



Staff Report Item 15

TO: East Bay Community Energy Board of Directors
FROM: Nick Chaset, Chief Executive Officer
SUBJECT: California Renewable Energy Request for Proposals (Informational Item)
DATE: May 16, 2018

Recommendation

Discuss EBCE's planned California Renewable Energy Project Request for Proposals.

EBCE staff recommends issuing a request for proposals for long-term contracts with California-sited renewable energy projects. Within this request for proposals, EBCE staff is recommending including a discrete set of workforce and local development criteria.

- a) **Workforce:** workforce development standards developed based upon recommendations from the Local Development Business Plan include mandatory prevailing wage requirement, and preference for project labor agreements, locally-sited projects, and local hire requirements.
- b) **Local Development:** local development standard is to set a minimum target of 20 megawatts (MW) to be procured from Alameda County-sited projects.

Background

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) is proposing an RFP soliciting competitive proposals for the sale and purchase of renewable energy. For the purposes of the RFP, the renewable energy generation facility must meet the California Energy Commission's definition as a Portfolio Content Category 1 Eligible Renewable Resource ("PCC1"). Through this RFP, EBCE seeks to purchase renewable energy to meet a portion of its electric energy needs in 2019 and subsequent years, for terms of ten (10) or more years. EBCE's goal is to purchase electricity and attributes from eligible PCC1 resources through this RFP starting as early as 2019 to:

- support long-term low and stable operating costs,
- increase the renewable energy content of its wholesale electricity portfolio, and
- create California and local workforce benefits through the creation of jobs to construct and maintain renewable energy infrastructure across Alameda County and California, including
 - stable and skilled workforce and local workforce development,
 - opportunities for disadvantaged workers, and
 - local union jobs.

Discussion

EBCE staff proposes to issue an RFP for California-sited renewable energy projects in June 2018. Within this RFP process, EBCE seeks to procure hundreds of megawatts (MW) of new projects. The specific volumes of procurement that EBCE staff will recommend to the Board for approval will be based on a quantitative assessment of actual project bids, EBCE's analysis of the impact of a range of procurements on EBCE's rates, and EBCE's Integrated Resource Plan - which will be brought to the Board for review and approval in June and July 2018.

As part of this procurement, EBCE staff is recommending including a minimum target of 20 MW within Alameda County. The inclusion of the 20 MW target is staff's effort to ensure that this procurement includes a meaningful quantity of local development. The 20 MW target is based on staff's qualitative assessment of the projects that have been reviewed to date and a sense of how contracting with one or more Alameda County projects would impact EBCE's rates.

This procurement also includes robust workforce development standards, focused on creating good local jobs for projects in Alameda County and good union jobs for projects throughout California. These standards were largely developed based on the recommendations from the Local Development Business Plan and those included in EBCE's Oakland Clean Energy Initiative Solicitation. They include requirements and preferences related to:

- 1) utilizing a stable and skilled workforce,
- 2) contributing to local workforce development,
- 3) creating opportunities for disadvantaged workers, and
- 4) supporting union jobs in Alameda County and across California.