



## Staff Report Item 4

<b>To:</b>	Ava Community Energy Authority
<b>From:</b>	John Perkins, Legal Director
<b>Subject:</b>	Updating the Joint Powers Agreement to add clarifications and to align the Agreement with established Board practice.
<b>Date:</b>	November 5 <sup>th</sup> ExCom Meeting (in advance of December 17 Board Meeting)

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### **Summary/Recommendation**

This Staff Report proposes updating Ava's Joint Powers Agreement as detailed below in order to add clarifications and clearly align the JPA with established patterns and practices of the Board.

### **Financial Impact**

N/A

### **Analysis and Context**

This Staff Report proposes the following updates to the JPA:

1. Clarify the requirements of establishing quorum by expressly referencing that the Ex Officio Board member may not count toward the quorum calculation and by establishing that the number of required Board members is based on the number of Parties regardless of whether a new party has yet selected a Director.
2. Clarify the Voting Shares Formula to expressly align with the approach the Board has consistently taken.
3. Clarify the committee appointment process to expressly align with the approach the Board has consistently taken.
4. Align the JPA with the Community Advisory Committee Guide.
5. Provide for flexibility in the timing of the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair.

**Attachments**

Redlined proposed update to the JPA.

**Ava Community Energy Authority**

**- Joint Powers Agreement –**

Effective December 1, 2016

As amended by Resolution No. 2018-23 dated June 20, 2018

As further amended by Resolution No. 2022-28 dated September 21, 2022

As further amended by Resolution No. 2023-48 dated September 20, 2023

As further amended by Resolution No. 2023-54 dated October 18, 2023

As further amended by Resolution No. 2024-57 dated July 17, 2024

Among The Following Parties:

County of Alameda

County of San Joaquin

City of Albany

City of Berkeley

City of Dublin

City of Emeryville

City of Fremont

City of Hayward

City of Lathrop

City of Livermore

City of Newark

City of Oakland

City of Piedmont

City of Pleasanton

City of San Leandro

City of Stockton

City of Tracy

City of Union City

## AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY

### JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

This Joint Powers Agreement (“Agreement”), effective as of December 1, 2016, is made and entered into pursuant to the provisions of Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 1 (Section 6500 *et seq.*) of the California Government Code relating to the joint exercise of powers among the parties set forth in Exhibit A (“Parties”). The term “Parties” shall also include an incorporated municipality or county added to this Agreement in accordance with Section 3.1.

### RECITALS

1. The Parties are either incorporated municipalities or counties sharing various powers under California law, including but not limited to the power to purchase, supply, and aggregate electricity for themselves and their inhabitants.
2. In 2006, the State Legislature adopted AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, which mandates a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 to 1990 levels. The California Air Resources Board is promulgating regulations to implement AB 32 which will require local government to develop programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
3. The purposes for the Initial Participants (as such term is defined in Section 1.1.16 below) entering into this Agreement include securing electrical energy supply for customers in participating jurisdictions, addressing climate change by reducing energy related greenhouse gas emissions, promoting electrical rate price stability, and fostering local economic benefits such as jobs creation, community energy programs and local power development. It is the intent of this Agreement to promote the development and use of a wide range of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency programs, including but not limited to State, regional and local solar and wind energy production.
4. The Parties desired to establish a separate public agency, known as the East Bay Community Energy Authority (“Authority”), under the provisions of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the State of California (Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.*) (“Act”) in order to collectively study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy programs.
5. The Initial Participants each adopted an ordinance electing to implement through the Authority a Community Choice Aggregation program pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 (“CCA Program”). The first priority of the Authority will be the consideration of those actions necessary to implement the CCA Program.
6. By establishing the Authority, the Parties seek to:
  - (a) Provide electricity rates that are lower or competitive with those offered by PG&E for similar products;

- (b) Offer differentiated energy options (e.g. 33% or 50% qualified renewable) for default service, and a 100% renewable content option in which customers may “opt-up” and voluntarily participate;
  - (c) Develop an electric supply portfolio with a lower greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity than PG&E, and one that supports the achievement of the parties’ greenhouse gas reduction goals and the comparable goals of all participating jurisdictions;
  - (d) Establish an energy portfolio that prioritizes the use and development of local renewable resources and minimizes the use of unbundled renewable energy credits;
  - (e) Promote an energy portfolio that incorporates energy efficiency and demand response programs and has aggressive reduced consumption goals;
  - (f) Demonstrate quantifiable economic benefits to the region (e.g. union and prevailing wage jobs, local workforce development, new energy programs, and increased local energy investments);
  - (g) Recognize the value of workers in existing jobs that support the energy infrastructure of Alameda County and Northern California. The Authority, as a leader in the shift to a clean energy, commits to ensuring it will take steps to minimize any adverse impacts to these workers to ensure a “just transition” to the new clean energy economy;
  - (h) Deliver clean energy programs and projects using a stable, skilled workforce through such mechanisms as project labor agreements, or other workforce programs that are cost effective, designed to avoid work stoppages, and ensure quality;
  - (i) Promote personal and community ownership of renewable resources, spurring equitable economic development and increased resilience, especially in low income communities;
  - (j) Provide and manage lower cost energy supplies in a manner that provides cost savings to low-income households and promotes public health in areas impacted by energy production; and
  - (k) Create an administering agency that is financially sustainable, responsive to regional priorities, well managed, and a leader in fair and equitable treatment of employees through adopting appropriate best practices employment policies, including, but not limited to, promoting efficient consideration of petitions to unionize, and providing appropriate wages and benefits.
- (l) The Parties desire to change the name of the agency from East Bay Community Energy Authority to Ava Community Energy Authority.

## **AGREEMENT**

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions hereinafter set forth, it is agreed by and among the Parties as follows:

### **ARTICLE 1** **CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

**1.1 Definitions.** Capitalized terms used in the Agreement shall have the meanings specified below, unless the context requires otherwise.

