

WMA Board & Energy Council

Bob Carling, **WMA President**
City of Livermore, WMA, EC

Francisco Zermeño, **WMA 1st Vice President**
City of Hayward, WMA, EC

Tracy Jensen, **WMA 2nd Vice President**
City of Alameda, WMA, EC

David Haubert, **EC President**
County of Alameda, WMA, EC

Michael Hannon, **EC 1st Vice President**
City of Newark, WMA, EC

David Mourra, **EC 2nd Vice President**
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Jennifer Hansen-Romero, City of Albany, WMA, EC

Susan Wengraf, City of Berkeley, WMA, EC

Dave Sadoff, Castro Valley Sanitary District, WMA

Melissa Hernandez, City of Dublin, WMA, EC

Yang Shao, City of Fremont, WMA, EC

Dan Kalb, City of Oakland, WMA, EC

Shelia Young, Oro Loma Sanitary District, WMA

Jen Cavanaugh, City of Piedmont, WMA, EC

Jack Balch, City of Pleasanton, WMA, EC

Fred Simon, City of San Leandro, WMA, EC

Jeff Wang, City of Union City, WMA, EC

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director

AGENDA

**MEETING OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
(WMA) BOARD**

**AND
THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)**

**Wednesday, December 20, 2023
3:00 P.M.**

***IN-PERSON MEETING LOCATION*
STOPWASTE BOARD ROOM
1537 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND, CA**

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person attendance and Teleconference participation:

- Teleconference location #1: 3300 Capitol Ave. Building A, Fremont, CA
- Teleconference location #2: 118 Glashaus Loop, Emeryville, CA
- Teleconference location #3: Scott Haggerty Heritage House, 4501 Pleasanton Ave, Pleasanton, CA
- Teleconference location #4: 1404 LeRoy Ave., Berkeley, CA
- Teleconference location #5: 2355 SW Cedar #10, Portland, Oregon
- Teleconference location #6: Heron Bay Regatta Park, 2296 Regatta Way, San Leandro, CA
- Teleconference location #7: 30065 Skylark Ct, Hayward, CA

Members of the public may attend in person at the Board Room or the addresses listed above or by:

1. Calling US+1 669 900 6833 and using the Webinar ID 848 2003 4719
2. Using the [Zoom](#) website or App and entering meeting code 848 2003 4719

During the meeting the chair will explain the process for members of the public to be recognized to offer public comment. The process will be described on the StopWaste website at <http://www.stopwaste.org/virtual-meetings> no later than noon, Wednesday, December 20, 2023. The public may also comment by sending an e-mail to publiccomment@stopwaste.org. Written public comment will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. Copies of all written comments submitted by the deadline above will be provided to each Board Member and will be added to the official record. Comments will not be read into the record.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting due to a disability, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (510) 891-6517. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the agency to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS - *(Members are asked to please advise the board or the council if you might need to leave before action items are completed.)*

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

An opportunity is provided for any member of the public wishing to speak on any matter within the jurisdiction of the board or council, but not listed on the agenda. Total time limit of 30 minutes with each speaker limited to three minutes unless a shorter period of time is set by the President.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR - The Consent Calendar contains routine items of business. Items in this section will be acted on in one motion for both the WMA and EC, unless removed by a member of either Board. Members of the WMA who are not members of the EC will vote as part of the Consent Calendar vote, but their votes will not be considered in connection with any EC items. Any member of the public may speak on an item on the Consent Calendar at this time. Public Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes.

Page

1 1. Approval of the Draft Joint WMA, EC and PC&RB Minutes of November 15, 2023

5 2. Request to Adopt Juneteenth as a Paid Agency Holiday

That the WMA Board approve adding Juneteenth as a paid Agency holiday.

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

7 1. Efforts to make changes to SB 1383 procurement requirements (Kelly Schoonmaker & Jennifer West)

Direct staff to continue to work with state and local stakeholders to pursue possible changes to the SB 1383 procurement requirements, including Agency sponsorship of legislation designed to increase local government flexibility in meeting the requirements, reduce local government costs, and continue advancing the methane-reduction goals in SB 1383.

9 2. 2024 Meeting Schedule (Timothy Burroughs)

That the Waste Management Authority Board (WMA) and the Energy Council (EC) approve the 2024 meeting schedule.

