

Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, November 19, 2025

6:00 pm

In Person:

Board Room Ava Community Energy 1999 Harrison St, Ste 2300 Oakland, CA 94612

Or from the following locations:

- One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1050, San Francisco, CA 94111
- Clipper Club 5 Captain Dr. Emeryville, CA 94608
- AC Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown 225 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84101
- 35653 Scarborough Dr., Newark, CA 94560
- 1100 Webster St, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Oakland, CA 94607
- Larch Clover Community Center 11157 West Larch Road, Tracy, CA 95376
- 1755 Harvest Landing Ln., Tracy, CA 95376

Via Zoom:

https://avaenergy-org.zoom.us/i/87023071843

Or join by phone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 870 2307 1843

Meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the meeting materials, should contact the Clerk of the Board at least 2 working days before the meeting at (510) 906-0491 or cob@avaenergy.org.

If you have anything that you wish to be distributed to the Board of Directors, please email it to the clerk by 5:00 pm the day prior to the meeting.

1. Welcome & Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

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CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. Approval of Minutes from October 22, 2025
- 5. Contracts Entered Into (Informational Item)
- 6. Appointing Certain Ava Positions to Serve in the Role of "Prosecuting Authority." Appoint specified Ava staff members and General Counsel to serve as Ava's Prosecuting Authority for purposes of prosecuting any violations of the California False Claims Act.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 7. CEO Report
- 8. CAC Report
- 9. Fiscal Year 2024-25 Financial Audit, Budget to Actuals, and Deferred Revenues (Informational Item)

Review of FY 2024-25 financial audit, budget to actuals, and allocation of surplus

10. 2026 Financial Forecast and Adjustments (Action Item)

Review 2026 Financial Forecast and approve recommended adjustments to surplus allocation, value proposition, and other measures

11. CSA for Customer Programs Roadmap Consultant (Action Item)

Approve Consulting Services Agreement for consultant to support the Customer Programs Roadmap

12. SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Budget Approval and Program Design (Action Item)

Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Use of Previous Budget Allocation and Program Design for the SmartHome Battery Program

13.2025 Legislative Wrap-up and 2026 Preview (Informational Item)

Review the California 2025 legislative session and a preview of the 2026 session

14. Board Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future Board of Directors Meeting Agendas

15. Adjourn

The next Ava Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 6pm.



Board Meeting Access Instructions

If you need help finding or accessing the building, please call our Ava representative who is stationed in the building lobby: 510-393-0492.

Directions

Directions via BART

If you are taking BART: the 19th Street station is the closest stop to our office and is about a 5 minute walk away. Use the 20th St / Thomas L. Berkeley Way station exit.

Directions via Bike

Bike riders wanting to park their bike inside the parking garage can enter through the main building lobby. Bike parking is available on the parking garage first level right in front of the garage elevators.

Directions to Parking Garage via Car

The entrance to the building's attached garage is located on Harrison Street. If you're driving northbound on Harrison Street, as soon as you cross 19th St. the garage entrance is 3/4 down on your left-hand side. If you're

heading east on Thomas L Berkeley Way/20th St. Continue East then make a right turn on Harrison Street, and the garage entrance is a quarter block up on your right-hand side.

When you arrive, enter via the gate labeled "Public Parkers". There are four floors of the parking garage, and you will need to take the elevator in the parking garage to the first floor. The parking attendant or an Ava representative will provide access into the building lobby.

The parking garage entry gate will be open until 8pm for CAC and BOD meetings. Attendees can exit the parking garage until 11pm.

Note that the garage's parking fee is \$30 per use. Street parking is widely available near the building and free after 6pm.



Check-in at Security Desk

When you arrive at our building, please check in with the security desk in the lobby to get access to the elevators. If you have questions or need assistance, an Ava representative will be stationed and identifiable in the lobby. They can be reached at: 510-393-0492.



Draft Minutes

Corrected Agenda (10/20/25) Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, October 22, 2025

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- Stockton City Hall 425 N El Dorado St., Stockton, CA 95202

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1. (15:00) Welcome & Roll Call

Present: Members: Marquez (Alameda County), Lopez (Albany), Tregub (Berkeley), Morada (Dublin), Kaur (Emeryville), Keng (Fremont), Roche (Hayward), Barrientos (Livermore), Del Catancio (Newark), Brown (Oakland), Balch (Pleasanton), Rickman (San Joaquin County), Fugazi (Stockton), Nygard (Tracy), Sakakihara (Union City), CAC Vice-Chair Souza (Community Advisory Committee), Vice-Chair Gonzalez (San Leandro) and Chair Andersen (Piedmont)

Not Present: Members: Diallo (Lathrop)

2. (17:07) Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Andersen led the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. (17:27) Public Comment

This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Board on any Ava-related matters that are not otherwise on this meeting agenda. Public comments on matters listed on the agenda shall be heard at the time the matter is called. As with all public comment, members of the public who wish to address the Board are customarily limited to two minutes per speaker and must complete an electronic speaker slip. The Board Chair may increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker.

There were no speakers for public comment.

4. (19:08) Closed Session Public Comment There were no speakers for public comment.

5. (19:50) Closed Session

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION (under Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY v. EDWARDS SOLAR 1B, LLC Case No. 24CV074431

6. (1:10:32) General Counsel Report Out of Closed Session There were no items to report out of closed session.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7. (1:10:31) Approval of Minutes from September 17, 2025
- 8. Contracts Entered Into (Informational Item)
- 9. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1 Treasurer's Report Reports on Ava's cash balances as of Sept 30, 2025

Member Barrientos motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Nygard seconded the motion, which was approved 16/0/0/0/2 (yes/no/abstain/recuse/not present).

Yes: Members: Marquez, Lopez, Morada, Kaur, Keng, Roche, Barrientos, Del Catancio, Brown, Balch, Rickman, Fugazi, Nygard, Sakakihara, Vice-Chair Gonzalez and Chair Andersen

No: none Abstain: none Recuse: none

Not Present: Members: Tregub and Diallo

REGULAR AGENDA

10. (1:13:11) CEO Report

CEO Chang presented the CEO Report. The written report is available in the October 22, 2025 agenda packet.

There were no speakers for public comment.

11. (1:19:51) CAC Report

CAC Vice-Chair Souza presented the CAC Report.

(1:25:28) Public Comment: Dohee Kim discussed the minutes and the Local Development Business Plan.

12. (1:31:05) 2024 Power Content (Informational Item)

Update on final 2024 power content

Izzy Carson, Senior Power Resources Manager, introduced the item and addressed questions from Board members.

There were no speakers for public comment.

13. (1:41:20) Administrative Procurement Policy (Action Item)

R-2025-44

Updates to Ava's policy governing non-energy purchases

John Perkins, Legal Director, introduced the item and addressed questions from Board Members.

Member Balch motioned to approve the staff recommendation, with the exception that the maximum contract term does not exceed five years. Vice-Chair Gonzalez seconded the motion, which was approved 16/0/0/0/2 (yes/no/abstain/recuse/not present)

<u>Yes: Members: Marquez, Lopez, Tregub, Morada, Kaur, Keng, Roche, Barrientos, Del Catancio, Brown, Balch, Fugazi, Nygard, Sakakihara, Vice-Chair Gonzalez and Chair Andersen</u>

No: none

Abstain: none Recuse: none

Not Present: Members: Diallo and Rickman

14. (2:33:13) Board Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future Board of Directors Meeting Agendas

Announcements were made by Members Morada, Marquez, Balch and Tregub.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm.

The next Ava Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday. November 19, 2025 at 6pm.



Consent Item 5

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Howard Chang, Chief Executive Officer
Subject:	Contracts Entered Into
Date:	November 19, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the CEO's report on contracts that Ava Community Energy has entered into, as required by the Administrative Procurement Policy, from October 15, 2025 through November 12th;

Counterparty Name	Record Name	Contract Purpose	Contract Value	Not To Exceed	Expiration Date	Counterparty City	Counterparty State	Ironclad Id
Build Momentum dba Momentum	September 2025 Purchase Rider	Technical and strategic support to assist in preparing and submitting a waiver request under the Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements.	\$ 10,000	\$10,000	September 8, 2026	Sacramento	California	IC-2021
BCal LMP Harrison Property LLC	Tenant Change Order Authorizati on	Paying permit fees for millwork for Board setup.	\$ 7,190.07	N/A	N/A	Oakland	California	IC-2073
Adam Goldstein	October 2025 Purchase Rider	Videography services.	\$ 35,000	\$35,000	June 30, 2026	Oakland	California	IC-2087

Andy Smith, LLC	October 2025 Purchase Rider	Photography and/or videography services.	\$ 35,000	\$35,000	June 30, 2026	Oakland	California	IC-2088
US Bank	Appendix A-1: New Account/Ch ange in Authorized Account Signers	Adds Chief Financial Officer and Director of Accounting & Controller as authorized account signers.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Minneapolis	Minnesota	IC-2092
US Bank	Appendix B-1: Change in Authorized Treasury Manageme nt Signer(s)	Adds Chief Financial Officer and Director of Accounting & Controller as treasury management signers.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Minneapolis	Minnesota	IC-2093
US Bank	Master Services Agreement 1: contract signer(s) change	Adds Chief Financial Officer as contract signer.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Minneapolis	Minnesota	IC-2094



Consent Item 6

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Jim Dorrance, Director of Power Resources
Subject:	Appointing Ava General Counsel and members of Ava's senior management to serve in the statutory role of prosecuting authority for purposes of prosecuting any violations of the California False Claims Act.
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary/Recommendation

Adopt a resolution formally designating the General Counsel and certain members of Ava's senior management, specifically the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), and the Senior Vice President of Power Resources, as the prosecuting authority within or for Ava as that term appears in California Government Code § 12650(b)(8). The primary reason for this is to conform strictly with the Government Code in connection with claims relating to the California False Claims Act ("CFCA").

Financial Impact

Not Applicable/None.

Analysis and Context

Cal. Govt. Code § 12650(b)(8) within the CFCA requires public entities to designate a prosecuting authority within or for the public entity that is "charged with investigating, filing, and conducting civil legal proceedings on behalf of, or in the name of, a particular political subdivision." (Cal. Govt. Code § 12650(b)(8)). Normally this position is held by an agency's primary legal counsel (City Attorney, County Counsel, or General Counsel) unless others are also designated in this role, for example, senior management. Consistent with the statute, the

proposed resolution expressly designates Ava's General Counsel, the CEO, the CFO, or the Senior Vice President of Power Resources to serve in this role.

Attachments

A. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DESIGNATING AVA GENERAL COUNSEL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, OR THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF POWER RESOURCES AS AVA'S PROSECUTING AUTHORITY TO PROSECUTE CLAIMS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA FALSE CLAIMS ACT

WHEREAS Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava") was formed as a community choice aggregation agency ("CCA") on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 et seq., among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The Cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") in March of 2020. The City of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The city of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception.

WHEREAS Government Code § 12650(b)(8) provides that only the prosecuting authority of a local agency can prosecute violations of the California False Claims Act; and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors wishes to expressly designate the General Counsel, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, or the Senior Vice President of Power Resources as Ava's prosecuting authorities in order to avoid any doubt as to which positions may serve in this role.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board hereby designates Ava General Counsel, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") or the Senior Vice President of Power Resources, as Ava's prosecuting authority pursuant to California Government Code § 12650(b)(8). Any person serving in the position of prosecuting authority may prosecute claims under the California False Claims Act, at Government Code §§ 12650, et seq.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 19th day of November, 2025.

	Betsy Andersen, Chair	
ATTEST:		



CEO Report Item 7

TO: Ava Community Energy Board of Directors

FROM: Howard Chang, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: CEO Report (Informational Item)

DATE: November 19, 2025

Recommendation

Accept Chief Executive Officer (CEO) report on update items below.

Executive Committee Meeting

An Executive Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Members received updates on proposed JPA amendments, the SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Programs, and a review of the selection process for the Customer Programs Roadmap consultant. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 3 pm.

Financial, Administrative and Procurement Subcommittee Meeting

A Financial, Administrative and Procurement Subcommittee Meeting was held on Friday, November 7, 2025. A quorum was not present for this meeting and items were presented on an informational basis. The next Financial, Administrative and Procurement Subcommittee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 3:30 pm.

Community Sponsorship Deadline - November 30

To encourage and support community engagement, Ava awards local organizations with community sponsorships. Funding areas include, but aren't limited to, sports, art, music, and STEM. The maximum award amount is \$2,500 per organization per award round, with as many as 20 recipients funded per round, depending on the number of qualified applicants.

Applications for the latest round of funding close on November 30. Learn more and apply for a sponsorship on the Ava Community Energy website.

New Employees

Ellen Kwok - Machine Learning & Operations Associate Engineer

Ellen joined Ava on October 16th, 2025, as the Machine Learning & Operations Associate Engineer. She will be supporting the EAS team by taking ownership of various data pipelines and improve overall operations to align with machine learning operations best practices.

Prior to Ava, Ellen worked as a software engineer at Wells Fargo for 3 years, where she led refactoring and optimization of legacy data processing workflows and developed natural language processing models to streamline complaint processing. During this time, Ellen also obtained the Google Cloud Digital Leader certificate. Before Wells Fargo, Ellen explored several disciplines and worked in an EdTech non-profit and a fintech SaaS, where she contributed to various workflow optimization.

Ellen holds a bachelor's degree in Cognitive Science with a concentration on computational modelling and data science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Nadiyah Helal – Power Resources Analyst

Nadiyah joined Ava on November 13, 2025, as a Power Resources Analyst. She will be supporting Renewable Electricity Credit (REC) commodity portfolio management, procurement, and compliance.

Prior to Ava, Nadiyah worked on supply chain risk modeling for energy technologies at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. She also has experience in critical minerals research, sustainability consulting, and climate resilience planning. She maintains pro bono involvement with Engineers Without Borders USA in the San Francisco Professional Chapter.

Nadiyah holds an M.S. in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Energy, Civil Infrastructure, and Climate from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Davis.

Local Development Update

Given the high number of local development activities and varied status of design, implementation, and operations, we will aim to provide a summary update of all programs and services on a quarterly basis via the CEO report. The purpose is to keep the Board appraised of Local Development Programs and activities at a summary level. Action items and deep dives will continue to be brought forth on an as needed basis.

Program Name	Status	Description	Key Metrics	Key Upcoming Dates
Planning				
Customer Programs Roadmap	In Development	Define Ava's customer programs roadmap for 2027-2032	N/A	Consultant Contract authorization request at November Board Meeting
Transportation Electrification				
Ava Charge	Operational	Developing portfolio of EV fast charging sites on City land across Ava's service territory with a focus on locating near underserved multi- family dwellings	Oakland City Center West garage with 31 chargers is now in operation	Ribbon cutting November 19 Additional sites to launch in 2026/27
Ava SmartHome Charging	Operational	Program to shift home EV charging away from peak hours while helping customers lower their cost of home EV charging.	>2,200 EVs enrolled, VPP KPIs are being met	Additional enrollment ongoing
Ava Bike Electric	Operational	Program to provide incentives for customers to purchase electric bikes, CARE customers receive higher incentives and 40% of allocated funds	Over 12,000 applications received, 6,716 vouchers distributed, and 1,440 e-bikes purchased. CARE customers redeeming 2.5x faster than non-income qualified customers	Drawing on 4th Tuesday of each month. Ava will not proceed with a lending program and has allocated all funds to the incentive program
Building Electrification				
Health-e Communities Pilot	Operational	Direct installation program to replace gas stoves with induction for CARE customers and complete indoor air quality monitoring to evaluate air quality impacts.	Installed 162 induction cooktops	Ava is reviewing the results of the pilot and will come back to the Board with a recommendation. Applications closed in September
Building Efficiency Accelerator	Operational	CPUC funded program to complete energy efficiency and building electrification projects on commercial and industrial customers, like LED lighting and heat pump water heaters	On target to reduce consumption by 13 GWh, 14 customers engaged in 48 unique projects	Program enrollment ends April 2026

SolarApp Heat Pump Water Heater permitting	Canceled	Contract with SolarApp to add heat pump water heaters to their online permitting application	Solar App will deliver lessons learned from permitting departments, HPWH installers and manufacturers on the value of expedited permitting	Contract cancelled due to Federal withdrawal of IRA funding and SolarApp needing to focus on core solar permitting business. Ava collaborating with BAAD and other CCAs on pending HPWH regulations.
Resilience				
Critical Municipal Facilities	In Development	Program to provide resilience on critical municipal sites. Eight projects across four cities will provide bill savings	Installing 258kW of PV and 1.34MWh of batteries generating 778k kWh of clean energy in year 1.	On target to achieve mechanical completion by the April 15, 2026th NEM2.0 deadline
SmartHome Battery	In Development	Program to provide \$15M in upfront and ongoing incentives for residential solar and storage projects and community resilience hubs	Enroll and manage 21MW of solar paired batteries for residential and low- income customers and community resilience hubs.	Action item to the November Board meeting to approve the budget and program design
Community Grants				
EV Charging	Operational	Both parties have identified multiple sites and are evaluating feasibility studies.	2 grants of \$300k over 3 years Green the Church has installed their first project at Glad Tidings Church in Hayward	Interfaith Power and Light and Green the Church continues to work on identifying sites to build community owned level 2 EV charging stalls.
Youth Training	Operational	Rising Sun Center for Opportunity and AGAPE (a partnership between Cypress Mandela Training Center and Revalue.io)	Grant of \$300k over 3 years trained over 150 youth in electrification trades	Students are beginning to matriculate into the job market. Rising Sun is developing an online jobs platform to help graduates find work in the trades
Community Resilience Hubs	Operational	Emerald Cities Collaborative	Grant of \$300k over 1.5 years completed three community workshops with over 170 participants and 26 unique community-based organizations	ECC and Ava staff have developed a definition and eligibility criteria for Community Resilience Hubs that we will present to the Ava Board in November.



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Review of FY 2024-25 financial audit, budget to actuals, and allocation of surplus

10. 2026 Financial Forecast and Adjustments (Action Item)

Review 2026 Financial Forecast and approve recommended adjustments to surplus allocation, value proposition, and other measures

11. CSA for Customer Programs Roadmap Consultant (Action Item)

Approve Consulting Services Agreement for consultant to support the Customer Programs Roadmap

<u>CAC Action: Recommend rejection of CSA due to lead consultant's DHS/ICE ties; support roadmap concept with emphasis on expanded public engagement.</u>

12. SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Budget Approval and Program Design (Action Item)

Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Use of Previous Budget Allocation and Program Design for the SmartHome Battery Program

CAC Action: Recommend approval of budget and program design, noting public input on

Resilience Hub funding and prioritization of residential energy benefits.

13. 2025 Legislative Wrap-up and 2026 Preview (Informational Item)

Review the California 2025 legislative session and a preview of the 2026 session

14. Board Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future Board of Directors Meeting Agendas

15. Adjourn

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Staff Report Item 9

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Russell Mills, Chief Financial Officer
Subject	Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Financial Audit and Budget to Actual Results
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary/Recommendation

Accept and file the audited financial statements for fiscal year 2024-2025. Review the Budget to Actual statement and Deferred Revenue Allocations.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact.

Analysis and Context

Each year, Ava has an audit of its fiscal year-end financial statements conducted. The annual audit is conducted by Sorren CPAs, P.C., formerly Pisenti and Brinker, LLP, an independent, external auditing firm.

The audit consists of four general sections – the Independent Auditor's Report, the Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), the Basic Financial Statements, and the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements. The following is a general discussion of each section and any pertinent findings.

This is followed by a discussion and comparison of Ava's Actual results with our Budget set by the Board, and a reconciliation to the audited statements.

FY 2024-25 Annual Financial Audit and Results

The Independent Auditor's Report concludes their opinion of the financial statements as materially accurate with no significant deficiencies or material weakness in internal controls identified. The auditors focus on financial activities related to revenue recognition, cash, accrued costs, renewable energy expenses, supplier security deposits, and financial statement note disclosures among other areas of Ava's financial operations. Importantly, the auditors proposed no adjustments to the financial statements and found no unusual transactions or applications of accounting principles.

The Management Discussion and Analysis provides an overview of Ava's financial activities for the fiscal years reported and gives information on financial position, reporting protocols, and overall economic factors that relate to Ava activities. Specifically, this section provides a narrative of Ava's operational history, a summary of financial position, a detailed analysis of financially relevant activities, and currently known facts and conditions of risk elements related to Ava's operations.

The Basic Financial Statements provide an independently verified, accurate portrait of Ava's financial position as of June 30, 2025. The three statements are the Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, and Statement of Cash Flow. Specific high-level details to these statements are:

- Annual Operating Revenues: \$797,446,180 (gross operating revenue was \$905,543,988 and net revenue transferred to the Rate Stabilization Fund was \$108,097,808)
- The net revenue transfer to the Rate Stabilization Fund of \$108,097,808 reflects \$22,319,294 of revenue transferred from prior year deferrals and 2025 FYE revenue transfer of \$130,417,102 to the Rate Stabilization Fund.
- Annual Net Nonoperating Revenues: \$24,587,957
- Annual Operating Expenses: \$803,470,302
- Net position increase by \$18,563,835 to \$553,897,866

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements discuss several aspects of the Basic Financial Statements and provide greater details on areas such as accounting policies, cash and capital positions, risk management, commitments, and known subsequent events.

FY 2024-2025 Budget to Actual Results

Budget to Actual StatementOverall, actual revenues outperformed expectations while operating expenditures were in line with budget estimates. The reason revenues

outperformed was that rates for 2025 were set higher than expected at the time of budget approval in June 2024.

- Electricity sales were 2.4% higher than expected, or about \$21.5MM
- Ava recognized about \$22.3MM from previously deferred revenues for customer on-bill credits in January of 2025
- Uncollectibles (bad debt) were higher than expected due to true-up in accounts receivables across multiple periods
- Overall energy costs were slightly down relative to Budget by about 1.4%, or \$11MM
- Total Operating Expenditures were slightly lower than Budget by -0.6%
- Overhead items were materially under Budget by -27.6% on average, or \$12.4MM
- Other Sources outperformed Budget by about \$25.4MM due to higher-thanexpected investment income as interest rates stayed higher for longer, and the collection of performance and delay of resource damages from contractual agreements
- Approximately \$130.4MM of net revenues were deferred to the RSF

REVENUES	Budget	Actuals	
Electricity Sales	881,671,000	903,222,917	2.4%
Revenue Recognized from Previous Deferrals*	-	22,319,294	
Uncollectable	(8,817,000)	(12,850,000)	45.7%
Total Revenue and Other Sources	872,854,000	912,692,211	4.6%
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES			
OPERATING EXPENDITURES			
Cost of Energy	760,248,000	749,266,364	-1.4%
Data Management/Customer Service	8,057,000	8,480,433	5.3%
PG&E Service Fees	2,820,000	2,815,289	-0.2%
CAISO Scheduling Coordinator	731,000	723,146	-1.1%
Personnel	26,592,000	20,387,169	-23.3%
Marketing & Communications	6,168,000	3,711,163	-39.8%
Legal, Policy, & Regulatory Affairs	4,104,000	1,689,641	-58.8%
Other Professional Services	2,136,000	1,742,950	-18.4%
General & Administrative	5,868,000	4,972,203	-15.3%
Total Current Expenditures	816,724,000	793,788,358	-2.8%
OTHER SOURCES & USES			
Investment Income	11,400,000	24,813,379	117.7%
Other Income	399,000	523,852	31.3%
Liquidated Damages	-	10,825,198	100.0%
Interest & Financing Costs	(2,796,000)	(1,282,356)	-54.1%
Local Development Transfer	(22,400,000)	(22,400,000)	0.0%
Capital Expenditures **	(499,000)	(966,824)	93.8%
Total Other Sources & Uses	(13,896,000)	11,513,249	-182.9%
GROSS INCREASE (DECREASE)	42,234,000	130,417,102	208.8%
Revenue Deferred to RSF and Credits*	-	(130,417,102)	0.0%
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	42,234,000	-	-100.0%

^{*} Amount not determinable at time of budget approval

Budget Net Revenues to Audited Net Position Reconciliation

The budget is an internal proforma document set at the discretion of the Board. The financial statements in the audit are standardized by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and have additional rules set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Ava drafts each budget in accordance with industry best practices and makes best efforts to align with GAAP and GASB rules, but fundamental differences exist and reconciliation between the budget actual net revenues and the audited change in net position.

^{**} Depreciation has been removed from Operations and is expressed as Capital Expenditures

The following table starts with the audited change in net position and reconciles to budget-actual net revenues.

Reconciled Item	Details	Amount	Balance
Audited Net Position	Includes net deferred revenues		18,563,835
Loss on Disposition of Assets	Accrued depreciation of discarded assets	(80,978)	18,644,813
LD Actual Expenses	Actual FY 24/25 Program expenses	(8,213,268)	26,858,081
LD Budget Allocation	Budgeted capital transfer to Programs	22,400,000	4,458,081
LD Revenue from Grants	FY 24/25 grant revenue in Programs	3,822,021	636,060
LD Interest Income	Interest on development loans	115,326	520,734
Capital Outlay	Capital reconcilliation	43,494	477,240
GASB 87 Lease	Lease obligations outstanding as of 6/30/2025	477,240	-

Balances of Deferred Revenue

The above audited financial statements and the net revenues to net position reconciliation determined that \$130,417,102 is to be deferred to the Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF) as approved by the Board on September 17, 2025 by resolution R-2025-41. At the same meeting, the Board also adopted resolution R-2025-42 allocating 90% of fiscal year 2024-25 net revenues to be deferred to the RSF and 10% to on-bill credits for CARE/FERA customers for distribution in the 2025-26 fiscal year.

The following table provides the total deferred balances with resolution defined usages. Please note that the RSF balance includes the \$35MM authorized to balance the current fiscal year's budget, as there have not yet been any recognitions of deferrals this year.

Usage	Balance	Guidance
		R-2025-41 authorizes conversions from previous budget deferrals.
RSF	149,505,118	R-2025-23 authorizes recognition of ~\$35MM to balance FY25-26 budget.
On-bill Credits	13,041,710	R-2025-42 authorizes deferral for specified use and recognition in FY 2025-26
		R-2023-37 authorizes deferral for specified use.
Renewables	10,504,837	R-2024-26 authorizes recognition in 2027
Solar/Storage Incentives	14,963,130	R-2024-2 authorizes deferral for specified use.
Total Deferrals	188,014,795	

Committee Recommendation

The audited financial statements were presented to the Finance, Administrative, and Procurement Subcommittee on November 7, 2025.

The budget-actuals, reconciliation, and deferred revenue balances were also presented to the Finance, Administrative, and Procurement Subcommittee on November 7, 2025.

Attachments:

- A. Presentation from the Auditor, Sorren CPAs, P.C.
- B. Ava Community Energy Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
- C. Presentation on Budget to Actuals and RSF Balances



Ava Community Energy Report to the Board of Directors November 19, 2025



Introduction



Kellin Gilbert, CPA

Audit Partner

17 years in public accounting and performing audits of government entities Currently working with several CCA's throughout California

Aliandra Schaffer

Engagement Supervisor

6 years in public accounting and performing audits of governments (CCA's)

Alauna Rico

Audit Senior Associate

4 years in public accounting and performing audits of governments (CCA's)

Transition to Sorren CPAs P.C.



As of May 2025, legacy Pisenti & Brinker combined practices with several other like-sized firms and rebranded as one unified firm "Sorren."

By combining resources with the strategic merger, we can make even greater investments in technology as well as our greatest assets, our people and clients.

Sorren is a new national top 50 firm and currently has twenty-three office locations and almost a thousand employees.

The Santa Rosa office will continue to be the lead office for Ava Community Energy. No changes to the current engagement team, costs or timing of the services we provide to Ava.

Results of Current Year Audit



The audit is complete. We reported the following:

- Unmodified opinion Based on our audit, the financial statements are materially accurate.
- · No significant deficiencies or material weakness in internal control noted.

Audit of the year ended June 30, 2025 Financial Statements



Relative Roles & Responsibilities

- Management is responsible for preparing the Financial Statements and establishing a system of internal control.
- Auditor is responsible for auditing the Financial Statements
 - Considering risks of material misstatement in the Financial Statements
 - Considering internal controls relevant to the Financial Statements
 - Performing tests of year-end balances based on risk assessment
 - Evaluating adequacy of disclosures

Risk Assessment for the year ended June 30, 2025



Our audit is a risk-based audit. Risk assessment procedures include:

- Gain understanding of the entity's operating characteristics, practices, and procedures.
- Compare to our knowledge of similar entities, industry and professional guidance.
- Review procedures and controls surrounding significant transaction cycles and business processes.

Risk Assessment for the year ended June 30, 2025



Significant areas of focus for the audit:

- Revenue recognition
 - Accounts receivable and accrued revenue
 - Test a sample of customer billings
 - Relate total cash received during the year to revenue
 - Review revenue recognition through year-end and method for determining (accrued revenue)
- Cash & Investments
 - Confirmations sent to financial institutions
- Accrued Cost of Electricity
 - Review subsequent bills from electricity providers and cash payments
- Financial Statement Note Disclosures Complete and without bias

Required Board Communications



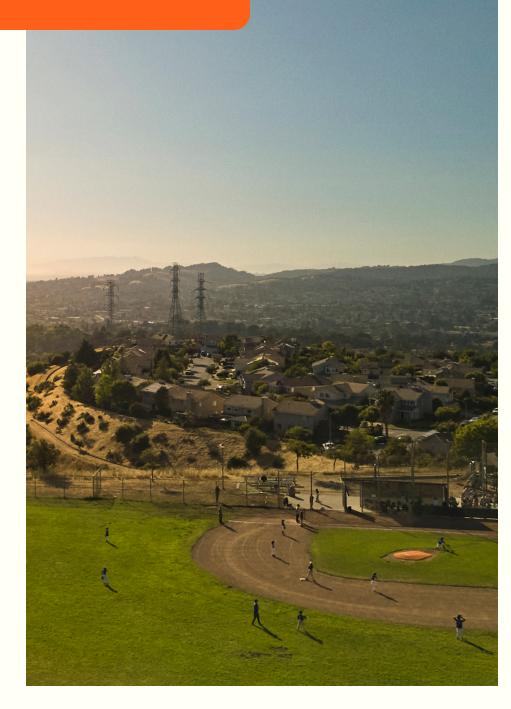
- As discussed in Note 13, Ava adopted GASB 102 through 104 which did not have a material effect on the financial statements.
- We did not propose any audit adjustments to the financial statements.
- We did not identify any significant or unusual transactions or applications of accounting principles where a lack of authoritative guidance exists.
- There have been no disagreements with management concerning the scope of our audit and we
 have not encountered any difficulties in dealing with management during the performance of our
 audit.
- We issued a letter to the board dated November 14th detailing these required communications.





Financial Statements

Years ended June 30, 2025 and June 30, 2024 with Independent Auditor's Report



Contact us

customer-support@AvaEnergy.org 1-833-699-3223

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Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position	10
Statements of Cash Flows	11
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	13



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Ava Community Energy Authority

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ava Community Energy Authority (Ava), which comprise the statements of net position as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, the related statements of revenue, expenses and changes in net position, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ava as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Ava and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Ava's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are issued or available to be issued, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Ava's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that
 raise substantial doubt about Ava's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of
 time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

Sorren CPAS P.C.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Santa Rosa, California

November 14, 2025

The purpose of management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) is to help stakeholders and other readers understand what the financial statements and notes in this report say about Ava Community Energy Authority's (Ava) financial health and why it has changed since last year. It contains information drawn from other parts of the report, accompanied by explanations informed by the finance staff's knowledge of Ava's finances.

If you have any questions about this report or require further information, please contact Ava at customer-support@AvaEnergy.org.

Overview of the Financial Statements

Ava's financial report contains basic financial statements, which include:

- The Statements of Net Position include all of Ava's assets, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position and provide information about the nature and amounts of resources and obligations at a specific point in time.
- The Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position report all of Ava's revenue and expenses for the years shown.
- o The *Statements of Cash Flows* report the cash provided and used by operating activities, as well as other sources and uses, such as capital and investing activities.
- The notes to the Basic Financial Statements provide additional details and information related to the basic financial statements.

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- The notes to the Basic Financial Statements provide additional details and information related to the basic financial statements.

Financial Summary

AVA'S NET POSITION

	2025	2024	2023
Current assets	\$574,541,753	\$786,712,612	\$494,447,975
Noncurrent assets:			
Capital assets, net	21,080,775	10,367,342	9,600,031
Other noncurrent assets	302,948,264	1,480,246	1,422,185
Total noncurrent assets	324,029,039	11,847,588	11,022,216
Total assets	898,570,792	798,560,200	505,470,191
Current liabilities	144,780,099	179,709,182	85,012,415
Noncurrent liabilities	11,878,032	3,600,000	4,787,500
Total liabilities	156,658,131	183,309,182	89,799,915
Deferred inflows of resources	188,014,795	79,916,987	53,014,000
Net position			
Net investment in capital assets	9,202,743	10,367,342	9,600,031
Restricted for collateral	-	-	1,000,000
Unrestricted	544,695,123	524,966,689	352,056,245
Total net position	\$553,897,866	\$535,334,031	\$362,656,276

As of June 30, 2025, Ava's total net position was approximately \$553,898,000, an increase of \$18,564,000 or 3.5% as compared to June 30, 2024. See the discussion in the following section about the changes in the various components.

AVA'S CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	2025	2024	2023
Operating revenues	\$ 797,446,180	\$ 909,536,352	\$817,931,312
Nonoperating revenues	24,928,705	13,149,786	6,659,918
Total income	822,374,885	922,686,138	824,591,230
Operating expenses	803,470,302	749,942,231	693,785,891
Nonoperating expenses	340,748	66,152	678,679
Total expenses	803,811,050	750,008,383	694,464,570
Change in net position	\$ 18,563,835	\$ 172,677,755	\$ 130,126,660

The decrease in operating revenues in 2025 is the result of a voluntary net deferral in the Rate Stabilization Fund of \$108,098,000. The cost of electricity, the largest component of operating expenses, increased from fiscal year 2024 to 2025 due to increases in renewable energy and resource adequacy. See the following section for further discussion.