- 1.1.1** “AB 117” means Assembly Bill 117 (Stat. 2002, ch. 838, codified at Public Utilities Code Section 366.2), which created CCA.
- 1.1.2** “Act” means the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the State of California (Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.*)
- 1.1.3** “Agreement” means this Joint Powers Agreement.
- 1.1.4** “Annual Energy Use” has the meaning given in Section 1.1.23.
- 1.1.5** “Authority” means the Ava Community Energy Authority established pursuant to this Joint Powers Agreement.
- 1.1.6** “Authority Document(s)” means document(s) duly adopted by the Board by resolution or motion implementing the powers, functions and activities of the Authority, including but not limited to the Operating Rules and Regulations, the annual budget, and plans and policies.
- 1.1.7** “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Authority.
- 1.1.8** “Community Choice Aggregation” or “CCA” means an electric service option available to cities and counties pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 366.2.
- 1.1.9** “CCA Program” means the Authority’s program relating to CCA that is principally described in Sections 2.4 and 5.1.
- 1.1.10** “Days” shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified by this Agreement.
- 1.1.11** “Director” means a member of the Board of Directors representing a Party, including an alternate Director.
- 1.1.12** “Effective Date” means the date on which this Agreement shall become effective and the Ava Community Energy Authority shall exist as a separate public agency, as further described in Section 2.1.

- 1.1.13** “Ex Officio Board Member” means a non-voting member of the Board of Directors as described in Section 4.2.2. As a non-voting member, The the Ex Officio Board Member will not count towards establishing quorum and may not serve on the Executive Committee of the Board, make or second a motion, or participate in closed session meetings of the Board.
- 1.1.14** “Implementation Plan” means the plan generally described in Section 5.1.2 of this Agreement that is required under Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 to be filed with the California Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of describing a proposed CCA Program.
- 1.1.15** “Initial Costs” means all costs incurred by the Authority relating to the establishment and initial operation of the Authority, such as the hiring of a Chief Executive Officer and any administrative staff, any required accounting, administrative, technical and legal services in support of the Authority’s initial formation activities or in support of the negotiation, preparation and approval of power purchase agreements. The Board shall determine the termination date for Initial Costs.
- 1.1.16** “Initial Participants” means, for the purpose of this Agreement the County of Alameda, the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Piedmont, San Leandro, Hayward, Union City, Fremont, Dublin, and Livermore.
- 1.1.17** “Operating Rules and Regulations” means the rules, regulations, policies, bylaws and procedures governing the operation of the Authority.
- 1.1.18** “Parties” means, collectively, the signatories to this Agreement that have satisfied the conditions in Sections 2.2 or 3.1 such that it is considered a member of the Authority.
- 1.1.19** “Party” means, singularly, a signatory to this Agreement that has satisfied the conditions in Sections 2.2 or 3.1 such that it is considered a member of the Authority.
- 1.1.20** “Percentage Vote” means a vote taken by the Board pursuant to Section 4.12.1 that is based on each Party having one equal vote.
- 1.1.21** “Total Annual Energy” has the meaning given in Section 1.1.23.
- 1.1.22** “Voting Shares Vote” means a vote taken by the Board pursuant to Section 4.12.2 that is based on the voting shares of each Party described in Section 1.1.23 and set forth in Exhibit C to this Agreement. A Voting Shares vote cannot take place on a matter unless the matter first receives an affirmative or tie Percentage Vote in the manner required by Section 4.12.1 and three or more Directors immediately thereafter request such vote.

**1.1.23** “Voting Shares Formula” means the weight applied to a Voting Shares Vote and is determined by the following formula:

(Annual Energy Use/Total Annual Energy) multiplied by 100, where (a) “Annual Energy Use” means ~~(i) with respect to the first two years following the Effective Date,~~ the annual electricity usage, expressed in kilowatt hours (“kWh”), within the Party’s respective jurisdiction ~~and (ii) with respect to the period after the second anniversary of the Effective Date, the annual electricity usage, expressed in kWh, of accounts within a Party’s respective jurisdiction that are served by the Authority~~ and (b) “Total Annual Energy” means the sum of all Parties’ Annual Energy Use. The initial values for Annual Energy use are designated in Exhibit B and the initial voting shares are designated in Exhibit C. Both Exhibits B and C shall be adjusted annually as soon as reasonably practicable after January 1, but no later than March 1 of each year subject to the approval of the Board.

**1.2 Documents Included.** This Agreement consists of this document and the following exhibits, all of which are hereby incorporated into this Agreement.

- Exhibit A: List of the Parties
- Exhibit B: Annual Energy Use
- Exhibit C: Voting Shares

**1.3 Revision of Exhibits.** The Parties agree that Exhibits A, B and C to this Agreement describe certain administrative matters that may be revised upon the approval of the Board, without such revision constituting an amendment to this Agreement, as described in Section 8.4. The Authority shall provide written notice to the Parties of the revision of any such exhibit.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **FORMATION OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY (FORMERLY EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY)**

**2.1 Effective Date and Term.** This Agreement shall become effective and Ava Community Energy Authority shall exist as a separate public agency on December 1, 2016, provided that this Agreement is executed on or prior to such date by at least three Initial Participants after the adoption of the ordinances required by Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12). The Authority shall provide notice to the Parties of the Effective Date. The Authority shall continue to exist, and this Agreement shall be effective, until this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Section 7.3, subject to the rights of the Parties to withdraw from the Authority.

**2.2 Initial Participants.** Until December 31, 2016, all other Initial Participants may become a Party by executing this Agreement and delivering an executed copy of this Agreement and a copy of the adopted ordinance required by Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12) to the



Authority. Additional conditions, described in Section 3.1, may apply (i) to either an incorporated municipality or county desiring to become a Party that is not an Initial Participant and (ii) to Initial Participants that have not executed and delivered this Agreement within the time period described above.

