



**Robert Rickman**  
Board of Supervisors  
Representing the Fifth District

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July 15, 2024

The Honorable Jack Balch  
Ava Community Energy Board of Directors, Chair  
1999 Harrison Street, Suite 2300  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subj: July 17, 2024 Ava Community Energy Authority Board of Directors Meeting Item 17 - Inclusion of New Communities - San Joaquin County (Action Item)

Dear Chair Balch,

I write in support of your staff's subject recommendation to include San Joaquin County as a member agency and signatory to the JPA Agreement, with customer enrollments to begin in 2026, or sooner if possible. I was pleased to support the inclusion of Tracy when I was Mayor and, as I was proud to sponsor a Board of Supervisors discussion on September 26, 2023 which, led to our Board adopting a 'Resolution Joining a Joint Powers Agreement With Ava Community Energy Authority,' on April 9, 2024.

The high cost of all forms of energy negatively impacts the quality of life of our residents and we look forward to the potential benefits of a collaborative membership and efforts with Ava Community Energy. Joining Ava's expanding service territory and customer base will diversify the energy load and provide economies of scale which, is expected to provide access to renewable energy at competitive rates, while pioneering innovative programs and policies in its service territory.

Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to your favorable vote and working with you as we pursue the mutual goals of providing more renewable energy at competitive rates to our residents. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or my staff at 209-468-3113.

Sincerely,

Robert Rickman  
Supervisor, Fifth District, San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors  
Member, Governing Board, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District  
Member, Board of Directors, Tri-Valley — San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority

Copy:  
SJC CAO, SJC GEN/SER, SJC COB

DTG: 19724/01ST

"I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain (what I consider the most enviable of all titles), the character of an honest man."  
- George Washington -