportunities
- Deepen student knowledge of high-performance building practices

Outcomes

- 11 presentations between 2022-2023
- Topics covered: green careers, green building,
- introduction to home performance, hands-on blower door test demo





HOME
ENERGY
SAVINGS

- **Why:** Lower energy bills and improve homes while reducing GHG emissions
- **Who:** Target households that are historically underserved
- **What:**
 - Technical Assistance and incentives for multifamily
 - Incentives for single family
- **Sector:** Equity





HOME
ENERGY
SAVINGS

MF Case Study: SB Apartment Building

A 10-unit apartment building in Santa Barbara received 3C-REN incentives for energy upgrades

Objectives

- *Lower energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions*
- *Improve tenant health by removing gas combustion*
- *Modernize the property with new systems*

Outcomes: Measures Installed

- *Central heat pump water heater, demand hot water recirculation pump control and water pipe insulation, ductless mini split heat pumps, induction cooktops, electric panel upgrades*

Outcomes: Incentives Received

- *\$41,300 total incentives (\$1,500 per unit and additional rebates for high-performance equipment)*
- *\$2,676 per year annual energy cost savings (\$2,144 tenant savings and \$532 owner savings)*
- *16.5 metric tons of CO2 saved annually*





HOME
ENERGY
SAVINGS

SF Case Study: Water Heater Update

A resident in Lompoc leveraged 3C-REN incentives to replace his natural gas water heater with an electric heat pump water heater

Objective

- *Lower energy costs by converting solar-powered home to all-electric home*
- *Reduce the environmental impact of his home by reducing gas combustion*

Outcome

- *Water heater replacement with a value of \$7,300 done free of cost for this customer thanks to incentives*





TRI-COUNTY
REGIONAL ENERGY
NETWORK

Overview of New Programs



Agricultural Technical Assistance

- **Why:**
 - Keeps agriculture—core to the local economy—strong in the face of climate impacts
 - Curbs energy use in the emergent cannabis sector
 - Allows growers to manage costs and environmental impacts by managing energy use
 - Allows growers to navigate the web of EE programs and funding available for ag customers
- **Who:** Cannabis and socially disadvantaged growers
- **What:** Comprehensive technical assistance and assessments



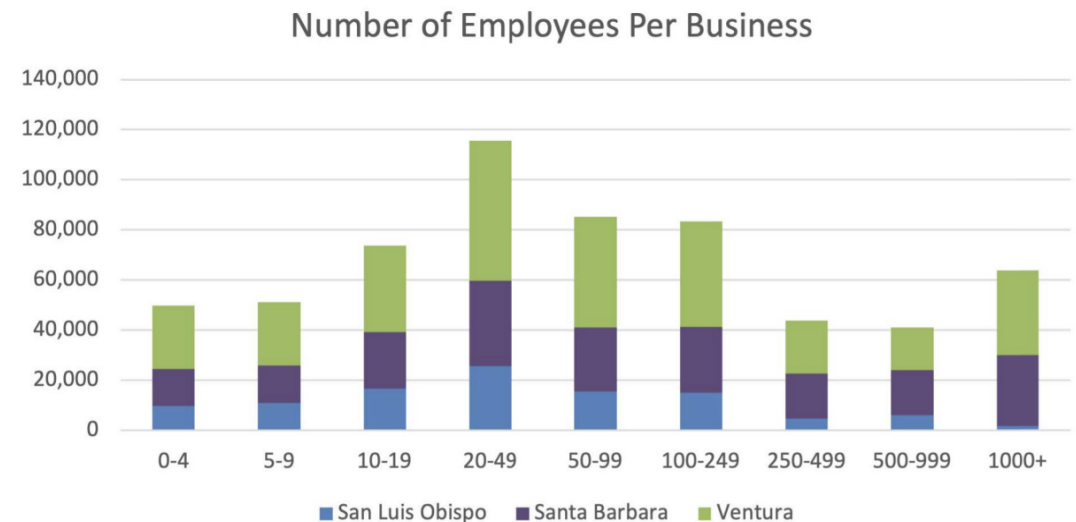
Photo Credit: Cannabis Business Times



Photo Credit: Coastal Pump, Inc.