3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Arliss Dunn)

(Meeting of the Planning Committee and Recycling Board on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA)

11 4. Electricity Rates and StopWaste Role in Energy Supply Issues (Heather Larson & Karen Kho)

That the Energy Council discuss the role of StopWaste in energy supply advocacy and provide direction to staff.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – TO WMA & EC MEETING ON JANUARY 24, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD (WMA),
ENERGY COUNCIL (EC),
AND
SOURCE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING BOARD**

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

3:00 P.M.

***IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:*
STOPWASTE BOARD ROOM
1537 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND, CA**

I. CALL TO ORDER

WMA President Carling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Timothy Burroughs explained the process that would be utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings- Instructions.](#)

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

WMA, EC & RB

City of Alameda	Tracy Jensen, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Jennifer Hansen-Romero, WMA, EC
City of Berkeley	Susan Wengraf, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Emeryville	David Mourra, WMA, EC
City of Fremont	Yang Shao, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeño, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Bob Carling, WMA, EC (WMA President)
City of Newark	Mike Hannon, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young, WMA
City of Piedmont	Jen Cavanaugh, WMA, EC
City of Pleasanton	Jack Balch, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Fred Simon, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Scott Sakakihara, WMA, EC (alternate)
Environmental Educator	Eric Havel, RB
Environmental Organization	Darby Hoover, RB
Recycling Materials Processing Industry	Laura McKaughan, RB, (RB President)
Recycling Programs	Chiman Lee, RB
Solid Waste Industry Representative	Talia Wise, RB
Source Reduction Specialist	Grace Liao, RB

Absent

County of Alameda	David Haubert, WMA, EC, (EC President)
City of Dublin	Melissa Hernandez, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Jeff Wang, RB (absent from RB)

Staff Participating

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Rachel Balsley, Senior Program Manager
Cassie Bartholomew, Senior Program Manager

Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Michelle Fay, Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Adrienne Ramirez, Assistant Clerk of the Board
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel
Farand Kan, Deputy County Counsel

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Arthur Boone provided public comments.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Approval of the Draft WMA & EC Minutes of October 25, 2023 (WMA/EC only)**
2. **Approval of the Draft PC & RB Minutes of October 12, 2023 (RB only)**
3. **Recycling Board Attendance Record (RB only)**
4. **Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (RB only)**

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Balch moved for approval of the Consent Calendar for the WMA and EC and Board member Young seconded. Board member Kalb moved for approval of the Consent Calendar for the PC & RB and Board member Jensen seconded. The Clerk called the roll:

WMA Vote: 15-0-1 EC Vote: 15-0-1

(Ayes: Balch, Carling, Cavanaugh, Hannon, Jensen, Kalb, Mourra, Sadoff, Shao, Simon, Wengraf, Young, Zermeno. Nays: None. Abstained: Sakakihara. Absent: Hansen-Romero, Haubert, Hernandez)

PC&RB Vote: 9-0

(Ayes: Havel, Hoover, Jensen, Kalb, Lee, McKaughan, Mourra, Simon, Wise. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Liao, Wang)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. **SB 1383/ORRO Implementation Update (Rachel Balsley, Cassie Bartholomew & Kelly Schoonmaker)**

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item concerning State law SB 1383 and the Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance (ORRO) that took effect on January 1, 2022, to reduce the amount of food and other compostable materials sent to landfill. Rachel Balsley, Cassie Bartholomew & Kelly Schoonmaker presented an overview of how StopWaste is supporting member agencies with various implementation activities including compliance monitoring/enforcement, reporting to CalRecycle, outreach and education, edible food recovery, recycled organics product procurement, and more. A link to the staff report and the PowerPoint presentation is available here: [SB1383/ORRO-Update-Memo.pdf](#). Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [SB1383/ORRO-Update-Discussion](#).

There were no public comments for this item. President Carling thanked the Board for a very informative presentation and discussion.

2. **Compostable Plastics Conundrum (Alma Freeman & Kelly Schoonmaker)**

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Alma Freeman and Kelly Schoonmaker provided an overview of the environmental and health concerns with compostable plastics and shared research and updates on existing regulations and policy underway that have implications for the acceptability, distribution, processing, and messaging of compostable plastics in California. A link to the staff report and the PowerPoint presentation is available here: [Compostable-Plastics-Update-Memo.pdf](#). Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [Compostable-Plastics-Update-Discussion](#).

Arthur Boone provided public comments. President Carling thanked staff for a very informative discussion for such a complex topic.

