



Item 5

TO: East Bay Community Energy Marketing, Regulatory, and Legislative Subcommittee
FROM: Kelly Brezovec, Sr. Manager of Account Services
SUBJECT: Consider Amendment to Rate Setting Protocol
DATE: April 1, 2022

Recommendations

Consider an amendment to Rate Setting Protocol to remove the community workshop requirement in a year when there is no change to the value proposition

Background

The EBCE board approved the original Rate Setting Protocol on September 26, 2018 and additional amendments on December 18, 2019 to address changes in the billing engine configuration. Public engagement is outlined in the rate setting protocol as follows presentations to the Executive Committee, Community Advisory Committee, and Board of Directors. Additionally, the protocol calls for three community workshops and a period for written comments.

Discussion

Staff has facilitated public engagement annually in May 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Year	Rate Setting	Written Comments	Workshop Attendance
2019	No Changes Proposed	2	5

2020	Bright Choice Discount Change: 1.5% to 1.0% Brilliant 100 Proposed Sunset	8	15
2021	No Changes Proposed	0	2

Staff recommends removing the requirement for workshops in a year when there are no proposed changes to the value proposition. This is supported by the limited public participation in workshops in 2019 and 2021. Staff recommends including the option of a webinar style meeting in addition to the option of in-person, reducing the required meetings to two, and maintaining the requirements to present to the executive committee, community advisory committee, and board of directors, and the period of written comments each year when there are proposed changes to the value proposition. In years when there are no proposed changes to the value proposition, staff will continue with public outreach to encourage participation via the public comment process and public meetings when the annual budget is being discussed.

Attachment

- A. Amended Rate Setting Policy

Amended Rate Setting Protocol

AMENDED AND RESTATED RATE SETTING POLICY

From original protocol approved by motion on 9/26/18 and amended on 12/18/19

Policy Number 14

February xx, 2022

Item #

I. Purpose

This policy serves to provide direction to EBCE staff on actions related to electric rates.

II. Rate Actions

a. Rate Setting

EBCE Staff must receive Board approval to revise the service level value propositions (e.g. offering a greater or lesser discount on Bright Choice).

b. Rate Setting Process

EBCE's Implementation Plan and Statement of Intent (August 2017) states that "EBCE will review its rates at a minimum once a year".

The rate review and setting process is as follows:

1. **Executive Committee meeting.** Staff will provide a staff report containing analysis of PG&E rates and preliminary recommendations for changes to EBCE's value proposition, if any.
2. **Community workshops.** In a year when there is a proposed change to the value proposition, staff will conduct community workshops. Based on feedback received at the Executive Committee meeting, staff will revise analysis if needed, and solicit comments from the community. This will be achieved through a minimum of two (2) community meetings in geographically diverse locations, or online in a webinar-style format. Staff will consolidate feedback from these meetings into a supporting document that will be presented to the Board.

3. **Written comments.** Each year when there is a proposed change to the value proposition, written comments will be accepted in lieu of, or in addition to, verbal comments made during these workshops. A period of time will be designated for written comments. A specific email address will be provided to the public to submit comments, along with a clear deadline for submission.

4. **Community Advisory Committee meeting.** The CAC will receive a presentation from staff and discuss the staff recommendation.

5. **Board meeting.** Staff will present analysis, findings, and recommendations derived from feedback from an Executive Committee meeting, Community Workshops, and a Community Advisory Committee meeting. The Board will have the opportunity to vote on staff recommendations. If Board requests further analysis, the process will return to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee can then make a final recommendation that will be brought to the next Board meeting.

c. Rate Modification

EBCE Staff is authorized to adjust EBCE's rates to maintain the approved value proposition for each service level. If there are changes to PG&E generation rates or fees that result in a more beneficial value proposition for customers, EBCE Staff is authorized to not adjust the rates.