**2.3 Formation.** There is formed as of the Effective Date a public agency named the East Bay Community Energy Authority, later renamed Ava Community Energy Authority. Pursuant to Sections 6506 and 6507 of the Act, the Authority is a public agency separate from the Parties. The debts, liabilities or obligations of the Authority shall not be debts, liabilities or obligations of the individual Parties unless the governing board of a Party agrees in writing to assume any of the debts, liabilities or obligations of the Authority. A Party who has not agreed to assume an Authority debt, liability or obligation shall not be responsible in any way for such debt, liability or obligation even if a majority of the Parties agree to assume the debt, liability or obligation of the Authority. Notwithstanding Section 8.4 of this Agreement, this Section 2.3 may not be amended unless such amendment is approved by the governing boards of all Parties.

**2.4 Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to establish an independent public agency in order to exercise powers common to each Party and any other powers granted to the Authority under state law to participate as a group in the CCA Program pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12); to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy and energy-related climate change programs; and, to exercise all other powers necessary and incidental to accomplishing this purpose.

**2.5 Powers.** The Authority shall have all powers common to the Parties and such additional powers accorded to it by law. The Authority is authorized, in its own name, to exercise all powers and do all acts necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this Agreement and fulfill its purposes, including, but not limited to, each of the following:

- 2.5.1** to make and enter into contracts, including those relating to the purchase or sale of electrical energy or attributes thereof;
- 2.5.2** to employ agents and employees, including but not limited to a Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel;
- 2.5.3** to acquire, contract, manage, maintain, and operate any buildings, works or improvements, including electric generating facilities;
- 2.5.4** to acquire property by eminent domain, or otherwise, except as limited under Section 6508 of the Act, and to hold or dispose of any property;
- 2.5.5** to lease any property;
- 2.5.6** to sue and be sued in its own name;
- 2.5.7** to incur debts, liabilities, and obligations, including but not limited to loans from private lending sources pursuant to its temporary borrowing powers such as Government Code Section 53850 *et seq.* and authority under the Act;

- 2.5.8 to form subsidiary or independent corporations or entities, if appropriate, to carry out energy supply and energy conservation programs at the lowest possible cost consistent with the Authority's CCA Program implementation plan, risk management policies, or to take advantage of legislative or regulatory changes;
- 2.5.9 to issue revenue bonds and other forms of indebtedness;
- 2.5.10 to apply for, accept, and receive all licenses, permits, grants, loans or other assistance from any federal, state or local public agency;
- 2.5.11 to submit documentation and notices, register, and comply with orders, tariffs and agreements for the establishment and implementation of the CCA Program and other energy programs;
- 2.5.12 to adopt rules, regulations, policies, bylaws and procedures governing the operation of the Authority ("Operating Rules and Regulations");
- 2.5.13 to make and enter into service, energy and any other agreements necessary to plan, implement, operate and administer the CCA Program and other energy programs, including the acquisition of electric power supply and the provision of retail and regulatory support services; and
- 2.5.14 to negotiate project labor agreements, community benefits agreements and collective bargaining agreements with the local building trades council and other interested parties.

**2.6 Limitation on Powers.** As required by Government Code Section 6509, the power of the Authority is subject to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising power possessed by the City of Emeryville and any other restrictions on exercising the powers of the Authority that may be adopted by the Board.

**2.7 Compliance with Local Zoning and Building Laws.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement or state law, any facilities, buildings or structures located, constructed or caused to be constructed by the Authority within the territory of the Authority shall comply with the General Plan, zoning and building laws of the local jurisdiction within which the facilities, buildings or structures are constructed and comply with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

**2.8 Compliance with the Brown Act.** The Authority and its officers and employees shall comply with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54950 *et seq.*

**2.9 Compliance with the Political Reform Act and Government Code Section 1090.** The Authority and its officers and employees shall comply with the Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 81000 *et seq.*) and Government Code Section 1090 *et seq.*, and shall adopt a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to Government Code Section 87300. The Board of

Directors may adopt additional conflict of interest regulations in the Operating Rules and Regulations.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **AUTHORITY PARTICIPATION**

**3.1 Addition of Parties.** Subject to Section 2.2, relating to certain rights of Initial Participants, other incorporated municipalities and counties may become Parties upon (a) the adoption of a resolution by the governing body of such incorporated municipality or county requesting that the incorporated municipality or county, as the case may be, become a member of the Authority, (b) the adoption by an affirmative vote of a majority of all Directors of the entire Board satisfying the requirements described in Section 4.12, of a resolution authorizing membership of the additional incorporated municipality or county, specifying the membership payment, if any, to be made by the additional incorporated municipality or county to reflect its pro rata share of organizational, planning and other pre-existing expenditures, and describing additional conditions, if any, associated with membership, (c) the adoption of an ordinance required by Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12) and execution of this Agreement and other necessary program agreements by the incorporated municipality or county, (d) payment of the membership fee, if any, and (e) satisfaction of any conditions established by the Board.

**3.2 Continuing Participation.** The Parties acknowledge that membership in the Authority may change by the addition and/or withdrawal or termination of Parties. The Parties agree to participate with such other Parties as may later be added, as described in Section 3.1. The Parties also agree that the withdrawal or termination of a Party shall not affect this Agreement or the remaining Parties' continuing obligations under this Agreement.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION**

**4.1 Board of Directors.** The governing body of the Authority shall be a Board of Directors ("Board") consisting of one director for each Party appointed in accordance with Section 4.2.

