Draft Minutes

Community Advisory Committee

October 19, 2026
6:00 pm

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

Or from the following remote locations:
4563 Meyer Park Circle, Fremont, CA 94536
27 S. Grant St, Stockton, CA 95202
1531 El Pinal Dr, Stockton, CA 95205
1021 W. Acacia St, Stockon, CA. 95303
2277 Pyrenees Ave., Stockton, CA 95210

Via Zoom:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84794506189

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 +1 312 626 6799 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)
Webinar ID: 847 9450 6189

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

Public comment letters received for Ava Community Energy meetings are posted at https://app.box.com/v/avapubliccomment.

C1. (4:44) Welcome & Roll Call

Present: Member: Bierce (North), Riley (North), Krulewitz (North), Edmunds (East), Lakshman (South), DiFranco (Central), Harper (San Joaquin County), Halaufia (San Joaquin County), Knodt (San Joaquin County), Raj (At-Large), Roberts (At-Large), and Chair Souza (Central).

Not Present: Member Swaminathan (South).

C2. Public Comment

This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any Ava Community Energy-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 Committee are customarily limited to three minutes per speaker and must complete an electronic speaker slip. The Committee Chair may increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker.

(7:32) Public Comment – Jim Lutz stated that the five-year agency priorities were scheduled for Board consideration without prior CAC or community input, and urged attention to local energy, jobs and development.

(9:42) Public Comment – Fangxiu, Local Clean Energy Alliance spoke about the importance of community engagement and transparency concerning customer programs**.**

(13:02) Public Comment – Alejandra Renaud, Local Clean Energy Alliance requested greater CAC involvement in five-year priority planning and clarification of its relationship to the Customer Programs Strategy, including local clean energy development.

C3. (15:51) CAC Chair Report

Chair Souza reported on recent Board actions, including the San Leandro default product change, staffing services agreements and battery optimization agreement, and the election of Board leadership. Members and staff discussed the distinction between the Customer Programs Strategy workshops and the five-year agency priorities presentation.

There were no public comments.

C4. (21:34) Minutes from September 14, 2026

Member Bierce moved to approve the September 14, 2026 minutes; Member Edmunds seconded the motion. Motion carried 10/0/2/0/1 (yes/no/abstain/recuse/not present):
Yes: Members: Bierce, Riley, Krulewitz, Edmunds, Harper, Halaufia, Knodt, Raj, Roberts, and Chair Souza.
No: None
Abstain: Members: Lakshman and DiFranco
Recuse: None
Note Present: Member Swaminathan

There were no public comments.

C5. (23:29) 2026 Legislative roundup and 2027 look ahead (BOD Informational Item)

Sam Sadle, Principal Legislative Manager, presented the 2026 legislative review and 2027 outlook. **Todd Edmister, Senior Director of Public Policy and Deputy General Counsel,** provided a regulatory update. **Kendall Downie and Dominic Faria** supported the presentation. Topics included resource adequacy, Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) legislation and proceedings, data-center and large-load regulation, distributed energy resources, heat pump permitting, solar legislation, and state budget developments.

(59:16) Public Comment – Jim Lutz asked how Ava and CalCCA would continue work on resource adequacy and PCIA issues.

C6. (1:17:59) 2025 Power Content (CAC Informational Item)
Update on final 2025 power content

Izzy Carson, Senior Power Resources Manager, presented Ava's 2025 Power Content and Power Source Disclosure reporting, including the Power Content Label, energy procurement categories, line losses, and emissions trends. Members asked about the sources and treatment of unspecified power, nuclear and hydroelectric allocations, and future disclosure practices.

There were no public comments.

C7. (1:50:57) Vice-Chair Appointment (CAC Action Item)

Chair Souza described the position, and **Clerk Bankhead** explained the nomination and voting procedures. **Members Katharine Bierce and Andrew Krulewitz** were nominated.

The Committee voted on Member Bierce first; she received the required majority - 7/3/1/0/2 (yes/no/abstain/recuse/not present) and was appointed Vice-Chair for the remainder of the current term.

Yes: Members Bierce, Riley, Lakshman, Harper, Halaufia, Knodt, and Roberts.
No: Members Krulewitz, Edmunds, and DiFranco.
Abstain: Chair Souza.
Recuse: None.
Not Present: Member Swaminathan and Raj N

No separate vote on Member Krulewitz was taken.

There were no public comments.

C8. CAC Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future Community Advisory Committee Meeting Agendas

Members requested CAC review of the customer programs public engagement strategy, consideration of an ad hoc committee related to the Customer Programs Strategy, and presentations by Ava and city staff on successful community-oriented projects and lessons learned.

C9. Adjourn

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next Community Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

10/19/26 – Ava Community Advisory Committee
AI Generated Courtesy Summary - not official minutes
This summary has not been reviewed for accuracy

Community Advisory Committee

October 19, 2026, 6:00 PM

C1. Welcome & Roll Call

Chair Souza called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM in the Board Room at Ava Community Energy, 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 2300, Oakland, with remote locations as listed on the agenda. Board Clerk Adrian Bankhead conducted the roll call, and a quorum was established.