3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Arliss Dunn) (WMA only)

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting on December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA)

There was no action required for this item.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Burroughs announced that the monthly topic brief focuses on compostable plastics and highlights the challenges and solutions discussed today. A link to the topic brief is available [here](#), and staff will forward a copy to the Board.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

WMA & EC MEETING, DECEMBER 20, 2023 AT 3:00 P.M.

PC & RB MEETING, DECEMBER 14, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

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DATE: December 20, 2023

TO: Waste Management Authority Board

FROM: Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director

SUBJECT: Request to Adopt Juneteenth as a Paid Agency Holiday

SUMMARY

On December 14, 2023, staff requested that the Programs and Administration (P&A) Committee recommend that the WMA Board approve Juneteenth as a paid holiday. The P&A Committee approved forwarding this request to the Board for adoption.

DISCUSSION

Given the Agency's ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) principles, staff requests adding Juneteenth as a paid holiday to commemorate the abolishment of slavery in the United States, while also acknowledging the need to continue combating all forms of discrimination. Additionally, Juneteenth is both a federal and state holiday and several member agencies have also adopted the holiday. The number of Agency holidays is also comparable to our member agencies. The report submitted to the P&A Committee can be found here: [Juneteenth-memo.pdf](#)

The P&A Committee requested additional information regarding costs associated with this request.

Staff estimates the cost of a given holiday/vacation day by calculating the "productivity cost," meaning the cost an entity incurs for paid days off. Based on total salary and those benefits impacted by salary (e.g. retirement), the estimated productivity cost per Agency holiday is approximately \$27,000 per year.

In addition to considering estimated productivity costs, the Agency also considers objectives related to attracting and retaining excellent employees and remaining competitive in the workforce, and alignment with our values, including equity and inclusion.

Committee Action

By a vote of 8-2, the P&A Committee recommended that the WMA Board approve adding Juneteenth as a paid Agency holiday.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WMA Board approve adding Juneteenth as a paid Agency holiday.

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DATE: December 20, 2023

TO: Waste Management Authority Board

FROM: Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager
Jennifer West, Program Manager

SUBJECT: Efforts to make changes to SB 1383 procurement requirements

SUMMARY

SB 1383 (California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy) requires each city and county to annually procure a specified quantity of recovered organic waste products, such as compost and/or mulch. The intention of the procurement requirement is to build markets for compost and mulch, a goal supported by StopWaste. However, the existing procurement requirements are unrealistic for local governments to meet, particularly in the Bay Area where much of the organics has already been diverted to composting and a mature market for that compost already exists. Therefore, there will not be enough compost to meet the increased demand that SB 1383 requires of local governments.

Since 2021, the WMA Board has directed staff to work with partners to pursue common sense adjustments to SB 1383 requirements as a main legislative priority. This memo provides the Board with an update on this legislative work and requests Board approval to continue to pursue possible changes to the SB 1383 procurement requirements, including through Agency sponsorship of legislation designed to increase local government flexibility in meeting the requirements, reduce local government costs, and continue advancing the methane-reduction goals in SB 1383. This emerging legislation has grown out of several months of stakeholder engagement with StopWaste member agencies, other local governments, compost producers, and other stakeholders.

DISCUSSION

Most, if not all, jurisdictions in the state will struggle to meet the SB 1383 procurement targets. In some areas, this is because collection and processing infrastructure has yet to be built, and so there is not enough compost available. In other areas, such as Alameda County, where significant organics diversion already exists and where composting infrastructure has been in place for many years, the demand for compost and mulch created by SB 1383's procurement requirements is in competition with existing demand, such as from landscapers and farmers.

Last year Governor Newsom signed AB 1985, which phases in the procurement targets over multiple years (30% in 2023, 65% in 2024 and 100% in 2025). This phased approach is helpful to jurisdictions that do not yet have infrastructure in place. However, it does not address the fact that early adopting

jurisdictions such as those in Alameda County, which do have significant organic waste diversion infrastructure already in place, are not starting from the same conditions and therefore do not have the same potential to extract more organics from the waste stream and increase compost production.

Per Board direction, staff has convened a stakeholder group over many months to develop a list of proposed changes to the current procurement requirement, while also maintaining the objective of creating more supply and demand for organic waste products. This stakeholder group includes Bay Area counties' staff and composters serving our region. This group has met with CalRecycle on multiple occasions to discuss implementation issues, and the StopWaste team has met regularly with CalRecycle legislative staff to discuss our proposals and identify any barriers to advancing proposed legislative solutions. No barriers have been identified so far.