Detailed Analysis

Current assets decreased from \$786,713,000 at the end of 2024 to \$574,542,000 at the end of 2025, a decrease of approximately \$212,171,000. The decrease primarily resulted from Ava's strategy of using current assets to purchase long-term investments. At June 30, 2025, current assets consisted mainly of cash and cash equivalents of \$378,494,000, accounts receivable of \$92,647,000, accrued revenue of \$61,177,000, and short-term investments of \$30,099,000. Included in cash and cash equivalents is \$188,015,000 held in the Rate Stabilization Fund, which Ava uses to defer revenue to future years to allow Ava to mitigate potential future volatility in energy procurement costs and maintain stable and competitive customer rates. By comparison, the Rate Stabilization Fund balance at June 30, 2024 was \$79,917,000. Also included in cash and cash equivalents is \$3,691,000 that is restricted for grant purposes. Ava's current assets at the end of 2025 include prepaid assets of \$5,201,000 and other receivables of \$6,777,000, both of which increased from the prior year. Prepaid assets include purchases of energy products in advance of delivery, and other receivables include interest receivable and receivables from energy settlements.

Noncurrent assets totaled \$324,029,000 at June 30, 2025, up from \$11,848,000 in the previous year. The increase reflects \$299,652,000 in new investments, as there were no noncurrent investments in the prior year, and \$21,081,000 in capital assets compared to \$10,367,000 previously. The growth in capital assets is attributable to the capitalization of leased assets in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 87.

Current liabilities decreased from \$179,709,000 at June 30, 2024 to \$144,780,000 at June 30, 2025, a reduction of \$34,929,000 (19.4%). The primary driver was lower accrued cost of electricity, which totaled \$119,425,000 at the end of 2025, compared to \$149,300,000 at the end of 2024. These balances fluctuate annually based on the timing of energy purchases and payments, as well as wholesale market conditions.

Noncurrent liabilities increased from 2024 to 2025 by approximately \$8,278,000. Noncurrent liabilities primarily represent supplier security deposits and the portion of the lease liability for Ava's office premises due after one year.

Total net position increased from \$535,334,000 in 2024 to \$553,898,000 in 2025, an increase of \$18,564,000 (3.5%). Of the net position at the end of 2025, \$9,203,000 represents Ava's net investment in capital assets, while the remaining \$544,695,000 is unrestricted and available to support future operating activity, programs and rate stabilization efforts.

Detailed Analysis (continued)

Operating revenues were \$797,446,000 in 2025, down from \$909,536,000 in 2024 (12.3% decrease) and slightly down from \$817,931,000 in 2023. With revenue from electricity sales down slightly from 2024 to 2025, Ava directed a net of \$108,098,000 into its Rate Stabilization Fund in 2025. In 2024 the net transfer was \$26,903,000. The net deferral refers to the combined amount recognized as revenue from funds set aside in the previous year and current year revenue deferred for use in future periods. Operating revenue also includes liquidated damages received from suppliers for nonperformance and revenue from grantors. Grant revenue totaled \$3,822,000 in 2025 compared to \$1,441,000 in 2024. Changes in grant revenue correspond with the amount of eligible grant related expenses Ava incurred.

Investment income increased significantly to \$24,929,000 in 2025, compared to \$13,150,000 in 2024, due to both higher interest rates and growth in invested balances.

Total operating expenses rose from \$749,942,000 in 2024 to \$803,470,000 in 2025, an increase of \$53,528,000 (7.1%), following an increase of \$55,156,000 (8.1%) from 2023 to 2024. The primary driver continues to be the cost of electricity, which was \$749,266,000 in 2025 compared to \$707,476,000 in 2024 and \$658,205,000 in 2023. Rising costs in the energy market played a major role in driving this increase as did increased volume of energy purchased due to expansion into new territories. Contract services and staff compensation also grew to a combined \$44,496,000 in 2025 (up from \$35,250,000 in 2024), reflecting continued program expansion and workforce growth.

Significant Capital Asset and Long-Term Financing Activity

Ava does not own assets used for electric generation or distribution. Included in capital assets are an office building and land, and furniture and equipment.

Assets that are leased by Ava, such as office premises, are reported in the Statement of Net Position with a related liability for future obligations. The most significant capital asset acquired and liability incurred related to a new office lease entered into in April 2025. See notes 5 and 6 in the financial statements for details.

Ava does not have any outstanding financing debt.

Currently Known Facts, Decisions, or Conditions

California Independent System Operator (CAISO) system power prices experienced volatility through the year ended June 30, 2025. Price variability is a normal phenomenon in electricity markets driven by seasonal and annual weather changes. In Ava's fiscal year 2025, the CAISO energy prices decreased somewhat compared to the previous fiscal year.

It is also worth noting that during Ava's fiscal year 2025, CAISO market pricing for On-Peak and Off-Peak products experienced price convergence as compared to fiscal year 2024, due in part to milder weather occurring compared to previous years, where periods of price divergence between markets occurred during extreme weather events. The convergence of prices around the clock is a phenomenon that has been developing in recent years.

Energy hedges Ava has in place offset much of the CAISO market price volatility impacts. After a couple of years of rising prices, we are currently experiencing a softening price environment, driven by price volatility in Resource Adequacy and renewable energy certificates compliance products, as well as for the carbon-free energy attribute. After expanding its service territory into Stockton and Lathrop during the current year, Ava plans for further expansion into the unincorporated areas of San Joaquin County in 2026.

Ava has in place a formal risk management policy that includes guidance on target hedge levels. Energy hedging is intended to reduce the financial risk of unexpected price surges by procuring a significant portion of future energy at fixed prices. The target hedge percentages depend on factors including time and the hedge pricing relative to historical energy costs. In general, Ava targets hedging 60-100% of its exposure in energy products on a short-duration basis of under a year and as a policy, targets to hedge greater than 90% of its exposure going into any particular month. Ava has complied with its risk management policy and regulations.

Year-over-year, Ava has retained a strong customer base with low opt-out levels, while experiencing growth from expansion into additional service territories, Stockton and Lathrop. Ava continues to be actively engaged in legislative and regulatory matters that can impact Ava's energy procurement requirements and, therefore, energy-related expenditures. This provides a level of additional support for Ava revenue retention and long-term viability as an electricity provider.

Attachment Staff Report Item 9B

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2025 AND 2024

	2025		2024
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$ 374,802,685	\$	622,533,920
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	3,691,237		9,052,151
Accounts receivable, net of allowance	92,646,802		84,962,803
Accrued revenue	61,177,258		60,952,393
Other receivables	6,776,630		242,447
Prepaid expenses	5,200,855		2,825,541
Deposits	147,000		6,143,357
Investments	30,099,286		-
Total current assets	574,541,753		786,712,612
Noncurrent assets			, ,
Deposits	1,230,512		1,193,774
Investments	299,651,534		-
Loans receivable	2,066,218		286,472
Capital assets, net of depreciation and amortization	21,080,775		10,367,342
Total noncurrent assets	324,029,039		11,847,588
Total assets	898,570,792		798,560,200
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accrued cost of electricity	119,424,612		149,299,510
Accounts payable	5,956,470		5,352,155
Advances from grantors	3,691,237		9,052,151
Other accrued liabilities	2,228,542		4,231,931
User taxes and energy surcharges due to other governments	8,455,238		7,444,637
Security deposits - energy suppliers	5,024,000		4,328,798
Total current liabilities	144,780,099		179,709,182
Noncurrent liabilities			
Security deposits - energy suppliers	_		3,600,000
Lease liability	11,878,032		-
Total noncurrent liabilities	11,878,032		3,600,000
Total liabilities	156,658,131		183,309,182
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Rate Stabilization Fund	 188,014,795		79,916,987
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	9,202,743		10,367,342
Unrestricted	544,695,123		524,966,689
Total net position	\$ 553,897,866	\$	535,334,031
		-	

AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND 2024

	2025	2024
OPERATING REVENUES		
Electricity sales, net	\$ 890,372,917	\$ 919,222,939
Revenue transferred from Rate Stabilization Fund	22,319,294	10,504,837
Revenue transferred to Rate Stabilization Fund	(130,417,102)	(37,407,824)
Liquidated damages	10,825,198	15,330,202
Grant revenue	3,822,021	1,440,935
Other operating revenues	523,852	445,263
Total operating revenues	797,446,180	909,536,352
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Cost of electricity	749,266,364	707,476,247
Contract services	24,108,447	18,980,445
Staff compensation	20,387,169	16,269,116
Other operating expenses	8,784,992	6,517,092
Depreciation and amortization	923,330	699,331
Total operating expenses	803,470,302	749,942,231
Operating income (loss)	(6,024,122)	159,594,121
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)		
Loss on disposition of assets	(80,977)	-
Investment income	24,928,705	13,149,786
Interest expense	(259,771)	(66,152)
Nonoperating revenues (expenses), net	24,587,957	13,083,634
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	18,563,835	172,677,755
Net position at beginning of year	535,334,031	362,656,276
Net position at end of year	\$ 553,897,866	\$ 535,334,031

AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND 2024

	2025	2024
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	\$ 918,096,102	\$ 939,057,618
Receipts from grantors	3,822,021	4,564,468
Other operating receipts	34,412,876	17,226,004
Receipts of supplier security deposits and damages	27,293,537	6,804,858
Payments to suppliers for electricity	(830,969,018)	(611,040,073)
Payments for other goods and services	(32,527,414)	(23,378,083)
Payments for staff compensation	(19,841,560)	(15,937,300)
Payments of deposits and collateral	(8,700,878)	(7,212,418)
Payments of taxes and surcharges to other governments	(34,621,451)	(35,743,923)
Net cash provided by operating activities	56,964,215	274,341,151
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Payments of lease liability	(727.014)	(422.790)
Purchases of capital assets	(737,014)	(433,780)
*	(115,333)	(359,262)
Net cash used by capital and related financing activities	(852,347)	(793,042)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	144,786,083	-
Loan principal received	13,474	204,549
Investment income received	24,502,449	12,784,180
Purchase of investments	(476,448,679)	-
Loan issued	(2,057,344)	_
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(309,204,017)	12,988,729
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(253,092,149)	286,536,838
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	631,586,071	345,049,233
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 378,493,922	\$ 631,586,071
Reconciliation to the Statement of Net Position		
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$ 374,802,685	\$ 622,533,920
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	3,691,237	9,052,151
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 378,493,922	\$ 631,586,071
-		

AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED) YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND 2024

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
Operating income (loss)	\$ (6,024,122)	\$ 159,594,121
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net		
cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization expense	923,330	699,331
(Increase) decrease in:		
Accounts receivable	(7,683,996)	(764,144)
Other receivables	(3,957,601)	756,904
Accrued revenue	(224,865)	(15,185,064)
Prepaid expenses	(2,375,314)	15,562,543
Deposits	(5,134,894)	(5,995,042)
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accrued cost of electricity	(29,874,898)	84,163,375
Accounts payable	543,662	1,130,355
Other accrued liabilities	663,336	254,156
Advances from grantors	(5,360,914)	4,564,468
Deferred revenue	(1,853,207)	1,721,004
User taxes due to other governments	1,010,601	39,959
Security deposits from energy suppliers	8,215,289	896,198
Rate Stabilization Fund	108,097,808	26,902,987
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 56,964,215	\$ 274,341,151
NONCASH INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Change in fair value of investments	\$ (2,091,494)	\$ -
Change in interest receivable	\$ 2,517,750	\$ 102,612
NONCASH CAPITAL AND RELATED		
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of lease asset	\$11,646,661	\$1,076,246

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

REPORTING ENTITY

Ava Community Energy Authority (Ava) is a California joint powers authority created on December 1, 2016. As of June 30, 2025, parties to its Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) consist of the following local governments, plus one representative (non-voting) from the Community Advisory Committee:

Counties	Cities	3
Alameda	Albany	Newark
San Joaquin	Berkeley	Oakland
	Dublin	Piedmont
	Emeryville	Pleasanton
	Fremont	San Leandro
	Hayward	Stockton
	Lathrop	Tracy
	Livermore	Union City

Ava is separate from and derives no financial support from its members. Ava is governed by a Board of Directors (Board) whose membership is composed of elected officials representing the member governments.

A core function of Ava is to provide electric service that includes the use of renewable sources under the Community Choice Aggregation Program under California Public Utilities Code Section 366.2.

Ava began its energy delivery operations in June 2018. Electricity is acquired from electricity suppliers and delivered through existing physical infrastructure and equipment managed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Ava's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements.

Ava's operations are accounted for as a governmental enterprise fund and are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting – similar to business enterprises. Accordingly, revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized at the time liabilities are incurred. Enterprise fund-type operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in total net position. Reported net position is segregated into three categories – investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is Ava's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For purposes of the Statements of Cash Flows, Ava defines cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less. For the purpose of the Statements of Net Position, restricted cash balances are presented separately. Restricted cash reported on the Statements of Net Position includes advance funding from grantors.

ACCRUED REVENUE

Accrued revenue reflects the estimated value of electricity delivered to customers during the reporting period for which invoices had not been issued by the end of the fiscal year.

PREPAID EXPENSES

Payments made to vendors that will benefit periods beyond the end of the current fiscal year are recorded as prepaid expenses.

DEPOSITS

Contracts to purchase energy may require Ava to provide the supplier with advanced payments or security deposits. Deposits are generally held for the term of the contract and are classified as current or noncurrent assets depending on the length of time the deposits will be outstanding.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at fair value based on prices listed on a national exchange for debt securities. Avaintends to hold its securities to maturity. Investments with a maturity of less than one year are shown as current assets in the Statement of Net Position. Investments with a maturity of one year or more are shown as noncurrent assets in the Statement of Net Position.

Ava's Investment Policy permits the following types of investments, consistent with local, State, and Federal governing codes for the investment of public funds.

Federal agency securities Commercial paper

Supranational obligations Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

Municipal debt Local Government Investment Pools (LGIP)

Medium-term notes Money market funds

Negotiable CDs Bank deposits

Placement service deposits

LEASE ASSET AND LEASE LIABILITY

Ava recognizes an asset and liability when it enters into certain leasing arrangements. The leased asset is amortized over the term of the lease. The lease liability is the present value of payments expected to be paid to the lessor during the lease term. Ava's only leased asset and liability relate to its office premises.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Ava's policy is to capitalize furniture and equipment valued over \$1,000 that is expected to be in service for over one year. Depreciation is computed according to the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of three years for electronic equipment, seven years for furniture and leasehold improvements, unless limited by the length of the original lease term. Ava does not own any electric generation assets.

ADVANCES FROM GRANTORS

Ava received grant funding from various grantors. The amount in this category represents funds received by Ava but not yet expended to carry out specific goals. See Note 8 for additional information related to grants administered by Ava.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

SECURITY DEPOSITS - LIABILITY

Various energy contracts entered into by Ava require the supplier to provide Ava with a security deposit. Security deposits are held by Ava for the duration of the contract or until certain milestones are met. Deposits are classified as current or noncurrent depending on the length of time the deposits will be held.

RATE STABILIZATION FUND

Ava created a Rate Stabilization Fund to allow a deferral of revenue in years when financial results are strong to be used in future years when financial results are stressed. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 62 and GASB Statement No. 65, the amount recognized as an addition to the fund is shown as a reduction of operating revenues and reported on the statements of net position as a deferred inflow of resources.

Ava directed revenue of \$130,417,102 and \$37,407,824 to the Rate Stabilization Fund for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Ava recognized revenues of \$22,319,294 and \$10,504,837 from the Rate Stabilization Fund for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. The accumulated balance in the Rate Stabilization Fund as of June 30, 2025 and 2024 was approximately \$188,015,000 and \$79,917,000, respectively.

NET POSITION

Net position is presented in the following components:

Net Investment in capital assets: This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization and reduced by a lease obligation that is attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Unrestricted: This component of net position consists of net position that does not meet the definition of "investment in capital assets" or "restricted."

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING REVENUES

Operating revenues include energy sales to retail and wholesale customers, grant revenue earned from the delivery of program activities, and liquidated damages from suppliers that fail to meet delivery commitments.

Investment income and grants that are not earned from the delivery of program activities are considered "nonoperating revenues."

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Ava recognizes revenue on an accrual basis. This includes invoices issued to customers during the reporting period and electricity estimated to have been delivered but not yet invoiced. Management estimates that a portion of the invoiced amounts will be uncollectible. Accordingly, an allowance for uncollectible accounts has been recorded.

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING EXPENSES

Operating expenses include the costs of electricity, services, administrative expenses, and depreciation of capital assets. Operating expenses are expenses other than nonoperating expenses. Nonoperating expenses include expenses related to financing.

COST OF ELECTRICITY

During the normal course of business, Ava purchases electrical power from numerous suppliers. Electricity costs include the cost of energy and capacity arising from bilateral contracts with energy suppliers as well as generation credits, and load and other charges arising from Ava's participation in the California Independent System Operator's centralized market. The cost of electricity and capacity is recognized as "Cost of electricity" in the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position.

To comply with the State of California's Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) and self-imposed benchmarks, Ava acquires RPS eligible renewable energy evidenced by Renewable Energy Certificates (Certificates) recognized by the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System. Ava obtains Certificates with the intent to retire them and does not sell or build surpluses of Certificates with a profit motive.

Ava purchases capacity commitments from qualifying generators to comply with the California Public Utilities Commission's Resource Adequacy (RA) Program. The goals of the RA Program are to provide sufficient resources to the California Independent System Operator to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the electrical grid in real-time and to provide appropriate incentives for the siting and construction of new resources needed for reliability in the future.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

STAFFING COSTS

Ava pays employees semi-monthly and fully satisfies its obligation for health benefits and contributions to its defined contribution retirement plan. Ava does not provide post-employment healthcare or other fringe benefits and, accordingly, no related liability is recorded in these financial statements.

Ava provides compensated absences, including paid time off, which are accrued when earned and recorded as part of accrued liabilities. The liability includes leave that is attributable to services already rendered, accumulates, and is more likely than not to be used or paid. The liability is measured using the employee's pay rate as of the financial statement date.

INCOME TAXES

Ava is a joint powers authority under the provision of the California Government Code and is not subject to federal or state income or franchise taxes.

ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain amounts in the prior year financial statements have been reclassified for comparative purposes to conform to the presentation of the current year's financial statements. These reclassifications did not result in any change in the previously reported net position.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Ava maintains its cash in both interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing deposit accounts in several banks. Ava's deposits are subject to California Government Code Section 16521, which requires banks to provide collateral of 110% of balances in excess of the \$250,000 insurance coverage by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Accordingly, the amount of risk is not disclosed for bank deposits. The risk disclosures in Note 4 address the risks related to certain short-term investments with original maturities of less than three months that are classified as cash and cash equivalents in the statements of net position and statements of cashflow. Ava monitors its risk exposure on an ongoing basis.

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable were as follows as of June 30:

	2025	2024
Accounts receivable from customers	\$131,096,802	\$110,562,803
Allowance for uncollectible accounts	(38,450,000)	(25,600,000)
Net accounts receivable	\$ 92,646,802	\$ 84,962,803

The majority of account collections occur within the first few months after a customer is invoiced. Ava estimates that a portion of the billed accounts will not be collected. Ava continues collection efforts on accounts in excess of *de minimis* balances regardless of the age of the account. Although collection success generally decreases with the age of the receivable, Ava continues to have success collecting older accounts.

4. INVESTMENTS

During the year ended June 30, 2025 Ava held investments with original maturities of three months or more. As of June 30, the fair value of investments was as follows:

	2025	 2024		Level
Current Investments:				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 32,300,630	\$	-	1
Corporate bonds	9,545,954		-	2
Adjust for U.S. Treasury securities above				
presented as cash equivalents on the				
Statements of Net Position	(11,747,298)		-	
Total current investments	\$ 30,099,286	\$		
	2025	2024		Level
Noncurrent Investments:				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 88,529,207	\$	-	1
U.S. agency obligations	71,563,407		-	2
Corporate bonds	138,743,447		-	2
Municipal bonds	815,473		-	2
Total noncurrent investments	\$ 299,651,534	\$	_	

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

GASB Statement No. 72, Fair Value Measurement and Application, sets forth the framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets, Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs, and Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

In instances where inputs used to measure fair value fall into different levels in the above fair value hierarchy, fair value measurements in their entirety are categorized based on the lowest level input that is significant to the valuation. Ava's assessment of the significance of particular inputs to these fair value measurements requires judgment and considers factors specific to each asset or liability.

4. INVESTMENTS (continued)

CREDIT RISK

Credit risk is the risk an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Certain investments, such as obligations of the U.S. government or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government are considered to have no credit risk. As of June 30, 2025, all investments were rated between A3 and Aaa by Moody's.

Ava's investment policy addresses this risk by limiting investments to those allowed by Section 53601 of the California Government Code.

CUSTODIAL CREDIT RISK

Cash and cash equivalents

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, Ava's deposits may not be returned to Ava. Ava's deposits are fully insured or collateralized.

As of June 30, 2025, none of Ava's bank balances are known to be exposed to credit risk.

Investments

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, Ava would not be able to recover the value of the investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All of Ava's investments are exposed to credit risk.

Ava's investment policy addresses custodial credit risk. All investments owned by Ava shall be held in safekeeping by a third-party custodian, acting as an agent for Ava under the terms of a custody agreement.

4. INVESTMENTS (continued)

INTEREST RATE RISK

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a fixed income portfolio to changes in interest rates. It is calculated as the weighted average time to receive a bond's coupon and principal payments. The longer the duration of a portfolio, the greater its price sensitivity to changes in interest rates. Ava manages its exposure to declines in fair values by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investments.

Following is a summary of investment maturities as of June 30, 2025:

		Investment	Maturities
Investment Type	Fair Value	Less Than 1	1-5 Years
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 109,082,539	\$ 20,553,332	\$ 88,529,207
U.S. agency obligations	71,563,407	-	71,563,407
Corporate bonds	148,289,401	9,545,954	138,743,447
Municipal bonds	815,473	-	815,473
	\$ 329,750,820	\$ 30,099,286	\$ 299,651,534

CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss to the magnitude of Ava's investment in a single issuer. Ava manages the concentration of credit risk by diversifying its portfolio so that reliance on any one issuer will not place an undue burden on Ava.

As of June 30, 2025, Ava's investment portfolio was concentrated as follows:

		Percentage
		of Portfolio
Issuer	Investment Type	2025
Federal Home Loan Mortgage	U.S. agency -	19.7%
Corporation (Freddie Mac)	implicitly guaranteed	19.//0

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2025, was as follows:

	Beginning			
	balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Building - not in service	\$ 5,131,484	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,131,484
Land	4,255,380			4,255,380
Total capital assets not being depreciated	9,386,864			9,386,864
Capital assets being depreciated and amortized:				
Furniture and equipment	800,303	71,079	(355,079)	516,303
Leasehold improvements	71,911	-	(71,911)	-
Lease asset	1,076,246	11,646,661	(1,076,246)	11,646,661
Total capital assets being depreciated and amortized:	1,948,460	11,717,740	(1,503,236)	12,162,964
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:				
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements	(429,859)	(153,821)	346,013	(237,667)
Lease asset	(538,123)	(769,509)	1,076,246	(231,386)
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	(967,982)	(923,330)	1,422,259	(469,053)
Total capital assets, net of depreciation and amortization	\$10,367,342	\$10,794,410	\$ (80,977)	\$ 21,080,775

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Beginning			Ending
	balance	Increases	Decreases	balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Building - not in service	\$ 5,131,484	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,131,484
Land	4,255,380			4,255,380
Total capital assets not being depreciated	9,386,864	-	-	9,386,864
Capital assets being depreciated and amortized:				
Furniture and equipment	481,818	318,485	-	800,303
Leasehold improvements	-	71,911	-	71,911
Lease asset		1,076,246		1,076,246
Total capital assets being depreciated and amortized:	481,818	1,466,642		1,948,460
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:				
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements	(268,651)	(161,208)	-	(429,859)
Lease asset		(538,123)		(538,123)
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	(268,651)	(699,331)		(967,982)
Total capital assets, net of depreciation and amortization	\$ 9,600,031	\$ 767,311	\$ -	\$10,367,342

6. LEASE

A lease asset is reported in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 87 (GASB No. 87). In July 2023, Ava entered into two lease agreements, one a sublease and one a main lease, for its office premises. Both agreements are for the same office space and each lease runs in succession over the period September 1, 2023 through October 31, 2032. The sublease was in effect until April 2025 when the main lease became active. The lease includes several periods of abated rent, which is reflected in the table below.

As of June 30, 2025, future minimum lease payments under the sublease were projected as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total	
Year ending June 30,				
2026	\$ -	\$ 905,088	\$ 905,088	
2027	415,767	977,408	1,393,175	
2028	543,969	891,001	1,434,970	
2029	635,830	842,189	1,478,019	
2030	734,003	788,357	1,522,360	
2031-2035	5,572,008	2,816,673	8,388,681	
2036-2038	3,976,455	397,458	4,373,913	
Total	\$ 11,878,032	\$ 7,618,174	\$ 19,496,206	

7. DEBT

In October 2022, Ava closed its revolving credit agreement with Barclays Bank and entered into a new agreement with U.S. Bank (formerly Union Bank). The available credit line under the new agreement is \$200,000,000. The credit agreement enhances Ava's overall liquidity for potential working capital needs and collateral requirements. This agreement terminates in October 2025. The borrowing rate on the credit facility is 1.4%.

Ava had no debt outstanding under either line of credit agreement as of June 30, 2025 or 2024. However, Ava did issue standby letters of credit secured by the line of credit agreement. As of June 30, 2025 and 2024, these letters of credit reduce the available portion of the line by approximately \$39,800,000 and \$34,000,000, respectively, but are not considered debt to Ava.

8. GRANTS

Ava participates in various grants from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and other sources.

The Disadvantaged Communities Green Tariff (DAC-GT) grant provides bill discounts for eligible customers. The Energy Efficiency grant provides incentives for customers to install various energy-saving equipment in their homes or businesses. Ava also receives other grants for miscellaneous purposes, including those related to vehicle electrification projects.

The following is a summary of grant revenue for the years ended June 30:

	2025	2024	
Energy Efficiency - CPUC	\$ 1,912,129	\$ 64,834	
DAC-GT	1,349,301	1,241,705	
Miscellaneous	560,591	134,396	
Total grant revenue	\$ 3,822,021	\$ 1,440,935	

9. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN

The Ava 401(a) Plan (the Plan) is a defined contribution retirement plan administered by LT Trust. As of June 30, 2025, there were 96 plan members. Ava is required to contribute a match up to 6% of annual covered payroll to the Plan and contributed \$2,077,000 and \$1,697,000 during the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Ava has elected out of the Social Security system for employees eligible for the Plan. As part of this election, Ava makes required "replacement" contributions to the Plan. Plan provisions are established and may be amended by the Board.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT

Ava is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; and errors and omissions. During the years, Ava purchased insurance policies from investment-grade commercial carriers to mitigate risks that include those associated with earthquakes, theft, general liability, errors and omissions, and property damage. Deductible limits range from \$0 to \$1,000. Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in the last two years. There were no significant reductions in coverage compared to the prior year. From time to time, Ava may be party to various pending claims and legal proceedings. Although the outcome of such matters cannot be forecasted with certainty, it is the opinion of management and Ava's legal counsel that the likelihood is remote that any such claims or proceedings will have a material adverse effect on Ava's financial position or results of operations.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

Ava maintains risk management policies, procedures and systems that help mitigate credit, liquidity, market, operating, regulatory and other risks that arise from participation in the California energy market. Credit guidelines include a preference for transacting with investment-grade counterparties, evaluating counterparties' financial condition and assigning credit limits as applicable. These credit limits are established based on risk and return considerations under terms customarily available in the industry. In addition, Ava enters into netting arrangements whenever possible and where appropriate obtains collateral and other performance assurances from counterparties.

11. PURCHASE COMMITMENTS

In the ordinary course of business, Ava enters into various power purchase agreements in order to acquire renewable and other energy and electric capacity. The price and volume of purchased power may be fixed or variable. Variable pricing is generally based on the market price of either natural gas or electricity at the date of delivery. Variable volume is generally associated with contracts to purchase energy from as-available resources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric facilities.

The following table details the obligations on existing energy, renewable, and resource adequacy contracts as of June 30, 2025:

Year ending June 30,	
2026	\$ 847,400,000
2027	740,000,000
2028	669,300,000
2029	605,600,000
2030	603,600,000
2031-2049	 6,071,800,000
Total	\$ 9,537,700,000

12. JOINT VENTURE

Ava participates in a JPA through the California Community Choice Financing Authority (CCCFA). CCCFA was formed as a conduit issuer to assist its members by undertaking the financing or refinancing of energy prepayments that can be financed with tax-advantaged bonds on behalf of one or more of the members by issuing or incurring bonds and entering into related contracts with its members. Any debt or liability incurred by CCCFA on behalf of a member to prepay for renewable energy is not a debt or liability of that member. Furthermore, the assets of CCCFA in the form of prepaid energy or reserves held by the respective bond trustees for any prepayment transaction undertaken on behalf of a member does not constitute an asset or reserve of that member.

CCCFA issued bonds which are to be used to finance energy purchases that will be delivered to Ava. No debt, liability, or obligation of CCCFA is a debt, liability, or obligation of Ava. Ava will purchase energy from CCCFA in the same manner as it purchases energy from other suppliers. Ava purchased approximately \$54,201,000 and \$56,436,000 from CCCFA during fiscal years 2025 and 2024, respectively. The outstanding purchase commitments related to these financing facilities are included in Note 11.

The financial statements of CCCFA are available online at http://www.cccfa.org/key-documents.html.

13. RECENTLY ADOPTED ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

Ava implemented GASB Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, which requires additional disclosures regarding concentrations and constraints that could impact Ava's financial position or results of operations. Implementation of this statement did not have a material effect on the financial statements.

Ava also implemented GASB Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*, which establishes revised guidance for the presentation of financial statements by state and local governments. The adoption of this statement did not have a material effect on Ava's financial statements.

In addition, Ava adopted GASB Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*. Implementation of this statement did not have a material effect on the financial statements.

14. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

NEW MEMBERS

The County of San Joaquin (County) has voted to join Ava, and Ava's Board has approved the County's admission. An implementation plan has been filed with the CPUC and is currently being evaluated. If certified, service to the County would be expected to begin sometime in the 2026 calendar year.

NEW CREDIT FACILITY

In October 2025, Ava ended its existing \$200,000,000 revolving credit agreement with US Bank and entered into a new three-year revolving credit agreement with PNC Bank for \$300,000,000.



FY 2024-2025 Budget to Actual Performance and Deferred Revenue Allocation

Rusty Mills | November 19, 2025



FY 2024-25 Budget to Actuals

Overall, actual Revenues out-performed expectations while Operating Expenditures were in line with budgeted estimates.

- Electricity Sales were 2.4%, or \$21.5MM, above budget expectations
- Ava recognized about \$22.3MM from previously deferred revenues for customer on-bill credits in January of 2025
- Uncollectables were higher than expected due to true up in accounts receivables across multiple periods
- Overall energy costs were slightly below Budget by 1.4%, or \$11MM
- Total Operating Expenditures were slightly below Budget by -0.6%
- Overhead items were materially under Budget by -27.6%, or \$12.4MM
- Other Sources outperformed by \$25.4MM due to higher-thanexpected investment income as interest rates stayed higher for longer, and the collection of performance and delay of resource damages from contractual agreements
- Approximately \$130.4MM of net revenues were deferred to the RSF and on-bill credits

REVENUES	Budget	Actuals	
Electricity Sales	881,671,000	903,222,917	2.4%
Revenue Recognized from Previous Deferrals*	-	22,319,294	
Uncollectable	(8,817,000)	(12,850,000)	45.7%
Total Revenue and Other Sources	872,854,000	912,692,211	4.6%
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES			
OPERATING EXPENDITURES			
Cost of Energy	760,248,000	749,266,364	-1.4%
Data Management/Customer Service	8,057,000	8,480,433	5.3%
PG&E Service Fees	2,820,000	2,815,289	-0.2%
CAISO Scheduling Coordinator	731,000	723,146	-1.1%
Personnel	26,592,000	20,387,169	-23.3%
Marketing & Communications	6,168,000	3,711,163	-39.8%
Legal, Policy, & Regulatory Affairs	4,104,000	1,689,641	-58.8%
Other Professional Services	2,136,000	1,742,950	-18.4%
General & Administrative	5,868,000	4,972,203	-15.3%
Total Current Expenditures	816,724,000	793,788,358	-2.8%
OTHER SOURCES & USES			
Investment Income	11,400,000	24,813,379	117.7%
Other Income	399,000	523,852	31.3%
Liquidated Damages	-	10,825,198	100.0%
Interest & Financing Costs	(2,796,000)	(1,282,356)	-54.1%
Local Development Transfer	(22,400,000)	(22,400,000)	0.0%
Capital Expenditures **	(499,000)	(966,824)	93.8%
Total Other Sources & Uses	(13,896,000)	11,513,249	-182.9%
GROSS INCREASE (DECREASE)	42,234,000	130,417,102	208.8%
Revenue Deferred to RSF and Credits*	-	(130,417,102)	0.0%
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	42,234,000	-	-100.0%
* Amount not determinable at time of budget approv	ral		

^{**} Depreciation has been removed from Operations and is expressed as Capital Expenditures

Budget Net Revenues to Audit Net Position Reconciliation

The Budget is an internal proforma document set at the discretion of the Board. The financial statements in the Audit are standardized by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and have additional rules set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Ava drafts each budget in accordance with industry best practices and does best efforts to align with GAAP and GASB standards, but fundamental differences exist and reconciliation should be defined.