**4.2 Appointment of Directors.** The Directors shall be appointed as follows:

**4.2.1** The governing body of each Party shall appoint and designate in writing one regular Director who shall be authorized to act for and on behalf of the Party on matters within the powers of the Authority. The governing body of each Party also shall appoint and designate in writing one alternate Director who may vote on matters when the regular Director is absent from a Board meeting. The person appointed and designated as the regular Director shall be a member of the governing body of the Party at the time of appointment but may continue to serve as a Director following his/her term as a member of the Party's governing body until a new Director is appointed pursuant to the timing in Section 4.3. The person appointed and designated as the alternate Director shall also be a member of the governing body of a Party and the alternate may continue to serve

as an alternate following his/her term as a member of a Party's governing body until a new alternate is appointed pursuant to the timing in Section 4.3.

- 4.2.2 The Board shall also include one non-voting ex officio member as defined in Section 1.1.13 ("Ex Officio Board Member"). The Chair of the Community Advisory Committee, as described in Section 4.9 below, shall serve as the Ex Officio Board Member. The Vice Chair of the Community Advisory Committee shall serve as an alternate Ex Officio Board Member when the regular Ex Officio Board Member is absent from a Board meeting.
- 4.2.3 The Operating Rules and Regulations, to be developed and approved by the Board in accordance with Section 2.5.12 may include rules regarding Directors, such as meeting attendance requirements. No Party shall be deprived of its right to seat a Director on the Board.

**4.3 Term of Office.** Each regular and alternate Director shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body of the Party that the Director represents and may be removed as Director by such governing body at the time. If at any time a vacancy occurs on the Board because a Director is no longer a member of a Party's governing body, the Party shall appoint a replacement to fill the position of the previous Director in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.2.1 within ninety (90) days of the date that such Director is no longer a member of a Party's governing body or for any other reason that such position becomes vacant.

**4.4 Quorum.** A majority of the Directors of the entire Board shall constitute a quorum, except that less than a quorum may adjourn a meeting from time to time in accordance with law. For the purpose of calculating quorum, the number of Directors of the entire Board shall be equal to the number of Parties to the Agreement, regardless of whether all Parties have appointed a Director.

**4.5 Powers and Function of the Board.** The Board shall conduct or authorize to be conducted all business and activities of the Authority, consistent with this Agreement, the Authority Documents, the Operating Rules and Regulations, and applicable law. Board approval shall be required for any of the following actions, which are defined as "Essential Functions":

- 4.5.1 The issuance of bonds or any other financing even if program revenues are expected to pay for such financing.
- 4.5.2 The hiring of a Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel.
- 4.5.3 The appointment or removal of an officer.
- 4.5.4 The adoption of the Annual Budget.
- 4.5.5 The adoption of an ordinance.

**4.5.6** The initiation of resolution of claims and litigation where the Authority will be the defendant, plaintiff, petitioner, respondent, cross complainant or cross petitioner, or intervenor; provided, however, that the Chief Executive Officer or General Counsel, on behalf of the Authority, may intervene in, become party to, or file comments with respect to any proceeding pending at the California Public Utilities Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or any other administrative agency, without approval of the Board. The Board shall adopt Operating Rules and Regulations governing the Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel's exercise of authority under this Section 4.5.6.

**4.5.7** The setting of rates for power sold by the Authority and the setting of charges for any other category of service provided by the Authority.

**4.5.8** Termination of the CCA Program.

**4.6** **Executive Committee.** The Board shall establish an Executive Committee consisting of a smaller number of Directors. The Board may delegate to the Executive Committee such authority as the Board might otherwise exercise, subject to limitations placed on the Board's authority to delegate certain Essential Functions, as described in Section 4.5 and the Operating Rules and Regulations. The Board may not delegate to the Executive Committee or any other committee its authority under Section 2.5.12 to adopt and amend the Operating Rules and Regulations or its Essential Functions listed in Section 4.5. After the Executive Committee meets or otherwise takes action, it shall, as soon as practicable, make a report of its activities at a meeting of the Board.

**4.7** **Director Compensation.** Directors shall receive a stipend of \$100 per meeting, as adjusted to account for inflation, as provided for in the Authority's Operating Rules and Regulations.

**4.8** **Commissions, Boards and Committees.** The Board may establish any advisory commissions, boards and committees as the Board deems appropriate to assist the Board in carrying out its functions and implementing the CCA Program, other energy programs and the provisions of this Agreement. The Board may establish rules, regulations, policies, bylaws or procedures to govern any such commissions, boards, or committees and shall determine whether members shall be compensated or entitled to reimbursement for expenses. The Chair shall appoint Board members to committee assignments.

**4.9** **Community Advisory Committee.** The Board shall establish a Community Advisory Committee consisting of ~~nine members and three alternates~~ members and alternates appointed by the Board of Directors, none of whom may be voting members of the Board. ~~One alternate from the pool of three alternates~~ An alternate may take the place of a Community Advisory Member when a Community Advisory Committee member cannot attend a meeting. ~~The Community Advisory Committee member that is unable to attend a meeting must notify the alternates of their inability to attend and obtain confirmation that one of the Alternates can attend the Community Advisory Committee meeting in that member's place. The size, structure, and procedures of the Committee will be set by the Board in the Community Advisory Committee~~

Guide. The function of the Community Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Board of Directors on all subjects related to the operation of the CCA Program as set forth in a work plan adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time, with the exception of personnel and litigation decisions. The Community Advisory Committee is advisory only, and shall not have decision making authority, or receive any delegation of authority from the Board of Directors. The Board shall publicize the opportunity to serve on the Community Advisory Committee and shall appoint members of the Community Advisory Committee and Alternates from those individuals expressing interest in serving, and who represent a diverse cross-section of interests, skill sets and geographic regions. ~~Members of the Community Advisory Committee shall serve staggered four years terms (the first term of three of the members shall be two years, and four years thereafter), which may be renewed.~~ A member or Alternate of the Community Advisory Committee may be removed by the Board of Directors by majority vote. The Board of Directors shall determine whether the Community Advisory Committee members will receive a stipend or be entitled to reimbursement of expenses.

