

Work Group: Energy

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Description of Activity by Goal and Objective

Priorities of the Energy Work Group (EWG):

- Conduct marketing and outreach to increase the depth and breadth of stakeholder awareness and involvement and awareness and involvement in EWG and its activities;
- Support efforts to successfully establish the 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,
- Continue work to implement EWG recommendations not directly related to the creation of the SJVCEO.

*Specific accomplishments during the quarter include the following (relevant EWG objectives are noted in **bold italics**):*

- Continued progress under the seed grant to develop the SJVCEO and begin its startup operation. See KRCD seed grant report. (**IA**)
- Held SJVCEO Board meeting on April 3, 2008, with the executive director of the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to discuss progress toward implementing strategic initiatives for the organization designed to 1) “green” Valley communities; 2) increase production and use of fuels from renewable energy sources; 4) increase production of electricity from renewable sources, and 4) develop a regional clean energy plan. (See attachment list: #1) We held a second board meeting on June 5 which included a planning session to identify key implementation priorities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008. One key result of this session was to set a priority of clean energy workforce development for the SJVCEO. (See attachment list: #2, #3) (**IA,B**)
- SJVCEO continued to implement its development strategy. Interviewed and selected a part-time development coordinator to secure sustainable funding for SJVCEO. Specific activities included:
 - SJVCEO was invited to submit a grant proposal through Sempra Utilities Charitable Contributions Office;
 - 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 about January 2009.
 - Held discussions with Partnership staff to develop a joint proposal to the Packard Foundation.
 - Great Valley Center (GVC) submitted a Portfolio Implementation Plan Outline to PUC via PG&E to achieve additional funding for projects including the work of the SJVCEO. (**IA**)
- Submitted paperwork to the IRS to formally recognize SJVCEO as a nonprofit organization. (**IA**)
- Went “live” with the SJVCEO Web site and continued to add content to the site including best practices information, key energy-related news and events, and sources of funding and support for clean energy projects in the Valley. (**IA**)
- SJVCEO continued to monitor and support as needed energy-related legislation of interest to the Valley in the California legislature. (**1A-5E**)
- SJVCEO interim executive director had numerous discussions with the Department of Energy (DOE) 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 Congress this year. Interim executive SJVCEO staff met with DOE staff in Washington, D.C., in June to brief them on SJVCEO and its role with communities in the Valley and its possible role providing technical support to help communities identify the best uses to make of future energy block grant funding. (**2A,D,E**)
- Continued to provide technical support and assistance to Visalia through MOU with the city. 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. (**2A,5D**)
- Convened a meeting in Arvin in June and secured utility support to partner with SJVCEO in the Greening Arvin project to be funded by Valley CAN. The initial focus of the project will be to design clean energy demonstration projects for businesses on Arvin’s Main Street. (**5B**)
- SJVCEO staff met several times with Stockton Deputy City Manager Christine Tien 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 their proposed building wind projects, comparing the costs and benefits of rooftop PV with rooftop wind; and 4) help with developing a green business certification program; and developing a green building resource center in the City. Additionally, staff met with the Stockton Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) programs and public policy director Frank Ferral to discuss potential partnership areas between the Chamber, SEI and SJVCEO.

(2A,B,C,D)

- In May, SJVCEO staff provided technical assistance to identify green elements that should be included in plans to develop the South East Growth Area project to be incorporated into the City of Fresno. This effort is lead by Calthorpe and the Fresno Planning Department. The objective is to inject sustainable policies and green building standards into this growth plan; they have requested SJVCEO to review their draft documents from an energy sustainability and green building perspective. 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 SJVCEO could offer. **(3A,B,C)**
- SJVCEO staff met in May with City of Taft personnel including the City Manager and Public Works Directors to explore how SJVCEO could help the City best utilize clean energy resources to efficiently 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. **(2A-3D)**
- EWG and SJVCEO continue to firm up plans to host a clean energy conference this fall which is focused on the agricultural sector. One-and-a-half-day conference will be held in Tulare in early November. **(3A,B,C, D,E)**
- On May 7, SJVCEO staff was part of GVC's annual conference and conducted the SJVCEO-sponsored Sowing the Seeds of Change panel on clean energy issues and opportunities for the Valley's Agriculture Sector. 20 conference participants attended the SJVCEO panel session. **(3A, B, C, D, E)**
- Continued work on EWG recommendations not directly related to the creation of SJVCEO. This includes:
 - EWG staff attended the Partnership K-12 Education conveners meeting in Lemoore to encourage green jobs training and the California Green Expo in Sacramento. **(5B)**
 - EWG staff met with City of Los Baños management to discuss climate change actions in Los Baños. **(2A)**
 - EWG staff met with Keith Griffiths of the Stanislaus County Workforce Development Alliance employment team to discuss job training potentials for green jobs in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. **(5B)**
 - EWG staff met with PG&E staff to discuss energy savings potentials in the Ag sector of the San Joaquin Valley. **(2B)**
 - EWG staff participated in planning and conduct of GVC's Annual Conference "Green Momentum." **(1A -5D)**
 - EWG staff attended the Merced Forum on Green Jobs. **(5B)**
 - EWG staff provided information at the Stockton Certified Farmers Market – Energy Market **(3A)**.
 - Tim Fisher made a presentation to the Sacramento Professional Marketing Society about GVC issues and the Partnership.
 - EWG staff met with USDA/Davis to discuss 2008 Farm Bill- Energy kick-off meeting on how California can make better use of the Farm Bill 9006/REAP funding to support the state's energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and AB 32 goals. **(3A)**
 - EWG staff met with Water Group Advisory Committee to discuss recommendations from group to Partnership Board on actions for water supply and distribution. Advocated to adopt **all** technical committee recommended actions against discussion to delete "dredging Middle River and other major channels" from resolution for economic concerns.
- GVC continued its efforts to: develop Web links about clean vehicles **(2A)**; document Energy Star residences in the region **(2C)**; inventory model green building ordinances **(2D)**; and begin development of energy policy primer for local governments **(5C)**.

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

Over the next quarter we expect to:

- Continue efforts to market and expand membership of the work group.
- Hold at least one work group meeting.
- Continue progress on work group objectives initiated date and firm up priorities for tackling all work group objectives.

Specific planned activities include:

- Continue set development of SJVCEO. **(1A)** During the next quarter, we expect to continue support to SJVCEO. Focus of SJVCEO over the next quarter will be to:
 - Add content to SJVCEO Web site
 - Continue efforts to develop work plan to create a Regional Energy Plan. **(1B)** We plan to do this in conjunction with our efforts to carry out the 25x'25 Initiative in the San Joaquin Valley.

- Continue development of “energy primer” for local government officials. **(2D)**
- Expand efforts to green communities throughout the Valley and market opportunities for SJVCEO assistance through the energy block grant program. **(2B)**
- Continue survey of public buildings and Ag processors in San Joaquin Valley for energy efficiency through GVC/PG&E. **(5C)**

Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

Our greatest challenge is not in finding opportunities or support, but rather sustainable funding.

If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.

1. SJVCEO held a meeting with Kern County cities to talk about both San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization and San Joaquin Valley Housing Trust. We expect to continue these coordinated outreach efforts in other counties over the next few months.
2. EWG coordinated with PG&E on energy efficiency training offered in Stockton.
3. We expect to coordinate future outreach with other work groups to 1) prepare a proposal for ongoing support from Packard Foundation; and 2) continue efforts to support Fresno and green development of its South East Growth Area.

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

1. SJVCEO 04.03.2008 Meeting Minutes
2. SJVCEO 06.05.2008 Board Minutes
3. SJVCEO 06.05.2008 Planning Notes