



Inland Regional Energy Network I-REN Executive Committee

AGENDA

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023
2:00 PM**

**Rialto Civic Center
City Council Board Chambers
150 S Palm Avenue
Rialto, CA 92376**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 847 9348 4341

Passcode: 671921

Dial in: (669) 900 9128 U.S.

SPECIAL NOTICE – COVID-19 RELATED PROCEDURES IN EFFECT

Due to the State or local recommendations for social distancing resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), this meeting is being held via Zoom under Assembly Bill (AB) 361 (Government Code Section 54953). Pursuant to AB 361, WRCOG does not need to make a physical location available for members of the public to observe a public meeting and offer public comment. AB 361 allows WRCOG to hold Committee meetings via teleconferencing or other electronic means and allows for members of the public to observe and address the committee telephonically or electronically.

In addition to commenting at the Committee meeting, members of the public may also submit written comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to jleonard@wrcog.us.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Janis Leonard 72 hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6702 or jleonard@wrcog.us. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

The Committee may take any action on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of the Requested Action.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (Crystal Ruiz, Chair)**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. ROLL CALL**

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time members of the public can address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Committee, any public comments on any of the Consent Items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Committee request specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar.

A. Assembly Bill 361 Findings

Requested Action(s):

1. Affirm the findings of the I-REN Executive Committee in Resolution Number 01-22, adopted on December 13, 2022, which are:
 - a. The Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which State of Emergency continues to exist today; and
 - b. State or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing.

B. Summary Minutes from the December 13, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting

Requested Action(s):

1. Approve the Summary Minutes from the December 13, 2022, Executive Committee meeting.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion.

A. Recap of Regulatory and Policy History of I-REN's Formation

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

B. I-REN Business Plan Overview

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

C. I-REN Strategic Plan Introduction

Requested Action(s):

1. Authorize the initiation of the I-REN Organizational Strategic Plan.

D. Approval of I-REN Executive Committee 2023 Meeting Schedule

Requested Action(s):

1. Approve the schedule of I-REN Executive Committee meetings for 2023.

E. I-REN Assistance with Additional Funding Opportunities

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

8. UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

1. **February:** Consideration of Professional Service Agreements for Development and Implementation of I-REN Programs:
 - a. Public Sector Energy Efficiency Program Services
 - b. Building Upgrade Concierge Software Development Services
 - c. Codes & Standards Program
 - d. Portfolio-wide Marketing & Communication

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for discussion at future Committee meetings.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members are invited to announce items / activities which may be of general interest to the Committee.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next I-REN Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., on the Zoom platform with the option for Committee members to attend in-person.

12. ADJOURNMENT

13. AGENCY ACRONYMS

Inland Regional Energy Network Acronym Guide:

3C-REN – Tri-County Regional Energy Network (Counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo)
ABAL – Annual Budget Advice Letter
BayREN – Bay Area Regional Energy Network (nine county REN in Northern California)
BUC – Building Upgrade Concierge
C&S – Codes & Standards
CAEECC – California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee
CalChoice – California Choice Energy Authority
CARB – California Air Resources Board
CCA – Community Choice Aggregator
CCEC – California Climate & Energy Collaborative
CEC – California Energy Commission
COG - Council of Government
CPA – Clean Power Alliance
CPUC – California Public Utilities Commission
CVAG – Coachella Valley Association of Governments
DAC – Disadvantaged Communities
DACAG – Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group
DCE – Desert Community Energy
DER – Distributed Energy Resources
DOE – U.S Department of Energy
EE – Energy Efficiency
EM&V – Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification
HTR – Hard To Reach communities
IOU – Investor-Owned Utility
I-REN – Inland Regional Energy Network

JCM – Joint Cooperation Memorandum
LGSEC – Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition
LGP – Local Government Partnership
MOA – Memorandum of Agreement
NEBs – Non-energy Benefits
NMEC – Normalized Metered Energy Consumption
NREL – U.S Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory
PG&E – Pacific Gas & Electric
PA – Program Administrator
POU – Publicly Owned Utility
REN – Regional Energy Network
SBCOG – San Bernardino Council of Governments
SCE – Southern California Edison
SCG / SoCalGas – Southern California Gas Company
SDG&E – San Diego Gas & Electric
SoCalREN – Southern California Regional Energy Network (all of southern California, administered by Los Angeles County)
TA – Technical Assistance
TRC – Total Resources Cost
WE&T – Workforce Education & Training
WRCOG – Western Riverside Council of Governments



Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Assembly Bill 361 Findings

Contact: Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, kwilson@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6701

Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Affirm the findings of the I-REN Executive Committee in Resolution Number 01-22, adopted on December 13, 2022, which are:
 - a. The Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which State of Emergency continues to exist today; and
 - b. State or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing.
-

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to authorize virtual Committee meetings pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

Background:

Since the onset of the COVID-19 in early 2020, California government agencies have been able to continue to discharge their legal responsibilities through the use of virtual teleconferencing platforms such as Zoom to hold public meetings that enabled agencies to meet and conduct business, comply with social distancing orders, and most importantly, provide access to the public. WRCOG has been meeting on Zoom since March of 2020, when many Executive Orders were issued by Governor Newsom in response to the pandemic. One such order altered Brown Act requirements to allow for virtual meetings.

Although transmission, hospitalization, and death rates from COVID-19 have sharply declined since the original onset of the pandemic and subsequent Delta and Omicron Variant surges, an air of uncertainty remains regarding the pandemic and many counties continue to recommend masking inside and social distancing. Given that environment and a desire to continue allowing for the flexibility of holding virtual meetings, the Legislature recently approved, and Governor Newsom signed, Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) to temporarily allow for virtual meetings under proscribed circumstances.

AB 361 amends the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to continue using teleconferencing and virtual meeting technology in certain circumstances. Under the Bill, legislative bodies can continue to meet remotely as long as there is a "proclaimed state of emergency" and the Executive Committee can make either of the following findings: (a) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or (b) whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Even though cases have dropped, AB 361 is expressly intended "to protect the health and safety of civil servants and the public and does not preference the experience of members of the public who might be able to attend a meeting in a physical

location over members of the public who cannot travel or attend that meeting in a physical location" because of physical status.

The Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to exist to this day.

AB 361 requires specific procedural safeguards for the public. To accommodate individuals during these teleconferences and virtual meetings, a public comment period will be offered where the public can address the legislative body directly in real time. Additionally, public comments will be allowed up until the public comment period is closed at the meetings. The agenda will include information on the manner in which the public may access the meeting and provide comments remotely. If technical problems arise that result in the public's access being disrupted, the legislative body will not take any vote or other official action until the technical disruption is corrected and public access is restored.

The attached Resolution allows the Executive Committee to implement AB 361 by making the findings discussed above. These findings will be in effect for 30 days or until the Executive Committee makes findings that the conditions listed therein no longer exist, whichever is shorter. The findings can be extended by the Executive Committee upon a finding that conditions supporting the findings included in the Resolution still exist. The authorization to meet remotely will also apply to any Committees that meet during the 30-day effective period.

AB 361 will allow for virtual meetings during other state-proclaimed emergencies, such as earthquakes or wildfires, where physical attendance may present a risk. AB 361 is scheduled to sunset January 1, 2024.

Prior Action(s):

December 13, 2022: The Executive Committee adopted Resolution Number 01-22; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Inland Regional Energy Network authorizing virtual Committee meetings pursuant to AB 361.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

[Attachment 1 - Resolution Number 01-22; AB 361 findings](#)

RESOLUTION NUMBER 01-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK AUTHORIZING VIRTUAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361

WHEREAS, the Inland Regional Energy Network ("I-REN") is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, as a "legislative body" under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963) and as required by the MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT NO. 22-1002767 BY AND BETWEEN COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND SAN BERNARDINO ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS AND WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR 2022-2027 INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (I-REN), all meetings of I-REN's Executive Committee are open and public so that any member of the public may attend and participate in WRCOG's meetings; and

WHEREAS, starting in March 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19 in the State of California, the Governor issued a number of executive orders aimed at containing the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, among other things, these orders waived certain requirements of the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies to meet virtually; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's executive order related to the suspension of certain provisions of the Brown Act expired on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361 (in effect as of October 1, 2021 – Government Code Section 54953(e)), which allows legislative bodies to meet virtually provided there is a state of emergency, and either (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (2) the legislative body determines by majority vote that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in I-REN, specifically, a State of Emergency has been proclaimed related to COVID-19 and state or local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the Inland Regional Energy Network as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Findings. Consistent with the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), the Executive Committee finds and determines that (1) a State of Emergency related to COVID-19 is currently in effect and (2) state or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19.

Section 3. Remote Teleconference Meetings. Based on the findings and determinations included herein, the Executive Committee will conduct remote teleconference meetings under the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e) and shall provide public access to its meetings as provided in Section 54953(e).

Section 4. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption and shall be effective for 30 days unless extended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee in accordance with Section 5 of this Resolution.

Section 5. Extension by Motion; Supersede. The Executive Committee may extend the application of this Resolution by motion and majority vote by up to 30 days at a time, provided that it makes all necessary findings consistent with and pursuant to the requirements of Section 54953(e)(3). Any such extension may be made before or after the expiration of the preceding 30-day period.

Section 6. Full and Fair Access. In making the findings included herein, the Executive Committee specifically relies on Section 8(b) of Statutes 2021, c.165 (AB 361, § 3, effective September 16, 2021) which provides as follows:

(b) The Legislature finds and declares that [the changes made by AB 361 to] Section 54953 of the Government Code, all increase and potentially limit the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

- (1) By removing the requirement that public meetings be conducted at a primary physical location with a quorum of members present, this act protects the health and safety of civil servants and the public and does not preference the experience of members of the public who might be able to attend a meeting in a physical location over members of the public who cannot travel or attend that meeting in a physical location.
- (2) By removing the requirement for agendas to be placed at the location of each public official participating in a public meeting remotely, including from the member's private home or hotel room, this act protects the personal, private information of public officials and their families while preserving the public's right to access information concerning the conduct of the people's business.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Executive Committee of the Inland Regional Energy Network on December 13, 2022.



Crystal Ruiz, Chair
I-REN Executive Committee

Approved as to form:



Steven DeBaun
WRCOG Legal Counsel

AYES: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

I-REN Executive Committee

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the I-REN Executive Committee was called to order by Dr. Kurt Wilson at 2:02 p.m. on December 13, 2022, on the Zoom platform.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee member Oscar Ortiz led the Committee members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- CVAG:
 - City of Indio - Oscar Ortiz
- SBCOG:
 - City of Rialto - Deborah Robertson
 - County of San Bernardino - Curt Hagman
 - Town of Apple Valley - Art Bishop
- WRCOG:
 - City of Corona - Jacque Casillas
 - City of Jurupa Valley - Chris Barajas
 - City of San Jacinto - Crystal Ruiz

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. AB 361 FINDINGS

A. Assembly Bill 361 Findings

Action:

1. Adopted Resolution Number 01-22; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Inland Regional Energy Network authorizing virtual Committee meetings pursuant to AB 361.

RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED

MOVER: Barajas

SECONDER: Ortiz

AYES: Ortiz, Robertson, Hagman, Bishop, Casillas, Barajas, Ruiz

6. SELECTION OF I-REN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

A. Selection of I-REN Executive Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2nd Vice-Chair Positions for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, reported that per the Memorandum of Agreement adopted by each respective Council of Governments (COG), each COG will have up to three votes on voting matters. The leadership positions will serve on annual terms through the fiscal year. As WRCOG serves as the administrative lead of I-REN, staff requests that WRCOG serve as the Chair for the purpose of having closer contact with staff while working through some of the various regulatory and programmatic issues.

Committee member Curt Hagman mentioned the possibility of a rotating Chairmanship.

Committee member Chris Barajas recommended that for this first year, WRCOG serve in the leadership positions and revisit the matter next year.

Committee member Oscar Ortiz asked if I-REN will operate on a calendar or fiscal year.

Mr. Dailey indicated that it will be on a fiscal year, ending in June of each year.

Committee member Ortiz recommended making the first appointment one and a half years.

Legal Counsel Steve DeBaun indicated that the requested action as provided on the agenda is for a period through the end of Fiscal Year 2022/2023, and recommended agendaizing this item again in six months for a continued period of leadership.

Dr. Kurt Wilson asked if the Committee could take another action at its next meeting in January.

Mr. DeBaun responded that it could.

Action:

1. Selected Crystal Ruiz, City of San Jacinto, as Chair; Oscar Ortiz, City of Indio, as Vice-Chair; and Art Bishop, Town of Apple Valley, and 2nd Vice-Chair, to serve through the end of Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED

MOVER: Casillas

SECONDER: Barajas

AYES: Ortiz, Robertson, Hagman, Bishop, Casillas, Barajas, Ruiz

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Regional Energy Networks (RENs) 101

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, provided a detailed presentation on Regional Energy Networks (RENs), which is a Program Administrator of energy efficiency programs funded by ratepayers. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approves budgets and programs and Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) serve as a fiscal agent. A REN is a collaboration of local

governments in a geographic area with regional control over program design and delivery and serves unique needs of geography and demographics. There are currently four RENs operating in the state, with one more anticipated to begin operations soon.

In 2008, the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) and a number of local governments petitioned the CPUC to approve the concept of a REN. A REN would serve as a “one stop shop” for local governments to implement cross-sector energy management strategies, access untapped markets to drive greater reductions in energy use, create jobs, and invest ratepayer funds for energy management benefits in local communities, and complement existing utility programs and better serve unique energy needs in a region.

In 2012, the CPUC authorized two pilot programs - the BayREN (administered by the Association of Bay Area Governments) and the SoCalREN (administered by Los Angeles County). RENs have the same compliance obligations as IOUs. SoCalGas Company is the fiscal agent of I-REN.

There are approximately 13 participating parties in the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) and include IOUs, RENs, Community Choice Aggregators, and ratepayer advocates. CAEECC is a forum to discuss energy efficiency matters with the CPUC.

The purpose of RENs is to fill the gaps by delivering programs that the IOUs or third parties are not adequately serving. RENs are required to serve hard to reach communities, and provide a more holistic solution for customers.

Committee member Oscar Ortiz asked about not being held to cost effectiveness standards.

Mr. Dailey indicated that the CPUC has a formula to determine the cost effectiveness of any project. TRC - Total Resource Cost - is applied to how dollars are spent, particularly related to incentives.

Committee member Curt Hagman would like time to digest the original business contract and the application so the Committee can understand the parameters to work within going forward and would like to have an item agendaized at a future meeting to discuss equal distribution.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

B. History and Background of the Inland Regional Energy Network

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, showed the jurisdictional boundaries of the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN). The purpose of I-REN is to provide programs and services that IOUs are unable to implement, to provide programs and services that serve hard to reach communities, and to develop and implement programs and services that are replicable throughout California.

RENs are funded by California utility ratepayers through the Public Goods charge levied on regular bills by IOUs, such as Southern California Edison (SCE) and SoCal Gas. There is approximately \$600,000,000 available on a statewide basis annually from the Public Goods charge which is allocated to various programs throughout the state. A budget for I-REN was built on equitably, serving all 52

jurisdictions within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, considering estimated costs of services for each jurisdiction (e.g., technical assistance estimated at \$25,000 per jurisdiction). There is no allocation based on county, city, or COG. The I-REN budget was approved by the CPUC based on the need described in the I-REN Business Plan. Services will be provided equally and without prejudice for each participating jurisdiction.

Staff envisions friendly competition amongst the COGs in getting as many of their respective jurisdictions to participate in order to equally serve both counties.

Committee member Jacque Casillas asked what the vision is for friendly competition.

Mr. Dailey responded that an example would be an online dashboard available to everyone who has a login to the I-REN website. The dashboard will show all the cities that have been enrolled and onboarded to I-REN. Benchmarking facilities to track energy consumption is another example. Delivering projects to save energy is yet another example; aggregating all of the participating agencies, and then separating the data, will show total energy savings, which is the ultimate goal.

Committee member Curt Hagman applauded Mr. Dailey's efforts to have the Inland Empire removed from under the L.A. County REN, and indicated that down the road, if the resources are not balanced out, it could cause difficulties. This Committee needs time to discuss the best interest of the two Counties and then create a policy direction that staff can execute.

Committee member Deborah Robertson proposed finding a day to hold a retreat to understand the objection and intentions of I-REN.

Mr. Dailey continued that on December 3, 2018, WRCOG's Executive Committee authorized a joint cooperative agreement amongst WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG to move forward with the coordination and development of a REN between the three agencies. On May 6, 2019, WRCOG's Executive Committee authorized the execution and submittal of a Professional Services Agreement with Frontier Energy & Bluepoint Planning for the development of a Business Plan, or application, to the CPUC to establish the Inland Regional Energy Network, or I-REN. On February 26, 2021, the I-REN Business Plan was submitted to the CPUC for consideration to authorize I-REN as a Program Administrator in the state of California, thereby enabling access to the Public Goods Charge funds administered by the CPUC, and in November 2021, the CPUC approved I-REN's Business Plan; I-REN then became a Program Administrator (PA).

I-REN's mission is to actively participate in California's Clean Energy initiatives and build a stronger clean energy economy and community. Its vision is to connect residents, business, and local government to a wide range of energy efficiency resources to increase energy savings and equitable access throughout both Counties. This will all be accomplished by focusing on three sectors: 1) Public Sector; 2) Workforce Education & Training; and 3) Codes & Standards. Each of these sectors have gaps of services currently offered by local IOUs. I-REN will not serve residential, commercial, or industrial programs.

The I-REN Executive Committee will manage and direct program implementation. WRCOG serves as the administrative lead. Each sector will have a Coordinating Committee.

Committee member Hagman asked if the CPUC approved the three sectors.

Mr. Dailey responded that each sector has been approved by the CPUC through 2027. If staff were directed to go beyond the three sectors, a new business plan would be prepared that would include a new sector(s).

Committee member Hagman recommended letting the Committee determine the breadth of matters to tackle and how to allocate those resources.

Mr. Dailey shared the services proposed to be offered to I-REN members. Technical assistance would include deep dive energy audits, energy modeling, benchmarking of facilities, support with project Request for Proposals (RFPs), and more. This will be provided at no cost via their participation through I-REN. Staff are proposing energy accreditation services and continued education for existing professionals, as well as other items, to include a Fellowship Program.

In August 2022, staff released four RFPs for the I-REN sectors. Staff plans to present the proposals to this Committee for consideration at its January meeting.

Committee member Hagman asked how the vendors were selected and what the appeal process is for those vendors not selected.

Mr. Dailey responded that staff amongst all three COGs participated in the interview and selection process of 12 bids / vendors. The plan is to present four vendors for approval at the January meeting. At that time, any vendors who were not selected would have the opportunity to protest and/or file an appeal.

Based on the discussion of the Committee members, the meeting in January would focus on the I-REN Business Plan and the proposals would be deferred for consideration until February.

Next steps include the following:

February 2023 - Award four Professional Services Agreements for I-REN implementation services: Public Sector, Building Upgrade Concierge, Codes & Standards, and Marketing & Outreach.

January 2023 – Launch www.IREN.gov.

January 2023 – Convene I-REN Strategic Plan sessions / workshop.

January / February 2023 – Establish I-REN Working Groups.

February 2023 – Develop I-REN branding.

March 2023 – Public Sector member onboarding.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

C. Approval of I-REN Executive Committee 2023 Meeting Schedule

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, reported that staff are proposing that this Committee meet on a quarterly basis on the third Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Committee members discussed the proposed schedule and the possibility of holding a workshop prior to the January 17, 2023, meeting.

Action:

1. Dedicated the January 17, 2023, meeting to further discuss the I-REN and the involvement of all partner agencies, and adopt a meeting schedule at that time.

RESULT: APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED

MOVER: Casillas

SECONDER: Ortiz

AYES: Ortiz, Hagman, Bishop, Casillas, Barajas, Ruiz. Robertson did not respond.

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Ruiz thanked staff for all of their work on this endeavor.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee member Curt Hagman would like to have an item agendized at a future meeting to discuss equal distribution.

Committee member Art Bishop would like the following discussions to occur at the January meeting: distribution of funds, administrative fee cap of 10%, and voting & possible disparity.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next I-REN Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2023, on the Zoom platform with the option for Committee members to attend in-person.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.



Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Recap of Regulatory and Policy History of I-REN's Formation
Contact: Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, kwilson@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6701
Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide a summary recap of the regulatory and policy history on the formation of the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN).

Background:

The launch of the I-REN and kickoff of the I-REN Executive Committee marks the transition from staff-driven preparations to Committee-driven implementation. The preparation phase has included a series of actions from the elected leadership of each I-REN member agency along with substantial contributions from staff of each member agency. These efforts have spanned more than four years and included several changes of elected officials and key staff within the agencies. This item will include a brief recap of some of the key milestones and deliverables that have taken place during this pre-launch period. It is intended to ensure a consistent level of familiarity to provide a uniform foundation as the Committee begins the process of determining the future of I-REN.

Six key documents define the initial regulatory and policy basis of I-REN:

1. Cost Sharing Cooperative Agreement
2. Business Plan
3. Joint Cooperation Memo
4. Memorandum of Agreement
5. Governance and Operation Rules
6. Programs Agreement

Each of these documents will be referenced in the presentation and, with one exception, each is included as an attachment to this Staff Report for easy access. The exception is the Business Plan, which is included in Item 6.B of this agenda. Rather than being duplicated in both agenda items, it is only included once due to the large file size.

Collectively, these documents form the starting point of the I-REN governance environment to-date. They serve as the starting point from which the newly formed Committee can begin its efforts of setting the

tone, direction, and goals of the I-REN. The relationships among the various documents, along with information about the timing, approving authority, and document purpose will be briefly discussed during the presentation.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

[Attachment 1 - Cost Sharing Cooperative Agreement](#)

[Attachment 2 - Joint Cooperation Memo](#)

[Attachment 3 - Memorandum of Agreement & Governance and Operations Rules](#)

[Attachment 4 - Programs Agreement](#)

[Attachment 5 - I-REN Intro Infographic](#)

Attachment 1

Cost Sharing Cooperative Agreement

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. 19-1002238
BY AND BETWEEN
COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
SAN BERNARDINO ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
AND
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FOR
REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (REN) DEVELOPMENT WITH FRONTIER
ENERGY, INC.

THIS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ("Contract") is made and entered into by and between the Coachella Valley Association of Governments ("CVAG"), whose address is 73-710 Fred Waring Dr #200, Palm Desert, CA 92660; San Bernardino Associated Governments ("SANBAG"), whose address is 1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, California 92410-1715; and the Western Riverside Council of Governments ("WRCOG"), whose address is 3390 University Ave Suite #200, Riverside, California 92501. The CVAG, SANBAG and WRCOG are each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties."

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2019, WRCOG contracted with Frontier Energy, Inc. ("VENDOR") to conduct a business plan development for the implementation of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties; and

WHEREAS, VENDOR's work is described in Attachment A and is defined as the "PROJECT"; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to enter into this Contract to delineate roles, responsibilities, and funding commitments relative to the PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, CVAG and SANBAG have requested WRCOG to coordinate the PROJECT.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

I. WRCOG RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. To designate a Project Manager to represent WRCOG through whom all communications between the Parties shall be channeled.

- B. To provide CVAG and SANBAG with a proposed project schedule to complete the PROJECT.
- C. To include CVAG and SANBAG in Project Development Team (PDT) meetings and related communications on PROJECT progress as well as to provide CVAG and SANBAG with copies of PDT meeting minutes and action items.
- D. To make all PROJECT work performed available for review and comment by CVAG and SANBAG.
- E. To invoice CVAG and SANBAG on a quarterly basis for funds sufficient to cover the costs for the specific payment period.

II. CVAG AND SANBAG RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. To designate a responsible staff member that will be each Party's respective representative for purposes of attending the PDT meetings, receiving day-to-day communication and reviewing the PROJECT documents.
- B. To be responsible for payment of a total amount not to exceed \$50,000 (fifty-thousand) each for CVAG's and SANBAG's respective portion of the PROJECT, and to pay WRCOG's invoices within sixty (60) days of receipt.

III. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. The scope of the PROJECT is depicted in Attachment A, which is attached to this Contract and by this reference is incorporated herein.
- B. CVAG and SANBAG agree WRCOG is coordinating completion of PROJECT. Estimated costs to complete the PROJECT are included as Attachment B to this Contract.
- C. Neither CVAG, SANBAG, nor any officer, director, employee or agent thereof, is responsible for any injury, damage or liability occurring or arising by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by WRCOG under or in connection with any work, authority or jurisdiction delegated to WRCOG under this Contract. It is understood and agreed that, pursuant to Government Code Section 895.4, WRCOG shall fully defend, indemnify and save harmless CVAG, SANBAG, and their officers, directors, employees or agents from all claims, suits or actions of every name, kind and description brought for or on account of injury (as defined by Government Code Section 810.8) occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by WRCOG under or in connection with any work, authority or jurisdiction delegated to WRCOG under this Contract. WRCOG shall include this requirement in its contract with VENDOR.
- D. The term of the Contract shall continue in full force and effect through completion and closeout of the PROJECT or on June 30, 2021, whichever is earlier in time. Should any claims arising out of the PROJECT be asserted against one or more of the PARTIES, the

PARTIES agree to extend the fixed termination date of this Contract until such time as the claims are settled, dismissed or paid.

- E. WRCOG shall require VENDOR to name CVAG and SANBAG as additional insureds under any applicable insurance policies that WRCOG requires VENDOR to obtain and maintain for work under its contract with WRCOG.
- F. The signatories hereto warrant that they are duly authorized to execute this Contract on behalf of said Parties and that, by so executing this Contract, the Parties hereto are formally bound to this Contract.
- G. Except on subjects preempted by Federal law, this Contract shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. All Parties agree to follow all local, state, and federal laws and ordinances with respect to the performance under this Contract.
- H. The Parties agree that they shall maintain and make available for inspection all books, records, papers, accounting records, or other documents pertaining to the performance of the PROJECT, including but not limited to, the costs associated with the PROJECT. The Parties shall make all such items available at their respective offices at reasonable times during the Contract term and for three years from the date of PROJECT completion. The Parties agree that all duly authorized representatives shall have access to the documents during normal business hours.
- I. If any clause or provision of this Contract is illegal, invalid or unenforceable under applicable present or future laws, then it is the intention of the PARTIES that the remainder of this Contract shall not be affected but shall remain in full force and effect.
- J. This Contract can be amended with a written amendment when authorized and duly executed by all Parties.
- K. In the event of litigation arising from this Contract, each Party to this Contract shall bear its own costs, including attorney(s) fees. This provision does not affect the obligations set forth in Sections III. C. and D.
- L. This Contract may be signed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original.
- M. Any notice required or authorized to be given hereunder or any other communications between the Parties provided for under the terms of this Contract shall be in writing, unless otherwise provided for herein, and shall be served personally or by reputable courier or by facsimile addressed to the relevant party at the address/fax number stated below.
- N. Notice given under or regarding this Contract shall be deemed given (a) upon actual delivery, if delivery is personally made; or (b) upon delivery into the United States Mail if delivery is by postage paid certified mail (return receipt requested). Notice shall be sent to the respective Party at the address indicated below or to any other address as a Party may designate from time to time by a notice given in accordance with this paragraph.

To WRCOG	To SANBAG
3390 University Avenue, #200	1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor
Riverside, CA 92501	San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
Attn: Rick Bishop	Attn: Duane Baker
Cc: Barbara Spoonhour	Cc: Procurement Manager
Phone: (951) 405-6700	Phone: (909) 884-8276

To WRCOG	To CVAG
3390 University Avenue, #200	73-710 Fred Waring Dr #200
Riverside, CA 92501	Palm Desert, CA 92260
Attn: Rick Bishop	Attn: Tom Kirk
Cc: Barbara Spoonhour	Cc: Katie Barrows
Phone: (951) 405-6700	Phone: (760) 346-1127

- O. The Recitals stated above are true and correct and are incorporated by this reference into the Contract.
- P. Attachment A and Attachment B are attached to this Contract and by this reference are incorporated herein.
- Q. The Effective Date of this Contract with WRCOG shall be April 4, 2019.

----- **SIGNATURES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE** -----

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Contract on the day and year written below.

WRCOG

By: _____
Rick Bishop
WRCOG Executive Director

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Steven DeBaun
General Counsel

CVAG

By: _____
Tom Kirk
CVAG Executive Director

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Michael Jenkins
General Counsel

CONCURRENCE:

By: _____
TBD

SANBAG

By: _____
Raymond W. Wolfe
Executive Director

Date: 6/30/20

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Julianna K. Tillquist
General Counsel
6/29/2020

CONCURRENCE:

By: _____
Jeffery Hill
Procurement Manager

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Contract on the day and year written below.

WRCOG

By: 
Rick Bishop
WRCOG Executive Director

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Steven DeBaun
General Counsel

CVAG

By: _____
Tom Kirk
CVAG Executive Director

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Michael Jenkins
General Counsel

CONCURRENCE:

By: _____
TBD

SANBAG

By: _____
Raymond W. Wolfe
Executive Director

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Julianna K. Tillquist
General Counsel

CONCURRENCE:

By: _____
Jeffery Hill
Procurement Manager

ATTACHMENT A PROJECT DESCRIPTION

SCOPE OF WORK

Project Understanding and Approach

For more than ten years, the Frontier Energy and Bluepoint Planning Team (hereafter referred to as the Team) has worked with all of the local governments who now form the SoCalREN, BayREN, and 3C-REN. Our Team has been on the journey with them as they started Energy Efficiency programs under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Energy Upgrade California, through the work to secure a long-term role for local governments within the CPUC ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs. This experience has provided insights, understanding, and a unique ability to navigate the complexities to developing a REN Business Plan. Specifically, this experience informs the effort we would undertake with the Client Team, which includes the following key elements:

1. Assessing existing IOU programs in the regions, identifying market needs, determining potential gaps, and potential audiences that fall within the REN criteria. This includes incorporating a strategy that the CPUC, IOUs, and stakeholders will support.
2. Discussing and helping to formulate a general governance and organizational approach for the future REN.
3. Developing a portfolio-level vision, along with sector goals and strategies, including determining which sectors the REN should pursue and the balance of resource and non-resource programs.
4. Refining and quantifying the sector-level approaches and narrative to operationalize the strategies.
5. Establishing appropriate Marketing, Outreach, and Education (ME&O) strategies, Workforce Education and Training (WE&T) support, and evaluation, measurement and verification elements (EM&V).
6. Developing Portfolio level budgets with required cost effectiveness calculations, and appropriate levels of administration, marketing and evaluation budgets.
7. Identifying and refining appropriate metrics in line with approved business plan metrics and the REN focus.

Developing a Business Plan involves wrangling big-picture ideas into actionable documentation. The Team proposes to facilitate two interactive and collaborative in-person work sessions with the Client Team to ideate and then develop an effective and detailed Business Plan outline. During these daylong events, the Team will facilitate the conversation to focus, hone, and refine the proposed sectors, strategies, and goals for the Business Plan.

The Team will work closely with the Client Team to help translate these conversations into a clear Business Plan.

Task 1: Business Plan Development

Regional Energy Networks (RENs) filing Business Plans for the first time as Program Administrators face a complex and comprehensive process that can be hampered by a lack of understanding about the requirements, purpose, and the CPUC's perception of the value of local governments and REN- implemented energy efficiency programs. CPUC guidance in D.15-10-028, D12-11-015, and 16-08-019 provided a process for new RENs to file as Program Administrators, but also refined the parameters that a REN must meet for approval. That process, filing a Business Plan, is a resource intensive, technical undertaking to make the case to CPUC for the need for and adequacy of the proposed REN. Development of a successful Business Plan requires significant upfront planning from the broad, philosophical intent of the REN to the detailed goals and strategies of the individual sectors. In issuing this RFP early in their journey as a REN, WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG exhibit an understanding of the importance of early efforts, which bodes well for the success of this new REN.

Informed by our direct experience developing a successful Business Plan for 3C-REN, the first and only REN authorized after the original Decision 12-05-015, the Team will support the Client Team in identifying the needs of their constituents, gaps in the current energy efficiency offerings, high potential sectors, and an overarching strategy and *raison d'être* for the REN. The Team will develop detailed outlines of the Business Plan and all related submission documents to guide WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG in filling out the details, based on their chosen focus.

On behalf of the Bay Area REN (BayREN), the Tri-County REN (3C-REN), and previously for the Southern California REN (SoCalREN), the Team already coordinates and supports REN technical strategy and positioning within the CPUC's regulatory framework. An important component for the Client Team is to clarify in the Business Plan the technical aspects of RENs' current and future role as successful providers of ratepayer-funded programs. Bluepoint Planning and Frontier Energy both sustain a high level of engagement with the CPUC and its consultants, and will utilize existing connections to advocate on behalf of WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG early and throughout the entire process.

The Team proposes the following REN Business Planning support:

- Review of key legislation and strategy documents, including: AB 758, SB 350, AB 802, AB 793, the California Long Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan, the Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency Plan, and the New Residential and Commercial Building Zero Net Energy Action Plans. Research and identification of high opportunity and hard-to-reach energy savings potential and targets by climate zone, building type, and demographic/customer segments using the California Potential and Goals Study, the California Energy Commission's Residential Appliance Saturation Study and associated Database, the American Community Survey, the Construction Industry Research Board, and other primary and secondary sources and reports.

- Development of program strategy and implementation activities aligned with market characterizations and research into and experience with market barriers for the targeted sectors.
- Development of targets and projections for energy savings and other performance indicators from identified implementation activities based upon participating buildings.
- Development and coordination of program budgets.
- Coordination and support through the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) on behalf of the RENs with the IOUs and other key stakeholders to advance REN interests in the Business Planning process, understand stakeholder concerns and objectives for program activities, and adjust proposed REN Business Plan strategies accordingly.

Key Deliverables:

- Kick-off meeting and strategy charette
- Two day-long meetings to develop initial Business Plan content; support for development of budgets; support for development of strategic framework, initial goals and intervention strategies; support for development of detailed sector strategies and narratives
- Draft and Final Business Plan chapters

Task 2: California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division support

As a new Program Administrator, developing key relationships and allies within CPUC and with other stakeholders is an essential part of the Team's strategy for REN development. It's critical that the Client Team develop these relationships and have an active presence with the CPUC. To support the long-term success of the REN, the Team plans to use its connections and experience to support the Client Team's staff in representing the REN at key meetings.

Gaining authorization as a REN does not begin with submission of necessary documents. The Team proposes to orchestrate introductions and stakeholder buy-in between the REN and key CPUC Energy Division staff including those overseeing RENs, reporting, and other relevant departments. Likewise, to mitigate intervenor protests or other forms of opposition, we propose to facilitate early discussions between known groups who may challenge the creation of this REN.

Frontier Energy has notable experience in regulatory support for proceedings at the CPUC and Energy Commission. On behalf of the BayREN, 3C-REN, and previously the SoCalREN, Frontier Energy has supported reporting, filing, and many other necessary data exchanges to meet CPUC requirements. Thanks to our successful experience operating within the CPUC framework, the Team will provide time- and cost-effective guidance on planning and execution of filings to minimize supplemental filings and informal requests for more information. Further, BluePoint Planning's location in the Bay Area can serve to facilitate in-person meetings with

CPUC when needed. BluePoint currently provides ongoing coordination and strategic support to the three RENs through monthly coordination calls, including alignment of regulatory comments, identification of potential opportunities and relevant new proceedings for the RENs, and joint communications and messaging to the CPUC and key decision makers. As the newest REN contender, the Client Team would be welcomed and encouraged to join these conversations to learn directly from existing RENs.

The Team proposes the following key services and products for regulatory proceeding support:

- Support Client Team's discussion and negotiate Business Plan comments and revisions with CPUC staff.
- Track, research, and analyze regulatory and legislative proceedings.
- Provide guidance on regulatory proceedings including drafting comments, responses, and addressing protests.
- Develop and implement reporting protocols and schedules; coordinate and oversee reporting activities with program implementers.
- Support client counsel with inputs to regulatory filing protocol.

Key Deliverables:

- Reporting protocol and schedule development
- Guidance to prepare for CPUC meetings

Task 3: Data Analysis / Market Analysis

One of the keys to a successful Business Plan is developing a strong case for the REN's existence based on accurate, relevant data. Data and market analysis provide the basis for the REN's strategy to meet the CPUC's standard of review for Regional Energy Networks. That standard requires RENs to undertake activities that 1) utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake, 2) pilot activities for which there is no current utility program and that have to potential to scale to a broader geography and 3) pilot activities in hard-to-reach markets. In the Team's experience, the data to support this framework comes from a variety of sources and requires an experienced team to analyze, interpret, and transform it into a cohesive part of a Business Plan.

Leveraging our previous experience, the Team—in collaboration with the CVAG, SBCOG and WRCOG— will conduct market analysis, including market characterization. We will support IOU and County department data requests and will analyze the data received to determine how it fits into developing and fulfilling the overall Business Plan strategy.

This analysis should be undertaken in two steps: 1. An initial, less detailed market scan and evaluation of IOU programs to inform a gaps analysis; 2. A more detailed data analysis of the specific sectors that will be proposed to support the Business Plan.

The Team proposes the following key services and products for data and market analysis:

- Conduct an initial market scan and develop a gaps analysis.
- Support the Client Team in identifying the key data points necessary to support REN authorization, including market characterization and barriers.
- Identify and assess the appropriate resources to obtain data.
- Support requests from REN staff to stakeholders.
- Perform analysis on raw data received.
- Synthesize and present findings to REN staff.
- Incorporate results of the analysis into the Business Plan strategy and outline.

Key Deliverables:

- Initial market scan for gaps analysis
- Written market assessment for incorporation into Business Plan

Task 4: California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC) Stakeholder support

Similar to the Team's proposed approach with the CPUC, the Team proposes to support the Client Team with introductions and context for navigating the CAEECC stakeholder process. The Team will maintain a calendar of key dates and deadlines, a roster of key stakeholders, and will manage the review cycle. However, the Client Team should remain the face of the REN with the CAEECC. The Team will instead serve an advisory/consultative role to help prepare and guide the Client Team staff.

The Team will also support with framing responses to comments received during the CAEECC process. As with any stakeholder process, public comments can vary in detail and technical scope. We will support the Client Team in determining the best process to address all comments received, whether in the Business Plan or elsewhere. The Team has the experience to identify which feedback items are critical for implementation, and which feedback items are helpful as general guidance that can be considered for future activities. The Team's goal when responding to feedback is to stay focused on meeting the near-term milestones for approval, without losing track of big-picture goals and opportunities.

The Team has been part of the CAEECC stakeholder process since CAEECC's inception. We have helped 3C-REN position itself for launch as a REN and guided it through its stakeholder engagement process into approval, and supported both SoCalREN and BayREN as they navigated later steps in the CAEECC cycle. Our experience has shown that while RENs do not have the same resources as IOUs when working with the CAEECC, RENs can still focus their efforts wisely to successfully provide updates, gather feedback, and iterate their plans in alignment with CPUC direction. With our experience, the REN will enter CAEECC meetings prepared and confident, without requiring extensive over-preparation or IOU-level staff resources.

That said, even with strategic counsel and support, the Client Team should anticipate that the CAEECC process can be lengthy, and that sometimes minor requests from the CAEECC can result in significant delays. Notably, the CAEECC full meetings occur only quarterly, and the Client Team should anticipate providing updates at least twice prior to submitting formal paperwork for CPUC approval, and potentially more often. The Team will advise the Client Team on the best way to coordinate the CAEECC process and manage timeline expectations accordingly.

The Team proposes the following key services and products for CAEECC support:

- Provide strategic guidance on managing key CAEECC processes.
- Provide introductions and context on CAEECC stakeholders.
- Support WRCOG, CVAG and SBCOG in preparing for representation at CAEECC meetings, including coordinating planning meetings.
- Maintain a schedule of key dates and deadlines, including managing an internal development schedule, to ensure the REN is prepared for all key deliverables.
- Support the REN in determining responses to comments received during the CAEECC process.

Key Deliverables:

- Schedule of key dates and deadlines for CAEECC process
- Support for CAEECC meeting preparation
- Support in responding to CAEECC feedback

**ATTACHMENT B
PROJECT COST ESTIMATE**

			TOTAL
SANBAG			\$50,000
WRCOG			\$50,000
CVAG			\$50,000
TOTAL			\$150,000

Attachment 2

Joint Cooperation Memo

Inland Regional Energy
Network, Southern California
Edison, SoCalGas®, and Southern
California Regional Energy
Network

2022 Joint Cooperation Memo

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I. SUMMARY OF I-REN, SOCALREN, SCE, AND SOCALGAS PORTFOLIO COORDINATION

D.18-05-041 and D.21-11-013 require Program Administrators (PAs) to submit a joint cooperation memorandum (JCM) between Energy Efficiency (EE) PAs with overlapping service areas. Specifically, the directive states: “We will require the PAs (RENs, IOUs, and CCAs) to develop a joint cooperation memo to demonstrate how they will avoid or minimize duplication for programs that address a common sector (e.g., residential or commercial) but pursue different activities, pilots that are intended to test new or different delivery models for scalability, and/or programs that otherwise exhibit a high likelihood of overlap or duplication and are not targeted at hard-to-reach customers. For such programs, each PA must explicitly identify and discuss how its activities are complementary and not duplicative of other PAs’ planned activities.”¹

The I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas’ (hereinafter referred to as the “Joint PAs”) 2022 portfolio will focus on collaboration with respect to the Joint PAs’ overlapping territories, as I-REN begins to contract implementers and launch its first ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs as a new PA. As part of the Joint PAs’ focused transition to performance-based and comparatively cost-effective and cost-efficient 2022 portfolios, the Joint PAs will be deepening collaboration to ensure that their respective overlapping regional programs do not result in unnecessary duplication or cause customer confusion. PAs can derive additional value by providing information and referrals to programs across all program implementers, including those outside each other’s implementation focus.

