

**Work Group:** Energy

**Consultant:** Paul Johnson  
**Organization:** Paul Everett Johnson and Associates, California State University, Fresno  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 (January – March)  
**Phone:** 206.819.6664  
**Email:** pkjohnson49@comcast.net

**Consultant:** Tim Fisher  
**Organization:** Great Valley Center  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2008  
**Phone:** 209.522.5103  
**Email:** tim@greatvalley.org

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

#### **Overview**

The priorities of the Energy Work Group (EWG) are:

- Conduct marketing and outreach to increase the depth and breadth of stakeholder awareness and involvement in the EWG and its activities;
- Support efforts to successfully establish San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) as the principal vehicle and focal point through which the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) will implement the energy provisions of its Strategic Action Proposal; and,
- Continued work to implement EWG recommendations not directly related to the creation of SJVCEO.

Specific accomplishment during the quarter includes:

- Continued progress under the seed grant to develop SJVCEO and begin its startup operation. See Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) seed grant report. (Objective IA)
- SJVCEO board meeting, February 7, 2008, to report on progress toward implementing strategic initiatives for the organization designed to “green” the Valley’s communities, increase production and use of fuels from renewable energy sources, increase production of electricity from renewable sources, and develop a regional clean energy plan. (Objective IA,B)
- Began the process to develop a clean energy project in Arvin – an underserved, air quality challenged community. (Objective 2B)
- SJVCEO board chair made a presentation at the national conference of the 25x’25 Initiative to report on renewable projects in place and under way in the region and regional potential for additional renewable energy development. These preliminary results show that the region has the potential to far exceed its goal of producing 25% of its energy from renewable energy sources by the year 2025. (Objective 3A)
- SJVCEO continued to implement its development strategy. It received notice that Valley Clean Air Now had approved funding for a clean energy project through the SJVCEO in Arvin and that PG&E was expected to approve funding for a project through SJVCEO focusing on West Side communities. In addition, SJVCEO was included as a partner in a successful proposal submitted by Visalia to Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas to establish a local government partnership. To cover unrestricted costs for SJVCEO, a sponsorship strategy will be developed for presentation to the SJVCEO board at its April 3 meeting. (Objective IA)
- March 27 – SJVCEO representatives met with city representatives from Kern County at a councils of government (COGs) meeting in Bakersfield to explore city interests in partnering with SJVCEO to support their clean energy interests. With the assistance of the COGs, SJVCEO plans to hold in the near future similar meetings in the Valley’s remaining seven counties. (Objective 2B)
- SJVCEO has developed a beta version of its Web site, expected to go live April 2008. (Objective IA)
- SJVCEO began tracking energy-related legislation of interest to the Valley in the California legislature. SJVCEO Interim Executive Director had numerous discussions with the Department of Energy and state and local representatives about opportunities for the Valley through the new developing block grant program to fund cities and counties to develop clean energy projects. Funding for this program will be available by 2009 if it is appropriated by the Congress this year. (Objective IA)
- EWG and SJVCEO initiated the planning process to hold in fall 2008 a clean energy conference focused on the agricultural sector. (Objective 3A,B,C, D,E)
- Several personnel changes were made to the SJVCEO board during the quarter in response to job changes of several board members. Tim Fisher, Great Valley Center (GVC), was added to the board after the Primafuels representative was transferred to the East Coast. (Objective IA)
- GVC and SJVCEO representatives met on February 27 at GVC to identify opportunities and strategies to work together to achieve mutual energy-related interests.

- Continued work on EWG recommendations not directly related to the creation of SJVCEO. This includes:
  - EWG met in Fresno on January 11 to attend a seminar on Green Building for multifamily residences in the Valley. (Objective 2D)
  - EWG (through GVC) is working with PG&E, local Building Industry officials & Build-It-Green to develop a Valleywide green building ordinance for new residential construction. (Objective 2 D)
  - February 7 – Tim Fisher attended the Water Policy Advisory Committee for the Partnership. (Goal 4)
  - February 29 – GVC staff made a presentation to PG&E Sales 7 Service Reps re: the need for energy leadership in the San Joaquin Valley.
  - March 10 – Tim Fisher submitted an abstract proposal to California Public Utilities Commission to achieve additional funding for projects including the work of SJVCEO. (Objective 1A)
  - March 13 – EWG staff attended the Green Facilities Expo in Modesto. (Objective 2 D)
  - GVC continued its efforts to: develop Web links informing the public about clean vehicles (Objective 2A); document Energy Star residences in the region (Objective 2C); inventory model green building ordinances (Objective 2D); and begin development of energy policy primer for local governments (Objective 5C).

**Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

Over the next quarter EWG expects to:

- Continue efforts to market and expand the membership of the EWG.
- Provide updated information for the EWG Web site and “go live” with the SJVCEO Web site.
- Hold at least one EWG meeting.
- Continue progress on EWG objectives initiated; date and firm up priorities for tackling all EWG objectives.

Specific planned activities include:

- Continue development of SJVCEO (Objective 1A). During the next quarter, expect to continue support to SJVCEO. SJVCEO focus over the next quarter will be to:
  - Complete the Web site
  - Continue strategic planning and development activities
  - Continue efforts to develop work plan to create a Regional Energy Plan (Objective 1B) in conjunction with efforts to carry out the 25x’25 Initiative in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Continue development of ‘Energy Primer’ for local government officials (Objective 2D).
- Begin work on a Draft ‘Green Ordinance’ for Visalia. (Objective 2C & 2D).
- Begin support to at least one community in the north Valley (likely Stockton).(Objective 2 B)
- Begin audits of public buildings and Ag processors in the San Joaquin Valley for energy efficiency (Objective 5C).

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

- EWG worked closely with the team establishing SJVCEO through the seed grant to Kings River Conservation District from the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.
- SJVCEO held a meeting with Kern County cities to talk about both SJVCEO and San Joaquin Valley Housing Trust. We expect to continue these coordinated outreach efforts in other counties over the next few months.
- EWG (through GVC) coordinated with PG&E on energy efficiency training offered in Stockton.

**The following attachments can be requested via email to Kelli Furtado, [kfurtado@csufresno.edu](mailto:kfurtado@csufresno.edu):**

- SJVCEO Feb. 7, 2008 Meeting Minutes