The table below reconciles the audited Net Position increase to the budget actuals Net Revenues

Reconciled Item	Details	Amount	Balance
Audited Net Position	Includes net deferred revenues		18,563,835
Loss on Disposition of Assets	Accrued depreciation of discarded assets	(80,978)	18,644,813
LD Actual Expenses	Actual FY 24/25 Program expenses	(8,213,268)	26,858,081
LD Budget Allocation	Budgeted capital transfer to Programs	22,400,000	4,458,081
LD Revenue from Grants	FY 24/25 grant revenue in Programs	3,822,021	636,060
LD Interest Income	Interest on development loans	115,326	520,734
Capital Outlay	Capital reconcilliation	43,494	477,240
GASB 87 Lease	Lease obligations outstanding as of 6/30/2025	477,240	-

Deferred Revenue

- September 17, 2025, the Board of Directors (the "Board") approved resolution R-2025-41 adopting the Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF) Policy to allow surplus revenues to be deferred for later uses.
- The Board also adopted resolution R-2025-42 allocating 90% of fiscal year 2024-25 net revenues to be deferred to the RSF and 10% to on-bill credits for CARE/FERA customers for distribution in the 2025-26 fiscal year.
- Based upon the audited financial statements and the net revenues to net position reconciliation, it is
 determined that \$130,417,102 comprises 100% of net revenues for the fiscal year, of which
 \$13,041,710 will be allocated to on-bill credits and the remainder to the RSF

Usage	Balance	Guidance
		R-2025-41 authorizes conversions from previous budget deferrals.
RSF	149,505,118	R-2025-23 authorizes recognition of ~\$35MM to balance FY25-26 budget.
On-bill Credits	13,041,710	R-2025-42 authorizes deferral for specified use and recognition in FY 2025-26
		R-2023-37 authorizes deferral for specified use.
Renewables	10,504,837	R-2024-26 authorizes recognition in 2027
Solar/Storage Incentives	14,963,130	R-2024-2 authorizes deferral for specified use.
Total Deferrals	188,014,795	



Staff Report Item 10

To:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Howard Chang, CEO
Subject:	Calendar Year 2026 Budget Forecast & Adjustments
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary

Staff is presenting on the financial forecast for calendar 2026 and reviewing recommended measures to offset a forecasted deficit of \$247MM from July 2025 to December 2026. This memo relies upon the comprehensive presentation detailing the calendar year 2026 financial forecast and measures available to allow Ava to reduce customer bills, remain competitive to PG&E, and offset a forecasted financial deficit.

Important context for this review is that Fiscal year 2024-25 actualized with a strong budget surplus of ~\$130.4MM serving to provide a significant Rate Stabilization Fund. Additionally, 2026 residential generation rates (Ava generation + PG&E PCIA charges) are forecasted to decrease by ~30% from 2025 levels. Reducing Ava's rates has been a critical focus to address affordability concerns in the face of rising electricity prices, primarily driven by PG&E's transmission & distribution charges.

Staff is seeking approval to:

- Direct 100% of the 2024-25 budget surplus to RSF
- Reduce local development funding by \$10MM from non-earmarked funding
- Move forward on the process to adjust the value proposition, effective January 2026 to:
 - 1% savings for Bright Choice and Renewable 100 at a 1¼¢ premium to PG&E
 - To be formally voted out by Board on Dec 17, 2025 following public comment
- Utilize up to the full Rate Stabilization Fund in 2026 to manage the financial deficit

• Staff is recommending future consideration of adjustments to 2027 procurement levels

This memo serves as a very succinct summary and reference should be made to the presentation for further details.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #1: On-bill credit update
- B. Resolution #2: Local Development budget update
- C. PowerPoint Presentation

RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY ON ON-BILL CREDIT ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS REVENUE FROM FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

WHEREAS, Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava") was formed as a community choice aggregation agency ("CCA") on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 *et seq.*, among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") in March of 2020. The city of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The city of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception;

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2024, the Board of Directors (the "Board") approved a plan to allocate Fiscal Year 2024-2025 net position surplus money to reserve funds, a CARE/FERA customer on-bill credit, and to Net Billing Tariff incentives program;

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2025 the Board approved an amendment to allocate 90% of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 net position surplus money to a Rate Stabilization Fund and 10% to a CARE/FERA customer on-bill credit:

WHEREAS, staff have completed the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the Board has received the final audit results:

WHEREAS, Structural reform to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment in 2025 and energy market changes created a material and detrimental impact on revenue, (the "Fiscal Impact");

WHEREAS, due to the Fiscal Impact, the forecast for 2026 shows a significant budget deficit which would be aided by the inclusion of the full Fiscal Year 2024-2025 surplus into the Rate Stabilization Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Allocate 100% of Fiscal year 2024-2025 net position surplus to a Rate Stabilization Fund, superseding a Board amendment made on September 17, 2025 ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 19th day of November 2025.

	Betsy Andersen, Chair
ATTEST:	
Adrian Bankhead, Clerk of the B	— oard

RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY TO AMEND THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT BUGDET

WHEREAS Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava") was formed as a community choice aggregation agency ("CCA") on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 *et seq.*, among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") in March of 2020. The city of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The city of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception.

WHEREAS The Board approved nearly \$105M towards Local Development funding from Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 through FY 2025;

WHEREAS As presented to the Board in March 2025, some of the Local Development budget allocation from FY 2020 through FY 2025 has not been assigned to specific work or programs;

WHEREAS On June 18, 2025, the Board approved an additional \$10,190,000 to be allocated to Local Development work as part of the FY 2026 budget for the agency, of which \$4M was assigned to "Future Roadmap Funding";

WHEREAS, Structural reform to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment in 2025 and energy market changes created a material and detrimental impact on revenue, (the "Fiscal Impact")

WHEREAS, due to the Fiscal Impact, the forecast for 2026 shows a significant budget deficit, which would be aided by a \$10MM reduction in Local Development Funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> The Board approves a reduction of the Local Development budget allocation from FY 2020 through FY 2025 by \$6M from unassigned funding.

<u>Section 2.</u> The Board approves a reduction of the Local Development budget allocation for FY 2026 by \$4M by eliminating the budget for "Future Roadmap Funding."

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this	19 th day of November, 2025.
	Betsy Andersen, Chair
ATTEST:	
Adrian Bankhead, Clerk of the Bo	ard



Calendar Year 2026 Financial Forecast & Adjustments November 19, 2025



Introduction

- Fiscal year 2024-25 actualized with a strong budget surplus of ~\$130.4MM
- 2026 residential generation rates (Ava generation + PG&E PCIA charges) are forecasted to decrease by ~30% from 2025 levels
- Review calendar year 2026 financial forecast and consider different measures to allow Ava to reduce customer bills, remain competitive to PG&E, and offset a forecasted financial deficit of \$247MM from July 2025 to December 2026
 - 2025 PCIA and energy market price changes
 - Historical generation rates
 - 2026 Financial Forecast
 - Measures to consider
- Staff is recommending a number of measures for board consideration, some of which require action in Nov/Dec: Adjustments to value proposition, changes to 2024-25 budget surplus allocation, and changes to local development funding
- With the established RSF, substantial Reserves, Compliance Period Procurement Method, \$300MM line of credit, and the value that we have created for our customers since launching in 2018, we are well positioned to work through challenges in 2026 and significantly reduce customer rates

PCIA and Market Price Changes

June 2025 CPUC PCIA Reform (Track 1)

- CPUC adopted a decision (<u>D.25-06-049</u>) under an accelerated 4-month schedule revising how Market Price Benchmarks ("MPBs") are calculated for Resource Adequacy ("RA").
 - Note: Ava and CalCCA's requests for rehearing to the CPUC were denied (D.25-10-061).
- RA MPBs now use multi-year averaging instead of single-year data, among other changes. This smooths the effect of price volatility, lowers MPBs for 2025 and 2026, and increases the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment ("PCIA").
- This change is being implemented to 2026 rates and includes a retroactive true-up on 2025 rates
- Track 2 (2026-27) will examine potential changes to renewable and brown power MPB calculations

October 2025 PG&E ERRA Filing

- PG&E's Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) filing provided revised revenue requirements, PCIA MPBs, and 2026 rates
- RA MPBs decrease materially due to PCIA reform while Renewables and Brown Power decrease due to softening prices

PG&E PCIA Adders	Forecast 2025**	<u>Final</u> 2025**	Forecast 2026**	% Δ 2025 Forecast vs. Final
RA (\$/kW-month) System RA Local RA (PG&E) Flex RA	\$42.54 \$13.29 \$14.16	\$11.21 \$11.21 \$11.21	\$11.53 \$11.53 \$11.53	(73.6%) (15.7%) (20.8%)
Renewables (\$/MWh)	\$71.24	\$63.86	\$62.45	(10.4%)
Brown Power (\$/MWh) On Peak Off Peak	\$55.02 \$53.18		\$50.20 \$52.31	(9.6%) (1.6%)

^{**}Source: PG&E-06, [2024] Fall Update Testimony, (A.24-05-009), Table A & B, pp. 10-11; Exhibit PG&E-06, [2025] Fall Update Testimony, (A.25-05-011), Table A & B, pp. 16-17.

Historic Generation Rates



Note: Chart reflects 2018 PCIA vintage TOU-C (Ava's most common residential rate)

Ava value proposition July update

- Ava is seeking to reduce its 2026 Bright Choice generation rates by ~40-50% from 2025 levels
- 2026 generation rates (including PCIA) are expected to decrease by ~32% from 2025 levels
- PG&E's 2026 T&D rates are projected to increase ~4% from 2025 levels
- 2026 overall electricity bills are projected to decrease by ~11% from 2025 levels

2025 to 2026 Forecasted Budget Impacts

OPERATING ACTIVITY TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	Jul-Dec 597,713,000	Jan-Jun 251,746,000	Jul-Dec 350,605,000
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	597,713,000	251,746,000	350,605,000
EXPENSES & OTHER USES			
Total Energy Operating Expenses	461,757,000	392,265,000	533,546,000
Total Overhead Operating Expenses	21,368,000	24,185,000	25,158,000
T NON-OPERATING POSITION	2,618,000	2,003,000	6,799,000

- Cal Year 2026 deficit of (\$364MM), net with 2nd half 2025 surplus of \$117MM = (\$247MM)
- FY 2025-2026 estimates are updated from the board approved budget on June 18, 2025
 - Actuals: July to September; Updated projections: October to June
- FY 2026-2027 budget has the following assumptions:
 - Energy market forecasts are based on October ERRA and industry derived forward prices
 - 4% increase in operating expenses
 - \$0 allocated to Local Development

Measures to Consider

Measure	Approximate Value	Cumulative Value
Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF)	\$149.5MM	\$149.5MM
Value Proposition Change in January 2026 Bright Choice: 5% → 1% and Renewable 100: 0.25¢ →1.25¢ per kWh	\$51.7MM	\$201.2MM
2024-25 Budget Surplus On-bill credits moved to RSF	\$13.0MM	\$214.2MM
2025-26 Local Development budget reduction (non earmarked funding)	\$10.0MM	\$224.2MM
Reduce REC procurement	\$4-12MM	\$228.2MM

- Projected deficit for July 2025 through Dec 2026 is (\$247MM)
 - ~\$20MM deficit remains following all recommended actions
- Staff recommends very prudent management of expenses and close monitoring of actuals & liquidity
 - Consider further action in 2026 as 2nd half carries the largest proportion of deficit

Summary of RSF and Reserve Balances

- Staff recommends utilization of RSF in full in 2026 to offset the deficit
- Staff does not recommend any material use of Reserves
 - Maintain sufficient liquidity and credit stability
- Utilization of RSF will lead to a significant reduction in cash levels
 - Ava has a \$300MM line of credit for short-term liquidity needs, if necessary
 - \$257MM is available, net of planned posted letters of credit

	As of June 30, 2025	Added	Current
RSF	32,129,726	117,375,392	149,505,118
Reserves	330,873,400	-	330,873,400
Totals	363,003,126	117,375,392	480,378,518

Adjustments to Value Proposition

Bright Choice and Renewable 100 value proposition adjustments scenarios

Generation Rate Discount to PG&E	2026 Revenue Contribution - Bright Choice (\$MM)
4%	6.3
3%	12.6
2%	18.8
1%	25.1
0%	31.4

¢ per kWh Adder to PG&E	2026 Revenue Contribution - Renewable 100 (\$MM)
0.5	6.6
0.75	13.3
1.0	19.9
1.25	26.5
1.5	33.2

Bright Choice Discount, Renewable 100 Adder	2026 Revenue Contribution (\$MM)
4%, 0.5¢	12.9
3%, 0.75¢	25.8
2%, 1.0¢	38.7
1%, 1.25¢	51.7
0%, 1.5¢	64.6

Ava has updated the value proposition three times. Bright Choice was at a 1% savings 2020-2022 years.

Service Plan	Start Service 2018	July 2020	July 2022	July 2023 - Current
Bright Choice % below PG&E	1.5%	1%	3%	5%
Renewable 100 Premium	1¢		0.75¢	0.25¢

Recommended Adjustments to Value Proposition Attachment Staff Report Item 10C

Staff recommends adjusting the value proposition, effective January 2026 to:

- 1% savings for Bright Choice
- Renewable 100 at a 1.25¢ premium to PG&E

Note:

- Historically, when rates are high Ava's Bright Choice discount has increased and when rates are low, the discount has decreased
- Renewable 100 at a 1.25¢ premium in 2026 is 20% lower than 2025's Bright Choice rate

Ava Generation Plus PCIA	Average Residential Rate (\$/kWh)			Percent Rate Decrease	
	2025	2026, Current	2026, Proposed	2025 to 2026, Current	2025 to 2026, Proposed
Bright Choice	0.1422	0.0969	0.1003	32%	29%
Renewable 100	0.1522	0.1038	0.1138	32%	25%

Value Proposition Update Schedule

Ava follows the Board-adopted protocol in updating the Ava value proposition:

Protocol Event	Schedule (approx)
Present to Full Board (Added step to the required protocol)	11/19
Present rates to Executive Committee	12/3
Two community webinars	11/24 - 12/5
Receive written comments.	11/20 - 12/8
Presentation to Community Advisory Committee	12/15
Present findings & feedback from Exec Committee, CAC, public webinar, and written comments to the Board prior to a decision	12/17

Ava Customer Savings and Value

\$174 million

Total customer savings since 2018

\$115 million

Reinvested in our communities since 2018 through programs, such as:

- Local Infrastructure
 - Critical Municipal Facilities
 - Ava Charge
- Programs
 - Ava Bike Electric
 - SmartHome Charging
 - Health-e Communities
- Local sponsorships
- Community grants
- Local vendor spending

\$40 million

Paid to date for local generation, driving economic development, local union jobs, and tax revenue

- Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center
- Kola Battery Storage System



In 2024, Bright Choice was 60% eligible renewable energy (96% carbon-free) at lower rates than PG&E

2024-25 Budget Surplus On-bill credits moved to RSF

Staff recommends directing 100% of the 2024-25 budget surplus to RSF

Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget surplus allocation was amended at Sept 17, 2025 Board meeting

- 90% of surplus net revenues to be allocated to the Rate Stabilization Fund
- 10% to on-bill credits for CARE/FERA customers \$13,041,710
 - Potential for one-time \$80 on-bill credit

Previous on-bill credits provided to CARE/FERA customer bills:

- \$100 in January 2025
- \$50 in November 2023 and August 2022

Generation rates (inclusive of PCIA) are expected to decrease by 30% in 2025

- Avg monthly CARE Ava generation charges in 2025: \$54
- Avg monthly CARE Ava generation charges in 2026 (@ 1% discount): \$38
- Estimated annual generation bill reduction in 2026: \$192
- Customer savings is greater through rate reduction compared to a one-time bill credit
- Note: This does not account for any changes in PG&E's T&D charges

Local Development Budget reduction

- Staff recommends reducing Local Development funding by \$10MM,
 - \$6MM from previously non-earmarked funding
 - \$4MM from 2025-26 non-earmarked budget
- Ava has allocated a total of \$104.5MM historically 2019-2025
 - ~\$17.1MM has been fully expensed, the remainder to be spent over the life of the program
 - Larger budget programs are in execution or late stages of design with most program dollars to be fully spent in next 5-10 years
 - ~\$9.5MM of funding is currently not earmarked for a specific program
 - Detailed Fund accounting was provided in the March 2025 Board meeting
- 2025-2026 budget includes an allocation of \$10.2MM to Local Development with \$4MM that was not earmarked to a specific program, but intended for future programs

Renewable Energy Procurement Adjustmentation Staff Report Item 10C

2026 (Base Case)	
Renewable	52.7%
Hydro	17.9%
Nuclear	6.5%
Unspecified	22.9%
GHG Emis. intensity	299
Excess '24 RE applied	7.3%
Excess '24 Hydro applied	3.1%

Base Case:

- Renewable + Hydro = 70.6%
- Utilizes excess procurement from 2024/2025 to meet target
- Retains ~5% excess hydro for 2027

Estimated savings: n/a

2026 (5% RE/Hydro Reduction)		
Renewable	47.7%	
Hydro	12.9%	
Nuclear	6.5%	
Unspecified	27.9%	
GHG Emis. intensity	352	
Excess '24 RE applied	7.3%	
Excess '24 Hydro applied	8%	

<u>5% Renewable Energy Reduction</u>:

- Renewable + Hydro = 65.6%
- Fully utilizes excess procurement from 2024/2025
- Requires 5% additional renewables in 2027

Estimated savings: \$8MM

- Staff recommends future consideration of adjustments to lower 2027 procurement targets
- Ava Compliance Period Procurement covers 2024-2027
- 2024/25 excess procurement = 15.3%
 - o RE: 7.3% (in 2026 volumes)
 - o Hydro: 8% (in 2026 volumes)
- 2026 RE + Hydro Ava target: 81%
- 2027 RE + Hydro Ava target: 85%
- A 5% reduction in 2027 renewable procurement is ~\$6MM savings

Note: Scenarios are estimates; exact savings, PCL %, & emissions to be determined by actual transactions

Conclusion

- Ava is seeking to reduce overall generation charges by 25-30% in 2026 with Ava's generation component going down 40-50%
- Such a significant rate reduction is projected to lead to a forecasted deficit of ~\$247MM for the July 2025 to Dec 2026 timeframe
- Staff is recommending several measures to allow Ava to reduce customer bills and remain competitive to PG&E, while offsetting the forecasted financial deficit
- Staff is seeking approval to:
 - Direct 100% of the 2024-25 budget surplus to RSF
 - Reduce local development funding by \$10MM from non-earmarked funding
 - o Move forward on the process to adjust the value proposition, effective January 2026 to:
 - 1% savings for Bright Choice and Renewable 100 at a 1.25¢ premium to PG&E
 - To be formally voted out by Board on Dec 17, 2025 following public comment
 - Utilize up to the full Rate Stabilization Fund in 2026 to manage the financial deficit (a formal review and authorization to come with the 2026-27 budget cycle)
 - Consider future adjustments to 2027 energy procurement targets





Staff Report Item 11

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Annie Henderson, Chief Customer Officer
Subject:	Approving a Resolution Authorizing the CEO to Negotiate and Execute a Consulting Services Agreement with Deloitte & Touche LLP
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary/Recommendation

This Staff Report proposes authorizing the CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with Deloitte & Touche LLP to develop Ava's Customer Programs Roadmap in order to establish a strategic framework that guides program design, prioritization, and investment decisions aligned with Ava's long-term decarbonization goals.

Financial Impact

The proposed contract term is 1 year with a not-to-exceed budget of \$560,000. The funding for this contract is proposed to be \$500,000 allocated for a Customer Programs Roadmap consultant in the FY 25/26 budget and up to an additional \$60,000 from previously allocated non-earmarked Local Development funds.

Analysis and Context

Ava Community Energy has allocated over \$100M to Fund Local Development activities that support beneficial energy programs within our community. Ava has offered a wide variety of energy-related programs and services to our customers and municipal members since launch in 2018, and currently has active programs in the market and under development for near-term launch, including Ava Bike Electric (e-bike rebate program), SmartHome Charging (EV managed charging program), Ava Charge (DC fast charging sites), Critical Municipal Facilities, Health-e Communities Pilot, Building Efficiency Accelerator, SmartHome Battery (a solar &

storage incentive program), and Resilience Hub initiative. While some of these programs will remain active for many years to come, staff have identified the need to initiate a strategic planning process to determine how customer programs and services should look during the next 5 years (2027-2032). A strategic plan is necessary to a) identify key goals and priorities, b) support resource planning, and c) promote collaboration with stakeholders such as our member cities and counties, regional energy networks, and other community stakeholders.

Request for Proposals

In September 2025, Ava issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a consultant team to develop the Customer Programs Roadmap, the name for Ava's strategic planning effort for customer programs. The Roadmap will establish a long-term strategic planning framework to guide program design and deployment for the 2027-2032 period. The outcome of this Roadmap will be to align Ava's customer program portfolio with its long-term decarbonization goals.

The RFP outlined a scope of work which included internal and external assessments, stakeholder engagement, program concept development, portfolio development, metrics design, and development of the final Roadmap. The consultant teams were expected to provide technical expertise in decarbonization programs and also facilitation and strategic planning capabilities to help translate stakeholder input into an actionable plan.

Procurement and Evaluation Process

The RFP was open from September 6-September 29, 2025. Seven proposals were received, of which five met all minimum required qualifications and moved forward to the full review. Staff evaluated all conforming proposals using the scoring rubric that was included in the RFP, which included six categories:

- Understanding of scope and goals
- Technical expertise and methodology
- Project management and facilitation experience
- Stakeholder engagement approach
- Cost
- Alignment with Ava's procurement preferences

Three bidders were selected for interviews based on the strength of their proposed approach and qualifications in line with the scoring rubric.

Interview Process

The interviews were conducted in mid-October 2025. Each bidder was asked to prepare a presentation with the following items

- Overview of proposal: Highlight understanding of Ava's goals, proposed methodology, schedule, and team structure
- Portfolio development process: Demonstrate full methodology using examples
- Stakeholder engagement strategy: Describe the engagement approach, integration with portfolio development, managing conflicting priorities, and aligning with Ava's existing public meeting structure.

After these interviews, staff requested additional details from two of the highest-ranked teams to clarify project management structure, stakeholder engagement scope, and program concept development processes.

Selection

Based on the written evaluations, interviews, and clarification responses, staff recommends moving forward with the Deloitte team as the consultant to develop the Customer Programs Roadmap.

Deloitte is a global consulting firm with extensive experience in strategic planning and decarbonization program development for utilities and government agencies. They advise 92% of Fortune 1000 power and utility companies and have supported more than 1000 public-sector entities nationwide. Deloitte's recent work includes developing implementation guidance for Virginia's \$160 million Solar for All award and designing customer-focused electrification and efficiency programs in Wyoming. In California, their clients include Southern California Edison, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the City of Stockton, and San Jose Clean Energy.

The Deloitte team includes:

- Powerhouse Innovations: An Oakland-based consulting firm that provides real-time
 insights into emerging clean energy technologies to accelerate decarbonization goals.
 Powerhouse will play a critical role on the market assessment for the Roadmap,
 identifying technology trends and opportunities. Their expertise will help Ava not only
 take inventory of existing programs but also understand the next wave of technologies.
- Kearns & West (KW): A Bay-Area based firm with deep expertise in designing and executing comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement strategies across California. KW brings extensive experience working with communities in the San Joaquin Valley, including rural and agricultural regions, as well as Alameda County, with clients such as the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, ensuring engagement efforts are inclusive, credible, and locally grounded.
- E/J Solutions (EJ): An Oakland-based firm that specializes in equitable community engagement, planning, and program implementation. EJ brings a strong understanding of East Bay communities and has a proven record of developing engagement processes with diverse voices. Recent work includes conducting focus groups on behalf of the California Energy Commission's Tactical Gas Decommissioning project, and executing an equitable community engagement process for the City of Oakland's 2030 Climate Action Plan.

During both the proposal and interview phases, Deloitte clearly demonstrated a deep understanding of Ava's objectives and the complexity of aligning customer programs with organizational and stakeholder priorities.

Their approach stood out in the following ways:

• Strategic portfolio development: Deloitte's proposed methodology begins with establishing clear organizational objectives and measurable goals before moving to program concept development. Their approach anchored on getting clarity and

- alignment by incorporating feedback from engagement activities and clearly integrating it into the Roadmap.
- Comprehensive stakeholder engagement: Deloitte presented a robust engagement strategy led by their local partners, K&W, and E/J Solutions who bring deep experience in both Alameda and San Joaquin counties. See more below on the engagement approach.
- Strong project management and delivery capacity: Deloitte's project delivery team is highly experienced, with proven track records of managing large-scale planning efforts with accelerated timelines. Their proposed schedule delivers the Roadmap by August 2026, several months ahead of Ava's target of October 2026, which allows for flexibility.
- Depth of expertise: The proposed team has more than 100 years of collective experience with strategic planning, market assessments, program design, and stakeholder engagement. Each organization and associated team member's role is clearly defined across all workstreams, and staff with relevant expertise are committed to the Roadmap.

Overall, Deloitte offered the most complete strategic approach to a complex planning context, identified an experienced team, and proposed a clear plan to deliver the Roadmap informed through engagement on schedule.

Stakeholder Engagement Approach

The Deloitte team proposed a relationship-based, locally-grounded engagement strategy that is designed to incorporate input across Ava's service territory. Their approach leverages trusted local organizations as "engagement anchors" which include groups in Alameda County and San Joaquin Valley.

Their partners KW and E/J Solutions bring deep experience with engaging communities in the East Bay and San Joaquin regions. The team proposed to collaborate with community-based organizations and advocacy networks to conduct focus groups, informational listening sessions, and a multilingual survey to gather input. Their engagement model emphasizes culturally responsive and multilingual communications that will allow the team to meet communities where they are.

The team also proposed integrating Ava's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) into the process to provide feedback, to ensure alignment between one of Ava's key stakeholders and Roadmap development.

Stakeholder Engagement and Budget Considerations

To address the need for stakeholder engagement in the Customer Roadmap, Deloitte proposed two scenarios of stakeholder engagement (Baseline and Enhanced) that differ in cost, number of engagement activities, and level of effort across activities such as:

- Focus groups: small, topically-focused discussions with community organizations and key stakeholders.
- Community listening sessions: Broader sessions to hear the voice of customers directly in their own words, providing context on Ava and the intent of the Customer Roadmap.
- Survey: General customer survey to provide an additional channel for customers to provide information to Ava, enhancing direct customer engagement beyond customers who can attend listening sessions.

• Synthesis and integration: Time to identify and analyze information across all engagement channels and uncover themes to inform program concepts and portfolio design, and develop approaches to incorporate key findings into the Roadmap.

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement Budget Comparison

Scenario	Total NTE Amount	Engagement Activities
Baseline	\$500,000	 5 focus groups (one dedicated to ad-hoc CAC) 2 community listening sessions (includes 2 facilitators and translation) Stakeholder Map and Engagement Strategy Development and integration of findings from engagement into Roadmap
Enhanced (Staff recommended)	\$560,000	 5 focus groups (one dedicated to ad-hoc CAC) 2 community listening sessions (includes 2 facilitators and translation) Stakeholder Map and Engagement Strategy Additional specialists to develop and integrate findings from engagement into Roadmap General Customer Survey and survey findings analysis (English and two other languages supported) Additional engagement with Ava SME's and expanded internal workshop ensuring coordination on Roadmap delivery Dedicated time to integrate additional input across internal and external stakeholders

Rationale for Enhanced Approach

Staff recommends proceeding with the Enhanced scenario (NTE \$560k). This approach builds on the Baseline scenario by strengthening the breadth and depth of stakeholder input, as well as how stakeholder input is collected. As a result, stakeholder input will contribute more to the final product given additional work on synthesizing and translating stakeholder input into actionable insights for the Customer Programs Roadmap.

Specifically, the additional scope:

- Broadens the representation of community members not engaged in live sessions through the general survey.
- Improves the integration of feedback into the plan by dedicating additional time to analyze the inputs across all engagement channels, and allows for the development of approaches to leverage input into Roadmap actions.
- Creates stronger internal alignment by adding targeted engagement with Ava's SMEs and an expanded internal workshop, giving staff dedicated time to collectively interpret

stakeholder input and build organizational consensus before integrating it into the Roadmap.

While the Roadmap could still be completed with the Baseline scenario, it would leave little flexibility in the schedule and constrain the time available for synthesizing stakeholder input, which would risk important feedback not being fully integrated into the final Roadmap.

This approach represents up to a \$60,000 increase above Ava's existing \$500,000 FY25/26 allocation for this effort. However, staff recommends the additional spend given the importance of stakeholder engagement in this process. The additional \$60,000 would come from previously allocated non-earmarked Local Development funding.

Committee Feedback

Staff has presented to the Community Advisory Committee and Executive Committee in July and September on the development of the Customer Programs Roadmap RFP and general updates on status.

On November 5th, staff presented an update to the Executive Committee on the process, focused on the proposal responses related to engagement for the Roadmap, but did not include the final bidder selection. The Executive Committee was supportive of Ava's progress on this effort.

Attachments

- A. Resolution Authorizing the CEO to Negotiate and Execute a Consulting Services Agreement with Deloitte & Touche LLP
- B. Customer Programs Roadmap PowerPoint Presentation
- C. Ava Consulting Services Agreement template with draft scopes of work for Baseline and Enhanced Scenarios

RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

WHEREAS Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava") was formed as a community choice aggregation agency ("CCA") on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 *et seq.*, among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") in March of 2020. The city of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The city of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception.

WHEREAS in 2018, Ava established its Local Development Business Plan (LDBP) which identified strategies and priorities for local programs and investments through 2023, and

WHEREAS since launching, Ava has developed and implemented a wide variety of programs and services, including Ava Bike Electric, SmartHome Charging, Ava Charge, Critical Municipal Facilities, Health-e Communities, Building Efficiency Accelerator, SmartHome Battery, and the Resilience Hub Initiative, and

WHEREAS while some of these programs will continue to operate for several years, staff have identified the need for a strategic planning process to guide the next five years of customer programs to ensure Ava's programs are aligned with its long-term decarbonization goals, and

WHEREAS the Customer Programs Roadmap will serve as a strategic framework to (a) identify key goals and priorities, (b) inform future resource planning, and (c) promote coordination and collaboration with stakeholders such as member agencies, regional energy networks, and community-based organizations, and

WHEREAS in Fiscal Year 2025-2026, the Board approved a budget allocation of \$500,000 to support consultant services for the development of the Customer Programs Roadmap, and in September 2025 staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking qualified consultants for this work, and

WHEREAS after a competitive review process, staff recommend contracting with Deloitte & Touche LLP to develop the Customer Programs Roadmap based on their expertise in strategic planning for utilities and government entities, their robust stakeholder engagement approach, and their ability to deliver on an actionable portfolio that is aligned with Ava's goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The CEO is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute a Consulting Services Agreement with Deloitte & Touche LLP for consulting services for the Customer Programs Roadmap for the amount not-to-exceed \$560,000 over a 1-year contract period.

ADOPTED AND APPR	OVED this 19 th day of November 2025.	
	Betsy Andersen, Chair	
ATTEOT.	,	
ATTEST:		
Adrian Bankhead, Clerk	of the Board	



Customer Programs Roadmap: Consultant Selection



Summary & Recommendation

Recommendation

 Authorize CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with Deloitte to develop Ava's Customer Programs Roadmap

Purpose

 To establish a strategic framework that guides future program design, prioritization, and investment decisions aligned with Ava's long-term decarbonization goals

Proposed Term

1 year (through October 2026)

Total NTE

- Up to \$560,000
 - \$500,000 allocated in FY 25/26
 - \$60,000 to be drawn from previously allocated non-earmarked Local Development funding
 - Additional \$60,000 supports expanded stakeholder engagement scope

Context

Ava manages a Local Development Fund (~\$100 M) which supports energy-related programs across its service territory.

Since 2018, Ava has launched and managed programs including:

 Ava Bike Electric, SmartHome Charging, Ava Charge, Building Efficiency Accelerator, Resilience Hub Initiative, Health-e Communities, SmartHome Battery, and others.

Some programs will continue over the next several years, but a strategic roadmap for 2027-2032 is needed to:

- Identify goals and priorities
- Support resource planning
- Enhance alignment with member agencies, regional energy networks, and community partners

RFP Overview

Issued

• September 2025

Purpose

Develop a Customer Programs Roadmap for 2027–2032

Scope Included

- Internal and external assessments
- Stakeholder engagement
- Program concept and portfolio development
- Metrics design and final roadmap

Total Responses

• 7 proposals (5 conforming)

Evaluation Process

Proposal Evaluation Rubric

- Understanding of scope and goals
- Technical expertise and methodology
- Project management and facilitation
- Stakeholder engagement approach
- Cost
- Alignment with Ava's procurement preferences

Process

- Staff review of 5 conforming proposals
- 3 shortlisted teams invited to interviews in mid-October 2025
- Interviews evaluated on methodology, portfolio development approach, and engagement strategy

Recommended Consultant: Deloitte Team

Why Deloitte?

- Proven experience in strategic planning and decarbonization program development for utilities and governments nationwide
- Integrated approach that clearly aligns objectives, program concepts, and portfolio design
- Robust stakeholder engagement strategy led by local partners
- Clear and achievable schedule-roadmap completed by October 2026
- Qualified, well-resourced delivery team

Additional Team Members

- Powerhouse Innovations (Oakland): Provides insight on emerging clean energy technologies and trends and will play a critical role in the market assessment development
- **Kearns & West (Bay Area)**: Designs and executes community engagement across California and has experience in the San Joaquin Valley
- **E/J Solutions (Oakland)**: Specializes in equitable, community-based engagement with deep East Bay expertise

Stakeholder Engagement Approach

Locally-grounded, relationship-based model acknowledging trusted "engagement anchors" in Alameda and San Joaquin counties

Multiple engagement formats

- Focus groups: small, topically-focused discussions with community organizations and key stakeholders designed to gather deeper qualitative insights and nuanced perspectives
- Community listening sessions: Broader sessions to hear the voice of customers directly in their own words, providing context on Ava and the intent of the Roadmap
- **General customer survey**: General customer survey to provide an additional channel for customers to provide information to Ava, enhancing direct customer engagement beyond customers who can attend listening sessions.

Strong emphasis on synthesizing stakeholder inputs and creating structured time for Ava staff to interpret feedback, ensuring insights directly shape program concepts and portfolio design.