¹ See D.18-05-041, p. 97

In addition, the Joint PAs will use 2022 to continue to conduct ongoing performance assessments, introduce program administrative and implementation adjustments to reduce costs and increase energy savings, and optimize performance of all their portfolios.

Details on how each of the Joint PAs' overlapping sector programs will collaborate between each PA, as necessary to comply with the Commission's directives, are provided below in the following section.

II. SUMMARY OF I-REN BUSINESS PLAN SECTORS

A. PUBLIC SECTOR

I-REN's public sector offerings will serve the members of the three Councils of Government (COGs) represented in I-REN, including the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), and the cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribal communities they represent. These regional programs will target, but not be limited to, upgrades to existing public buildings and facilities with high energy use and older equipment. While the offerings will consider all public building types, there will be a focus on community-serving buildings such as community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings. Through energy efficiency projects in these facilities, I-REN can provide benefits that will flow to disadvantaged, low income, and other vulnerable communities. The I-REN programs will be multi-beneficial in nature, layering energy efficiency strategies with greenhouse gas reductions, community resilience and climate adaptation measures.

I-REN's local governments have limited capacity to complete energy upgrades and are challenged to maintain and upgrade these facilities due to lack of funding for capital

improvements, a lack of awareness related to energy efficiency and other energy efficiency program opportunities, limited time and staff resources, along with conflicting priorities. Further, State mandates such as building energy benchmarking (AB 802) requirements, energy code compliance, and climate adaptation planning are additional unfunded regulations and requirements on local governments and are difficult to meet given competing priorities. These challenges are exacerbated now due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the associated economic downturn and increased pressure on local government agencies to respond to a variety of issues.

To address these challenges, I-REN will leverage its existing public sector partnerships and networks across the region to offer technical assistance, implement resource program options, and improve access to financing. Implementing these initiatives will further I-REN's goals of encouraging resilience and continuous capacity building for local governments, thereby strengthening their ability to serve their community through energy efficiency projects in their own facilities, while also saving on building operations costs and contributing to local and statewide goals for energy savings, climate resilience, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

1. Summary of I-REN's Public Sector Program Objectives

- a. Local governments have support and resources to develop and implement their strategic energy plans and energy efficiency projects.
- b. Help local governments afford and finance a range of energy efficiency upgrades through innovative financing options.

B. CODES AND STANDARDS SECTOR

I-REN is proposing a dynamic and targeted set of offerings for the Codes and Standards (C&S) Sector to assist its local government agencies in better understanding and enforcing

energy building codes. The I-REN's Codes and Standards program (IREN-CS-001) will consist of two components: training and education, and technical support. In addition, I-REN will support the region's building industry to better conform to and implement these codes. This could include but is not limited to identifying gaps in training and education and code compliance, supporting enforcement, and working with the Statewide IOU C&S Compliance Improvement Team to ensure that statewide, CEC-vetted, consistent support is provided to their constituents. I-REN may also offer outreach for compliance support to non-electric IOU areas served by SoCalGas that include the City of Riverside and the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) service area. Should I-REN serve areas that are served by a single IOU, I-REN will coordinate with SoCalGas as the fiscal and contracting agent. Compliance with California Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) and California Green Building Standards Code (Title 24, Part 11) is required for new construction of, and additions and alterations to, residential and nonresidential buildings.

The authorities having jurisdiction or "AHJs" that provide permits for these projects and enforce codes and standards are found at the city and county level and are expected to enforce the California Energy Code without additional state budget resources. Increased contractor compliance with the Energy Code, particularly related to residential HVAC, is identified as an important strategy to increase energy efficiency and home safety. The CEC has established a goal to increase compliance by 80% by 2021.²

Energy code enforcement has historically been difficult for local jurisdictions, particularly smaller communities with fewer resources. Conflicting priorities and a focus on life

² California Energy Commission, "2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan," December 2019, page 40.

and safety codes relegates energy code to a secondary (or tertiary) position. I-REN's service territory includes many AHJs that face significant challenges in enforcing energy codes and standards with their current resources and capacity. These jurisdictions are small in population size, geographically dispersed, challenged by extreme climate conditions, and disadvantaged by pollution and other factors. I-REN has significant opportunity to support compliance and enforcement, to ensure building department knowledge, awareness, and realization of energy-savings measures.

As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can provide flexible and adaptable solutions to help bridge the gap and assist local jurisdictions, including but not limited to jurisdictions outside of IOU service areas . I-REN's C&S initiatives will offer locally focused training, education, and tools to support codes and standards implementation, gap filling, code enforcement, and compliance activities. Locally-focused training and educational resources will be informed by and targeted specifically to address the needs of jurisdictions in the region, which will be identified during activities related to Tactic 3.3.1: Identify and address the areas of greatest need for improved code compliance, in collaboration with local governments and the building industry, as described in I-REN's Business Plan³ approved in D.21-11-013. To ensure statewide consistency in compliance improvement support I-REN will coordinate and collaborate with the IOU C&S team.

³ Motion of the Western Riverside Council of Governments on Behalf of the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), for Approval of its Energy Efficiency Rolling Portfolio Business Plan and Budget, p. 3.20.

1. Summary of I-REN's Codes and Standards Program Objectives

- a) Improve the understanding of energy efficiency and fuel substitution codes and standards among local building departments and the building industry to increase implementation and compliance.
- b) Make code compliance a valuable element of the region's energy efficiency and decarbonization goal attainment with engagement regionwide.
- c) Deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout.

C. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTOR

The I-REN's Workforce Education and Training program (IREN-WET-001) will consist of two components: training and education, and workforce development. Workforce Education and Training (WE&T) initiatives may now be more important than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic the U.S. faced for the majority of 2020 and continued to face throughout 2021. As a locally-focused and locally-led advocate for economic development in the Inland Empire, I-REN is distinct in its ability to respond to this crisis and help support the region's recovery. The COGs that make up I-REN's governing agencies have direct connections to local governments and community stakeholders to make this effort as effective as possible.

Agility and collaboration will be required to mount a response to the economic devastation caused by the pandemic. I-REN, as a consortium of San Bernardino and Riverside government representatives, can effectively link to local needs, workforce providers, and employers to create a more robust environment for job creation and skills development. Employment and training are issues that have specific opportunities and challenges that need to

be addressed by those who are in the area and connected directly to the range of potential actors. This is also a long-term need that will require relationship building and trust building with underserved communities, and the existing providers.

I-REN will serve as a vital link between workforce skills and training providers such as community colleges and employers to build a more robust market and increase the number of skilled EE contractors in the Inland Empire. These activities will promote job market recovery and progress toward statewide goals regarding energy efficiency, air quality, and support for hard-to-reach (HTR), underserved, rural, tribal, and disadvantaged communities (DACs). Both Senate Bill (SB) 350 and SB 535 prioritize these communities for initiatives to improve air quality, increase energy efficiency, and address economic conditions. SB 350 emphasizes workforce development and increased project penetration in underserved communities.⁴ I-REN has an opportunity to support these goals through its WE&T initiatives.

1. Summary of I-REN's Workforce and Education Sector Program Objectives

- a. Create a robust local network of training programs that increase capacity, knowledge, and awareness of energy efficiency as a valuable component of the building industry.
- b. Increase the number of skilled energy efficiency workers in the region.

⁴ California Senate Bill 350, Sec. 8.25943.a.1;.c.7-8.

III. SUMMARY OF I-REN PORTFOLIO OF PROGRAMS OFFERED FOR 2022 AND COMPARABLE PARTNER PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS 2022 PROGRAMS

A. PUBLIC SECTOR—TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND STRATEGIC ENERGY PLANNING – IREN-PUBL-001

I-REN's Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program will provide short-term and mid-term technical support for local governments, special districts, school districts, and tribes to increase energy efficiency in publicly-owned facilities. The program will provide additional support and technical services to design high performing, energy efficient buildings.

The program will implement a strategy of developing a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements. I-REN will provide person-to-person support for local governments to get higher levels of assistance and support for their energy efficiency projects, through concierge-style support to help fill gaps in staff capacity and resources at these local government jurisdictions.

I-REN's technical assistance support will build local government's capacity to tackle complex projects, from helping with benchmarking to navigating options and approaches for maximizing their investments and energy savings. I-REN will offer person-to-person support to help these local governments in making efficient equipment purchases and to implement energy efficiency projects. Resulting energy bill savings will benefit local governments and contribute to both local and statewide goals for energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction.

I-REN will also develop or enhance strategic energy plans to connect local government goals related to climate, resilience, and economic development to energy efficiency programs and adoption. Through this tactic I-REN will assess the current state of strategic energy planning and provide technical assistance to begin the process or help move the process forward, working in collaboration with jurisdiction stakeholders.

In addition, I-REN will create resources for the public sector to tap into EE and distributed energy resources programs offered by other providers and IOUs, acting as a clearinghouse for information about energy efficiency programs available in the region for the public sector, and will create and promote tools and resources to increase energy efficiency program participation among their constituents.

1. Summary of I-REN’s Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program Objectives

- a) Local governments have support and resources to develop and implement their strategic energy plans and energy efficiency projects.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs’ respective Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning programs.

Table 1: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE Local Public Third-Party Program	SoCalGas
Target Audience(s)	- Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino - Cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, tribal communities - Disadvantaged, low income, other vulnerable communities - Community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, fire and police buildings - Educational institutions	All eligible Public Agencies served by SCE and/or SCG including: Cities, counties, tribes, K-12 schools, local governments, hospitals and hospital districts, water districts, wastewater districts, sanitation districts, ports, airports, and other special districts.	The program design for SCE's Local Public Sector Third-Party Program is not yet available. The Advice Letter (AL) for SCE's Local Public Sector Third-Party Program is being submitted in Q1 2022, and is pending review and approval from the CPUC. Program design will be available upon approval of the AL.	Eligible Public Sector customers which include cities, counties, public agencies, special districts (public water districts, health districts, waste treatment/water districts, etc.), K-12 school districts, High Education (UC/CSU, Community Colleges) and federal entities (federal agencies, US military facilities and Indian tribes) DAC/HTR Communities, Low income communities
Resource or Non-Resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Resource	Resource and non-resource
Eligible Measures	n/a	n/a	TBD	Deemed and custom measures
2022 Budget	\$3,102,902	\$12,240,078*	\$5,181,133*	\$8,278,856 *

* SoCalREN, SCE and SoCalGas 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

I-REN will offer person-to-person concierge technical support services to serve the needs of public sector customers in its territory, including but not limited to strategic energy planning

and procurement and project management assistance. I-REN will focus on underserved local governments including tribal communities with targeted non-resource efforts to drive participation to IOU programs and use information technology to help improve public sector customers' and local governments' access to energy efficiency opportunities. While the program will be open to all public building types, there will be a focus on community-serving buildings such as community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings. I-REN will leverage its existing public sector partnerships and networks across the region to deliver personalized services through this program. Location of services in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, especially in underserved jurisdictions, and a more localized focus will differentiate I-REN's program from other comparable offerings.

The following table compares the key program parameters of PAs' public sector technical assistance and strategic energy planning programs.

Table 2: Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program Comparison

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Types of Public Agencies Served	- Members of the I-REN COGs, counties, cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribal communities - Hard-to-reach, disadvantaged, low income, and other vulnerable communities - Public sector facilities, community centers, libraries,	All eligible Public Agencies including but not limited to: - Cities - Counties - Water/ wastewater Districts - K–12 schools - Special Districts - Tribes	- Local Governments - Federal Government - Special Districts - Tribal Governments (non-residential only) - Public and Private Education limited to: - K-12 schools, both public and private	- All eligible Public Agencies that include cities, counties, various public agencies, special districts, K-12 schools, CA State agencies and high-ed institutions (by SW Programs); federal agencies and Indian tribes - DAC/HTR Communities, Low-income customers/communities (by SoCalGas' Low Income Programs)

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings • Educational institutions		universities, colleges, and trade schools	
Resource/ Non-resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Resource	Resource and non-Resource
Procurement Assistance	Support public agency staff in navigating procurement and approval process	Procurement and project delivery option analysis; Access and extensive support to both customized and turnkey procurement approaches for energy projects; Proposal and bid analysis; Development of contractor scope of work with performance specifications; Contractor cost estimate review.	TBD	
Technical Assistance	Strategic energy planning; benchmarking; technical support to assess project options;	Customized technical engineering support from project identification to completion, including investment grade audits to identify all energy saving opportunities, technical performance specifications and	TBD	Technical assistance for EE opportunities and EE project scoping and development; Benchmarking support; Engineering support

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
		provide construction management support.		
Financial Support	Provide information on I-REN financing options and other PA offerings	Financial Analysis for projects to compare different financing options; Support with financing and incentive applications and process; Assistance with non-ratepayer funded financing; Access to financial advisory services.	On-Bill Financing	Support for financing and incentive application through account representatives or 3P Implementers; OBF zero-interest financing; SW Financing offerings
Access to Energy Data	Benchmarking and energy modeling support	Access to on-demand energy data and customized reports to communicate data; Benchmarking support including AB 802 compliance; Detailed facility TOU load profiles and insights.	Energy Data Request Program (EDRP); Green Button Connect My Data; CEC Building Benchmarking (Energy Star Portfolio Manager) support; Energy Atlas/CATALENA	Agency usage-level data on request; Aggregated community data on request (EDRP); Energy Star PM support; Energy Atlas/CATALENA (under development); Automated electronic bill data delivery via secure file transfer protocol
Energy Project Expertise to Implement Projects	Support public agency decisionmakers and staff with concierge-style project management support	Provides support at each stage to each participating agency through an assigned Project Manager along with access to engineering and construction support.	TBD	Technical support for EE projects; 3P Resource Program delivery; 3P Direct Install; Program management support to coordinate technical assistance, leverage available 3P program resources and

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
				engineering services
Community Marketing/Outreach	• Outreach to local jurisdictions and agencies to educate them about the program offerings • Create regionally-focused resources on public sector opportunities • Collaborate with local governments, tribes, and special districts to design and deliver messaging to the community to promote local leadership in energy efficiency	Development and sharing of tools and resources to promote regional and local energy action. Customized support to engage community stakeholders and inspire regional and local energy action; Leverages Regional Partner channels to deliver customized marketing materials adapted to unique community needs.	TBD	Regional Energy Pathways to provide focused outreach and support for all Public Agencies Customized marketing support to engage communities and educate on other EE offerings that includes leveraging Core Program and 3P Program resources 3P programs tailored to Public Sector Funneling SoCalGas Core and 3P program offerings to Public Agencies and the communities served under the jurisdiction
Sharing of Best Practices for Sustainability Efforts	• Convene stakeholders for strategic energy planning • Create local case studies to showcase achievements in the region • Create, distribute and promote regionally-focused tools and resources through e-communicators, social media,	Sub-regional peer-to-peer workshops, Energy Manager Working Groups, and trainings on relevant topics; Access to shared online resources and learning communities; Regular communication and coordination among Regional Partners and Advisory Committee	TBD	Regular communication with customers and engagement in regional events, support and coordinate with 3P programs

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	web, and at in-person events.	members to share activities and best practices.		

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program – Public Agency Energy Efficiency Project Delivery Program (EE PDP)

The SoCalREN Public Agency Energy Efficiency Project Delivery Program (EE PDP) is a program that offers services to identify and complete public sector projects that are customized to meet the unique needs of each agency. The Program provides objective, third-party expertise from project start-to-finish to help agencies implement the best measures to maximize energy cost savings. The SoCalREN Public Agency EE PDP is a market support program that channels projects through utility core and third-party programs as well as SoCalREN resource programs (Metered Savings Program and Streamlined Savings Pathway). In addition, SoCalREN's EE PDP assists in the development and sharing of tools and resources through a peer-to-peer network to inspire local energy action.

Services include:

- Energy portfolio analyses and benchmarking support that help identify potential opportunities
- Start-to-finish project management support
- Facility and equipment energy audits

- Exterior lighting, interior lighting, mechanical, and envelope retrofit technical expertise
- Water and wastewater pumping and process optimization retrofits and other measures
- Retro-commissioning support
- Project financing analysis
- Development of contractor scope of work elements with EE performance specifications
- Access to competitively bid specialty contractors
- Construction management support
- Project close-out support and training
- Access to EE tools, resources & peer-to-peer learning opportunities
- Customized support to celebrate project success
- Support in access to financing, including EE financing and grant application services
- Assistance with utility incentive and rebate processing
- Application support for various grant and financing programs including but not limited to: CEC Energy Conservation Assistance Act Loan, SoCalREN's Revolving Savings Fund, CEC CalSHAPE program etc.

4. Comparable SCE Program – Local Public Sector 3P Solicitation – SCE-13-TP-029

The program design for SCE’s Local Public Sector Third-Party Program currently under solicitation and is not yet available. However, SCE will be submitting an Advice Letter with program details in Q1 2022. This new third-party program will replace SCE’s legacy local public sector programs.

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program – Regional Energy Pathways – SCG3912

Regional Energy Pathways is a transition from the previous Local Government Partnership (LGP) model. The Regional Energy Pathways builds on the experience and successes of LGP to further the progress in Public Sector and expand a greater reach to all Public Sector customers. The Regional Pathways will deploy more flexible and efficient approaches to engage with all public sector customers in providing valuable programs and services to all public sector customers. Regional Pathways will have assigned Program Manager for each region to maintain and expand valuable relationships with public agencies. This program is committed to providing ongoing outreach and collaboration with public sector customers as trusted resources and reliable partner. Public Sector customers will continue to be served through various Third-Party Programs as well as SoCalGas’ Core Programs.

SCG3846 PUB – Small/Medium Public Sector 3P Program

SoCalGas Small/Medium Public Sector 3P Program is a Third-Party program. The 3P program provides a turnkey end-to-end solution for SoCalGas to serve small and medium Public Sector customers. The program provides direct install measures to small and medium Public Sector customers.

SCG3899 PUB – Large Public Sector 3P Program

SoCalGas Large Public Sector 3P Program is a Third Party program currently under solicitation process.

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. The Joint PAs will coordinate as new and launching programs are contracted and designed in order to minimize duplication of efforts. Technical assistance will be a key area of focus for coordination among the Joint PAs. Additionally, new market support and equity programs might also provide similar services, which must also be closely coordinated.

To address marketing confusion among implementers (both IOU and third-party) the Joint PAs will establish a protocol for program coordination to occur at the COG level. I-REN will invite implementers of Joint PA programs to present to COG audiences to inform and build awareness among members of EE programs. Historically, COGs have served as conveners to IOU programs. I-REN will seek opportunities to leverage existing implementer relationships and be a convener of services for COG members. Not only would this develop potential leads, but it would also bring the best solutions to the customer.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. The Joint PAs will continue to participate in Energy Division-led Peer Coordination Groups (PCGs). The statewide PCGs enable collaborative statewide discussions regarding all programs across all PAs throughout the state, not just those in Southern California.

Coordination with statewide programs could include but not necessarily be limited to the following:

SCE_SW_IP_Colleges – SW Higher Education Program (UC, CSU, CCC)

The Statewide Higher Education Program, also known as the UC/CSU/CCC Program, is a resource program that will serve the statewide Public Higher Education Institutions such as University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges energy efficiency needs. The three customer segments being served will be the University of California , California State Universities and California Community Colleges. The objective for this program is to have the third party offer innovative and cost-effective EE opportunities to the three customer segments listed above. This program is scheduled to launch Q3 2022.

SCE_SW_UL – Statewide Lighting Energy Efficiency Program

The California Statewide Lighting Program serves all eligible electric customers in the participating IOUs' service territories –SCE, SDG&E, and PG&E. The objective of the program is to promote the sale and installation of high efficiency lighting products through midstream (distributor) channels. The Implementation Contactor, TRC Solutions, will achieve the program's objectives through implementation of a cost-effective midstream program for the non-Residential, Commercial & Industrial market throughout the IOUs' territories.

SCE_SW_WP – Statewide Water/Wastewater Pumping Energy Efficiency Program

SCE, on behalf of itself, PG&E, SDG&E, and SCG, as the statewide lead will administer the Statewide Water/Wastewater Pumping Efficiency program through a third-party designed and delivered program. The program targets water extraction, distribution and treatment, waste

water treatment and oil and gas clear water pumping throughout each of the IOU's service territories and comply with the CPUC-established energy efficiency policies within this Solicitation's requirements, as listed in Article 3 of these Solicitation Instructions.

SCG_SW_IP_Colleges PUB-SW-Institutional Partnership: UC/CSU/CCC

The SW Institutional Partnership for UC/CSU/CCC is a SW Third Party program currently under solicitation process. The existing SW UC/CSU/CCC Partnership will continue until the SW Third Party Program launches in later part of 2022.

The University of California/ California State University/ Investor Owned Utility (UC/CSU/IOU) Energy Efficiency Partnership is a statewide program which includes California's four IOU's, PG&E, SCE, Southern California Gas Company (SCG), and SDG&E, as well as the continuation of LA Department of Water and Power (LADWP), in partnership with the UC and CSU. The program generates energy savings through the identification and implementation of energy efficiency projects and through training and education to support those projects. The Partnership consists of three main project types: retrofit, commissioning and new construction.

The California Community Colleges/Investor Owned Utility (CCC/IOU) Energy Efficiency Partnership is a unique, statewide program to achieve immediate and long-term energy savings and peak demand reduction within California's higher education system. The statewide incentive funding for the 2019 program year was utilized to maintain the Partnership program processes and framework established in previous program cycles for sustainable, comprehensive energy management at campuses served by California's four Investor Owned Utilities.

SCG_SW_IP_Gov PUB-SW-Institutional Partnership: DGS & DOC

The SW Institutional Partnership for DGS & DOC is a SW Third Party Program that targets CA State agencies. This new SW Third Party program is administered by PG&E, and is designed and implemented by AESC with support from partners serves state-owned buildings in PG&E, SCE, SoCalGas, and SDG&E service areas which include I-REN service area. The program runs through October 2026. The goal of the program is to help California State Agencies (excluding higher education) reach their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reductions goals while driving towards Zero Net Energy through EE and IDSM project planning, technical support, and financial assistance.

SCG_SW_MCWH SW Midstream Water Heating

SoCalGas SW Midstream Water Heating Program is a SW Third Party program that helps business owners and building managers purchase high-efficiency commercial water heating products at reduced prices and contractors build lower-cost equipment into their bids. Distributors can receive incentives and program support for offering instant point-of-sale rebates to eligible commercial customers of SoCalGas®, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E®), Southern California Edison (SCE®) or San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E®). This program also serves public sector customers for the eligible water heating products.

SCG_SW_FS SW Point-of-Sale Food Service

SoCalGas SW Food Service Program is a SW Third Party program that provides instant rebates for qualifying energy efficient food service equipment through participating dealers. This program also serves public sector customers.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN's Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 3: I-REN's 2022 Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program – IREN-PUBL-001
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	• Building Upgrade Concierge with personalized end-to-end technical assistance, procurement and project management support, capacity-building, and ongoing commissioning support to ensure efficient operations and maintenance. • I-REN has strong existing relationships with, communication channels to, and support from local jurisdictions as an organization made up of local government agencies.
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	• The program is open to all public sector customers but will target underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help address equity issues such as the unequal access to energy efficiency dollars, the need for additional support and commitment for small and underserved communities, ineffective programs for tribal communities, as well as overall lack of diversity. Many of these communities have been historically underinvested in and have greater needs for facility improvements, particularly community serving facilities such as libraries, community centers and the like. • By supporting energy efficiency projects in these types of facilities, I-REN can provide equitable and locally administered assistance to public sector agencies where benefits will flow directly to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

B. PUBLIC SECTOR—PUBLIC BUILDINGS NORMALIZED METERED ENERGY CONSUMPTION (NMEC) PROGRAM – IREN-PUBL-002

I-REN’s Public Sector—Public Buildings Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) Program is a resource program (in year two of I-REN program administration) to provide incentives and financing for savings based on NMEC achieved over three to five years, with a special focus on HVAC improvements to community-serving buildings.

1. Summary of I-REN’s Public Buildings NMEC Program Objectives

- a) Allow local governments to leverage an innovative approach that goes beyond code to achieve deep energy savings.
- b) Help local governments afford and finance a range of energy efficiency upgrades.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs’ respective Public Buildings NMEC programs.

Table 4: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas Public Buildings NMEC Programs Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE Public Sector Performance-Based Retrofit High Opportunity Program [SCE-13-L0031]	SoCalGas High Opportunity Projects – Metered and Performance Based Retrofits
Target Audience(s)	Members of the I-REN COGs, counties, cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribal communities	Public Agencies served by SCE and/or SoCalGas: Cities, counties, tribes, local government hospitals and hospital districts,	Public Sector	All eligible Public Sector customers

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE Public Sector Performance-Based Retrofit High Opportunity Program [SCE-13-L0031]	SoCalGas High Opportunity Projects – Metered and Performance Based Retrofits
	• Hard-to-reach, disadvantaged, low income, and other vulnerable communities • Community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings • Educational institutions	water districts, K-12 schools, wastewater districts, sanitation districts, ports, airports, and other special districts.		
Resource or Non-Resource	Resource	Resource	Resource	Resource
Eligible Measures	Any measure that reduces energy usage including but not limited to HVAC, controls, foodservice, appliances, water heating, lighting	CMPA Methodology – includes whole building retrofits and behavioral and operational savings.	CMPA Methodology – includes whole building retrofits and behavioral and operational savings	CMPA Methodology – includes whole building retrofit and behavioral and operational savings; NMEC protocol
Budget	\$3,185,292	\$XXX,XXX*	\$562,423*	TBD*

*SoCalREN, SCE and SoCalGas 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

The following table compares the key program parameters of PAs' public sector NMEC programs.

Table 5: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas Public Buildings NMEC Program Comparison

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE Public Sector HOPPs Program	SoCalGas
Eligible Facilities	- Buildings and non-facilities (e.g., exterior lighting) - Special focus on community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings	Eligible facility types per the most recent version of the CPUC NMEC Guidelines	Buildings	Public Sector buildings and non-building facilities or systems
Eligible Agencies	Counties, cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribal communities	- Public Agencies served by SCE and/or SoCalGas: Cities, counties, tribes, local government hospitals and hospital districts, water districts, K-12 schools, wastewater districts, sanitation districts, ports, airports, and other special districts. - Focus on DAC, rural, and low-income communities.	All Public Sector	All Public Sector customers
Eligible Measures	Any measure that reduces energy usage including but not limited to HVAC, controls, foodservice, appliances, water heating, lighting	Any measure that reduces energy usage	Any measure that reduces energy usage, must include at least one retrofit	Any measure that reduces energy usage to achieve 20% savings and a minimum of 7,000 Therms and suitable for NMEC feasibility
Technical Assistance	Project scope development, procurement assistance, project	Modeling and M&V Plan, post implementation training, performance	Modeling, M&V Plan, Project Management, Financial Analysis &	M&V Plan, facility audit, EE education related to retrofits, performance tracking

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE Public Sector HOPPs Program	SoCalGas
	management, operations and commissioning	tracking and savings persistence	Services	and savings persistence
Measurement	TBD	CMPA (IPMVP Option C)	CMPA (IPMVP Option C)	CMPA (IPMVP Option C) or other applicable options
Baseline	Existing conditions	Existing conditions.	Existing condition	Existing conditions
Performance Payment	Incentive payment based on energy savings achieved over 3-5 years	Incentives provided post-implementation measurement and verification of savings on scheduled intervals	Monetary Incentives provided on post-implementation measurement of energy savings based on meter data	Incentive provided on a post-implementation measurement of energy savings based on meter data
Resource or Non-Resource	Resource	Resource	Resource	Resource
Approval Process	TBD	Streamlined Process within CPUC NMEC Guidelines that will go through the CMPA	CPUC HOPPS Guidelines	CPUC HOPPs Guidelines
2022 Status	New/launching	In the market as of April 2019; incentives offered upon approval of the 2022 BBAL	Not accepting new projects	TBD

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program – Public Agency NMEC Program – SCR-PUBL-B3

Under the Public Agency NMEC Projects Program, SoCalREN employs a NMEC framework and targets projects that are identified by the SoCalREN EE PDP or SoCalREN DER DAC program are limited by support and incentives through existing EE resource programs. This Program provides an alternative to the existing utility and third-party programs, while pursuing

stranded potential in public agency facilities and buildings. This Program is a resource program, so EE savings from these projects contribute to SoCalREN program goals and cost-effectiveness calculations. The program targets DAC, rural, and low-income communities by offering increased incentives for these equity communities.

SoCalREN targets agencies who are enrolled in the EE PDP and DER DAC EE PDP and have facilities that have not recently participated in utility programs. Participating agencies also benefit from the SoCalREN Program's project management expertise and technical services. Similar to the partner IOU NMEC programs, engineers with experience in ASHRAE energy savings calculation standards and International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocols (IPMVP) will be prioritized in executing NMEC projects. The SoCalREN Public Agency NMEC Program provides technical assistance, application technical review, staff training, and facility savings reports to ensure persistence of savings while adhering to CPUC NMEC Guidelines that go through the CMPA process. The SoCalREN Public Agency NMEC Program differs from the IOUs NMEC programs by providing staff training, regular savings reports post installation, and a focus on equity through the provision of enhanced incentives for equity communities.

4. Comparable SCE Program – Public Sector Performance-Based Retrofit High Opportunity Program – SCE-13-L-003I

SCE's Public Sector Performance-Based Retrofit High Opportunity Program, an NMEC program, is ending this year. However, there will be a pipeline of projects in development and/or implementation throughout 2022.

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program – HOPPs Program – SCG3710

The program design for the new/launching SoCalGas HOPPs Program under SCG3710 Calculated Incentives is not yet available.

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

The Joint PAs will coordinate as new and launching programs are contracted and designed in order to operationalize coordination, with an understanding that new market support and equity programs might also provide similar services. As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. The Joint PAs will continue to participate in Energy Division-led Peer Coordination Groups (PCGs). The statewide PCGs enable collaborative statewide discussions regarding all programs across all PAs throughout the state, not just those in Southern California.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN's Public Sector NMEC Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 6: I-REN's 2022 Public Sector NMEC Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN Public Buildings NMEC Program – IREN-PUBL-002
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	n/a

REN Criteria	I-REN Public Buildings NMEC Program – IREN-PUBL-002
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	• The program is open to all public sector customers but will target underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive equity outcomes. • Program outreach will focus initially on public gathering spaces and community-serving facilities such as community and neighborhood centers, health and recreation centers, senior centers, teen centers, and libraries. • Upgrades and retrofits to HVAC and lighting equipment both interior and exterior will improve comfort and safety at facilities that benefit vulnerable populations such as children, elders, and low income, disadvantaged, and underserved communities.

C. **WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING – TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM – IREN-WET-001**

For its Cross-cutting Sector Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) Training and Education Program, I-REN will assess the current training marketplace in the Inland Empire and work with local providers, including higher education providers, high schools, adult schools, and professional training companies to tailor content to be relevant to the region’s needs and ensure that disadvantaged communities are a focus. I-REN will collaborate with training providers to improve access to a broad spectrum of training opportunities in person, online, and in the field.

1. **Summary of I-REN’s Training and Education Program Objectives**

- a) Create a robust local network of training programs that increase capacity and knowledge related to energy efficiency in the building industry.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs’ respective workforce education & training programs.

Table 7: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas WE&T Training and Education Program Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience(s)	- Local providers, including higher education providers, high schools, adult schools, and professional training companies - Disadvantaged communities (DACs)	- Architects, designers, engineers, contractors, building operators, technicians, craft/tradesmen, customers, youth, classified disadvantaged workers, and building owners - SWMDVBE that can potentially support IOU resource program sectors and local public agencies sustainability projects. - Homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth) - In-school youth, youth classified disadvantaged workers, and homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth). - Targets Disadvantaged communities	Workers who are in or are pursuing occupations in the energy efficiency and other related professional fields that provide the technical capabilities that are needed to support the attainment of CAs and IOU Energy Saving and sustainability targets	Workers in, or pursuing careers and occupations in energy efficiency, gaining and providing professional and technical capabilities, specifically useful for achieving CA-IOU energy savings targets.

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
		(DACs) and Hard to Reach.		
Resource or Non-Resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Non-resource
Eligible Measures	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Budget	\$1,012,949	\$375,000*	\$8,696,114*	\$4,250,000*

* SoCalREN, SCE and SoCalGas 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

With location and a more localized focus being the main differentiator across PAs, I-REN will focus largely on entry-level offerings in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. I-REN will help to raise the value of energy efficiency training and career paths within high schools, community colleges, and universities. These focus areas differentiate I-REN from other PAs' WE&T Training and Education offerings. SoCalREN's WE&T Program offerings now emphasize a robust regional workforce education and training approach that supports underserved Disadvantaged Workers (DAW) -including at risk youth, Hard to Reach (HTR) and small, women, minority, and disabled veteran owned business enterprises (SWMDVBE). SoCalGas supports entry-level job seekers and workers but is moving to more career paths. SCE's focus is geared towards incumbent skill building.

The following table compares the key program parameters of PAs' WE&T training and education programs.

Table 8: WE&T Training and Education Program Comparison

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience	Local providers, including higher education providers,	Targets the most underserved and disadvantaged	Workers who are in or are pursuing occupations in the	Workers in, or pursuing careers and occupations in

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	high schools, adult schools, and professional training companies Disadvantaged communities (DACs)	workers (DAW) and Hard to Reach (HTR) Architects, designers, engineers, contractors, building operators, technicians, craft/tradesmen, customers, youth, classified disadvantaged workers, and building owners - SWMDVBE that can potentially support IOU resource program sectors and local public agencies sustainability projects. - Homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth) In-school youth, youth classified disadvantaged workers, and homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth). - Targets Disadvantaged communities (DACs) and Hard to Reach.	energy efficiency and other related professional fields that provide the technical capabilities that are needed to support the attainment of CAs and IOU Energy Saving and sustainability targets.	energy efficiency, gaining and providing professional and technical capabilities, specifically useful for achieving CA-IOU energy savings targets.
Location of Training	- In field/on-the-job - Online	In field, on-job and online.	- Energy Education Centers (Irwindale/Tulare) - Alternative training sites (On	In-person (Energy Resource Center, vendor sites) and Online

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
			Location) • Virtual (Live Instructor Led) • On-Demand	
Training Types	• In-person • Online	• In-person • Online	• In-person • Online	In-person (Energy Resource Center, vendor sites) and Online
Statewide/Local	Local	• Local • Regional	Local	Local
Partner Organizations	• Educational institutions • Trade associations • Industry and non-profit organizations • Certification organizations • Government agencies	• Public Agencies • Nonprofit organizations • High schools • Community Colleges • 3rd party implementers • Workforce centers	• Other IOUs • Industry associations • Post- secondary education • Business networks • Regional workforce services • Non-profit Organizations	• Educational institutions • Trade associations • Industry and non-profit organizations • Certification organizations • Government agencies

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program – Workforce Education & Training Program – SCR-WET-D1

SoCalREN has historically utilized policies and instruments for local hiring and workforce partnerships while developing infrastructure for small and minority contractors to access clean energy investments. SoCalREN's WE&T Program offerings emphasizes a robust regional workforce education and training approach that supports underserved Disadvantaged Workers (DAW), Hard to Reach (HTR) and small, women, minority, and disabled veteran owned business enterprises (SWMDVBE). The primary goal of this Program is to provide the ability to build capacity within the EE industry with a local regional approach. Similar to its other non-resource programs, the SoCalREN WE&T Program leverages public agencies to reach and

engage communities while simultaneously building its underserved workforce, thus providing long term workforce supply in the EE industry. The SoCalREN WE&T Program provides: 1) comprehensive regional workforce education, training, and resources for DAW/HTRs and SWMDVBE contractors of all skill levels; 2) entry-level workforce skills training for in-school youths 3) SWMDVBE contractors' local government public agency training and capacity building in regard to sustainability projects and RFPs; and 4; and 2) a green career pathway for classified at-risk and or homeless individuals, such as transition age at-risk foster youth.

4. Comparable SCE Program – Integrated Energy Education & Training Program – SCE-13-SW-010A

The SCE WE&T Integrated Energy Education & Training Program (IET) offers resources and training programs that are aimed at shaping the current and future energy workforce through a series of occupational, employer, and technology-focused workshops and seminars, combined with workplace-based and hands-on technical training. This program aims to provide technical upskill and pathways certifications and credentials in energy efficiency-related industries that also support California's clean energy objectives.

In addition to the training courses offered, SCE maintains a Foodservice Technology Center where they conduct training, standards-based equipment testing, and evaluations that further enhance the commercialization of emerging energy efficient technologies and programs. These services are delivered with technical integrity and scientific rigor to ensure our partners stay competitive and maintain cost effectiveness.

The Energy Centers provide a host of other value-added customer programs and services such as the Tool Lending Library and conduct technical tours and consultations, all of which are available at no-cost to the customer.

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program – WE&T Integrated Energy Education Training (IET) – SCG3729

The SoCalGas WE&T Integrated Energy Education Training (IET) subprogram will offer both technical and foodservice workforce education, training and outreach events that can leverage I-REN local contacts to inform and equip workforce talent with skills to assist in meeting the State’s energy and climate goals.

The WE&T Program contributes to the investor-owned utilities’ (IOUs’) energy efficiency goals by empowering customers and market actors with the knowledge to make energy reduction decisions. WE&T’s primary target audience includes market actors who design, build, maintain, and operate buildings and building systems—engineers, technicians, building operators, designers, contractors, etc. Because these market actors have the potential to shape a building’s energy use, WE&T teaches them how to recognize energy savings and balanced energy solutions to address GHG-reduction, and then provides them skills, tools, and resources to act upon those opportunities. Additionally, WE&T supports Post-secondary institutions that are training future generations of the energy workforce by providing them energy efficiency, sustainability, and green career awareness classes, internships, materials and resources

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for WE&T activities. As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities.

I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs to improve access to relevant training opportunities

across the I-REN counties. An opportunity that I-REN will explore is to support the critical connection to workforce entry for entry-level youth, which may include outreach to employers and work to get them involved. There is opportunity to create pathways to move from high school to non-college routes. They will work collaboratively to feed those entry-level specialists who are prepared for a higher training level into IOU programs.

Time is a critical issue in the education and training of the EE workforce. More than ever, it is vital for employees within the EE industry to stay up to date with emerging technologies and trends. The Joint PAs will work together to establish relevant training curriculum, especially for community colleges.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. With PG&E as the statewide administrator for the Career and Workforce Readiness (CWR) and Career Connections WE&T subprograms, the Joint PAs will collaborate to leverage those statewide programs. I-REN will stay abreast of developments pertaining to these statewide programs and coordinate with PG&E to the extent possible to engage with the implementation vendor to discuss a coordination strategy. The Joint PAs will take advantage of opportunities for greater coordination and communication with other PAs as needed with regard to statewide programs.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN's WE&T Training and Education Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 9: I-REN’s 2022 WE&T Training & Education Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN WE&T Program – IREN-WET-001
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	• I-REN’s WE&T program activities will center on supporting and leveraging local resources who are ideally positioned to deliver locally-focused, relevant, accessible training opportunities. • Offering training at familiar, nearby locations makes it easier for job seekers and workers to attend. I-REN can use its connections and experience to help ensure training opportunities are accessible throughout the region. • The I-REN governing agencies have existing partnerships with local colleges and community colleges, successfully providing instructional energy efficiency classes and events at local campuses where they have typically achieved high participation rates.
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	I-REN’s WE&T program activities will drive market support and equity outcomes for HTR, underserved, DAC, and ESJ communities by partnering with and building capacity among local community-focused training providers to improve quality of and access to relevant training opportunities.

D. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – IREN-WET-001

I-REN will convene and collaborate with state, regional, and local stakeholders, including workforce investment boards (WIBs) and economic development departments to develop a unified mission around the region’s energy efficiency workforce, highlighting pathways for job seekers to enter the green jobs market and to increase access for disadvantaged communities. I-REN will facilitate identifying opportunities for employers and local workforce partners to network and connect.

With its governing agencies' existing networks of contractors and training providers, I-REN is well positioned to help bridge the gap between the energy industry and the workforce. I-REN is building partnerships with local community colleges, local universities and local WIBs to establish a comprehensive network of WE&T offerings.

I-REN also brings close connections with local government planning and building departments across the region. I-REN's proposed WE&T initiatives offer important opportunities for collaboration across other sectors through its work in the Public Sector and Codes & Standards (C&S) --both of which are important drivers of energy efficiency and advanced energy activity and employment in the region.

1. Summary of I-REN's Workforce Development Program Objectives

- a) Increase the number of skilled energy efficiency workers in the region.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs' respective workforce development programs.

