

Dates of Activity: April 2008 through June 2008  
**Seed Grant:** Growing Clean Energy Capacity in the San Joaquin Valley  
**Grantee Organization:** Kings River Conservation District/San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization  
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**Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership**

The purpose of this grant is to formally establish and begin operation of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO). On September 13, 2007, the SJVCEO Board of Directors held its first meeting and the organization formally began operation. The SJVCEO will be the principal vehicle and focal point through which the California Partnership for the San Joaquin (Partnership) will implement the energy provisions of its Strategic Action Plan (SAP). Specific accomplishment during the quarter included:

Accomplishment	Seed Grant Task	Energy Work Group Goal/Objective
<p><b>Board Support.</b> Held Meetings of the SJVCEO Board of Directors on April 3 and June 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the April meeting, board work groups reported on plans to develop and support projects in the areas of: 1) waste-to-energy and biofuels; 2) making San Joaquin Valley communities more sustainable; and 3) increasing electric power production from renewable sources. Paul Clanon, executive director of the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), attended the meeting, praised the progress made by the organization, and offered advice and recommendations to the board on ways the SJVCEO could best position itself to help the Valley become the major renewable power source for the entire state. The board also reviewed and shaped a draft strategy prepared by staff to seek financial sponsorships from businesses and others to cover the unrestricted funding need of the organization. (See Attachments list: #1 Meeting Agenda; #2 Meeting Minutes).</li> <li>At the June 5 meeting, the board toured a digester at the Joseph Gallo Farms that converts dairy waste into power for the dairy's cheese-making operation. At a business meeting, the board approved a final sponsorship strategy for the organization. The bulk of the day was spent in an operational planning meeting to identify the priority activities to be undertaken by the SJVCEO in its second year of operation beginning July 1, 2008. (See Attachments list: #3, #4, #5 for Business and Planning Meeting Agenda and Minutes.)</li> <li>During this period, SJVCEO also began planning for the next board meeting which will be held on July 16).</li> </ul>	#1 #2	#IAB  #5B
<p><b>Development.</b> Continued implementation of the Development Strategy for the SJVCEO. Interviewed and selected a part-time development coordinator to secure sustainable funding for the SJVCEO. Specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SJVCEO was invited to submit a grant proposal through Sempra Utilities Charitable Contributions Office.</li> <li>Proposal submitted by Visalia (with SJVCEO as a partner) to Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas to establish a local government partnership was selected for award. It is expected this work will begin in about January 2009.</li> <li>Held discussions with Partnership staff to develop a joint proposal to the Packard Foundation.</li> <li>As noted previously, SJVCEO staff developed and the board approved in June a financial sponsorship strategy for the organization.</li> </ul>	#2	#1A
<p><b>Administration and Program Support.</b> Continued development of administrative systems and support functions for the SJVCEO. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted paperwork to the IRS to formally recognize the SJVCEO as a nonprofit organization.</li> <li>Went "live" with the SJVCEO Web site and continued to add content to the site including</li> </ul>	#1, #2	#1A

<p>best practice information, key energy-related news and events, and sources of funding and support for clean energy projects in the Valley.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed accounting procedures for the SJVCEO. This allowed the organization the ability to send a request to the Partnership to request this seed grant be transferred from Kings River Conservation District (as fiscal agent) to the SJVCEO (See Attachments list: #6 Letter Requesting Transfer of the Seed Grant)</li> <li>Developed a final conflict of interest policy for the organization.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Support to Communities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SJVCEO staff in June met with DOE staff in Washington, D.C., to brief them on SJVCEO and the role of the organization with communities in the Valley and the role that it could play providing technical support to help communities identify how best to use future energy block grant funding.</li> <li>Continued technical support and assistance to the City of <b>Visalia</b> through our MOU with the City of Visalia. Staff worked with the City to develop a scope of work to be done through SJVCEO and SEI. The contract for this work is expected to be awarded to SJVCEO/SEI in third quarter 2008. SEI staff prepared and participated as a speaker at the Green California Summit and Exposition in Sacramento on April 7. The presentation, "Greening Your Community Towards Comprehensive Municipal Planning," included discussions about the objectives, history, and current activities being undertaken by SJVCEO and the City of Visalia's development toward conducting a GHG emissions inventory.</li> <li>Convened in June a meeting in the City of <b>Arvin</b> and secured utility support to partner with SJVCEO in Greening Arvin project to be funded by Valley Clean Air Now (Valley CAN). The initial focus of this project will be to design clean energy demonstration projects for businesses on Main Street in the City. (See Attachments list: #7 Arwin Work Plan). To showcase the results of these pilots, SEI researched labor and cost estimates for: 1) developing a case study on these projects; 2) developing a consumer tri-fold that we would make available at each of the two businesses; 3) a one-page communications piece directed to Arvin municipal and community leaders to encourage more projects; and 4) designing and constructing display boards for each of the two projects that visually detail the sustainable energy (EE and solar) elements to each project.</li> <li>SJVCEO/SEI staff met several times with Christine Tien, deputy city manager for the City of <b>Stockton</b>, to explore potential avenues that SJVCEO can help support the City move forward with potential "green" and clean energy initiatives. The following areas of assistance were identified: 1) Case Studies; 2) technical support and advice on developing a greenhouse gas inventory; 3) analysis of its proposed building wind projects, comparing the costs and benefits of rooftop PV with rooftop wind.; and 4) helping develop a green business certification program; and helping develop a green building resource center in the City. Additionally, SEI staff and Paul Johnson met with Frank Ferral, Stockton Chamber of Commerce (COC) programs and public policy director, to discuss potential partnership areas between COC, SEI and SJVCEO. Also during June, SEI staff met with County of Marin staff members, who work on the County's Green Business Certification Program, to gain some valuable feedback to pass onto the City of Stockton staff to assist them in the initiation of a potential Green Business Certification Program. Information included specific details of the County of Marin's certification program (i.e., how it was modeled, duration of certification, current status of the program, etc.) and details of similar programs outside of Marin.</li> <li>In May, SJVCEO staff provided technical assistance to identify green elements that should be included in plans to develop the South East Growth Area projected to be incorporated into the City of <b>Fresno</b>. This effort is lead by Calthorpe and the City of Fresno Planning Department. The objective is to inject sustainable policies and green building standards into this growth plan; they have requested that SJVCEO/SEI review draft documents from the perspective of energy sustainability and green building. Staff developed comments on Calthorpe documents, including some ideas for strengthening their plans, both in terms of specific additions and general areas of support which the SJVCEO could offer.</li> <li>SJVCEO Staff in May met with the city manager, public works director, and others in the city of <b>Taft</b> to explore how SJVCEO could help the City best utilize clean energy</li> </ul>	<p>#1 #3</p>	<p># 2ADE</p> <p>#5D</p> <p>#5B</p> <p>#2ABCD</p>

resources to help the City best address the significant growth it expects to experience during the next 10-12 years. SJVCEO expects to develop an MOU with the City defining the areas of assistance it will provide.		#3ABC
<b>Develop Baseline for Regional Energy Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As previously noted, our SJVCEO board chair made a presentation on the baseline and potential for renewable energy potential in the Valley to the board and PUC at the April board meeting. This presentation was refined after board and PUC comments. The conclusion was that Valley-based renewables could meet a significant portion of the future power needs of California.</li> </ul>	#1 #3	#1AB # 3A
<b>Support for Renewable Energy Development in the Ag Sector</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On May 7, SJVCEO and SEI staff participated in the Great valley Center's annual conference, conducting the SJVCEO-sponsored "Sowing the Seeds of Change" panel session on clean energy issues and opportunities for the Valley's agriculture sector. 20 conference participants attended.</li> <li>SEI staff convened the second steering committee meeting for the SJVCEO's planned fall 2008 <b>Farming Clean Energy</b> Conference. Discussed during the meeting were conference topics/sessions, potential speakers/presenters, and target sectors. Staff also researched the cost of printed conference collateral and signage. The SEI planning team has been moving forward with planning/negotiations on the price quotes with Southern California Edison's Agricultural Technology Application Center in Tulare, Calif.</li> </ul>	#2 and #3	#1AB #2ABCDE #3ABCDE #4ABC #5ABCD

**Planned Activities for next 3-6 months**

SJVCEO will continue to undertake a number of startup activities. These include:

- Meet with SJVCEO Board in person every two months and electronically on an ongoing basis to discuss strategy for the organization;
- Aggressively seek financial sponsorships to cover unrestricted funding needs of organization funding consistent with business plan and fundraising strategy;
- Continue baseline development for a regional clean energy plan;
- Continue partnership with Visalia and Arvin, Fresno, Taft, Stockton, and develop partnering relationship with Stockton and additional cities;
- Continue to add content to the Web site and develop database on resources and best practices;
- Provide information and outreach on the new Federal Energy Block grant program; develop support among Valley cities to rely on SJVCEO as the "go to" organization for credible technical assistance to identify projects that can support through this new block grant program.
- Continue planning for November SJVCEO Ag Conference

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

The biggest challenge over the next few months remains to secure additional funding (particularly unrestricted funding) for SJVCEO to supplement seed grant funding from the state and ensure the financial sustainability of the organization. We hope that our new financial sponsorship program will help accomplish this.

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

Yes. We are working with another seed grant recipient to coordinate our work with Arvin. We will continue and expand this effort during the next quarter of the grant.

**The following attachments may be downloaded from the [Energy Work Group Document Library](#) located on the Partnership Web site:**

1. Agenda - April 2008 SJVCEO Board Meeting
2. Minutes - April 2008 SJVCEO Board Meeting
3. Agenda - June 2008 SJVCEO Board Business and Planning Meeting
4. Minutes - June 2008 SJVCEO Board Business Meeting
5. Minutes -June 2008 SJVCEO Board Planning Meeting
6. Letter Requesting Transfer of the Seed Grant
7. Arvin Work Plan