Attachment Staff Report Item 11B

Stakeholder Engagement Scenario Options'

Scenario	Total NTE Amount	Engagement Activities
Baseline	\$500,000	 5 focus groups (one dedicated to ad-hoc CAC) 2 community listening sessions (includes 2 facilitators and translation) Stakeholder Map and Engagement Strategy Development and integration of findings from engagement into Roadmap
Enhanced (Recommended)	\$560,000	 5 focus groups (one dedicated to ad-hoc CAC) 2 community listening sessions (includes 2 facilitators and translation) Stakeholder Map and Engagement Strategy General Customer Survey and survey findings analysis (English and two other languages supported) Additional specialists to develop and integrate findings from engagement into Roadmap Additional engagement with Ava SME's and expanded internal workshop ensuring coordination on Roadmap delivery Dedicated time to integrate additional input across internal and external stakeholders

Outside of the Consultant scope, Ava will regularly update and engage the Board and CAC throughout the Roadmap process.

Scenario Recommendation

Staff recommend the **Enhanced scenario**, as it allows for:

- Broader outreach: Adds a general customer survey to capture input from residents who may not participate in live sessions (3 total languages)
- Stronger synthesis: Improves the integration of feedback into the plan by dedicating additional time to analyze the inputs across all engagement channels, and allows for the development of approaches to leverage input into Roadmap actions.
- **Better internal alignment**: Creates structured time for Ava's cross-functional teams to review and interpret stakeholder input before it is incorporated into the Roadmap, , ensuring organizational consensus needed to deliver on the Roadmap.
- Schedule flexibility: Adds buffer that the Baseline does not provide, reducing the risk of rushing the synthesis and ensuring critical input is fully incorporated

The Enhanced Scenario requires up to an additional \$60,000 above the existing \$500,000 allocation. These funds that would come out of the FY 25/25 future programs budget. Staff recommends this investment given the importance of robust stakeholder engagement.

Next Steps

November 2025

- Finalize contract terms and scope
- Execute agreement

December 2025

Project kickoff and stakeholder mapping

Early 2026

Present more detailed stakeholder mapping and engagement plan



2025 Consulting Services Agreement

Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava")	Signature:		
, ,	Ву:		
	Date:		
	Approval as to Form:		
	Address:	1999 Harrison Street, Suite 2300	
		Oakland, CA 94612	
	Ava Notice Emails:	legal@avaenergy.org with a cc to:	
	Relationship Manager:		
	Signature:		
("Concultont")			
("Consultant")	Bv:		
	Date:		
	Notice / n:		
	Phone		
	Notice Address:	1999 Harrison Street, Oakland, California 94612, United States	
	Notice Email(s):		
Effective Date	This Agreement is effective as of the date of signature by Ava.		
Expiration Date	This Agreement expires one (1) year after the Effective Date.		
Not To Exceed ("NTE")			
Summary			

June 2025 template.

This Consulting Services Agreement (the "Agreement") is made by and between Ava Community Energy Authority, a joint powers authority formed under the laws of the State of California ("Ava"), and the counterparty set forth above ("Consultant") as of the Effective Date. Ava and Consultant are herein referred to as "Parties" or individually as a "Party."

1. Recitals

- 1.1. Ava Recitals. Ava is an independent joint powers authority duly organized under the provisions of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the State of California (Government Code Section 6500 et seq.) with the power to conduct its business and enter into agreements.
- 1.2. Consultant Recitals. Consultant possesses the skill, experience, ability, background, certification and knowledge to complete the Work described in Section 3 of this Agreement pursuant to the terms and conditions described herein.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the amount and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties to this Agreement, agree as follows:

- 2. Term. The term of this Agreement begins as of the Effective Date of this Agreement ends as of the Expiration Date, unless terminated earlier pursuant to Section 8 (Termination).
- 3. Scope of Work/Compliance with Laws and Regulations.
 - 3.1. Work. Consultant agrees to perform the scope of work (the "Work") in Exhibit A in accordance with the schedule in Exhibit B.
 - 3.2. Requirements. Consultant represents and warrants that it has the skill and expertise to perform the Work. Consultant agrees to obtain any and all necessary licenses, approvals or permits necessary to perform the Work.
 - 3.3. Legal Compliance. Consultant and its contractors, consultants, sub-suppliers, affiliates, agents and any other person or entity with whom the Consultant contracts in furtherance of this Agreement (collectively "Subconsultants") must comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations in performing the Work under this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, if work required to be performed by the Consultant is a "public work" as defined in California Labor Code Section 1720, then pursuant to the preabor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1772 Consultant shall be registered with the Departme Relations ("DIR"), and will pay a requi subcontractors to pay the or indust general prevailing e of per did wages and the gene rate fo overtime work in this locality for each cr classificati or to p Agreement, as on of this Agreer nt, th established by the R. As of the xed e rate may be obtained at: http://www.dir.ca.g provide a copy of /OPRL/DPr /ag∈ etermina ant sh Cons prevailing wage ra to anv sta cont ctor an r Subco ultar hired b Consultant for this Agreement and sh opted r nimur Consultant shall comply vailing rae ra as a with the provisions of Sections 1773.8, 1775, 1776, 1771.5, 1777.0, and 1815 of the Labor Code. Pursuant to the provisions of 1775 of the Labor Code, Consultant shall forfeit to Ava, as a penalty, the sum of \$200.00 for each calendar day, or portion thereof, for each laborer, worker, or mechanic employed, is paid less than the applicable prevailing wage rates for any work done under this Agreement, by them or by any subcontractor under them, in violation of the provisions of the Agreement.
- 4. Consultant Staffing. Exhibit C contains a list of Consultant's principal and all team members. Consultant will not change or substitute the principal or any team members or add additional team members without consultation with Ava.
- 5. Subconsultants.
 - 5.1. Approved Subconsultants. Consultant agrees to use only those Subconsultants listed on Exhibit D. Consultant shall notify Ava within a reasonable period of time of any changes, additions, or removals of a Subconsultant.
 - 5.2. Subconsultant Compliance. Consultant agrees to require all Subconsultants to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including without limitation, the public works requirements in Section 3.3, the insurance obligations under Section 9, the confidentiality requirements under Section 11, and the requirement to indemnify Ava as provided in Section 12.
- 6. Invoicing and Payment.
 - 6.1. Time and Materials. If the Work under this Agreement is to be performed on a time and materials basis, Consultant must submit invoices to Ava on a monthly basis, complete with the name of the individual that conducted the Work, the time spent, and a brief description of the tasks performed

during that time. If requested by Ava, Consultant must include the contract number provided by Ava and the total compensation remaining on the Agreement on each monthly invoice. Notification to Ava should be provided once the contract budget has been used up by 80% (including invoiced work and work that may not have been invoiced yet) the amount of which is set forth in Exhibit E. Invoices must be submitted to Ava by the 20th of the month following the month in which Consultant performed the Work.

- 6.2. Milestone. If the Work under this Agreement is to be performed on a task or project basis, the Consultant will submit an invoice within thirty (30) days of completing the project to the satisfaction of Ava for full payment, unless other arrangements have been made.
- 6.3. Markups. Ava will not agree to pay any markups on Subconsultant services or supplies unless such markups are included in Exhibit E, Compensation/Budget and such markups were included in Consultant's bid, if applicable.
- 6.4. Payment Processing. The following are conditions on Ava's obligation to process any payments under this Agreement:
 - 6.4.1. If the Consultant is a U.S. based person or entity, the Consultant must provide to Ava a properly completed Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 before Ava will process payment. If the Consultant is a U.S based person or entity but has neither a permanent place of business in California nor is registered with the California Secretary of State to do business in California, the Consultant must provide Ava with a properly completed California Franchise Tax Board form related to nonresident withholding of California source income before Ava will process payment.
 - 6.4.2. If the Consultant is not a U.S. based person or entity, the Consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide a provide Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the consultant must provide Ava with the applicable Internal Revenue Service form related to its foreign status and a California Franchise Tax Board for a consultant must provide Ava with the consultant must provide Ava
- 5) da of receipt. Invoices may 6.5. Payment. Ava aqı s to pay ur puted invoices within forty-five mail or el es will be deemed be sent to Ava by ron ergy.q business da ollo ng the date of red mail or three days after received on the ne ot via lectro ry in receipt via U.S. ma Notwithsta ing ything to s Agr ment or any related atior document. Ava sh have no ol remit lyment f fees exces of the NTE.
- 6.6. Members. Ava, as the later's authority, is a supplied by from constituent members and will be solely responsible for all debts, obligations and liabilities accruing and arising out of this Agreement. Consultant acknowledges that it will have no rights and agrees not to make any claims, take any actions or assert any remedies against any of Ava's constituent members in connection with this Agreement.
- 7. Records Retention and Ownership of Work Product.
 - 7.1. Records. The Consultant must retain all ledgers, books of accounts, invoices, vouchers, cancelled checks, background materials, or other records relating to its performance under this Agreement for a period of three (3) years following termination of this Agreement.
 - 7.2. Ownership. Ava owns all rights, including without limitation, all licenses, copyrights, service marks and patents, in and to all Work Product(s), whether written or electronic, without restriction or limitation upon their use and immediately when and as created by the Consultant, any Subconsultants, or any other person engaged directly or indirectly by the Consultant to perform under this Agreement. "Work Product(s)" means all writings, reports, drawings, plans, data, video, media, photographs, renderings, plans, software, models, and other similar documents and materials developed or created by Consultant or its Subconsultants on behalf of or for use by Ava under this Agreement. All Work Product(s) will be considered "works made for hire," and together with any and all intellectual property rights arising from their creation will be and remain the property of Ava without restriction or limitation upon their use, duplication or dissemination by Ava. Consultant agrees not to obtain or attempt to obtain copyright protection in its own name for any Work Product.
- 8. Termination.

- 8.1. Upon Notice. Ava may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving Consultant written notice. The termination notice may set the date of termination, but if no such date is given, termination is effective seven (7) days following the date of the written notice.
- 8.2. For Breach. Ava may terminate this Agreement immediately upon written notice for any material breach of this Agreement by Consultant or any of its Subconsultants. If Ava terminates this Agreement for cause and obtains the same services from another consultant at a greater cost, the Consultant is responsible for such excess costs in addition to any other remedies available to Ava.
- 8.3. Completion Option. Upon termination for any reason, Ava has the option of requiring the Consultant to complete work up to the date of termination or to cease work immediately. Ava has the further option to require Consultant to provide Ava any finished or unfinished Work or Work Product prepared by the Consultant up to the date of termination.
- 8.4. Payment. Ava will pay Consultant the reasonable value of services satisfactorily rendered by the Consultant to Ava up to the date of written notice of termination. If Ava authorizes Consultant to continue performing the Work through the date of termination, Ava will pay Consultant the reasonable value of services satisfactorily rendered up through the date of termination, providing such services are in compliance with the Compensation/Budget in Exhibit E.
- 8.5. Return of Work Product. Upon termination of this Agreement, and at no cost to Ava, Consultant, its Subconsultants and anyone working for Ava under control of Consultant must return all Work Product to Ava and cooperate with any subsequent consultant during any transition. Consultant may only retain copies of the Work Product by express written permission of Ava.

9. Insurance

- 9.1. Proof of Insurance Consultant must procure, maintain and comply at the insurance requirements in Exhibit F throughout the form of this Agreement. Consultant must prove a proof of insurance either in the form of a cell cate of insurance or, if requested by Ava, a copy of the insurance policy, prior to performing any would be a proven that the insurance requirements in the form of a cell cate of insurance or, if requested by Ava, a copy of the insurance policy, prior to performing any would be a proven that the consultant must be proof of insurance either the consultant must be proof of insurance or insurance or insurance or insurance policy, prior to performing any would be proof of this Agreement.
- 9.2. Ongoing Coverage Consultant ince coverage ees stay in comp with ie insi requirements durir the term of s Ag ement. must ve Av en (10) days written notice ısultar prior and obtain Ava's v ten app<u>ro</u> ation that w lld reduce its insurance makin ny mog coverage.
- 9.3. Subconsultant Coverage. Consultant must either include Subconsultants under its insurance policies or require each Subconsultant to comply with the insurance obligations in Exhibit F.

10. No Discrimination or Conflict of Interest

- 10.1. Non-Discrimination. Consultant represents and warrants, on behalf of itself and its Subconsultants, that it has not and will not discriminate against anyone based on his/her age, color religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, national origin, or any other protected category under state or federal law.
- 10.2. Conflict of Interest. Consultant represents and warrants, on behalf of itself and its Subconsultants, that it is familiar with local, state and federal conflict of interest laws, that in entering into this Agreement it is not violating any of the conflict of interest laws, that it will avoid any conflicts of interest during the term of this Agreement, and that it will notify Ava immediately if it identifies any conflicts of interest Consultant understands that violations of this Section 10 could result in immediate termination of this Agreement and disgorgement of compensation.

11. Confidentiality

11.1. Non-Disclosure. Except as authorized by Ava or as otherwise required by law, Consultant shall not disclose to any third party any draft or final Work Product, discussions or written correspondence between Consultant and its Subconsultants or discussions or written correspondence between Consultant and Ava staff. In the event Consultant receives a request from any third party requesting disclosure of any Work Product, discussions, communications or any other information Consultant is

prohibited from disclosing, Consultant will immediately notify Ava and wait for direction from Ava before disclosing the information.

- 11.2. Third Parties. For the purposes of this Section 11, "third party" refers to any person or group other than Ava staff and Board members. For example, "third parties" include community groups, Board advisory groups, other governmental agencies, other consultants or members of the community.
- 11.3. Confidentiality Survival. This Section 11 will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.
- 11.4. Public Records Act. The Parties understand and agree that (1) this Consulting Services Agreement is subject to public disclosure under the California Public Records Act ("CPRA"); (2) a request pursuant to the CPRA may obligate Ava to disclose this Agreement, in whole or in part, to the requestor; and (3) Consultant is solely responsible for the inclusion of any information herein that Consultant may consider sensitive and should not include sensitive information within this Agreement.

12. Indemnity

- 12.1. General Indemnity. Except with regard to any matter involving professional negligence, Consultant agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to indemnify, defend with counsel reasonably approved by Ava, and protect and hold harmless Ava, its officers, directors, employees, agents, attorneys, designated volunteers, successors and assigns, and those Ava agents serving as independent contractors in the role of Ava staff (collectively "Ava Indemnitees") from and against any and all damages, costs, expenses, liabilities, claims, demands, causes of action, proceedings, penalties, judgements, liens and losses of whatever nature ("Claims") that arise, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, out of or are in any way related to Consultant's or Subconsultant's performance or failure to perform t er this Agreement, regardless of w Consultant or its act intentionally, willfully, reckles y or n Subconsultants ad d or failed ligently. Consultant agrees that its ind nity and de es, including all attorney ise d cos with fees, expert fees, diation, arb tion court sts in c necti defense. Consultant ct and hold be from and against any further agrees to in emnify, defe , pro s Ind mnite breach of this Agre ment and a nfrir ement of . trade name, copyright. ts. tr e sec atent r trademark, service ark or apy her p brietary ght of a pers (s) ca ed by Ava's use of any vided b services, Work Pro er items i Subco tants under this Agreement.
- 12.2. Professional Negligence. With regard to any matter involving professional negligence, Consultant agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to indemnify, defend with counsel reasonably approved by Ava, and protect and hold harmless the Ava Indemnitees from and against any and all Claims to the extent arising out of or resulting from Consultant's or Subconsultant's negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct. In no event shall the cost to defend charged to Consultant exceed the Consultant's proportionate percentage of fault.
- 12.3. Exceptions. Consultant's obligations in Subsections 12.1 and 12.2 do not apply to the extent any Claim results from the negligence or willful misconduct of the Ava Indemnitees.
- 12.4. Indemnitees. Except as limited by Subsection 12.2, Consultant's obligation to defend Ava applies to the maximum extent allowed by law and includes defending Indemnitees as set forth in California Civil Code sections 2778 and 2782.8.
- 12.5. Insurance. The Consultant's obligations under Section 12 apply regardless of the existence or amount of insurance the Consultant carries or has made available to Ava.
- 12.6. Indemnification Survival. The Parties agree that this Section 12 survives the expiration or earlier termination of the Agreement.
- 13. Consultant is an Independent Contractor
 - 13.1. Relationship of the Parties. Consultant and its Subconsultant(s) are and at all times will be independent contractors. Consultant has complete control over its operations and employees and is not an agent or employee of Ava and must not represent or act as Ava's agent or employee.

Consultant agrees, on behalf of itself and its employees and Subconsultants, that it does not have any rights to retirement benefits or other benefits accruing to Ava employees, and expressly waives any claim it may have to any such rights.

13.2. Relationship of Subconsultants. As an independent contractor, Consultant has complete control over its Subconsultants. Subject to the requirements of Section 5 of this Agreement, Consultant is solely responsible for selecting, managing and compensating its Subconsultants, and for ensuring they comply with this Agreement.

14. Miscellaneous Terms and Conditions

- 14.1. Ava Authority. The Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee is authorized to take all actions under this Agreement, including without limitation, amendments that fall within the Chief Executive Officer's signing authority, termination or modification of terms.
- 14.2. Waiver. Waiver by either party of any one or more conditions, Sections, provisions or performance of this Agreement will not be a waiver of any other provision; nor will failure to enforce a provision or Section in one instance waive the right to enforce such provision or Section in the future. In no event will payment by Ava to Consultant constitute or be construed as a waiver by Ava of any breach or default of this Agreement, nor will such payment prejudice any of Ava's other rights or remedies.
- 14.3. Governing Law. Consultant and Ava agree that this Agreement will be interpreted under the laws of the State of California.
- 14.4. Venue. Any litigation resulting from this Agreement will be filed and resolved by a state court in Alameda County, California, or if appropriate, the federal courts in the Northern District of California located in San Francisco
- 14.5. Audit Rights All records documents required to be kept ırsuaı o this Agreement must be ıdit at no cd hours, upon written made available for to A ies of such ided Ava at Ava's offices unless request by Ava. C docu cord ents sha be pr an alternative loca n is mutuall gre upon.
- xhibits. Th s in Se IIv made a part of this 14.6. Recitals and on 1 ab tentio e are Agreement. All Ex incorr other cumer ed b eferei are a part of this Agreement.
- 14.7. Notices. Notices to Ava shall be effective upon delivery to all email addresses in Ava Notice Emails, above. Any notices required to be given to Contractor under this Agreement must be made in writing and may be delivered a) personally, in which case they are effective upon receipt; b) by U.S. Mail, in which case they are effective three (3) days following deposit in the U.S. Mail, unless accompanied by a return receipt in which case, they are effective upon the date on the receipt; or c) by electronic mail, in which case they are effective upon confirmation of receipt, and if no confirmation of receipt, they are effective one day after transmission. All notices to Contractor must be sent to the Notice Address or Notice Email(s).
- 14.8. Assignment. Except to the extent this Agreement authorizes Consultant to use Subconsultants, Consultant will not assign any part of this Agreement without Ava's prior written consent. Ava, at its sole discretion, may void this Agreement if a violation of this provision occurs.
- 14.9. Integrated Agreement. The Recitals, this Agreement and the Exhibits attached to this Agreement contain the complete understanding between Ava and Consultant and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous negotiations, representations, agreements, understandings and statements, written or oral respecting the Work up through the Effective Date of this Agreement.
- 14.10. Amendments. Any and all amendments or modifications to this Agreement must be made in writing and signed by each Party before such amendment will be effective.
- 14.11. Government Claims Act. Nothing in this Agreement waives the requirements to comply with the California Government Claims Act (Government Code Section 810 et seq.), where applicable.

- 14.12. Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction holds any Section or part of this Agreement to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason and the Work can still be performed, the Parties agree to sever the invalid or unenforceable Section from this Agreement and that all remaining Sections or parts of this Agreement will continue to be enforceable.
- 14.13. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, all of which taken together will constitute one and the same instrument and each of which will be deemed an original.
- 14.14. No Party Deemed Drafter. This Agreement will be considered for all purposes as prepared through the joint efforts of the Parties and will not be construed against one Party or the other as a result of the preparation, substitution, submission, or other event of negotiation, drafting or execution hereof.
- 14.15. Supplier Diversity. Ava is required to report to the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") on their diverse suppliers, as defined by CPUC General Order 156. Consistent with the California Public Utilities Code and California Public Utilities Commission policy objectives, Consultant agrees to document and provide information to Ava regarding Consultant's status and any engagement of women, minority, disabled veteran, persons with disabilities, and LGBT owned business enterprises in its completion of the Work under this Agreement. Specifically, Consultant agrees to complete Ava's Supplier Diversity questionnaire, which may be updated or revised during the term of the Agreement, and otherwise reasonably cooperate with Ava to provide the information described above. Consultant shall provide such information in the timeframe requested by Ava and in no event later than January 31 of the year following the Effective Date of this Agreement.

EXHIBIT A: ENHANCED R BASELIN SCOPE WORD

EXHIBIT B: SCHEDULE

CONSULTANT STAFFING

EXHIBIT D: SUBCONSULTANTS

EXHIBIT C:

EXHIBIT E: COMPENSATION/BUDGET

EXHIBIT F: INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

DRAFT Enhanced Scenario Scope of Work (Staff Recommended)

Task 1: Project Management and Internal Stakeholder Engagement

The Consultant will provide overall project management and strategic internal facilitation for the longterm planning process, ensuring the work is completed on time, within budget, and in alignment with Ava's organizational goals. The Consultant will:

- Oversee the entire planning effort to make sure all planning strategy aligns with Ava's broader goals and initiatives.
- Oversee consultant team and coordinate with Ava staff to deliver inputs needed in this process.
- Identify, recommend approaches for, and manage the process to arrive at key decisions and stakeholder engagement approach.
- Facilitate a project Kickoff meeting with Ava staff to align on process, milestones, communication, and roles.
- Develop and circulate a project Workplan detailing the Consultant's approach for completing each of the following tasks. The Workplan is due within two weeks of the Kickoff meeting.
- Lead two to three 30-minute meetings with Ava's core "Tiger Team" to review progress, address barriers, and discuss next steps.
- Conduct two phases of 5-7 interviews with Ava staff and leaders to better understand how their role supports customer programs and solicit their inputs on the objective of the Customer Program Roadmap (see Tasks 2 and 11 for more detail).
- Oversee delivery of key milestones on time, to complete the final work product by August 2026 or before.
- Develop and maintain a schedule using Ava's Asana instance, identifying key milestones and dependencies in the process.
- Implement document approval system such that the Consultant will share interim work products with Ava Tiger Team for Ava to upload to their internal document management system (e.g., Teams, Google Drive, etc.) for consolidated commenting and streamlined reviews. Review timelines are subject to final agreement during the Kickoff meeting, but proposed to be no longer than 5 business days so the project stays on track.
- Participate in up to two 4-hour working sessions with Ava subject matter experts (SMEs) and integrate insights across relevant tasks.

Deliverable(s):

1.1 Workplan

Ava's role: Ava's core "Tiger Team" will participate in the regular check-ins and provide feedback and relevant internal updates. The Tiger Team will coordinate internal staff and leadership participation in all relevant decision-making points. Tiger Team will also confirm and provide contact information for the 5-

7 individuals selected for interviews. The selected 5-7 Ava staff will participate in interviews. Relevant Ava team members will prepare all content for the working sessions with Ava SMEs.

Task 2: Refine Customer Programs Roadmap Objective

The purpose of this task is to document a clear objective for Ava's long-term roadmap by synthesizing existing work and interviewing 5-7 key Ava staff and leaders (as noted in Task 1). The result of this identification will enable the drafting of a broad set of potential performance metrics.

Consultant will:

- Review Ava's existing work that supports the definition of the key objective for the Customer Programs Roadmap and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team. Develop a memo that synthesizes this work to be used as a guidance document throughout the Customer Programs Roadmap process.
- Conduct interviews with 5-7 Ava staff and leaders, to be selected during the Kickoff with the Tiger Team
- Review Ava's existing and potential program performance metrics and propose a "long list" of
 potential program performance metrics that we may want to use to estimate the performance
 of program concepts and track performance of programs in the 2027-2032 period based on our
 objective and focus areas, leveraging the metrics we have already collected.

Deliverable(s):

- 2.1 Customer Programs Roadmap Key Objective Memo
- 2.2 "Long List" of Potential Program Performance Metrics

Ava's role: Ava staff will provide the Consultant with the relevant background materials that inform the agency's strategic objective. Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions and provide feedback on the Consultant's synthesis.

Task 3: Internal Assessment

The purpose of this task is to document Ava's organizational capacity and advantages in order to inform program concepts and portfolio design.

Consultant will:

 Review Ava's existing work on organizational capacity and future operational envelope to implement programs, and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team on topics such as:

- Budget and funding pathways
- Staffing and internal expertise
- Appetite for risk and innovation
- Implementation constraints (e.g. asset ownership, direct customer financing, cross-CCA program development, etc.)
- Review Ava's competitive advantage assessment and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team.
- Use insights gleaned from internal interviews (see Task 1) to supplement the reviews detailed in the prior two bullets.
- Prepare an Internal Assessment Memo, summarizing organizational capacity, operational envelope, and competitive advantages to provide input to program concepts, metric development, and portfolio development Deliverable(s):

3.1 Internal Assessment Memo

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with the relevant background materials that inform the agency's strategic objective (including Ava's competitive advantage assessment). Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions and provide feedback on the Consultant's synthesis.

Task 4: Community & External Stakeholder Engagement Support

The objective of stakeholder engagement in this planning and strategy development effort is to gather input on stakeholder priorities to inform the 5-year plan. Engagement will be structured to gain insights on guiding values and strategic direction.

Consultant will develop and implement a strategy for ongoing engagement with external stakeholders throughout the strategic planning process. Key activities include stakeholder mapping, advising on a comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy, hosting two General Listening Sessions, and five virtual focus groups that provide information early in the roadmap development process to consolidate an understanding of stakeholder priorities across Ava's service area. The first General Listening Session will be scheduled to provide information early in the roadmap development process, followed by the focus groups and a survey, all of which will consolidate an understanding of stakeholder priorities across Ava's service area. The second General Listening Session will occur during the second half of delivery to provide an update on the process and outcomes towards the conclusion of the project.

The Consultant's stakeholder engagement approach will be finalized in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Timeline deliverable (Deliverable 4.2).

Consultant will:

• Integrate stakeholder insights into project deliverables and make recommendations for how feedback should inform each phase of the plan.

- Review Ava's draft Stakeholder Engagement Map that identifies and segments key external stakeholder groups and their roles in the process and with respect to roadmap implementation.
- Prepare an Engagement Strategy and Timeline that details the Consultant's approach for external engagement, including timing, participants, and objectives.
- Prepare materials for and conduct two General Listening Sessions with a maximum of 100
 participants each. For each session, write a summary that details input received and how inputs
 can be used to inform the Roadmap.
- Prepare materials for and conduct up to five Focus Groups (with a maximum of 15 participants).
 For each focus group, write a summary that details input received and how inputs can be used to inform the Roadmap.
- Administer and manage one multilingual survey (translation in up to two languages other than English), post-process inputs, and incorporates insights across all relevant deliverables.

Deliverable(s):

- 4.1 Stakeholder Engagement Map
- 4.2 Engagement Strategy and Timeline
- 4.3 Engagement Materials for General Listening Session #1
- 4.4 Summary of General Listening Session #1
- 4.5 Engagement Materials for General Listening Session #2
- 4.6 Summary of General Listening Session #2
- 4.7 Survey Questions

Ava's role: Ava will support the stakeholder mapping exercise, review and provide feedback on draft engagement materials, lead internal alignment efforts, procure licensing for survey software, and gather the CAC Ad Hoc Committee.

Task 5: Market Assessment on External Landscape

The purpose of this task is to provide a strategic landscape analysis to inform Ava's program concept development and prioritization, which includes identifying unmet needs, innovation opportunities, and implementation barriers across Ava's service territory. The Consultant will:

• Use insights gleaned from internal interviews (see Task 1) to inform relevant components of the Market Assessment, namely 5.3 and 5.5.

5.1 Program Landscape and Gap Analysis

Consultant will develop an inventory electrification programs and incentives throughout Ava's service territory across entities including cities, counties, utilities, and Regional Energy Networks (REN) to identify gaps by Ava's programmatic focus areas: 1) building electrification including energy resilience, 2) energy efficiency, 3) load management, and 4) transportation electrification.

For each existing program, Consultant will include information such as (data to be finalized in the Workplan):

- Program overview
- Target customer segment
- Key outcomes
- Implementation barriers or successes

Deliverable:

5.1.1 Ava Service Area Program Inventory

5.2 National and Global Program Inventory

Consultant will identify successful programs beyond Ava's service area that advance Ava's objective. Include a range of jurisdictions and program models (utility, municipal, rate-based, etc.). Program examples should include information such as, but not limited to (data to be finalized in this task's work plan):

- Context and target customer group
- Goal and structure
- Performance metrics and outcomes
- Notable lessons or barriers
- Funding structure

Deliverable:

5.2.1 National and Global Program Inventory

5.3 Ava Operational Context Market Assessment

Consultant will examine how changes across the various contexts in which Ava operates may impact program implementation from 2027-2032. Ava operates as a community choice aggregator (CCA), a joint powers authority (JPA), and a load-serving entity (LSE), each with unique opportunities and constraints.

Analyzing how evolving regulatory, technology, and customer trends will affect these roles is critical to designing programs that are feasible and aligned with Ava's vision for long-term success. Topical areas (e.g., regulatory, future customer needs, technology change, etc.), Ava's role(s) in each (e.g., CCA, LSE, JPA, etc.) and Ava's programmatic focus areas (building electrification including energy resilience, energy efficiency, load management, and transportation electrification) should be used to frame this analysis.

5.4 Internal Workshop (#1)

Design and facilitate an internal workshop with Ava staff responsible for program delivery across departments with the goals of validating insights from the Market Assessment with Ava's internal expertise and identifying considerations to inform future tasks. During this Workshop, the Consultant and Ava staff will discuss the preliminary findings and outcomes from the Objectives Refinement (Task 2), the Internal Assessment (Task 3), and External Assessment analyses completed to date (Tasks 5.1, 5.2, and

5.3).

Deliverable:

- 5.4.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials
- 5.4.2 Memo on Workshop Findings and Recommendations

5.5 Programmatic Gaps

Based on outcomes from previous work in this task, Consultant will identify programmatic gaps in Ava's service area and contextualize these gaps with Ava's unique market position, as well as findings from the Program Inventory.

Deliverable:

5.5.1 Programmatic Gaps and Opportunities Summary

The Consultant will prepare a summary of Deliverables 5.1.1, 5.2.1, and 5.5.1 (Ava Service Territory Program Inventory, National and International Program Inventory, Programmatic Gaps and Opportunities Summary) into a consolidated document.

Deliverable:

5.0.1 Market Assessment Memo

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with relevant existing documents and data to inform the Market Assessment. Ava staff will identify subject matter experts or other parties to participate in this task.

The conclusion of Task 5 coincides with the end of Phase 1: Refine Objectives and Conduct Landscape Assessments, which is the first of three milestones.

Task 6: Develop Program Concepts

The purpose of this task is to develop a set of high-level program concepts that build on the findings from previous tasks. The development of these concepts does not include detailed program design or operational plans.

To confirm program concepts are rooted in the needs of Ava's customers, the stakeholder engagement activities (see Task 4) will gauge stakeholder perspective and needs regarding program concepts.

Based on findings from previous tasks, Consultant will develop a "long list" of program concepts that Ava could pursue across its four focus areas. Program concepts will provide information such as the following (data to be finalized in the Workplan):

- o Focus area addressed
- O Delivery mechanism, duration and structure
- Target audience
- Potential program outcome(s)
- O Budget range
- Key implementation dependencies or challenges

Deliverables

6.1 Program Concept "Long List"

Ava's role: Ava will share its internal concept list with the Consultant, provide clarifying context on priorities, and review and give feedback on the draft "long list" of program concepts.

Task 7: Program Metrics Development

The purpose of this task is to define a set of high-level metrics that will help Ava evaluate the potential impacts resulting from the implementation of individual program concepts.

Consultant will develop draft metrics to measure the potential impact of program concepts developed in Task 6. To confirm the metrics accurately track impact on Ava's customers, the engagement activities conducted as part of Task 4 will also include content pertaining to metrics to efficiently and comprehensively capture the insights of a diverse range of Ava's stakeholders. The Consultant will avoid highly detailed or overly granular metrics that risk leading to over analysis, and metrics will be on par with the level of detail in the program

concept. After workshopping these metrics with Ava staff (Task 8), metrics will be refined for use over the 2027-2032 period to measure progress.

Deliverable(s):

7.1 Program Concept Metrics

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with an initial list of draft metrics as a starting point.

Task 8: Internal Workshop (#2)

The purpose of this task is to refine draft program concepts and evaluation metrics developed in Task 6 and 7 through a comprehensive workshop with Ava's internal subject matter experts.

The Consultant will:

- Host a workshop with Ava's subject matter experts to review the initial set of program concepts and metrics, receive further feedback on the relevant given metrics, and use the estimated performance results to illustrate how program metrics track performance against proposed program concepts.
- Solicit feedback on refining the program concepts and metrics based on the application of the metrics to the concepts.
- Develop a Workshop Summary that summarizes the workshop and includes a proposed approach to refinement of program concepts, program concept metrics, and prioritization approach.

Deliverable(s):

- 8.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials
- 8.2 Workshop Summary

Ava's Role: Ava staff will identify and schedule all meetings with the Consultant team and staff, review draft materials, and support the Consultant in shaping discussion topics.

Task 9: Refine Program Concepts

The purpose of this task is to refine the initial set of program concepts based on internal feedback and updated metrics, which will result in a "short list" of concepts that are ready for consideration as a part of the portfolio.

Consultant will:

• Refine program concepts based on the information gathered in the Workshop #2, and other Ava staff input.

- Refresh estimates of program performance using final program concept metrics.
- Develop a Program Concept "Short List" that includes associated estimated performance across program metrics.

Deliverable:

9.1 Program Concept "Short List"

Ava's role: Ava staff will review the proposed refinements and coordinate internal feedback needed and confirm the shortlist aligns with the roadmap's objective.

Task 10: Portfolio Development & Internal Workshop (#3)

The purpose of this task is to translate program concepts into a balanced portfolio that reflects Ava's broader organizational priorities.