The changes that our coalition of stakeholders is proposing would add flexibility for local governments to comply with the procurement requirements and create more resilient markets, while still advancing the overall goals of SB 1383. The concepts for additional pathways to compliance that have been developed by the stakeholder group include, but are not limited to:

- Allowing the use of additional recovered organic waste products, such as mulch produced by cities using their own tree trimmings, to count toward their target
- Giving credit for investments local governments make in building markets for compost, such as through contamination minimization efforts
- Making it easier for cities to claim credit for compost used in their jurisdiction by other "direct service providers" who can apply compost that can count toward the city's target
- Allowing jurisdictions to calculate a jurisdiction-specific procurement target that reflects the actual potential for market growth in their region
- Allowing jurisdictions to develop a plan for procurement including how and where they will use compost and mulch, training staff, and developing giveaway programs

Staff requests Board approval to continue to work with CalRecycle and other stakeholders to pursue changes to the SB 1383 procurement requirements, including through possible Agency sponsorship of legislation. "Sponsoring" the legislation means that StopWaste would seek a legislator to introduce a bill and our Agency would provide expertise and assist with coalition-building to help navigate the bill through the legislative process.

The main criteria that staff would consider and prioritize as we pursue changes to the SB 1383 procurement requirements are increased flexibility for local governments to meet the requirements, reduced local government costs, and supporting more realistically the overall objectives of SB 1383 to reduce methane emissions from landfilled waste.

RECOMMENDATION

Direct staff to continue to work with state and local stakeholders to pursue possible changes to the SB 1383 procurement requirements, including Agency sponsorship of legislation designed to increase local government flexibility in meeting the requirements, reduce local government costs, and continue advancing the methane-reduction goals in SB 1383.



WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD AND THE ENERGY COUNCIL

2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

The regular meeting schedule for the Authority Board and the Energy Council is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m., except where noted differently (*). Meetings are held at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA.

All meetings held at an in-person location will also include hybrid meeting access, e.g., via Zoom or telephone.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 24	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
February 28	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
March 27	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
April 24 <i>*Joint Meeting WMA/EC/RB</i>	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
May 22	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
June 26	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
July 24	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
August - NO MEETING	RECESS	
September 25	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
October 23	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
November 20 <i>*3rd Wednesday *Joint Meeting WMA/EC/RB</i>	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland
December 18 <i>*3rd Wednesday</i>	3:00 p.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland

RECOMMENDATION

That the Waste Management Authority Board (WMA) and the Energy Council (EC) approve the 2024 meeting schedule.

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DATE: December 20, 2023

TO: Energy Council

FROM: Heather Larson, Program Manager
Karen Kho, Principal Program Manager

SUBJECT: Electricity Rates and StopWaste Role in Energy Supply Issues

SUMMARY

Building electrification and decarbonization is one of the Agency's legislative priorities and has been a priority area for Energy Council programs and fund seeking since 2016. Most of our work in this area is funded through the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a partnership comprised of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and public agencies representing the nine Bay Area counties. StopWaste leads BayREN's programs for multifamily retrofits, green labeling of single-family homes, and heat pump water heater market development. We conduct outreach to property owners about BayREN programs that incentivize the replacement of natural gas with electricity for end uses including water heating, space heating, cooking, and clothes drying. However, current electricity rates and recent energy supply policy decisions create disincentives for property owners to fuel switch or to consider onsite renewable energy generation such as solar panels.

At the December 20 Board meeting, staff will summarize the challenges associated with current rate structures, describe the regulatory landscape governing electricity supply and delivery, and discuss StopWaste's current activities and potential role in advancing a distributed energy resources (DER) grid of the future.

DISCUSSION

Current electricity rate structures are based on cost recovery for utilities rather than alignment with state and local policy objectives for decarbonization and the establishment of a clean power grid powered by distributed renewable electricity. This conflict of interest in the energy supply model has negative effects on energy affordability and on private investment in distributed energy resources (DER). Examples of those effects are:

- Current electricity rates disincentivize property owners from implementing fuel substitution measures because their overall utility bills (gas and electric combined) could increase. While bill savings are a universally agreed upon goal, particularly for lower income households, there are many instances where fuel substitution projects could result in a net increase in utility bills. The

determination of bill impact is especially complicated in multifamily buildings, where the bills are split between owners and tenants.