**4.10 Chief Executive Officer.** The Board of Directors shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer for the Authority, who shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the Authority and the CCA Program. The Chief Executive Officer may exercise all powers of the Authority, including the power to hire, discipline and terminate employees as well as the power to approve any agreement, if the expenditure is authorized in the Authority's approved budget, except the powers specifically set forth in Section 4.5 or those powers which by law must be exercised by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall provide procedures and guidelines for the Chief Executive Officer exercising the powers of the Authority in the Operating Rules and Regulations.

**4.11 General Counsel.** The Board of Directors shall appoint a General Counsel for the Authority, who shall be responsible for providing legal advice to the Board of Directors and overseeing all legal work for the Authority.

**4.12 Board Voting.**

**4.12.1 Percentage Vote.** Except when a supermajority vote is expressly required by this Agreement or the Operating Rules and Regulations, action of the Board on all matters shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of all Directors on the entire Board (a "Percentage Vote" as defined in Section 1.1.20). A supermajority vote is required by this Agreement for the matters addressed by Section 8.4. When a supermajority vote is required by this Agreement or the Operating Rules and Regulations, action of the Board shall require an affirmative Percentage Vote of the specified supermajority of all Directors on the entire Board. No action can be taken by the Board without an affirmative Percentage Vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a tie in the Percentage Vote, an action may be approved by an affirmative "Voting Shares Vote," as defined in Section 1.1.22, if three or more Directors immediately request such vote.

**4.12.2 Voting Shares Vote.** In addition to and immediately after an affirmative percentage vote, three or more Directors may request that, a vote of the

voting shares shall be held (a “Voting Shares Vote” as defined in Section 1.1.22). To approve an action by a Voting Shares Vote, the corresponding voting shares (as defined in Section 1.1.23 and Exhibit C) of all Directors voting in the affirmative shall exceed 50% of the voting share of all Directors on the entire Board, or such other higher voting shares percentage expressly required by this Agreement or the Operating Rules and Regulations. In the event that any one Director has a voting share that equals or exceeds that which is necessary to disapprove the matter being voted on by the Board, at least one other Director shall be required to vote in the negative in order to disapprove such matter. When a voting shares vote is held, action by the Board requires both an affirmative Percentage Vote and an affirmative Voting Shares Vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a tie in the Percentage Vote, an action may be approved on an affirmative Voting Shares Vote. When a supermajority vote is required by this Agreement or the Operating Rules and Regulations, the supermajority vote is subject to the Voting Share Vote provisions of this Section 4.12.2, and the specified supermajority of all Voting Shares is required for approval of the action, if the provision of this Section 4.12.2 are triggered.

**4.13 Meetings and Special Meetings of the Board.** The Board shall hold at least four regular meetings per year, but the Board may provide for the holding of regular meetings at more frequent intervals. The date, hour and place of each regular meeting shall be fixed by resolution or ordinance of the Board. Regular meetings may be adjourned to another meeting time. Special and Emergency meetings of the Board may be called in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Section 54956 and 54956.5. Directors may participate in meetings telephonically, with full voting rights, only to the extent permitted by law.

**4.14 Officers.**

**4.14.1 Chair and Vice Chair.** Prior to the end of the fiscal year, the Directors shall elect, from among ~~themselves~~their regular members, a Chair, who shall be the presiding officer of all Board meetings, and a Vice Chair, who shall serve in the absence of the Chair. The newly elected Chair and Vice Chair shall commence serving in those capacities on July 1 or such date as the Board may choose, ~~except that no separate election shall be required for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and the Chair and Vice Chair elected in 2018 shall continue to serve until the end of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year and shall serve until they are replaced.~~ Subject to the remainder of this provision, The-the Chair and Vice Chair shall hold office for one year and serve no more than two consecutive terms, however, the total number of terms a Director may serve as Chair or Vice Chair is not limited. ~~If the Board changes the date on which the Chair or Vice Chair commences serving, the sitting Chair or Vice Chair shall continue to serve until such date, and such time shall not be deemed an additional term or portion thereof.~~ -The office of either the Chair or Vice Chair shall be declared vacant and the Board shall make a new selection if: (a) the person serving

dies, resigns, or ceases to be a member of the governing body of a Party that person represents, except if the person is continuing to serve on the Board after that person no longer serves on the governing body in conformance with section 4.2.1; (b) the Party that the person represents removes the person as its representative on the Board, or (c) the Party that the person represents withdraws from the Authority pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement.

**4.14.2 Secretary.** The Board shall appoint a Secretary, who need not be a member of the Board, who shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Board and all other official records of the Authority.

**4.14.3 Treasurer and Auditor.** The Board shall appoint a qualified person to act as the Treasurer and a qualified person to act as the Auditor, neither of whom needs to be a member of the Board. The same person may not simultaneously hold both the office of Treasurer and the office of the Auditor of the Authority. Unless otherwise exempted from such requirement, the Authority shall cause an independent audit to be made annually by a certified public accountant, or public accountant, in compliance with Section 6505 of the Act. The Treasurer shall act as the depositary of the Authority and have custody of all the money of the Authority, from whatever source, and as such, shall have all of the duties and responsibilities specified in Section 6505.5 of the Act. The Board may require the Treasurer and/or Auditor to file with the Authority an official bond in an amount to be fixed by the Board, and if so requested, the Authority shall pay the cost of premiums associated with the bond. The Treasurer shall report directly to the Board and shall comply with the requirements of treasurers of incorporated municipalities. The Board may transfer the responsibilities of Treasurer to any person or entity as the law may provide at the time.