Consultant will:

- Develop a portfolio of program concepts for inclusion in the roadmap. A portfolio of program concepts is expected to contain program concepts across Ava's focus areas, and the construction of a portfolio should allow Ava to incorporate organizational priorities into its roadmap.
- Work with Ava staff to identify and catalogue organizational priorities to develop sample portfolios that are achievable based on Ava's operational envelope and deliver value in terms of market need and decarbonization potential.
- Convene a workshop (Internal Workshop #3) with Ava staff to propose an overarching set of targets that will be used to incorporate priorities about how Ava implements affordable decarbonization, present program concept portfolios, discuss how decarbonization and additional organizational goals are achieved differently based on each portfolio, and demonstrate how portfolio performance sets up Ava to perform beyond the roadmap period (2027-2032).
- Prepare a preliminary portfolio of program concepts as part of the Workshop Materials and include proposed approach to refinement of program concepts and program concept metrics in the Workshop Summary.

Deliverable(s):

10.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials

10.2 Workshop Summary

10.3 Final Program Concept Portfolio

Ava's role: Ava staff will provide organizational goals, priorities, and context for constraints and opportunities. Ava will also provide feedback on draft portfolios, participate in workshop #3, and confirm the proposed targets and portfolio designs incorporate organizational objectives.

The conclusion of Task 10 coincides with the end of Phase 2: Develop Concepts, Metrics, and Portfolio, which is the second of three milestones.

Task 11: Customer Programs Roadmap & Internal Workshop (#4)

The purpose of this task is to synthesize the outputs of all prior tasks into an actionable roadmap that reflects Ava's long-term goal, priorities, strategic advantages, and operational constraints while also providing guidance for implementation over time.

Additional documents to be included in the roadmap include program concept assessment templates, portfolio target realignment template, program assessment templates for use while programs are operating, and implementation guidance.

Implementation guidance will include recommendations on an approach to support internal alignment, stakeholder communication, and ongoing reinforcement of roadmap priorities.

Consultant will:

- Conduct a final interview with 5-7 of Ava's functional team leads to identify other considerations that may inform the roadmap and associated implementation guidance.
- Convene Internal Workshop #4 for maximum of four hours midway through the Roadmap development process so that key Ava stakeholders are informed and can provide input. The Draft Final Presentation (.PPT) & Roadmap (.DOC) will serve as the interim work product to be discussed during Internal Workshop #4.
- Produce a short Final Summary Report of Process (maximum 2 pages) capturing the overall process, key decisions, and outcomes for future reference.
- Prepare and Deliver a Final Presentation of Customer Programs Roadmap to Ava's Tiger Team, leadership, and other Ava subject matter experts (to be finalized with Ava during the Kickoff)
- Prepare an actionable roadmap that includes program assessment and alignment templates for
 use while programs are operating, along with implementation guidance that includes
 recommendations on an approach to support internal alignment, stakeholder communication,
 and ongoing reinforcement of roadmap priorities by August 2026.

Deliverable(s):

- 11.1 Summary Report of Process
- 11.2 Customer Programs Roadmap

11.3 Final Presentation of Customer Programs Roadmap

Ava's role: Selected Ava staff will participate in workshop #4 and provide feedback on the Roadmap progress to date. Tiger Team will also support coordination and scheduling for the 5-7 internal interviews. The selected 5-7 Ava staff will participate in interviews. Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions for the final Roadmap.

DRAFT Baseline Scenario Scope of Work

Task 1: Project Management and Internal Stakeholder Engagement

The Consultant will provide overall project management and strategic internal facilitation for the longterm planning process, ensuring the work is completed on time, within budget, and in alignment with Ava's organizational goals. The Consultant will:

- Oversee the entire planning effort to make sure all planning strategy aligns with Ava's broader goals and initiatives.
- Oversee consultant team and coordinate with Ava staff to deliver inputs needed in this process.
- Identify, recommend approaches for, and manage the process to arrive at key decisions and stakeholder engagement approach.
- Facilitate a project Kickoff meeting with Ava staff to align on process, milestones, communication, and roles.
- Develop and circulate a project Workplan detailing the Consultant's approach for completing each of the following tasks. The Workplan is due within two weeks of the Kickoff meeting.
- Lead twice monthly project check-ins with Ava's core "Tiger Team" to review progress, address barriers, and discuss next steps.
- Conduct two phases of 5-7 interviews with Ava staff and leaders to better understand how their role supports customer programs and solicit their inputs on the objective of the Customer Program Roadmap (see Tasks 2 and 11 for more detail).
- Oversee delivery of key milestones on time, to complete the final work product by August 2026 or before.
- Develop and maintain a schedule using Ava's Asana instance, identifying key milestones and dependencies in the process.
- Implement document approval system such that the Consultant will share interim work products
 with Ava Tiger Team for Ava to upload to their internal document management system (e.g.,
 Teams, Google Drive, etc.) for consolidated commenting and streamlined reviews. Review
 timelines are subject to final agreement during the Kickoff meeting, but proposed to be no
 longer than 5 business days so the project stays on track.

Deliverable(s):

1.1 Workplan

Ava's role: Ava's core "Tiger Team" will participate in the regular check-ins and provide feedback and relevant internal updates. The Tiger Team will coordinate internal staff and leadership participation in all relevant decision-making points. Tiger Team will also confirm and provide contact information for the 57 individuals selected for interviews. The selected 5-7 Ava staff will participate in interviews.

Task 2: Refine Customer Programs Roadmap Objective

The purpose of this task is to document a clear objective for Ava's long-term roadmap by synthesizing existing work and interviewing 5-7 key Ava staff and leaders (as noted in Task 1). The result of this identification will enable the drafting of a broad set of potential performance metrics.

Consultant will:

- Review Ava's existing work that supports the definition of the key objective for the Customer Programs Roadmap and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team. Develop a memo that synthesizes this work to be used as a guidance document throughout the Customer Programs Roadmap process.
- Conduct interviews with 5-7 Ava staff and leaders, to be selected during the Kickoff with the Tiger Team
- Review Ava's existing and potential program performance metrics and propose a "long list" of
 potential program performance metrics that we may want to use to estimate the performance
 of program concepts and track performance of programs in the 2027-2032 period based on our
 objective and focus areas, leveraging the metrics we have already collected.

Deliverable(s):

- 2.1 Customer Programs Roadmap Key Objective Memo
- 2.2 "Long List" of Potential Program Performance Metrics

Ava's role: Ava staff will provide the Consultant with the relevant background materials that inform the agency's strategic objective. Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions and provide feedback on the Consultant's synthesis.

Task 3: Internal Assessment

The purpose of this task is to document Ava's organizational capacity and advantages in order to inform program concepts and portfolio design.

Consultant will:

- Review Ava's existing work on organizational capacity and future operational envelope to implement programs, and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team on topics such as:
 - Budget and funding pathways
 - Staffing and internal expertise
 - Appetite for risk and innovation

- Implementation constraints (e.g. asset ownership, direct customer financing, cross-CCA program development, etc.)
- Review Ava's competitive advantage assessment and discuss comments and questions with Ava's Tiger Team.
- Use insights gleaned from internal interviews (see Task 1) to supplement the reviews detailed in the prior two bullets.
- Prepare an Internal Assessment Memo, summarizing organizational capacity, operational envelope, and competitive advantages to provide input to program concepts, metric development, and portfolio development Deliverable(s):

3.1 Internal Assessment Memo

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with the relevant background materials that inform the agency's strategic objective (including Ava's competitive advantage assessment). Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions and provide feedback on the Consultant's synthesis.

Task 4: Community & External Stakeholder Engagement Support

The objective of stakeholder engagement in this planning and strategy development effort is to gather input on stakeholder priorities to inform the 5-year plan. Engagement will be structured to gain insights on guiding values and strategic direction.

Consultant will develop and implement a strategy for ongoing engagement with external stakeholders throughout the strategic planning process. Key activities include reviewing Ava's stakeholder map and providing additional stakeholders, advising on a comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy, reviewing Ava's draft survey and incorporating insights from the survey into the Roadmap, hosting two General Listening Sessions, and conducting five virtual focus groups. The first General Listening Session will be scheduled to provide information early in the roadmap development process, followed by the focus groups and survey, all of which will consolidate an understanding of stakeholder priorities across Ava's service area. The second General Listening Session will occur during the second half of delivery to provide an update on the process and outcomes towards the conclusion of the project.

The Consultant's stakeholder engagement approach will be finalized in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Timeline deliverable (Deliverable 4.2).

Consultant will:

- Integrate stakeholder insights into project deliverables and make recommendations for how feedback should inform each phase of the plan.
- Review Ava's draft Stakeholder Engagement Map that identifies and segments key external stakeholder groups and their roles in the process and with respect to roadmap implementation.

- Prepare an Engagement Strategy and Timeline that details the Consultant's approach for external engagement, including timing, participants, and objectives.
- Prepare materials for and conduct two General Listening Sessions with a maximum of 100
 participants each. For each session, write a summary that details input received and how inputs
 can be used to inform the Roadmap.
- Prepare materials for and conduct up to five Focus Groups (with a maximum of 15 participants). For each focus group, write a summary that details input received and how inputs can be used to inform the Roadmap.
- Review questions for one multilingual survey (to be administered by Ava staff) and incorporate survey insights into the Roadmap process.

Deliverable(s):

- 4.1 Stakeholder Engagement Map
- 4.2 Engagement Strategy and Timeline
- 4.3 Engagement Materials for General Listening Session #1
- 4.4 Summary of General Listening Session #1
- 4.5 Engagement Materials for General Listening Session #2
- 4.6 Summary of General Listening Session #2
- 4.7 Survey Questions

Ava's role: Ava will support the stakeholder mapping exercise, review and provide feedback on draft engagement materials, lead internal alignment efforts, administer a survey, and gather the CAC Ad Hoc Committee.

Task 5: Market Assessment on External Landscape

The purpose of this task is to provide a strategic landscape analysis to inform Ava's program concept development and prioritization, which includes identifying unmet needs, innovation opportunities, and implementation barriers across Ava's service territory. The Consultant will:

• Use insights gleaned from internal interviews (see Task 1) to inform relevant components of the Market Assessment, namely 5.3 and 5.5.

5.1 Program Landscape and Gap Analysis

Consultant will develop an inventory electrification programs and incentives throughout Ava's service territory across entities including cities, counties, utilities, and Regional Energy Networks (REN) to identify gaps by Ava's programmatic focus areas: 1) building electrification including energy resilience, 2) energy efficiency, 3) load management, and 4) transportation electrification.

For each existing program, Consultant will include information such as (data to be finalized in the Workplan):

- Program overview
- Target customer segment
- Key outcomes
- Implementation barriers or successes

Deliverable:

5.1.1 Ava Service Area Program Inventory

5.2 National and Global Program Inventory

Consultant will identify successful programs beyond Ava's service area that advance Ava's objective. Include a range of jurisdictions and program models (utility, municipal, rate-based, etc.). Program examples should include information such as, but not limited to (data to be finalized in this task's work plan):

- Context and target customer group
- Goal and structure
- Performance metrics and outcomes
- Notable lessons or barriers
- Funding structure

Deliverable:

5.2.1 National and Global Program Inventory

5.3 Ava Operational Context Market Assessment

Consultant will examine how changes across the various contexts in which Ava operates may impact program implementation from 2027-2032. Ava operates as a community choice aggregator (CCA), a joint powers authority (JPA), and a load-serving entity (LSE), each with unique opportunities and constraints.

Analyzing how evolving regulatory, technology, and customer trends will affect these roles is critical to designing programs that are feasible and aligned with Ava's vision for long-term success. Topical areas (e.g., regulatory, future customer needs, technology change, etc.), Ava's role(s) in each (e.g., CCA, LSE, JPA, etc.) and Ava's programmatic focus areas (building electrification including energy resilience, energy efficiency, load management, and transportation electrification) should be used to frame this analysis.

5.4 Internal Workshop (#1)

Design and facilitate an internal workshop with Ava staff responsible for program delivery across departments with the goals of validating insights from the Market Assessment with Ava's internal expertise and identifying considerations to inform future tasks. During this Workshop, the Consultant and Ava staff will discuss the preliminary findings and outcomes from the Objectives Refinement (Task 2), the Internal Assessment (Task 3), and External Assessment analyses completed to date (Tasks 5.1, 5.2, and

5.3).

Deliverable:

- 5.4.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials
- 5.4.2 Memo on Workshop Findings and Recommendations

5.5 Programmatic Gaps

Based on outcomes from previous work in this task, Consultant will identify programmatic gaps in Ava's service area and contextualize these gaps with Ava's unique market position, as well as findings from the Program Inventory.

Deliverable:

5.5.1 Programmatic Gaps and Opportunities Summary

The Consultant will prepare a summary of Deliverables 5.1.1, 5.2.1, and 5.5.1 (Ava Service Territory Program Inventory, National and International Program Inventory, Programmatic Gaps and Opportunities Summary) into a consolidated document.

Deliverable:

5.0.1 Market Assessment Memo

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with relevant existing documents and data to inform the Market Assessment. Ava staff will identify subject matter experts or other parties to participate in this task.

The conclusion of Task 5 coincides with the end of Phase 1: Refine Objectives and Conduct Landscape Assessments, which is the first of three milestones.

Task 6: Develop Program Concepts

The purpose of this task is to develop a set of high-level program concepts that build on the findings from previous tasks. The development of these concepts does not include detailed program design or operational plans.

To confirm program concepts are rooted in the needs of Ava's customers, the stakeholder engagement activities (see Task 4) will gauge stakeholder perspective and needs regarding program concepts.

Based on findings from previous tasks, Consultant will develop a "long list" of program concepts that Ava could pursue across its four focus areas. Program concepts will provide information such as the following (data to be finalized in the Workplan):

- Focus area addressed
- Delivery mechanism, duration and structure
- Target audience
- Potential program outcome(s)
- Budget range
- O Key implementation dependencies or challenges

Deliverables

6.1 Program Concept "Long List"

Ava's role: Ava will share its internal concept list with the Consultant, provide clarifying context on priorities, and review and give feedback on the draft "long list" of program concepts.

Task 7: Program Metrics Development

The purpose of this task is to define a set of high-level metrics that will help Ava evaluate the potential impacts resulting from the implementation of individual program concepts.

Consultant will develop draft metrics to measure the potential impact of program concepts developed in Task 6. To confirm the metrics accurately track impact on Ava's customers, the engagement activities conducted as part of Task 4 will also include content pertaining to metrics to efficiently and comprehensively capture the insights of a diverse range of Ava's stakeholders. The Consultant will avoid highly detailed or overly granular metrics that risk leading to over analysis, and metrics will be on par with the level of detail in the program concept. After

workshopping these metrics with Ava staff (Task 8), metrics will be refined for use over the 2027-2032 period to measure progress.

Deliverable(s):

7.1 Program Concept Metrics

Ava's role: Ava will provide the Consultant with an initial list of draft metrics as a starting point.

Task 8: Internal Workshop (#2)

The purpose of this task is to refine draft program concepts and evaluation metrics developed in Task 6 and 7 through a comprehensive workshop with Ava's internal subject matter experts.

The Consultant will:

- Host a workshop with Ava's subject matter experts to review the initial set of program concepts and metrics, receive further feedback on the relevant given metrics, and use the estimated performance results to illustrate how program metrics track performance against proposed program concepts.
- Solicit feedback on refining the program concepts and metrics based on the application of the metrics to the concepts.
- Develop a Workshop Summary that summarizes the workshop and includes a proposed approach to refinement of program concepts, program concept metrics, and prioritization approach.

Deliverable(s):

- 8.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials
- 8.2 Workshop Summary

Ava's Role: Ava staff will identify and schedule all meetings with the Consultant team and staff, review draft materials, and support the Consultant in shaping discussion topics.

Task 9: Refine Program Concepts

The purpose of this task is to refine the initial set of program concepts based on internal feedback and updated metrics, which will result in a "short list" of concepts that are ready for consideration as a part of the portfolio.

Consultant will:

- Refine program concepts based on the information gathered in the Workshop #2, and other Ava staff input.
- Refresh estimates of program performance using final program concept metrics.
- Develop a Program Concept "Short List" that includes associated estimated performance across program metrics.

Deliverable:

9.1 Program Concept "Short List"

Ava's role: Ava staff will review the proposed refinements and coordinate internal feedback needed and confirm the shortlist aligns with the roadmap's objective.

Task 10: Portfolio Development & Internal Workshop (#3)

The purpose of this task is to translate program concepts into a balanced portfolio that reflects Ava's broader organizational priorities.

Consultant will:

- Develop a portfolio of program concepts for inclusion in the roadmap. A portfolio of program concepts is expected to contain program concepts across Ava's focus areas, and the construction of a portfolio should allow Ava to incorporate organizational priorities into its roadmap.
- Work with Ava staff to identify and catalogue organizational priorities to develop sample portfolios that are achievable based on Ava's operational envelope and deliver value in terms of market need and decarbonization potential.
- Convene a workshop (Internal Workshop #3) with Ava staff to propose an overarching set of targets that will be used to incorporate priorities about how Ava implements affordable decarbonization, present program concept portfolios, discuss how decarbonization and additional organizational goals are achieved differently based on each portfolio, and demonstrate how portfolio performance sets up Ava to perform beyond the roadmap period (2027-2032).
- Prepare a preliminary portfolio of program concepts as part of the Workshop Materials and include proposed approach to refinement of program concepts and program concept metrics in the Workshop Summary.

Deliverable(s):

10.1 Workshop Agenda and Materials

10.2 Workshop Summary

10.3 Final Program Concept Portfolio

Ava's role: Ava staff will provide organizational goals, priorities, and context for constraints and opportunities. Ava will also provide feedback on draft portfolios, participate in workshop #3, and confirm the proposed targets and portfolio designs incorporate organizational objectives.

The conclusion of Task 10 coincides with the end of Phase 2: Develop Concepts, Metrics, and Portfolio, which is the second of three milestones.

Task 11: Customer Programs Roadmap & Internal Workshop (#4)

The purpose of this task is to synthesize the outputs of all prior tasks into an actionable roadmap that reflects Ava's long-term goal, priorities, strategic advantages, and operational constraints while also providing guidance for implementation over time.

Additional documents to be included in the roadmap include program concept assessment templates, portfolio target realignment template, program assessment templates for use while programs are operating, and implementation guidance.

Implementation guidance will include recommendations on an approach to support internal alignment, stakeholder communication, and ongoing reinforcement of roadmap priorities.

Consultant will:

- Conduct a final interview with 5-7 of Ava's functional team leads to identify other considerations that may inform the roadmap and associated implementation guidance.
- Convene Internal Workshop #4 for maximum of two hours midway through the Roadmap development process so that key Ava stakeholders are informed and can provide input. The Draft Final Presentation (.PPT) & Roadmap (.DOC) will serve as the interim work product to be discussed during Internal Workshop #4 and this will serve as the primary point for input on the Roadmap for Ava staff.
- Produce a short Final Summary Report of Process (maximum 2 pages) capturing the overall process, key decisions, and outcomes for future reference.
- Prepare and Deliver a Final Presentation of Customer Programs Roadmap to Ava's Tiger Team, leadership, and other Ava subject matter experts (to be finalized with Ava during the Kickoff)
- Prepare an actionable roadmap that includes program assessment and alignment templates for use while programs are operating, along with implementation guidance that includes recommendations on an approach to support internal alignment, stakeholder communication, and ongoing reinforcement of roadmap priorities by August 2026.

Deliverable(s):

- 11.1 Summary Report of Process
- 11.2 Customer Programs Roadmap
- 11.3 Final Presentation of Customer Programs Roadmap

Ava's role: Selected Ava staff will participate in workshop #4 and provide feedback on the Roadmap progress to date. Tiger Team will also support coordination and scheduling for the 5-7 internal interviews. The selected 5-7 Ava staff will participate in interviews. Ava's Tiger Team will participate in review discussions for the final Roadmap.

Exhibit B

SCHEDULE

[Schedule - can be detailed or as simple as "As directed by Ava."]

Draft

CONSULTANT STAFFING

[Include names of all team members who will be providing Ava services.]



SUBCONSULTANTS

[If subconsultants are authorized in advance, they should be listed here, otherwise it can state either of these: "Subconsultants are not authorized under this Agreement." or "Subconsultants must be authorized in advance, in writing by Ava."]



COMPENSATION/BUDGET

[If the compensation is hourly, a table of hourly rates by title should be included. If fixed fee, describe what amounts are to be paid based on what milestones]

For the purposes of Section 6.1 (Time and Materials), 80% of the total compensation under this agreement (see NTE on page 1) is [\$\$\$\$]



INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Minimum Scope and Limits of Insurance. Consultant must procure, and at all times during the term of this Agreement carry, maintain, and keep in full force and effect, insurance as follows:
- 1) Commercial General Liability Insurance with a minimum limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage and a general aggregate limit of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per project or location. If Consultant is a limited liability company, the commercial general liability coverage must be amended so that Consultant and its managers, affiliates, employees, agents and other persons necessary or incidental to its operation are insureds.
- 2) Automobile Liability Insurance for any owned, non-owned or hired vehicle used in connection with the performance of this Agreement with a combined single limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
- 3) Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by the State of California and Employer's Liability Insurance with a minimum limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per accident for bodily injury or disease. If Consultant has no employees while performing the Work under this Agreement, workers' compensation policy is not required, but Consultant must execute a declaration that it has no employees.
- 4) Professional Liability/Errors & Omissions Insurance with minimum limits of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per claim and in aggregate.
- B. Acceptability of Insurance surance policies required under this must be issued by an insurer admitted to write in trance in the State of California with a rating of A:VII of better in the latest edition of the A.M. Best Insurance sating Guide
- ed. The automo y poli Additional Insured/ ditional Nan Ins e liab s must contain an ove addit endorsement naming Ava, officers, er agents eers hal insureds. The commercial general liability olicy must ntain n endo ment n ing A a, its d cers, employees, agents and volunteers as addition eds.
- D. Primary and Non-Contributing. The insurance policies required under this Agreement must apply on a primary non-contributing basis in relation to any other insurance or self-insurance available to Ava. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by Ava, its officers, employees, agents or volunteers, will be in excess of Consultant's insurance and will not contribute with it.
- E. Consultant's Waiver of Subrogation. The insurance policies required under this Agreement will not prohibit Consultant and Consultant's employees, agents or Subconsultants from waiving the right of subrogation prior to a loss. Consultant hereby waives all rights of subrogation against Ava.
- F. Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions. Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by Ava. At Ava's option, Consultant must either reduce or eliminate the deductibles or self-insured retentions with respect to Ava, or Consultant must procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and expenses.
- G. Cancellations or Modifications to Coverage. Consultant agrees not to cancel any insurance coverage during the term of this Agreement. Consultant further agrees not to reduce or otherwise modify the insurance policies required by this Agreement during the term of this Agreement, without the prior written approval of Ava. The commercial general and automobile liability policies required under this Agreement must be endorsed to state that should the issuing insurer cancel the policy before the expiration date, the issuing insurer will endeavor to mail thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Ava. If any insurance policy required under Agreement is canceled or reduced in coverage or limits, Consultant must, within two (2) business days of notice from the insurer, phone and notify Ava via electronic mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, of the cancellation of or reductions to any policy.

- H. Ava Remedy for Noncompliance. If Consultant does not maintain the policies of insurance required under this Agreement in full force and effect during the term of this Agreement, or in the event any of Consultant's policies do not comply with the requirements of this Exhibit F, Ava may either immediately terminate this Agreement or, if insurance is available at a reasonable cost, Ava may, but has no duty to, take out the necessary insurance and pay, at Consultant's expense, the premium thereon. Consultant must promptly reimburse Ava for any premium paid by Ava or Ava, in its sole discretion, may withhold amounts sufficient to pay the premiums from payments due to Consultant.
- I. Evidence of Insurance. Prior to the performance of the Work under this Agreement, Consultant must furnish Ava with a certificate or certificates of insurance and all original endorsements evidencing and effecting the coverages required under this Agreement. The endorsements are subject to Ava's approval. Ava may request, and Consultant must provide complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies to Ava Consultant must maintain current endorsements on file with Ava. Consultant must provide proof to Ava that insurance policies expiring during the term of this Agreement have been renewed or replaced with other policies providing at least the same coverage. Consultant must furnish such proof at least two (2) weeks prior to the expiration of the coverages.
- J. Indemnity Requirements not Limiting. Procurement of insurance by Consultant will not be construed as a limitation of Consultant's liability or as full performance of Consultant's duty to indemnify Ava under Section 12 of this Agreement.
- K. Subconsultant Insurance Requirements. Consultant's insurance coverage must include its Subconsultants or Consultant must require each of its Subconsultants that perform Work under this Agreement to maintain insurance coverage that meets all the requirements of this Exhibit F.





Staff Report Item 12

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	JP Ross, Vice President Local Development
Subject:	Adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Use of Previous Budget Allocation and Program Design for the SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Programs
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary/Recommendation

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the use of previous budget allocations to a new solar photovoltaic ("PV") and battery system incentive program, called SmartHome Battery ("Program"), with 50% of the incentives for single family homeowners and 25% for low-income customers and 25% to resilience hubs, planned to launch in early 2026. Authorize staff to adjust Program design based on market and customer feedback with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

Financial Impact

Fiscal impacts will result from three separate sources: upfront and ongoing incentive payments for Program participants, administration and virtual power plant ("VPP") costs, and Ava lost revenues from the solar PV and battery systems.

The upfront incentive payments, ongoing incentive payments, and Program administration costs will be funded by \$14.96M previously allocated to the Local Development Fund and \$500k allocated for SmartHome Battery performance payments in the FY 2024-2025 Local Development budget, totaling \$15.46M.

Operational costs for the VPP – which include fees for the distributed energy resource management system ("DERMS"), storage dispatch fees, and inverter and battery connection API fees – will be funded by the previously approved \$2M contract with Lunar Energy, which can be extended for up to five years. VPP expenses are highly dependent on enrollment and participation rates and are currently forecast to be less than the approved amount over the

current contract term, which runs through March 2027. Staff will report on the value and costs of the Program, as well as the performance of the DERMS provider, to evaluate additional resources required to administer this Program at the end of the first year of operation of the Program.

In addition to direct project costs, Ava is also financially impacted by this Program, since all new behind-the-meter solar PV and battery system installations reduce electricity revenue to Ava. Similar to Ava's traditional approach to Net Energy Metering ("NEM") 2.0 reduced revenues, the lost revenue from the Program is not funded through a Local Development budget expense. The estimated lost revenue from Program participants is \$2.5M over 5 years.

The Program serves both residential customers and resilience hubs, and these two customer segments will be addressed sequentially in each section of the following report.

Budget Authorization

On November 20, 2024, Ava's Board of Directors received a report on the actual FY 2023-2024 surplus of \$14,963,130 to support solar PV and battery system installations. This funding will help both residential customers (market rate and CARE/FERA customers) and community-benefiting resilience hubs, which are facilities designed to provide backup power during outages.

This decision followed an earlier resolution, Resolution R-2024-2, in January 2024 that defined how Ava's budget surplus from FY 2023-2024 would be split with:

- 60% of any surplus going back to customers as on-bill credits, with some portion specifically applied to CARE and FERA customers. Bill credits were issued in January 2025.
- 40% going toward solar PV and battery system incentives, with an emphasis on projects that support community resilience.

Part 1: Context

In April 2023, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") voted to phase out the NEM 2.0 program. Under NEM 2.0, customers with solar PV systems received full retail credit on their bill for every unit of electricity exported to the grid. Beginning in 2023, new solar PV systems are instead enrolled in the Solar Billing Plan (SBP), which provides lower credits for excess electricity sent back to the grid. The Ava Board of Directors adopted the Solar Billing Plan (SBP) Tariff Policy in April 2024.

Under SBP, new solar PV-only installations are less financially beneficial to participating customers than they were under NEM 2.0 because electricity from the solar systems exported to the grid is now credited at "avoided cost" value, which averages 4¢ per kilo-Watt hour ("kWh") during solar PV production hours versus the retail rate compensation approach used by NEM 2.0, valued at 26-65 ¢/kWh. Ava offers export bonus credits to help offset some of this loss for its SBP customers.

Ava is now proposing a new solar PV and battery system incentive for customers who install both solar PV and battery systems. The incentives will cover a portion of the lost export value from NEM 2.0 to SBP and help offset the costs associated with installing a battery.

Initial Draft Program Design

In April 2024, Ava staff presented an initial <u>draft program design for SmartHome Battery</u> to the Ava's Board of Directors, which included the following information:

- Budget: \$14.96M: 50% of budget (~\$7.5M) for upfront incentives for CARE/FERA residential customers and resilience hubs to install solar PV and battery systems.
 - 50% of budget (~\$7.5M) for upfront incentives for market rate residential customers to install solar PV and battery systems.
- Upfront Incentives to be paid when the solar PV and battery system is approved to operate:
 - \$10,000 per battery for CARE/FERA customers.
 - \$400/kWh of battery capacity for resilience hubs.
 - \$1,250 per battery for market rate residential customers.
- Ongoing Performance Payments: All customers receive \$2 per kWh of battery capacity per month for VPP participation.
- Program Term: Customers would have five years to enroll, and performance payments for VPP participation would last for five years.
- Eligibility:
 - Must be an Ava customer and own the home where the solar PV and battery system is installed.
 - To receive the upfront incentive, customers must install a battery, either with a new solar PV system or retrofitting with an existing solar PV system. Customers who already have both solar PV and battery system installed are eligible for the ongoing incentive only.
 - Must connect the battery to Ava's DERMS and participate in grid optimization events.

Program Design Development and Feedback

Residential Customers

Since Ava presented the initial draft Program design, Ava staff have continued to perform Program impact modeling and conducted multiple market focus groups with professionals in the solar PV and battery industry to refine the proposed Program design.

Some of the discoveries from this process by key topic include:

- Incentive sizing:
 - Ava should base incentives on battery size to align with standard practices used by other similar programs across the country.
 - Ava should ensure that the ongoing payments are sufficient to keep customers enrolled in the Program.
- Customer choice: Ava should allow customers to choose the battery capacity that participates in the VPP and pro-rate the incentive accordingly.

 Third-party ownership of batteries: Currently, about 70% of residential customers in Ava's territory that install solar PV and battery systems finance them through a third-party owner, or "aggregator." Ava should ensure customers who finance their solar PV and battery systems through third-party owners can still participate, through their aggregator.

Resilience Hub Customers

Ava's support for resilience hubs is broader than the Program, and components of the broader Resilience Hub Initiative were leveraged to support program design for the Program. Emerald Cities Collaborative ("ECC") is funded through a \$300,000 Ava community grant to partner with Local Clean Energy Alliance ("LCEA") and Collective Resilience to engage communities to support Ava's efforts to define and create eligibility criteria for resilience hubs and foster awareness of Ava's Resilience Hub offerings.

Grantees provided case study research on resilience hubs, conducted two resilience hub definition workshops to gather feedback on Ava's proposed resilience hub definition, developed a standardized intake form, called the Resilience Readiness Tool, for potential hub sites to engage with technical assistance, and plan to conduct at least two community outreach workshops to educate Community-Based Organizations ("CBOs") on resilience hubs and promote Ava's technical assistance and the Resilience Hub incentives. Community feedback has been used by Ava to inform the development of the Program's approach to resilience hubs.

Resilience Hub Research

Given that resilience hubs are relatively new concepts, and approaches to how they provide community resilience varies widely, Ava performed research to characterize the current state of resilience hubs.

To better understand the types of facilities that may serve as resilience hubs supported by solar PV and battery systems, staff evaluated five data sources to understand resilience hub services, solar PV and battery system requirements and associated costs.

These five data sources included:

- Ava sample sites Ava's independent engineer, NV5, modeled a set of potential resilience hub sites under different resilience scenarios for costs and payback periods in our service area.
- Non-profit developer sites with installed solar PV and battery system projects at community-serving facilities in California.
- Ava's technical assistance pilot sites sites in our service area piloting the technical assistance process supported by ECC.
- Collective Resilience, as a part of the ECC grant team, completed a case study of resilience hubs, including examples of operating sites and potential resilience hubs in Ava's service territory.
- Critical Municipal Facilities ("CMF") and other CCA sites Ava's CMF sites and similar CCA resilience projects in California.

¹ Not all third-party owners operate as aggregators. For the purposes of this program, any reference to third-party owners is assumed to be an aggregator.

Across all sources, there are few fully operational resilience hubs, but we see a growing list of community-serving facilities interested in becoming resilience hubs. These facilities include churches, nonprofit centers, schools, gyms, and community centers, which are the types of sites already involved in their communities and providing routine public services.

Across these potential sites, they span the gamut between:

Smaller sites:

 Limited space for solar PV and battery infrastructure. These sites use standard available solar PV and battery systems to maintain existing services during outages and may be capable of adding additional resilience services during emergencies.

Larger sites:

 May consist of multiple facilities across a property or campus that require more customized solar PV and battery systems that could provide multiple public resilience services over a multi-day outage.

Cost: Given that sites serving different functions will need to plan for resilience differently, we observe that estimated costs to install solar PV and battery systems can range widely, with small projects costing \$100,000 and large sites costing \$700,000 or more.

Financial Capacity: Resilience hub host organizations' financial capacity is also diverse, and we have observed loans and incentives as two tools that current sites use to support carrying out their solar PV and battery system projects.

Timeline: Given the range of project cost and size, as well as supporting financial resources, resilience hubs can take months to multiple years to build their solar PV and battery system projects.

Based on these findings, Ava staff have sought to support the widest range of resilience hubs possible by designing definitions, requirements, and an incentive level that would allow for wide participation. This is a challenge, given the wide variety of site- and entity-specific characteristics of potential resilience hubs across our service area.

We have sought to balance the need for high levels of resilience - for example, in the case of a major earthquake that disrupts the provision of public services for multiple days - with the realities of cost and feasibility. Our minimum backup requirement standards are designed to be achievable for smaller sites, while allowing larger projects to pursue higher levels and longer durations of energy resilience.

Resilience Hub Definition

Ava developed a proposed definition for participating in Ava's Resilience Hub initiative as a basis for informing desired outcomes from technical assistance and Program incentives.

The proposed definition was reviewed in focus groups conducted by ECC through an Ava community investment grant. There was community input to significantly broaden the definition beyond Ava's proposal. Ava staff reviewed the proposed language and determined that retaining the proposed specificity related to the provision of clean backup power for resilience services is important to manage clear expectations on the purposes and services provided in the program.