Commercial Marketplace

- **Why:**
 - Increases energy efficiency services available to local businesses, especially small and Hard-to-Reach businesses with <10 employees (17% of businesses in the region)
 - Increases capacity for small business staff without knowledge or time to invest in energy efficiency
 - Supports competitiveness by managing energy costs and showcasing green efforts
- **Who:** Green Business Program staff, small and HTR businesses, businesses with high use and demand
- **What:** Outreach, technical assistance, program referrals, and NMEC incentives



Energy Assurance Services

- **Why:**
 - Expands existing Santa Barbara County EAS program for critical facilities across the tri-county region
 - Addresses expressed stakeholder need for technical assistance to identify energy and resiliency projects
 - Equips critical and community facilities to weather the impacts of climate change
- **Who:** Public sector and commercial facilities
- **What:** Technical assistance for comprehensive load management and resiliency projects; program referrals



Learn More

Events and Training

3c-ren.org/events

Energy Code Coach

3c-ren.org/codes
805.220.9991

Home Energy Savings

3c-ren.org/home





Thank you!

For more info:
3c-ren.org

For questions:
info@3c-ren.org



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK
SAN LUIS OBISPO • SANTA BARBARA • VENTURA



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 13

Subject: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Overview

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. None

Attachments:

1. None
-



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 14

Subject: 2023 Year in Review

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File

Attachments:

1. None
-



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 15

Subject: Program Update

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File

Attachments:

1. Program Update
-



VCREA Program Update

VCREA Initiatives Updates

Ventura County Regional Effort for Climate Action Planning (VCRECAP)

The County of Ventura received a [CPRG Program](#) award to develop and implement a regional Climate Action Plan (CAP). The CPRG Advisory Group, comprising of representatives from the cities of Moorpark, Fillmore, Port Hueneme, Ventura, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Santa Paula, and Simi Valley, the Port of Hueneme, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, Ventura County Transportation Commission, and the Central Coast Climate Justice Network, are assisting in the development of the regional CAP, which has been named the VCRECAP. To help with gathering community input on implementation measures and projects to include in the VCRECAP, an online survey was developed. The survey is available on the [CPRG webpage](#) in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) through the end of February. To receive updates on the project, sign up for the [CPRG newsletter](#).

Electrified Transportation Updates

Events

Drive Electric Earth Day (DEED)

VCREA, in partnership with EV Advocates of Ventura County, Ventura County APCD, Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition, and [Electric Drive 805](#), is investigating participating in several Earth Day events, including:

- City of Thousand Oaks Arbor Earth Day: Saturday, April 20th, 9 am – 2 pm
- MERITO Foundation Ventura Earth Day, Plaza Park: Saturday, April 20th, 10 am – 4 pm
- City of Fillmore Earth Day, Monday, April 22nd, TBD

Ventura County Regional EV Blueprint Implementation

EV Coach

Parker Abt is the Sustainability Division's new EV Coach. Parker will support implementation of the Ventura County EV Blueprint through EV education and outreach with the local businesses, community members, and organizations. Parker holds a Bachelors in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Barbara and was an intern for the Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition (C5). For questions related to the County's electrified transportation initiatives, email Parker at ev.coach@vcenergy.org.



Electrified Transportation Resources

To receive information on VCREA's in-person events and online resources, visit the [Transportation Electrification webpage](#). To receive information about active EV incentives and rebates, EV News, and EV events, please sign up to receive the Drive Clean newsletter [here](#). The next edition of the Drive Clean Newsletter will be available in early September.