- The California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) recent ruling on Net Energy Metering (NEM) drastically reduced the compensation that the investor-owned utilities pay to property owners for power provided to the energy grid from rooftop solar. This rate change has had a chilling effect on the state's solar industry, with installations dropping by 77-85 percent and up to 17,000 clean energy jobs projected to be lost by the end of 2023.
- Electricity rates continue to escalate because utilities need to re-coup infrastructure and energy procurement investment costs to shareholders through rate revenue. Consumers are bearing the enormous costs of maintaining an antiquated statewide utility grid. PG&E's rates in 2024 will substantially increase due to infrastructure modernization for safety, including undergrounding power lines in wildfire prone areas.

Electricity rates are determined by a complex set of energy supply stakeholders, including regulatory agencies; investor-owned, community-choice and municipal utilities; grid operators; demand response providers; solar and storage industry associations; Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; and the Public Advocates Office. Rate issue decisions cascade through a multitude of CPUC and California Energy Commission (CEC) regulatory proceedings and general rate cases. Relevant proceedings include High Distributed Energy Resources, Load Management Standards, Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP), Net Energy Metering, Virtual Net Metering, Energy Efficiency, Decarbonization, Electric Vehicle Pilots, Integrated Distributed Energy Resources, Clean Energy Financing/On-Bill Financing, Demand Flex Rates, Microgrids, and Resource Adequacy.

Strategies to address the problems created by existing rate structures are being considered by multiple stakeholders. CPUC staff have proposed a new electric water heating rate and have required the utilities to provide data on bill impacts from electrification of water heating end uses. The utilities have a new electric home rate plan that offers a preferential baseline for customers with specific electric end uses. The Utility Reform Network (TURN) and other advocacy groups are actively engaging in conversations around rates and the High DER Grid of the future. There are parties looking at alternative scales of grid management at the municipal, community or microgrid level which do not carry the burden of paying for past and future IOU grid infrastructure investments through rates. Options for how California structures electricity rates will evolve, because the technology for how utilities bill customers and enable distributed energy resources to interact with our grid is rapidly changing.

StopWaste has not been engaged in energy supply proceedings because of restrictions on the use of BayREN funding. Historically, funds could only be used on energy efficiency activities, but in 2019 the CPUC authorized the use of energy rate-payer funding for building electrification incentives. This is the first program cycle where fuel substitution measures have been incentivized and we are just beginning to understand issues such as bill impacts. Additionally, there is now an industry-wide move toward Integrated Demand Side Management (IDSM) where efficiency and fuel substitution strategies are coupled with load shifting, generation, and storage to achieve overall building decarbonization. The CPUC's recent authorization of the next 10-year program business plan allows BayREN to utilize up to 2.5 percent of its budget on IDSM strategies. This opens the door to integrating energy efficiency, fuel substitution, and other demand reduction strategies in BayREN programs, which will address some of the challenges associated with current electricity rates.

Staff have already initiated work under the BayREN Multifamily program to analyze utility bill impacts. This includes engaging property owners and renters to access their bill and energy consumption data, as well as collecting qualitative feedback around the retrofit process and the operation of newly electrified equipment and systems. Some additional activities that could be incorporated into our BayREN-related work include:

- **Conducting multifamily project and program level utility bill analysis:** Staff would coordinate with CPUC, CEC, and the IOUs to obtain additional data on the bill impacts for multifamily program participants who have implemented fuel substitution upgrades at their properties. An outcome could be a study on the impact of electrification on multifamily renters.
- **Engaging with BayREN partners to prioritize tracking of electricity rate and DER issues:** In BayREN's recently approved business plan, the single family, multifamily, and public sector programs have allocated funding towards IDSM program design. Under the umbrella of IDSM, BayREN could engage in energy supply issues including the high-DER grid of the future.

The Energy Council was established in 2013 to provide a means for developing and implementing sustainable energy initiatives that reduce energy demand, increase energy efficiency, and advance the use of clean, efficient, and renewable resources available in the region. Supporting alternative rate structures would be aligned with these objectives. However, the regulatory landscape is dynamic and complex, and StopWaste does not have a dedicated source of funding to support extensive regulatory engagement on supply-side issues. Our local community choice aggregator (CCA), Ava Community Energy (Ava), is actively advocating on rate and DER issues aligned with Energy Council objectives. Ava staff have indicated that broader stakeholder support would be helpful on select issues.