Ava's proposed definition for participating in the Resilience Hub initiative is below:

Resilience hubs are physical, community-serving facilities that provide essential services, distribute critical resources during emergencies, and integrate clean energy solutions to maintain operation during power outages. They also serve as year-round community spaces, where local residents regularly gather and access everyday services.

Although Ava's definition is focused on the provision of clean backup power for resilience services, Ava's definition does not constrain sites or organizations from operating resilience hubs in accordance with community input, which is a key component to ensure resilience hubs are providing relevant services to communities in appropriate manners.

Part 2: Updated Program Proposal

Following the Program design feedback and further research, staff is recommending several changes to the Program design. These changes are described in each of the following sections. Some features, like the eligibility requirements for residential customers, remain unchanged.

Program Budget:

Ava staff proposes a total Program budget of \$15.46M. This amount comes from two sources: \$14.96M from the previously approved 4 budget allocated to the Local Development Fund and \$500,000 that was previously approved for the Program in the FY 2024-2025 Local Development budget. The Program budget will be allocated to incentives and administration costs as shown in Figure 1 below, with 50% of the allocated budget being devoted to market rate residential incentives, 25% allocated for CARE/FERA residential incentives, and 25% allocated for resilience hubs incentives.

Figure 1: SmartHome Battery Budget Allocation



Program Incentive Structure: Residential Customers

The Program will offer customers two types of financial incentives:

- 1. upfront payments to reduce the initial cost of installing batteries, and
- 2. ongoing payments to encourage customers to keep their batteries enrolled and responding to grid reliability events.

Staff proposes to update the upfront incentive from the originally proposed \$1,250/battery for market rate residential customers and \$10,000/battery for CARE/FERA customers to \$90/kWh nominated capacity and \$500/kWh nominated capacity, respectively, and increase the proposed monthly ongoing incentives from \$2/kWh to \$3/kWh nominated capacity to encourage customer participation in Ava's VPP. Nominated capacity means that the customer will select, or nominate, a portion of their battery to participate in the program with a maximum nomination of 80%. The CARE/FERA upfront incentive has been set assuming the customer can stack it with California's Self-Generation Incentive Program ("SGIP") Residential Solar and Storage Equity ("RSSE") incentives, which provide up to \$1,100/kWh. If CARE/FERA customers are unable to stack incentives with SGIP, then the upfront incentive will increase to \$950/kWh nominated capacity for CARE/FERA customers.²

The total incentive value to the customer will now be higher for customers who install larger batteries compared to the proposed approach. For example, if a customer installs a 10 kWh battery with an 80% nomination, they will receive \$2,160 in incentives over five years. These changes are meant to scale with both the size of the battery and level of participation, while also increasing the incentive for participants to remain in Ava's VPP for the term of the Program.

For residential participants, both the upfront and ongoing incentives will be based on the size of the battery that a customer chooses to make available to Ava, or nominate, for participation in Ava's VPP. Customers will be able to nominate 40%, 60%, or 80% of their battery's total capacity for the VPP. Any portion not nominated can be reserved by the customer for personal backup power or other purposes. Customers can choose whether to receive the upfront

² Ava is awaiting a final vote on this item from the CPUC, which has been delayed twice.

incentive directly as a rebate or have it applied through their installer to lower the initial installation cost. Selecting the second option requires that the installer has participated in Ava's program training and been added to the program's approved installer list. Ongoing incentive payments will be made on a quarterly basis directly to the customer.

Customers who already have a solar PV and battery system installed can also participate; however, they will only qualify for the ongoing payments and not the upfront incentive. Participation for customers with existing systems will be limited to 50% of all enrollments to ensure customers who install new battery systems can access the incentive. Customers that complete an installation with a permit approval after January 1, 2026, will be eligible for the upfront incentive. Customers that install solar PV systems after January 1st will no longer be eligible for the Federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC), so Ava's incentive will help make up the lost ITC value.

Table 1: Proposed SmartHome Battery Incentive Levels for Residential Customers
Assuming 80% of 10 kWh Battery is Nominated

Participant Type	<u>Upfront Incentive</u>	Monthly Ongoing Incentive ³	Total Incentive
Residential – CARE/FERA (25% of allocated budget)	\$500/kWh nominated ⁴	\$3/kWh nominated	\$4,000 upfront + \$72/quarter
Residential – Market Rate (50% of allocated budget)	\$90/kWh nominated	\$3/kWh nominated	\$720 upfront + \$72/quarter

Resilience Hub Customers

For resilience hub participants, the proposed incentive includes an upfront incentive of \$1,220/kWh based on nameplate battery storage system size plus \$3/kWh based on nominated capacity for monthly ongoing participation in the VPP. This proposal is based on financial analysis of currently operating resilience hubs and potential sites, as well as current external funding sources.

As an example, under this proposal, a resilience hub with 100 kWh of battery storage (nameplate capacity) would receive the following incentives:

The upfront incentive would be 100 kWh * \$1,220/kWh = \$122,000.

³ The incentives listed here are only for customers who participate in this Program directly. The ongoing incentive for customers participating through an aggregator is \$6 / kW / month paid to the aggregator as the battery owner and based on battery performance during grid services events, as monitored by Ava's Distributed Energy Resources Management System (DERMS). This alternate incentive structure is set to ensure aggregators meet their VPP performance obligations in their contract. For example, if an aggregator battery delivers 5 kW across a two-hour event, the aggregator would be paid \$30 for that month (equal to what a non-aggregator participant would be paid for nominating 10 kWh).

⁴ Provided the customer can stack our incentive with California's Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) incentive. If a CARE/FERA customer are unable to stack incentives with SGIP the upfront incentive will increase to \$950/kWh nominated.

- If 80% of that battery was nominated to participate in the VPP, then the monthly ongoing incentive would be 100 kWh * 80% * \$3/kWh = \$240.
- The total incentive value across five years of VPP participation would equal \$122,000 + ((5 * 12) * \$240) = \$136,400.

Staff completed a thorough financial analysis of thirteen sample resilience hub sites, including actual installation and operations costs from Ava's CMF program to inform this incentive level. We evaluated a variety of backup power requirements and incentive levels to estimate the financial impact of Ava's incentives for potential resilience hubs. At the proposed incentive levels, we estimate Program incentives would result in simple paybacks between 3 and 15 years for the examined sites. The cost coverage and payback time varies widely based on the size and complexity of the system, as well as site characteristics. For resilience hubs, the value of resilience for the communities served is the primary driver of customer value—not bill savings. However, resilience hubs are not typically able to use the value of resilience as a contribution toward paying down the cost of a solar PV and battery system. As a result, although sites are not driven by financial payback, they may be constrained by it, and Ava's incentive would support sites to achieve a reasonable payback period.

No tiering of incentive levels has been proposed as resilience hubs are needed at all scales, as well as to support operational simplicity and customer clarity.

To ensure distribution of incentive dollars across multiple sites, staff recommend setting an upfront incentive maximum at 500 kWh or \$610,000. The maximum is based on the larger projects identified in our market research. With this cap, a minimum of six sites could be funded through the Program, if all sites reached the maximum incentive level. However, based on current market conditions, staff expect a larger number of resilience hub projects of smaller sizes to be funded. The incentive cap will not be applied to ongoing payments.

Resilience hub projects are complex and require a high level of planning and coordination, often resulting in extended development timelines. To support this, Ava will develop a waitlist process that allows prospective sites to reserve access to incentives for a defined period while their projects are developed.

As part of Program implementation, Ava may also evaluate prioritization criteria – for example, considering factors such as geographic distribution or ownership model – to guide incentive allocation and waitlist management. These considerations will be assessed as the Program evolves.

Incentive Payment and VPP Requirements: Residential Customers

For upfront payments, customers can choose if they would prefer to receive the upfront incentive directly or have it transferred to their installer. Ava will pay the upfront incentive once the solar PV and battery system is permitted, operational, and connected to Ava's DERMS.

For ongoing payments, customers who own their battery will receive the ongoing incentive directly every quarter, as long as their battery remains connected to Ava's DERMS and responds to grid service events with the nominated capacity. Third-party aggregators who enroll batteries on behalf of customers will receive the ongoing incentive every month after Ava has assessed performance in grid service events.

Participating customers must be Ava customers. For residential customers to qualify for upfront or ongoing incentives, Ava's DERMS must be able to communicate with the battery for VPP participation. To ensure compatibility with our DERMS, enrollees will be required to select a battery system from Ava's approved vendor list.

Participation in the VPP would require residential customers to participate in one of the following protocols:

- Intermittent: a specified number of battery dispatch events per year over the course of the 5-year program participation term
 - SBP or NEM 2.0 customers who nominate at least 4kWh of their battery must allow Ava to dispatch their battery for up to 40 events⁵ each year and allow Ava to aggregate individual batteries to participate in other programs - such as Demand Side Generation Support ("DSGS"), a state-funded incentive program for load reduction and backup generation to support the state's electrical grid during extreme events - or market-based opportunities. Outside of event windows and during grid outages, customers may use the nominated capacity of their batteries for their own purposes.
- Daily: a daily battery dispatch schedule over the course of the 5-year program participation term
 - NEM 2.0 customers who nominate less than 4 kWh of their battery capacity will be placed on a daily dispatch schedule, where their battery is dispatched by Ava daily during peak hours to help reduce peak energy demand on the electrical grid.

Residential customers will be excused from VPP participation when they are subject to a grid outage, PSPS event, or National Weather Service extreme weather alert.

Resilience Hub Customers

Though payment approaches for resilience hubs are still being defined, staff expect to mirror the approach to payment for residential customers, unless customer-specific requirements are identified that would better support incentive payment.

10

⁵ This maximum may be higher depending on the equipment installed.

To qualify for upfront incentives, resilience hubs need to meet the proposed general requirements, provide at least one resilience service, and meet a minimum backup power requirement. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Ava nonresidential customer
- Property owner signoff (or landlord support for infrastructure changes)
- Community-serving or public-benefit facility
- Physical space to accommodate solar PV + battery system
- Open to the public during emergencies
- Participate in Ava's VPP
- Provide battery backup for at least 8 hours/day over 3 days
- Operational plan documenting resilience services and operations (plan must include resilience services provided, hours of operation, staffing and financial plan, power management strategy, communications plan, coordination with other hubs / agencies

Resilience services, of which hubs would be required to provide at least one, are defined as the following:

- Lighted shelter
- Clean air or climate-controlled space
- Refrigeration
- Device charging
- · Electric vehicle charging
- WIFI
- Fresh water access
- Food distribution
- Other essential service, to be approved by Ava

Minimum backup power requirements for resilience hubs are proposed as three days of operation at eight hours per day during business hours, as selected by the site. The rationale for this requirement is that it ensures that communities receive resilience services over a longer duration, as voiced during community feedback, while reducing the cost required to arrive at extended resilience service provision (i.e. bigger, more expensive batteries that provide longer duration power). Small sites can still meet this minimum backup requirement depending on the loads that they plan to support and the size of the solar PV system. In many cases, solar PV systems can generate more kWh per day than the battery can hold, so the solar PV and battery system working together can regenerate energy during the daytime for multi-day operations.

Resilience hubs would be permitted to exceed this minimum, if the community determines additional services or resilience are required.

To qualify for ongoing incentives, Resilience Hub customers will be required to participate in Ava's VPP. Customers will be required to nominate a share of their battery (40%, 60%, or 80%) to participate in Ava's VPP, as described in the Residential Customer section above. Resilience hubs will be excused from VPP participation when they are subject to a grid outage, PSPS

event, or National Weather Service extreme weather alert, which is the same as for residential customers.

To ensure compatibility with our DERMS, sites will be required to select a battery system from Ava's approved vendor list. These systems are already integrated with Ava's platform and can reliably communicate with the DERMS for VPP participation. If a site chooses equipment not on the approved list, Ava may grant an exception for the upfront incentive, but the system would not be eligible for ongoing VPP payments, since it cannot be integrated into the system.

Ava retains the right to prioritize resilience hubs funded via the Program based on factors such as but not limited to: geographic distribution, proximity and service to disadvantaged communities, proximity to existing resilience hubs, ownership structure, and resilience services provided. The intent of prioritization would be to ensure that Program funding is expended to maximize public benefit. Ava will review the composition and distribution of the initial Resilience Hub sites after the first \$1M in projects have been approved for the Resilience Hub waitlist. This will allow Ava to review the types of projects that are being developed and institute additional prioritization criteria, if warranted, without applying unnecessary restrictions in the early stages of the Program.

In alignment with ensuring public benefit from these funds, Ava would also reserve the right to claw back upfront incentives from resilience hub sites that fail to provide resilience services in per operational plan submitted to Ava (as noted in the list of eligibility requirements).

Ava will also align its resilience hub technical assistance with the requirements proposed for the incentive. Receipts of technical assistance from Ava are not required to receive Program incentives.

Part 3: Customer and Ava Impacts Customer Value Overview Residential Customers

The transition from NEM 2.0 to SBP represented a significant loss in bill savings potential for solar PV customers. As illustrated in Figure 2 below, part of this loss can be made up by pairing the solar PV with a battery system. This analysis illustrates a bill savings estimate over twenty years under three different scenarios using the same customer load profile and solar PV and battery system sizes using Energy Tool Base, a commonly used solar PV / solar PV and battery system bill savings calculator.

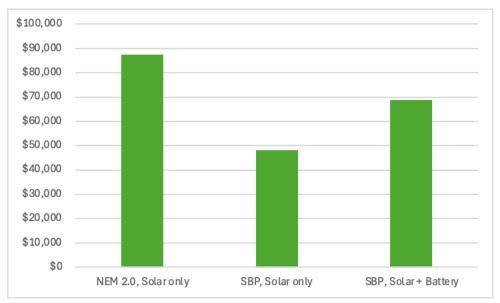


Figure 2: Decrease in customer value transitioning from NEM 2.0 to SBP, 20-year bill savings

The cost of a battery is a substantial investment - typically costing between \$10,000 to \$20,000. Batteries allow customers to recover some of the lost savings from NEM 2.0, but the higher upfront cost means it takes longer for the system to pay for itself. Ava's program provides both upfront and ongoing incentives to help customers defray the cost of a battery.

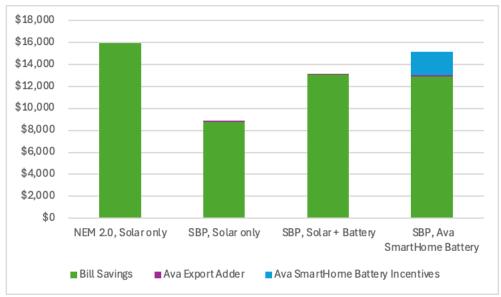


Figure 3: 5-year customer savings comparison between NEM2.0 and SBP scenarios including PG&E charges.

The SBP export credit and the Program incentive will help cover the additional costs of adding batteries to a home solar PV and battery system and recover the ~\$1,400 per year in lost

customer value resulting from the transition from NEM 2.0 to SBP over the first five years. As demonstrated in Table 3 below, the Program incentive for a CARE/FERA customer paired with the SGIP incentive nearly covers the full cost of a \$10,000-\$20,000 battery system.

Table 3: SmartHome Battery Residential Customer Value Assuming 80% of 10 kWh

Battery is Nominated for VPP Participation

	Residential – Market Rate	Residential – CARE/FERA
Ava SmartHome Battery Incentives (upfront and ongoing)	\$2,160	\$5,440
California SGIP Incentives	\$0	\$11,000 ⁶
Bill Savings during 5-year program term	\$12,917	\$12,917

Resilience Hub Customers

For resilience hubs, the value of resilience for the communities served is the primary driver of customer value. The Program also provides value to resilience hubs as a stackable source of funding for solar PV and battery system project development.

With the expiration of non-residential SGIP funding, Ava's incentive can help fill this gap and support customers as one component of the funding stack for resilience hub projects.

Ava Revenue Impacts and VPP Value Residential Customers

Program impact modeling indicates that customers with batteries buy less electricity during expensive peak hours, which reduces Ava's revenues compared to solar PV-only customers. Table 4 shows the expected per customer impacts to Ava from residential customers installing solar PV and battery systems and optimizing for bill savings compared to a customer installing a solar PV and battery system and participating in the Program, and also demonstrates that participation in the Program reduces these impacts.

Table 4: Annual Revenue Impacts from Residential Customers Participating in SmartHome Battery (\$/yr/customer)⁷

		SmartHome Battery
Ava Reduced Revenue	(\$313)	(\$294)
Ava Export Bonus Credit	(\$20)	(\$20)
Reduced Wholesale Energy Cost	\$69	\$75

⁶ Assuming that CARE/FERA customers can stack SGIP incentives.

⁷ Revenue impacts are compared to a solar-only customer on SBP

Reduced REC Cost	\$33	\$33
2026 DSGS Incentive	\$0	\$263
Total	(\$231)	\$57

Ava can use VPP-participating batteries to reduce some of its procurement costs and potentially earn revenue from the battery dispatch through other programs, such as the DSGS. Note that DSGS revenues are not guaranteed and may not fully offset the revenue losses incurred by the Program.

Resilience Hub Customers

Ava's revenue will also be impacted by resilience hubs who use their batteries to offset their electricity costs. These impacts have not yet been modeled, but given the low number of expected participants, these impacts could be significantly smaller. Similarly, VPP value from resilience hubs has not yet been evaluated.

Program Budget and Scale

The following table shows the budget allocations for each participant type, along with the estimated number of participants.⁸

Table 4: SmartHome Battery Budget Segmentation and Scale

	<u>Upfront Incentives</u>	Ongoing Incentives	<u>Capacity</u>	Estimated Number of Participants
Residential –				
CARE/FERA	\$1.05M	\$2.7M	3 MW	830
Residential –				
Market Rate	\$1.5M	\$6M	17 MW	3,080
Resilience Hubs	\$3.5M	\$0.25M	1 MW	~20
Total		\$15M	21 MW	3,916

As demonstrated in Table 5 below, the Program may be able to recover some revenue losses resulting from customer adoption of distributed energy resources ("DERs") through VPP activities over the program period. Staff intends to manage this program to maximize revenue recovery initially through participation in DSGS. Staff will evaluate VPP revenues and evaluate if program expansion is warranted.

⁸ Final participant numbers will depend on battery storage system sizes and nominated amounts to be selected by participating customers.

Table 5: SmartHome Battery Budget, Reduced Revenue and VPP Value Estimates

Incentives	Reduced Revenue	Potential VPP Value ⁹
\$15M	\$2.5M	\$2.9M

Part 4: Program Implementation

Ava contracted with a DERMS provider, Lunar Energy, to manage distributed energy resources on Ava's behalf in 2024. A DERMS is required to support this Program, as it allows Ava to remotely confirm the presence of a battery, monitor battery performance, ensure batteries are operating optimally, and dispatch assets to optimize the battery for customer, grid and Ava benefits.

Residential Customers

Lunar Energy also provides administrative support to enable online Program enrollment, manage and verify approved equipment, calculate and pay upfront and ongoing payments to customers, and provide customer support for enrollment and device connectivity.

Ava will be hosting at least one installer training session for this Program prior to Program launch and additional training sessions after launch. Training sessions will instruct installers on how to educate customers on Ava and the Program, as well as how to ensure that the battery is connected to Ava's DERMS.

Resilience Hub Customers

Lunar Energy will provide the same support to Resilience Hub customers as residential customers. Ava may engage in additional support if other processes, such as a waitlist, would support potential participation in the Program.

Program Launch timeline:

Ava is planning to open the Program to residential customers in early 2026 for new installation participants, who own their own battery, and residential customers, who own existing battery systems. Customers, whose batteries are owned by aggregators, will be able to participate as soon as Q2 2026, depending on the aggregator's execution of a participation agreement with Ava.

Staff is still developing the Resilience Hub final administrative approach for the Program, targeting launch later in 2026.

Related Board items:

January 2024: Fiscal Year Budget Surplus Allocation

April 2024: Solar and Storage Program Informational Item

May 2024: Approval of Lunar Contract

September 2024: Approval of ICF Contract for Program Manual and Installer Training

⁹ VPP value is speculative and includes avoided energy costs, avoided REC cost, and revenue from participation in other programs.

Attachments

- A. Resolution of the Board of Directors of Ava Community Energy Authority Authorizing the Use of Previous Budget Allocation for the Smarthome Battery Program
- B. Presentation

RESOLUTION NO. R-202x-xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE USE OF PREVIOUS BUDGET ALLOCATION AND PROGRAM DESIGN FOR THE SMARTHOME BATTERY PROGRAM

WHEREAS Ava Community Energy Authority ("Ava") was formed as a community choice aggregation agency ("CCA") on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 *et seq.*, among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") in March of 2020. The city of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The city of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception.

WHEREAS Ava is developing a solar and storage incentive program for residential customers and resilience hubs;

WHEREAS Ava has received extensive market feedback on the design and conducted thorough Program impact modeling;

WHEREAS Ava has allocated \$14,963,130 from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 surplus (Resolution No R-2024-73) and \$500k from the FY2024 budget;

WHEREAS Ava has proposed to allocate 50% of incentives for single family residential and 25% for income qualified customers and 25% for community resilience hubs and under the Program;

WHEREAS Ava plans to launch the Program in early 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> Approve the allocation of the FY2023 budget surplus to the Program as proposed, with 50% of the incentives for single family residents, 25% for low-income customers and 25% for resilience hubs

	o launch the Program consistent with the provided djust program design based on market and customer Chief Executive Officer.
ADOPTED AND APPROVED this	s 19 th day of November, 2025.
	Betsy Andersen, Chair
ATTEST:	

Adrian Bankhead, Clerk of the Board



SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Program Proposals



Program Goals, Audience and Learning

Program Goal

 Deploy \$15M in upfront and ongoing incentives that support community resilience, adding 21MW of dependable powered batteries to our community Virtual Power Plant (VPP).

Program Audiences

- Residential Customers
 - CARE/FERA
 - General Market
- Resilience Hubs

Program Learning

 Enhance our understanding of how to reliably manage and grow battery aggregations



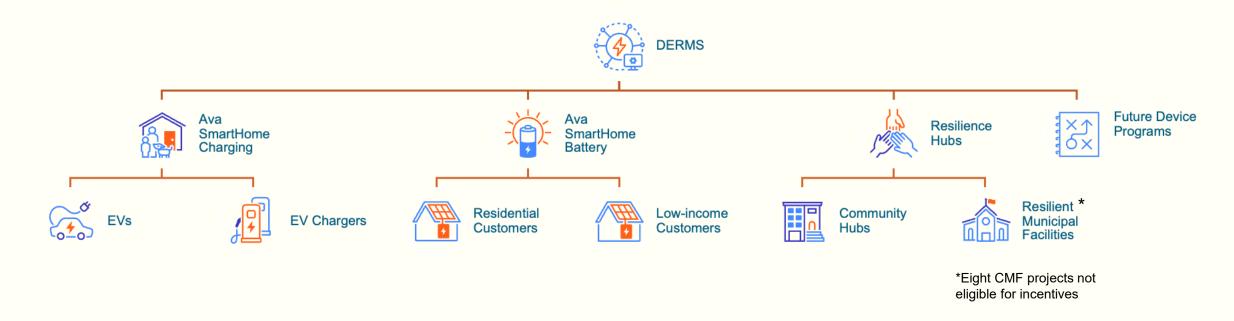




Solar and Storage as a Part of Ava's VPP

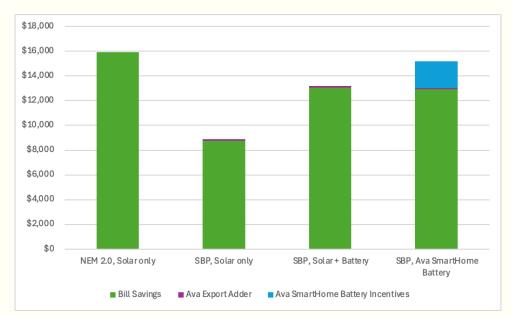
Ava's DERMS allows us to leverage distributed energy resources (DERs) to reduce our carbon footprint and support customer savings from DERs by aggregating these technologies and optimizing them to operate in concert. This is known as a "virtual power plant" (VPP).

All solar/battery projects will be part of Ava's Virtual Power Plant (VPP).



SmartHome Battery Impacts on Residential Customers Attachment Staff Report Item 12B

	Residential – Market Rate	Residential – CARE/FERA
Ava SmartHome Battery Incentives	\$2,160	\$5,440
California SGIP Incentives	\$0	\$11,000
Bill Savings over 5- year program term	\$12,917	\$12,917



5-year customers savings across various solar customer types including PG&E charges, assuming a 10kWh battery with 80% nomination using Energy ToolBase to estimate bill savings

NEM 2.0 transition to SBP led to a significant loss in customer savings potential unless the solar system was paired with a battery. Residential batteries cost \$10-20k upfront.

Adding a battery and \$20/year Ava export adder significantly increase total customer bill savings.

Ava's Solar & Storage program upfront incentive offsets part of the battery cost. To further reduce upfront cash burden, customers may also finance their system through a participating third-party aggregator.

CARE/FERA customers will be able to stack Ava's incentive with SGIP Residential Solar and Storage Equity Program, which provides up to \$1,100/kWh.

Budget and Program Enrollment Estimates

Program Budget and Enrollments

	Upfront	Ongoing	BESS Capacity	# of Customers*
Residential – CARE/FERA	\$1.05M	\$2.7M	3MW	830
Residential – Market Rate	\$1.5M	\$6M	17MW	3,080
Resilience Hubs	\$3.5M	\$0.25M	1MW	~20
Total	\$15M		21MW	3,930

^{*}The number of participants is dependent on the customers nominated battery capacity. Resilience Hubs will be highly dependent on the size of the projects. Based on an average of 150kWh BESS size there is budget to support 20 resilience hubs

Additional Ava Revenue Impacts

- New solar paired batteries reduce Ava revenue by ~\$294/year/customer compared to a new solar system installation
- Batteries store energy during the day when retail rates are low and send energy to the grid in the afternoon when rates are high, reducing Ava revenues
- New SmartHome Battery installations will result in an additional \$2.5M in lost revenue to Ava over the first 5 years of system operation.
- Ava will enroll systems in Demand Side Grid Support ("DSGS") to generate grid services revenue

Eligibility and Incentives



Customer Eligibility Requirement

Eligibility

- Must be an Ava customer
- New installations of solar + battery storage, retrofits, existing solar + battery storage
- No dual enrollment in other battery programs

Program Term

- Program Enrollment: 5 years (limited by budget)
- VPP Participation ongoing payments: 5 years

VPP Participation

- Two-hour dispatches either daily or on an event basis determined by customer type + participating battery capacity
- Ava may earn revenue by dispatching into DSGS and other programs

Community Resilience Hub Initiative Review

Objective: Understand the unique needs of community sites and provide them with resources, technical assistance, and incentives to develop local Resilience Hubs.

Community Outreach and Site Identification (\$300k)

- ✓ Case Studies to inform Resilience Hub definition
- ✓ Resilience Readiness Tool
- ✓ Held 3 workshops with >150
 registered participants and 26
 CBOs to gather feedback on
 definition and RH eligibility and
 functional requirements
- ☐ Will lead Community outreach to identify up to 50 interested sites





Technical Assistance (\$2M)

Provide TA to qualified applicants:

- Resilience project sizing and feasibility assessment
- Contactor bid reviews
- List of available grants and incentives
- Additional services as needed include: site visits, technical contract agreement review, EV charging assessment





Incentives (\$3.75M)

- Upfront and Ongoing incentive
- Waitlist for projects
- Pay out incentive checks
- Resilience Hub Program Manual





Resilience Hub Definition

The proposed definition was reviewed in focus groups conducted by Emerald Cities Collaborative through an Ava community investment grant. There was community input to significantly broaden the definition beyond Ava's proposal.

Ava staff reviewed the proposed language and determined that retaining the proposed specificity related to the provision of clean backup power for resilience services is important to manage clear expectations on the purposes and services provided in the Program.

Ava's proposed definition for Resilience Hub Program participation appears below:

Resilience Hubs are physical, community-serving facilities that provide essential services, distribute critical resources during emergencies, and integrate clean energy solutions to maintain operation during power outages. They also serve as year-round community spaces where local residents regularly gather and access everyday services.

Resilience Hub Eligibility Requirements

Resilience Hub Eligibility Requirements

Ava non-residential customer

Property owner signoff (or landlord support for infrastructure changes)

Community-serving or public-benefit facility

Physical space to accommodate solar and battery storage

Open to the public during emergencies

Participate in Ava's VPP

Provide battery backup for at least 8 hrs/day over 3 days

Operational plan required to include resilience services provided, operational hours, staffing + financial plan, power management strategy, communications plan, coordination with other hubs/agencies.

Participate in Ava's VPP for ongoing incentives. Excused from VPP events during grid outage, PSPS event, or NWS extreme weather alert

A site must provide at least one critical service to the public during a resilience event, such as:

- Shelter
- Clean air or climate-controlled space
- Refrigeration
- Device charging
- EV charging
- WIFI
- Fresh water access
- Food distribution
- Other resilience services with approval by Ava

Resilience Hub Prioritization

Ava will develop a reservation process for resilience hub incentives. After the first \$1M (out of \$3.75M total) is reserved, Ava will review projects and evaluate if further prioritization for projects to get on the waitlist. Additional prioritization criteria could include the following:

- 1) Resilience services provided
- 2) Location of resilience hubs and services to disadvantaged communities
- 3) Geographic distribution across Ava territory
- 4) Proximity to existing resilience hubs
- 4) Ownership/types of sites

TA Pilot Sites	City	DAC?	No. of Resilience Services
#1	San Leandro	no	6
#2	Oakland	yes	6
#3	Stockton	yes	5
#4	Oakland	no	4
#5	San Leandro	no	2 (food and cooling)
#6	Hayward	no	TBD - in process
#7	Berkeley	no	TBD - in process
#8	Oakland	yes	TBD - in process
#9	Oakland	yes	TBD - in process

Table 1: Distribution and proposed services of initial Resilience Hub sites engaged by ECC and going through Ava's Technical Assistance pilot

Smart HomeBattery and Resilience Hub Incentives Attachment Staff Report Item 12B

Participant Type	Upfront Incentive	Ongoing Incentive**	Example BESS size	Total incentive
Residential - Market Rate	\$90/kWh**		10kWh	\$2,160
Residential - CARE/FERA*	\$500/kWh**	\$3/kWh paid monthly	10kWh	\$16,440
Resilience Hub	\$1,220/kWh		100kWh	\$136,400

^{*}SGIP stacking for CARE/FERA customers: +up to \$1,100/kWh for full nameplate battery capacity.

^{**}Ongoing incentives for all participants and upfront incentives for residential customers assume 80% of BESS is nominated to participate in Ava's VPP.

SmartHome Battery Implementation

Ongoing Efforts

- Development of enrollment web portal ongoing
- Implementation will include installer training and multi-tiered customer support
- To support resilience hubs, Ava will engage additional support if other processes, such as a waitlist, are needed to support potential participation

Enrollment timing

- Early '26: Program opens for customers who own newly installed and existing solar and battery storage systems
- Early '26: Community resilience hub awareness raising for to enroll in Technical Assistance
- Q2 2026: Program opens for customers whose batteries are owned by aggregators pending aggregator execution of a participation agreement with Ava.
- Staff is still refining the Resilience Hub delivery approach for the targeting launch later in 2026.



Attachment Staff Report Item 12B

Recommended Action

- Approve the allocation of the FY2023 budget surplus to the Program as proposed, with 50% of the incentives for single family residents, 25% for low-income customers and 25% for resilience hubs
- Authorize staff to launch the Program consistent with the provided memorandum with the ability to adjust program design based on market and customer feedback with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

Appendix



Background on SmartHome Battery Program

FY23/24: Ava's Board of Directors dedicated 40% of the year's unallocated excess revenues to a solar and storage program (Resolution No R-2023-2).

Final allocation to the program was \$14.96 M.

April 2024: high-level program design presented to the Board.

- 50/50 budget for upfront incentives split between market rate residential and CARE/FERA residential + Resilience Hubs customers.
- Ongoing incentive for all participants, contingent on VPP participation.

May 2024: Ava's Board of Directors approved Lunar Energy as the provider for Ava's Distributed Energy Resources Management System (DERMS) – allowing Ava include batteries in the VPP – and as the SmartHome Battery administrator (Resolution No R-2024-41).

Since then, Ava staff have been working to develop the SmartHome Battery Program.

Program Design Development Findings

Ava has solicited feedback through multiple stakeholder engagement channels on program design

Residential

- Ongoing incentives should be high enough to keep customers enrolled in the program
- Customers should have options on how they'd like to participate in a long-term program
- Currently, about 70% of residential customers in Ava's territory that install solar and battery systems finance them through a third-party owner/aggregator

Resilience Hubs

- Resilience hubs are relatively new concepts, and approaches to provision of community resilience varies widely
- Existing resilience hubs are diverse across many characteristics
- Ava's program should support the widest range of resilience hubs possible by designing definitions, requirements and incentives that allow for wide participation

Incentive Example – Residential Customers

Incentives

Participant Type	Upfront Incentive	Ongoing Incentive
Residential - Market Rate	\$90/kWh nominated battery capacity	\$3/kWh nominated battery capacity/month
Residential - CARE/FERA	\$500/kWh nominated battery capacity*	\$3/kWh nominated battery capacity/month

^{*}SGIP stacking for CARE/FERA customers: +up to\$1,100/kWh for full nameplate battery capacity

Examples

Residential – Market Rate: If a customer nominates 80% of their 10kWh battery, they will receive:

10kWh * 80% * \$90/kWh = \$720 upfront

10kWh * 80% * \$3/kWh/month * 3months/quarter = \$72/quarter for five years

Total = \$2,160

Residential – CARE/FERA: If a customer nominates 80% of their 10kWh battery, they will receive: 10kWh * 80% * \$500/kWh + 10kWh * \$1,100 SGIP Incentive = \$15,000 upfront (SGIP will cap at total project value) 10kWh * 80% * \$3/kWh/month * 3months/quarter = \$72/quarter for five years Total = \$16,440

Incentive Example – Resilience Hubs

To set the incentive Ava completed extensive modeling on potential resilience hub sites with our consultant NV5. Results indicate that sites would have a 5- to 15-year payback based on site and system complexity as well as resilience services and backup power requirements.