Present: Chair Souza, Members Bierce, Riley, Krulewitz, Edmunds, Lakshman, DiFranco, Harper, Halafia, Knodt, Raj, and Roberts. Absent: Member Swaminathan. Alternate Member Epperson was not applicable.

C2. Public Comment

Three members of the public addressed the Committee on Ava's 2026–2031 five-year agency priorities, which were on the Board agenda but not the CAC agenda.

Jim Lutz stated that the plan appeared to have had no Board, CAC, or community input. He said it did not adequately address founding goals such as local clean energy generation, local jobs, and local development, and he asked the CAC to place it on its agenda.

Fung Xieu of the Local Clean Energy Alliance echoed those concerns and thanked the CAC for its questions on the customer program roadmap at its prior meeting. Ms. Xieu urged Ava to engage historically underrepresented communities "where people show up" rather than only through conventional workshops. Ms. Xieu also asked that the process be transparent about which programs are included and which are excluded, with reasons.

Alejandra Renaud of the Local Clean Energy Alliance asked how the customer program strategy relates to the five-year plan. Ms. Renaud also noted the plan's apparent lack of any mention of local clean energy generation, which Ava has identified as a priority in other plans.

Chair Souza stated that she shared concern that the plan was not on the CAC agenda. She noted that public engagement opportunities were planned and encouraged the public to watch for them.

C3. CAC Chair Report

Chair Souza reported on the September Board meeting. The Board approved San Leandro's request to change its default product from Renewable 100 to Bright Choice. The Board also authorized the CEO to negotiate changes to the staffing services agreements with LHI Group, and to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 to the Ascend Analytics battery optimization software-as-a-service agreement. The CAC had reminded the Board that any amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement should consider language allocating a percentage of Ava's profits to community-related business programs. Juan Rodriguez was elected Board Chair and Julie Roche Vice Chair.

In response to Member Roberts, staff clarified that the five workshops discussed relate to the customer program strategy presented at the prior CAC meeting. The five-year agency priorities presentation was scheduled as an

informational item at the upcoming Board meeting and was not comprehensive of all operational priorities. Staff offered to work with the Chair to bring a version of that presentation to the CAC in the future. Member Roberts asked whether the CAC would review the plan only after Board approval, and staff encouraged members to attend the Board presentation.

C4. Minutes from September 14, 2026

> Motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2026 was made by Member Bierce and seconded by Member Edmunds. There was no public comment. The motion carried, with Members Lakshman and DiFranco abstaining because they were absent from that meeting.

C5. 2026 Legislative roundup and 2027 look ahead (BOD Informational Item)

Sam Seto, Principal Legislative Manager, presented with Todd Edmister, Senior Director of Public Policy and Deputy General Counsel, who participated remotely. Dominic Faria, Senior Policy Coordinator, was available for questions. Ava took positions on 10 bills this year, and five of the bills it supported passed. Several bills moved from "support if amended" to "support" after amendments were secured.

Resource adequacy transactability. This bill was the first CalCCA-sponsored legislation. It passed the Senate 31–0 but failed in Assembly Appropriations suspense after the CPUC estimated an implementation cost of $8.6 million per year. Ava disputed that estimate and expects the bill to save $180 million per year in ratepayer benefits. Staff plan to pursue it again in 2027.

PCIA transparency (AB 1761). The bill passed with bipartisan support (Assembly 61–8, Senate 40–0) but was vetoed by the Governor, who cited ongoing CPUC regulatory processes.

PCIA regulatory update. Mr. Edmister reviewed the four tracks of the CPUC rulemaking.

- Track 1: The CPUC's adverse revaluation of resource adequacy in the PCIA portfolio is on appeal. The California Supreme Court directed the appellate court to address CalCCA's appeal on the merits, a procedural but not yet a merits victory.
- Track 2: The CPUC valued PG&E's pre-2019 banked renewable energy certificates at zero, a result adverse to Ava customers.
- Track 3: Track 3a addresses adjustments to the existing methodology, including renewable energy certificate valuation, greenhouse-gas-free energy, and "vintaging" of utility-owned generation. Track 3b is a possible redesign. A Track 3a decision is expected in mid-to-late 2027.
- Track 4: This is a catch-all track.

Large loads (data centers). The Governor signed seven bills. Ava supported AB 1577 and SB 1168 and secured amendments to AB 1577, SB 886, and AB 2383 to preserve CCA autonomy. The package addresses data reporting, protection of existing ratepayers from cost shifts and stranded costs, and interconnection. CCAs must offer an AB 2383-compliant tariff by January 1, 2028. In response to Member Edmunds, Mr. Seto explained that SB 887 creates a CEQA exemption pathway for data centers that meet stringent requirements, including 100 percent hourly greenhouse-gas-free energy, of which 75 percent must be new generation.

Other legislation and budget.