Table 10: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas WE&T Workforce Development Program Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience(s)	- State, regional, and local stakeholders, including workforce investment boards (WIBs) and economic development departments - Job seekers,	Targets the most underserved and disadvantaged workers (DAW) and Hard to Reach (HTR) Architects, designers, engineers, contractors, building	Those workers who are in or pursuing occupations in the energy efficiency and other related fields that provide professional and technical capabilities needed to support the	Workers in, or pursuing careers and occupations in energy efficiency, gaining and providing professional and technical capabilities, specifically useful

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	including students; individuals who are unemployed, or underemployed; job seekers looking to enter the energy efficiency and advanced energy industry; and job seekers currently working in the industry who seek to make lateral career moves or advance in their fields.	operators, technicians, craft/tradesmen, customers, youth, classified disadvantaged workers, and building owners • SWMDVBE that can potentially support IOU resource program sectors and local public agencies sustainability projects. • Homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth) In-school youth, youth classified disadvantaged workers, and homeless (i.e., at-risk transition youth). • Targets Disadvantaged communities (DACs) and Hard to Reach.	attainment of CAs and IOU Energy Savings and sustainability targets.	for achieving CA-IOU energy savings targets. Training will be conducted at Energy Center, alternative site locations and distribution channels in collaboration as appropriate, with non-IOU sources, feasible for reaching target audiences.
Resource or Non-Resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Non-resource	Non-resource
Eligible Measures	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Budget	\$1,240,346	\$375,000*	\$8,696,114 * ⁵	\$X,XXX,XXX*

*SoCalREN, SCE and SoCalGas 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

⁵ Note that the \$8,696,114 budget reflects the same budget for SCE's WE&T - Integrated Energy Education & Training Program budget shown on Table 7 in Section C subsection 2 above. The two budgets are the same and should not be counted as separate.

One differentiating factor for I-REN’s program is that it will target job seekers, students, and workers and partner organizations, such as state, regional, and local stakeholders, including workforce investment boards (WIBs) and economic development departments in order to build partnerships. This partnership focus aligns well with RENs’ historical role as convenor of stakeholders and partners due to their close ties with their local and regional communities. Location is another differentiator.

I-REN will prioritize HTR, disadvantaged, underserved, and ESJ communities, and the organizations within those communities that support workforce development. I-REN will help to raise the value of energy efficiency career paths within high schools, community colleges, and universities. These focus areas differentiate I-REN from other PAs’ WE&T Workforce Development offerings. SoCalGas supports entry-level job seekers and workers but is moving to more career paths. SCE’s focus is geared towards incumbent skill building.

The following table compares the key program parameters of PAs’ WE&T workforce development programs.

Table 11: WE&T Workforce Development Program Comparison

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience	Job seekers, including students; individuals who are unemployed, or underemployed; job seekers looking to enter the energy efficiency and advanced energy industry; and job seekers currently working in the industry who seek to make lateral career moves or advance in their fields.	Targets the most underserved and disadvantaged workers (DAW) and Hard to Reach (HTR) - SWMDVBE that can potentially support IOU resource program sectors and local public agencies	Job seekers, including K-12 students; individuals who are unemployed, or underemployed; those interested in entering the energy efficiency and/or advanced energy industry; and those currently working	K-12 Job seekers, including students; individuals who are unemployed, or underemployed; job seekers looking to enter the energy efficiency and advanced energy industry; and job seekers currently

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
		sustainability projects.	in the industry who are interested in making career changes or further advancing in their fields.	working in the industry who seek to make lateral career moves or advance in their fields.
Location of Training	n/a	- Through local public agency training channels. - In field and online.	n/a	n/a
Training Types	n/a	In-Person/online	n/a	n/a
Statewide/Local	Local	Local	Statewide	Statewide
Partner Organization	State, regional, and local stakeholders, including workforce investment boards (WIBs) and economic development departments	- Public Agencies - Nonprofit organizations - Unions 3rd party implementers - Workforce centers	SCE will coordinate with PG&E and the vendor to the extent possible to engage the REN supporting program coordination	SoCalGas will coordinate with PG&E to the extent possible to engage the I-REN with the implementation vendor to discuss a coordination strategy

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program – Workforce Education & Training Program – SCR-WET-D1

SoCalREN has historically utilized policies and instruments for local hiring and workforce partnerships while developing infrastructure for small and minority contractors to access clean energy investments. SoCalREN's WE&T Program offerings emphasize a robust regional workforce education and training approach that supports underserved Disadvantaged Workers (DAW), Hard to Reach (HTR) and small, women, minority, and disabled veteran owned business enterprises (SWMDVBE). The primary goal of this Program is to provide the ability to build capacity within the EE industry with a local regional approach. Similar to its

other non-resource programs, the SoCalREN WE&T Program leverages public agencies to reach and engage communities while simultaneously building its underserved workforce, thus providing long term workforce supply in the EE industry.

The SoCalREN WE&T Program provides: 1) comprehensive regional workforce education, training, and resources for DAW/HTRs and SWMDVBE contractors of all skill levels; 2) entry-level workforce skills training for in-school youths 3) SWMDVBE contractors' local government public agency training and capacity building in regard to sustainability projects and RFPs; and 4) a green career pathway for classified at-risk and or homeless individuals, such as transition age at-risk foster youth.

4. Comparable SCE Program – N/A

SCE does not have a specific Workforce Development Program. Instead, SCE participates in the Statewide Career Workforce Readiness (CWR) Program, known as Energize Careers, which is administered by PG&E. Energize Careers aims to create a diverse and representational energy workforce through the economic empowerment of people who experience systemic barriers to employment by helping them to access living wage energy career opportunities. The Energize Careers Program provides holistic services to support disadvantaged workers¹ through technical training, job placement, and wrap-around service support. Energize Careers collaborates with pre-apprenticeship programs, apprenticeship programs, community-based training organizations, and community colleges to provide technical energy job training to underserved individuals. Energize Careers also collaborates with wrap-around service providers and industry partners to provide people with services and support to access career pathways into living wage energy efficiency jobs.

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program

N/A

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for WE&T activities. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs to improve access to relevant training opportunities across the I-REN counties. As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities which could include but would not necessarily be limited to meetings and shared class lists.

There is a critical opportunity for Joint PAs to connect entry-level youth to good jobs in the EE field. The Joint PAs will collaborate to define employers and work to get them involved. There is opportunity for all PAs to create pathways to move from high school to non-college routes. They will work collaboratively to feed those entry-level specialists who are prepared for a higher training level into IOU programs.

Time is a critical issue in the education and training of the EE workforce. More than ever, it is vital for employees within the EE industry to stay up to date with emerging technologies and trends. The Joint PAs will work together to establish relevant training curriculum, especially for community colleges.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan

coordination activities. With PG&E as the statewide administrator for the Career and Workforce Readiness (CWR) and Career Connections WE&T subprograms, the Joint PAs will collaborate to leverage those statewide programs. I-REN will stay abreast of developments pertaining to these statewide programs and coordinate with PG&E to the extent possible to engage the I-REN with the implementation vendor to discuss a coordination strategy. The Joint PAs will take advantage of opportunities for greater coordination and communication with other PAs as needed with regard to statewide programs.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN's WE&T Workforce Development Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 12: I-REN's 2022 WE&T Workforce Development Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN WE&T Program – IREN-WET-001
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	- I-REN's WE&T program activities will center on convening, engaging, and building capacity with regional workforce development partners in order to define and establish a green workforce. - This program relies on collaboration with established community partner organizations and employers, many of whom have existing connections and trusted relationships with the I-REN member agencies.
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	I-REN's WE&T program activities will drive market support and equity outcomes for HTR, underserved, DAC, and ESJ communities by partnering with and building capacity among local community-focused workforce development partners.

E. CODES AND STANDARDS TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAM – IREN-CS-001

I-REN’s Codes and Standards (C&S) Training and Education Program is a non-resource program to establish and implement training and education for building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards including where gaps exist in the Statewide IOU Compliance Improvement program and enforcement activities. The program will also include outreach to engage, educate and involve regional construction firms and building departments, and support compliance and enforcement within regional EE programs and customers.

1. Summary of I-REN’s C&S Training and Education Program Objectives

- a) Improve the understanding of energy efficiency codes and standards among local building departments and the building industry to increase implementation and compliance and enforcement.
- b) Make code compliance and enforcement a valuable element of the region’s energy efficiency goal attainment with engagement regionwide.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs’ respective C&S Training & Education programs.

Table 13: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas C&S Training & Education Programs Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience(s)	Local jurisdictions’ building department staff	n/a	All stakeholders impacted by the energy code	n/a

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	• Permit applicants • Contractors and building professionals • Areas not served by the IOUs (City of Riverside, Imperial Irrigation District service area, etc.)			
Resource or Non-Resource	Non-resource	n/a	Non-resource	n/a
Eligible Measures	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Budget	\$860,334	n/a	\$3,077,099*	n/a

*SCE 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

I-REN's C&S Training & Education Program will be differentiated from comparable programs by the more localized geographic area in which trainings will be focused, in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, enabling contractors to more easily attend trainings. I-REN brings existing relationships with important training partners in the region, such as colleges, NGOs, CBOs, trade organizations, and regional entities. Another differentiating factor will be I-REN's focus on serving HTR, DAC, underserved, tribal, and ESJ communities.

I-REN trainings will also be differentiated by topic, with trainings tailored to the region's climate zones and the needs of the region's local jurisdictions, building department staff, and building professionals. I-REN has an understanding of local councils, cities, and communities and their priorities and the ability to navigate the local political climate, which is important for supporting local government jurisdictions. I-REN's familiarity with its communities will be important to inform and deliver regionally relevant training offerings that may not otherwise be

available. I-REN will also coordinate its C&S activities with its WE&T offerings to integrate code compliance and enforcement into technical trainings.

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program

N/A

4. Comparable SCE Program – Compliance Improvement Subprogram – SCE-13-SW-008C

The IOU Compliance Improvement subprogram⁶ (of which Energy Code Ace is a key component) targets actors within the building and appliance energy code supply chains to maintain comprehensive statewide compliance with energy codes and appliance standards, such as: manufacturers, distributors, retailers, architects, energy consultants, contractors, plans examiners, building inspectors, etc. Whereas the California Energy Commission is responsible for implementing state policy by establishing new Codes and Standards, others (architects, energy consultants, mechanical engineers, IOUs, builders, contractors, etc.) are responsible for interpreting the code and completing compliance forms while jurisdictions' building departments are responsible for enforcing the code. Building codes and appliance standards can be difficult to understand and time consuming to implement, therefore some industry actors fail to comply with regulatory requirements fully.

Compliance improvement program needs are determined through a performance-based solution approach to identify training, tools, resources and outreach necessary to narrow the gap between actual and desired performance, and principals of adult learning theory are employed to improve knowledge swings during training and increase long-term retention. Multiple training

⁶ The Compliance Improvement subprogram is a statewide program offered by all IOUs

modalities are used to maximize student participation. With a few exceptions, a consistent curriculum, featured on EnergyCodeAce.com, is developed by the compliance improvement program and delivered statewide by a team of subject matter experts.

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program

N/A

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for C&S activities. The I-REN governing agencies also bring experience coordinating with other PAs through their LGP work. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs.

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. Through the JCM process I-REN and other PAs have already identified potential opportunities to collaborate on the delivery of workshops and trainings where appropriate to provide greater accessibility and regionally relevant training content to local jurisdictions and building professionals.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. The Joint PAs will coordinate to ensure that ratepayer funds deliver resources efficiently and effectively across the shared territories, including coordination with PG&E as administrator of the statewide Codes & Standards program. With that in mind, the Joint

PAs will approach coordination with the goal of offering transparency through regular communication, efficiency through a collaborative approach to any shared resources, and support for the success of programs across the service area. The Joint PAs will meet regularly to coordinate on the WE&T and C&S programs.

The Joint PAs will share their respective lists of available C&S trainings including those in development stages. Whenever feasible, PAs will leverage existing curriculum and training by communicating training needs via email or in regular coordination meetings. A clear chain of communication and identified contacts will be exchanged for each program and/or sub-program.

IOUs' Compliance Improvement team representative will provide a list of trainings to I-REN on a quarterly basis and will include the following information:

- Class name(s)
- Description(s)
- Instructor name(s)
- Course length time
- Mode of access and location (ex: in-person, training center/city, online)
- Class schedule (if one exists)
- Course agenda

Additionally, a standing agenda item at the quarterly meeting will be to discuss the topics of trainings in development, even if only at a high level. This will reduce the potential for duplication of efforts.

The Joint PAs will determine which existing offerings can be leveraged and coordinate to deliver these resources. I-REN will develop a calendar with potential dates, of when these offerings can be delivered to various audiences in the tri-county region. This calendar will be shared with the Joint PAs and scheduled based on the availability and resource requirements.

The Joint PAs will make each other aware of resources available as courses are scheduled for delivery and new job aides (Energy Code Ace “resources” or “tools”) are developed. A portion of the Statewide C&S Team’s training schedule is set at the beginning of the year while the rest remains flexible since most courses are offered upon request as a result of the team’s outreach efforts. All offerings are posted on the Energy Code Ace website training page as courses are scheduled.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN’s C&S Training and Education Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 14: I-REN’s 2022 C&S Training and Education Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN C&S Training and Education Program – IREN-CS-001
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	• As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can provide flexible and adaptable solutions to support local jurisdictions. • I-REN brings an understanding of local councils, cities, and communities and their priorities and the ability to navigate the local political climate which is important for delivering support to local government jurisdictions. • I-REN’s C&S initiatives will offer locally focused training, education, and tools to support codes and standards implementation, enforcement, and compliance activities.
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a

REN Criteria	I-REN C&S Training and Education Program – IREN-CS-001
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	The program is open to all local jurisdictions but will provide targeted outreach to underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, tribal, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive market support and equity outcomes and cross-cutting workforce-related objectives.

F. CODES AND STANDARDS TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM – IREN-CS-001

I-REN’s Codes and Standards (C&S) Technical Support Program is a non-resource program to develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting the energy codes to support improved enforcement and compliance. I-REN will develop regionally appropriate model ordinances, vet and refine them with participating local governments, provide ongoing technical assistance for implementation, and deliver updates to reflect the triennial code cycle.

1. Summary of I-REN’s C&S Technical Support Program Objectives

- a) Deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout.

2. Summary of Program Differentiation

The following table provides a summary of the PAs’ respective C&S Technical Support program.

Table 15: I-REN, SoCalREN, SCE, and SoCalGas C&S Technical Support Program Summary

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
Target Audience(s)	Local jurisdictions’	n/a	All stakeholders impacted by the	n/a

Program Parameters	I-REN	SoCalREN	SCE	SoCalGas
	building department staff • Permit applicants • Contractors and building professionals • Areas not served by the IOUs (City of Riverside, Imperial Irrigation District service area, etc.)		energy code	
Resource or Non-Resource	Non-resource	n/a	Non-resource	n/a
Eligible Measures	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Budget	\$585,773	n/a	\$3,077,099* ⁷	n/a

*SCE 2022 budgets provided herein are estimates merely for reference only. The final budgets are subject to Commission approval of 2022-23 BBAL Advice Letter.

I-REN's C&S Technical Support Program will be differentiated from similar programs offered by other PAs by the geographic area in which technical support will be offered, to jurisdictions in the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. Another differentiating factor will be I-REN's focus on serving HTR, DAC, underserved, tribal, and ESJ communities. I-REN brings existing relationships with the cities in its territory from its work in local government as a convenor and facilitator for issues affecting local jurisdictions. I-REN's existing network of relationships and understanding of local councils, cities, and communities and their priorities and

⁷ Note that the \$3,077,099 budget reflects the same budget for SCE's Codes & Standards Compliance Improvement subprogram budget shown on **Error! Reference source not found.** in Section E subsection 2 above. The two budgets are the same and should not be counted as separate.

the ability to navigate the local political climate will be important for the on-the-ground support needed to reach building department staff.

I-REN's C&S Technical Support Program will provide one-stop-shop access for its local jurisdictions and building department staff without competing against or duplicating statewide or other regional resources. I-REN's familiarity with its communities will be important to inform and deliver regionally-relevant technical support, such as development and implementation of reach codes and model ordinances.

3. Comparable SoCalREN Program

N/A

4. Comparable SCE Program – Compliance Improvement Subprogram – SCE-13-SW-008C

In addition to the training activities enumerated in the previous section, the Compliance Improvement (CI) Subprogram also provides a comprehensive suite of online and interactive tools and resources to support market actors in streamlining their code compliance workflow.

The tools offered on the Energy Code Ace website are comprised of a suite of interactive applications to help users understand compliance processes, installation techniques, which forms are required, and energy efficiency regulations applicable to building projects and appliances in California.

Resources include an array of downloadable materials providing practical and concise guidance on how and when to comply with California's building and appliance energy efficiency standards. The resources that the (CI) subprogram has developed address the lack of time and

resources for industry professionals by providing web-based job aids that are downloadable for quick reference. Some of the key available tools and resources include:

- “Submit a Question” – Online portal providing market actors the opportunity to submit their compliance questions for subject matter expert review and response
- Q&Ace – Searchable database of FAQ’s, including common questions fielded by subject matter experts through the “Submit a Question” portal
- Checklists – Step-by-step guidance for plan checks and field inspections to help ensure compliance with the Energy Code
- Forms Ace – Helps market actors determine which forms are applicable to their project scope prior to submittal, to focus their efforts and avoid filling out unnecessary paperwork
- Virtual Compliance Assistant – “TurboTax” style interface that generates compliance forms for project teams by guiding them through a series of direct questions about their projects
- Reference Ace – An online hyperlinked version of the energy code which is easier to navigate than a PDF or hard copy code book
- Image Ace – Provides helpful diagrams and images to better illustrate efficiency concepts and code requirements
- Timeline Ace – Graphically shows when specific Energy Code requirements are going into effect

5. Comparable SoCalGas Program

N/A

6. Coordination Protocol Between Programs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for C&S activities, and the I-REN governing agencies bring experience coordinating with other PAs through their LGP work. Coordination activities could include but would not be limited to calling on existing IOU resources for training as needed. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs. As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities.

7. Coordination Between Statewide Program(s)

As a new PA, I-REN has not yet contracted with implementers. Within 60 days of implementer(s) being contracted for the relevant programs, the Joint PAs will reconvene to plan coordination activities. The Joint PAs will coordinate to ensure that ratepayer funds deliver resources efficiently and effectively across the shared territories, including coordination with PG&E as administrator of the statewide Codes & Standards program. With that in mind, the Joint PAs will approach coordination with the goal of offering transparency through regular communication, efficiency through a collaborative approach to any shared resources, and support for the success of programs across the service area. The Joint PAs will meet regularly to coordinate on the WE&T and C&S programs.

8. Compliance

The following table describes in further detail how I-REN's C&S Technical Support Program satisfies the REN criteria in D.12-11-0115.

Table 16: I-REN's 2022 C&S Technical Support Program Compliance with D.12-11-015

REN Criteria	I-REN C&S Technical Support Program – IREN-CS-001
1. Activities IOU cannot or does not intend to undertake	• As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout, in coordination with other PAs to leverage existing resources and avoid duplication. • I-REN's C&S interventions rely on relationships and communication. I-REN is uniquely positioned to serve the C&S sector because the I-REN governing agencies already have extensive connections throughout the region with local building and planning departments, including code officials and permitting staff at all levels, and many of the private construction and architectural firms who frequently apply for permits.
2. Pilot activities where there is no IOU program offering and where there is potential for scalability	n/a
3. Activities in hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is an IOU program that may overlap	The program is open to all local jurisdictions but will provide targeted outreach to underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive market support and equity outcomes and cross-cutting workforce-related objectives.

IV. I-REN PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

A. I-REN PROGRAM COMPLIANCE WITH D.12-11-015 AND D.19-12-021

The majority of the activities outlined in I-REN's Business Plan are non-resource programs, designed to support and enhance the activities of other PAs, with a targeted local government resource program not currently provided to its member audiences.

The CPUC in Decision 12-11-015, Decision 16-08-019, Decision 18-05-041, and refined in decision 19-12-021, directed the REN's activities to three areas:⁸⁹¹⁰¹¹

- Activities that utilities or CCA program administrators cannot or do not intend to undertake.
- Pilot activities where there is no current utility or CCA program offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.
- Activities serving hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is another utility or CCA program that may overlap.

I-REN has focused on these three criteria areas and the need to provide value for ratepayers in the development of its program portfolio. The I-REN governing agencies worked for nearly 18 months coordinating, developing, and refining the presented sectors to ensure they do not overlap and instead fill clear gaps, address hard-to-reach communities, and assess opportunities to pilot new ideas that could be scaled beyond the I-REN region. I-REN has

⁸ D.12-11-015, p. 17.

⁹ D.16-08-019, pp. 11-12.

¹⁰ D.18-05-041, p. 95.

¹¹ D.19-12-021, p. 32.

reviewed the CPUC guidance and pertinent decisions and is confident that it is well suited and needed to ensure equitable and effective energy efficiency services and resources to the region.

B. I-REN UNDERTAKING ACTIVITIES THAT UTILITIES CANNOT OR DO NOT INTEND TO UNDERTAKE.

A critical differentiation between I-REN and the other PAs' programs is the relationships I-REN has with its constituents, partners, and local governments, which is enhanced by their proximity and historic record of service for those entities. I-REN's ability to tailor and serve San Bernardino County and Riverside County entities will only grow as their programs are implemented. Recognizing these relationships will be important in the coming year as the Joint PAs navigate and avoid any duplication of services and avoid customer confusion.

These relationships are especially important in serving the public sector. Local government agencies and districts that make up the I-REN public sector are challenged in trying to improve the energy efficiency of their equipment and facilities, given various barriers including but not limited to insufficient funding for capital improvements, a lack of awareness around energy efficiency and IOU programs, complicated and long cycles times for approval processes for budgets and spending, and limited time and staff resources.

I-REN has strong existing relationships with, communication channels to, and support from local jurisdictions as an organization made up of local government agencies. I-REN will build on its existing connections in the public sector to help these local government agencies and districts improve their facilities' energy performance, to contribute to energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction goals and position local government agencies as energy efficiency leaders in their communities. Some of the greatest challenges to participation in the public sector in the I-REN service area may also be indicators of unrealized energy savings potential. I-REN

has designed its Public Sector strategies and tactics to help local government agencies, tribal leadership, and staff at school districts and special districts overcome these participation barriers to improve their facilities' energy performance and harvest “stranded” energy savings.

Insufficient staff time and resources is one of the major barriers to implementing energy efficiency retrofits in public sector buildings. This has been exacerbated over the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with local governments on the front lines addressing the public health crisis and enduring the associated economic downturn. Local jurisdictions have had to implement mandatory closures of facilities, as well as intensive planning and logistical efforts to prepare for safely reopening facilities to the public. I-REN's Building Upgrade Concierge will provide personalized end-to-end technical assistance, procurement and project management support, capacity-building, and ongoing commissioning support to ensure efficient operations and maintenance.

I-REN's WE&T program activities will center on supporting and leveraging local resources who are ideally positioned to deliver locally-focused, relevant, accessible training opportunities. Offering training at familiar, nearby locations makes it easier for job seekers and workers to attend. I-REN can use its connections and experience to help ensure training opportunities are accessible throughout the region. The I-REN governing agencies have existing partnerships with local colleges and community colleges, successfully providing instructional energy efficiency classes and events at local campuses where they have typically achieved high participation rates.

I-REN's WE&T Workforce Development program activities will center on convening, engaging, and building capacity with regional workforce development partners in order to define

and establish a green workforce. This program relies on collaboration with established community partner organizations and employers, many of whom have existing connections and trusted relationships with the I-REN member agencies.

As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can provide flexible and adaptable solutions to support local jurisdictions. I-REN brings an understanding of local councils, cities, and communities and their priorities and the ability to navigate the local political climate which is important for delivering support to local government jurisdictions. I-REN's C&S initiatives will offer locally focused training, education, and tools to support codes and standards implementation, enforcement, and compliance activities.

Additionally, I-REN can deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout. I-REN's C&S interventions rely on relationships and communication. I-REN is uniquely positioned to serve the C&S sector because the I-REN governing agencies already have extensive connections throughout the region with local building and planning departments, including code officials and permitting staff at all levels, and many of the private construction and architectural firms who frequently apply for permits.

C. I-REN UNDERTAKING PILOT ACTIVITIES WHERE THERE IS NO CURRENT UTILITY UNDERTAKING, AND WHERE THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SCALABILITY TO A BROADER GEOGRAPHIC REACH, IF SUCCESSFUL.

At this time, I-REN is not proposing a program using this threshold criteria for compliance with D.12-11-015. I-REN is instead proposing program that both fill in gaps to IOU services and that target HTR markets.

D. I-REN UNDERTAKING PILOT ACTIVITIES IN HARD-TO REACH MARKETS, WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A CURRENT UTILITY PROGRAM THAT MAY OVERLAP.

I-REN's Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program will be open to all public sector customers but will target underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help address equity issues such as the unequal access to energy efficiency dollars, the need for additional support and commitment for small and underserved communities, ineffective programs for tribal communities, as well as overall lack of diversity. Many of these communities have been historically underinvested in and have greater needs for facility improvements, particularly community serving facilities such as libraries, community centers and the like. By supporting energy efficiency projects in these types of facilities, I-REN can provide equitable and locally administered assistance to public sector agencies where benefits will flow directly to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

Program outreach will focus initially on public gathering spaces and community-serving facilities such as community and neighborhood centers, health and recreation centers, senior centers, teen centers, and libraries.

I-REN's Public Sector NMEC Program will provide energy upgrades and retrofits to improve comfort and safety at facilities that benefit HTR customers and vulnerable populations such as children, elders, and low income, disadvantaged, and underserved communities. Higher efficiency equipment, appliances, and controls such as cooling-dominated HVAC loads as well as improvements to operations and maintenance will lower energy bills for local governments, reducing overhead and freeing up funds for other projects. Completion of projects at these high-

visibility locations will support achieving local and statewide energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction goals while also positioning local governments as energy efficiency leaders within their communities.

I-REN's WE&T program activities will drive market support and equity outcomes for HTR, underserved, DAC, and ESJ communities by partnering with and building capacity among local community-focused workforce development partners and training providers to improve quality of and access to relevant training opportunities. There is a gap between the demand and supply of existing trades people to provide energy efficiency services in the I-REN service territory. For contractors looking to expand their skills, career advancement and access to high-road jobs, the pathways for obtaining additional certifications can be complicated, costly, and limited by timing or distance.

In a service territory as expansive as the Inland Empire, expanding the number of training sites and promoting multiple delivery mechanisms are crucial for improving access to workforce education. I-REN can help providers identify underserved areas with a significant population that could benefit from training, and I-REN will also coordinate with other PAs and stakeholders to co-sponsor events and collaborate to bring training opportunities to the region. Through co-sponsorship and I-REN's extensive network of connections with local governments, I-REN will help promote training events with marketing and outreach to increase awareness and encourage participation.

I-REN will also provide outreach to employers to support decision-making around onsite training in the workplace or hands-on field training for employees, and will coordinate with other

PAs and key collaborators in the region to leverage existing training opportunities where appropriate.

For areas of the region where in-person training is challenging for cost reasons or limited participation numbers, I-REN will work with local stakeholders and employers to assess the applicability of online training options for supplementing local training. I-REN can recommend regionally appropriate training to pursue and assist with messaging and outreach to guide participants to training opportunities, including trainings offered by other PAs and statewide programs.

I-REN's C&S Training and Education program is open to all local jurisdictions but will provide targeted outreach to underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, tribal, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive market support and equity outcomes and cross-cutting workforce-related objectives. To avoid duplication of effort, I-REN is communicating and exchanging ideas with other PAs operating in the region. Though other programs and initiatives have targeted the C&S sector, many local building departments (and the building industry in general) in the I-REN region have been underserved and will benefit greatly from locally focused training opportunities. I-REN will differentiate its C&S training offerings and coordinate with other training providers where necessary to make the best use of its constituents' ratepayer dollars. Additionally, training in C&S is an important area for crossover activities related to economic development and Workforce Education & Training (WE&T).

The C&S sector faces unique barriers to increased energy efficiency. This is especially true in the I-REN service territory, given its size and distance from the Los Angeles MSA. I-REN's C&S program activities will be tailored to the specific needs of this region, especially

HTR communities, even though the sector has been targeted by other non-local programs. This approach is consistent with CPUC’s policy in D.12.11-2015 that Regional Energy Networks (RENs) should implement energy efficiency initiatives in hard-to-reach markets “whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.”¹² In designing their approach to the C&S sector, I-REN has selected strategies and tactics based on insights from the I-REN governing agencies, with consideration also given to previous attempts by other PAs to address the C&S sector in this hard-to-reach region. Those lessons learned informed I-REN’s planning process, as well as best practices from successful C&S programs elsewhere in the state. In this way, I-REN will offer locally-focused services that layer onto and complement existing C&S activities in the region in order to meet the unique needs of its jurisdictions and market actors.

¹² California Public Utilities Commission, Decision 12-11-015, Decision Approving 2013-2014 Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets, November 8, 2012, Page 17

V. APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF I-REN PROGRAM COMPLIANCE WITH D.12-11-015

Table 17: I-REN D. 12-11-015 Compliance, by Program

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program	• SoCalREN Public Agency Energy Efficiency Project Delivery Program (EE PDP) • SCG Regional Energy Pathways • SCG3846 PUB-Small/Medium Public Sector 3P Program • SCG3899 PUB- Large Public Sector 3P Program • SCG_SW_IP_Colleges PUB-SW-Institutional Partnership: UC/CSU/CCC • SCG_SW_IP_Gov PUB-SW-Institutional Partnership: DGS & DOC • SCG_SW_MCWH SW Midstream Water Heating • SCG_SW_FS SW Point-of-Sale Food Service	• Building Upgrade Concierge with personalized end-to-end technical assistance, procurement and project management support, capacity-building, and ongoing commissioning support to ensure efficient operations and maintenance. • I-REN has strong existing relationships with, communication channels to, and support from local jurisdictions as an organization made up of local government agencies.	n/a	• The program is open to all public sector customers but will target underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help address equity issues such as the unequal access to energy efficiency dollars, the need for additional support and commitment for small and underserved communities,

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
				ineffective programs for tribal communities, as well as overall lack of diversity. Many of these communities have been historically underinvested in and have greater needs for facility improvements, particularly community serving facilities such as libraries, community centers and the like. By supporting energy efficiency projects in these types of facilities, I-REN can provide equitable and locally administered assistance to

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
				public sector agencies where benefits will flow directly to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.
Public Buildings NMEC Program	SoCalREN – Public Agency NMEC Program [SCR-PUBL-B3]	n/a	n/a	• The program is open to all public sector customers but will target underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive equity outcomes. • Program outreach will focus initially on public gathering spaces and community-serving facilities such as community and

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
				neighborhood centers, health and recreation centers, senior centers, teen centers, and libraries. • Upgrades and retrofits to HVAC and lighting equipment both interior and exterior will improve comfort and safety at facilities that benefit vulnerable populations such as children, elders, and low income, disadvantaged, and underserved communities. • Higher efficiency equipment, appliances and controls such as cooling-dominated

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
				HVAC loads as well as improvements to operations and maintenance will lower energy bills for local governments, reducing overhead and freeing up funds for other projects. • Completion of projects at these high-visibility locations will support achieving local and statewide energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction goals while also positioning local governments as energy efficiency leaders within

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
				their communities.
WE&T Training and Education Program	• SoCalREN – Workforce Education & Training Program [SCR-WET-D1] • SCE – Integrated Energy Education & Training Program [SCE-13-SW-010A] • SoCalGas – WE&T Integrated Energy Education Training (IET) [SCG3729]	• I-REN’s WE&T program activities will center on supporting and leveraging local resources who are ideally positioned to deliver locally-focused, relevant, accessible training opportunities. • Offering training at familiar, nearby locations makes it easier for job seekers and workers to attend. I-REN can use its connections and experience to help ensure training opportunities are accessible throughout the region. • The I-REN governing agencies have existing partnerships with local colleges and community colleges, successfully providing	n/a	I-REN’s WE&T program activities will drive market support and equity outcomes for HTR, underserved, DAC, and ESJ communities by partnering with and building capacity among local community-focused training providers to improve quality of and access to relevant training opportunities.

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
		instructional energy efficiency classes and events at local campuses where they have typically achieved high participation rates.		
WE&T Workforce Development Program	• SoCalREN – Workforce Education & Training Program [SCR-WET-D1] • SCE – Integrated Energy Education & Training Program [SCE-13-SW-010A]	• I-REN’s WE&T program activities will center on convening, engaging, and building capacity with regional workforce development partners in order to define and establish a green workforce. • This program relies on collaboration with established community partner organizations and employers, many of whom have existing connections and trusted relationships with the I-REN member agencies.	n/a	I-REN’s WE&T program activities will drive market support and equity outcomes for HTR, underserved, DAC, and ESJ communities by partnering with and building capacity among local community-focused workforce development partners.

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
C&S Training and Education Program	SCE – Compliance Improvement Subprogram [SCE-13-SW-008C]	• As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can provide flexible and adaptable solutions to support local jurisdictions. • I-REN brings an understanding of local councils, cities, and communities and their priorities and the ability to navigate the local political climate which is important for delivering support to local government jurisdictions. • I-REN's C&S initiatives will offer locally focused training, education, and tools to support codes and standards implementation, enforcement, and compliance activities.	n/a	The program is open to all local jurisdictions but will provide targeted outreach to underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, tribal, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive market support and equity outcomes and cross-cutting workforce-related objectives.

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
C&S Technical Support Program	SCE – Compliance Improvement Subprogram [SCE-13-SW-008C]	- As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout. - I-REN's C&S interventions rely on relationships and communication. I-REN is uniquely positioned to serve the C&S sector because the I-REN governing agencies already have extensive connections throughout the region with local building and planning departments, including code officials and permitting staff at all levels, and many of the	n/a	The program is open to all local jurisdictions but will provide targeted outreach to underinvested jurisdictions serving hard-to-reach, DAC, underserved, and ESJ communities where I-REN can help drive market support and equity outcomes and cross-cutting workforce-related objectives.

D.12-11-015 Threshold Criteria that apply for each program	Comparable IOU Program, if applicable	1. Activities that utilities cannot or do not intend to undertake.	2. Pilot activities where there is no current offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.	3. Pilot activities in hard to reach markets, whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap.
		private construction and architectural firms who frequently apply for permits.		

VI. APPENDIX B: I-REN SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS OFFERED FOR 2022

Table 18: I-REN Summary of Programs, 2022

Unique ID	Program Name	Sector	Annual Budget	Eligible Measures
IREN-PUBL-001	Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program	Public	\$ 3,102,902	Not applicable; non-resource program
IREN-PUBL-002	Public Buildings NMEC Program	Public	\$ 3,185,292	Any energy saving measure
IREN-WET-001	WE&T Training and Education Program	Cross-cutting: Workforce Education & Training	\$ 1,012,949	Not applicable; non-resource program
IREN-WET-001	WE&T Workforce Development Program	Cross-cutting: Workforce Education & Training	\$ 1,240,346	Not applicable; non-resource program
IREN-CS-001	C&S Training and Education Program	Cross-cutting: Codes & Standards	\$ 860,334	Not applicable; non-resource program
IREN-CS-001	C&S Technical Support Program	Cross-cutting: Codes & Standards	\$ 585,773	Not applicable; non-resource program

VII. APPENDIX C: SOCALREN, SCE AND SOCALGAS SUMMARY OF COMPARABLE PROGRAMS

Table 19: SoCalREN Summary of Comparable 2022 Programs

Unique ID	Program Name	Sector	Annual Budget	Eligible Measures
SCR-PUBL-A1	Public Agency Energy Efficiency Project Delivery Program	Public	\$7,069,078	n/a
SCR-PUBL-B3	Public Agency NMEC Program	Public	\$1,100,000	Any measure that reduces energy usage
SCR-WET-D1	Workforce Education & Training Program	Workforce Education & Training	\$750,000	n/a

Table 20: SCE Summary of Comparable 2022 Programs

Unique ID	Program Name	Sector	Annual Budget	Eligible Measures
SCE-13-SW-010A	Integrated Energy Education & Training	Cross-Cutting	\$8,696,114	n/a
SCE-13-SW-008C	Compliance Improvement Subprogram	Cross-cutting	\$2,600,000	n/a
SCE-13-L-003I	Public Sector Performance-Based Retrofit High Opportunity Program	Public	\$526,423	Whole Building
SCE-13-TP-029	Local Public Sector 3P Solicitation	Public	\$5,181,133	n/a

Table 21: SoCalGas Summary of Comparable 2022 Programs

Unique ID	Program Name	Sector	Annual Budget	Eligible Measures
SCG3912	Regional Energy Pathways	Public	\$1,932,904	n/a
SCG3729	WE&T Integrated Energy Education Training (IEET)	Workforce Education & Training	\$4,250,000	n/a
SCG3886	PUB - Small & Medium Public Sector	Public Sector	\$2,101,168	Direct Install measures
SCG3899	PUB- Large Public Sector	Public Sector	\$1,750,000	TBD
SCG3739	PUB – Community Colleges Partnership	Public Sector	\$104,440	n/a
SCG3740	PUB – UC/CSU Partnership	Public Sector	\$137,088	n/a
SCG_SW_MC WH	SW Midstream Commercial Water Heating	Non-RES, Public Sector	\$3,684,335	All water heating measures
SCG_SW_FS	SW Food Service POS	Non-RES, Public Sector	\$3,845,582	Food Service Equipment

Attachment 3

Memorandum of Agreement & Governance and Operations Rules

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT NO. 22-1002767

BY AND BETWEEN

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

AND

SAN BERNARDINO ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS

AND

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

FOR

2022-2027 INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (I-REN)

This 2022-2027 Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) Memorandum of Agreement (herein called “MOA”) is made this November 28, 2022, by and among Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), (collectively referred to as “MEMBER COGs, individually referred to as “MEMBER COG”) with respect to the following recitals:

Whereas, representatives from the MEMBER COGs have pursued and will continue to pursue regional sustainability and energy efficiency opportunities across Riverside and San Bernardino counties; and

Whereas, the MEMBER COGs’ primary role is to develop and administer a comprehensive Inland Regional Energy Network (“I-REN”), as defined in California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) Decision 21-11-013, and to prepare and submit any future grant applications on behalf of the three MEMBER COGs to fund other sustainability and energy efficiency activities; and

Whereas, WRCOG, on behalf of the MEMBER COGs, will serve as the I-REN Administrative Lead for purposes of coordinating planning activities locally, acting as the fiscal administrator, and executing agreements; and

Whereas, on May 31, 2018, CPUC Decision 18-05-041, Ordering Paragraph 38, was issued and directed Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”) to serve as the fiscal lead on behalf of SoCalGas and Southern California Edison, the two investor-owned utilities with territory in the MEMBER COGs’ jurisdictions (collectively the “IOUs”); and

Whereas, as a condition precedent to this MOA, WRCOG and the IOUs will enter into the Inland Regional Energy Network 2022-2027 Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets Agreement (“Programs Agreement”) establishing the rights and responsibilities of WRCOG, acting on behalf of I-REN, and the IOUs; and

Whereas, these efforts will lead to the coordination of regional energy resource planning; development of a long-term, sustainable energy strategy; and increase in awareness of and access to conservation, efficiency, and renewable opportunities within the I-REN region (Riverside and San Bernardino counties); and

Whereas, the MEMBER COGs commit to an effective delivery of I-REN energy efficiency programs to the public sector and local workforce of their respective counties, the details of which are set forth in this MOA.

Whereas, upon receipt of funds from the CPUC (distributed by SoCalGas on behalf of the IOUs pursuant to the Programs Agreement) for I-REN program activities, WRCOG will reimburse each MEMBER COG, in amounts not to exceed those stated in Table 3.0 below, for allowable costs incurred for the express purpose of performing I-REN program activities and administration for the period commencing on the effective date and ending upon termination or expiration of this MOA;

Now, therefore, in consideration of the mutual duties set forth in this MOA, the MEMBER COGs agree to the following:

1. Administrative Lead COG. WRCOG shall serve as the fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting manager and primary regulatory contact manager for I-REN is and, as such, shall serve as the I-REN Administrative Lead COG on behalf of the MEMBER COGs. I-REN shall be managed under the oversight of the I-REN Executive Committee. The I-REN Executive Committee’s structure, composition and duties are further described in the I-REN Governance and Operations Rules (Rules), attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by reference. The Rules shall only be amended upon approval from the governing bodies of each of the MEMBER COGs. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in section 3.1 of the Programs Agreement, WRCOG’s Executive Director shall have the authority to take actions and execute agreements on behalf of WRCOG as the I-REN Administrative Lead COG following the approval of such actions and agreements as may be required by the I-REN Executive Committee in accordance with the procurement policy established pursuant to the Rules. WRCOG shall be responsible for:
 - a) Monitoring progress on program objectives, deliverables and budget targets as set forth in this MOA.
 - b) Reviewing all program-related documents, including review of all reporting required in this MOA, and any other reporting duties as may be required. Documents related to purchasing and contracting on behalf of I-REN, including but not limited to, professional services agreements, shall utilize WRCOG’s template documents.