**4.15 Administrative Services Provider.** The Board may appoint one or more administrative services providers to serve as the Authority's agent for planning, implementing, operating and administering the CCA Program, and any other program approved by the Board, in accordance with the provisions of an Administrative Services Agreement. The appointed administrative services provider may be one of the Parties. The Administrative Services Agreement shall set forth the terms and conditions by which the appointed administrative services provider shall perform or cause to be performed all tasks necessary for planning, implementing, operating and administering the CCA Program and other approved programs. The Administrative Services Agreement shall set forth the term of the Agreement and the circumstances under which the Administrative Services Agreement may be terminated by the Authority. This section shall not in any way be construed to limit the discretion of the Authority to hire its own employees to administer the CCA Program or any other program.

**4.16 Operational Audit.** The Authority shall commission an independent agent to conduct and deliver at a public meeting of the Board an evaluation of the performance of the CCA Program relative to goals for renewable energy and carbon reductions. The Authority shall



approve a budget for such evaluation and shall hire a firm or individual that has no other direct or indirect business relationship with the Authority. The evaluation shall be conducted at least once every two years.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **IMPLEMENTATION ACTION AND AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS**

#### **5.1 Implementation of the CCA Program.**

**5.1.1 Enabling Ordinance.** Prior to the execution of this Agreement, each Party shall adopt an ordinance in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 366.2(c)(12) for the purpose of specifying that the Party intends to implement a CCA Program by and through its participation in the Authority.

**5.1.2 Implementation Plan.** The Authority shall cause to be prepared an Implementation Plan meeting the requirements of Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 and any applicable Public Utilities Commission regulations as soon after the Effective Date as reasonably practicable. The Implementation Plan shall not be filed with the Public Utilities Commission until it is approved by the Board in the manner provided by Section 4.12.

**5.1.3 Termination of CCA Program.** Nothing contained in this Article or this Agreement shall be construed to limit the discretion of the Authority to terminate the implementation or operation of the CCA Program at any time in accordance with any applicable requirements of state law.

**5.2 Other Authority Documents.** The Parties acknowledge and agree that the operations of the Authority will be implemented through various documents duly adopted by the Board through Board resolution or minute action, including but not necessarily limited to the Operating Rules and Regulations, the annual budget, and specified plans and policies defined as the Authority Documents by this Agreement. The Parties agree to abide by and comply with the terms and conditions of all such Authority Documents that may be adopted by the Board, subject to the Parties' right to withdraw from the Authority as described in Article 7.

**5.3 Integrated Resource Plan.** The Authority shall cause to be prepared an Integrated Resource Plan in accordance with CPUC regulations that will ensure the long-term development and administration of a variety of energy programs that promote local renewable resources, conservation, demand response, and energy efficiency, while maintaining compliance with the State Renewable Portfolio standard and customer rate competitiveness. The Authority shall prioritize the development of energy projects in Alameda and adjacent counties. Principal aspects of its planned operations shall be in a Business Plan as outlined in Section 5.4 of this Agreement.

**5.4 Business Plan.** The Authority shall cause to be prepared a Business Plan, which will include a roadmap for the development, procurement, and integration of local renewable energy resources as outlined in Section 5.3 of this Agreement. The Business Plan shall include a description of how the CCA Program will contribute to fostering local economic benefits, such as job creation and community energy programs. The Business Plan shall identify opportunities for local power development and how the CCA Program can achieve the goals outlined in Recitals 3 and 6 of this Agreement. The Business Plan shall include specific language detailing employment and labor standards that relate to the execution of the CCA Program as referenced in this Agreement. The Business Plan shall identify clear and transparent marketing practices to be followed by the CCA Program, including the identification of the sources of its electricity and explanation of the various types of electricity procured by the Authority. The Business Plan shall cover the first five (5) years of the operation of the CCA Program. Progress on the implementation of the Business Plan shall be subject to annual public review.

**5.5 Labor Organization Neutrality.** The Authority shall remain neutral in the event its employees, and the employees of its subcontractors, if any, wish to unionize.

**5.6 Renewable Portfolio Standards.** The Authority shall provide its customers renewable energy primarily from Category 1 eligible renewable resources, as defined under the California RPS and consistent with the goals of the CCA Program. The Authority shall not procure energy from Category 3 eligible renewable resources (unbundled Renewable Energy Credits or RECs) exceeding 50% of the State law requirements, to achieve its renewable portfolio goals. However, for Category 3 RECs associated with generation facilities located within its service jurisdiction, the limitation set forth in the preceding sentence shall not apply.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

**6.1 Fiscal Year.** The Authority's fiscal year shall be 12 months commencing July 1 and ending June 30. The fiscal year may be changed by Board resolution.

**6.2 Depository.**

- 6.2.1** All funds of the Authority shall be held in separate accounts in the name of the Authority and not commingled with funds of any Party or any other person or entity.
- 6.2.2** All funds of the Authority shall be strictly and separately accounted for, and regular reports shall be rendered of all receipts and disbursements, at least quarterly during the fiscal year. The books and records of the Authority shall be open to inspection by the Parties at all reasonable times.
- 6.2.3** All expenditures shall be made in accordance with the approved budget and upon the approval of any officer so authorized by the Board in accordance with its Operating Rules and Regulations. The Treasurer shall draw checks or warrants or make payments by other means for claims or

disbursements not within an applicable budget only upon the prior approval of the Board.

### **6.3 Budget and Recovery Costs.**

**6.3.1 Budget.** The initial budget shall be approved by the Board. The Board may revise the budget from time to time through an Authority Document as may be reasonably necessary to address contingencies and unexpected expenses. All subsequent budgets of the Authority shall be prepared and approved by the Board in accordance with the Operating Rules and Regulations.