Proposed Grants Awards

Reliable, Equitable, and Accessible Charging for Multifamily Housing 2.0 – (REACH 2.0) Grant

The California Energy Commission has recommended that the *Equitable Charging Access for Renters in the 805 Region (E-CAR 805) Project* receive \$3.85M in funding for deployment of EV charging infrastructure at multifamily housing (MFH) sites throughout the counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo. The E-CAR 805 initiative is partnership between VCREA, 3C-REN, University of California, Santa Barbara, Cities of Santa Barbara and Ventura, County of Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District. The initiative proposes to install 225 charging stations at 67 MFH sites throughout the tri-counties; his includes 49 charging stations at seventeen MFH sites in Ventura County. The initiative also includes funding for EV-related outreach to MFH property owners and tenants. Work on the initiative is proposed to start in May 2024.

CFI Discretionary Grant Program's Community Charging and Fueling Grant

The U.S. Department of Transportation has recommended that the *Powering Progress: Building Sustainable Mobility and Energy Resiliency in Ventura County* initiative receive \$12M in funding from the new Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant Program, created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Powering Progress initiative is administered by the County of Ventura, through VCREA, and in partnership with the cities of Thousand Oaks, Ventura, and Oxnard.



The initiative includes investments in EV charging stations and infrastructure to support a more resilient and cleaner community, including:

- East and West County EV Charging Centers paired with solar and battery storage to provide first responders and the public EV charging during grid outages and emergency events.
- Eleven off-grid EV charging combined with solar battery storage for rural communities that experience relatively frequent intermittent grid outages.
- 42 fast chargers and 148 level 2 chargers spread throughout Ventura County.

- Two e-bike charging integration pilot projects.
- Workforce development programs to train workers in the installation, maintenance, and operation of the expanding EV supply equipment network.
- EV-related engagement of historically marginalized communities, in partnership with existing CBO's, through "house meetings", workshops, community events, development of multilingual outreach materials, and coordination with community leaders.

VCREA staff will meet with U.S. Department of Transportation staff in late February to determine when work will begin on the Powering Progress Initiative.

Regional Collaboration

Energy Champion Meetings

Last year, VCREA hosted Energy Champion meetings on May 25th and November 16th. The meetings were open to VCREA Board of Directors as well as staff from our partner cities and organizations. During the meetings, each partner provided updates on their climate initiatives as well as their climate related needs. Both meetings included a robust discussion on regional grant opportunities, e.g. CPRG and CFI grants. VCREA anticipates hosting two Energy Champion meetings in 2024.

Clean Power Alliance (CPA)

CPA has provided the following update for the first two quarters of 2024:

- On March 1, the cities of Hermosa Beach, Monrovia, and Santa Paula will begin receiving 100% Green Power from CPA. This will bring the number of CPA member agencies to 35 throughout Ventura and Los Angeles counties. Combined, these three new cities will avoid more than 200M pounds of GHG emissions annually, which is equivalent to taking ~21,000 gasoline-powered cars off the road each year or planting 1.5M trees for a decade.
- In 2024, CPA has more than a dozen renewable energy projects (e.g., solar, biomass, and battery energy storage facilities) scheduled to come online. In total, these projects will provide nearly 900 MWs of renewable energy.
- CPA will [launch new programs](#), including the Energized Communities Program, which provides member agencies with electrification project implementation assistance at no cost.
- CPA will continue investing in workforce development and scholarship programs, with more than a quarter million dollars of funding for the 1) Energy Storage & Microgrid Certification program, in partnership with IBEW, and 2) Voyager Scholarship program for students pursuing careers in renewable energy.
- On February 1, the CPA Board of Directors approved a [Power Purchase Agreement](#) that will bring clean backup power to eleven public facilities throughout Los Angeles and

Ventura counties. Three locations are in Ventura County – City of Oxnard’s Service Center, Oak View Park and Resource Center, and Simi Valley Fire Station No. 41.

- [CPA’s Green Leader program](#) allows organizations on CPA’s 100% Green Power to be promoted through its various communications channels and have an opportunity to attend upcoming networking events.