- c) Coordinating the I-REN programs described in Section 2 of this MOA to minimize duplicative administrative and marketing costs.
 - d) Coordinating with the IOUs.
2. Program Activities. WRCOG, acting as the I-REN Administrative Lead COG, shall reimburse each MEMBER COG, from funds provided by the CPUC, for delivery of I-REN program activities as set forth in the Scope of Work attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.
- a) I-REN shall be administered in accordance with the Rules, notwithstanding any contrary provisions in section 3.1 of the Programs Agreement.
 - b) The MEMBER COGs shall work cooperatively to implement I-REN programs and comply with CPUC requirements.
 - c) The MEMBER COGS shall comply with the security requirements of Article XVI, Exhibit C, and Exhibit D of the Programs Agreement regarding the use of Confidential Information.
 - d) The MEMBER COGs will perform all tasks and deliverables and shall comply with all applicable laws, policies, and regulations in carrying out I-REN program activities and other duties hereunder.
 - e) I-REN program activities are those set forth in Exhibits A, B and C of the Programs Agreement, which exhibits are incorporated herein by reference, and referred to as the I-REN Public Sector Program, I-REN Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) Program and I-REN Codes & Standards (C&S) Program.
 - f) The initial I-REN program activities as set forth in the approved I-REN Business Plan do not include loans associated with private property, and SANBAG will not be involved with arrangement or encouragement of loans for energy-related activities for private property through the I-REN program for the duration of this agreement, nor will SANBAG be responsible for loans for private property that may be arranged or encouraged by the other MEMBER COGs.
3. Budget. Table 3.0 below sets forth for the annual I-REN program budget, by year and by category (Public Sector, Codes & Standards and Workforce Education and Training), the maximum expenditure under this MOA for I-REN program activities and administration. Any amendment to an amount set forth in Table 3.0 must be approved in writing by the I-REN Executive Committee and approved by each of the MEMBER COGs. All reimbursements are subject to receipt of sufficient funds from the CPUC (distributed by SoCalGas on behalf of the IOUs pursuant to the Programs Agreement). To the extent the amounts set forth in Table 3.0 for years 2022-2027 differ from the amounts set forth for those years in Exhibit H of the Programs

Agreement (Commission Approved JCMs), the amounts set forth in Exhibit H shall govern.

Table 3.0:

I-REN Business Plan Program Approved Budgets (\$)							
Category	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Public Sector							
Administration	628,819	619,172	662,939	707,457	707,457	707,457	4,033,301
Marketing and outreach	377,292	371,503	397,763	424,474	424,474	424,474	2,419,980
Direct Implementation – non-incentive	3,782,083	3,701,047	3,818,688	3,942,635	3,942,635	3,942,635	23,129,723
Direct Implementation – incentives	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,750,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	10,750,000
Subtotal	6,288,194	6,191,722	6,629,390	7,074,566	7,074,566	7,074,566	40,333,004
Workforce Education and Training							
Administration	225,329	239,343	243,716	267,465	267,465	267,465	1,510,783
Marketing and outreach	135,198	143,606	146,230	160,479	160,479	160,479	906,471
Direct Implementation – non-incentive	1,892,768	2,010,477	2,047,218	2,246,706	2,246,706	2,246,706	12,690,581
Direct Implementation – incentives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	2,253,295	2,393,426	2,437,164	2,674,650	2,674,650	2,674,650	15,107,835
Codes and Standards							
Administration	144,611	150,395	156,411	162,667	162,667	162,667	939,418
Marketing and outreach	87,766	90,237	93,847	97,600	97,600	97,600	564,650
Direct Implementation – non-incentive	1,214,730	1,263,320	1,313,852	1,366,407	1,366,407	1,366,407	7,891,123
Direct Implementation – incentives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Subtotal	1,446,107	1,503,952	1,564,110	1,626,674	1,626,674	1,626,674	9,392,191
EM&V	114,441	115,604	121,810	130,349	130,349	130,349	742,902
Total	10,102,037	10,204,704	10,752,474	11,506,239	11,506,239	11,506,239	65,577,932

4. Claims and Payment.

- a) Upon receipt of funds from the CPUC (distributed by SoCalGas on behalf of the IOUs pursuant to the Programs Agreement) (the “CPUC Funds”) for I-REN program activities, WRCOG will reimburse the MEMBER COGs, not to exceed the program budgets set forth in Table 3.0, for Allowable Costs, as described in Exhibit B, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, incurred for the express purpose of performing I-REN program activities and administration, pursuant to the following procedure. I-REN program activities shall be limited to funding as provided by the CPUC Funds. Under no circumstances shall WRCOG be required to provide its own funding for I-REN program activities performed in its role as the I-REN Administrative Lead COG.
- b) To obtain reimbursement from the CPUC Funds, a MEMBER COG shall submit to WRCOG a claim for reimbursement containing the following: (i) an invoice showing, at a minimum, the applicable Cost Category and Allowable Cost as described in Exhibit B, the amount of such cost and the date(s) such cost was incurred; (ii) all receipts, evidence of deliverables and other documentation reasonably necessary to substantiate the invoiced cost; (iii) a narrative report describing the I-REN program activity for which the cost was incurred; and (iv) any reports or other information required pursuant to Section 6 and Exhibit H of the Programs Agreement, which section and exhibit are incorporated herein by reference. A claim must be submitted no later than the last business day of the month after the month in which the cost was incurred; provided, however, that the Member COGs shall have until August 31, 2022, or 60 calendar days after the Member COGs have executed this MOA, whichever date is later, to submit claims for costs incurred from January 1 through June 30, 2022. Allowable labor costs shall comply with I-REN staff and contractor rates listed in Exhibit G of the Programs Agreement (Time & Materials Hourly Rate Schedule), which exhibit is incorporated herein by reference, as such rates are modified from time to time pursuant to the terms of the Programs Agreement.
- c) Upon receipt of a claim, WRCOG shall review the claim and determine whether the claim is complete and seeks reimbursement of Allowable Costs as described in Exhibit B. If the claim is incomplete, WRCOG shall return the claim to the MEMBER COG with an explanation of the reason(s) for incompleteness. If the claim is complete, WRCOG shall approve the claim to the extent the claim seeks

reimbursement of Allowable Costs as described in Exhibit B and deny the claim as to the rest.

- d) WRCOG shall have 30 calendar days after submission of a claim by a MEMBER COG to review the claim for completeness. A claim shall be deemed approved if not returned to the MEMBER COG within this 30-day period.
 - e) When a claim is approved or deemed approved, WRCOG will reimburse the MEMBER COG for the approved costs within 30 calendar days, to the extent that (i) WRCOG holds sufficient funds from the CPUC for reimbursement and (ii) the MEMBER COG has not exhausted the amount set forth for the applicable category of costs for the applicable year in Table 3.0. WRCOG has no obligation to make a reimbursement under this MOA unless and until there are sufficient CPUC FUNDS available. WRCOG assumes no liability to any person or entity, including, but not limited to, a MEMBER COG, for any delay in the distribution of funds by CPUC (or SoCalGas on behalf of the IOUs pursuant to the Programs Agreement) to WRCOG.
5. Reporting. Each MEMBER COG shall adhere to common reporting requirements for I-REN programs as required by the CPUC. For WRCOG to compile information to meet reporting deadlines, each MEMBER COG shall provide WRCOG with all required reporting from the previous month, on or before the 28th calendar day of the month. In addition to these reporting requirements, each MEMBER COG shall provide regular updates regarding I-REN activities to their respective legislative bodies.
6. Termination/Breach.
- a) WRCOG may terminate this MOA for convenience, provided that such termination is consistent with section 17.3 of the Programs Agreement and WRCOG provide one year's written notice prior to the date of termination. In the event that WRCOG provides notice to terminate this MOA for convenience, the MEMBER COGs agree to work together in good faith to assign WRCOG's responsibilities to another management agency. Such good faith efforts shall also include working with the CPUC in order to establish another management agency. In the event the MEMBER COGs are unable to identify and agree on another management agency to serve as Administrative Lead for Program Activities, or if the CPUC does not approve of a new Administrative Lead, this MOA shall be terminated. Additionally, this MOA may be terminated by an order, decision, or resolution of the CPUC.
 - b) CVAG and/or SANBAG may withdraw from this MOA, without cause by providing 60 days' notice to WRCOG. MEMBER COGs agree that monies for carrying out program activities for I-REN not fulfilled by a withdrawing MEMBER COG may be used, by WRCOG, in its sole discretion, to carry out program activities for the Inland Empire (Riverside and San Bernardino counties) region.

- c) The MEMBER COGs agree that if a MEMBER COG materially breaches its obligations in carrying out program activities for I-REN or fails to cure any material breach of this MOA within 30 days of receipt of a notice of breach from WRCOG, then WRCOG may, in its sole discretion, serve written notice to the MEMBER COG that WRCOG intends to terminate this MOA as to the breaching MEMBER COG and thereafter, if the material breach is not timely and reasonably cured, terminate this MOA with the breaching MEMBER COG. Monies for activities not fulfilled by the breaching MEMBER COG may be used by WRCOG, in its sole discretion, to carry out program activities for the Riverside and San Bernardino counties region.
 - d) In the event that there is a disagreement as to the allegation of a material breach, the MEMBER COGS agree to enter into good faith negotiations via a dispute resolution process in order to resolve the disagreement. The dispute resolution process shall begin with a formal meeting among the management staff of the MEMBER COGS to resolve the dispute. If management staff is unable to resolve said disputes, the matter shall be escalated to the Executive Director level through a formal meeting between the Executive Directors of the MEMBER COGS. If the disagreement is not resolved at the Executive Director level, the matter will proceed through process as outlined in Section 6(c) of this MOA.
7. Authority. Each MEMBER COG represents and warrants that the person signing this MOA has legal authority to sign this MOA and bind that party.
8. Indemnification by each MEMBER COG. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in sections 3.1 and 13.1 of the Programs Agreement, each MEMBER COG shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other MEMBER COGs and their respective officials, officers, directors, agents, and employees from and against any and all third-party liability (including damages, losses, claims, demands, actions, causes of action and costs, along with reasonable attorney fees and expenses) to the extent caused by the negligence and/or willful misconduct of the indemnifying MEMBER COG or its employees, subcontractors, or agents. The obligations of each MEMBER COG under this section shall survive the termination of this MOA.

Additionally, each MEMBER COG shall require all contractors and subcontractors performing I-REN program activities to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other MEMBER COGS and their respective officials, directors, agents, employees from and against any and all claims, demands, causes of action, costs, expenses, liability, loss, damage or injury, in law or equity, to property or persons, including wrongful death, in any manner arising out of or incident to any alleged acts, omissions, or willful misconduct of such indemnifying contractor or subcontractor, its officials, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors, arising out of or in connection with the performance of I-REN program activities, including without limitation the payment of all consequential damages and attorneys' fees and other related costs and expenses.

9. Insurance

- a) Each MEMBER COG will maintain the following insurance coverage or self-insurance coverage, and shall require all contractors or subcontractors performing I-REN program activities to maintain this coverage, at all times during the term of this MOA, with companies having an A.M. Best rating of “A-, VII” or better, or equivalent:
 - i. Workers’ Compensation: statutory minimum.
 - ii. Employer’s Liability coverage: \$1 million minimum.
 - iii. Commercial General Liability: \$2 million minimum per occurrence/\$4 million minimum aggregate. Such insurance shall acknowledge the IOUs and the other MEMBER COGs and their officers, agents and employees as additional insureds, contain standard cross-liability or severability of interest provisions, and waive all rights of subrogation against the IOUs and the other MEMBER COGs and their officers, agents, employees and other contractors or subcontractors.
 - iv. Commercial or Business Auto: \$1 million minimum. Such insurance shall acknowledge the IOUs and the other MEMBER COGs and their officers, agents and employees as additional insureds.
 - v. Professional Liability (if applicable): \$1 million minimum.
- b) Evidence of Insurance. Upon request at any time during the term of this MOA, each MEMBER COG shall provide evidence that its insurance policies and the insurance policies as provided in this section are in full force and effect and provide the coverage and limits of insurance that each MEMBER COG has represented and warranted herein to maintain at all times during the term of this MOA.
- c) Self-Insurance. If a MEMBER COG is self-insured, the MEMBER COG shall upon request forward documentation to the IOUs and/or to WRCOG that demonstrates to the IOUs’ and WRCOG’s satisfaction that the MEMBER COG self-insures as a matter of normal business practice. WRCOG will accept reasonable proof of self-insurance comparable to the above requirements.
- d) Notice of Claims. Each MEMBER COG shall immediately report to the IOUs and WRCOG, and promptly thereafter confirm in writing, the occurrence of any injury, loss or damage incurred by MEMBER COG or any subcontractor or their receipt of notice or knowledge of any claim by a third party of any occurrence related to the I-REN programs, the Programs Agreement and/or this MOA that might give rise to such a claim.
- e) Changes to Insurance Coverage. In the event a MEMBER COG, contractor or subcontractor requests modifications to the standard insurance coverage provided in Section 9(a) of this MOA, WRCOG, in its reasonable discretion, shall approve or disapprove such modifications.

- f) **Insurance Indemnification.** Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in section 14.5 of the Programs Agreement, if a MEMBER COG fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section, or to the extent each MEMBER COG does not require its subcontractors to maintain the insurance coverage specified in this section, each MEMBER COG shall, at its own cost, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the IOUs and/or each MEMBER COG and their affiliates and their officers, directors, agents, employees, assigns, and successors in interest, from and against any and all liability, damages, losses, claims, demands, actions, causes of action, costs, including attorney fees and expenses, or any of them, arising out of or in connection with the performance or non-performance of any I-REN program by each MEMBER COG or any subcontractor or their officers, directors, employees or agents to the extent that the IOUs and/or each other MEMBER COG would have been protected.
10. **Limitation of Liability.** Except for indemnification for third-party liability claims in accordance with Section 8 of this MOA, the liability of WRCOG to the other MEMBER COGs for WRCOG's acts or omissions as the I-REN Administrative Lead is limited to no more than the following: (1) for claims of nonpayment, the amount of the reimbursement due to each MEMBER COG pursuant to Section 4 of this MOA; (2) for all other claims, the amount of the reimbursement to each MEMBER COG pursuant to Section 4 of this MOA in the calendar year(s) in which the acts or omissions occurred.
11. **Relationship of the Parties.** The officers, employees and agents of each MEMBER COG are not and shall not be deemed to be the officers, employees, or agents of any other MEMBER COG. Notwithstanding anything contained in this MOA to the contrary, a MEMBER COG shall not be responsible for the performance or non-performance hereunder of any other MEMBER COG or whether such performance meets applicable legal and regulatory requirements, nor be obligated to remedy any other MEMBER COG's defaults or defective performance.
12. **No Third-Party Beneficiary.** This MOA is only for the benefit of the MEMBER COGs and not for the benefit of any third party.
13. **Exhibits.** In the event of an inconsistency between this MOA and the Exhibits as attached hereto, the MOA shall control.
14. **Term.** The term of this MOA commences Nov. 28, 2022 (with retroactive effect as of January 1, 2022, for submission of claims under section 4(b)), and expires December 31, 2027, unless sooner terminated pursuant to section 6.

15. Amendments. This MOA shall only be amended upon approval from the governing bodies of each of the MEMBER COGs. WRCOG shall only consent to amendments to Sections 3.1, 4.3, 7.13, 14.5, 18.2 and 19.1 and Articles XIII and XVI as well as Exhibits C and D of the Programs Agreement upon approval from the governing bodies of each of the MEMBER COGs.
16. Use of MEMBER COG's or I-REN's Name. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in Section 10.4 of the Programs Agreement, WRCOG must receive approval from an authorized representative of the MEMBER COGs if the IOUs desire to use the name or logo of an individual MEMBER COG.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the MEMBER COGs enter into this MOA.

WRCOG

By: 
Kurt Wilson
WRCOG Executive Director

Date: Nov 28, 2022

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Steven DeBaun
General Counsel

CONCURRENCE:

By: N/A

CVAG

By: 
Tom Kirk
CVAG Executive Director

Date: Nov 22, 2022

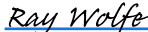
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Michael Jenkins
General Counsel

CONCURRENCE:

By: N/A

SANBAG

By: 
Raymond W. Wolfe, PhD
Executive Director

Date: Nov 17, 2022

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Juanda Daniel
Assistant General Counsel

EXHIBIT A

Scope of Work

Task 1. Administration (Admin)

Admin activities include any actions necessary to support I-REN programs and ensure compliance with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulatory requirements. Admin activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Prepare, review, and submit reports and invoices
- Participate in CPUC regulatory activities (e.g., proceedings, rulemakings, workshops) either in person or via written comments

Task 2. Marketing, Education, and Outreach (ME&O)

ME&O activities include any communications activities designed to identify, reach, and motivate potential program participants to participate in a I-REN program. ME&O activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Development and deployment of marketing and outreach campaigns
- Preparation and distribution of explanatory mailers or other promotional materials
- Conducting or participating in outreach events
- Advertising, media, newspaper, website, and related marketing activities

Task 3. Direct Implementation (DI)

DI activities include any actions taken in the course of implementing I-REN programs related to program theory, planned program processes and direct interface with a program participant. DI activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Program planning, development, design, and implementation
- Development of program goals, budgets, and milestones
- Education and training of program participants and others (e.g., contractors, local governments)
- Providing program participant support and responding to participant inquiries (e.g., calls, emails, letters)
- Compiling and maintaining information (e.g., data, customer records) for program participants and projects

EXHIBIT B

Allowable Cost Categories

CPUC Allowable Costs Table¹

Cost Categories	Allowable Costs
Administrative Cost Categories	Managerial and Clerical Labor
	IOU Labor - Clerical
	IOU Labor - Program Design
	IOU Labor - Program Development
	IOU Labor - Program Planning
	IOU Labor - Program/Project Management
	IOU Labor - Staff Management
	IOU Labor - Staff Supervision
	Subcontractor Labor - Clerical
	Subcontractor Labor - Program Design
	Subcontractor Labor - Program Development
	Subcontractor Labor - Program Planning
	Subcontractor Labor - Program/Project Management
	Subcontractor Labor - Staff Management
	Subcontractor Labor - Staff Supervision
	Human Resource Support and Development
	IOU Labor - Human Resources
	IOU Labor - Staff Development and Training
	IOU Benefits - Administrative Labor
	IOU Payroll Tax - Direct Implementation Labor ²
	IOU Payroll Tax - Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor ³
	IOU Payroll Tax - Administrative Labor
	IOU Payroll Tax - Administrative Labor
	IOU Payroll Tax - Administrative Labor
	IOU Pension - Administrative Labor
	IOU Pension - Direct Implementation Labor
	IOU Pension - Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor
	Subcontractor Labor- Human Resources
	Subcontractor Labor - Staff Development and Training
	Subcontractor Benefits - Administrative Labor
	Subcontractor Benefits - Direct Implementation Labor
	Subcontractor Benefits - Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor
	Subcontractor Payroll Tax - Administrative Labor
	Subcontractor Payroll Tax - Direct Implementation Labor
	Subcontractor Payroll Tax - Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor
	Subcontractor Pension - Administrative Labor
	Subcontractor Pension - Direct Implementation Labor
	Subcontractor Pension - Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor

Administrative Cost Categories (Continued)	Travel⁴ and Conference Fees⁵
	IOU Conference Fees ⁶
	IOU Labor - Conference Attendance
	IOU Travel - Airfare
	IOU Travel - Lodging
	IOU Travel - Meals
	IOU Travel - Mileage
	IOU Travel - Parking
	IOU Travel - Per Diem for Misc. Expenses
	Subcontractor - Conference Fees
	Subcontractor Labor - Conference Attendance
	Subcontractor - Travel - Airfare
	Subcontractor - Travel - Lodging
	Subcontractor - Travel - Meals
	Subcontractor - Travel - Mileage
	Subcontractor - Travel - Parking
	Subcontractor - Travel - Per Diem for Misc. Expenses
	Overhead (General and Administrative) - Labor and Materials
	IOU Equipment Communications
	IOU Equipment Computing
	IOU Equipment Document Reproduction
	IOU Equipment General Office
	IOU Equipment Transportation
	IOU Food Service
	IOU Office Supplies
	IOU Postage
	IOU Labor - Accounting Support
	IOU Labor - Accounts Payable
	IOU Labor - Accounts Receivable
	IOU Labor - Administrative
	IOU Labor - Facilities Maintenance
	IOU Labor - Materials Management
	IOU Labor - Procurement
	IOU Labor - Shop Services
	IOU Labor - Transportation Services
	IOU Labor - Automated Systems
	IOU Labor - Communications
	IOU Labor - Information Technology
	IOU Labor - Telecommunications
	Subcontractor Equipment Communications
	Subcontractor Equipment Computing
	Subcontractor Equipment Document Reproduction
	Subcontractor Equipment General Office
	Subcontractor Equipment Transportation
	Subcontractor Food Service
	Subcontractor Office Supplies
	Subcontractor Postage

Administrative Cost Categories (Continued)	Subcontractor Labor - Accounting Support
	Subcontractor Labor - Accounts Payable
	Subcontractor Labor - Accounts Receivable
	Subcontractor Labor - Facilities Maintenance
	Subcontractor Labor - Materials Management
	Subcontractor Labor - Procurement
	Subcontractor Labor - Shop Services
	Subcontractor Labor - Administrative
	Subcontractor Labor - Transportation Services
	Subcontractor Labor - Automated Systems
	Subcontractor Labor - Communications
	Subcontractor Labor - Information Technology
	Subcontractor Labor - Telecommunications
Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Costs	IOU - Advertisements / Media Promotions
	IOU - Bill Inserts
	IOU - Brochures
	IOU - Door Hangers
	IOU - Print Advertisements
	IOU - Radio Spots
	IOU - Television Spots
	IOU - Website Development
	IOU Labor - Marketing
	IOU Labor - Media Production
	IOU Labor - Business Outreach
	IOU Labor - Customer Outreach
	IOU Labor - Customer Relations
	Subcontractor - Bill Inserts
	Subcontractor - Brochures
	Subcontractor - Door Hangers
	Subcontractor - Print Advertisements
	Subcontractor - Radio Spots
	Subcontractor - Television Spots
	Subcontractor - Website Development
	Subcontractor Labor - Marketing
	Subcontractor Labor - Media Production
	Subcontractor Labor - Business Outreach
	Subcontractor Labor - Customer Outreach
	Subcontractor Labor - Customer Relations
Direct Implementation	Financial Incentives to Customers
	Activity - Direct Labor
	IOU Labor - Curriculum Development
	IOU Labor - Customer Education and Training
	IOU Labor - Customer Equipment Testing and Diagnostics
	IOU Labor - Facilities Audits
	Subcontractor Labor - Facilities Audits
	Subcontractor Labor - Curriculum Development
	Subcontractor Labor - Customer Education and Training

Direct Implementation (Continued)	Subcontractor Labor - Customer Equipment Testing and Diagnostics
	Installation and Service - Labor
	IOU Labor - Customer Equipment Repair and Servicing
	IOU Labor - Measure Installation
	Subcontractor Labor - Customer Equipment Repair and Servicing
	Subcontractor Labor - Measure Installation ⁷
	Direct Implementation Hardware and Materials
	IOU Audit Applications and Forms
	IOU Direct Implementation Literature
	IOU Education Materials
	IOU Energy Measurement Tools
	IOU Installation Hardware
	Subcontractor - Direct Implementation Literature
	Subcontractor - Education Materials
	Subcontractor - Energy Measurement Tools
	Subcontractor - Installation Hardware
	Subcontractor -Audit Applications and Forms
	Rebate Processing and Inspection - Labor and Materials
	IOU Labor - Field Verification
	IOU Labor - Site Inspections
	IOU Labor - Rebate Processing
	IOU Rebate Applications
	Subcontractor Labor - Field Verification
	Subcontractor Labor - Rebate Processing
	Subcontractor - Rebate Applications
Evaluation, Measurement and Verification	IOU Labor - EM&V
	IOU Materials - EM&V
	IOU Benefits - EM&V Labor
	IOU Overhead - EM&V
	IOU Payroll Tax - EM&V Labor
	IOU Pension - EM&V Labor
	IOU Travel - EM&V
	Subcontractor Labor - EM&V
	Subcontractor Materials - EM&V
	Subcontractor Benefits - EM&V Labor
	Subcontractor Overhead - EM&V
	Subcontractor Payroll Tax - EM&V Labor
	Subcontractor Pension - EM&V Labor
	Subcontractor Travel - EM&V
The budget/cost items listed on the Allowable Costs sheet are the only costs that can be claimed for ratepayer funded energy efficiency work. If a utility finds that they or one of their contractors/program implementers have additional costs, the utility will obtain approval for that cost from the CPUC's Energy Division. Energy Division will determine whether that cost fits an existing category or cost item and whether it is an acceptable cost item. Upon ED approval, new cost items will be added to the Allowable Costs sheet and included in an updated reporting workbook. The costs reported should be only for costs actually expended. Any financial commitments are to be categorized as commitments. If the reporting entity does not have a cost as listed on the cost reporting sheet, then no cost is to be reported for that item.	

¹ The CPUC Allowable Costs Table, dated 1/12/2006, was issued by Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Meg Gottstein on 2/21/2006 as an Appendix to R.01-08-028, her ALJ Ruling on Reporting Requirements [for utility EE programs]. The Table is applicable to Utilities, Local Government Partnerships, and Third-Party Implementers.

² Correction made to Allowable Costs Table line item. The original line item read, "IOU Payroll Tax – Administrative Labor," which was a repeat of the previous line and a typographical error. The clear intent of the line item was, "IOU Payroll Tax – Direct Implementation Labor."

³ Correction made to Allowable Costs Table line item. The original line item read, "IOU Payroll Tax – Administrative Labor," which was a repeat of the previous line and a typographical error. The clear intent of the line item was, "IOU Payroll Tax – Marketing/Advertising/Outreach Labor,"

⁴ Employees should refer to the Edison International Travel & Employee Expense Policy (link provided in §5.2 of this Policy) for general guidance on the appropriateness of and limitations on travel expenses.

⁵ For additional guidance and clarification on EE Travel and Conference Fees, see Item No. 2 on Page 2 of Attachment A and Item No. 4 on Page 2 of Attachment B.

⁶ Per Item No. 2 on Page 2 of Attachment A and Item No. 4 on Page 2 of Attachment B, "IOU sponsorships of EE conferences (i.e., "platinum" "gold" level donations) be [are] explicitly prohibited from inclusion in EE"

⁷ Correction made to Allowable Costs Table line item. The original line item read, "Subcontractor Labor – Customer Equipment Repair and Servicing," which was a repeat of the previous line and a typographical error. The clear intent of the line item was, "Subcontractor Labor – Measure Installation."

EXHIBIT C

I-REN Governance and Operations Rules

Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN)

Governance and Operations Rules

Last Updated: April 5, 2022

Purpose of Rules:

To provide the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) member Councils of Governments (MEMBER COGs) and their staff with a simple and flexible governance and operations framework that:

- Defines roles and responsibilities, and delineates scopes of authority of the MEMBER COGs, I-REN Executive Committee, Administrative Lead COG, Program Managers, and Program Teams;
- Establishes processes and channels for effective and transparent communication and decision making; and
- Accommodates future expansion of programs and capacity to scale.

Overview of I-REN:

I-REN is a consortium of Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), and Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), who have joined together to establish locally administered, designed, and delivered energy efficiency programs. I-REN's current portfolio of programs, as authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), includes:

- Workforce Education and Training (WE&T)
- Codes and Standards (C&S)
- Public Sector

The above program names are used for CPUC communications. For marketing purposes, I-REN has rebranded the programs as the following:

- WE&T: TBD
- C&S: TBD
- Public Sector: TBD

I-REN's overall Administrative Lead COG is WRCOG. Each individual program in I-REN's portfolio is administered by one or more Program Lead COGs based on their existing expertise, interest, and knowledge of the region. One representative from each Program Lead COG is selected - by the Program Lead COG - to be the Program Manager. Each program has a Program Team, including at least one representative from each member COG.

The table below showing I-REN's initial staffing is included to illustrate the above:

Sector	Program Lead COG(s)	Program Manager	Program Team Member Titles
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Public Sector	SANBAG and WRCOG	SANBAG Program Manager– co-lead WRCOG Program Manager – co-lead	CVAG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst SANBAG – Program Manager/Mgmt Analyst WRCOG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst Consultant support
Workforce, Education and Training	SANBAG and WRCOG	SANBAG Program Manager– co-lead WRCOG Program Manager – co-lead	CVAG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst SANBAG – Program Manager/Mgmt Analyst WRCOG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst Consultant support
Codes and Standards	CVAG	CVAG Program Manager	CVAG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst SANBAG – Program Manager/Mgmt Analyst WRCOG – Program Manager/Mgmt. Analyst Consultant support

** Program Team members are encouraged to attend other meetings to facilitate coordination and learn about other program activities. Staff only involved in some program services or activities are included as Program Team members.*

Governance and Operations:

I-REN's governance and operations framework consists of four main roles. Each role is listed below with its associated responsibilities and scopes of authority, as well as any relevant processes and channels intended to promote and enhance effective and transparent communication and decision making.

1. I-REN Executive Committee:

I-REN is governed by an Executive Committee on which each MEMBER COG will have three votes. Each COG's governing board will determine how its voting power will be exercised, including the number of representatives it will have on the Executive Committee and whether its representatives will be elected officials, staff members, or a combination of elected officials and staff members. Decisions will be made based on majority of the total votes cast on a matter, with each MEMBER COG having its full three votes independent of the number of its representatives present at the meeting.

The I-REN Executive Committee has final responsibility to make all executive decisions including:

- Establishing portfolio-level strategy and overall I-REN prioritization;
- Establishing and managing portfolio-level budgets;
- Addressing and resolving high-level programmatic concerns and issues such as program design, branding and marketing, strategy, procurement, and consulting support;
- Authorizing responses to relevant CPUC regulatory filings, inquiries, data requests, etc.
- Authorizing procurements above the threshold set in the procurement policy to be established by the I-REN Executive Committee.

2. **I-REN Administrative Lead COG:** WRCOG will serve as the fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting manager and primary regulatory contact manager for I-REN and as such is responsible as I-REN Administrative Lead COG for administering I-REN on a day-to-day basis in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2022-2027 Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) dated XXXXX, 2022, as the same may be amended from time to time, to which this Rules is an exhibit. WRCOG's administrative responsibilities include:

- Submitting monthly invoices to SoCalGas, I-REN's CPUC appointed Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) fiscal agent;
- Reporting to the CPUC on monthly, quarterly, and annual basis;
- Coordinating with CPUC Energy Division staff; and filing required regulatory submissions;
- Participating on the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC);
- Managing all procurement and contracts;
- Providing oversight of budgets, expenses, and reimbursements;
- Coordinating with IOU leads for all regulatory requirements.
- Scheduling and drafting agendas for the I-REN Executive Committee, with input from the Program Managers.

WRCOG's Executive Director shall have the authority to take actions and execute agreements on behalf of WRCOG as the I-REN Administrative Lead COG following the approval of such actions and agreements as may be required by the I-REN Executive Committee in accordance with the procurement policy to be established by it referred to above.

3. **Program Managers:** As noted above, one representative from each Program Lead COG is selected - by the Program Lead COG - to be the Program Manager. Program Manager responsibilities include:

- Serving as the primary point of contact for all program-specific interactions with consultants and implementers. This includes project initiation, planning, execution, and monitoring and review. Project initiation will include gathering input from program team members. Intermediate deliverables at established milestones will also be distributed for Program Team member comment as appropriate;
- Recommending overall program decisions to the I-REN Executive Committee;
- Making program decisions to implement and operate the programs;
- Participating in local and state industry webinars, conferences and events, researching other similar programs, sharing and leveraging best practices to inform program design;

- Developing relationships with and understanding the needs of program stakeholders in all three COG subregions;
- Establishing a working group of such stakeholders to provide regular input to the Program Manager on the administration of the program;
- Coordinating with other Regional Energy Networks and IOUs regarding program design and delivery to enhance program performance and achieve mutual objectives;
- Developing and presenting program design and implementation strategies consistent with the Implementation Plan for Program Team member input and approval;
- Developing and updating annual Strategic Action Plans and work plans; and establishing and communicating program-level roles and priorities;
- Delegating tasks as appropriate to Program Team members;
- Managing program-level performance and providing program-level reporting to the I-REN Administrative Lead COG;
- Managing program-level budget;
- Scheduling and drafting agendas for Program Team meetings; sending agenda at least 24 hours prior to meeting; and sending meeting notes and action items within 24 hours after the meeting;
- Supporting CPUC regulatory filings (e.g. metrics) as necessary; and
- Coordinating and communicating with the I-REN Executive Committee, including preparing staff reports for the I-REN Executive Committee meetings.

4. **Program Teams:** Each I-REN program has a Program Team including at least one representative from each member COG as well as consultants and/or technical assistance providers. Program Team member responsibilities include:

- Developing relationships with and understanding the needs of stakeholders within the Program Team member's subregion;
- Taking primary accountability for program implementation and operation within the Program Team member's subregion, as directed by the Program Manager;
- Providing input and/or alternative suggestions for program design and implementation strategies presented by the Program Manager;
- Completing tasks and action items delegated by the Program Manager within the timeframe allotted;
- Understanding defined program-level roles and priorities and communicating with the Program Manager if and when clarification is needed;
- Identifying and communicating programmatic concerns and issues that warrant the consideration of the I-REN Executive Committee; and
- Attending and actively participating in weekly or bi-weekly Program Team meetings.

Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) Meetings

To further promote and enhance effective and transparent communication and decision- making, critical meetings with pre-established frequency and with invitations sent to all pertinent members have been identified and detailed in the matrix below. Each of the meetings has been previously referenced as a responsibility under each of the aforementioned roles.

Meeting Type	Frequency	Mode	Time
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I-REN Executive Committee	Quarterly	In-Person / Virtual	TBD
Program Team / Member COG All-Staff*	Bi-Weekly (or Weekly as needed)	Virtual	TBD

**Member COG All-Staff meetings are meant to drive program implementation and resolve operational issues.*

The I-REN Executive Committee is subject to the Brown Act. Meeting information will be generated and distributed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Brown Act.

If a Program Manager or Program Team member is not present at meetings, it is such person's responsibility to review shared meeting notes and deliver assigned action items. All I-REN related meetings, events or related travel shall include an invitation to XX@IREN.org.

Attachment 4

Programs Agreement

**INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK
ENERGY EFFICIENCY
PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS AGREEMENT
FOR YEARS 2022-2027**

THIS INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK – ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS AGREEMENT FOR YEARS 2022-2027 (hereinafter, and as further defined below, the “Programs Agreement”) is entered into and made effective, subject to Section 7.13, as of [_____], 2022 (the “Effective Date”), by and among:

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (the “WRCOG”), a joint exercise of powers authority established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Division 7, Title 1 of the Government Code of the State of California (Section 6500 et. seq.) (the “Act”) and that certain Joint Power Agreement entered into on [April 1, 1991], as amended from time to time (the “WRCOG JPA”), by and among the WRCOG Agencies (as defined in Section 2.21) on behalf of itself as well as in its capacity as the I-REN Authorized Agent (as defined in recital R3.); and

Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”), an investor-owned, California public utilities corporation, with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Sempra Energy, a California Corporation; and

Southern California Edison (“SCE”), an investor-owned, California public utilities corporation, with its principal place of business in Rosemead, California, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Edison International, a California corporation; and

For purposes of Sections 3.1, 4.3, 7.13, 14.5, 18.2 and 19.1 and Articles XIII and XVI, as well as Exhibits C and D only, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (the “CVAG”), a joint exercise of powers authority established pursuant to the Act and that certain Joint Power Agreement entered into on or about November 1973, as amended from time to time (the “CVAG JPA”), by and among the CVAG Agencies (as defined in Section 2.8); and

For purposes of Sections 3.1, 4.3, 7.13, 14.5, 18.2, and 19.1 and Articles XIII and XVI, as well as Exhibits C and D only, the San Bernardino Associated Governments (the “SANBAG”), a joint exercise of powers authority established pursuant to the Act and that certain Joint Power Agreement entered into on June 8, 1973, as amended from time to time (the “SANBAG JPA”), by and among the SANBAG Agencies (as defined in Section 2.17).

RECITALS

R1. On February 26, 2021, the WRCOG filed a motion with the Commission to recognize the consortium of the WRCOG, the CVAG and the SANBAG (collectively, the “Constituent COGS”) as a regional energy network (a “REN”) (as originally introduced by the Commission in its decision, *Decision Providing Guidance on 2013-2014 Energy Efficiency Portfolios and 2012 Marketing, Education and Outreach* (D.12-05-015)) to be known as, the Inland Regional Energy Network (the “I-REN”), and to approve the I-REN’s proposed energy efficiency rolling portfolio business plan and budget (the “Business Plan & Budget”) concerning the proposed program areas and certain administrative costs associated therewith incorporated into such motion, as further described herein. This motion was made in accordance with various decisions of the Commission, including *Decision Re Energy Efficiency Goals for 2016 and Beyond* and *Energy Efficiency Rolling Portfolio Mechanics* (D.15-10-028), *Decision Providing Guidance for Initial Energy Efficiency Rolling Portfolio Business Plan Filings* (D.16-08-019), *Decision Addressing Energy Efficiency Business Plans* (D.18-05-041), and *Decision Regarding Frameworks for Energy Efficiency Regional Energy Networks and Market Transformation* (D.19-12-021).

R2. On November 22, 2021, the Commission issued its decision, *Approval of Inland Regional Energy Network Energy Efficiency Business Plan* (D.21-11-013) (the “Decision”), pursuant to which, among other

things, the Commission (i) approved the I-REN as a REN and as a full energy efficiency program administrator, (ii) approved the Business Plan & Budget by authorizing energy efficiency funding in the aggregate amount of Sixty-Five Million Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars and Zero Cents (\$65,577,932.00) for the years 2022 through 2027, (iii) appointed SoCalGas to serve as the fiscal and contracting agent utility for the I-REN, and (iv) instructed SoCalGas and SCE to coordinate administratively with respect to the collection and distribution of electric funds supporting the I-REN's activities.

R3. Pursuant to that certain Memorandum of Agreement (the "MOA") (including the I-REN Governance and Operations Rules attached as Exhibit C thereto and incorporated therein by reference), dated as of November 28, 2022, by and among the Constituent COGS, and in accordance with Section 3.1, the Constituent COGS, by and through each of their respective executive committees, have agreed, adopted and approved that the WRCOG be the authorized Administrative Lead COG, fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting entity, and the primary regulatory contact manager for the I-REN as well as the authorized agent for and on behalf of the Constituent COGS under this Programs Agreement (the WRCOG, acting in such capacity and performing such roles is referred to herein as, the "I-REN Authorized Agent").

AGREEMENT

In consideration of the foregoing and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, and intending to be legally bound hereby, each of the WRCOG, on behalf of itself and the Constituent COGS, SCE and SoCalGas agree as follows:

ARTICLE I Documents

Section 1.1 This base document (including its Recitals) along with the Exhibits expressly listed below, as well as any documents expressly incorporated herein, collectively form, and are referred to throughout and hereinafter as, the "Programs Agreement." The Parties intend that this Programs Agreement be read and interpreted as a single and unified document, without giving interpretive precedence to where a provision is located in the Programs Agreement. The Exhibits are as follows:

Exhibit A-1: the I-REN Public Sector Program Implementation Plan (a copy of which has been filed with CEDARS and updated from time to time).

Exhibit A-2: the I-REN Workforce Education and Training Program Implementation Plan (a copy of which has been filed with CEDARS and updated from time to time).

Exhibit A-3: the I-REN Codes & Standards Program Implementation Plan (a copy of which has been filed with CEDARS and updated from time to time).

Exhibit B Maximum Contract Sum and IOU Maximum Contribution

Exhibit C Security Incident Response Provision

Exhibit D Computing System and Security Review and Obligations

Exhibit E Monthly Invoicing and Reporting Requirements

Exhibit F Energy Efficiency Policy Manual Version 6, April 2020

Exhibit G Time & Materials Hourly Rate Schedule

Exhibit H Commission Approved JCMs

Exhibit I	The MOA (including the Rules)
Exhibit J	Program Coordinating Committees [TBD]
Exhibit K	Description and Map of I-REN Service Territory

Section 1.2 This Programs Agreement constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of understanding among the Parties and supersedes any previous agreements, amendments, written or oral, and all communications among the Parties relating to the subject matter herein. To the extent that there is any conflict of, or inconsistency in, interpretation between this Programs Agreement and the Decision (or any other decision of the Commission), the Decision (or such decision of the Commission) shall be given interpretive priority. To the extent that there is a direct and explicit conflict between the body of the Programs Agreement and the Implementation Plan, as approved by the Commission, the Implementation Plan shall control. Captions and Section headings used in this Programs Agreement are for convenience only and are not intended to be used in interpreting this Programs Agreement.

ARTICLE II Definitions

The terms and phrases in this Article 2, in quotes and with initial letter(s) capitalized, shall have the meanings set forth below whenever used in this Programs Agreement.

Section 2.1 “Administrative Lead COG” means WRCOG serving in its capacity as the fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting manager and primary regulatory contract manager for I-REN.

Section 2.2 “Authorized Work” means any and all goods, services, materials and deliverables and related obligations to be performed and undertaken by an administrator or implementor of an I-REN Program, pursuant to a contract between a Subcontractor (or Third-Party Contractor), on the one hand, and an I-REN Constituent Agency, on the other hand, as approved by the WRCOG, in its capacity as the I-REN Authorized Agent, in conformance with an Implementation Plan, this Programs Agreement and the Decision or as otherwise authorized by the Commission.