- SB 222 (heat pump permitting): Local governments must adopt streamlined permitting by July 1, 2027.
- SB 913 (distributed energy resources as resource adequacy): The CPUC must develop rules by June 2028. LSEs are not required to use these resources.
- SB 868 (plug-in solar): Devices of up to 1,200 watts are exempt from interconnection requirements. The bill sunsets January 1, 2030.
- Solar property tax exclusion: The extension did not pass, so newly installed solar will be included in assessed value upon reassessment.

- State budget: The budget included a $3,500 zero-emission vehicle buyer incentive, $22 million for the Demand Side Grid Support program with no funding beyond 2026, $1.25 billion in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund monies for Cal Fire, $2 billion in Proposition 4 climate bond funds, $135 million for the HVIP truck incentive program, and $332 million for a transmission accelerator revolving fund.
- 2027 outlook: Four of 14 Senate Energy Committee members will not return, and Senate Pro Tem Limón is termed out in 2028. The new Governor will appoint two CPUC commissioners and one CEC commissioner.

Public comment. Jim Lutz asked about plans at CalCCA to continue addressing the PCIA and resource adequacy issues. No response was recorded.

Committee discussion. Member Bierce asked for the top priorities the community should follow. Mr. Seto stated that the 2027 agenda was still being formulated, that resource adequacy transactability and the PCIA would likely remain priorities, and that he would return early next year. Chair Souza asked for a summary the CAC could use to help the public write to legislators. Staff noted that, as a public agency, Ava cannot conduct grassroots lobbying campaigns.

Member DiFranco raised city concerns about permit fee caps and the need for public education on the solar property tax change. Mr. Seto clarified that the tax applies only when a property is reassessed. Mr. Faria stated that he would confirm whether the trigger is installation or permission to operate.

Chair Souza asked whether large loads would affect Ava's renewable goals, and staff stated they were not equipped to answer. Member Edmunds suggested that Ava explore smart home batteries and demand response for resource adequacy. Member Harper asked about Ava's role in large-load tariff design and about pursuing HVIP funding for electric trucks in the service territory, citing diesel truck pollution in Stockton. No action was taken.

C6. 2025 Power Content (CAC Informational Item)

Izzy Carson, Senior Power Resources Manager, presented an overview of the Power Source Disclosure program, which includes the annual filing and the Power Content Label. She explained the renewable energy certificate portfolio content categories (PCC 1, 2, and 3) and Ava's mix of short- and long-term procurement. She reported that the 2025 amendment to the regulations requires an additional column showing loss-adjusted load, which includes transmission and distribution losses. The CEC default loss factors are 4.4 percent for in-state and 6.6 percent for out-of-state resources. The new "Ava Community Energy Total" column averages the two products. The change affects reporting only and does not alter procurement.

Members asked about specific figures on the label.

- Unspecified power: Ms. Carson stated that the 1 percent of unspecified power in Bright Choice came from asset-controlling supplier hydro contracts. The increase in fossil content in the total column resulted from line losses.
- Emissions trends: Emissions intensity is declining as PCC 2 procurement phases out, with PCC 2 expected to reach zero by 2029.
- Nuclear and hydro: The Board accepted PG&E's free nuclear (Diablo Canyon) allocation beginning in 2025. Mr. Edmister confirmed that PG&E's greenhouse-gas-free allocations carry no premium to Ava.
- Hydro versus target: Hydro generation exceeded Ava's target for the year, and surplus may be applied to future compliance-period years.

Member Bierce observed that local generation would reduce line losses and benefit communities. Chair Souza asked for a future slide showing Ava's progression in power content, and Ms. Carson agreed to include one next year. No action was taken.

C7. Vice-Chair Appointment (CAC Action Item)

Chair Souza described the role of the Vice Chair, and Clerk Bankhead explained the voting procedure. The appointment will fill the remainder of the term following the prior Vice Chair's departure, with regular elections for Chair and Vice Chair expected in January. Members from San Joaquin County were encouraged to consider

the role but declined at this time due to capacity. Members Bierce and Krulewitz were nominated, and each gave a statement. There was no public comment and no additional nominees.

> Member Bierce was voted on first. Members Bierce, Riley, Lakshman, Harper, and Roberts voted in favor, Members Krulewitz and Edmunds voted no, and Chair Souza abstained. Member Bierce received a majority of votes and was elected Vice Chair for the remainder of the term.

Chair Souza thanked both candidates and encouraged Member Krulewitz to remain involved in future leadership.

C8. CAC Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future Community Advisory Committee Meeting Agendas

Member Bierce requested a CAC review of the public engagement strategy for the customer program roadmap. A member requested information on forming an ad hoc committee on the customer program roadmap, as mentioned at the prior meeting. Chair Souza stated that she would request an informational presentation from staff. Member DiFranco suggested that city staff present case studies of successful projects with Ava, including community involvement and lessons learned. Chair Souza stated that she would raise this with the Board and note all requests, though inclusion on a future agenda was not guaranteed.

C9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next Community Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM.