



Southern California Association of Governments
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
November 3, 2022

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)

Sup. Luis Plancarte (Vice Chair)

Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach

Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland

Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale

Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead

Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill

Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley

Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills

Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods

Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates

Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach

Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach

Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley

Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena

Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills

Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio

Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake

Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo

District 8

Imperial County

District 30

ICTC

AVCJPA

SGVCOG

GCCOG

SBCTA

WSCCOG

OCCOG

SBCCOG

OCCOG

District 20

VCOG

SGVCOG

SBCTA

CVAG

District 11

OCCOG



Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park	OCCOG
Hon. John Valdivia, San Bernardino	SBCTA
Hon. Colleen Wallace, Banning	WRCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill	GCCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton	President’s Appointment

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Deborah Robertson called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley, VCOG, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Deborah Robertson opened the public comment period and provided detailed instructions on how to provide public comments. She noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG’s jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

She reminded the public to submit comments via email to EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov. She noted that public comments received via email after 5pm on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, would be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

SCAG staff noted one public comment had been received by email before the 5pm deadline on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 and had been transmitted to members.

Seeing no additional public comment, Chair Robertson closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Robertson stated there was a recommendation by staff to move Action Item No. 3 to the

Consent Calendar and asked if there was any opposition by members of the committee.

Seeing opposition, Chair Robertson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar including Action Item No. 3.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – September 1, 2022

Receive and File

2. Regional Resilience Framework

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

A MOTION was made (Wallace) to approve the Consent Calendar with the addition of Action Item No. 3. Motion was SECONDED (Allen) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Putz, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, Wallace, and Wilson (22)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

ACTION ITEMS

3. Request to Release Connect SoCal 2024 PEIR Notice of Preparation

Action Item No. 3 was moved and voted on as part of the Consent Calendar as noted above.

4. SCAG Water Action Resolution

Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning, thanked the members of the committee for an excellent discussion the previous month on the Water Action resolution. She stated they were bringing that item back to them for additional direction and had staged a conversation at the Regional Council meeting where she hoped the Regional Council would have the opportunity to consider the

resolution based off [the committees] direction. She stated [the Regional Council] would also receive presentations from water experts to provide context around the issue. She stated they had promised to update the resolution based off the feedback provided the previous month. She reported that per the staff report, the changes they had made were highlighted and fell into three areas. Jepson stated [staff] understood they wanted them to expand their approach to have an all of the above type of approach including ensuring they were recognizing the need for new supply and storage. Second, they modified the resolution to emphasize the importance of water affordability and cost-effective solutions in southern California. Third, they were trying to incorporate and expand the emphasis in the resolution on partnerships and the different partners they could be working with, to support water security including increasing opportunities for education and awareness across the SCAG region. She stated those were the changes that were reflected in the staff report. She noted that since the posting of the agenda, they had received additional input that was not reflected in the staff report from the Southern California Leadership Council and the Southern California Water Coalition. She stated the input [both organizations] had provided, strengthened the language staff had previously included particularly around the three themes she had mentioned. Ms. Jepson stated that while those comments had not been included in the posted staff recommendation, they thought it warranted [the committees] consideration and had incorporated the comments into the resolution so they could see it on screen, and she walked the members through [those comments].

After Ms. Jepson walked members through the additional input, they had received she stated they felt those additions were in support of the direction they had provided. She stated that as they were considering their direction in the next steps to staff, they felt comfortable with them moving forward with the original staff recommendation or with the recommendation that was augmented by all of the above approach that was provided through public comment.

Chair Robertson opened the Public Comment Period.

The following members of the public provided comments regarding revisions to the resolution and urged adoption of it inclusive of the redline edits:

- Marci Stange, Director of Water and Environmental Relations, Rebuild SoCal Partnership
- Richard Lambros, Southern California Leadership Council
- Carlos Rodriguez, Building Industry Association of Southern California
- Michael Lewis, Senior Vice President, Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality
- Connor Medina, Government Affairs Manager, Orange County Business Council
- Denise Kniter, LA County BizFed

Seeing no further public comment, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

Policy Committee Member Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG, stated her support to the proposed changes that had been received in public comment. She stated there was another important issue that was not addressed in the resolution which was the ability of low-income customers to pay for water. She stated she thought it was necessary for the State to step up and provide funding for low-income customers. She stated she strongly encouraged that they add to their resolution a recommendation that the State support and fund a low-income rate for such residents.

Members of the committee expressed their support for the redline amendments in the resolution and also suggested looking into alternative ways to increase water supply such as desalination while being aware of possible environmental impacts.

Policy Committee member Mahmud made the motion for approval and was seconded by Vice Chair Plancarte.

Policy Committee member Mahmud clarified for the record her motion was to not only adopt the proposed changes that were submitted in public comment but also support her recommended change that the State support a low-income program for water retail customers and also when it came to disbursement of federal funds, that the State do so through and equity lens.

A MOTION was made (Mahmud) to recommend that not only [the committee] adopt the proposed changes [to the resolution] that were submitted in public comment but also support [Mahmud's] recommended change that the State support a low-income program for water retail customers and also when it came to disbursement of federal funds, that the State do so through and equity lens. Motion was SECONDED (Plancarte) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Beltran, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Denison, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Putz, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, Wallace, and Wilson (23)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

5. Southern California Energy Outlook, Transition to Renewable Energy

Chair Robertson opened the Public Comment Period for Item 5 and 6.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner, introduced Items 5 and 6 and the speakers that would be presenting. She explained they would be presenting both items simultaneously as they held a lot of thematic relevance and would hold questions until the end of the presentations. She provided a brief overview of the items explaining that in preparation for the 2024 RTPSCS one of the things they should be aware of was how their future growth would impact the demand for energy. Similarly, the state had set multiple goals for renewable energy to reduce the GHG impacts of the system. She stated SCAG also set an ambitious vision to expedite the transition of their transportation system to a zero-emission transportation system. She stated that state and local agencies and utilities were already preparing for this, and they would have an opportunity to hear about some of their demand forecasts and opportunities to meet that demand. She stated that one of the findings they would notice was that as they transitioned to renewables, there would be an increased need for energy storage. She stated they would discuss some of the technologies available to provide this storage including electric vehicle batteries in use in the vehicle and also as way to repurpose them when they were no longer strong enough to propel a vehicle. She introduced the first speaker Yulia Shmidt, Advisor to Commissioner Rechtschaffen from the California Public Utilities Commission.

Ms. Shmidt's presentation focused on transportation electrification and integrated resource planning. She also discussed planning for new Electric Loads and addressed additional policy considerations.

Ms. Linder introduced Aleecia Gutierrez, Deputy Director of the Energy Assessments Division from the California Energy Commission (CEC).

Ms. Gutierrez presented on how her division was looking at all the resource impacts and how they were planning for the transition. She expanded on CEC being a local leader in aggressive policies to increase renewable resources and to decarbonize their energy system.

Ms. Linder introduced Zanku Armenian, Director of Public Affairs for Southern California Edison.

Mr. Armenian's presentation focused on regional energy plans and how his department and team worked with all local governments and SCAG on a variety of local issues including how to transition to a clean energy future.

Mike Todd, Principal Development Engineer and Facilities and Safety Coordinator, CERT, UC Riverside, presented information about technologies for energy storage. Mr. Todd talked about the Sustainable Integrated Grid Initiative (SIGI).

6. Lithium-Ion Battery Reuse, Recycling and Safe Disposal - Findings from the CA Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling Advisory Group

Ms. Linder announced that there would not be a presentation by outside speaker Dr. Alissa Kendall, with the UC Davis Civil & Environmental Engineering department, but provided brief context regarding Item No. 6. She stated SCAG had a principle in their legislative agenda that supported taking a life-cycle approach to the development and deployment of zero emission and alternative fuels vehicles and their supported infrastructure. She stated this principle specifically stated that for electric vehicles, SCAG would support policies that ensure proper battery reuse, recycling and disposal were in place. She stated there was a committee at the state level that looked at this issue and the findings and key issues identified by the committee were detailed in the staff report and attached presentation.

Members of the committee provided comments around getting cars off fossil fuel, expressed their support for clean energy, as well as considerations to invest into hydrogen and how to become resilient to fueling EVs in the event of a catastrophic event.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Robertson asked members to respond to the survey on meetings. She reported staff anticipated that the November EAC meeting would include a discussion of increasing in-person participation by PC and RC members and re-opening these meetings to in-person public participation, starting with the January RC and PC meetings. She also encouraged everyone to join U.S. Conference of Mayors, taking place October 13-14 in Ontario, CA.

STAFF REPORT

Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, announced that on December 1, SCAG would be hosting the 13th annual Southern California Economic Summit at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. She reported early bird registration was \$125 per person until October 28 and that elected officials and city managers could attend for free. Lastly, she shared the theme of this year's summit was "Resourcing the Region."

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Robertson adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:47 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2022-23

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, District 30	1	1		1	1								4
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	0	0		0	1								1
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, AVCJPA	1	1		0	1								3
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, SGVCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Davila, Maria	South Gate, GCCOG	0	0	D	0									0
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	0		0									1
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, SCBTA	1	0		0	1								2
Gold, Julian	Beverly Hills, WSCCOG	1	1		0	1								3
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1	A	1	1								4
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, District 20	1	1		1	1								4
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	0	1		1	1								3
Mahmud, Diana	So. Pasadena, SGVCOG	1	1	R	1	1								4
Moran, Cynthia	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	0		1	1								3
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, CVAG	0	0		0	1								1
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1		1	1								4
Putz, Randall	Big Bear Lake, District 11	1	0		1	1								3
Raths, Greg	Mission Viejo, OCCOG	0	1		1	1								3
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	1	1		1	1								4
Rollins, Richard	Port Hueneme, VCOG	0	1		1	1								3
Springer, Sharon	Burbank, SFVCOG	1	1		0	1								3
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Valdivia, John	San Bernardino, SBCCOG	1	1		1									3
Wallace, Colleen	Banning, WRCOG	1	1		1	1								4
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	0	0		0	1								

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2022-23 (Minutes of the Meeting - October 6, 2022)