Section 2.3 “Business Day” is the measurement period of time, for purposes of this Programs Agreement, from one midnight to the following midnight, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Section 2.4 “Calendar Day” is the measurement period of time, for purposes of this Programs Agreement, from one midnight to the following midnight, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Unless otherwise specified, all days in this Programs Agreement are Calendar Days.

Section 2.5 “CEDARS” means the California Energy Data and Reporting System.

Section 2.6 “CFA” means that certain Co-Funding Agreement, dated as of the Effective Date, by and between SCE and SoCalGas, pursuant to which SCE and SoCalGas have agreed to work together to coordinate administratively with respect to the collection and distribution of utility rate-payer funds supporting the I-REN's activities and to appoint SoCalGas as the lead fiscal and contracting agent utility for the I-REN.

Section 2.7 “Commission” means the California Public Utilities Commission.

Section 2.8 “CVAG Agencies” means, collectively, the following member, local government agencies and tribal governments of the CVAG as of the Effective Date (which may thereafter change from

time to time): the County of Riverside, the City of Coachella, the City of Indio, the City of La Quinta, the City of Indian Wells, the City of Palm Desert, the City of Rancho Mirage, the City of Cathedral City, the City of Palm Springs, the City of Desert Hot Springs, the City of Blythe, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, the Torres Martinez Tribe, and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians; "CVAG Agency" means any individual member, local government agency or and tribal government thereof.

Section 2.9 "Customer" or "Customers" means, whether singular or plural, whether residential, commercial or otherwise, those persons or entities receiving electrical service from SCE (i.e., electric utility ratepayers) or natural gas service from SoCalGas (i.e., natural gas utility ratepayers), who pay the 'public goods charge,' pursuant to Section 381 of the California Public Utilities Code, or the 'gas surcharge,' pursuant to the Sections 890-900 of the California Public Utilities Code, respectively, in each case, for public purposes programs, including energy efficiency programs approved by the Commission.

Section 2.10 "EM&V Activities" means those evaluation, measurement and verification activities undertaken by the I-REN or any I-REN Constituent Agency, including data collection, Commission evaluation activities, as well as process, market and sector analysis for I-REN Program planning and implementation pursuant to the Decision and other Commission requirements.

Section 2.11 "Incentive" has the meaning used in the Commission's Energy Efficiency Policy Manual, Version 6, April 2020, as may be supplemented or updated from time to time.

Section 2.12 "Implementation Plan" means the document filed by the WRCOG on behalf of I-REN and approved by the Commission, which addresses the design and implementation of the work and activities of one or more I-REN Programs, including the description of the I-REN's implementation strategies and tactics, program processes, program targets and deliverables conforming to the Decision or other written Commission decisions or directives, and attached to this Programs Agreement as one of its Exhibit As. For future Implementation Plan amendments and updates, once the Commission has approved the revised Implementation Plan, such approved Implementation Plan shall be attached as an Exhibit A and shall be automatically incorporated herein. Any subsequent changes or modifications by the Commission to an Implementation Plan shall also be automatically incorporated into and attached as an Exhibit A and shall be incorporated herein. As between Implementation Plans, the most recent Commission-approved Implementation Plan shall be controlling.

Section 2.13 "I-REN Constituent Agencies" means, collectively, the Constituent COGS, the WRCOG Agencies, the CVAG Agencies and the SANBAG Agencies; "I-REN Constituent Agency" means any individual member, local government agency(ies) thereof (including any constituent agency of the same).

Section 2.14 "JCM" means those certain Joint Cooperation Memorandums to be jointly filed with the Commission annually by the Parties as a Tier 2 Advice Letter pursuant to the Decision and as approved by the Commission during the term of this Program Agreements, as may be amended and updated from time to time.

Section 2.15 "Parties" means, collectively, the WRCOG, SCE and SoCalGas. CVAG and SANBAG have executed this Programs Agreement only for purposes of agreeing to Sections 3.1, 4.3, 7.13, 14.5, 18.2 and 19.1, Sections XIII and XVI and Exhibits C and D hereof, but are otherwise not considered Parties hereto; "Party" means, individually, each of the WRCOG, SCE or SoCalGas.

Section 2.16 "Program Expenditures" means actual (i.e., no mark-up for profit, administrative or other indirect costs), reasonable expenditures by any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies in solely targeted and direct support of an I-REN Program or Commission-approved EM&V Activity.

Section 2.17 "SANBAG Agencies" means, collectively, the following member, local government agencies of the SANBAG as of the Effective Date (which may thereafter change from time to time): the County of San Bernardino, the Town of Apple Valley, the City of Adelanto, the City of Barstow, the City of Big Bear Lake, the City of Chino, the City of Chino Hills, the City of Colton, the City of Fontana, the City of Grand Terrace, the City of Hesperia, the City of Highland, the City of Loma Linda, the City of Montclair, the City of Needles, the City of Ontario, the City of Rancho Cucamonga, the City of Redlands, the City of Rialto, the City of San Bernardino, the City of Twentynine Palms, the City of Upland, the City of Victorville, the City of Yucaipa and the Town of Yucca Valley; "SANBAG Agency" means any individual member, local government agency thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Party's agree that the Utilities will only have to recognize those constituents of the SANBAG Agencies (and any Authorized Work relating thereto) that comport in all respects with the Decision and its reference to the "San Bernardino Council of Governments."

Section 2.18 "Subcontractor" means a person or an entity (or any subcontractor thereof) contracting directly with any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies to furnish services or materials as part of or directly related to an I-REN Program and this Programs Agreement.

Section 2.19 "Third-Party Contractor" is a person or an entity participating in any of the I-REN Programs to furnish services or materials as part of or directly related to an I-REN Program. To be a Third-Party Contractor, the following conditions must be met: (1) the person or entity is not an employee, Subcontractor, or agent of any I-REN Constituent Agency, (2) the person or entity does not have a contractual relationship with any I-REN Constituent Agency relating to any of the I-REN Programs, and (3) the person or entity's participation in the I-REN Programs is not controlled, directly or indirectly, by any I-REN Constituent Agency.

Section 2.20 "Utility" means SCE or SoCalGas, individually; "Utilities" means SCE and SoCalGas, collectively.

Section 2.21 "WRCOG Agencies" means, collectively, the following member, local government agencies of the WRCOG as of the Effective Date (which may thereafter change from time to time): The County of Riverside, the City of Banning, the City of Beaumont, the City of Calimesa, the City of Canyon Lake, the City of Corona, the City of Eastvale City of Hemet, the City of Jurupa Valley, the City of Lake Elsinore, the City of Menifee, the City of Moreno Valley, the City of Murrieta, the City of Norco City of Perris, the City of Riverside, the City of San Jacinto, the City of Temecula, the City of Wildomar, the Eastern Municipal Water District, the Western Municipal Water District, and the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools; "WRCOG Agency" means any individual member, local government agency thereof.

ARTICLE III

I-REN Authorized Agent and I-REN Programs

Section 3.1 Appointment of I-REN Authorized Agent.

(a) By the approval of this Programs Agreement by each of the Constituent COGS, and in accordance with the MOA, each of the Constituent COGS hereby irrevocably appoints and constitutes the WRCOG as its respective exclusive agent, proxy and attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, to act on behalf of the Constituent COGS for the purposes specified herein (including the Recitals hereto) as the I-REN Authorized Agent including the full power and authority to act on the Constituent COGS behalf with respect to this Programs Agreement as well as the I-REN and the I-REN

Programs, including, without limitation, to act as the I-REN's authorized Administrative Lead COG, fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting entity, and primary regulatory contact manager, and to bind the Constituent COGS to the rights and obligations described herein. The Constituent COGS, by approving this Programs Agreement, further agree that such exclusive agency, proxy and attorney-in-fact and the powers and immunities granted to the I-REN Authorized Agent hereunder (i) are coupled with an interest, are therefore irrevocable without the consent of the I-REN Authorized Agent, and (ii) shall be binding upon the successors, heirs, executors, administrators and legal representatives of each of the Constituent COGS and shall not be affected by, and shall survive, the bankruptcy, dissolution or liquidation of any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies.

(b) All decisions, actions, consents and instructions by the I-REN Authorized Agent shall be binding upon all of the Constituent COGS, and none of the Constituent COGS shall have the right to object to, dissent from, protest or otherwise contest any such decision, action, consent or instruction. The Utilities shall be entitled to rely on any decision, action, consent or instruction of the I-REN Authorized Agent as being the decision, action, consent or instruction of the Constituent COGS, and each of the Utilities are hereby relieved from any liability to any person for acts done by them in accordance with any such decision, act, consent or instruction.

(c) The I-REN Authorized Agent shall have such powers and authority as are necessary to carry out the functions assigned to it under this Programs Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the I-REN Authorized Agent shall have full power, authority and discretion to: (i) consummate the transactions contemplated by this Programs Agreement; (ii) negotiate disputes arising under, or relating to, this Programs Agreement; (iii) receive and disburse the payments it receives from SoCalGas pursuant to Section 7.6, whether to Third-Party Contractors, Subcontractors, the I-REN Constituent Agencies or otherwise; (iv) withhold any amounts received under this Programs Agreement or otherwise to satisfy any and all obligations or liabilities incurred by the I-REN Authorized Agent in the performance of its duties hereunder; (v) execute and deliver any amendment or waiver to this Programs Agreement (without the prior approval of the other Constituent COGS); and (vi) take all other actions to be taken or refrain from taking such action by or on behalf of the Constituent COGS in connection with this Programs Agreement.

(d) By the approval of this Programs Agreement and the MOA, each of the Constituent COGS hereby, severally, but not jointly, agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the I-REN Authorized Agent and its partners, managers, officers, agents and other representatives from and against any losses, liabilities, costs, claims, damages, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of other skilled professionals and in connection with seeking recovery from insurers), judgments, fines and amounts incurred by such persons arising out of actions taken or omitted to be taken by the WRCOG when acting in the capacity as the I-REN Authorized Agent except for those arising out of the WRCOG's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(e) The Constituent COGS agree not to amend or modify the MOA without the written prior consent of the Utilities to the extent such amendment or modification would cause any of the Constituent COGS to be in breach of this Programs Agreement or otherwise adversely affect the obligations of any of the Constituent COGS, or the rights of the Utilities, hereunder.

Section 3.2 The I-REN's goal is to connect residents, businesses, and local governments to a wide range of energy efficiency resources to increase energy savings and equitable access throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties. In order to achieve this goal, pursuant to and in accordance with this Programs Agreement, the Decision, other Commission decisions, the Commission approved Business Plan & Budget, the JCM, and the applicable Implementation Plans, the WRCOG, acting as the I-REN Authorized Agent, shall implement the following I-REN programs (collectively, as approved by the Commission, the "I-REN Programs," and each, individually, an "I-REN Program"):

(a) I-REN Public Sector Program. The goal of this I-REN Program is to build capacity and knowledge in order to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services

and to demonstrate best practices in accordance with the I-REN Public Sector Program Implementation Plan. This I-REN Program will serve the I-REN Constituent Agencies, including cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribal communities. This I-REN Program will target, but not be limited to, upgrades to existing public buildings and facilities with high energy use and older equipment. There will also be a focus on community-serving buildings such as community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings. Through energy efficiency projects in these facilities, I-REN can provide benefits to disadvantaged, low income, and other vulnerable communities where these facilities serve as cooling centers offering protection from the region's extreme heat. This I-REN Program provides a range of offerings and services that include, but are not limited to, technical assistance and strategic energy planning, including a public building NMEC program, a resource program.

(b) I-REN Codes & Standards Program. The goal of this I-REN Program is to work closely with local building departments and the building industry to support, train, and enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance in accordance with the I-REN Codes & Standards Program Implementation Plan. This I-REN Program will assist its local government agencies to better understand and enforce energy building codes and will also assist its local government agencies in development and implementation of reach codes and model ordinances. This I-REN Program will support the Inland Empire region's building industry to better conform to and implement the building codes. This I-REN Program could include but is not limited to identifying gaps in code compliance and working with the statewide IOU C&S Program to ensure that CAEECC-vetted, statewide and consistent support is provided to their constituents. The I-REN will leverage opportunities to support code compliance and enforcement to ensure that the staffs of local government building departments have adequate knowledge and awareness of energy-savings measures.

(c) I-REN Workforce Education & Training Program. The goal of this I-REN Program is to ensure that there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors in accordance with the I-REN Workforce Education and Training Program Implementation Plan. This I-REN Program will serve as a vital link between workforce skills and training providers such as community colleges and employers to build a more robust market and increase the number of skilled energy efficiency contractors in Inland Empire region. The Program will promote job market recovery and progress toward statewide goals regarding energy efficiency, air quality, and support for hard-to-reach, underserved, rural, tribal, and disadvantaged communities. This I-REN Program intends to create a robust local network of trainings to increase capacity, knowledge and awareness of energy efficiency and the number of skilled energy efficiency workers in the Inland Empire region.

(d) Subject to Article IV, including any changes that would directly or indirectly modify any material provision of this Programs Agreement, any future energy efficiency programs of the I-REN that are approved by the Commission pursuant to a future Commission decision and implemented in accordance with a Commission approved Implementation Plan, which such plan will be attached hereto as an additional Exhibit A.

ARTICLE IV

Roles and Deliverables

Section 4.1 Utilities. Pursuant to and in accordance with the Decision, the CFA, and this Programs Agreement, SoCalGas shall act as the fiscal and contracting agent utility for the I-REN in order to disburse Commission authorized funds pursuant to a valid invoice and based on the Business Plan & Budget to the I-REN Authorized Agent and conduct general management and monitoring activities in compliance with Commission directives. The Utilities' role shall encompass all of the usual fiscal and management functions as set forth in this Programs Agreement, including fiscal oversight and monitoring, and as otherwise determined by the Commission. The Utilities will be responsible for timely payments to the I-REN Authorized Agent for Authorized Work completed in accordance with an applicable Implementation Plan and as set forth in this Programs Agreement. Other than expressly described herein, the Utilities shall have no role in, or obligations with respect to, the I-REN Program design or implementation other than to transfer the funds described herein.

Section 4.2 I-REN Independent Authority. Pursuant to Commission decision, *Decision Approving 2013-2014 Energy Efficiency Programs And Budgets* (D.12-11-015), for initial authorization of Regional Energy Network and *Decision Regarding Frameworks for Energy Efficiency Regional Energy Networks and Market Transformation* (D.19-12-021), and Energy Efficiency Policy Manual Version 6 dated April 2020 (Exhibit F), and within the confines of the applicable I-REN Programs and Implementation Plans approved by the Commission, the WRCOG, as the I-REN Authorized Agent, on behalf of the I-REN amongst and between the Constituent COGS, has the independent authority to design, manage, deliver, and oversee the I-REN Programs, without the Utilities' direction as it relates to design and delivery of such I-REN Programs. The WRCOG, as the I-REN Authorized Agent, on behalf of I-REN, shall be independently accountable to the Commission for delivering the results outlined in I-REN's Implementation Plans, and neither SCE nor SoCalGas will have any responsibility or liability for WRCOG's failure to implement any I-REN Programs in accordance with Commission decisions, directives, policies, or rules.

Section 4.3 WRCOG Authority in I-REN Governance. The Constituent COGS have each executed the MOA, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit I and which is incorporated herein by reference, pursuant to which the WRCOG has been appointed as the I-REN Authorized Agent of the Constituent COGS in order to administer the I-REN and the I-REN Programs in accordance with this Programs Agreement.

Section 4.4 Modification of the Program by the Commission. The Parties each acknowledge and agree that this Programs Agreement and any I-REN Program shall at all times be subject to the authority and discretion of the Commission, including, but not limited to, review, modifications and denials, as the Commission may direct from time to time in the exercise of its jurisdiction. If the Commission modifies an I-REN Program, the Parties shall amend this Programs Agreement as necessary to incorporate such changes. Such corresponding amendment shall specify any changes, including without limitation, the Implementation Plans, increases or decreases in overall I-REN Program funding, or such other modification or change as directed by the Commission.

Section 4.5 Modification of the Program by the Parties. The WRCOG and the Utilities each acknowledge that the Utilities' function does not extend to the I-REN Program design or modification, or the effectiveness of the WRCOG's delivery of Authorized Work under this Programs Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Utilities and the WRCOG may collaborate on and agree to I-REN Program designs, implementation strategies or modifications. If the WRCOG desires to modify an Implementation Plan, it must notify the appropriate Utility(ies) and Commission staff by providing the proposed modifications. With Commission approval, the WRCOG may modify the Implementation Plan by documenting the changes in the California Energy Data and Reporting System (CEDARS) website, maintained by the Commission. If the WRCOG wishes to eliminate an existing I-REN Program or propose a new program, the WRCOG must file an advice letter or take other action as directed by the Commission to obtain Commission approval.

Section 4.6 I-REN Program Start Up.

(a) Program Data, Invoicing and Reporting Tool. The WRCOG shall attend a workshop that provides training on the use of Utility invoicing and reporting, protocols and procedures, including the use of various invoicing and reporting tools (collectively, "IR Tools"). The WRCOG will attend IR Tool training as determined by SoCalGas in consultation with the WRCOG.

(b) Reporting

(i) IR Tools. After SoCalGas provides the WRCOG training on the IR Tools, the WRCOG will utilize the IR Tools, which serve three primary purposes:

(A) Enable the WRCOG to provide SoCalGas with required I-REN Program information that supports the costs incurred;

(B) Provide SoCalGas the capability to access the I-REN Program information for the purpose of fiscal management and coordination; and create reports; and

(C) Provide miscellaneous reporting support for the Utilities' internal and Commission reporting requirements.

(ii) Submission of Information into IR Tools. The WRCOG will update invoicing and reporting information using the IR Tools on a monthly basis in accordance with requirements set forth in this Programs Agreement. The WRCOG will work collaboratively with SoCalGas in tailoring the required files and data for each I-REN Program.

(iii) Monthly Invoicing and Reporting. All required monthly invoice reports can be generated via the IR Tools. The WRCOG will be responsible for implementing, adhering to, and the submission of, the items as described in Exhibit E of this Programs Agreement. The invoice reporting requirements may be amended from time to time, at which time SoCalGas will notify the WRCOG of the changes and issue a new Exhibit E. The WRCOG shall implement these modifications in a timely manner and they will be reflected in future invoice documentation.

(iv) Utilities' Regulatory Reporting and Filing. The WRCOG will timely implement, adhere to, and submit the items as requested by the Utilities for Commission regulatory reporting, filing or data request purposes. The WRCOG acknowledges that the Utility may, in its sole discretion, require the WRCOG to provide such other reports or documentation that the Utilities deem appropriate or necessary ("Ad Hoc Reports"). The WRCOG will comply with any request for such Ad Hoc Report(s) within a reasonable time or within the time requested by the Utility.

(v) I-REN Regulatory Reporting and Filing. Subject to each Utility's internal compliance, confidentiality and disclosure policies, the Utilities will cooperate and timely submit items as requested by the WRCOG for Commission regulatory reporting, filing or data request purposes. The Utilities acknowledge that the WRCOG may reasonably request the Utilities to provide such other reports or documentation that the WRCOG deems appropriate or necessary for the purpose of Commission regulatory reporting, filing or data request.

(vi) The WRCOG acknowledges that to the extent any authorized entity seeks to audit an I-REN Program, including the use of funds relating thereto, the Utility(ies) may direct the seeking entity to the WRCOG directly or require the WRCOG to provide any and all documentation or records required. The Utilities may make any of the records they develop and maintain accordance to this Programs Agreement, as well as any information obtained from any of the I-REN or the I-REN Constituent Agencies, available to the Commission upon request of the Commission.

(vii) The WRCOG agrees to the following I-REN monthly invoice and cost accounting schedule as follows:

Deliverable(s)	Due Date(s)
The WRCOG to prepare and submit monthly invoices and supporting documentation to SoCalGas.	Monthly, by the 15th Calendar Day for Authorized Work completed in the preceding month.
The WRCOG to prepare and submit quarterly invoice estimate for accrual to SoCalGas.	Quarterly by the 12th Calendar Day for the month of March, June, September, and December of each calendar year.
The WRCOG to prepare and submit relevant reporting data to SoCalGas.	As SoCalGas or WRCOG requests and/or requires, as set forth in this Programs Agreement.

(c) Particular I-REN Programs may have additional or different requirements and/or deadlines as communicated to the WRCOG, on behalf of the I-REN, in writing by SoCalGas. Any Commission-approved changes to the Implementation Plan shall be incorporated herein in accordance with this Article IV

(d) Relationship of the Parties. Each Party is wholly independent of the other Parties, and neither this Programs Agreement nor the exercise of any of the duties of the Parties pursuant to this Programs Agreement shall be deemed to create any joint venture, partnership, fiduciary, agency or employment relationship between the Parties. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to convey any rights or benefits upon any third party other than as expressly set forth herein.

ARTICLE V

Maximum Contract Sum

Section 5.1 The Maximum Contract Sum committed to this Programs Agreement from the Utilities is set forth in Exhibit B of this Programs Agreement. Exhibit B reflects the I-REN's Commission authorized Business Plan & Budget from the Decision for each I-REN Program calendar year from 2022 through 2027. Exhibit B may be amended and updated to reflect the latest Commission-approved I-REN budget or budget changes and the Utilities' maximum funding contribution for each I-REN Program calendar year without a need for formal amendment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, WRCOG shall provide the Utilities (1) notice of any request to the Commission to update, change, or extend its current authorized I-REN budget that impacts the maximum funding contribution of the Utilities; and (2) notice of any Commission-approved changes to the I-REN budget to be incorporated into Exhibit B.

Section 5.2 Except as otherwise set forth in an Implementation Plan, and future Commission written decisions, and unless the fund-shifting rules established by the Commission are changed, the WRCOG, as the I-REN Authorized Agent, has the sole discretion to re-allocate the I-REN Program budgets amongst and between individual projects supported by Authorized Work, subject to Commission approval. The WRCOG shall timely notify the Utilities of any approved fund shift or budget change. Any Commission-approved I-REN budget changes shall be automatically incorporated into and attached to Exhibit B and shall be incorporated herein.

Section 5.3 Cost Caps. The WRCOG shall use its best efforts to cap administrative costs at ten percent (10%) of the Maximum Contract Sum per year, and marketing and outreach costs to a maximum of six percent (6%) of the Maximum Contract Sum per year. The WRCOG acknowledges that it is the desire of the Commission to keep administrative and marketing costs as low as possible.

ARTICLE VI

Utilities' Relationship

Section 6.1 SoCalGas will serve as the primary utility administrator for this Programs Agreement, in compliance with Commission directives and the CFA, and shall act as a fiscal agent with responsibility for the timely distribution of funds to the WRCOG (as the I-REN Authorized Agent) for Authorized Work.

Section 6.2 SCE's rights are coextensive of the rights of SoCalGas under this Programs Agreement and are in no way limited by SoCalGas.

Section 6.3 As between SCE and SoCalGas the terms of their CFA shall control. The CFA may be amended by mutual agreement of the Utilities without notice, consent, or consultation from the WRCOG. Nothing in the CFA, or any amendment to it, shall affect any right or obligation of the WRCOG with respect to the Utilities.

ARTICLE VII Invoicing, Reporting and Payments

The WRCOG shall deliver monthly invoices to SoCalGas by the 15th Calendar Day of each month for Program Expenditures incurred for Authorized Work completed in the preceding month. SoCalGas shall review the invoices concurrently with SCE to ensure (1) that the costs incurred are allowable costs related to I-REN Program activities that are consistent with the applicable Implementation Plan and (2) that sufficient Commission budgetary authorization exists. The following invoicing, reporting and payment requirements are applicable to each payment request pursuant to an invoice, which must be in accordance with the applicable project's scope of work for an I-REN Program and/or Commission-approved I-REN EM&V Activity:

Section 7.1 Time and Material Basis. All Authorized Work will be performed on a "time and material basis" and subject to the general provisions set forth below. In the event Authorized Work is performed on a basis other than time and materials, the Parties shall agree on general provisions for invoicing and reporting such Authorized Work and incorporate such provisions into this Programs Agreement by amendment prior to the consummation of any such Authorized Work and prior to the WRCOG invoicing the Utilities for the same.

Section 7.2 Energy Efficiency Incentive. Subject to Article IX, the WRCOG (as the I-REN Authorized Agent) will invoice the Utilities for funding to cover energy efficiency Incentives paid to a Customer (or such Customer's authorized contractor) for such Customer's energy efficiency improvement. The Utilities and WRCOG agree that the activities covered by the Incentive may be invoiced by the WRCOG in a manner other than on a 'time and materials' basis. Funding for the Incentive shall be invoiced by the WRCOG to SoCalGas along with completed energy efficient project and installed measure data identifying electric and/or gas Incentives. Notwithstanding the foregoing, consistent with Section 9.1, the Utilities have no obligation to pay for Incentive costs provided to a Customer that previously received Incentives for the same measure(s) through another utility ratepayer-funded program.

Section 7.3 General Provisions

(a) All charges shall be directly identifiable, with reasonably supported, written documentation, and required for the Authorized Work.

(b) The WRCOG shall notify SoCalGas' representative(s) responsible for the Programs Agreement at such time that it becomes reasonably apparent that the forecasted cumulative charges may exceed any budgets authorized under the Decision or applicable projects then in process (or otherwise forecasted) pursuant to the applicable Implementation Plan (whether by task, total amount authorized, or both). The WRCOG shall not proceed with or be reimbursed for any Authorized Work

performed, either beyond the effective period of the Programs Agreement, or exceeding the authorized amounts of the Programs Agreement absent a written, pre-authorized change order or amendment by the Commission.

(c) The WRCOG shall notify SoCalGas' representative responsible for the Programs Agreement as soon as possible upon the occurrence of any fund-shifting or re-allocation of the budget amongst and between outstanding individual projects supported by Authorized Work.

(d) Labor-Related Costs Under Time and Material Basis. To the extent applicable, the WRCOG shall invoice SoCalGas at the fixed hourly rates for the applicable labor categories stated in Exhibit G for time spent directly engaged in performance of the Authorized Work by any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies'. Such fixed hourly rates will be updated per I-REN Constituent Agencies' fiscal year and shall be inclusive of all the I-REN Constituent Agencies' overhead costs (including all taxes and insurance), administrative and general fees. All labor-related costs shall be charged at cost, without mark-up, and shall be necessary, reasonable and ordinary.

(e) The fixed hourly rates provided by the WRCOG for the respective fiscal year are specified in Exhibit G and may change at the discretion of the applicable I-REN Constituent Agencies from time to time; provided, that, the WRCOG shall, as soon as practicable, notify SoCalGas in writing of any change to the labor rates in Exhibit G, and such change shall be automatically incorporated into the Programs Agreement without need for a formal amendment. The Utilities neither endorse nor approved the fixed hourly rates.

(f) Expenses. All expenses shall be charged at cost, without mark-up, and shall be necessary, reasonable and ordinary. This prohibition on mark-ups shall be observed by all Subcontractors and Third-Party Contractors and shall be incorporated into any contracts by and between such persons and an I-REN Constituent Agency, such that, the applicable Subcontractor or Third-Party Contractor is not receiving payment relating to services that it did not directly provide. In furtherance of the foregoing, no I-REN Constituent Agency, Subcontractor or Third-Party Contractor, shall give, and no such person shall accept, any portion, split or percentage of any charge made or received in rendering any services (or goods) other than for services actually performed (or goods directly manufactured).

(g) Material Costs. Material costs shall be charged at cost without mark-up and substantiated with an invoice stating the unit price, quantity, and other information as required to identify the Authorized Work.

(h) Subcontract Costs and Subcontractors. Subcontracted Authorized Work shall be charged at the rates actually paid by the I-REN Constituent Agencies, not to exceed the rates set forth in the applicable contract between the I-REN Constituent Agency and the Subcontractor, or this Programs Agreement for the Authorized Work by the I-REN Constituent Agencies. The WRCOG shall provide SoCalGas the Subcontractor invoices (incorporating any Third-Party Contractor costs) for any invoice that includes Subcontractor costs. With respect to the Utilities, the WRCOG shall at all times be responsible for the Authorized Work, and for the acts and omissions of Subcontractors and persons directly or indirectly engaged by the Subcontractors, including Third-Party Contractors. All expenses shall be charged at cost, without mark-up.

(i) Out-of-Pocket Expenses. Miscellaneous costs such as telephone communications, routine copying, electronic mail, facsimiles, computer time and in-house technical software are deemed to be included in the I-REN Constituent Agencies' overhead costs and will not be reimbursed.

(j) Travel Costs. Approved air travel costs shall in no case exceed economy or coach fare, whichever is reasonably available or in accordance with I-REN Constituent Agencies' travel cost policy. A copy of an airfare receipt indicating the final expense for the trip taken and applicable supporting documents showing the starting point, travel destination, departure and return dates, and the purpose of the trip are required for each air travel reimbursement. Automobile travel from the offices of

the I-REN Constituent Agencies' agents or representatives to any I-REN Program job site, function or activity shall be paid at the fixed mileage rate stated in the Programs Agreement or, if not stated, at the applicable Internal Revenue Service standard mileage reimbursement rate or a reimburseable rate set by I-REN Constituent Agency's travel cost policy. Either a mileage log showing miles driven for each trip or a Google/MapQuest, or their equivalent, printout showing the travel path is required for each mileage reimbursement request.

(k) Records. The WRCOG shall maintain, for a period of five (5) years after final payment, complete accounting records (and supporting documentation) of all invoiced costs. The Utilities reserve the right to audit and copy any applicable documents related to the Authorized Work, including, hours, all costs and expenses invoiced, and task completion records. Each invoice shall list the purchase order number and the WRCOG's vendor number provided by the Utilities when applicable. In addition, the WRCOG shall cooperate in any audit of the I-REN Programs, any action or activity related to this Programs Agreement or the Decision undertaken by the Commission or other authorized entity, if applicable.

(l) Key Personnel. The WRCOG will appoint a Programs Agreement representative ("WRCOG Representative") who will be the primary contact between SoCalGas and the WRCOG, and who will be authorized to act on behalf of the WRCOG, as the I-REN Authorized Agent. Such appointment shall be communicated in writing to SoCalGas as soon as reasonably practicable following execution of this Programs Agreement. The WRCOG shall promptly notify SoCalGas of the intended reassignment or proposed replacement of the WRCOG Representative who will be submitting invoicing and reporting information to SoCalGas. No other key personnel shall undertake the aforementioned tasks without prior written notice to SoCalGas.

(m) Activities Outside of Program Scope. SoCalGas, as lead fiscal manager, for itself and on behalf of SCE, shall not be required to pay or reimburse the WRCOG or any other person for any activities undertaken that do not constitute Authorized Work as contemplated hereunder or are otherwise outside of the scope of an I-REN Program or this Programs Agreement, and the WRCOG may not include any costs or expenses for any such activities on an invoice submitted pursuant to this Programs Agreement.

Section 7.4 Invoicing Requirements: The WRCOG shall provide the following: Monthly electronic copy invoices are required by the **15th Calendar Day of each month** for Authorized Work completed in the preceding month with supporting documents described herein. These invoices and supporting documents are for Authorized Work performed by the I-REN Constituent Agencies and all of their respective Subcontractors (and their respective Third-Party Contractors). Each invoice shall indicate the sub-total expense for each of the I-REN Programs and itemized each I-REN Program expense in "Administrative," "Marketing" and "Direct Implementation." Each invoice shall include but not be limited to the following details: identify the contractor name, type (e.g., Third-Party Contractor or a Subcontractor), hiring I-REN Constituent Agency, contract start and end dates, details on any intermittency between the contract start and end dates, program start date, program end date (date program will no longer be offered to the public or criteria used to decide whether to end the program), customers eligible for the program (gas or electric, market segment, other criteria), value of contract, and any other data reasonably required by the Utilities.

Section 7.5 Advance Funding and Payment: In order to provide funding for the cost categories of an I-REN Program for CPUC approved "incentive" and "non-incentive" expenses, the IOUs may provide advance payments to WRCOG of such amounts and at such times as delineated in this Programs Agreement ("Advanced Payments"). As further described below, the Advanced Payments will be credited against payments of expenditures actually made by WRCOG. At the completion of the I-REN Programs, a reconciliation of expenses will be done to ensure that the IOUs only pay for those verified expenses actually incurred. The remaining balance relating to any Advanced Payments, if any, will be

applied to the final invoice, if unpaid, and any remaining balance will be refunded to the IOUs within thirty days from the date of the final reconciliation.

(a) Advance funding for energy efficiency incentive: WRCOG may receive Advanced Payments from IOUs for energy efficiency incentive expenses for I-REN's programs. The Parties understand that WRCOG intends to launch its resource program in second half of 2022 and that it will take time to build program momentum and project enrollments. The initial amount of Advanced Payments for an incentive shall be based on I-REN resource program's enrollment and incentive commitments for 2022. The initial Advanced Payments for such incentive shall be equal to 150% of I-REN's actual and documented incentive commitments as of the date the applicable resource program is launched to the extent launched in the year 2022; provided, that, in no event will the total Advanced Payments for such incentive funding per calendar year exceed the annual I-REN incentive budget related to such program. WRCOG shall set up a separate custodial bank account to hold all of the Advanced Payments relating to incentive funds. WRCOG will provide a monthly bank statement to SoCalGas showing account balance, interest earned (if applicable) and all transactions relating to the custodial bank account for the bank statement period along with reconciliation of incentive payments and completed energy efficiency projects on a per program basis. No subsequent Advanced Payments for incentive funding related to a given program shall be made until and unless at least 80% of the initial (or immediately prior, as applicable,) Advanced Payment relating to such program has been spent, as documented and reconciled by reference to incentive spending (drawdown) and the account balance of the incentive custodial bank account, which shall be communicated to SoCalGas. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in no event shall the cumulative Advanced Payments for incentive funding for a given calendar year exceed the total I-REN annual incentive budget. In furtherance of the foregoing, no Advanced Payment for incentive funding shall exceed 150% of the I-REN's actual energy efficiency project pipeline incentive commitments at the time of such funding that have not otherwise been covered by prior Advanced Payments relating to incentive funding or cause the cumulative annual incentive funding to exceed the I-REN annual incentive budget. No Advanced Payment subsequent to the initial Advanced Payment for incentive funding will be made by SoCalGas without WRCOG's reconciliation for each resource program between the dates of the actual incentive payouts from the custodial bank account and completed energy efficiency projects at measure level. WRCOG will process energy efficiency incentive payments in accordance with I-REN's program design, energy efficiency measure design and process protocol for I-REN's program. The incentive funds shall solely be used for energy efficiency incentive as defined in Section 2.11 of this Programs Agreement.

(b) Advance funding for I-REN non-incentive budget: WRCOG may receive Advanced Payments from IOUs for energy efficiency non-incentive expenses for I-REN's programs. In no event shall the Advanced Payments for the I-REN's non-incentive budget be used to finance WRCOG's program costs. WRCOG shall set up a separate custodial bank account to hold the Advanced Payments relating to non-incentive funds separate and apart from that custodial bank account created pursuant to Section 7.5(a). Within 30 calendar days of the date of this Programs Agreement, WRCOG shall provide monthly invoices with monthly cost accounting for all non-incentive expenditure on a per program basis for the first nine months of 2022. The initial Advanced Payment for funding non-incentive expenses shall be based on the average monthly non-incentive expenditure level indicated in the monthly cost accounting for the first nine months of 2022. The initial Advanced Payment amount will be an amount equal to 150% of the average monthly non-incentive expenditures over the first nine months of 2022. WRCOG shall provide monthly bank statements to SoCalGas showing the account balance, interest earned (if applicable) and all transactions in such custodial bank account for the bank statement period along with monthly invoice reports in accordance with Articles IV, V and VII of this Programs Agreement. Any subsequent Advanced Payments relating to non-incentive funding will be based on the actual reconciled non-incentive spending drawdown for each I-REN program in each cost category (administrative, marketing and direct implementation). No subsequent Advanced Payments for non-incentive funding related to a given program shall be made until and unless any one of the following conditions is met as determined by SoCalGas:

- (i) At least 80% of the initial Advanced Payment relating to such program has been spent, as documented and reconciled by reference to up-to-date monthly invoice and

cost accounting of non-incentive spending (drawdown) as described in ARTICLE VII and the account balance of the non-incentive custodial bank account, which shall be communicated to SoCalGas;

(ii) At least 80% of the custodial bank account balance after the most recent Advance Payment has been spent, as documented and reconciled by reference to up-to-date monthly invoice and cost accounting of non-incentive spending (drawdown) as described in ARTICLE VII and the account balance of the non-incentive custodial bank account, which shall be communicated to SoCalGas;

(iii) The total amount of the current approved invoices exceeds the custodial bank account balance.

The amount of the subsequent Advance Payment after the initial Advance Payment shall be based on up to (but shall not exceed) 150% of the average monthly non-incentive expenditure of the immediately preceding months in the calendar year. In the case of Section 7.5 (b) (iii) above, the amount of the Advance Payment shall be based on up to (but shall not exceed) 150% of the average monthly non-incentive expenditure of the immediately preceding months in that year (including the amount of the current approved invoices referenced in Section 7.5 (b) (iii)), plus the difference between the approved total current invoices and the then custodial bank account balance. Beginning at the start of the fourth quarter of each calendar year, WRCOG shall provide SoCalGas annual reconciliation for spending, commitments and expenditure forecast for the calendar year to ensure program expenditure is under the annual authorized budget. WRCOG may request Advance Payment for the non-incentive budget at the beginning of each calendar year based on 150% of the 12-month monthly average of the immediately prior year's non-incentive expenditure if and only if WRCOG has provided SoCalGas annual cost accounting reconciliation for spending, commitments and budget for the prior calendar year and the custodial bank account balance is at least 80% spent at the time of request relative to the custodial bank account balance at the end of December of the prior year. No additional Advanced Payments for non-incentive funding shall be made by SoCalGas from and after the third quarter of 2027 (to cover fourth quarter of 2027). WRCOG will deplete or return to SoCalGas any remaining balance of the non-incentive Advanced Payments relating to non-incentive funding and prepare a final invoice in accordance with Section 7.8.

(c) Reconciliation and Documentation Requirement:

(i) By December 1 of each calendar year, as an annual incentive and commitment reconciliation, WRCOG shall provide SoCalGas committed and forecasted incentive payment amounts for electric and gas measures to be accounted for savings claims for the calendar year.

(ii) WRCOG shall provide SoCalGas monthly reconciliation reports on actual incentive payments drawn from the advanced incentive funding for all resource programs. The monthly reconciliation report shall include the monthly bank statement for each custodial bank account established for the respective incentive type showing all bank account activities. The monthly reconciliation report shall be submitted to SoCalGas within ten (10) business days after the end of each calendar month regardless of any potential delay in preparing for the regular monthly invoice or the lack of incentive payment activities.

(iii) Documentation required for incentive reconciliation: Documentation required for incentive reconciliation varies depending on the nature of the project. The following basic information is needed:

- (A) Dated customer project application data
- (B) Project scope with measure descriptions
- (C) Incentive amount for each measure, total incentive amount, check number and date paid
- (D) Signed customer authorization form or statement for incentive payment made to a Third-Party Contractor other than the customer if applicable
- (E) Project and site data (No. of measure installed, measure description, installed address, customer name, service account number, etc.)
- (F) Permit Number (if applicable and required by law)

(iv) Beginning at the start of the fourth quarter of each calendar year and by December 1 of each calendar year, as an annual non-incentive and commitment reconciliation, WRCOG shall provide SoCalGas committed non-incentive amount and forecasted non-incentive program costs for each program to be accounted for the calendar year. This annual advance non-incentive funding reconciliation is required to ensure program spending is within the authorized program budget for the calendar year.

Section 7.6 Invoicing Procedures:

(a) The WRCOG shall transmit to SoCalGas the monthly invoice files as directed by SoCalGas during the initial training for the IR Tools. The invoice file transmission will take place via a secured file transfer protocol (SFTP) provided by SoCalGas to protect customer or proprietary information.

(b) SoCalGas concurrently with SCE shall review the monthly invoice within 15 Business Days of receipt of an invoice from the WRCOG to determine if the invoice complies with the requirements set forth in this Programs Agreement; provided, however, that for any monthly invoices relating to any Prior Expenses received on or after the Execution Date for Authorized Work conducted during the period from January 1, 2022 through the Effective Date as further set forth in Section 7.12, SoCalGas and SCE shall have 30 Business Days to determine if the invoice complies with the requirements set forth in this Programs Agreement and thereafter make any reimbursements with respect thereto.

(c) Monthly Narrative. The WRCOG shall include with the monthly invoices a monthly narrative that includes a discussion on the following I-REN Program activities occurring during the month:

- (i) Administrative activities;
- (ii) Marketing activities;
- (iii) Direct Implementation activities;

(iv) Other activities which support the review and approval of the WRCOG's invoices and that fall within the scope of the Decision.

(d) Invoice Deficiencies. In the event SoCalGas determines that the WRCOG's invoices or any of the invoices of any Third-Party Contractors or Subcontractors that are included for payment do not meet the invoicing requirements of this Programs Agreement, lack accounting transparency, and/or lack sufficient material document support, SoCalGas will notify the WRCOG of the deficiencies and the WRCOG shall correct such deficiencies promptly. SoCalGas has the right to review and approve the data and methods used to develop the invoice documentation. However, the failure to conduct such review or grant such approval shall not relieve the WRCOG from its responsibilities and obligations under this Programs Agreement.