Incentives

Participant Type	Upfront Incentive	Ongoing Incentive
Resilience Hub	\$1,220/kWh nameplate battery capacity	\$3/kWh nominated battery capacity/month

Example

Resilience Hub: If a resilience hub nominates 80% of their 100kWh battery, they will receive:

100kWh * \$1,220/kWh = \$122,000 upfront

100kWh * 80% * \$3/kWh/month = \$240/month for five years

Total = \$136,400

How DERs Reduce Ava Revenue

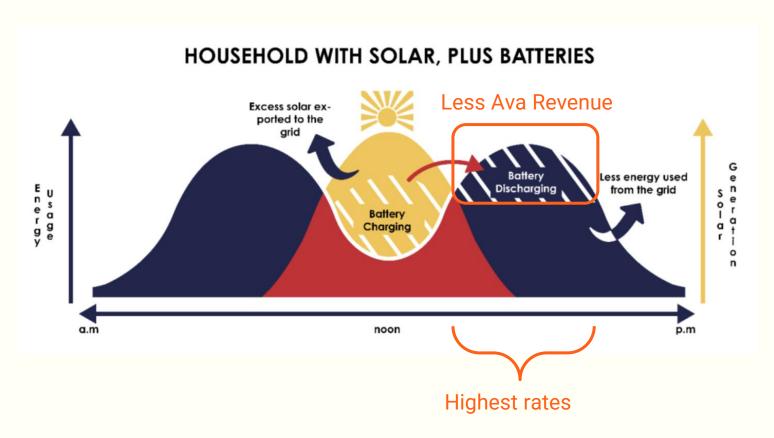
As more customers install batteries, Ava will experience a loss of revenue.

Through this program, Ava can get some grid service benefit to help offset these losses.

Although this program does impact Ava revenue, program budget does not include either lost revenue or grid services income.

Ava staff will evaluate overall revenue impact during the program term as a part of program evaluation.

Batteries store solar energy generated during the day for use later in the day, when rates are higher.



Source: http://bit.ly/4mzrbjj

SmartHome Battery Impacts on Ava revenue

	A: Solar and Battery not enrolled in SmartHome Battery	B: Solar and Battery enrolled in SmartHome Battery
Ava Reduced Revenue	(\$313)	(\$294)
Ava Export Bonus Credit	(\$20)	(\$20)
Reduced Day-Ahead Energy Cost	\$69	\$75
Reduced REC Cost	\$33	\$33
2026 DSGS Incentive	\$0	\$263
Total	(\$231)	\$57

There are impacts to Ava from any solar or solar and battery system operating in our service area. As a result of customers adding a battery, Ava loses about \$313/customer/year in revenue (see Column A) compared to a solar only customer.

These revenue losses are also present when solar and battery storage systems participate in the SmartHome Battery program (see Column B). Estimated revenue losses for participating customers are \$2.5M over a 5-year term.

Some revenue losses may be offset through solar and battery storage system participation in the VPP (see Column B).

Initial Program Design Tenets

Program Term: Customers have 5 years to enroll for a 5-year program term. Enrollment term may end early upon budget expenditure.

Incentive Allocation: 50% of budget for upfront incentives for CARE/FERA residential customers and Resilience Hubs and 50% of budget for upfront incentives for market rate residential customers.

Upfront Incentives: Must be an Ava customer, install a battery with a new solar system or retrofitting an existing solar system.

- \$10,000 per battery for CARE/FERA customers.
- \$400/kWh of battery capacity for Resilience Hubs.
- \$1,250 per battery for market rate residential customers.

VPP Participation: Must be an Ava customer and connect to DERMS.

- All customers to receive \$2 per kWh of battery capacity per month for five years.
 - Customers who already have both solar and battery installed are eligible for the ongoing VPP incentive only.





Staff Report Item 13

То:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Sam Sadle
Subject:	Update on outcomes of the 2025 California legislative session and a look ahead to 2026
Date:	November 19, 2025

Summary/Recommendation

This staff report updates the Board on the outcomes of the 2025 California legislative session to support increased Board visibility into our legislative actions. It also discusses expectations for the 2026 session and associated potential impacts on Ava.

Financial Impact

N/A

Analysis and Context

N/A

Attachments

A. Slide deck "2025 California End-of-Session Legislative Update"



Agenda

- 2025 California legislative session in review
- Individual bill updates
- Cap and Invest spending breakdown
- 2026 Preview





2025 California Legislative Timeline

January 6: Legislature reconvenes 10: Governor submits budget	February 21: Bill introduction deadline	March	April
May 2: Policy cmtes move fiscal bills to fiscal cmtes (1st chamber) 9: Policy cmtes move non-fiscal bills to floor (1st chamber)	June 6: Last day for bills to be passed by 1st house 15: Budget bill must be passed	July 18: Policy cmtes move bills to fiscal cmtes or floor (2nd chamber)	August 29: Fiscal cmtes move bills to floor (2nd chamber)
September 12: Last day for each chamber to pass bills	October 12: Last day for Governor to sign/veto bills	Me are here November	December

2025 Session in Review

28 bills flagged for continued attention

12 positions (10 support, 2 Support if Amended)

4 signed: SB254, SB283, SB707, AB39 2 vetoed: AB44, SB541 AB 1207 and SB 840 extend Cap-and-Trade to 2045

- Renamed "Cap-and-Invest"
- Significant changes to GGRF spending (see further slides)
- Reallocates some credits from gas customers to electric utilities



2025 Session in Review - Wins

SB283 (battery safety):

Ava language adopted into bill

SB541 (load modification):

Ava language adopted into bill (subsequently removed)

Veto'd on CalCCA recommendation

SB254 (affordability):

Autonomy threat removed

Signed into law

AB222 (data centers):
Hostile

amendment rejected

2 year bill



Signed into law



Bill # (Author)	Description	Ava Position Attachment St	Bill Status ^{af(} (विक्लुनेस्डिड रीमिनेough leg)
Making Electricity	More Affordable		
<u>AB 99</u> (<u>Ta-R)</u>	Prohibits an Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) from proposing a rate increase above the level of inflation for any general rate cycle, except for cases related to safety improvements, system upgrades, or increased costs of materials.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Asm Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
AB 729 (Zbur-D) AB 1207 (Irwin-D)	Provides bill relief by reallocating the Climate Credit to align with periods of highest statewide energy usage. Rather than a single payment in April, residential customers will receive the electricity Climate Credit in August and September and the natural gas Climate Credit in February. However, some elements of the concepts above were included below AB 729 was later incorporated into AB 1207, which extends and renames the cap-and-trade program and directs the CPUC to spread resulting	Support	Failed Deadline in Sen. E, U, & C Committee (2-year bill) AB 1207 Signed into Law
	customer credits across up to four high-billed months, while also adding new outreach requirements and dedicating revenues to the Transmission Accelerator Fund.		
SB 254 (Becker-D)	Joint Senate and Assembly Affordability package; Establishes the California Transmission Infrastructure Accelerator within GO-Biz and the I-Bank to finance and expedite critical transmission projects. Creates a revolving fund and authorizes bonds and other financial tools to connect developers with public and private capital. Consolidates affordability measures originally split across SB 254 and AB 825, with SB 254 serving as the principal vehicle for infrastructure financing and transmission acceleration.	Support	Signed into Law

biii # (Autiloi)	Description	Attachment Sta	af(progress through leg)
Protecting Comm	unity Choice		
Accelerating Deca	rbonization (Local Permitting)		
<u>AB 39</u> (<u>Zbur-D</u>)	Requires that no later than 2030 cities and counties with over 75,000 residents adopt an electrification / decarbonization / community energy plan or integrate these subjects into their general plan.	Support	Signed into Law
AB 306 (Schultz- D, co:Wicks-D)	October 2025 to June 2031, places restrictions on local changes to building standards (including reach codes) for residential units, emphasizing uniformity and the protection of health, safety, and home hardening.	Monitor	Language was inserted into approved budget bill (AB 130)
SB 282 (Wiener-D)	Requires municipalities to streamline application and certification processes for residential heat pump systems.	Support	Failed Deadline in Sen. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
Accelerating Deca	rbonization (Battery Storage)		
<u>SB 283</u> (<u>Laird-D</u>)	Requires BESS developers to consult with local fire departments and undergo inspections before operation. Also directs the State Fire Marshall to "review and consider proposing" changes to the state building codes that restrict the location of storage projects to outdoors or in dedicated use, noncombustible buildings.	Support (originally Support if Amended)	Signed into Law

Bill Status

Bill # (Author)

AB 915 (Petrie-Norris-D)	Originally introduced as a clean energy siting and funding bill tied to the Clean Energy Reliability Investment Plan (CERIP), AB 915 was amended into a dam safety measure. Its earlier clean energy provisions were absorbed into the SB 254 affordability and infrastructure package.	Monitor (originally Support)	Vetoed
SB 698 (McNerney-D)	Authorizes CEC to establish Distributed Energy Resources (DER) equipment lists and adopt guidelines to further energy goals including solar systems, energy storage, bidirectional charging, and charging stations.	Support	Failed Deadline in Asm Appr. Suspense File (2- year bill)
Promoting Local D	Development (Vehicle Charging)		
AB 1423 (Irwin-D)	Originally expanded CEC's reliability and uptime regulations to a subset of publicly-funded/utility-funded chargers and provided authority for CEC to impose civil penalties for each violation. Superseded by CEC regulations and amended to focus only on EV charger payment definitions.	Monitor	Signed into Law
SB 314 (Padilla-D)	Allows chargers to be self-certified by installers and manufacturers be entered into operation during the state inspection period. Provides exemptions from some state laws for chargers only available to certain individuals.	Support	Failed Deadline in Sen. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)

Bill Status
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Bill # (Author)

Accelerating Decarbonization

Bill # (Author)	Description	Ava Position Attachment S	Bill Status ^{ta} (fprægreiss ⁿ through leg)
Promoting Local	Development (Data Centers)		
AB 222 (Bauer-Kahan- D)	Requires biannual reporting of power usage effectiveness (PUE) ratios from large data centers to the CEC, and directs the 2027 Integrated Energy Policy Report to include projections of data center load growth and grid impacts. Mandates a CPUC assessment of potential cost shifts from new data center loads, including procurement and transmission costs, with recommendations to mitigate impacts.	Support if Amended	Failed Deadline in Sen. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
SB 57 (Padilla-D co: McNerney-D)	Authorizes the CPUC to prepare an assessment by January 2027 on whether new data center loads are creating cost shifts for other utility customers. The assessment may review procurement, transmission, and distribution costs, and must identify mitigation opportunities if substantial shifts are found.	Monitor	Signed into Law
Increasing Bill Tra	ansparency and Understanding (Dynamic Rates)		
AB 44 (Schultz-D)	Requires the CEC to define and publicize load modification protocols by 12/2026, allowing Load Serving Entities (LSEs) to adjust their electrical demand forecasts. The bill aims to improve grid reliability by incorporating flexible demand tools, supporting decarbonization, and helping LSEs manage their resource adequacy obligations.	Support	Vetoed
SB 541 (Becker-D)	Requires CEC via the Integrated Energy Policy Report (IPER) to establish load shifting targets allocated to each retail supplier based on its relative share of statewide load and the CEC's estimate of its load shifting potential. Requires CEC to work with the CPUC to identify barriers to meeting these estimates.	Support if Amended	Vetoed 9

bill # (Author)	Description	Attachment St	Fige Status (Progress through leg)
Bills Concerning I	OUs Control of the Co		
AB 740 (Harabedian-D)	Mandates IOUs report on their efforts to achieve load shifting goals. Directs the CEC to develop a strategic plan to facilitate the large-scale deployment of Virtual Power Plants.	Monitor	Vetoed
AB 1117 (Schultz-D)	Requires the implementation of dynamic pricing for all commercial and residential customers by 2030. CCA participation in dynamic pricing is voluntary but requires gen rate alignment with market conditions while preventing cost shifts between bundled and unbundled customers.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Sen. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
AB 1167 (Berman-D, Addis-D)	Prohibits IOUs from using ratepayer funds for activities like political influence or promotional advertising that don't directly benefit customers. Requires these utilities to disclose whether advertising costs are covered by ratepayers or shareholders.	Monitor	Signed into Law
SB 24 (McNerney-D)	Prohibits IOUs from using ratepayer funds to undertake political influence activities, make charitable contributions, or lobby against municipalization. Mandates utilities to report detailed expense data to ensure compliance and requires service restoration during poor air quality conditions.	Monitor	Vetoed
<u>SB 332</u> (Wahab-D)	Requires the CEC to evaluate the transition of the IOU model to a successor entity, implements disconnection transparency reporting, requires third party equipment audits, and prohibits ratepayer funds to be used for wildfire mitigation infrastructure investment, among other changes.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Asm. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)

Bill Status

Bill # (Author)

Bill # (Author)	Description	Ava Position Attachment Sta	Bill Status ^{af(} विश्वकृष्टिक रिक्तिough leg)
Bills Concerning IC	OUs (cont.)		
<u>SB 500</u> (<u>Stern-D</u>)	Originally directed the CPUC to develop and track IOU performance metrics and financial incentives to better align utility investments with costeffective, safe, and reliable service. Amended to instead allow IOUs to satisfy data sharing requests from energy users to be addressed by sharing aggregated energy usage data via any tool permitted by the CEC.	Monitor	Signed into Law
Board Operations			
<u>AB 259</u> (Rubio-D)	Extends Brown Act alternative teleconferencing rules indefinitely (currently scheduled to expire in 2026).	Support	Failed Deadline on Sen. Floor (2-year bill)
SB 239 (Arreguín-D) SB 707 (Durazo-D)	SB 707 (supplanting SB 239) shifts from a narrow subsidiary-body teleconferencing bill to a broad Brown Act modernization incorporating elements from SB 239 and AB 259. Particularly relevant to Ava, the bill extends Brown Act alternative teleconferencing through January 2030 (currently scheduled to expire in January 2026).	Support	SB 707 Signed into Law

Bill # (Author)	Description	Ava Position Attachment St	Bill Status ^{af(} βਿਰਿਕੁਸਿਊਂਡਿਊ ਦੀ ਸਿੰਨਿough leg)
Other Ava Priority	y Bills		
AB 13 (Ransom- D)	Originally required geographic representation for CPUC Commissioners, a legislative liaison, and annual reports on affordability, case resolutions, and rate decisions. Amended to instead require the Governor and Senate to 'consider' regional diversity in appointments, while retaining the other provisions.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Sen. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
AB 942 (Calderon-D)	Repurposed from a NEM reform bill into a Climate Credit bill; now requires GHG allowance revenues to be credited directly to customers, allows up to 15% for clean energy projects, and excludes non-CARE/FERA residential customers with annual bills under \$300 from receiving the credit.	Monitor	Halted in Senate policy committee (2-year bill)
<u>AB 1260</u> (Ward-D)	Requires the CPUC to modify customer renewable energy subscription programs and requires CEC to evaluate community solar+storage as a load-modifying resource.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Asm. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)
<u>SB 453</u> (<u>Stern-D</u>)	Directs CPUC to review the status of unallocated Microgrid Incentive Program funds by January 2026; requires remaining funds to prioritize vulnerable communities and critical infrastructure in areas with repeated deenergization events. Ava-supported SGIP language removed from bill.	Monitor (originally Support)	Failed Deadline on Sen. Floor (2-year bill)
<u>SB 842</u> (<u>Stern-D</u>)	Directs the CPUC, in coordination with CAISO, to produce a report by 12/26 evaluating opportunities and needs for firm zero-carbon resources to support local and system reliability over the short, mid, and long term. The report must assess key resource attributes, identify barriers, and recommend solutions to better integrate firm zero-carbon resources into California's energy planning and markets.	Monitor	Failed Deadline in Asm. Appr. Suspense File (2-year bill)

Cap and Invest Spending

Program	Pre extension per year (≈ \$4 billion per year)	2026-2045 per year
High Speed Rail	25% ≈ \$1 billion	\$1 billion
Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program	20% ≈ \$800 million	\$800 million
Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP)	10% ≈ \$400 million	\$400 million
Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)	5% ≈ \$200 million	\$200 million
CalFire	Up to \$200 mil	\$200 million
Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in DAC/low-income communities	5% ≈ \$200 million; but no more than \$130 mil	\$130 million
CARB Community Air Protection Programs	\$0	\$250 million
At the Legislature's discretion	\$0	\$1 billion

Cap and Invest Spending

Winners:

- The California legislature gains increased discretion
- Programs that received funding guarantees
 - High speed rail and public transit
 - CARB and affordable housing programs
 - Wildfire mitigation and climate adaptation

Missed out on fixed GGRF funding:

- EVs and EV infrastructure
- Distributed energy and demand flex incentives

Impact:

- Expect yearly fights over the legislature's \$1 billion pot of funding
- Limited impact on existing Ava funding streams, but could open new opportunities depending on annual appropriations



2026 California Legislative Timeline

January 5: Legislature reconvenes 10: Governor submits budget	February 20: Bill introduction deadline	March	April 24: Policy cmtes move fiscal bills to fiscal cmtes (1st chamber)
May 1: Policy cmtes move non-fiscal bills to floor (1st chamber) 29: Last day for bills to be passed by 1st house	June 15: Budget bill must be passed	July 2: Policy cmtes move bills to fiscal cmtes or floor (2nd chamber)	August 14: Fiscal cmtes move bills to floor (2nd chamber) 31: Last day for each chamber to pass bills
September 30: Last day for Governor to sign/veto bills	October	November	December



2026 Expected Issues

2025 Learnings

- Gov Newsom very defensive of existing CPUC/CEC authorities and workload (see vetos)
- IOUs wary of changes to T&D system (see 541)
- State approach to data centers remains in flux
- CCAs have growing clout (see language changes)

2026 look forward

- Unresolved leg issues from 2025: RA transactability, data centers, energy efficiency program oversight, dynamic rates/load modification
- New issues: Response to Federal changes, funding gaps left by new cap-and-trade (DSGS and others), structural deficits (\$17-25B through 28/29)
- Potential CCA initiatives: T&D push, PCIA reform
- Possible Senate U&E changes









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Subject: Integrate Community Recommendations for the Resilience Hub Initiative Under the SmartHome Battery Program with Ava Community Energy.

November 17, 2025

Dear Board of Directors, the Community Advisory Committee, and All Alternates,

The Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA) and our community partners with People's Clean Power Alliance share our sincere appreciation and excitement for the proposed launch of the **SmartHome Battery Program** introduced in the Executive Committee Meeting on November 5th, 2025. The SmartHome Battery Program, which includes the nascent Resilience Hub Initiative, is a promising start to build real, long-term community resilience for our energy-burdened, pollution-burdened, and historically disinvested communities in Ava Community Energy's service territory of both Alameda and San Joaquin Counties, including unincorporated areas and the cities of Stockton, Lathrop, and Tracy.

The proposal offers to invest roughly \$3.74 million into community resilience hubs with a strong upfront incentive of \$1,220/kWh for a prospective solar battery and ongoing incentive of \$3/kWh with required enrollment in Ava Community Energy's <u>Virtual Power Plant (VPP) System</u>, providing a rough cost coverage of up to 80% of their solar and storage infrastructure within a five-year period. This solar and storage incentive is promising given the <u>current state of rooftop solar policies</u> and the devastating <u>funding cuts to clean energy</u> by the current federal administration.

<u>California's extreme heat</u> is impacting areas such as the San Joaquin Valley as a "silent killer," a costly and deadly climate change development that is reported to disproportionately impact low-income communities, the elderly, outdoor workers, including Black, Native American, and Hispanic Californians. The threat of local sea level rise, extreme storms, and risk of flooding in

the Bay Area – which would endanger hundreds of thousands of Bay Area residents, billions of dollars of economic activity, and key public infrastructure – <u>requires immediate resilience</u> <u>planning</u> and climate adaptation plans in collaboration with municipalities. Our communities are facing <u>an overlap of climate-related hazards</u>, such as dangerously high heat, power outages, <u>extreme wildfires</u>, which exacerbate underlying systemic and structural resource inequities, socioeconomic challenges, and environmental pollution.

Ava Community Energy is a public, clean energy agency that can help pioneer and lead the charge for a more resilient future with our local communities, especially in climate-vulnerable areas. The Resilience Hub Initiative is a program that emerged from years of critical community advocacy by the Local Clean Energy Alliance in collaboration with key stakeholders, including community partners. Over the years, LCEA has demanded a greater surplus budget allocation from our Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) to provide expansive community benefits, increased investments, and clearer pathways for local ownership of clean energy resources. Currently, LCEA is happy to partner with Emerald Cities Collaborative, Ava's Technical Engineering Assistant (NV5), and Ava's Local Development staff to coordinate community engagement and outreach by facilitating workshops, listening sessions, and office hours to socialize, educate, and uplift communities with the Resilience Hub Initiative and connect local resilience hubs who could immediately benefit from this solar and storage incentive as well as maximize their community impact and life-affirming local work.

Resilience Hubs are defined by Ava Community Energy as follows:

Resilience Hubs are physical, community-serving facilities that provide essential services, distribute critical resources during emergencies, and integrate clean energy solutions to maintain operation during power outages. They also serve as year-round community spaces where local residents regularly gather and access everyday services.

Based on the current proposal of the SmartHome Battery Program and Resilience Hub Initiative, the Local Clean Energy Alliance and the People's Clean Power Alliance offer the following <u>recommendations</u>:

- The SmartHome Battery Program should recognize the months of intentional community outreach and engagement with local resilience hubs to develop a 'Community Definition of a Resilience Hub' based on public listening sessions held in the Spring of 2025, facilitated both by the Local Clean Energy Alliance and Emerald Cities Collaborative as shared below:
 - A resilience hub is a trusted, community-led space that provides essential services, resources, and tools for people to access before, during, and after emergencies. A resilience hub is an inclusive and welcoming gathering space that operates year-round for community education and empowerment. A resilience hub is supported by dedicated staff and trained volunteers who are rooted in the care and culture of a community. Resilience hubs help prepare us

- for disasters, emergencies, recovery, and everyday well-being. Hubs are diverse and designed to be accessible to all generations.
- While Ava has provided its own definition focused on clean energy solutions, we believe that providing a holistic, community-driven definition of a Resilience Hub is critical in advocating for a community-driven solar and storage incentive program that not only includes clean energy solutions but implements them with community priorities in mind. We aim to integrate both definitions in our continued community outreach, engagement, and support.
- The SmartHome Battery Program should explicitly state the Resilience Hub Initiative in the name for programmatic clarity, public understanding, and clear community outreach.
 - The SmartHome Battery Program is not solely focused on residents and CARE/FERA customers, but the Resilience Hub Initiative is subsumed under a name that misrepresents the focus of targeting community resilience hubs that provide a critical resilience service to community members during a public emergency or climate crisis.
 - Further, the public would benefit from greater clarity around eligibility and other requirements between different incentive offerings and programs from Ava Community Energy, such as the <u>Critical Municipal Facilities Program</u>.
- Based on community surveys and current pilot sites, Ava Community Energy
 needs to provide more robust funding, grant support, and solar financing
 assistance to expand unrestricted, flexible funding for community resilience hubs, from
 small to large scale, which would help with day-to-day operations, staffing capacity,
 microgrid readiness, programmatic needs, etc.
 - The reality of the resilience hub landscape is that smaller, less-resourced hubs are unable to pay upfront capital costs to install both solar and battery storage.
 This solar and storage incentive program also may not be financially viable for resilience hubs that do not already have solar arrays or systems in place.
 - Funding assistance and solar financing opportunities can be modeled after services and programs that already exist, such as <u>BAYREN'S BAMBE</u>, <u>On-Bill</u> <u>Financing</u>, <u>PACE Loans</u>, <u>Low-Income Weatherization Program</u>, <u>SGIP</u> (<u>Self-Generation Incentive Program</u>), <u>Climate Smart Communities Initiative</u>, etc.
 - CA State Grants should also be coordinated with community partners to maximize funding opportunities for eligible local resilience hub sites, with Ava Community Energy as a local agency partner in the applications: e.g. <u>CA</u> <u>Strategic Growth Council's Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program,</u> <u>Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP)</u>, and others.
 - Ava Community Energy should consider distributing flexible funding through a community grants program, similar to the <u>Community Clean Energy Grant</u> <u>Program</u> as modeled by the San Diego Community Foundation and San Diego Community Power.
- Ava Community Energy must develop an equity matrix to ensure fair and just prioritization of the solar and storage incentive program within Ava's service

territory to ensure that directly-impacted, <u>frontline</u>, and energy-burdened communities can benefit and access this incentive.

- Rather than a first-come, first-served model, the SmartHome Battery Program for its Resilience Hub Initiative should define and consider equity priorities as vetted by community partners to impactfully distribute solar and storage incentives to historically disinvested, disadvantaged, and marginalized communities, especially for climate-vulnerable, pollution-burdened, and energy-burdened communities.
- There is no need to reinvent the wheel. We encourage this public agency to also consider available tools from the CA state that use equity matrices and socioeconomic plus demographic proxies:
 - Identify Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) through <u>CalEnviroScreen</u>
 4.0.
 - Use the <u>Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI)</u> provided by PSE Health Energy, Communities for Better Environment (CBE), and Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN).
 - Analyze the upcoming <u>CEC Energy Affordability Tool</u>.
 - Consider the Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation's Climate Vulnerability Map.
- We ask the Board, Community Advisory Committee (CAC), and Ava Community
 Energy to continue upholding the tenets of the <u>Joint Powers Authority Agreement</u>
 (JPA) and the <u>Local Development Business Plan (LDBP)</u>, which includes the
 recent policy resolution of <u>Ava Community Energy Workforce and Environmental Justice Project Selection Criteria</u>.
 - We encourage staff to consider local contractors with high-road labor partnerships to incorporate local labor partners, build a local green economy, and provide greater cost-effectiveness to all parties involved.
- Finally, we ask Ava Community Energy to set clear expectations, share timely
 updates, and ensure space for community design and input for the success and
 longevity of the Resilience Hub Initiative beyond the piloting stage. The Board and
 CAC should be provided an informational session, or a series of informational
 sessions, to adequately familiarize themselves with and appropriately assess the
 Resilience Hub Initiative for its success with communities.

With your guidance, expertise, and insights for Ava Community Energy, your critical input can strengthen financial support of community resilience hubs, ensure community-driven design of the solar and storage incentive program that actually centers community needs, and advance equitable outcomes through fair and just prioritization of diverse resilience hubs to continue their life-saving services for the communities you publicly serve.

Thank you for your vital work to create a more equitable, accessible, and community-designed Resilience Hub Initiative together with us.

Clean Power to the People,

Debel -

Dohee Kim, Campaign Organizer with the Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA)

Organizational Sign-Ons

People's Clean Power Alliance

Kenneth Tang, Oakland Organizing Director for Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)

Susan Silber, Project Director for Collective Resilience

Gregory Stevens, Northern California Director for California Interfaith Power & Light







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Subject: Allocate 10% of Ava Community Energy's Budget Surplus for Bill Credits to CARE/FERA Ratepayers and Build Long-Term Energy Affordability.

November 17, 2025

Dear Board of Directors, the Community Advisory Committee, and All Alternates,

At the previous Board of Directors Meeting on September 17, 2025, the motion to allocate 10% of the projected Ava Budget Surplus of \$107 million as bill credits for California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) ratepayers passed nearly unanimously. Both Ava staff and the Board initially emphasized concern for the anticipated financial headwinds as a result of recent reforms to Power Charge Indifference Adjustments (PCIA)¹ that would directly impact Ava Community Energy, as a Community Choice Energy (CCA) provider, through increased market volatility, disparate effects on low-income customers, and potentially 8 to 9 digit fees that the public agency would have to pay out in the near future². The Board, however, also insisted that in addition to preventing a budget deficit for the years to come, Ava Community Energy is aptly situated to invest the surplus back into our most energy-burdened, low-income, and vulnerable communities. The Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA) fully supports the Board's decision to allocate 10% of the agency's budget surplus for CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory, especially during a time of an energy affordability crisis³.

A <u>bill credit</u> is one way to ensure affordability for families, especially in our most vulnerable, low-income, and disadvantaged communities who are navigating extremely high living expenses. CARE and FERA recipients receive a monthly discount on their gas

¹<u>Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA)</u> from the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). ²<u>The Promises and Challenges of Community Choice Aggregation in California</u>, a report by the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation.

³Governor Signs Berman Bill to Lower Energy Bills and Hold IOUs Accountable. October 11, 2025.

and/or electric bills and would directly benefit from an additional bill credit, since energy-burdened communities can instead allocate money saved towards other essential needs such as food, healthcare, and housing⁴. Those eligible for CARE and FERA include community members who are already eligible for public assistance programs (Medicaid; Medi-Cal; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program; Food Stamps; etc.)⁵. Money that is saved from a lower energy bill can be directed to other essential needs.

Ava staff was tasked with developing a methodology on how the bill credits will be distributed to CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory, including recently incorporated areas such as Stockton and Lathrop who have been with Ava for around 3-6 months. This transition has notably saved customers <a href="\$\frac{\$4.4 \text{ million}}{4.4 \text{ million}}\$ in total on their energy bills. Staff returned with a recommendation to the Financial, Aid, Procurement Meeting as an informational item to the subcommittee, which had no quorum, on the day of November 7th, 2025, stating that FY 2024-25 audit. Staff recommends providing the same credit amount, approximately \$70, to all active CARE and FERA customers, which would provide meaningful bill relief for Ava's low-income ratepayers.

As a reminder, this CCA was established to support energy-burdened, low-income, and diverse community members. Ava subscribers from Stockton and Lathrop must be included in the distribution of the upcoming bill credits. Calculating a prorated bill credit for Stockton and Lathrop CARE/FERA customers based on days of received service, as <u>suggested by a prior board meeting</u>, would lead to an inequitable bill credit across your lowest-income customers. Savings should be shared by giving CARE/FERA customers a \$70 bill credit across all the areas for meaningful impact, especially in low-income, energy-burdened communities, which would include around 158,000 Ava Community Energy subscribers.

At the recent Financial, Aid, and Procurement Meeting, however, Ava staff and CEO suggested that this action item may return to the Board to revisit this distribution and potentially re-allocate the entirety of the surplus into the Rate Stabilization Fund out of concern of financial headwinds based on PG&E's recent 2026 Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA). The 2026 rates detailed in this report, according to staff, indicates a significant deficit in 2026 for Ava Community Energy while maintaining the current value proposition. LCEA requests that the staff detail and break-down the impacts of the 2026 PG&E ERRA, the current Ava budget audit and its near future financial projections, and PCIA reform analysis for public clarity and understanding. We urge the Board to conscientiously consider the impact of potentially taking away 10% (\$13,041,710) of the budget surplus to current CARE/FERA subscribers in Ava territory.

LCEA and the People's Clean Power Alliance ask that the Board consider the ramifications of excluding or prorating the bill credits to 158,000 customers who are low-income and

⁴<u>Understanding Energy Burden: Why Some Communities Pay More</u> by Uche Ajene from Initiative for Energy Justice (IEJ) published on June 12, 2025.

⁵CARE/FERA Program: Discounts on energy bills for low-income qualified households from the CPUC.

energy-burdened at this time. In fact, for San Joaquin County, nearly 13% of residents live in poverty, children have a poverty rate of over 17%, and more than 1 in 10 residents aged 65 years or older live in poverty⁶. We urge the Board to approve a fair and just methodology for bill credits that would include all 158,000 CARE/FERA customers in Ava service territory that is equitable for those who depend on affordable energy bills. While Stockton and Lathrop customers are our newest members, they will continue to subscribe to Ava Community Energy and will benefit drastically from an equal bill credit for all CARE and FERA ratepayers. We urge Ava staff and the Board of Directors to include Stockton and Lathrop for the CARE/FERA bill credits allocation equally across all Ava service territory and continue to meaningfully support our low-income, energy burdened communities.

The Board's decision to continue a one-time bill credit, specifically for CARE/FERA customers, is certainly aligned with the the monumental Local Development Business Plan (LDBP) and foundational Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement, which holds Ava Community Energy accountable to its original commitment to build community wealth and health, reduce pollution, provide affordable rates, maintain high standards for clean energy jobs, make smart and clean local energy investments, etc. Based on this recent decision, the Local Clean Energy Alliance urges Ava's Board of Directors to approve staff's recommendation to provide the same bill credit amount of around \$70 to all active CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory.

LCEA additionally requests that the Board and Ava Community Energy seriously consider long-term energy affordability goals for low-income customers as part of a long-term strategic plan, such as need-based, debt-relief programs that instead rely on local appropriations, provide regular relief, and is accessible to all based on income eligibility, in addition to other policy opportunities as shared this year by RMI. A one-time bill credit is insufficient for the financial headwinds incoming and attacks on affordable clean energy on all fronts, which would adversely impact the most energy-burdened, pollution-burdened, and historically disinvested communities in Ava service territory. Not all those who are eligible for CARE/FERA are successfully enrolled in these low-income assistance programs, due to a real need for ongoing targeted outreach in vulnerable communities. Ava Community Energy would benefit as a CCA to proactively navigate risks, challenges, and opportunities in the energy landscape with the Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) and the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) by proactively responding to community needs, fostering community buy-in, and strategically investing in community benefits long-term.

Thank you for your public service and vital support.

Clean Power to the People,

⁶San Joaquin County 2025 Health Needs Assessment published in April 2025.

Debel -

Dohee Kim, Campaign Organizer with the Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA)

Organizational Sign-Ons

People's Clean Power Alliance

Kenneth Tang, Oakland Organizing Director for Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)

Susan Silber, Project Director for Collective Resilience

Gregory Stevens, Northern California Director for California Interfaith Power & Light









































































November 14, 2025

Chair Anderson and Honorable Board of Directors Ava Community Energy 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 2300 Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: CCA Workforce & EJ Alliance Recommendations on SmartHome Battery & Resilience Hub Programs (Nov. 17 CAC Item C5 / Nov. 19 Board Item 12)

Dear Chair Anderson and Honorable Directors,

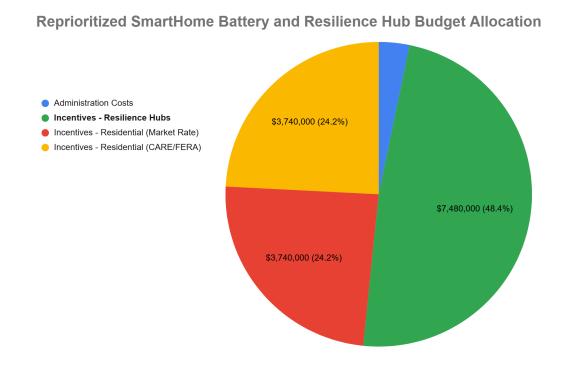
On behalf of the CCA Workforce & Environmental Justice Alliance—a coalition of more than 40 labor, environmental, climate, community, and environmental justice organizations—we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on Ava Community Energy's proposed SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hubs Programs.