**6.3.2 Funding of Initial Costs.** The County shall fund the Initial Costs of establishing and implementing the CCA Program. In the event that the CCA Program becomes operational, these Initial Costs paid by the County and any specified interest shall be included in the customer charges for electric services to the extent permitted by law, and the County shall be reimbursed from the payment of such charges by customers of the Authority. The Authority may establish a reasonable time period over which such costs are recovered. In the event that the CCA Program does not become operational, the County shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of the Initial Costs.

**6.3.4 Additional Contributions and Advances.** Pursuant to Government Code Section 6504, the Parties may in their sole discretion make financial contributions, loans or advances to the Authority for the purposes of the Authority set forth in this Agreement. The repayment of such contributions, loans or advances will be on the written terms agreed to by the Party making the contribution, loan or advance and the Authority.

## **ARTICLE 7 WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION**

### **7.1 Withdrawal.**

**7.1.1 General Right to Withdraw.** A Party may withdraw its membership in the Authority, effective as of the beginning of the Authority's fiscal year, by giving no less than 180 days advance written notice of its election to do so, which notice shall be given to the Authority and each Party. Withdrawal of a Party shall require an affirmative vote of the Party's governing board.

**7.1.2 Withdrawal Following Amendment.** Notwithstanding Section 7.1.1, a Party may withdraw its membership in the Authority following an amendment to this Agreement provided that the requirements of this Section 7.1.2 are strictly followed. A Party shall be deemed to have withdrawn its membership in the Authority effective 180 days after the Board approves an amendment to this Agreement if the Director

representing such Party has provided notice to the other Directors immediately preceding the Board's vote of the Party's intention to withdraw its membership in the Authority should the amendment be approved by the Board.

- 7.1.3 The Right to Withdraw Prior to Program Launch.** After receiving bids from power suppliers for the CCA Program, the Authority must provide to the Parties a report from the electrical utility consultant retained by the Authority comparing the Authority's total estimated electrical rates, the estimated greenhouse gas emissions rate and the amount of estimated renewable energy to be used with that of the incumbent utility. Within 30 days after receiving this report, through its City Manager or a person expressly authorized by the Party, any Party may immediately withdraw its membership in the Authority by providing written notice of withdrawal to the Authority if the report determines that any one of the following conditions exists: (1) the Authority is unable to provide total electrical rates, as part of its baseline offering to customers, that are equal to or lower than the incumbent utility, (2) the Authority is unable to provide electricity in a manner that has a lower greenhouse gas emissions rate than the incumbent utility, or (3) the Authority will use less qualified renewable energy than the incumbent utility. Any Party who withdraws from the Authority pursuant to this Section 7.1.3 shall not be entitled to any refund of the Initial Costs it has paid to the Authority prior to the date of withdrawal unless the Authority is later terminated pursuant to Section 7.3. In such event, any Initial Costs not expended by the Authority shall be returned to all Parties, including any Party that has withdrawn pursuant to this section, in proportion to the contribution that each made. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, any Party who withdraws pursuant to this section shall not be responsible for any liabilities or obligations of the Authority after the date of withdrawal, including without limitation any liability arising from power purchase agreements entered into by the Authority.

**7.2 Continuing Liability After Withdrawal; Further Assurances; Refund.** A Party that withdraws its membership in the Authority under either Section 7.1.1 or 7.1.2 shall be responsible for paying its fair share of costs incurred by the Authority resulting from the Party's withdrawal, including costs from the resale of power contracts by the Authority to serve the Party's load and any similar costs directly attributable to the Party's withdrawal, such costs being limited to those contracts executed while the withdrawing Party was a member, and administrative costs associated thereto. The Parties agree that such costs shall not constitute a debt of the withdrawing Party, accruing interest, or having a maturity date. The Authority may withhold funds otherwise owing to the Party or may require the Party to deposit sufficient funds with the Authority, as reasonably determined by the Authority, to cover the Party's costs described above. Any amount of the Party's funds held by the Authority for the benefit of the Party that are not required to pay the Party's costs described above shall be returned to the Party. The withdrawing party and the Authority shall execute and deliver all further instruments and documents, and take any further action that may be reasonably necessary, as determined by the

Board, to effectuate the orderly withdrawal of such Party from membership in the Authority. A withdrawing party has the right to continue to participate in Board discussions and decisions affecting customers of the CCA Program that reside or do business within the jurisdiction of the Party until the withdrawal's effective date.

**7.3 Mutual Termination.** This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement of all the Parties; provided, however, the foregoing shall not be construed as limiting the rights of a Party to withdraw its membership in the Authority, and thus terminate this Agreement with respect to such withdrawing Party, as described in Section 7.1.

**7.4 Disposition of Property upon Termination of Authority.** Upon termination of this Agreement as to all Parties, any surplus money or assets in possession of the Authority for use under this Agreement, after payment of all liabilities, costs, expenses, and charges incurred under this Agreement and under any Authority Documents, shall be returned to the then-existing Parties in proportion to the contributions made by each.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**8.1 Dispute Resolution.** The Parties and the Authority shall make reasonable efforts to settle all disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Before exercising any remedy provided by law, a Party or the Parties and the Authority shall engage in nonbinding mediation in the manner agreed upon by the Party or Parties and the Authority. The Parties agree that each Party may specifically enforce this section 8.1. In the event that nonbinding mediation is not initiated or does not result in the settlement of a dispute within 120 days after the demand for mediation is made, any Party and the Authority may pursue any remedies provided by law.

**8.2 Liability of Directors, Officers, and Employees.** The Directors, officers, and employees of the Authority shall use ordinary care and reasonable diligence in the exercise of their powers and in the performance of their duties pursuant to this Agreement. No current or former Director, officer, or employee will be responsible for any act or omission by another Director, officer, or employee. The Authority shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the individual current and former Directors, officers, and employees for any acts or omissions in the scope of their employment or duties in the manner provided by Government Code Section 995 *et seq.* Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the defenses available under the law, to the Parties, the Authority, or its Directors, officers, or employees.