Section 7.7 Payment. SoCalGas shall pay undisputed charges within fifteen (15) Business Days of invoice approval. SoCalGas has the right to withhold payment of those charges that SoCalGas disputes in good faith, pending the resolution of the dispute, and SoCalGas will provide the WRCOG with notice of the amounts being withheld and the reasons for the dispute; provided, that, SoCalGas shall pay the balance of any amounts charged that are not in dispute as provided herein. Any withholding of disputed amounts by SoCalGas shall not be deemed a breach of the Programs Agreement by SoCalGas. With respect to WRCOG withdraws from any non-incentive Advance Payments to cover the monthly non-incentive expenses, upon SoCalGas written approval of the submitted WRCOG monthly invoice in accordance with Article VII of this Programs Agreement, WRCOG will expense the approved invoice amount for non-incentive costs from the appropriate custodial bank account that holds the non-incentive Advance Payments.

Section 7.8 Final Invoice. The final invoice with respect to any I-REN Program shall be marked "FINAL" and must be received by SoCalGas within ninety (90) Calendar Days after December 31, 2027 (the "Cut-Off Date"). SoCalGas shall not be liable for payment of any invoices that are submitted to SoCalGas at any time after the Cut-Off Date.

Section 7.9 Additional Invoice, Payment and Reporting Requirements. Additional invoice, payment and reporting requirements may be set forth for each scope of work with respect to individual projects supported by Authorized Work.

Section 7.10 Ratepayer Benefit, Tracing, Segregation of Funds. The Parties agree that ratepayer-funded programs must directly benefit Customers in the service territory from which the funds are collected. The I-REN Programs implemented pursuant to this Programs Agreement are funded in whole or in part by funds collected from SoCalGas' and SCE's Customers for public purpose programs, and therefore must directly benefit SoCalGas' and SCE's Customers. For purposes of clarification:

(a) No I-REN Constituent Agency shall use I-REN Program funds for activities outside the Utilities' service territories or for the benefit of persons or entities other than Customers.

(b) No I-REN Constituent Agency shall use I-REN Program funds for activities in any non-joint Utility territory until such time that the WRCOG has determined to the reasonable satisfaction of the Utilities that the WRCOG can trace and segregate Program funds in order to avoid using Program funds for (i) electric program activities outside SCE territory and/or (ii) gas program activities outside SoCalGas territory.

(c) The WRCOG shall not submit any invoice seeking reimbursement for money that does not directly benefit SCE's Customers (for electricity programs) or SoCalGas' Customers (for gas programs). The Utilities are not required to pay any such invoice (or portion of such an invoice) unless the activities and services paid for by such invoice directly benefit the Utilities' customers. If an invoice (or

portion of such an invoice) is paid by SoCalGas to WRCOG that is discovered to not meet this requirement, the WRCOG, upon request, shall refund to SoCalGas the amount paid for such activities that do not meet this requirement, or at SoCalGas' option, SoCalGas may offset those amounts against future payments owed to the WRCOG pursuant to the Programs Agreement.

Section 7.11 Audits.

(a) The WRCOG shall maintain, for a period of five (5) years after final payment, complete accounting records (and supporting documentation) of all invoiced costs. The Utilities and the Commission shall have the right to audit the WRCOG and the I-REN at any time during the term of this Programs Agreement and for five (5) years thereafter. In addition, each I-REN Constituent Agency shall cooperate in any audit of this any action or activity related to this Programs Agreement or the Decision undertaken by the Commission. An audit may include, but is not limited to, a review of financial records relating to the Authorized Work, I-REN Program marketing material, I-REN Program implementation documents, funds spent to date, tracing of expenditure of ratepayer funds to a Utility's Customers, information relating to the substantiation of I-REN Program expenditures, Incentives paid to date, Customers given Incentives to date, lists of employees and respective duties, lists of Third-Party Contractors and/or Subcontractors and their respective responsibilities or service provided.

(b) The Utilities may, in their sole discretion and at any time, request information or data relating to an I-REN Program, Authorized Work or this Programs Agreement, and the WRCOG shall provide such information in the format and within the time requested by the Utilities.

Section 7.12 The WRCOG shall not retain any ratepayer funds erroneously paid under this Programs Agreement. If, at any time, the Utilities discover that an amount was paid to the WRCOG in error, either through subsequent review or audit by SoCalGas, SCE, the Commission audit, or by another means, the amount erroneously paid to the WRCOG may, at the option of the Utility, be used to offset future payment(s) due to the WRCOG or must be repaid by the WRCOG to the Utility.

Section 7.13 **Prior Authorized Work.** To the extent that the Constituent COGs have caused any Authorized Work to be commenced or completed (or have otherwise contracted for the same) and have incurred Program Expenditures incurred for such Authorized Work on or after January 1, 2022 and prior to the Effective Date ("Prior Expenses"), strictly in accordance with the Decision and an Implementation Plan, each of the Constituent COGs hereby represents and warrants that all of the obligations and duties set forth in this Programs Agreement with respect to such person, had such agreement been in effect during such time, were fully complied with in all material respects. Provided that the foregoing remains true and correct, SoCalGas and SCE agree to treat such Prior Expenses in accordance with this Article VII.

ARTICLE VIII

Committees and Meeting Requirements

The Utilities and the WRCOG shall, as soon as practicable after the execution of this Programs Agreement, form Coordinating and/or Technical Committees consistent with the intent of the approved JCM. The roles and responsibilities for these committees are set forth in the applicable JCM. Meeting requirements for the Coordinating and Technical Committees are also set forth in Exhibit J. Additional coordination requirements between the Utilities and the WRCOG that are specific to an I-REN Program are set forth in that Program's Implementation Plans or approved JCM.

ARTICLE IX

Incentives and Cooperation

Section 9.1 If an I-REN Program participant has been identified as a Customer that has

previously received Incentives either through another utility ratepayer-funded program then no I-REN Constituent Agency shall, thereafter, knowingly provide an Incentive to such I-REN Program participant for the same measure, product or service. Without limiting the foregoing, the Parties shall cooperate in identifying Customers and I-REN Program participants who are ineligible for further Incentives due to prior participation in a program administered by a Utility.

Section 9.2 The WRCOG and the Utilities shall coordinate and cooperate with the goal of achieving seamless program offerings and to avoid customer confusion in the offering of products and services.

ARTICLE X

Ownership of Developments, Marketing Materials

Section 10.1 The WRCOG, on behalf of itself and each I-REN Constituent Agency, acknowledges and agrees that the Utilities, on behalf of their respective Customers, shall own all data, reports, information, manuals, computer programs, works of authorship, designs or improvements of equipment, tools or processes (collectively "Developments") created by the I-REN Constituent Agencies in the performance of this Programs Agreement. Developments do not include equipment or infrastructure purchased for research, development, education or demonstration related to energy efficiency. The Utilities hereby grant to the I-REN an irrevocable, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to use such Developments solely for the purpose of implementing the I-REN Programs, and shall execute such other documents as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate such grant.

Section 10.2 The WRCOG shall submit all marketing materials that contain reference to any Utilities to SoCalGas for review and approval prior to their release or communication. All such marketing materials may be approved or disapproved in each applicable Utility's sole and absolute discretion.

Section 10.3 Use of Utilities' Name. The WRCOG must receive prior review and written approval from a Utility for the use of such Utility's name or logo on any marketing or other I-REN Program materials. The WRCOG shall allow twenty (20) Business Days for such Utility review and approval. If the WRCOG does not received a response from such Utility within the twenty (20) Business Day period, then it shall be deemed that such Utility has disapproved such use.

Section 10.4 Use of WRCOG's or I-REN's Name: The Utilities must receive prior review and written approval from the WRCOG for the use of the name or logo of any I-REN Constituent Agency on any marketing or other I-REN Program materials using such information. The Utilities shall allow twenty (20) Business Days for the WRCOG's review and approval. If the Utilities do not receive a response from the WRCOG within the twenty (20) Business Day period, then it shall be deemed that the WRCOG has disapproved such use.

Section 10.5 No I-REN Constituent Agency shall in any way represent to third parties, Customers or I-REN Program participants that SoCalGas or SCE has endorsed or approved a product, a Third-Party Contractor, a Subcontractor, or their performance of any I-REN Program or any other energy efficiency services.

Section 10.6 Notwithstanding any provision in this Article X to the contrary, whether expressly or by implication, the I-REN Constituent Agencies shall disclose the source of funding for the I-REN Programs by stating prominently on marketing materials (including, but not limited to, printed materials, Websites or any social media) that, "the I-REN Programs are administered by the Western Riverside Council of Governments, on behalf of itself and each of Coachella Valley Association of Governments and the San Bernardino Associated Governments, and funded by SoCalGas and SCE utility ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission."

ARTICLE XI

Jurisdictional Warranty

Section 11.1 The WRCOG warrants that it has full legal authority to implement the I-REN Programs as authorized by the Commission under this Programs Agreement.

Section 11.2 The WRCOG warrants that the geographic area in which the I-REN Programs under this Programs Agreement will be implemented is set forth on the attached Exhibit K.

ARTICLE XII

Compliance With Applicable Law, Policies and Commission Regulations

Section 12.1 Each of the Parties shall comply with all federal, state (including Commission), and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, decisions, policies and directives that are applicable to this Programs Agreement, including, but not limited to, labor and fair employment laws and prevailing wage laws, and all provisions required thereby to be included in contracts are hereby incorporated herein by this reference. Additionally, the WRCOG shall ensure compliance with the Commission's decisions with respect to "program administrators," including, without limitation, workforce standards regarding implementors.

Section 12.2 Such regulatory compliance activities, including costs to maintain compliance, shall be paid for solely by the I-REN for and on behalf of the applicable I-REN Constituent Agency through authorized funding provided under this Programs Agreement, if available, inclusive of any Commission-imposed penalties or disallowances. These include but are not limited to:

- (a) Filing and/or submitting required regulatory documents;
- (b) Complying with all Commission, statutory and other applicable requirements, rules and policies;
- (c) Maintaining adequate records for future financial and management audits and/or reviews;
- (d) Maintaining savings and engineering assumptions consistent with current Commission rules or baselines;
- (e) Maintaining necessary preventative controls on expenses;
- (f) Maintaining and tracking all monies by task and function, including complying with fund-shifting rules between the I-REN Programs;
- (g) Responding to data requests and complying with all required reporting; and
- (h) Any additional compliance requirements of the I-REN Constituent Agencies, that arise during the effective period of this Programs Agreement, but that were not anticipated in this Programs Agreement, shall be the sole responsibility of the I-REN Constituent Agencies.

Section 12.3 Changes in Applicable Laws. After the Effective Date, if any legal, regulatory, or administrative authority issues a decision, ruling, order, or directive of any kind that is binding upon the Parties and that requires modification or addition of terms, covenants or conditions of this Programs Agreement in order for the Parties to be in compliance with same, then the Parties shall meet as soon as practicable to discuss proposed modifications to this Programs Agreement only to the extent required to bring it into compliance with such applicable laws.

Section 12.4 The WRCOG shall follow General Order 156, setting forth the Commission's policy statement on utility utilization of resources from suppliers that constitute WMDVLGBTBE (as defined therein), to the extent not in conflict with Proposition 209 (codified as Article I Section 31 of the California Constitution).

Section 12.5 Background Checks. The WRCOG shall conduct background checks on any employee or Subcontractor (and each Subcontractor shall require that its Third-Party Contractors conduct background checks on its employees and contractors) who will undertake I-REN Program Authorized Work conducted at a Utility Customer's residence or a private business location. The background check requirements shall be determined by the WRCOG in its reasonable discretion, provided that, at a minimum, the background checks shall be consistent with the WRCOG's then-current background check requirements for WRCOG programs that contain similar job requirements. Employees of any I-REN Constituent Agencies or Subcontractors or Third-Party Contractors conducting activities under this Section 12.5:

- (a) Shall report for work in a manner fit to do their job;
- (b) Shall not be under the influence of or in possession of any alcoholic beverages or of any controlled substance (except a controlled substance as prescribed by a physician for such person so long as the performance or safety of the Authorized Work is not affected thereby); and
- (c) Shall not have been convicted of any serious criminal offense, which by its time and nature, presents a discernible safety or property risk to the public.

Section 12.6 Non-Discrimination. No Party shall unlawfully discriminate, harass, or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), mental disability, medical condition (cancer), age (over 40), marital status, and denial of family care leave. Each Party shall ensure that the evaluation and treatment of its employees and applicants for employment are free from such discrimination and harassment and shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code Section 12990(a)-(f) et seq.) and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 7285 et seq.). The applicable regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission implementing Government Code Section 12990(a)-(f), set forth in Chapter 5 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Programs Agreement. Each Party represents and warrants that it shall include the substance of the nondiscrimination and compliance provisions in all subcontracts for its Authorized Work obligations. Additionally, the Parties shall conform to the applicable employment practices requirements of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and applicable regulations promulgated thereunder.

ARTICLE XIII Indemnification

Section 13.1 By the Constituent COGS. The Constituent COGS, on behalf of themselves and each I-REN Constituent Agency carrying out Authorized Work or other implementation or design of an I-REN Program on behalf of a Constituent COG, shall, joint and severally, indemnify, defend and hold harmless SCE and SoCalGas, and their respective successors, assigns, affiliates, subsidiaries, current and future parent companies, officers, directors, agents, and employees, from and against any liability (including expenses, claims, losses, damages, liabilities or actions in respect thereof, along with reasonable attorneys' fees) of to the extent caused by the WRCOG's act(s) and/or omission(s), or by the act(s) and/or omission(s) of its employees, representatives Third-Party Contractors, Subcontractors, or agents, including, without limitation, with respect to the I-REN's compliance or non-compliance with the Commission's policy regarding program administrators, application or misapplication of program funds

(even if disbursed), as well as any of the Authorized Work or other implementation or design of an I-REN Program.

Section 13.2 By the Utilities. So long as the WRCOG, SANBAG, and CVAG are in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Programs Agreement, the Utilities shall, on a several but not joint basis, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the WRCOG, SANBAG, and CVAG, their respective special districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all third-party liability (including expenses, claims, losses, damages, liabilities or actions in respect thereof, along with reasonable attorneys' fees) to the extent caused by the Utilities' failure to make the uncontested payments described in Section 7.5.

Section 13.3 The obligations of SCE, SoCalGas, WRCOG, SANBAG, and CVAG under this section shall survive the termination of this Programs Agreement.

ARTICLE XIV Insurance

Section 14.1 The WRCOG and each of the I-REN Constituent Agencies will maintain the following insurance coverage at all times during the term of this Programs Agreement, with companies having an A.M. Best rating of "A-, VII" or better, or equivalent: Such insurances shall acknowledge the Utilities, their officers, agents and employees as additional insureds, be primary for all purposes, contain standard cross-liability or severability of interest provisions, and waive all rights of subrogation against the Utilities, its officers, agents, employees and other contractors or subcontractors.

- (a) Workers' Compensation: statutory minimum.
- (b) Employer's Liability coverage: \$1 million minimum.
- (c) Commercial General Liability: \$2 million minimum per occurrence/\$4 million minimum aggregate.
- (d) Commercial or Business Auto: \$1 million minimum.
- (e) Professional Liability (if applicable): \$1 million minimum.

Section 14.2 Evidence of Insurance. Upon request at any time during the term of this Programs Agreement, the WRCOG shall provide evidence that its insurance policies and the insurance policies as provided in this Article XIV are in full force and effect and provide the coverage and limits of insurance that the WRCOG has represented and warranted herein to maintain at all times during the term of this Programs Agreement.

Section 14.3 Self-Insurance. If the WRCOG or any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies is self-insured, it shall upon request forward documentation to the Utilities that demonstrates to the Utilities' satisfaction that the WRCOG self-insures as a matter of normal business practice before commencing the Authorized Work.

Section 14.4 Notice of Claims. The WRCOG shall immediately report to the Utilities, and promptly thereafter confirm in writing, the occurrence of any injury, loss or damage incurred by the WRCOG, any other I-REN Constituent Agency or any Subcontractor or Third-Party Contractor or their receipt of notice or knowledge of any claim by a third party of any occurrence related to the I-REN Programs and/or to this Programs Agreement that might give rise to such a claim.

Section 14.5 Insurance Indemnification. If the WRCOG fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Article XIV, or to the extent any I-REN Constituent Agency carrying out Authorized Work or other implementation or design of an I-REN Program on behalf of a Constituent COG does not

require its Subcontractors to maintain the insurance coverage specified in Section 14.1, the I-REN Constituent Agencies, severally but not jointly, shall, at their own cost, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Utilities, their affiliates and their officers, directors, agents, employees, assigns, and successors in interest, from and against any and all liability, damages, losses, claims, demands, actions, causes of action, costs, including attorney's fees and expenses, or any of them, arising out of or in connection with the performance or non-performance of the Authorized Work.

ARTICLE XV Limitation Of Certain Liabilities

NO PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER(S) FOR THE OTHER'S OR OTHERS' INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE) OR STRICT LIABILITY INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF USE OF OR UNDER-UTILIZATION OF LABOR OR FACILITIES, LOSS OF REVENUE OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS, COST OF REPLACEMENT POWER OR CLAIMS FROM CUSTOMERS, RESULTING FROM A PARTY'S PERFORMANCE OR NONPERFORMANCE OF THE OBLIGATIONS HEREUNDER, OR IN THE EVENT OF SUSPENSION OF THE AUTHORIZED WORK OR TERMINATION OF THIS PROGRAMS AGREEMENT.

ARTICLE XVI Confidential Information and Security Requirements

Section 16.1 Except as provided for in Section 16.3, no Utility shall be required to provide to any Constituent COG any Confidential Customer Information (as defined below), or any information that is deemed by the Utility to be proprietary, trade secret, or otherwise confidential. In the event a Utility agrees in writing to any such disclosure of such information, the Utility may require the applicable Constituent COG to enter into the agreements set forth in the attached Exhibit C and Exhibit D as well as a nondisclosure agreement and undergo a data security review as a condition to its disclosure. Notwithstanding the foregoing and in the event the Utilities provide any Confidential Customer Information pursuant to this Programs Agreement, the Parties agree that Confidential Customer Information is exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act, Cal. Gov't Code Sections 6250, et seq., under the exemptions provided in the California Public Records Act, including Sections 6254(e), 6254(k), and/or 6255(a), and will withhold from disclosure such materials unless ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 16.2 Confidential Customer Information. "Confidential Customer Information" is a Utility Customer's personal identifiable information including, but not limited to, such person's name, address, telephone number, account number and all billing and usage information, as well as any Utility Customer's information marked as "confidential."

Section 16.3 Except as explicitly provided for in this Section 16.3, and subject to Section 16.1, no Utility will disclose any Confidential Customer Information to a Constituent COG unless authorized in writing by the Customer, except for the following information, which will be made available on an as-needed basis and subject to the confidentiality and non-disclosure provisions of this Programs Agreement:

- (a) The WRCOG (on behalf of a Constituent COG) may request and receive confirmation that a purported Customer is currently served by one of the Utilities;
- (b) The WRCOG (on behalf of a Constituent COG) may request and receive information on a Utility Customer's past participation in an energy efficiency program if that Customer is located in the I-REN's service territory.

Section 16.4 Each Constituent COG shall comply with the attached Exhibit C and Exhibit D with respect to any Confidential Customer Information provided under this Programs Agreement. The applicable Constituent COG shall immediately notify SCE and SoCalGas representatives if the WRCOG is, or becomes, unable to meet any of the requirements contained therein.

Section 16.5 No Constituent COG shall disclose any Confidential Customer Information of a Utility to any third party during the term of this Programs Agreement or after its completion, without first having obtained the prior written consent of such Utility, except as provided by law, lawful court order or subpoena and provided the applicable Constituent COG gives such Utility written notice of such order or subpoena promptly after its receipt and agrees to pursue a protective order with respect to any such disclosure.

Section 16.6 Any information provided to a Constituent COG is provided "as is," and the Utility shall not be liable for the accuracy or completeness of any information provided.

Section 16.7 Commission Proceedings. Nothing in this Article XVI shall prohibit a Constituent COG from disclosing non-confidential information (including aggregated and anonymized statistical data without specific Customer identifiers) concerning the I-REN Programs to the Commission in any Commission proceeding, or any Commission-sanctioned meeting or proceeding or other public forum.

Section 16.8 Return of Confidential Information. Confidential Customer Information (including all copies, backups and abstracts thereof) provided to any Constituent COG by a Utility, and any and all documents and materials containing such Confidential Customer Information or produced by a Constituent COG based on such Confidential Customer Information (including all copies, backups and abstracts thereof), during the performance of this Programs Agreement shall be returned (or destroyed at the Utility's option, with confirmation by affidavit thereof) upon written request by such Utility. Nothing in the Programs Agreement shall be construed as granting any rights in or to Confidential Customer Information to the receiving Party, except the right of use in accordance with the provisions in this Programs Agreement.

Section 16.9 Remedies. The Parties acknowledge that Confidential Customer Information is valuable and unique, and that damages may be an inadequate remedy for breach of this Article XVI and the obligations of the Parties are specifically enforceable. Accordingly, the Parties agree that in the event of a breach or threatened breach of this Article XVI by any Party, the Party whose Confidential Customer Information is implicated in such breach shall be entitled to an injunction preventing such breach, without the necessity of proving damages or posting any bond. Any such relief shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, money damages or any other available legal or equitable remedy.

Section 16.10 Computing System Access and Security Review Obligations. The Parties acknowledge and agree that no Utility shall be required to allow any Party to access the Utility's computer systems unless and until the Parties execute an amendment incorporating mutually agreeable computing system access terms that are the same or substantially similar to Exhibit D.

Section 16.11 The obligations of each Party under this Article XVI shall survive the termination of this Programs Agreement.

ARTICLE XVII

Term and Termination

Section 17.1 Term. The term of this Programs Agreement shall be from the Effective Date until March 31, 2028, unless terminated earlier as provided in this section, provided however that all Authorized Work and services shall be completed by the dates specified in the scope of work with respect

to individual projects supported by Authorized Work or December 31, 2027, whichever is earlier. The 90-Calendar Day period following December 31, 2027 shall be for administrative purposes only.

Section 17.2 If the WRCOG possesses unspent funding authorized by the Decision after July 1, 2028, including moneys repaid pursuant to financing terms, such funds shall, in consultation with SoCalGas, as lead fiscal manager, for itself and on behalf of SCE, be returned to SoCalGas's and SCE's ratepayers unless otherwise directed by the Commission.

Section 17.3 Termination For Convenience. This Programs Agreement shall not be terminated for convenience of the Parties, except as by an order, decision, or resolution of the Commission. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Commission, by decision, order, or resolution, may deem that all or a portion of this Programs Agreement be terminated. In the event of such termination, the Utilities shall pay for Authorized Work performed prior to the date of termination but in no event shall the Utilities be liable for lost or anticipated proceeds or overhead on uncompleted portions of the Authorized Work.

Section 17.4 Immediate Cause For Suspension. The Utilities can suspend this Programs Agreement for the following situations:

(a) Any Consituent COG has become insolvent, has failed to pay its bills, or has had checks for payment of its bills returned from suppliers and Subcontractors due to insufficient funds; or

(b) Any Consituent COG's commission of any material act of dishonesty, fraud and misrepresentation or material act causing public risk or harm. In the event of such suspension, the Utilities may seek Commission approval to terminate the Programs Agreement.

In a case of suspension and/or termination, the Utilities shall pay for Authorized Work satisfactorily performed prior to the date of suspension or termination but in no event shall the Utilities be liable for lost or anticipated proceeds or overhead on uncompleted portions of the Authorized Work.

Section 17.5 Declaration of Default. Any Party, by written notice of default, may declare a default of the whole or any part of this Programs Agreement by another Party, if the other Party has breached any of its obligations under the Programs Agreement.

Section 17.6 Opportunity to Cure. Upon delivery of a notice of default, the defaulting Party shall have a reasonable amount of time, but not greater than twenty (20) Business Days, to cure the default or demonstrate convincing progress toward a cure.

Section 17.7 Unless default is timely cured, or in the event the same default occurs more than three times in a 12-month period, the non-breaching Party may (i) notify Commission staff of the dispute; (ii) suspend payment of a particular invoice, or portion thereof, which may be subject to the dispute; (iii) suspend all further performance by the non-breaching Party until the breach is cured; (iv) seek an order, decision or resolution from the Commission authorizing and directing termination of all or part of this Programs Agreement; or (v) any combination of the above. In the event the Commission authorizes and directs that the non-breaching Party can terminate all or part of the Programs Agreement, the non-breaching Party shall notify the breaching Party of such decision and thereafter all or a portion of the Programs Agreement, as authorized by the Commission, shall be deemed terminated. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Utilities may immediately suspend their obligations under this Program Agreement in the event the Utilities reasonably determine that any I-REN Constituent Agency has committed a material and non-curable breach of applicable laws, rules, regulations, Commission orders or directives, or is using confidential information or Confidential Customer Information in a manner not contemplated under this Programs Agreement. A material breach shall include failure by the WRCOG to comply with duties owed to the Commission and/or Commission staff as defined in the Decision.

Section 17.8 Breach of Duty of Confidentiality. In the event of a breach of any provision of Article XVI, the non-breaching Party is immediately relieved of any obligation to provide further Confidential Customer Information and/or computer system access and may demand immediate return of all Confidential Customer Information or other confidential information that may have been provided. This remedy is in addition to the remedies for material breach listed above.

Section 17.9 Subject to the provisions of this Programs Agreement, the WRCOG, as the I-REN Authorized Agent, shall be entitled to funds for all expenditures incurred or accrued up to the effective date of termination or suspension of the Programs Agreement, provided that any reports, invoices, documents or information required under the Programs Agreement are submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Programs Agreement. The provisions of this Section 17.9 shall be the WRCOG's sole compensation resulting from any termination or suspension of this Programs Agreement. In the event of termination or suspension, the WRCOG shall (and shall cause each other person performing the same to) stop any Authorized Work then in progress and take action to bring the activities to an orderly conclusion, and the Parties shall work cooperatively to facilitate the termination of operations and of any applicable contracts.

ARTICLE XVIII Other Provisions

Section 18.1 Notices. Any written notice, demand or request required or authorized in connection with this Programs Agreement shall be deemed properly given if delivered in person or sent by facsimile, nationally recognized overnight courier, or first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the address specified below, or to another address specified in writing by a Party as follows:

WRCOG:

Casey Dailey
Director of Energy & Environmental Programs
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Avenue, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501
Tel: (951) 405-6720
E-Mail: cdailey@wrcog.us

SCE:

George P. Coronel, Advisor
Southern California Edison Company
1515 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770
Tel: (626) 302-0647
Email: george.coronel@sce.com

SoCalGas:

Chauncy C. Tou, Principal Customer Programs Advisor
Southern California Gas Company
555 W. Fifth Street, GT19A8
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Phone: (213) 244-2823
E-mail: CTou@SoCalGas.com

With copy: _____

Section 18.2 Amendments. Except as otherwise explicitly set forth herein, this Programs Agreement may be changed only by written amendment(s) duly executed by the Utilities and the WRCOG.

Section 18.3 Validity. The Parties agree to the rule of contract interpretation which allows the Court to disregard invalid clauses so that it may otherwise hold the remaining provisions of this Programs Agreement as binding.

Section 18.4 Notification of Certain Matters. The WRCOG shall give prompt written notice to the Utilities of (i) the occurrence or non-occurrence of any change, condition or event, the occurrence or non-occurrence of which would render any representation or warranty of the WRCOG contained in this Agreement, if made on or immediately following the date of such event, untrue or inaccurate, (ii) any failure of the WRCOG or any of the I-REN Constituent Agencies to comply with or satisfy any covenant or agreement to be complied with or satisfied by it hereunder.

Section 18.5 Successors and Assigns. The Programs Agreement shall be binding on the Parties and their respective successors and assigns. No Party shall assign, delegate, or transfer the Programs Agreement or any interest under it without the prior written consent of the other Parties and the Commission. Any purported assignment of the Programs Agreement by the WRCOG either by operation of law, order of any court, or pursuant to any plan of merger, consolidation or liquidation, shall be deemed an assignment by the WRCOG for which prior consent is required, and any assignment made without any such consent shall be void and of no effect as among the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Utility is requested or required by the Commission to assign its rights and/or delegate its duties hereunder, in whole or in part, such assignment or delegation shall not require any other Parties' consent and the Utility shall be released from all obligations hereunder arising after the effective date of such assignment, both as principal and as surety.

Section 18.6 Remedies Cumulative. All remedies provided for in this Programs Agreement shall be cumulative and in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies available to any Party at law or in equity.

Section 18.7 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. Except as provided in Sections 13.1, 13.2 and 14.5, nothing in this Agreement, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any person (including without limitation, any I-REN Constituent Agency, Third-Party Contractor, Subcontractor or Customer) other than the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns any legal or equitable right, benefit, or remedy of any nature under or by reason of this Agreement.

Section 18.8 No Construction Against Drafter. No provision of this Programs Agreement shall be construed against any Party merely because that Party drafted the document. Each Party represents that it has had time to review and discuss provisions of the Programs Agreement with interested parties, including its attorneys, and understands the terms and obligations as written.

Section 18.9 Severability. If any section, provision, or portion of the Programs Agreement is held to be invalid, illegal, or void by a court of proper jurisdiction, or is terminated by the Parties by direction or by order of the Commission or by the Commission itself, or if an individual Program is terminated by the Parties or at the direction or order of the Commission, such decision shall not impair, affect, or invalidate the remainder of this Programs Agreement. To the extent necessary, the invalid provision shall be reformed so that each Party shall have the obligation to perform reasonably to give the other Party the benefit of its bargain. In the event that the invalid provision cannot be reformed, the remainder of the Programs Agreement shall subsist and continue in full force and effect, and the invalid provision shall be deemed stricken from the Programs Agreement.

Section 18.10 No Waiver. No waiver by any Party of any default or breach of any provision of this Programs Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any other default or breach. Failure of a Party to enforce at any time, or from time to time, any provision of this Programs Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver thereof.

Section 18.11 Survival. Despite the completion or termination of a Program or any service, scope of work with respect to individual projects supported by Authorized Work, Authorized Work, activities or deliverables under this Programs Agreement, or any portion of the Programs Agreement, the Parties shall continue to be bound by those provisions of the Programs Agreement which by their nature survive the completion or termination.

Section 18.12 Further Assurances. The Parties, at the request of another, shall perform those actions, including executing additional documents and instruments, reasonably necessary to give full effect to the full performance of the Programs Agreement.

Section 18.13 Conflict of Interest. The WRCOG represents and agrees that, to the best of its knowledge, it shall not, and shall cause each I-REN Constituent Agency not to hire or otherwise engage any current SoCalGas, SCE, or Commission employee, current employee's spouse, other person or entity that has a conflict of interest to perform any part of the activities contemplated under this Programs Agreement.

Section 18.14 Governing Law; Venue. This Programs Agreement shall be interpreted, governed, and construed under the laws of the State of California as executed and to be performed wholly within the State of California without regard to its conflict of laws provisions. Any action brought to enforce or interpret this Programs Agreement shall be filed in Riverside County, California.

Section 18.15 Counterparts. This Programs Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument, so long as duplicate originals are delivered to all Parties.

ARTICLE XIX

Authorization Warranties

Section 19.1 Each of the Constituent COGS represents and warrants that the person executing this Programs Agreement is its authorized agent who has actual authority to bind it to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Programs Agreement, and that all requirements of such the Constituent COG have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority. The WRCOG has delivered to the Utilities the following documents, which are true and complete and current and effective as of the Effective Date and which shall remain effective throughout the term of this Programs Agreement: the WRCOG JPA, the CVAG JPA and the SANBAG JPA.

Section 19.2 SoCalGas represents and warrants that the person executing this Programs Agreement for SoCalGas is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind SoCalGas to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Programs Agreement and that all requirements of SoCalGas have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

Section 19.3 SCE represents and warrants that the person executing this Programs Agreement for SCE is an authorized agent who has the actual authority to bind SCE to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Programs Agreement, and that all requirements of SCE have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

IOU/I-REN Programs Agreement

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date first written above Effective Date by their respective duly authorized persons.

SCE:

SoCalGas:

By _____
Katie Sloan
VP Customer Programs & Services

By _____
Jimmie I. Cho
COO

WRCOG:

By _____
Kurt Wilson
Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By _____
Steven DeBaun
General Counsel

For purposes of Sections 3.1, 4.3, 7.13, 14.5, 18.2 and 19.1 and Articles XIII and XVI, as well as Exhibits C and D only:

CVAG:

SANBAG CONTRACT NO. 23-1002898
SANBAG:

By _____
DocuSigned by:
Tom Kirk
8F1F8DEC1253468...
Tom Kirk
Executive Director

By _____
Raymond W. Wolfe, PhD
Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By _____
DocuSigned by:
Michael Jenkins
8ECB97AE099435...
Michael Jenkins
General Counsel

By _____
Juanda Daniel
Assistant General Counsel

Attachment 2

I-REN Intro Infographic

I-REN

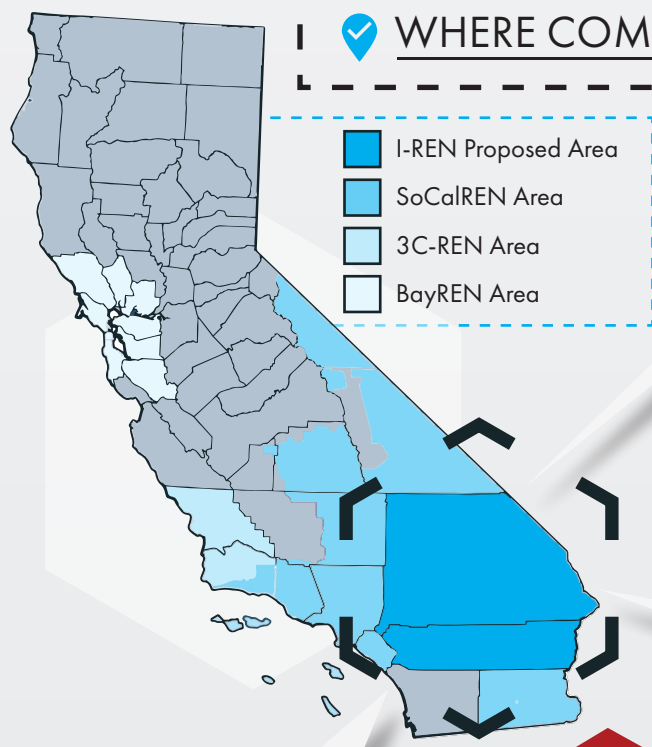
INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

WHAT IS THE I-REN?

The Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) is an exciting new offering of nearly \$10 Million per year in energy efficient programs and services specifically designed and tailored for Inland Southern California.

**NEARLY \$10 MILLION PER YEAR
IN ENERGY EFFICIENT PROGRAMS**

WHERE COMMUNITY, ENERGY & EQUITY INTERSECT



COMMUNITY

I-REN WOULD BE THE

1ST TO UNIFY AN
INLAND
COMMUNITY

AND IS AN OPPORTUNITY
TO SEIZE LOCAL CONTROL

EQUITY

The Establishment of the I-REN is the opportunity for Inland SoCal to receive its FAIR SHARE.

Communities That
Pay Surcharge

Communities Served
by REN

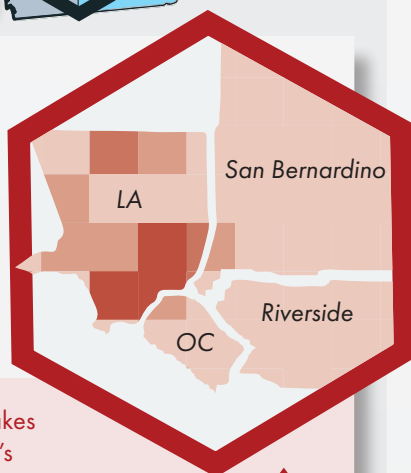
Communities That
Administer REN

I-REN would fall into this category.

ENERGY

Rate payer dollars are already allocated to the development of energy efficiency programs (like RENs) by the CPUC.

The Inland SoCal region makes up over 20% of SoCal REN's population yet few energy projects have been completed in the inland region.



HEAT MAP OF PROJECTS IN LA COUNTY
VS INLAND SoCAL COUNTIES.



How Can We Leverage Local Control?

The establishment of an I-REN through the three Councils of Governments (COGs) will maximize local resources and input to best serve the unique and diverse needs of our communities.

The I-REN will leverage the three COGs':

- Existing committee structures
- Member input and program customization
- Administrative oversight
- Program delivery for equitable outcomes

What Will Be I-REN's Impact?



Goal 1: Capacity Building

Build capacity and knowledge to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services and to demonstrate best practices.

Example:

Public Agency Program Services | SoCalREN



Goal 2: Strong Workforce

Ensure there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors.

Example:

Building Performance Training | 3C-REN



Goal 3: Scalable Tools and Resources

Work closely with local building departments and building industry to support, train and enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance.

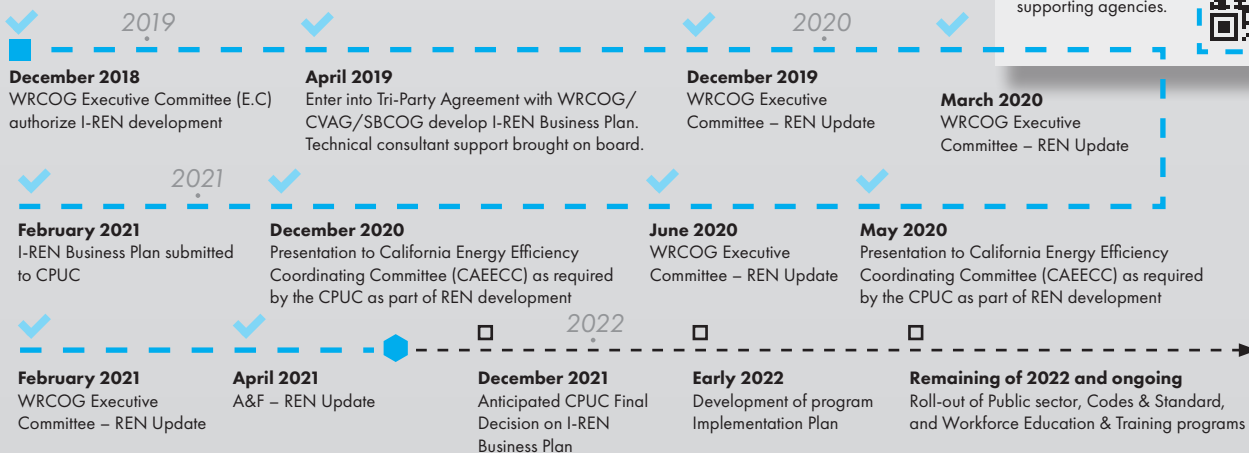
Example:

BayREN Codes & Standards | BayREN



A Timeline of Support Through the Years

Scan the QR Code to see a complete list of supporting agencies.





Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: I-REN Business Plan Overview

Contact: Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs,
cdailey@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6720

Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide a presentation on the history on the development of the I-REN Business Plan.

Background:

Initiated in 2019, the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) is a consortium of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (I-REN COG partners) that serve the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. These partners have joined together and submitted a Business Plan to the CPUC in order to establish locally administered, designed, and delivered energy efficiency programs.

In December 2018, a joint cooperative agreement between the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG) was authorized to move forward with the coordination and development of the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) for the three agencies. In February 2021, the I-REN Business Plan was submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for consideration to authorize I-REN as a Program Administrator (PA) in the state of California, thereby enabling access to the Public Goods Charge funds administered by the CPUC for the development of energy efficiency programs. In November 2021, the CPUC formally approved the I-REN application / Business Plan with a budget of \$65M for program years 2022 - 2027.

Frontier Energy will provide a presentation on the development and contents of the I-REN Business Plan.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

[Attachment 1 - I-REN Business Plan](#)



Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN)

2021-2025

Energy Efficiency Business Plan

WRCOG | CVAG | SBCOG

Submitted February 2021



I-REN Business Plan Contents

Chapter 1: Portfolio Summary

Chapter 2: Public Sector

Chapter 3: Codes & Standards

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training

Appendix A: CPUC Compliance Checklist

Appendix B: Public Sector Market Analysis

Appendix C: Letters of Commitment & Support

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

Appendix E: Acronyms & Abbreviations



Inland Regional Energy Network Business Plan

Chapter 1: Portfolio Summary

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Executive Summary

I-REN Mission

To actively participate in California’s Clean Energy initiatives and build a stronger clean energy economy and community.

Locally Administered and Delivered EE Programs

“RENs also have the unique opportunity to be able to leverage not only multiple local government entities into a single program delivery channel, but they also may be able to utilize funding from multiple sources to deliver more comprehensive and holistic programs, especially to hard-to-reach customers.”¹

Initiated in 2019, the proposed Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) is a consortium of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments that serve the counties of San Bernardino and Riverside. These partners have joined together to submit this Business Plan in order to establish locally administered, designed, and delivered energy efficiency (EE) programs.

Historically, the Inland Empire has faced challenges in receiving equitable opportunities to participate in energy efficiency and advanced energy. As dedicated representatives of local government, the I-REN consortium members bring established connections from their work serving this region and can provide support to fill gaps in existing energy efficiency services. I-REN will establish a locally administered regional energy network to ensure ratepayers in this region can become active participants in meeting California energy efficiency goals.