Independent of our BayREN involvement, StopWaste could develop a regulatory intervention strategy on rate issues that are driving cost increases and limiting DER penetration. We are a relatively neutral party, because we do not actively set rates or bill customers for energy. Therefore, our recommendations would be considered less self-serving than other parties. Specific regulatory interventions would need to be implemented by partners such as the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC), because we do not have the internal capacity or funding to do so. Our potential role could include:

- Outlining potential partnerships and key stakeholders advocating in this space to develop recommendations on rate reform to enable cost containment and a high-DER grid of the future.
- Researching additional information on the mechanisms being considered to adjust the distribution component of rates which do not carry the burden of paying for past and future IOU grid infrastructure investments through rates.
- Identification of specific issues that would benefit from the mobilization of advocates, based on insight from Ava and others, and supporting partner organizations to be actively engaged in supply-side proceedings.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Energy Council discuss the role of StopWaste in energy supply advocacy and provide direction to staff.

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**January 2024
Meetings Schedule**

**Alameda County Waste Management Authority, the Energy Council, Source Reduction &
Recycling Board, and Programs and Administration Committee**

(Hybrid meetings are held at StopWaste Offices unless otherwise noted)

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 AGENCY HOLIDAY	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 9:00 A.M. Programs & Administration Committee Key Items: 1. FY 22/23 Audit <hr/> 6:00 P.M. Planning Committee & Recycling Board Key Items: 1. FY 22/23 Audit 2. Review Board Rules of Procedure	12	13
14	AGENCY HOLIDAY	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 3:00 P.M. Waste Management Authority & Energy Council Key Items: 1. FY 22/23 Audit 2. Legislative Priorities	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Energy Council
TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
Tuesday, November 14, 2023 – 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Attendance (all via phone):

City of Albany: Michelle Plouse, Sutton Payne (Fellow)
City of Berkeley: Valerie Nguyen, Annika Lackner (Fellow)
City of Dublin: Kate Battaglia (Fellow)
City of Emeryville: Nancy Humphrey, Matt Anderson, Talia Paulson (Fellow)
City of Fremont: Rachel DiFranco, Kranti Kapur
City of Hayward: Nicole Grucky, Makenna Colucci (Fellow), Elise Pierce (Fellow)
City of Livermore: Tricia Pontau
City of Oakland: Jeffrey Wong, Nick Kordesch, Shayna Hirshfield-Gold, Kathryn Jones (Fellow)
City of Piedmont: Alyssa Romeo (Fellow)
City of San Leandro: Hoi-Fei Mok
Ava Community Energy: Cait Cady
Guests: Kate Didech and Leila Banijamali, Symbium
StopWaste: Jennifer West, Chris Hunter, Emily Alvarez, Maria Hart, Robin Plutchok

Welcome and Intros

Ask TAG

- The BayREN Single Family program is being redesigned to better serve households that are low-moderate income, primarily speak another language than English at home, or are located in pollution burdened areas.
 - StopWaste is asking TAG for recommendations of community groups that staff should reach out to for feedback on the program
 - We will present to TAG and get jurisdiction staff feedback at the December meeting
- The Local Government Sustainability and Energy Coalition (LGSEC) is collecting real examples of grid interconnection, capacity and modernization or solar and storage issues jurisdictions have, and any solutions they have found.

Symbium Presentation – Kate Didech and Leila Banijamali, Symbium

- Symbium is software that streamlines permitting for solar and other plans (ADUs)
 - The Symbium team presented an overview of the features and a demo of the tool
- Jurisdictions can partner with Symbium to build out custom permit solutions for their unique requirements. The tool delivers instant regulatory review, and provides auto check compliance for solar and other permits
 - Helps with resident and contractor applications for residential permits
 - Hopes to correct errors in paperwork (ex: incorrect paperwork or filled out wrong)
 - Auto populates information about solar equipment based on manufacturer and model
 - Checks against code requirements, including the energy code
 - Provides a breakdown of permit fees to be collected
- Symbium imports parcel data, such as building envelope, zoning, land use, permit history, etc.
- Auto checks for contractor license and business license numbers and checks for correct license class to apply for permit
- The list of required documents can be customized by each jurisdiction
- The system integrates with common current permitting software or can be built out by Symbium team

Oakland Restaurant Outreach – Shayna Hirshfield-Gold and Jeffery Wong, City of Oakland