**8.3 Indemnification of Parties.** The Authority shall acquire such insurance coverage as the Board deems necessary to protect the interests of the Authority, the Parties and the public. Such insurance coverage shall name the Parties and their respective Board or Council members, officers, agents and employees as additional insureds. The Authority shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Parties and each of their respective Board or Council members, officers, agents and employees, from any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, injuries and liabilities of every kind arising directly or indirectly from the conduct, activities, operations, acts, and omissions of the Authority under this Agreement.

**8.4 Amendment of this Agreement.** This Agreement may be amended in writing by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire Board satisfying the requirements described in Section 4.12. Except that, any amendment to the voting provisions in Section 4.12 may only be made by a three-quarters affirmative vote of the entire Board. The Authority shall provide written notice to the Parties at least 30 days in advance of any proposed amendment being considered by the Board. If the proposed amendment is adopted by the Board, the Authority shall provide prompt written notice to all Parties of the effective date of such amendment along with a copy of the amendment.

**8.5 Assignment.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, the rights and duties of the Parties may not be assigned or delegated without the advance written consent of all of the other Parties, and any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Section 8.5 shall be null and void. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and assigns of the Parties. This Section 8.5 does not prohibit a Party from entering into an independent agreement with another agency, person, or entity regarding the financing of that Party's contributions to the Authority, or the disposition of proceeds which that Party receives under this Agreement, so long as such independent agreement does not affect, or purport to affect, the rights and duties of the Authority or the Parties under this Agreement.

**8.6 Severability.** If one or more clauses, sentences, paragraphs or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be unlawful, invalid or unenforceable, it is hereby agreed by the Parties, that the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby. Such clauses, sentences, paragraphs or provision shall be deemed reformed so as to be lawful, valid and enforced to the maximum extent possible.

**8.7 Further Assurances.** Each Party agrees to execute and deliver all further instruments and documents, and take any further action that may be reasonably necessary, to effectuate the purposes and intent of this Agreement.

**8.8 Execution by Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and upon execution by all Parties, each executed counterpart shall have the same force and effect as an original instrument and as if all Parties had signed the same instrument. Any signature page of this Agreement may be detached from any counterpart of this Agreement without impairing the legal effect of any signatures thereon, and may be attached to another counterpart of this Agreement identical in form hereto but having attached to it one or more signature pages.

**8.9 Parties to be Served Notice.** Any notice authorized or required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be validly given if served in writing either personally, by deposit in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid with return receipt requested, or by a recognized courier service. Notices given (a) personally or by courier service shall be conclusively deemed received at the time of delivery and receipt and (b) by mail shall be conclusively deemed given 72 hours after the deposit thereof (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) if the sender receives the return receipt. All notices shall be addressed to the office of the clerk or secretary of the Authority or Party, as the case may be, or such other person designated in writing by the Authority or Party. In addition, a duplicate copy of all notices

provided pursuant to this section shall be provided to the Director and alternate Director for each Party. Notices given to one Party shall be copied to all other Parties. Notices given to the Authority shall be copied to all Parties. All notices required hereunder shall be delivered to:

The County of Alameda

Director, Community Development Agency  
224 West Winton Ave.  
Hayward, CA 94612

With a copy to:

Office of the County Counsel  
1221 Oak Street, Suite 450  
Oakland, CA 94612

if to [PARTY No. \_\_\_\_]

Office of the City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Office of the City Manager/Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Office of the City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

if to [PARTY No. \_\_\_\_ ]

Office of the City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Office of the City Manager/Administrator

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\_\_\_\_\_

Office of the City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE 9**  
**SIGNATURE**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Joint Powers Agreement establishing the Ava Community Energy Authority.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Party: \_\_\_\_\_



**EXHIBIT A**  
**LIST OF THE PARTIES**

This Exhibit A is effective as of July 17, 2024.

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

**EXHIBIT B**  
**ANNUAL ENERGY USE**

This Exhibit B is effective as of July 17, 2024

<b>Party</b>	<b>kWh (2023*)</b>
Albany	49,658,026
Berkeley	413,008,108
Dublin	252,876,615
Emeryville	182,316,485
Fremont	1,170,341,147
Hayward	708,882,734
Lathrop	200,965,565
Livermore	411,980,233
Newark	233,143,296
Oakland	1,768,534,324
Piedmont	29,015,530
Pleasanton	389,268,211
San Leandro	407,878,675
Stockton	1,199,280,141
Tracy	415,177,547
Union City	263,556,407
Unincorporated Alameda County	429,832,267
Unincorporated San Joaquin County	987,486,751
<hr/>	
Total	9,513,202,062

\*All data provided by PG&E

**EXHIBIT C**  
**VOTING SHARES**

This Exhibit C is effective as of July 17, 2024

<b>Party</b>	<b>kWh (2023*)</b>	<b>Voting Shares Section 4.12.2</b>
Albany	49,658,026	0.5%
Berkeley	413,008,108	4.3%
Dublin	252,876,615	2.7%
Emeryville	182,316,485	1.9%
Fremont	1,170,341,147	12.3%
Hayward	708,882,734	7.5%
Lathrop	200,965,565	2.1%
Livermore	411,980,233	4.3%
Newark	233,143,296	2.5%
Oakland	1,768,534,324	18.6%
Piedmont	29,015,530	0.3%
Pleasanton	389,268,211	4.1%
San Leandro	407,878,675	4.3%
Stockton	1,199,280,141	12.6%
Tracy	415,177,547	4.4%
Union City	263,556,407	2.8%
Unincorporated Alameda County	429,832,267	4.5%
Unincorporated San Joaquin County	987,486,751	10.4%
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Total	9,513,202,062	100.0%

\*All data provided by PG&E