In addition, I-REN sees a critical need to accelerate action in the region, catalyzing current local government activities related to climate change through targeted and tailored energy efficiency programs, layering other efforts to increase impact. I-REN will focus their first Business Plan on assisting and empowering local government—county and municipal—and building the professional workforce. To that end this Business Plan will cover three main sectors: Public Sector, Codes and Standards, and Workforce Education and Training. They anticipate in future filings to grow into residential and commercial offerings as necessary to fill gaps and needs in the region.

Collectively known as the Inland Empire, the I-REN service area includes 11% of California’s population, but its geographic arrangement, population, and distance from the state’s major metropolitan areas result in inconsistent and insufficient service to the region. Further, the region is distinct from other southern California areas—particularly Los Angeles—with its own robust character, culture, and identity. As a collective, the councils of government that make up I-REN have implemented energy efficiency services locally for the better part of a decade, and have established the skill sets, knowledge, and networks to identify and address the unique challenges and opportunities head-on. The issues and concerns of the region require a consistent local presence to help transition to a clean economy and to reduce energy use effectively.

¹ California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Decision 19-12-021, December 5, 2019, page 18.

About I-REN

I-REN is a coalition of three councils of government, the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG), encompassing San Bernardino County, Riverside County, and all of the jurisdictions within the region. Together, I-REN represents 52 cities, 78 unincorporated county areas, 17 tribes and 11% of the population of California.

WRCOG: WRCOG is a joint powers authority whose purpose is to unify Western Riverside County so that it can speak with a collective voice on important issues that affect its members. Representatives from 18 cities in Western Riverside County, the County of Riverside, and the Eastern and Western Municipal Water Districts have seats on the WRCOG Executive Committee, the policy-setting Board for the Agency. WRCOG currently operates a Local Government Partnership (LGPs) and has been successful over the years in energy efficiency retrofit projects and education for both residential and commercial customers. Since its inception in 2010, the Partnership has achieved savings of over 16 million kWh and over 9,000 therms.

CVAG: CVAG is the regional planning agency coordinating government services in the Coachella Valley. By providing solutions to the common issues of the local governments and tribes that are its members, CVAG promotes a better quality of life and balanced growth for residents of Central and Eastern Riverside County. CVAG secured Strategic Plan funding and implemented the “Green for Life” program, which helped seven cities and one tribe to reach ambitious energy savings goals. Through this grant, participants completed greenhouse gas inventories, Climate Action Plans, Energy Action Plans, and much more. The Green for Life program was run in tandem with the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP) to achieve further energy savings. DCEP included representatives from 10 CVAG member cities, one tribe, and representatives from Southern California Edison (SCE) and Southern California Gas (SoCalGas). While in operation, the 10-year DCEP program achieved savings of 5.2 million kWh and 22,000 therms. CVAG still maintains a strong working relationship with SCE and SoCalGas.

SBCOG: With membership comprised of representatives from 24 cities and the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, SBCOG focuses on regional matters and provides a forum to reduce duplication of effort and share information to advocate for local communities. SBCOG / San Bernardino Regional Energy Partnership (SBREP) received strategic planning funding to implement benchmarking for cities in the partnership with the goal of seeing where city facilities ranked amongst others in the region of similar size/operations. Since it was formed in late 2015, SBREP has reduced more than 3 million kWh and helped participating cities receive more than \$1 million in incentives combined. To date, 13 cities have participated in SBREP.

WHAT IS A COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT (COG)?

COGs are voluntary associations that represent member local governments, mainly cities and counties, to provide cooperative planning, coordination, and technical assistance on issues of mutual concern that cross jurisdictional lines.

COGs serve to develop consensus on many issues that need to be addressed in a subregional or regional context. If properly structured, COG duties complement and do not duplicate jurisdictional activities, and unify members on matters of mutual concern, but are independent of the responsibilities traditionally exercised by the individual members within their own communities.

Jurisdictions typically agree to form COGs following discussion and negotiation on common goals and objectives, which are usually consummated by execution of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). In most cases, adoption of a JPA is specifically authorized by state law. In California, JPA authority is granted under Section 6500 et. seq. of the Government Code.

I-REN Organization

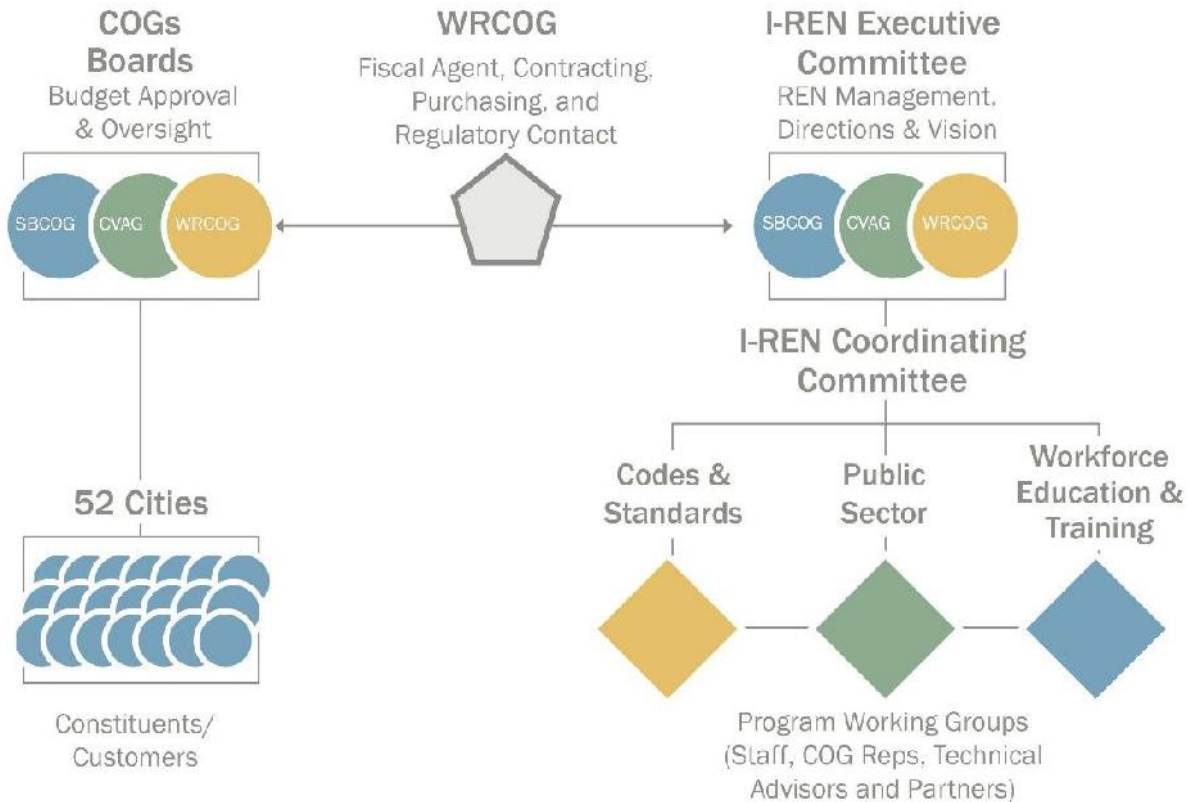


Figure 1-1. I-REN Governance

The I-REN organization builds on the robust and active Committee structure currently used for the three COGs (also referred to herein as the **I-REN governing agencies**). The graphic in Figure 1-1 illustrates the organization and the roles.

The COGs each have an Executive Committee which sets policy and oversees the budgets for the COGs. For I-REN, they will provide an oversight role to ensure accountability and service to the member cities. Representatives from the cities, the County Board of Supervisors, and the Municipal Water Districts collectively have seats on the Executive Committees for WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG. By working together through the committee structure and utilizing resources, the COGs are cost-effective by reducing duplication of effort and sharing information, enabling strong advocacy and strengthening the Region's standing.

WRCOG will serve as the fiscal agent, purchasing and contracting entity, and primary regulatory contact manager for I-REN. They will not have more decision-making power than the other COGs but will work through the committee structure to ensure equal engagement for the entire region.

Representatives from each COG will in turn be represented on the I-REN Committee and have equal power in I-REN decision making and management. The I-REN Committee will set all strategic direction,

vision, and specific policies related to the operation and management of REN activities, and will jointly consider regulatory issues.

The I-REN Committee will be advised by three programmatic working groups composed of I-REN staff, COG representatives, technical advisors, and partners. The Program Working Groups will focus on program design, implementation, marketing and outreach, and other day-to-day implementation activities. They will provide information, program proposals, and program tracking and monitoring reports to the I-REN Committee on a regular basis to ensure smooth operations and to address any issues or concerns that may arise.

I-REN Vision & Goals

The I-REN governing agencies have collectively developed a vision and three guiding goals to help shape its Business Plan, its future, and anticipated activities:

VISION

I-REN's vision is to connect residents, businesses, and local government to a wide range of energy efficiency resources to increase energy savings and equitable access throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

GOAL 1.

Build capacity and knowledge to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services and to demonstrate best practices. (Public Sector Chapter)

GOAL 2.

Ensure there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors. (WE&T Chapter)

GOAL 3.

Work closely with local building departments and the building industry to support, train, and enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance. (Codes and Standards Chapter)

Definition of Market

The Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)², which includes the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, makes up approximately 11% of California's total population, but their square mileage comprises approximately 17% of California's land area.

While the Los Angeles and San Francisco MSAs are the largest in the state by population, the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA is a very close third – yet it has had historically low participation in energy efficiency programs and has been historically underserved by utility energy efficiency programs. This may be due in part to its distance of two- to three-hours to the Los Angeles MSA – many utility-run programs are administered from within the Los Angeles MSA, and naturally the program implementers focus their resources locally.

I-REN is excited for the opportunity to administer regionally appropriate resources locally within the third-largest MSA in the state and by leveraging existing local relationships the I-REN governing agencies are best suited to serve their respective communities.

- Riverside County: Population 2,189,641 (2010 Census), covering 7,208 square miles; population density of 304 people/square mile
- San Bernardino County: Population 2,035,210, covering 20,105 square miles (largest county in the United States by area); population density of 101 people/square mile

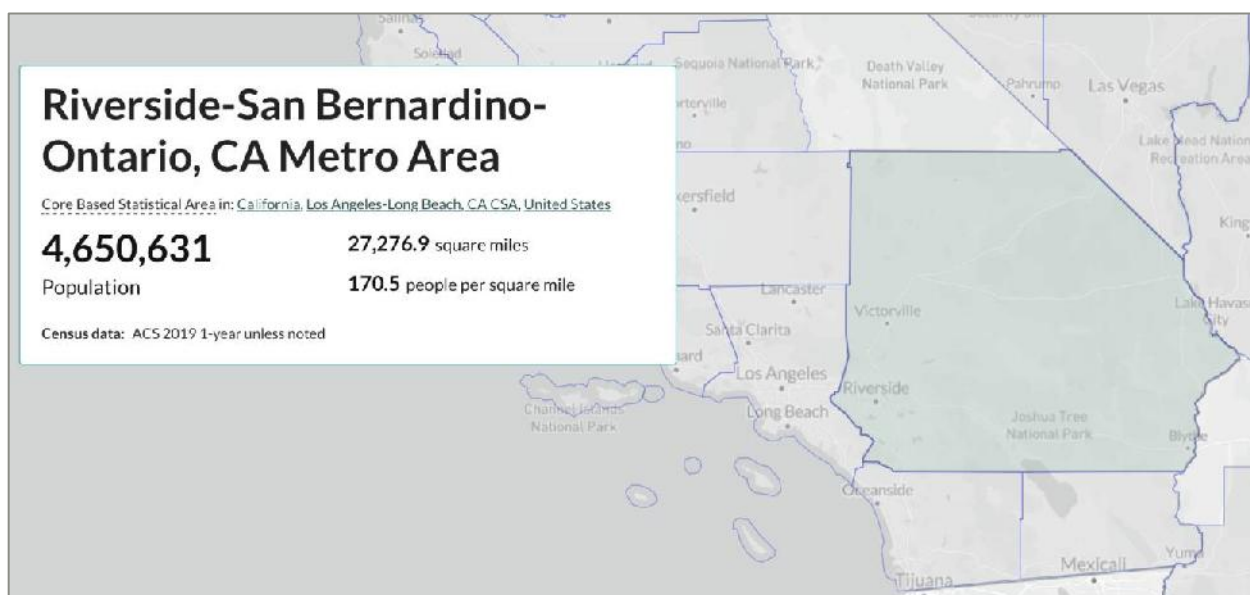


Figure 1-2. I-REN Service Territory Map³

² "Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is a geographical area with a population of 50,000 or more, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties." Definition Provided by the California Employment Development Department.

³ Source: <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/31000US40140-riverside-san-bernardino-ontario-ca-metro-area/>

Chapter 1: Portfolio Summary

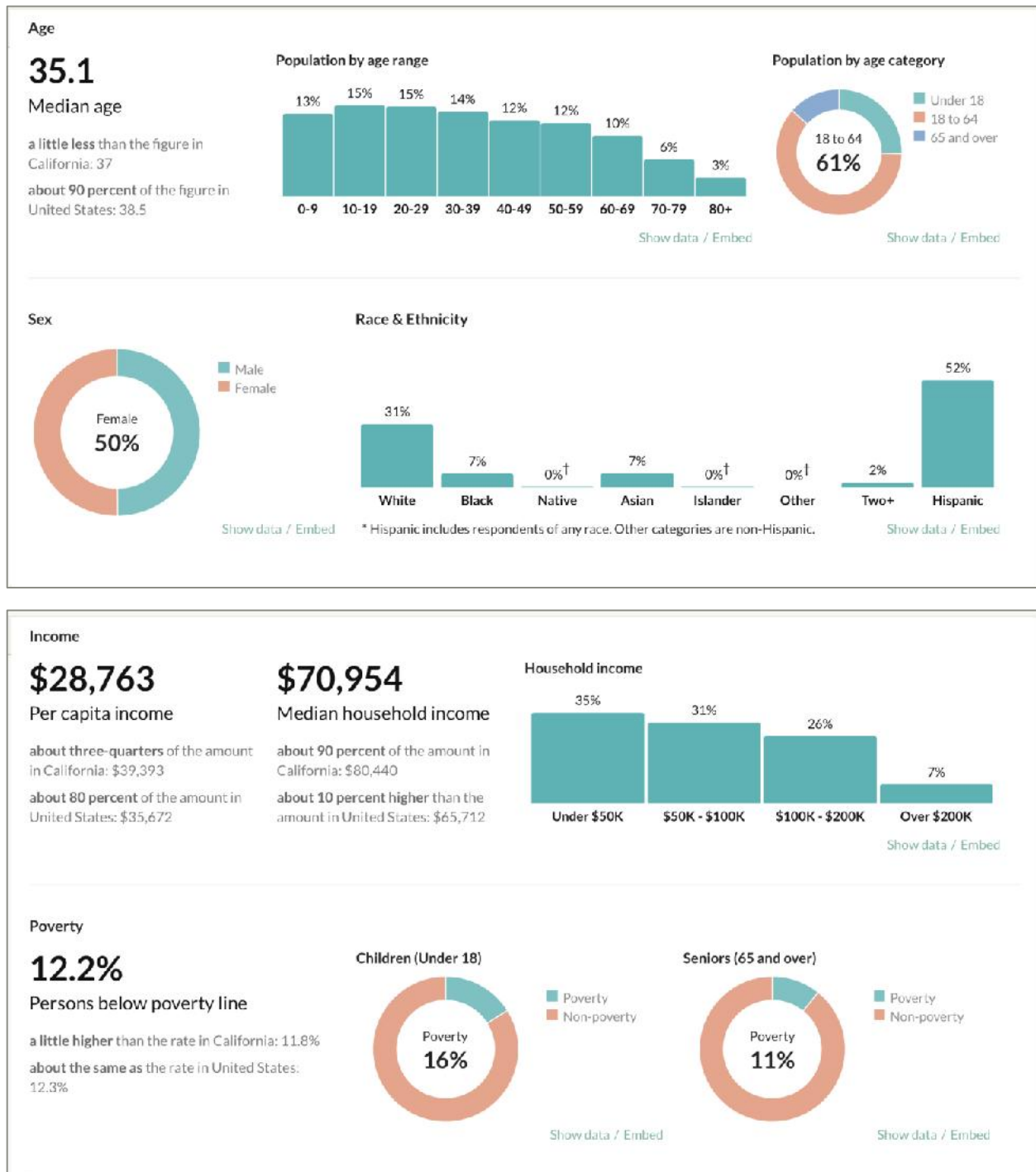


Figure 1-3. Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA Demographic & Income Data⁴

⁴ Source: <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/31000US40140-riverside-san-bernardino-ontario-ca-metro-area/>

Chapter 1: Portfolio Summary

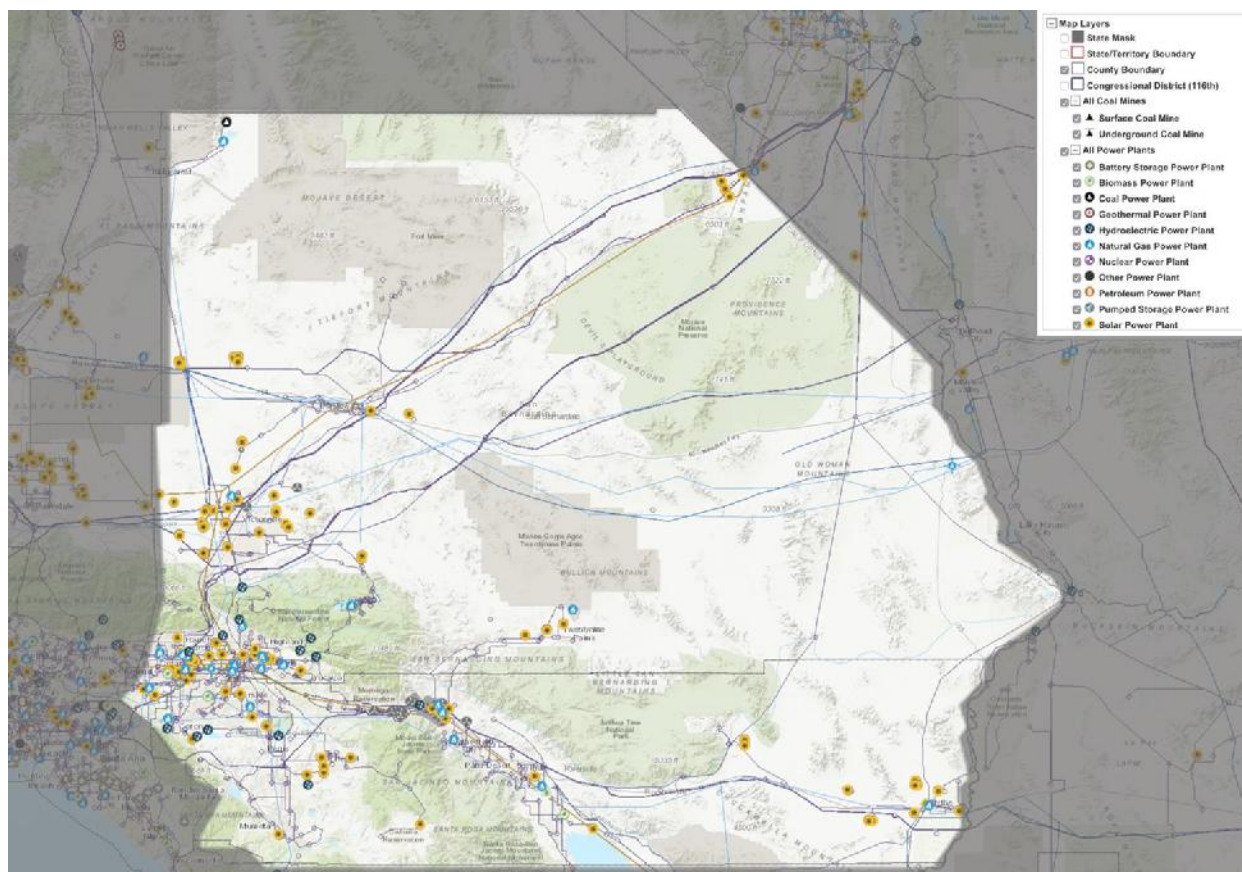


Figure 1-4. I-REN Territory Energy Infrastructure⁵

⁵ Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA) <https://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=CA>

Addressing I-REN Regional EE and California's Energy Needs

The I-REN region is a diverse geography with mountains, deserts, distinct urban areas, tribal areas, and vibrant communities and towns. The region is served by SCE and SoCalGas and is included in the SoCalREN territory. While there are multiple Program Administrators (PAs) in the region, the actual services to local communities are limited and are not meeting the needs of this growing area. The reduction of LGPs in particular is impacting the ability of the local jurisdictions to aggressively reduce energy use in local government buildings and build the capacity to tackle the State's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals.

The illustration in Figure 1-4 from Energy Information Administration (EIA) is a good demonstration of how the Inland Empire is used as a bridge for services to the large Los Angeles MSA, with pipelines, powerlines, etc. crisscrossing the territory. State goals included in SB 350, AB/SB32, and others all point to the need to increase the services and opportunities for energy savings in the inland areas of California. In Summer of 2020, the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and SCE issued multiple heat wave warnings and flex alerts, asking all energy consumers to reduce usage during stressful times on the electricity grid. Coupled with massive fire events across the state, it is even more important for I-REN to implement and begin assisting its communities, and thus, the State.

The region's continued growth and increasingly hot and dry weather will likely result in an overall increase in energy consumption in the coming years. In addition, the I-REN territory has large sections of the region that are characterized as disadvantaged communities (DACs) as defined by SB 535, tribal lands, or with a population with a median income 60% below the statewide median, as seen in the maps and data on the pages that follow. These factors contribute to a substantial need for focused, consistent, local engagement to serve these communities and to help reduce energy consumption over time.

A combination of workforce limitations, relative geographic isolation and low density make large parts of the I-REN territory difficult to serve. However, the need to serve the population is real. The I-REN region represents 11% percent of the State's population and through ratepayer fees customers in both urban and rural areas of the region contribute to the funding the investor owned utilities (IOUs) receive to provide energy efficiency services. Utility workforce education and training programs are nearly absent, and LGPs are being phased out, and local jurisdictions are facing increased pressures to put resources and attention to other major issues from housing to job development.

I-REN has coordinated with the other PAs in the region, and consulted with the other RENs in the state, to ensure that this Business Plan is positioned to fill gaps, provide services appropriate to a REN, and address needs that cannot or are not being addressed by other PAs. As a new program implementer, I-REN aims to scale its role and goals appropriately to match its strengths and fit the needs of its constituents to ensure that it offers the region and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) a portfolio of programs that has measurable value in increasing energy savings, community resilience, and long-term economic and environmental sustainability.

REGIONAL CHALLENGES

Include but are not limited to:

- Large territory with geographically isolated rural and frontier areas
- High poverty rates, with unemployment exacerbated by COVID-19
- Lack of accessible workforce training resources, especially for disadvantaged workers
- Insufficient resources to serve DACs and tribal lands
- Extreme climate change impacts with increasingly hot and dry weather

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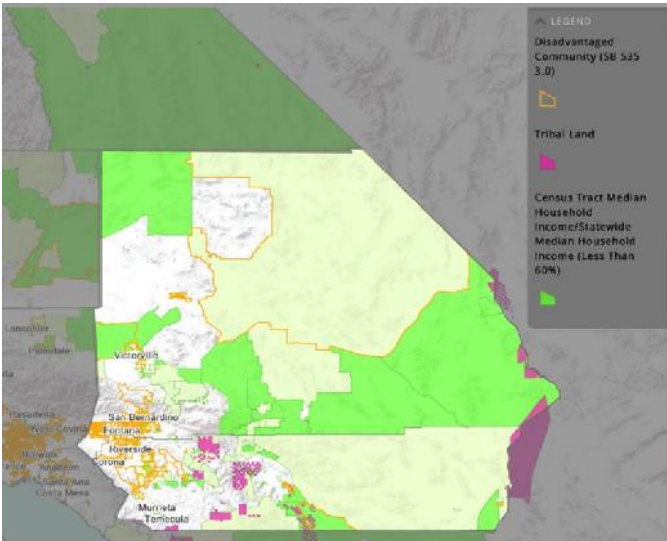


Figure 1-5. Disadvantaged communities and tribal lands in I-REN Territory
Source: [CEC GIS Portal](#)

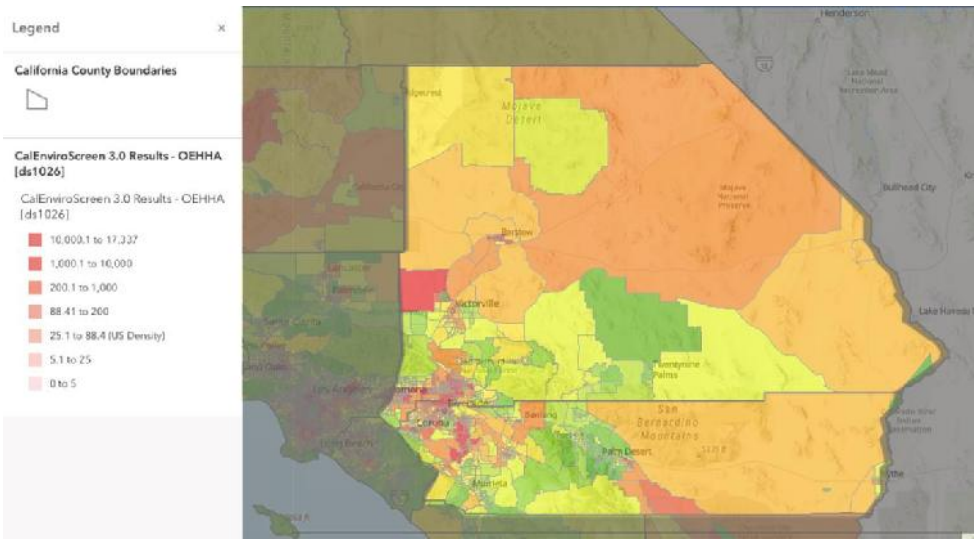


Figure 1-6. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results for I-REN Territory
Source: CalEnviroScreen 3.0

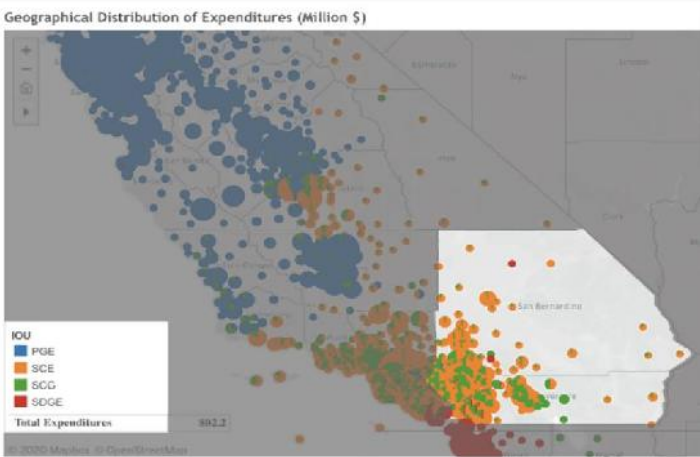


Figure 1-7. Geographical Distribution of Energy Efficiency Expenditures
Source: EESTATS Website, Geographic Distribution of Expenditures, 2016 data set

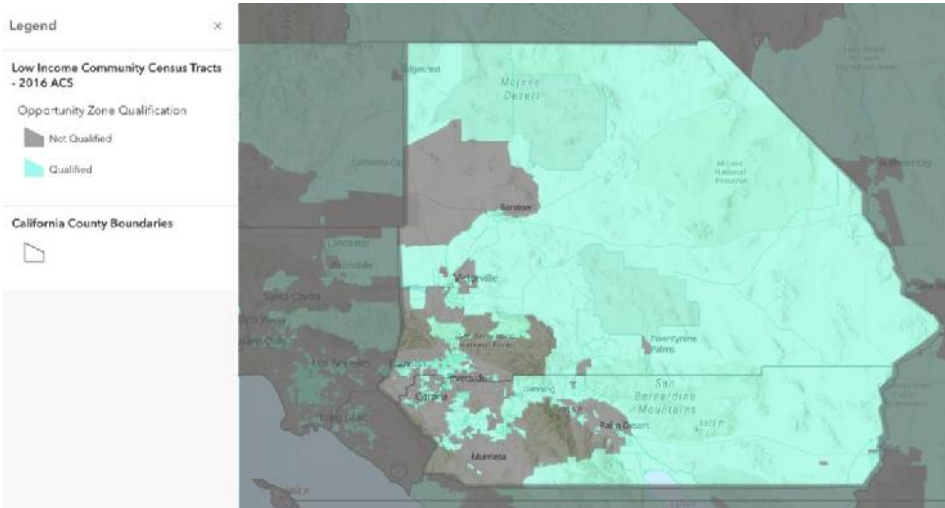


Figure 1-8. Low Income Opportunity Zones in I-REN Territory
Source: Low Income Community Census Tracts - U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

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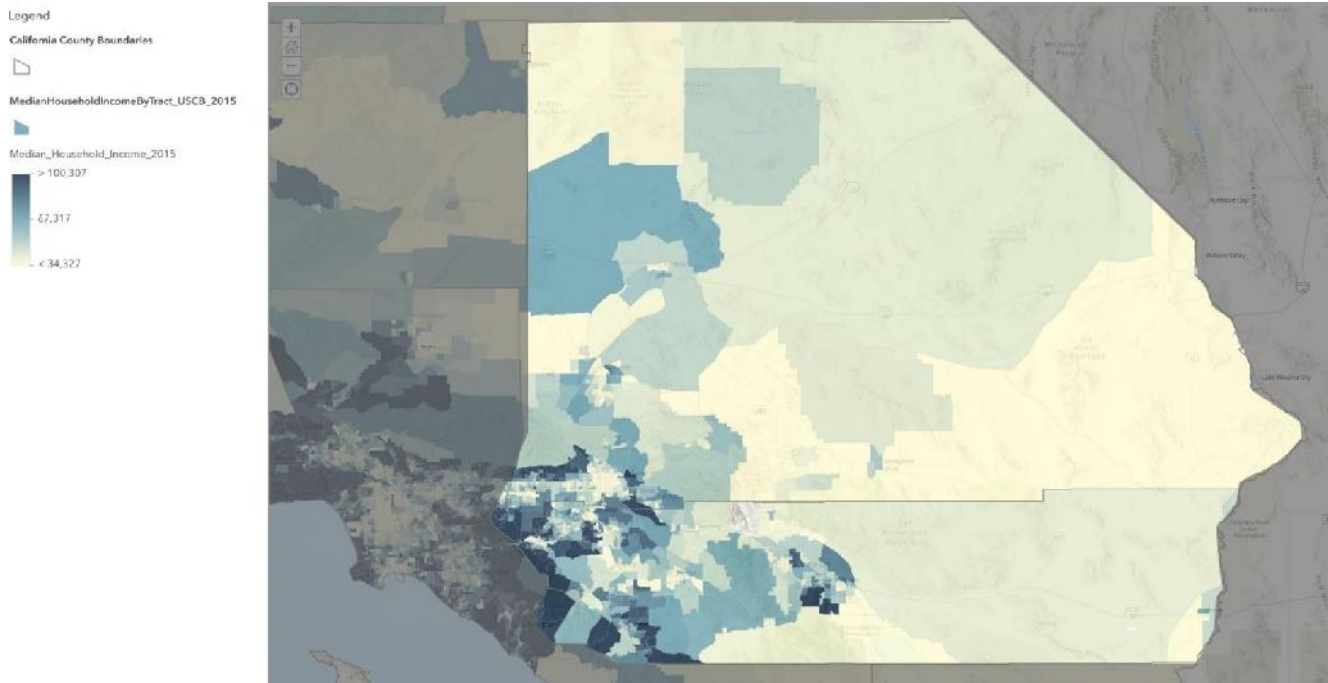


Figure 1-9. Median Household Income in I-REN Territory

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2015

Table 1-1. Inland Empire Cities & Percentage of Population Living in Poverty⁶

San Bernardino County		
Cities	Number of Cities	Rate of Poverty
Chino, Chino Hills, Grand Terrace, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Upland	6	0% - 10%
Apple Valley, Big Bear Lake, Colton, Fontana, Hesperia, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Ontario, Rialto, Victorville, Yucaipa, Yucca Valley	13	10% - 20%
Needles, San Bernardino, Twentynine Palms	3	20% - 30%
Adelanto, Barstow	2	30% - 40%
Riverside County		
Cities	Number of Cities	Rate of Poverty
Beaumont, Canyon Lake, Corona, East Vale, Indian Wells, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Norco, Temecula	10	0% - 10%
Calimesa, Hemet, Indio, Jurupa Valley, La Quinta, Moreno Valley, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Perris, Rancho Mirage, Riverside, San Jacinto, Wildomar	13	10% - 20%
Banning, Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella	4	20% - 30%
Desert Hot Springs	1	30% - 40%

⁶ Husing, Ph.D., John E., Economics & Politics, Inc. *Inland Empire Quarterly Economic Report: Inland Empire City Profile 2020*. October 2020. Available [online](#).

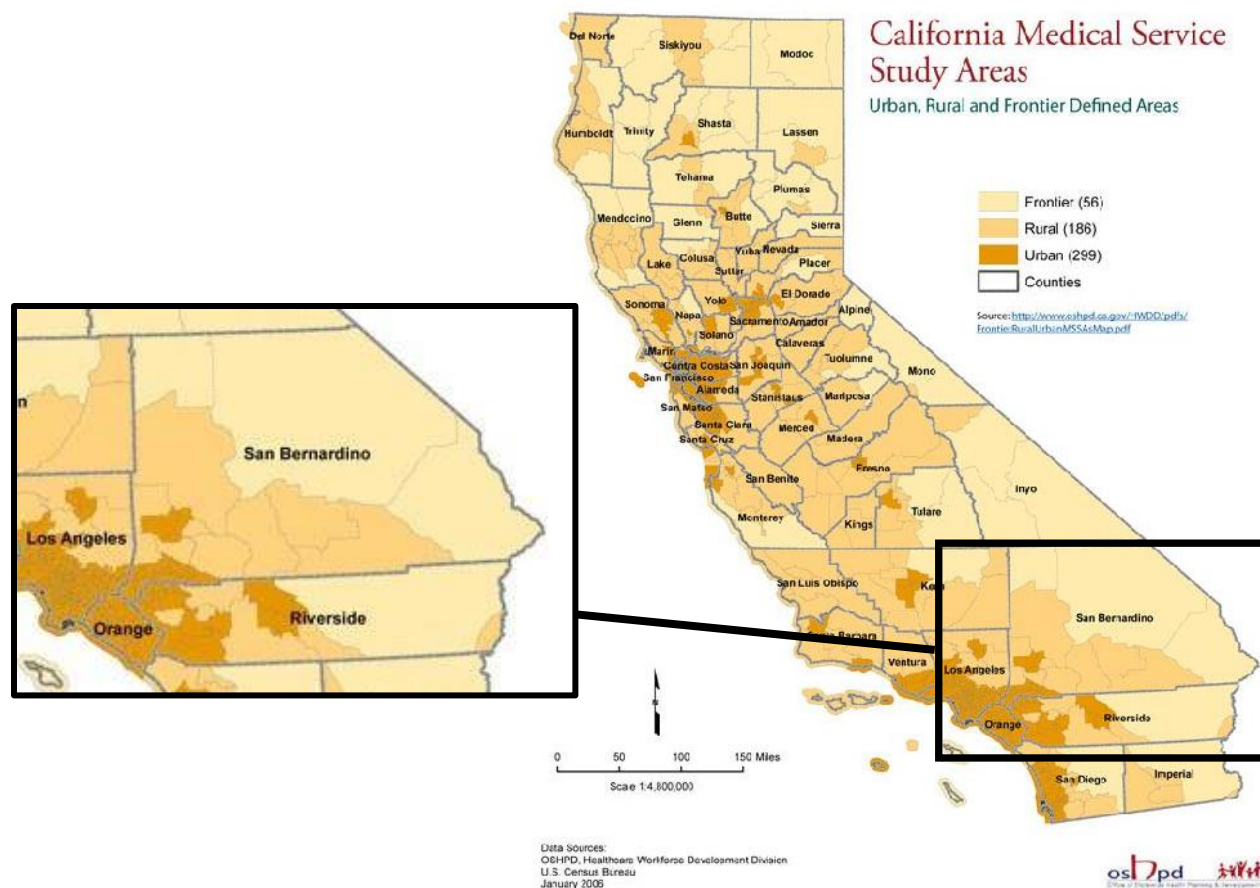


Figure 1-10. Urban, Rural and Frontier Defined Areas in I-REN Territory

Business Plan Sectors

In developing this Business Plan, I-REN aims to document its goals, strategies and tactics to increase the access and availability of energy efficiency services to its constituents and ensure value to the ratepayers in the region and the state. The plan consists of three main sectors, which align with the major I-REN work areas and are interrelated in their focus on supporting local jurisdictions and the energy efficiency workforce.

PUBLIC SECTOR

The I-REN Public Sector offering strives to establish robust and comprehensive wrap-around services for the local jurisdictions in the I-REN territory. Briefly, this includes Strategic Energy Planning to help identify opportunities, strategic investments in municipal and community buildings, establishing a Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) service with digital and person-to-person technical assistance, and incentives for meter-based savings (Normalized Metered Energy Consumption or NMEC) achieved over three to five years. In their role as organizations dedicated to local government, the I-REN governing agencies have developed extensive networks and expertise with key partners in the public sector across

the region, and plan to leverage this history to continue facilitating energy efficiency upgrades. With 52 cities, 78 unincorporated county areas, and 17 tribal areas, there are significant needs. Further, many of these local governments tend to be under-resourced and lack the capacity, knowledge, and ability to effectively update their buildings. This will fill a gap in energy efficiency services by existing utilities, community choice aggregators (CCAs), or RENs.

CODES & STANDARDS: CROSS-CUTTING SECTOR

I-REN will implement a well-rounded set of activities related to supporting improved codes and standards compliance and enforcement through training, outreach, and technical assistance. The I-REN region includes many smaller jurisdictions that face significant challenges with codes and standards enforcement and compliance. The local building department staff in these jurisdictions are key to realizing energy savings from implementation and enforcement of codes and standards. For that reason, I-REN proposes to focus much of its C&S Sector work on empowering and supporting these local building department staff to be energy efficiency leaders in their own communities, through improved communications, protocols, and systems for increased efficiency. I-REN sees an opportunity to leverage its strong network with public sector staff to offer resources and support, while also providing targeted training and outreach to support building and construction industry actors to foster increased compliance with codes and standards.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING: CROSS-CUTTING SECTOR

The I-REN team will work closely with local providers, as well as coordinating with other industry leaders statewide to bring more comprehensive, equitable and targeted training opportunities to the region. In addition, I-REN will work to improve workforce development and help enhance the availability of skilled workers and connections with businesses. Due in part to its geographic distance from major MSAs, the I-REN service area has historically had limited engagement in necessary workforce development opportunities. There is substantial demand but not a strong enough pool of skilled workers to meet that demand. The majority of IOU energy efficiency (EE) workforce training has typically taken place in the Los Angeles area or in border cities distant from many workers. I-REN sees an opportunity to strengthen its workforce by delivering trainings locally and using regional connections, especially with the Community Colleges and California State Universities (CSUs), and knowledge to engage and build workforce networks. Through these activities I-REN can help bridge the divide between training providers, job seekers, and employers to support the growth of a clean energy workforce and economy in the Inland Empire.

Purpose of Business Plan

The three primary agencies that constitute I-REN are pursuing the development of a new REN driven by the need to create equity and access in the region to energy efficiency programs. The Commission has recognized the value that local governments bring to energy efficiency program delivery and with the development of the REN model has provided an essential tool for local governments to leverage their expertise, networks, and deep connections to their communities to help reach state energy and climate goals.

While current energy data is not available by county, information from the CPUC's EESTATS website illustrates the lack of energy efficiency dollar expenditures in the region (Figure 1-7).

Similar to the Central Coast and the relatively new 3C-REN, Central/Inland California has historically been difficult to serve through current channels and will remain so unless there is an entity to directly serve and tailor programs for the region. As illustrated in the chart below, the I-REN region represents 4.5 million people and over 27,000 square miles, a substantial region with a need for its own independent REN dedicated to serving its communities.

Table 1-2. REN Population and Service Area Comparison

Organization	Counties	# of Cities	Total Population	Service Area (Sq. Miles)	Population per Sq. Mile
BayREN	9	101	7,753,023	6,907	1,123
3C-REN	3	25	1,581,504	7,877	201
SoCalREN	12	220	20 Million +	50,000 +	400 +
I-REN	2	52	4.5 Million	27,263	170

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Increasing resources and technical services is essential to the health and success of the region. The I-REN region is at a disadvantage due to climate impacts that will continue to worsen year over year. The Inland Empire already has a greater number of cooling degree days (CDD) than most of Southern California and these are projected to increase by more than a month of additional CDD each year over the next decade. According to Cal-Adapt, the I-REN counties will experience an average of 41 additional cooling days per year in the next ten years (for a total of 304 CDD per year on average), compared to 1995-2005 data.