- Oakland was looking to conduct holistic outreach to food generators with implementation of SB 1383, all-electric building efforts, ECAP goals to reduce edible food waste, reusable to-go foodware, etc.
 - This is a tough time for local businesses, including crime and recovery from Covid and restaurants are already very under-resourced
 - We wanted to bring all themes together: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/restaurants>
 - Our outreach started with items they care most about (façade improvement program, crime prevention) and then layered on topics the city cares more about (induction, composting, reusables)
 - This tool is used as a touchstone for better in-person engagement. Over the next year teams are reaching out to restaurants to have conversations about what they need to consider electrification and reusables, and to provide appropriate resources
 - A Tri-fold brochure was created by staff and fellows that mirrors the website
 - We want to work more with the Alameda County Green Business Council
- Berkeley also has green restaurant information
- Oakland can share their template with others to customize

Announcements

- HPWH Incentives: Contractor incentives from Ava ran out (in early November), and MCE's will run out in December, San Francisco and Santa Clara (city) will continue.
 - TECH's HPWH incentives have launched with some additional requirements for customers/contractors (\$3,100 minimum)
- BAAQMD Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) effort is ongoing
 - 11/30/23 10:00 - 12:00 working session (hybrid)
- Energy Council Board: next meeting 11/15/23 3:00 pm
- Updated BayREN dashboard available via SharePoint
- Next BayREN Forum is on 12/7/23, topic is Residential Electrification in the Real World: Navigating Panels and Permits
- [Topic Brief](#) linked on treated wood

Energy Council
TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Attendance (all via phone):

City of Alameda: Danielle Mieler
City of Albany: Michelle Plouse, Sutton Payne (Fellow)
City of Berkeley: Billi Romain, Ammon Reagan, Katie Van Dyke, Rebecca Milliken, Sarah Moore, Marna Schwartz, Valerie Nguyen, Annika Lackner (Fellow)
City of Dublin: Kate Battaglia (Fellow)
City of Emeryville: Talia Paulson (Fellow)
City of Fremont: Rachel DiFranco, Kranti Kapur
City of Hayward: Erik Peason, Makenna Colucci (Fellow), Elise Pierce (Fellow)
City of Livermore: Tricia Pontau
City of Oakland: Jeffrey Wong, Nick Kordesch, Shayna Hirshfield-Gold, Kathryn Jones (Fellow)
City of Piedmont: Deniz Ergun, Alyssa Romea (Fellow)
City of San Leandro: Hoi-Fei Mok
Ava Community Energy: Cait Cady
Guests: Ted Lamm, UC Berkeley Center for Law, Energy & the Environment
StopWaste: Jennifer West, Chris Hunter, Emily Alvarez, Maria Hart, Robin Plutchok, Ben Cooper, Heather Larson, Miya Kitahara, Timothy Burroughs

Welcome and Intros

Wished a happy retirement and took a moment to reflect on Billi Romain's work at the City of Berkeley!

Ask TAG

- Looking for input on whether the BayREN Codes & Standards program should continue to have bi-monthly reach code calls
- Please let us know if any Alameda County jurisdictions are interested in using or finding out more about the Symbium tool presented at the November TAG meeting

UC Berkeley's Center for Law, Energy & Environment [EV Equity Initiative](#) – Ted Lamm, CLEE

- Oakland adopted Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) Action Plan a year ago, and they are working with CLEE on implementation
- This 3-year project (9 months in) uses funding from the Volkswagen settlement, with a focus on how local governments ensure underserved communities have access to EV infrastructure in light of state mandates. Without proactive planning and decision-making there will be gaps in access that can make the transition more expensive or mobility-reducing for priority communities.
- Looking to develop city partnerships to help with composing EV strategies (like curbside charging)
 - There are a variety of policy-level solutions, from allowing residents to run cables across curbs to formal permitting programs
 - CLEE wants to find and share examples and create templates that are replicable
 - They are developing an open source and accessible mapping platform that can help with public outreach, planning, and grant applications
 - Mobility and finance experts can help to bring pilots to cities
 - They will provide a draft model set of policies and an action plan framework including every strategy that a city could use in a ZEV action plan (Oakland is one model)
 - This set may be customized so that it is applicable to every jurisdiction
 - The CLEE team will help city staff who aren't able to create their own plan
 - Connect cities to each other, across CA and west coast, but also nationally

- Working on legislation to move ZEV forward at the state level
- How much would you help with on the ground implementation vs. big picture? Example: if you have narrow sidewalks, will EV chargers fit the width and still allow ADA compliance?
 - CLEE is not working on technical implementation, but will collect examples of infrastructure issues and solutions. They will illuminate unique situations, common issues and resolutions.