We are grateful for the thoughtful work Ava staff have undertaken to advance these programs and for the agency's ongoing commitment to clean energy investments that strengthen community resilience, advance equity, and create high-road workforce and community benefits. Ava's adoption of the Workforce & Environmental Justice Clean Energy Project Selection Criteria last year demonstrated what is possible when community partners and public agencies work together with transparency and shared purpose. We offer the comments below in that same constructive spirit.

As currently designed, the SmartHomes Battery and Resilience Hubs programs represent innovative local development initiatives. Several adjustments are necessary to fully align these programs with Ava's stated priorities and previously adopted standards:

- **1.** Ensure parity between resilience hub investments and residential battery incentives. The current proposal dedicates most funding to market-rate residential installations, leaving limited resources for resilience hubs. We encourage Ava to bring funding for resilience hubs to a level on par with the residential battery program.
- **2. Prioritize a majority of funding for equity and the communities most at risk.** Program funding allocation is the Board's most important policy decision. Resilience hubs provide essential public-good infrastructure. Ava should explicitly prioritize funding for frontline, disadvantaged, and socially vulnerable communities when allocating program funds.
- 3. Support local economic development through local high-road workforce and contractors. Ava has already set a strong precedent through the Workforce & Environmental Justice Criteria for Clean Energy Projects policy. Using clear qualification standards that encourage local and targeted hire priorities, in addition to basic prevailing wage and apprentice requirements, will strengthen community benefits and project quality.
- **4.** Apply lessons from the Critical Municipal Facilities Program by aggregating projects and using an RFQ structure. Bundling projects and using an RFQ process—approaches that have proven effective at Ava and elsewhere—will establish minimum standards, expand the pool of qualified high-road contractors, improve cost efficiency, and ensure consistent project quality and value for clients and Ava.

The following chart helps illustrate our proposed reprioritization of funding to support the refinements requested above:



These refinements would strengthen the program, align it with Ava's adopted policies, and ensure that investments meaningfully advance resilience, equity, and economic opportunity across the service area.

Thank you for your commitment to workers and communities. We look forward to our continued collaboration.

Sincerely,

Eric Veium, Tim Frank, & Leslie Austin Co-directors, <u>CCA Workforce & EJ Alliance</u>



item 12/board of directors meeting 11/19

bethw0104 <bethw0104@mindspring.com> To: cob@avaenergy.org

Tue, Nov 18, 2025 at 10:07 AM

As a customer and ratepayer of AVA Community Energy and resident of Oakland, I strongly support item 12, the SmartHome Battery & Samp; Resilience Hub Budget Approval and Program Design, on the agenda for tomorrow's Board of Directors meeting. Our community needs and deserves this support.

Beth Weinberger



Public Comment: General Public Comment (Item 3) - Support for Clean Firm Power

1 message

L Finney <finneylp@gmail.com> To: cob@avaenergy.org

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 9:57 AM

Dear Board of Directors,

I am submitting this comment for **Item 3 (Public Comment)**. I am an Oakland resident and an Ava customer. I want to thank the Board for its pragmatic leadership in recently accepting carbon-free nuclear allocations. Prioritizing 24/7 reliability and actual carbon reduction over ideological exclusion is the right choice for our climate and our rates. Please continue to support **all** carbon-free resources, including nuclear, in the "Bright Choice" portfolio to ensure we meet our climate goals without risking blackouts.

Sincerely Lecia finney 355 Santa Clara ave Oakland ca 94610



Please do not contract with Deloitte

1 message

Debbie Notkin <kith@spicejar.org> Reply-To: kith@spicejar.org To: cob@avaenergy.org Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 1:25 PM

Dear people,

I understand that you are considering hiring Deloitte for various community connection projects. I hope you are fully aware that Deloitte collaborates with DHS and ICE; I think you can be confident that *any* "community" work they do will be actively terrifying and offensive to immigrants (undocumented, green card holders, and citizens). It is certainly actively offensive to me.

Ava Community Energy should have NOTHING to do with ICE collaborators. Please, please do the right thing.

Debbie Notkin kith@spicejar.org

"Democracy is, in the beginning and in the end, a belief that we can live together despite difference and choose the future together. It is a beautifully reckless idea, because it is hard enough for a family to decide what to have for dinner. But it works; in fact, it works better than all the other systems. ... What is at stake now is whether we can defend the idea, and the lived belief, that you change things by changing people. We must tell this to people. More importantly, we must show it." Anand Giridharadas



Item 11 on agenda, ava board meeting

1 message

bethw0104 <bethw0104@mindspring.com> To: cob@avaenergy.org

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 1:40 PM

Strongly opposed Ava hiring or contracting with Deloitte or any company that cooperates with ICE or ang government agency that denies basic human rights.

Beth Weinberger Oakland resident and Ava customer

Sent from my Galaxy



Re Item 11 on agenda tonite 11/19/25

1 message

'margielewis22@yahoo.com' via Clerk of the Board <cob@avaenergy.org> Reply-To: "margielewis22@yahoo.com" <margielewis22@yahoo.com> To: "cob@avaenergy.org" <cob@avaenergy.org>

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Dear Board,

Please do not allow staff to hire Deloitte company to be the lead in Community and Customer Surveys, Outreach and Community gatherings for a \$560,000 contract.

We were horrified to learn that they do business with ICE and DHS.

- Ava should not do business with companies known to be at the center of immigrant violence, family separation and "efficiency of detention centers."
- Deloitte's own workers have demanded the company cease contracts w/ ICE since the first Trump Admin
- Instead, we recommend the agency hire the subcontractors who are rooted in the Bay Area and include a new lead applicant if they need that support:

EJ Solutions

Kearns & West Powerhouse

Thank you, Margie Lewis AVA customer



Don't Contract with Deloitte for Community Surveys & Gatherings

1 message

Aaron Lehmer <aaron.lehmer@gmail.com> To: cob@avaenergy.org Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 2:34 PM

Dear Ava Board of Directors,

As a concerned Ava customer and long-time resident of Oakland, I urge you not to approve a contract with Deloitte for "Community and Customer Surveys, Outreach and Community Gatherings" as recommended in Item 11 on tonight's meeting agenda.

- Ava should not do business with companies known to be at the center of immigrant violence, family separation
 and "efficiency of detention centers." Doing so could greatly compromise the integrity and inclusive participation
 that such outreach demands.
- Deloitte's own workers have demanded the company cease contracts with ICE since the first Trump Administration, only underscoring the unneeded controversy this contractor would bring.
- Instead, please hire the subcontractors who are rooted in the Bay Area and include a new lead applicant if they need that support. Here are several alternatives: EJ Solutions, Kearns & West, and Powerhouse

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Aaron Lehmer Ava customer since 2019

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Aaron Lehmer, MA
Communications & Policy Specialist | Sustainability & Resilience
Co-Founder, Bay Localize/Rooted in Resilience, Local Clean Energy Alliance and the California Trade Justice Coalition
6461 Valley View Road, Oakland, CA 94611
Mobile: (415) 613-4781
Blog | Facebook | LinkedIn | YouTube





















Dohee Kim
Local Clean Energy Alliance
339 15th Street Suite 208 Oakland, CA 94612
dohee@localcleanenergy.org

Subject: Allocate 10% of Ava Community Energy's Budget Surplus for Bill Credits to CARE/FERA Ratepayers and Build Long-Term Energy Affordability.

November 19, 2025

Dear Board of Directors, the Community Advisory Committee, and All Alternates,

At the previous Board of Directors Meeting on September 17, 2025, the motion to allocate 10% of the projected Ava Budget Surplus of \$107 million as bill credits for California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) ratepayers passed nearly unanimously. Both Ava staff and the Board initially emphasized concern for the anticipated financial headwinds as a result of recent reforms to Power Charge Indifference Adjustments (PCIA)¹ that would directly impact Ava Community Energy, as a Community Choice Energy (CCA) provider, through increased market volatility, disparate effects on low-income customers, and potentially 8 to 9 digit fees that the public agency would have to pay out in the near future². The Board, however, also insisted that in addition to preventing a budget deficit for the years to come, Ava Community Energy is aptly situated to invest the surplus back into our most

¹<u>Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA)</u> from the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). ²<u>The Promises and Challenges of Community Choice Aggregation in California</u>, a report by the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation.

energy-burdened, low-income, and vulnerable communities. The Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA) fully supports the Board's decision to allocate 10% of the agency's budget surplus for CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory, especially during a time of an energy affordability crisis³.

A <u>bill credit</u> is one way to ensure affordability for families, especially in our most vulnerable, low-income, and disadvantaged communities who are navigating extremely high living expenses. CARE and FERA recipients receive a monthly discount on their gas and/or electric bills and would directly benefit from an additional bill credit, since energy-burdened communities can instead allocate money saved towards other essential needs such as food, healthcare, and housing⁴. Those eligible for CARE and FERA include community members who are already eligible for public assistance programs (Medicaid; Medi-Cal; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program; Food Stamps; etc.)⁵. Money that is saved from a lower energy bill can be directed to other essential needs.

Ava staff was tasked with developing a methodology on how the bill credits will be distributed to CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory, including recently incorporated areas such as Stockton and Lathrop who have been with Ava for around 3-6 months. This transition has notably saved customers <a href="\$\$\$\$4.4 million in total on their energy bills. Staff returned with a recommendation to the Financial, Aid, Procurement Meeting as an informational item to the subcommittee, which had no quorum, on the day of November 7th, 2025, stating that <a href="\$\$\$\$\$\$13.041.710 is available for CARE/FERA customer bill credits based on the FY 2024-25 audit. Staff recommends providing the same credit amount, approximately <a href="\$\$\$70, to all active CARE and FERA customers, which would provide meaningful bill relief for Ava's low-income ratepayers.

As a reminder, this CCA was established to support energy-burdened, low-income, and diverse community members. Ava subscribers from Stockton and Lathrop must be included in the distribution of the upcoming bill credits. Calculating a prorated bill credit for Stockton and Lathrop CARE/FERA customers based on days of received service, as <u>suggested by a prior board meeting</u>, would lead to an inequitable bill credit across your lowest-income customers. Savings should be shared by giving CARE/FERA customers a \$70 bill credit across all the areas for meaningful impact, especially in low-income, energy-burdened communities, which would include around 158,000 Ava Community Energy subscribers.

At the recent Financial, Aid, and Procurement Meeting, however, Ava staff and CEO suggested that this action item may return to the Board to revisit this distribution and potentially re-allocate the entirety of the surplus into the Rate Stabilization Fund out of concern of financial headwinds based on PG&E's recent 2026 Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA). The 2026 rates detailed in this report, according to staff, indicates a significant deficit in 2026 for Ava

³Governor Signs <u>Berman Bill</u> to Lower Energy Bills and Hold IOUs Accountable. October 11, 2025. ⁴<u>Understanding Energy Burden: Why Some Communities Pay More</u> by Uche Ajene from Initiative for Energy Justice (IEJ) published on June 12, 2025.

⁵CARE/FERA Program: Discounts on energy bills for low-income qualified households from the CPUC.

Community Energy while maintaining the current value proposition. LCEA requests that the staff detail and break-down the impacts of the 2026 PG&E ERRA, the current Ava budget audit and its near future financial projections, and PCIA reform analysis for public clarity and understanding. We urge the Board to conscientiously consider the impact of potentially taking away 10% (\$13,041,710) of the budget surplus to current CARE/FERA subscribers in Ava territory.

LCEA and the People's Clean Power Alliance ask that the Board consider the ramifications of excluding or prorating the bill credits to 158,000 customers who are low-income and energy-burdened at this time. In fact, for San Joaquin County, nearly 13% of residents live in poverty, children have a poverty rate of over 17%, and more than 1 in 10 residents aged 65 years or older live in poverty⁶. We urge the Board to approve a fair and just methodology for bill credits that would include all 158,000 CARE/FERA customers in Ava service territory that is equitable for those who depend on affordable energy bills. While Stockton and Lathrop customers are our newest members, they will continue to subscribe to Ava Community Energy and will benefit drastically from an equal bill credit for all CARE and FERA ratepayers. We urge Ava staff and the Board of Directors to include Stockton and Lathrop for the CARE/FERA bill credits allocation equally across all Ava service territory and continue to meaningfully support our low-income, energy burdened communities.

The Board's decision to continue a one-time bill credit, specifically for CARE/FERA customers, is certainly aligned with the the monumental Local Development Business Plan (LDBP) and foundational Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement, which holds Ava Community Energy accountable to its original commitment to build community wealth and health, reduce pollution, provide affordable rates, maintain high standards for clean energy jobs, make smart and clean local energy investments, etc. Based on this recent decision, the Local Clean Energy Alliance urges Ava's Board of Directors to approve staff's recommendation to provide the same bill credit amount of around \$70 to all active CARE and FERA customers in Ava service territory.

LCEA additionally requests that the Board and Ava Community Energy seriously consider long-term energy affordability goals for low-income customers as part of a long-term strategic plan, such as need-based, debt-relief programs that instead rely on local appropriations, provide regular relief, and is accessible to all based on income eligibility, in addition to other policy opportunities as shared this year by RMI. A one-time bill credit is insufficient for the financial headwinds incoming and attacks on affordable clean energy on all fronts, which would adversely impact the most energy-burdened, pollution-burdened, and historically disinvested communities in Ava service territory. Not all those who are eligible for CARE/FERA are successfully enrolled in these low-income assistance programs, due to a real need for ongoing targeted outreach in vulnerable communities. Ava Community Energy would benefit as a CCA to proactively navigate risks, challenges, and opportunities in the energy landscape with the Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) and the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) by proactively responding to community needs, fostering

⁶San Joaquin County 2025 Health Needs Assessment published in April 2025.

community buy-in, and strategically investing in community benefits long-term.

Thank you for your public service and vital support.

Clean Power to the People,

Dohee Kim, Campaign Organizer with the Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA)

Organizational Sign-Ons

People's Clean Power Alliance

Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Kenneth Tang, Oakland Organizing Director

Collective Resilience, Susan Silber, Project Director

California Interfaith Power & Light, Gregory Stevens, Northern California Director

Center for Biological Diversity, Meya Saenz Zagar, Energy Justice Campaign Organizer

Reclaim Our Power, Emi Yoko-Young, Policy Organizer

California Trade Justice Coalition, Will Jamil Wiltschko, Director

Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, Sneha Ayyagari, Director of Policy

San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility, Robert M. Gould (MD), President

Public Bank East Bay, Margie Lewis, Board Member

Individual Sign-Ons

Steven Ongerth, Cofounder of the IWW Environmental Union Caucus

























Dohee Kim
Local Clean Energy Alliance
339 15th Street Suite 208 Oakland, CA 94612
dohee@localcleanenergy.org

Subject: Integrate Community Recommendations for the Resilience Hub Initiative Under the SmartHome Battery Program with Ava Community Energy.

November 19, 2025

Dear Board of Directors, the Community Advisory Committee, and All Alternates,

The Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA) and our community partners with People's Clean Power Alliance share our sincere appreciation and excitement for the proposed launch of the **SmartHome Battery Program** introduced in the Executive Committee Meeting on November 5th, 2025. The SmartHome Battery Program, which includes the nascent Resilience Hub Initiative, is a promising start to build real, long-term community resilience for our energy-burdened, pollution-burdened, and historically disinvested communities in Ava Community Energy's service territory of both Alameda and San Joaquin Counties, including unincorporated areas and the cities of Stockton, Lathrop, and Tracy.

The proposal offers to invest roughly \$3.74 million into community resilience hubs with a strong upfront incentive of \$1,220/kWh for a prospective solar battery and ongoing incentive of \$3/kWh with required enrollment in Ava Community Energy's <u>Virtual Power Plant (VPP) System</u>, providing a rough cost coverage of up to 80% of their solar and storage infrastructure within a five-year period. This solar and storage incentive is promising given the <u>current state of rooftop solar policies</u> and the devastating <u>funding cuts to clean energy</u> by the current federal administration.

California's extreme heat is impacting areas such as the San Joaquin Valley as a "silent killer," a costly and deadly climate change development that is reported to disproportionately impact low-income communities, the elderly, outdoor workers, including Black, Native American, and Hispanic Californians. The threat of local sea level rise, extreme storms, and risk of flooding in the Bay Area – which would endanger hundreds of thousands of Bay Area residents, billions of dollars of economic activity, and key public infrastructure – requires immediate resilience planning and climate adaptation plans in collaboration with municipalities. Our communities are facing an overlap of climate-related hazards, such as dangerously high heat, power outages, extreme wildfires, which exacerbate underlying systemic and structural resource inequities, socioeconomic challenges, and environmental pollution.

Ava Community Energy is a public, clean energy agency that can help pioneer and lead the charge for a more resilient future with our local communities, especially in climate-vulnerable areas. The Resilience Hub Initiative is a program that emerged from years of critical community advocacy by the Local Clean Energy Alliance in collaboration with key stakeholders, including community partners. Over the years, LCEA has demanded a greater surplus budget allocation from our Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) to provide expansive community benefits, increased investments, and clearer pathways for local ownership of clean energy resources. Currently, LCEA is happy to partner with Emerald Cities Collaborative, Ava's Technical Engineering Assistant (NV5), and Ava's Local Development staff to coordinate community engagement and outreach by facilitating workshops, listening sessions, and office hours to socialize, educate, and uplift communities with the Resilience Hub Initiative and connect local resilience hubs who could immediately benefit from this solar and storage incentive as well as maximize their community impact and life-affirming local work.

Resilience Hubs are defined by Ava Community Energy as follows:

Resilience Hubs are physical, community-serving facilities that provide essential services, distribute critical resources during emergencies, and integrate clean energy solutions to maintain operation during power outages. They also serve as year-round community spaces where local residents regularly gather and access everyday services.

Based on the current proposal of the SmartHome Battery Program and Resilience Hub Initiative, the Local Clean Energy Alliance and the People's Clean Power Alliance offer the following <u>recommendations</u>:

 The SmartHome Battery Program should recognize the months of intentional community outreach and engagement with local resilience hubs to develop a 'Community Definition of a Resilience Hub' based on public listening sessions held in the Spring of 2025, facilitated both by the Local Clean Energy Alliance and Emerald Cities Collaborative as shared below:

- A resilience hub is a trusted, community-led space that provides essential services, resources, and tools for people to access before, during, and after emergencies. A resilience hub is an inclusive and welcoming gathering space that operates year-round for community education and empowerment. A resilience hub is supported by dedicated staff and trained volunteers who are rooted in the care and culture of a community. Resilience hubs help prepare us for disasters, emergencies, recovery, and everyday well-being. Hubs are diverse and designed to be accessible to all generations.
- While Ava has provided its own definition focused on clean energy solutions, we believe that providing a holistic, community-driven definition of a Resilience Hub is critical in advocating for a community-driven solar and storage incentive program that not only includes clean energy solutions but implements them with community priorities in mind. We aim to integrate both definitions in our continued community outreach, engagement, and support.
- The SmartHome Battery Program should explicitly state the Resilience Hub Initiative in the name for programmatic clarity, public understanding, and clear community outreach.
 - The SmartHome Battery Program is not solely focused on residents and CARE/FERA customers, but the Resilience Hub Initiative is subsumed under a name that misrepresents the focus of targeting community resilience hubs that provide a critical resilience service to community members during a public emergency or climate crisis.
 - Further, the public would benefit from greater clarity around eligibility and other requirements between different incentive offerings and programs from Ava Community Energy, such as the <u>Critical Municipal Facilities Program</u>.
- Based on community surveys and current pilot sites, Ava Community Energy needs to provide more robust funding, grant support, and solar financing assistance to expand unrestricted, flexible funding for community resilience hubs, from small to large scale, which would help with day-to-day operations, staffing capacity, microgrid readiness, programmatic needs, etc.
 - The reality of the resilience hub landscape is that smaller, less-resourced hubs are unable to pay upfront capital costs to install both solar and battery storage.
 This solar and storage incentive program also may not be financially viable for resilience hubs that do not already have solar arrays or systems in place.
 - Funding assistance and solar financing opportunities can be modeled after services and programs that already exist, such as <u>BAYREN'S BAMBE</u>, <u>On-Bill</u> <u>Financing</u>, <u>PACE Loans</u>, <u>Low-Income Weatherization Program</u>, <u>SGIP</u> (<u>Self-Generation Incentive Program</u>), <u>Climate Smart Communities Initiative</u>, etc.
 - CA State Grants should also be coordinated with community partners to maximize funding opportunities for eligible local resilience hub sites, with Ava

- Community Energy as a local agency partner in the applications: e.g. <u>CA</u>

 <u>Strategic Growth Council's Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program,</u>

 <u>Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP)</u>, and others.
- Ava Community Energy should consider distributing flexible funding through a community grants program, similar to the <u>Community Clean Energy Grant</u> <u>Program</u> as modeled by the San Diego Community Foundation and San Diego Community Power.
- Ava Community Energy must develop an equity matrix to ensure fair and just prioritization of the solar and storage incentive program within Ava's service territory to ensure that directly-impacted, <u>frontline</u>, and energy-burdened communities can benefit and access this incentive.
 - Rather than a first-come, first-served model, the SmartHome Battery Program for its Resilience Hub Initiative should define and consider equity priorities as vetted by community partners to impactfully distribute solar and storage incentives to historically disinvested, disadvantaged, and marginalized communities, especially for climate-vulnerable, pollution-burdened, and energy-burdened communities.
 - There is no need to reinvent the wheel. We encourage this public agency to also consider available tools from the CA state that use equity matrices and socioeconomic plus demographic proxies:
 - Identify Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) through <u>CalEnviroScreen</u>
 4.0.
 - Use the <u>Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI)</u> provided by PSE Health Energy, Communities for Better Environment (CBE), and Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN).
 - Analyze the upcoming CEC Energy Affordability Tool.
 - Consider the Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation's Climate Vulnerability Map.
- We ask the Board, Community Advisory Committee (CAC), and Ava Community
 Energy to continue upholding the tenets of the <u>Joint Powers Authority Agreement</u>
 (JPA) and the <u>Local Development Business Plan (LDBP)</u>, which includes the
 recent policy resolution of <u>Ava Community Energy Workforce and Environmental</u>
 Justice Project Selection Criteria.
 - We encourage staff to consider local contractors with high-road labor partnerships to incorporate local labor partners, build a local green economy, and provide greater cost-effectiveness to all parties involved.
- Finally, we ask Ava Community Energy to set clear expectations, share timely
 updates, and ensure space for community design and input for the success and
 longevity of the Resilience Hub Initiative beyond the piloting stage. The Board and
 CAC should be provided an informational session, or a series of informational
 sessions, to adequately familiarize themselves with and appropriately assess the
 Resilience Hub Initiative for its success with communities.

With your guidance, expertise, and insights for Ava Community Energy, your critical input can

strengthen financial support of community resilience hubs, ensure community-driven design of the solar and storage incentive program that actually centers community needs, and advance equitable outcomes through fair and just prioritization of diverse resilience hubs to continue their life-saving services for the communities you publicly serve.

Thank you for your vital work to create a more equitable, accessible, and community-designed Resilience Hub Initiative together with us.

Clean Power to the People,

Dohee Kim, Campaign Organizer with the Local Clean Energy Alliance (LCEA)

Organizational Sign-Ons

People's Clean Power Alliance

Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Kenneth Tang, Oakland Organizing Director

Collective Resilience, Susan Silber, Project Director

California Interfaith Power & Light, Gregory Stevens, Northern California Director

Center for Biological Diversity, Meya Saenz Zagar, Energy Justice Campaign Organizer

Reclaim Our Power, Emi Yoko-Young, Policy Organizer

California Trade Justice Coalition, Will Jamil Wiltschko, Director

Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, Sneha Ayyagari, Director of Policy

San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility, Robert M. Gould (MD), President

San Leandro 2050, Patty Breslin, Executive Director

Public Bank East Bay, Margie Lewis, Board Member

Kehilla Community Synagogue, Beth Weinberger, Greening Committee

Individual Sign-Ons

Steven Ongerth, Cofounder of the IWW Environmental Union Caucus



No on Deloitte and Touche LLP

1 message

Marcia <mildredlouise.crump@gmail.com> To: cob@avaenergy.org

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 3:47 PM

Alameda county resident here. I'm appalled that your Chief Customer Officer, Anne Henderson, has recommended Deloitte and Touche for the consulting services contract for our decarbonization goals. Particularly pertinent to this contract is D&T's conflict of interest due to their extensive financial ties to this very anti-decarbonization federal government. Any recommendations they might make for this kind of project must be deeply suspect. They will hardly jeopardize tens of millions of dollars in federal contracts by supporting projects that can be seen as anti-administration by the Trump regime.

In these times it is crucial to avoid supporting these companies that are engaged in aiding and abetting the lawlessness at the federal level. Further, if a company is being paid tens of millions of dollars to provide technical support to DHS and ICE we do not want them anywhere near Alameda county utilities. We do not want them getting any of our local tax dollars. We do not trust them with our information. Not our names or home addresses, not our energy use patterns or our payment methods.

Please keep D&T out of Alameda county.

https://app.g2xchange.com/fedciv/posts/deloitte-scoops-up-50m-dhs-ice-analytical-technical-logistical-and-administrative-support-task

https://app.g2xchange.com/fedciv/posts/deloitte-obtains-dhs-cbp-program-management-and-data-analytics-services-task

Sincerely, Marcia Crump 94702



No Ava funding for ICE-complicit companies or organizations!

1 message

Aaron Reaven <aaronreaven@hotmail.com>
To: "cob@avaenergy.org" <cob@avaenergy.org>

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 4:23 PM

Dear Ava Board:

You MUST cut through the appearance of normality to perceive that any company or government agency that is cooperating with a truly police-state-like entity like ICE MUST be opposed and defunded. It is disgraceful for any person, organization or agency of government at any level to be complicit with an organization of goons. For people in the community, especially vulnerable immigrants or people of color, there is not even a way of knowing for sure if their kidnappers are Proud Boy goons dressed up in army surplus costumes, or authorized agents of ICE.

Even if they are the latter, they are violating laws and ethics with impunity. Not with our dollars, votes or voices.

Please terminate any contract with or compensation for entities that are collaborating with ICE agents.

Sincerely, Aaron Reaven



No contract with Deloitte

1 message

Kyoko Takayama <kyoko4ofa@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 4:57 PM

To: cob@avaenergy.org

Cc: Alex DiGiorgio <adigiorgio@avaenergy.org>

We should be united not to use any company working for ICE & DHS.

Thank you for understanding.

Respect, Empower, Include, Organize!

Kyoko Takayama

Community Organizer (she/her)

Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting Facebook/Instagram/@alco4fairmaps All On The Line/OFA East Bay Central Facebook/@OFA_EBC

Indivisible Tri-Valley Bsky@indivisibletrivalley.org

text/mobile: 925-290-7124

Connect with me through Instagram/Facebook/@Kyoko4US/@Kyoko4US.bsky.social



Oakland Resident

1 message

ilm ilm <ilmyremy@gmail.com>
To: cob@avaenergy.org

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 5:22 PM

As an Oakland resident I would like to reduce my cost in heating and other utilities. It's very concerning that you are doing business with a company that is doing business with ICE.

While federal dollars are being cut to feed, families and put their health care in jeopardy.

If we continue to promote and support the behavior in directly or directly it sends a message to our community that we are out of touch or just don't care.

Our community has suffered and paid the price and continues to pay the price and the stakes get higher, while we watch how we pump money into the billionaires that are oppressing all of us.

Please do your homework make sure that you understand who you're doing businesand that. It's not anyone that brings harm to our communities.

We hope you reconsider your vote tonight and pull the item.

Thank you,

Iris Oakland Resident 94603



Recommendation to NOT Hire Deloitte for a \$560,000 contract

1 message

Susan Silber <susansilber07@gmail.com> Reply-To: susansilber07@gmail.com To: cob@avaenergy.org Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 5:24 PM

Like the Community Advisory Committee, I am horrified that Ava Community Energy would hire Deloitte (item 11 on the agenda) because they also work for ICE:

Ava should not do business with companies known to be at the center of immigrant violence, family separation and "efficiency of detention centers."

Deloitte's own workers have demanded the company cease contracts w/ ICE since the first Trump Admin

Instead, we recommend the agency hire the subcontractors who are rooted in the Bay Area and include a new lead applicant if they need that support.

Thank you, Susan Silber



Agenda Item #11

1 message

Audrey Ichinose <aichinose@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 5:28 PM

To: cob@avaenergy.org

Cc: Jessica Tovar <jessica@localcleanenergy.org>

Please note this submission, Adrian. Thank you!

November 19, 2025

To: Board of Directors, CAC members, and Staff, Ava Community Energy

From: Audrey Ichinose, People's Clean Power Alliance (PCPA) and the California

Alliance for Community Energy (CACE)

Re: Agenda Item #11

As an early supporter of EBCE/now Ava, I am shocked that Ava would consider contracting with any entity in Deloitte's loosely structured global network for any of its services, however "neutral" one considers an accountant or planner/manager to be.

Apart from DeLoitte's purported association with services rendered to the Trump administration's ICE operations, Ava Community Energy should for their accounting services simply on the basis of Ava's founding intent. EBCE, and now Ava pledged to foster local development and the local economy. Are the local companies listed for contracting truly local? Are we opting for price and ease of subcontracting at the expense of developing truly local labor and small business?

I think more discussion is in order before any contracts are signed.

Thank you.



Deloitte choice from Ava

1 message

Jean Woo <jean.woo@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 7:53 PM

To: cob@avaenergy.org

Cc: Jessica Tovar <jessicalocalcleanenergy@gmail.com>

This does appear to be a bad choice if Deloitte has ties with ICE and Homeland Security forces.

Were there no qualified local candidate companies that could do this work?

Also there should be no additional charge for the basic general survey-that makes no sense. This should be a basic first step. Doing only focus groups one of which is Ava Community members does not seem to be a wise or broad approach.

Thanks,

Jean

Jean Woo Ava customer Albany Climate Action Coalition

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Public Comments from the Board of Directors Meeting

1 message

Susan Silber <susansilber07@gmail.com>
Reply-To: susansilber07@gmail.com
To: cob@avaenergy.org

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 9:16 PM

Cc: JP Ross <jross@avaenergy.org>

My name is Susan Silber and I am a resident of Berkeley, with the nonprofit organization <u>Collective Resilience</u>, and have been working for the past several years to support and develop resilience hubs here, including helping to write the case study about resilience hubs for Ava Community Energy. I am also a member of the **People's Clean Power Alliance**.

As a leader in this field of resilience hubs, I want to emphasize that Ava Community Energy is one of the many governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations and who are ready to prioritize and invest in resilience hubs. The Alameda County Food Bank, StopWaste, Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network, Healthcare without Harm and mutual aid groups are just a few of the many organizations I have met or collaborated with around resilience hubs. I have made this request before and I would like to ask it again: please look at this initiative and your agency as part of a potential network that is supporting the development of resilience hubs. Clean energy is but one aspect of resilience hubs.

I personally believe that Ava Community Energy could and should lead the charge in asking a plethora of organizations, as well as private funders, to fund and support both the resilience hubs sites and the development of a network to support their capacity building, their infrastructure, their programming.

I also want to offer some other recommendations:

First, we ask that instead of your own definition of resilience hubs, that you honor the hard work of community partners with the one that they provided, which is focused not just on clean energy solutions but is more holistic and centers other community priorities as well.

As well, we ask that you develop an equity matrix to ensure that this program prioritizes frontline, and energy-burdened communities, rather than a first-come, first-serve model.

Lastly, based on the huge enthusiasm for resilience hubs, Ava Community Energy needs to provide much more funding assistance, accessible solar financing options and flexible funding for hubs of all sizes, including considering a community grants program which San Diego Community Power has successfully implemented.

Sincerely, Susan Silber

To: Ava Board of Directors, CAC members and Staff

From: Audrey Ichinose, People's Clean Energy Alliance and the CA Alliance for Community Energy

RE: Resilence Hubs Program

The CAC's discussion Monday night of Ava's proposed SmartHome Battery and Resilience Hub Programs was very useful. Staff cannot be commended enough for regarding solar battery power as an unequivocal bright spot for Ava customers in this fractious time for clean energy progress.

Like PG&E, Ava has felt the financial burden of CA's enthusiastic embrace of rooftop solar. But unlike PG&E, which seeks to suppress rooftop solar, Ava advances ways to make rooftop solar work for all its customers.

There is a part of the Resilience Hub proposal that needs deeper thought, however. It was exciting to hear about the work done so far by the Emerald Cities Collaborative. Nine candidate Resilience Hubs have been identified so far. These existing hubs provide many valuable services, but most, if not all, already have solar systems and can take advantage of the Battery incentive program. And only four are in Disadvantaged Communities.

But there is one--and potentially others in Ava service territory--that provides critical services and support to the community **that has no rooftop solar at all**. West Side Missionary Baptist Church near the West Oakland BART station offers safe overnight parking for people living out of their vehicles, the chance for a weekly shower, food distribution, and much more. The church is led by the Rev. Ken Chambers, who incidentally was a member of Ava's original Community Advisory Committee. West Side has not yet been able to secure for itself a solar system. It is in a DAC.

Can the Resilience Hub Program be modified to make it possible for an invaluable center like West Side to acquire a rooftop solar system so that it could benefit from the Battery Incentive Program? I'm sure that Ava's resourceful and dedicated staff could come up with a viable solution.

Thank you very much.



no to Deloitte

1 message

t_vandemark via Clerk of the Board cob@avaenergy.org Reply-To: t_vandemark@yahoo.com

Thu, Nov 20, 2025 at 9:33 AM

To: cob@avaenergy.org

I am shocked you would recommend bringing in Deloitte. They are unaccountable to say the least.

Will big money always rule the game?

Tom Van Demark

Oakland