Energy Council (EC) Board Item on Energy Priorities – Heather Larson, StopWaste

- Earlier in 2023, the Board raised how rising electricity prices may impact our efforts to electrify buildings, especially in regards to affordability. Staff will present initial findings and research and ask for direction at the December 20 meeting
- Electrification has been a priority of the EC for several years, mostly implemented through BayREN programs and other grants
 - There are restrictions on what CPUC BayREN funding can be spent on, and most must be spent on measures and activities that reduce energy consumption (not on renewables/EV)
 - The new BayREN Business Plans allow 2.5% of our budget to be spent on Integrated Demand Side Management (IDSM)
- Electrification measures can impact monthly energy bills for residents and businesses, as sometimes a more efficient electric appliance will not produce savings if electricity costs are high
 - The Net Energy Metering (NEM) rules no longer incentivize installing rooftop solar
 - Increasing rates are expected in 2024 through PG&E/other utilities
 - For multifamily buildings, there are split incentives between renters/owners
- Keeping up with 12+ regulatory proceedings in CPUC/CEC on rate issues is a lot, but the Local Govt Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) is helping to track them for us
- We can use BayEN funding to evaluate BayREN measures' impacts on bills in the real world
- Outside of BayREN, the Board can direct staff to prioritize this rate issue, and internal resources would need to be allocated to develop more regulatory intervention strategies
 - We may identify potential partners, find more info on the "distribution" costs built into rates and identify issues that would benefit from advocacy
- City staff are often asked about rates and cannot always keep up with the conversation, especially for different stakeholders (affordable housing, building departments, residents, etc.), and they would appreciate help
- Some concern expressed about StopWaste staff capacity and tradeoffs as to what else could not be done as a result

BAAQMD's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Process Update – Miya Kitahara, StopWaste

- Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) must be submitted by 3/1/24, and implementation proposals, which must align with measures in the PCAP, are due 4/1/24
- BAAQMD (the Air District) is convening working groups, surveying, and holding public meetings (about half of Alameda County MAs have participated) to get public feedback. Through this process they selected two measures: VMT mode shift and residential electrification.
 - These two measures will go into the PCAP led by BAAQMD
 - The leads (potentially ABAG, BayREN, or another configuration of counties/cities) will submit for implementation grants
- TAG reviewed the draft electrification measure: Accelerate electrification and energy efficiency retrofits in existing homes located in frontline communities. Programs will aim to aggregate projects for higher economies of scale and strategic targeting (e.g. neighborhoods with similar small multifamily buildings; or where PG&E has identified as most ready for neighborhood-scale electrification)
 - Build on existing goals and help meet the goal of installing 6 million heat pumps statewide
- Applicants can also submit for implementation funding under the statewide PCAP, led by CARB
 - CARB recently sent around a survey asking what jurisdictions want potential funding for

Legislative Update – Jennifer West, StopWaste

- The 2023 legislative cycle concluded in October, with six of the thirty bills StopWaste’s Board took action on getting signed. More than half of the bills became two-year bills, and we will continue to support or watch those bills during the 2024 legislative session. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) bills are expected to get more attention in 2024. For TAG, the following bills were most relevant:
 - Passed and signed:
 - AB 43 will direct CARB to set up an Embodied Carbon Trading System to support GHG reductions in new construction.
 - AB 529 directs Housing and Community Development (HCD) to set up an Adaptive Reuse Projects working group to support buildings being re-purposed.
 - Two-year bills:
 - AB 592 will direct the CEC to create a carbon emission reduction strategy for building emission reductions.
 - SB 511 would direct CARB to take on GHG inventories for jurisdictions.
 - SB 527 would direct the CPUC to consider zonal decarbonization.
 - SB 682 addresses low-carbon cement/concrete
 - AB 2 addresses solar panel recycling (we have a “watch” position)
 - AB 1238 addresses solar panel management as well
- The budget for 2024 is not looking good for the state, and we expect to see more action around putting bonds on the 2024 ballot to address that shortfall.
- The Board will be considering our 2024 Legislative Priorities at their January meeting on 1/24/24. We expect to recommend a similar set of priorities as in 2023.

Announcements

- [Topic Brief](#) linked on compostable plastics
- BayREN [December outreach toolkit](#) is available
- [LGSEC - 1/10/24 Forum](#) in Clovis, CA