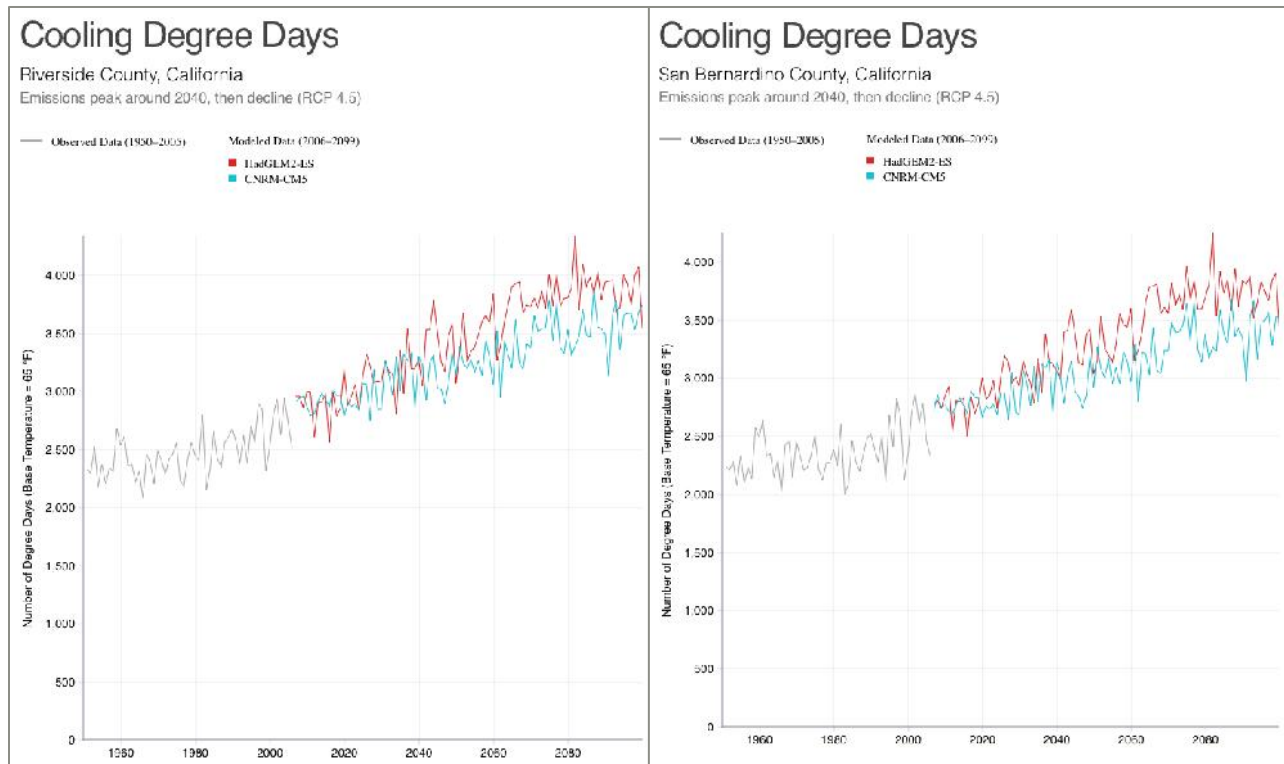


Figure 1-11. Cooling Degree Days in the I-REN Counties

*Riverside and San Bernardino County Cooling and Heating Days are increasing substantially.
Blue line is cooling days, red line is heating days. Source: Cal-Adapt*

Overview

Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs

The I-REN Business Plan has been informed by a range of state and regulatory policies and legislation. The following is a summary of the key policies and legislation that are considered and incorporated into this Business Plan.

Strategic Plan and Associated Action Plans

Senate Bill (SB) 350 Supporting Plans: Several plans have been developed to define and better outline how to achieve the goals required in SB 350 specific to doubling energy efficiency from existing buildings and for addressing barriers to low-income communities. This includes California Energy Commission (CEC) Staff report “Framework for Establishing the Senate Bill 350 Energy Efficiency Savings Doubling Targets,” CEC report “Senate Bill 350: Doubling Energy Efficiency Savings by 2030,” and the CEC “SB 350 Low-Income Barriers Study Recommendations.” I-REN has reviewed these documents and considered their recommendations and insights into this Business Plan.

Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency (EBEE) Action Plan: The EBEE Action Plan provides detailed strategies and tactics for increasing energy efficiency in all existing buildings, including all residential buildings. The EBEE Action Plan outlines a series of priorities for local government leadership in energy efficiency, codes, and workforce that have been considered and incorporated when appropriate into this Business Plan.

California Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan (CEESP) and the Big Bold Goals: The 2011 CEESP outlines bold goals for achieving Zero Net Energy (ZNE) in all new residential buildings beginning in 2020 and directs program administrators to move away from single measure programs to deeper whole-house programs.

State Legislation and Goals

SB 100: The bill signed by Governor Brown calls for utilities to procure 60 percent renewable energy by 2030 and 100 percent carbon-free energy by 2045, and relevant to I-REN, to double the energy efficiency of existing buildings. The law makes California the largest jurisdiction to legally commit to clean energy. The goal to double energy efficiency for existing buildings will be a substantial lift and require coordination and collaboration with all PAs in the region.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1482; SB 246; SB 379; AB 2800: A range of state laws calling for preparation of state climate adaptation strategy, establishing the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, requiring local governments to include adaptation and resiliency strategies in general plans, and requiring state agencies to account for climate change when planning new infrastructure, respectively. I-REN is facing immediate impacts due to climate change and intends to leverage its EE portfolio to not just reduce energy consumption but to improve the resilience of the communities in the region.

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AB 841: Authorizes a one-time redirection of unspent energy efficiency funds from IOUs to schools. Programs would be designed to upgrade heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, increase energy efficiency, and address potential lead in water fixtures. I-REN's Public Sector initiatives align well with this new law and I-REN will look to build an approach to support this effort either directly or in coordination with regional PAs.

AB 32/SB 32: California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 – AB 32/SB 32 are the leading legislation in California directing substantial reductions in carbon emissions. The latest extension of SB 32 mandates the reduction of GHG gas emissions to 40 percent below the 1990 levels by 2030. As a consortium of local governments, this bill is central to I-REN's engagement and interest in deep energy savings and GHG gas reductions in the built environment. Climate Action Plans being developed throughout the region will be able to leverage and enhance I-RENs activities, particularly local governments.

SB 350 Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015: The primary aspect of this law relevant to I-REN is the mandate to increase energy efficiency by 50 percent in existing buildings by 2030 and its focus on addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities more effectively in accessing energy efficiency and solar resources, and workforce development. This Business Plan's goals and strategies draw substantially from this mandate.

SB 1414: Requires increased code compliance and requirement for confirmation of appropriate permits for installation of new HVAC and heat pumps systems. I-REN will incorporate these requirements into its programs and work with building departments to establish successful approaches to implement this across the region.

Regulatory Requirements

“The decision authorizes the continued operation of existing RENs and invites new REN proposals as business plans to be filed with the Commission, if they meet certain additional requirements as defined in this decision. Any new REN will be required to demonstrate unique value in achieving state goals, represent more than one local government entity, to coordinate with existing program administrators in their geographic area prior to filing their business plan, to vet their proposal with stakeholders through the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC), and to explain their REN governance structure in their business plan filing.”⁷

I-REN is offering this Business Plan as a formal proposal to form a REN as outlined by the CPUC. I-REN has reviewed the CPUC guidance and pertinent decisions and is confident that it is well suited and needed to ensure equitable and effective energy efficiency services and resources to the region. This Business Plan provides details regarding the existing gaps, and lack of services needed in the region as required by the CPUC’s guidance. The following outlines the specific CPUC guidance and direction addressed in the Business Plan.

The CPUC in Decision 12-11-015, Decision 16-08-019, Decision 18-05-041, and refined in decision 19-1-021 the REN’s activities to three areas:

1. Activities that utilities or CCA program administrators cannot or do not intend to undertake.
2. Pilot activities where there is no current utility or CCA program offering, and where there is potential for scalability to a broader geographic reach, if successful.
3. Activities serving hard-to-reach markets, whether or not there is another utility or CCA program that may overlap.⁸

“What we seek to avoid with “overlap” concerns, is duplicative administrative costs that may be associated with multiple administrators operating in one area, disproportionate funding concentrated on one geographic area, and/or multiple program administrators conducting similar activities. In addition, we want to avoid customers receiving confusing or multiple competing offers for the same type of measure or project.”⁹

I-REN has focused on these three criteria areas and the need to provide value for ratepayers in the development of this Business Plan. The I-REN governing agencies have worked for nearly 18 months coordinating, developing and refining the presented sectors to ensure they do not overlap and instead fill clear gaps, address hard-to-reach communities, and assess opportunities to pilot new ideas that could be scaled beyond the I-REN region.

⁷ CPUC, Decision 19-12-021, December 5, 2019, page 2.

⁸ CPUC Decision 19-12-021, December 5, 2019, page 31.

⁹ CPUC Decision 19-12-021, December 5, 2019, page 24-25.

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Specifically, I-REN has engaged in the following coordination activities:

- Met with SCE, SoCalGas, and SoCalREN to discuss proposed programs and received Letters of Commitment to Cooperate (included in Appendix C).
- Connected with and secured support letters from numerous cities across the I-REN territory, as well as county officials and other regional organizations such as Southern California Association of Governments and Western Community Energy (letters included in Appendix C).
- Presented initial Strategic Framework and the Draft Business Plan to the Full California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC), once in May 2020 and then again in December 2020.
- Regularly attended and participated in CAEECC and Underserved Working Group meetings.
- Responded to and incorporated input from CAEECC stakeholders in Business Plan where appropriate (see Appendix D).
- Coordinated with CPUC Energy Division Staff and conducted a series of Ex Parte communications with Commission Staff and Commissioners to introduce I-REN, the proposed programs, and discuss I-REN's Business Plan submittal.

Providing Value

I-REN's Business Plan has been designed to be targeted, feasible, and actionable to provide a solid foundation for building and growing a successful REN and energy efficient portfolio in the region. The I-REN Business Plan is informed by the stakeholder process indicated above and shaped by I-REN's collective history of working in energy efficiency and clean energy through grant programs and previous local government programs. This relevant experience is summarized in selected examples below.

- WRCOG's LGP, known as the Western Riverside Energy Partnership (WREP), has existed for 10 years in WRCOG territory and has grown over those years to 18 members along with the County of Riverside to collectively support energy efficiency upgrades & community engagement.
- WRCOG's Streetlight initiative is a regional program for 11 agencies that provided financing and rebates for energy efficient street lighting to regional jurisdictions.
- WRCOG's CCA program, Western Community Energy (WCE), supports six member agencies which buys cleaner electricity and sells it at a lower cost to its customers.
- CVAG participated in the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP), a 10-year LGP including CVAG and its 10 member cities and utilities servicing its jurisdiction.
- CVAG's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program has service agreements with seven private firms to service CVAG's jurisdiction. PACE started in the Coachella Valley in 2007, starting with the City of Palm Desert and later transitioning to a regional approach through CVAG.
- CVAG received a Strategic Plan grant in the amount of \$4.1 million to assist its cities with completing Greenhouse Gas inventories, Climate Action Plans, Energy Action Plans, and many more policies relevant to energy efficiency and reduction of their carbon footprints.
- CVAG's voluntary Green Building program is designed to encourage customers and contractors to go beyond Title 24 requirements.
- CVAG's Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, called Desert Community Energy (DCE), buys cleaner electricity and sells it at lower costs to its customers.
- SBCOG coordinated San Bernardino County's ZEV Readiness and Implementation Plan.
- SBCOG's Climate Resiliency Study "Resilient IE" includes the participation of all 24 cities in San Bernardino County.
- SBCOG's San Bernardino Regional Energy Partnership includes collaboration with 13 cities and the region's IOUs.

I-REN Value Metrics

There are three primary areas that I-REN sees establishing unique value with this Business Plan:

- 1. Building local government capacity to implement energy efficiency upgrades for municipal buildings and for improving code compliance.**
- 2. Supporting economic sustainability and a strong local workforce by connecting effective and equitable opportunities for local EE training and demand for EE upgrades.**
- 3. Establishing long-lasting, scalable tools through the Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) that can be used in every city in the region for purposes including but not limited to sharing timely and accurate EE information, identifying rebates and incentives available through any PA's programs, and helping explain financing resources.**

Aligning with Commission Decision Making

The I-REN Business Plan is designed to align with the current PA Business Plan timeframe to 2025. The objective is to develop an initial foundation and framework that will guide I-REN through its launch phase and into a sustainable future as a program implementer beyond 2025, with a focus on adaptability and flexibility.

I-REN recognizes that the Commission is considering changes to PA Business Plan processes and timing. The primary driving issues are COVID-19 impacts, changes to cost effectiveness, and updates to the Potential and Goals study. This Plan has been developed with these issues in mind and I-REN asserts that as a REN, it is not impacted by cost effectiveness rules nor the updates to the Potential and Goals study. This is due to the fact that the Potential and Goals Study does not specifically provide actionable data based on REN territories or REN programs and D.19-12-021 affirmed that RENs do not have a cost effectiveness threshold requirement.

The majority of the activities outlined in I-REN's Business Plan are non-resource programs, designed to support and enhance the activities of other PAs, with a targeted local government resource program not currently provided to its member audiences.

Major Trends

The following major trends will influence the design and impact I-REN's portfolio, including: COVID-19 and related economic stressors, racial inequity, increasing climate change impacts, geography, and the need for high performance buildings and a skilled workforce.

I-REN's proposed offerings have elements that can support each of these substantial issues and help to better serve the region, ensuring that ratepayer dollars are being allocated equitably to DAC, rural, tribal, and other communities who need the funds and who have been historically underserved.

Additional trends have been identified in each Sector chapter specific to that area.



Figure 1-12. Riverside Mission Hotel

COVID-19, Unemployment, and Economic Stresses on Local Government

The public health impacts from COVID-19 and associated economic challenges have severely affected the Inland Empire and will impact the region for the foreseeable future. In one example, research from the Economic Roundtable identified Riverside County workers as tied for having the highest risk in California for job loss due to COVID-19 economic impacts. "The burden of unemployment is unequally distributed. It rests most heavily on young adults, Latinos, and workers in restaurant, hotel, personal care, and janitorial jobs. Young adults graduating from school and attempting to enter the job market face extremely difficult challenges," the report concluded.¹⁰

Local governments will continue to face economic stresses in this region, particularly those cities reliant on sales taxes. Retail and commercial activity will be impacted negatively for the foreseeable future and may not rebound for years. It is uncertain what the specific and ongoing implications might be, but for the purpose of planning for I-REN, it is assumed based on what happened in the 2007-2010 recession that local government staffing will be frozen or reduced, that there will be less funding available for non-essential capital improvements, and planning funding will also be negatively impacted. The other cascading impacts from COVID-19 such as job loss, housing insecurity, health disparities and more will affect the region's local jurisdictions, and it is anticipated that it will continue to be difficult to engage and leverage local government staff as effectively while they respond to the ongoing pandemic and weather its long-term effects going forward. Economic development and affordability are important

¹⁰ Lansner, Jonathan. Orange County Register. (April 17, 2020). Riverside County workers at highest risk for coronavirus-related layoff, by this math. Available [online](#). Accessed November 2020.

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issues to the I-REN region, which has seen population growth greater than other parts of California while having lower median income, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹

The I-REN portfolio will directly help local governments mitigate some of these issues by providing additional resources to the region, and enabling ongoing workforce development, economic activity, and capital improvements. As the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic crisis continues to unfold, the cross-cutting, interrelated activities proposed for I-REN's Public Sector, WE&T, and C&S programs will support local governments and building professionals in navigating the changes ahead.

Social and Racial Inequity

The issue of racial inequity and the widespread outpouring of support for a rehaul of community policing and systemic racial policies are critical concerns that I-REN can and will address within its portfolio. Some of the implications that are within I-REN's ability to address include the unequal access to energy efficiency dollars, the lack of support for small and underserved communities, ineffective programs for tribal communities, as well as overall lack of diversity. Proactive outreach to disadvantaged communities to assist increase the availability of a sustainable and equitable workforce will be important. I-REN's racial makeup is significantly more Hispanic and Latino than the rest of California, with fewer Asian residents. The majority of the region's residents - 51.6%, or 2.39 million - are Hispanic. Of those, approximately 1.5 million are primarily Spanish speaking.¹² This diversity requires I-REN to ensure that its programs, services, and resources are available and accessible to everyone.

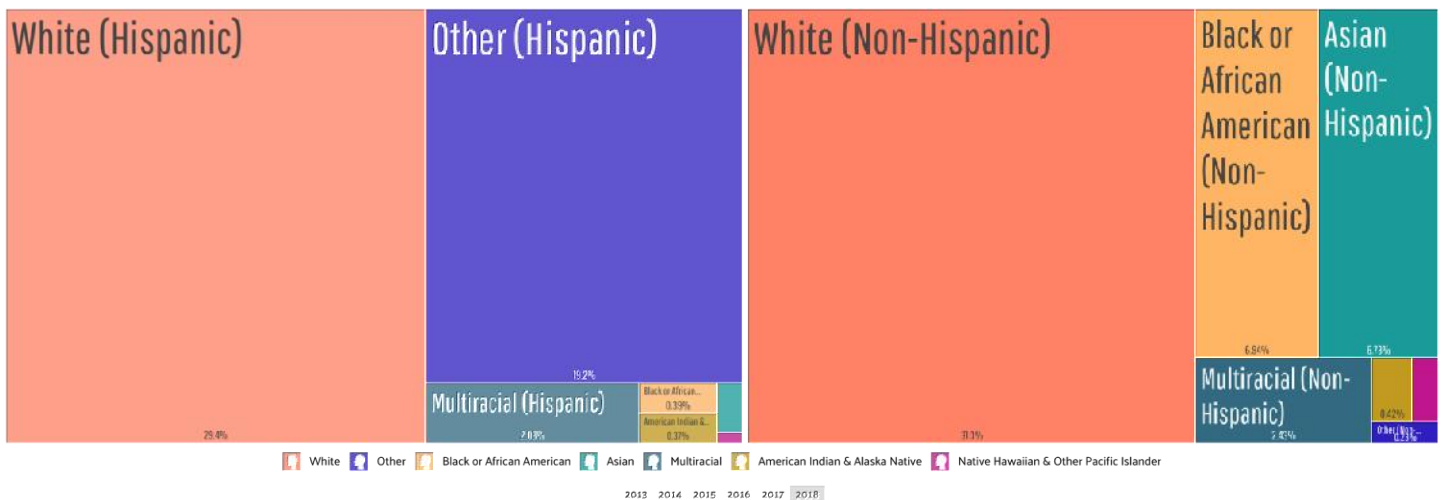


Figure 1-13. Inland Empire Racial Demographics¹³

¹¹ Jones, B., Elkind, E., Duncan, K., & Hanson, M. (2017). The Net Economic Impacts of California's Major Climate Programs in the Inland Empire. *UC Berkeley: Berkeley Law*. Available online. Accessed April 2020.

<http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/pdf/2017/Inland-Empire-Net-Impacts.pdf>

¹² <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/riverside-san-bernardino-ontario-ca#demographics>

¹³ Source: <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/riverside-san-bernardino-ontario-ca>

Climate Change

As discussed earlier in this chapter, climate change is a slow moving but major challenge and trend with the broadest impacts to the I-REN service territory. Climate change is anticipated to impact Riverside and San Bernardino counties with increased extreme and variable weather resulting in increasingly hotter summers and more extreme winter storms. Drought and wildfire impacts will also increase, particularly as more homes and communities build into the wildlands urban interface. The Inland Empire already has some of the worst smog in the region contributing to health impacts and poor air quality. I-REN's Public Sector programs will work with local governments to upgrade public buildings' energy systems, particularly HVAC. Upgrades will be designed to offer safe and healthy hubs for community members, as well as better buildings for public sector workers. Together these improvements will help to improve the ability of the region to withstand these impacts while also reducing energy usage and greenhouse gas impacts related to energy use.

Geography

Geography is a major consideration for I-REN as a motivation to create a REN, and as a barrier that needs to be directly and consistently addressed. The I-REN service territory covers over 27,000 square miles – an area nearly the size of the state of South Carolina – with a range of communities, populations, and needs. Vast areas of the region are historically underserved by traditional IOU and other PA programs as they are far away from major cities, have a lack of an available workforce, and lower socio-economic standing making them less attractive to travel to provide services. I-REN, as a local government coalition, has a mission to equitably serve these outlying communities. Moreover, these communities are already part of the I-REN governing agencies' organizational structures and can be more effectively engaged and served through I-REN than any other existing organization.

High Performance Buildings and a Skilled Workforce

As the State moves to implement a near-ZNE residential code, and high performing existing buildings, the gap in the skills of the existing workforce will be exacerbated. The future reality of more complex building design, construction, and operation will require technical training and engagement with all contractor types to make sure that advanced measures, technologies, and approaches are installed and implemented correctly to achieve the anticipated savings. In addition, these complex concepts will require improved "soft skills" to communicate effectively to job crews, customers, building departments, and others. I-REN will incorporate these future-focused topics as they collaborate with training providers and industry stakeholders for their WE&T sector initiatives. In alignment with I-REN's value metrics, I-REN will structure its WE&T activities to help ensure the Inland Empire workforce has equitable opportunities to learn these new skills and technologies, especially in rural, DAC, low income, and other vulnerable communities.

Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role

I-REN sees this initial Business Plan submittal as the first step in establishing a strong foundation for a larger and more comprehensive portfolio of programs. This Business Plan is focused on building capacity and enabling local governments to become better leaders for energy efficiency, expanding the workforce, and solidifying the ability to enforce codes and standards.

Ultimately, I-REN envisions growing its offerings into the Residential and Commercial Sectors, particularly targeting hard-to-reach audiences in the region. I-REN sees the opportunity as the IOUs transition their residential programs in the coming years to step in and fill the gaps anticipated for hard-to-reach and less cost-effective EE to help address equity and access for all residents and disadvantaged communities. Equally, I-REN anticipates working with small and medium commercial businesses in the future to address their needs for EE. The region has a relatively large number of tribal communities and while I-REN will begin working with tribes during this Business Plan timeframe, it is anticipated that the focus will be on building relationships, listening, and collaborating to establish a better approach to meeting the unique requirements of tribal communities.

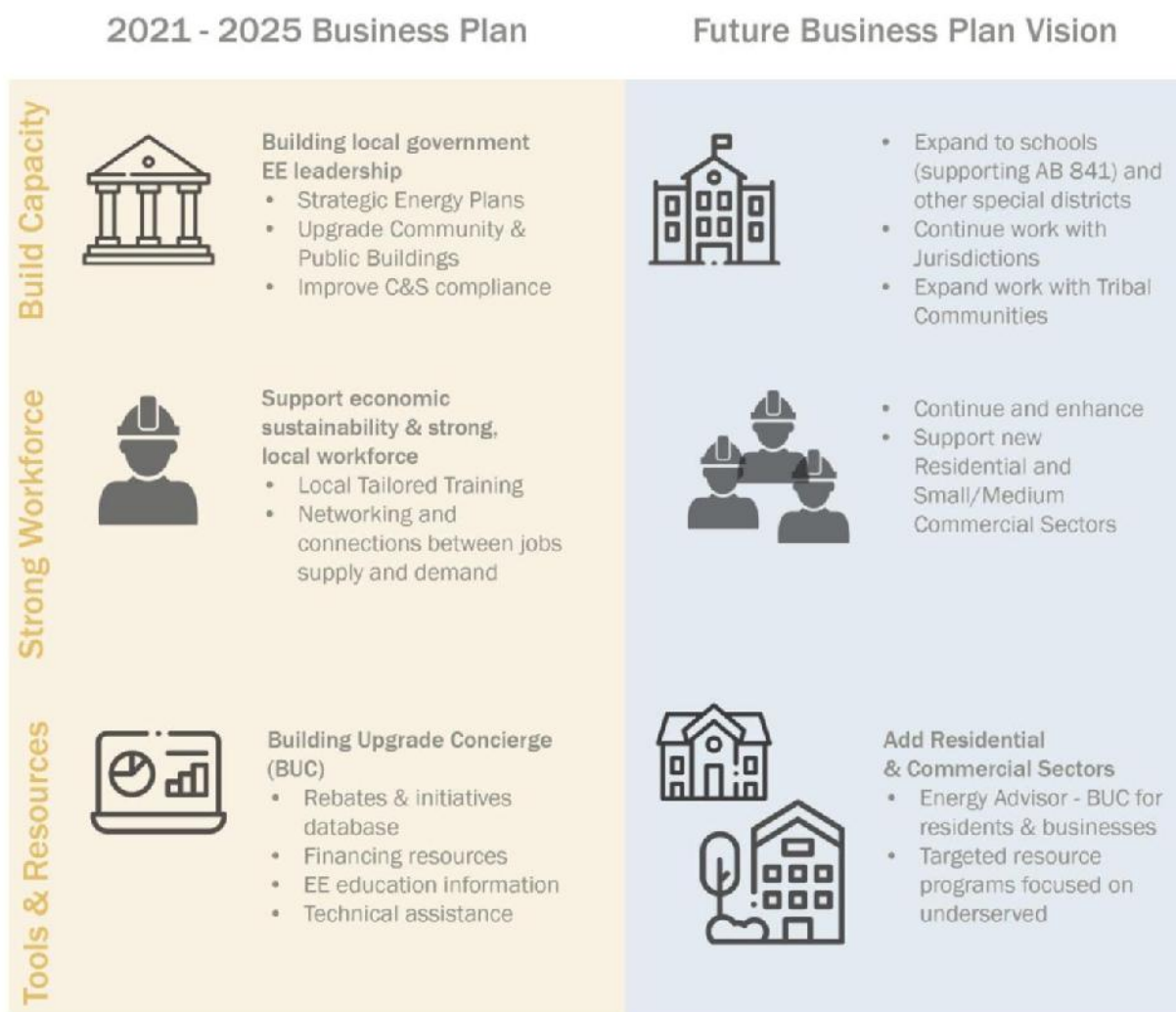


Figure 1-14. I-REN's Business Plan and Vision for the Future

Intervention Strategies and Goals



Figure 1-15. I-REN Strategic Framework

Challenges & Barriers

The I-REN region faces numerous barriers that in the past have hindered participation in energy efficiency programs. I-REN has developed its strategic interventions to address specific barriers (Table 1-3) faced by market actors in each of the three sectors it proposes to serve. This approach is based on insights from the I-REN governing agencies' work with their local jurisdictions, and with consideration also given to previous attempts by other PAs to address these sectors in this region. Those lessons learned informed I-REN's planning process, as well as best practices from successful programs elsewhere in the state.

Table 1-3. Barriers and Strategies for All I-REN Sectors

Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
Public Sector			
Local government staff lack the time and capacity to pursue complex energy efficiency projects.	Lack of understanding of best practices for energy efficiency solutions.	Technical assistance, locally focused resources, and person-to-person support are needed to develop and implement strategic energy plans for the Public Sector.	S1.1
There are a variety of EE programs and funding sources but it's unclear which apply to local government facilities or how to participate.	Confusion on types of incentives or financing programs and lack of staff resources to apply.	Tailored, locally focused program options are needed, as well as technical assistance and resources to prompt participation in I-REN and other PA programs.	S1.1 S1.2
Due to budgetary restrictions and complicated approval processes, public sector agencies may wait until burnout to replace equipment. At that time, they are forced to decide quickly, often without access to outside funding sources.	Disconnect between funding sources and timing of energy efficiency upgrades, which can increase building operating costs due to increased maintenance needs and higher energy use.	Strategic energy planning can help create a roadmap to plan for equipment upgrades. Technical assistance and locally focused programs can help agencies leverage resource programs and financing to reduce costs.	S1.1 S1.2
Older, inefficient equipment continues to function so it is not replaced due to cost and staff resource issues, yet it drives up building operating costs through increases in required maintenance and higher energy use.	Lack of drivers or need for local government agencies to replace existing working, but inefficient equipment.	Technical assistance combined with an incentive or financing option could make the difference in a public sector agency moving to a higher efficiency option for their facility.	S1.1 S1.2

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Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
Navigating EE program participation and funding sources is complex and requires a dedicated “Energy Champion” who can devote time and attention to the subject.	Frequent changes in the Energy Champions, with high turnover in staff and overall lack of government staff capacity.	Person-to-person technical assistance and support is critical for maintaining relationships through staffing turnover.	S1.1
Local governments each have their own bureaucratic structure, and it’s often unclear how they can enroll in EE programs or apply for financing opportunities.	Varied governance, and funding rules that limit ability to take advantage of typical IOU funding/LGP.	Technical assistance resources, and person-to-person support can help agency staff navigate the enrollment and approval process.	S1.1
Codes & Standards			
Codes and standards are continually being updated.	Lack of capacity and time to learn details of Title 24, Part 6 and implement effective means to review or enforce.	Technical assistance, tools, training, and resources can help local building department staff and permit applicants keep up with changes to codes and standards.	S3.1 S3.3
Some local building departments have limited staff resources for enforcing energy codes.	Energy efficiency is a low priority for building departments. Focus is on life and safety issues.	Ongoing training and outreach can help identify and fill gaps in building department capacity, while reinforcing the importance of energy codes and helping encourage local leadership in EE and C&S.	S3.1
Some local building departments have limited capacity to monitor and enforce changes, leading to uneven compliance across the region.	Lack of enforcement of permitting of HVAC systems for existing buildings as well as other energy code elements for new construction, especially related to the 2019 code cycle.	Outreach to construction firms and local building departments can help ensure consistent and timely information is being distributed across jurisdictions to support both compliance and enforcement.	S3.2
Both permit applicants (e.g., construction firms) and local building department staff have complicated	Technical questions and issues with permitting, codes, etc.	Technical assistance can help provide targeted support for permit applicants and local building departments, and other tools, and resources can offer accessible	S3.3

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Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
requirements to follow for compliance and enforcement.		information to answer frequently-asked questions and help address known issues.	
Workforce Education & Training			
When employers are hiring for skilled positions in advanced energy and energy efficiency, they can't find people to hire.	Inability to find and retain skilled and qualified workers for the demand.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1 S2.2
Codes and standards compliance and energy efficiency programs require certain certifications and qualifications for builders to participate.	A limited number of builders in the region have the required certifications and qualifications.	Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1
Energy efficiency and advanced energy projects and programs require qualifications that the local workforce does not have.	Lack of qualified workforce in Riverside/San Bernardino Counties, especially in the more remote areas.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce.	S2.1
Job seekers cannot find jobs in energy efficiency and advanced energy.	Lack of job opportunities in energy efficiency and advanced energy in the region.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Identify and illuminate the pathways to energy efficiency and advanced energy jobs.	S2.2
Contractors aren't aware of energy efficiency projects, or they cannot or choose not to perform this work.	Lack of interest or knowledge of the opportunities and benefits of energy efficiency projects.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1 S2.2

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Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
Training is too far away and is offered infrequently or scheduled during work hours when it's inconvenient for contractors to attend. Also, existing training may be irrelevant to contractors or local projects' needs.	Training opportunities' availability, timing, and location pose challenges for contractors to be able to attend and are not designed for the particular needs of the local market.	Promote relevant training opportunities to upskill the workforce. Improve access to training by increasing the number of sites and delivery mechanisms, as well as options for timing that accommodates the workforce's schedule. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1

Portfolio Metrics & Budget

Metrics

Portfolio Level - All Sector Metrics

Table 1-4. Portfolio Level Metrics

Portfolio Level Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021 ¹⁴	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
CO2-equivalent of net annual kWh savings	2022	N/A	1,026	1,173	1,351
First year annual kW gross	2022	N/A	759	856	1,000
First year annual kW net	2022	N/A	720	813	949
First year annual kWh gross	2022	N/A	4,401,355	4,596,706	5,335,690
First year annual kWh net	2022	N/A	4,175,629	4,361,224	5,062,128
First year annual Therm gross	2022	N/A	127,668	155,636	181,325
First year annual Therm net	2022	N/A	121,315	147,884	172,295
Lifecycle ex-ante kW gross	2022	N/A	3,220	3,511	4,081
Lifecycle ex-ante kW net	2022	N/A	3,209	3,499	4,067
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh gross	2022	N/A	18,780,846	19,037,308	22,006,804
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh net	2022	N/A	17,825,745	18,069,440	20,887,250
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm gross	2022	N/A	512,633	624,822	727,940
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm net	2022	N/A	487,087	593,666	691,644
First year annual kW gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	190	214	250

¹⁴ The resource program portion of I-REN's Public Sector will launch in year two, therefore there are no targets for 2021, the intended first year of their business plan activity.

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Portfolio Level Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021 ¹⁴	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
First year annual kW net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	180	203	237
First year annual kWh gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	1,100,339	1,149,177	1,333,922
First year annual kWh net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	1,043,907	1,090,306	1,265,532
First year annual Therm gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	31,917	38,909	45,331
First year annual Therm net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	30,329	36,971	43,074
Lifecycle ex-ante kW gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	805	878	1,020
Lifecycle ex-ante kW net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	802	875	1,017
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	4,695,212	4,759,327	5,501,701
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	4,456,436	4,517,360	5,221,812
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm gross in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	128,158	156,206	181,985
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm net in Disadvantaged Communities	2022	N/A	121,772	148,416	172,911
First year annual kW gross in Hard-to-Reach Markets	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First year annual kW net in Hard-to-Reach Markets	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First year annual kWh gross in Hard-to-Reach Markets	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First year annual kWh net	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First year annual Therm gross	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First year annual Therm net	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Portfolio Level Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021 ¹⁴	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Lifecycle ex-ante kW gross	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifecycle ex-ante kW net	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh gross	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh net	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm gross	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm net	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$4.41	\$3.79	\$3.18
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$2,632.75	\$2,182.44	\$1,883.26
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.48	\$0.42	\$0.37
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$5.37	\$4.42	\$3.81
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31

Public Sector Metrics

Table 1-5. Public Sector Metrics

Public Sector Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
First year annual kW gross	2022	N/A	759	856	1,000
First year annual kW net	2022	N/A	720	813	949
First year annual kWh gross	2022	N/A	4,401,355	4,596,706	5,335,690

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Public Sector					
Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
First year annual kWh net	2022	N/A	4,175,629	4,361,224	5,062,128
First year annual Therm gross	2022	N/A	127,668	155,636	181,325
First year annual Therm net	2022	N/A	121,315	147,884	172,295
Lifecycle ex-ante kW gross	2022	N/A	3,220	3,511	4,081
Lifecycle ex-ante kW net	2022	N/A	3,209	3,499	4,067
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh gross	2022	N/A	18,780,846	19,037,308	22,006,804
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh net	2022	N/A	17,825,745	18,069,440	20,887,250
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm gross	2022	N/A	512,633	624,822	727,940
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm net	2022	N/A	487,087	593,666	691,644
CO2-equivalent of net annual kWh savings	2022	N/A	1,026	1,173	1,351
Percent annual net kW per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent annual net kWh per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent annual net Therms per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net kw savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net kw savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net Therm savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual Net kW savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

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Public Sector	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
Average annual Net kWh savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual Net Therms savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector accounts participating in programs	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of estimated floorplan area (i.e., ft²) of all Public Sector buildings participating in building projects	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector water/wastewater flow enrolled in non-building water/wastewater programs	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$4.41	\$3.79	\$3.18
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$2,632.75	\$2,182.44	\$1,883.26
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.48	\$0.42	\$0.37
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$5.37	\$4.42	\$3.81
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31
Total program-backed financing distributed to Public Sector customers requiring repayment	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector buildings with current benchmark	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Average energy use intensity of all Public Sector buildings	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

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Public Sector					
Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Percent of floorplan area of all Public Sector buildings with current benchmark	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

Codes & Standards Metrics

Table 1-6. Codes & Standards Metrics

Codes & Standards					
Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Net GWh savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net MMTherms savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net MW savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures supported by CASE studies in rulemaking cycle (current work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures adopted by CEC in rulemaking cycle (indicator of past work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of T-20 measures supported by CASE studies in rulemaking cycle (current work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures adopted by CEC in current year	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of federal standards adopted for which a utility advocated (IOUs to list advocated activities)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent of federal standards adopted for which a utility advocated (#IOU supported / # DOE adopted)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
The number of local government Reach Codes	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Codes & Standards	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
implemented (this is a joint IOU and REN effort)					
Number of training activities (classes, webinars) held, number of market actors participants by segment (e.g. building officials, builders, architects, etc.) and the total size (number of the target audience) by sector. (M)	2021	TBD	12	12	TBD
Number of training activities (classes, webinars) held, number of market actors participants by segment (e.g. building officials, builders, architects, etc.) and the total size (number of the target audience) by sector. (M)	2021	TBD	360	360	TBD
Number of participants					
Increase in code compliance knowledge pre/post training	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD
The percentage increase in closed permits for building projects triggering energy code compliance within participating jurisdictions	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number and percent of jurisdictions with staff participating in an Energy Policy Forum	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions with staff participating in an Energy Policy Forum	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions receiving Energy Policy technical assistance.	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions receiving Energy Policy technical assistance.	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

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Codes & Standards	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
Buildings receiving enhanced code compliance support and delivering compliance data to program evaluators	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

Workforce Education and Training Metrics

Table 1-7. Workforce Education and Training Metrics

Workforce Education and Training	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
Number of collaborations by Business Plan sector to jointly develop or share training materials or resources.	2021	TBD	4	8	12
Number of participants by sector	N/A	TBD	90	120	150
Percent of participation relative to eligible target population for curriculum	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of total WE&T training program participants that meet the definition of disadvantaged worker.	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of incentive dollars spent on contracts* with a demonstrated commitment to provide career pathways to disadvantaged workers	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Number Career & Workforce Readiness (CWR) participants who have been employed for 12 months after receiving the training	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD

Portfolio Budget

The following budget tables summarize I-REN's portfolio and sector level budgets estimated based on proposed activities and tactics. I-REN's proposed budget will be responsive to CPUC decisions and direction. The budget will be responsive to market forces and needs, and will adjust based on information by internal and external program stakeholders and program assessments.

Table 1-8 shows I-REN's proposed budget for the portfolio and by sector.

I-REN's portfolio budget summarizes expected administration, direct implementation, incentives, marketing and evaluation measurement and verification costs. The budget was informed by both planned program activities as well as the caps and targets in the Energy Efficiency Policy Manual.

I-REN will work with SCE and SoCalGas to establish processes that streamline and expedite reimbursement for cost so that I-REN member agencies, subcontractors and vendors can be paid and reimbursed promptly and efficiently.

Table 1-8. I-REN Portfolio and Sector Budgets

		I-REN Portfolio Budget (\$)				
Sector	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Public Sector	4,314,226	6,288,194	6,191,722	6,629,390	7,074,566	30,498,098
Workforce Education & Training	2,312,208	2,253,295	2,393,426	2,437,164	2,674,650	12,070,743
Codes & Standards	1,416,066	1,446,107	1,503,952	1,564,110	1,626,674	7,556,909
Evaluation Measurement & Verification	92,154	114,441	115,604	121,810	130,349	574,358
Total	8,134,654	10,102,037	10,204,704	10,752,474	11,506,239	50,700,108

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Public Sector (\$)						
Budget Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Administration	431,423	628,819	619,172	662,939	707,457	3,049,810
Marketing and outreach	258,854	377,292	371,503	397,763	424,474	1,829,886
Direct implementation - non incentive	3,623,949	3,782,083	3,701,047	3,818,688	3,942,635	18,868,402
Direct implementation - incentives	-	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,750,000	2,000,000	6,750,000
Total	4,314,226	6,288,194	6,191,722	6,629,390	7,074,566	30,498,098

Codes & Standards (\$)						
Budget Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Administration	141,607	144,611	150,395	156,411	162,667	755,691
Marketing and outreach	84,964	86,766	90,237	93,847	97,600	453,414
Direct implementation - non incentive	1,189,495	1,214,730	1,263,320	1,313,852	1,366,407	6,347,804
Direct implementation - incentives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,416,066	1,446,107	1,503,952	1,564,110	1,626,674	7,556,909

Workforce Education & Training (\$)						
Budget Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Administration	231,221	225,329	239,343	243,716	267,465	1,207,074
Marketing and outreach	138,732	135,198	143,606	146,230	160,479	724,245
Direct implementation - non incentive	1,942,255	1,892,768	2,010,477	2,047,218	2,246,706	10,139,424
Direct implementation - incentives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,312,208	2,253,295	2,393,426	2,437,164	2,674,650	12,070,743

Portfolio Energy Savings & Cost-Effectiveness Targets

Decision 19-12-021 affirmed that RENs do not have a cost effectiveness threshold requirement,¹⁵ although I-REN has designed its portfolio to make efficient use of ratepayer funds while serving the needs of the region. With a large majority of funding in non-resource programs – Codes and Standards and Workforce Education and Training, two areas in which I-REN is particularly well equipped to serve – I-REN’s portfolio cost-effectiveness results are not as high as could be seen with a larger portfolio heavy in resource programs. In 2021 results are zero because it is anticipated that the resource program under the Public Sector will claim its first energy savings in its second year, 2022. Estimated cost-effectiveness and savings targets for I-REN’s overall program portfolio are shown in Table 1-9, and the estimated cost-effectiveness for resource program activity in the Public Sector is shown in Table 1-10.

Table 1-9. I-REN Overall Program Portfolio Energy Savings & Cost-Effectiveness Targets

Program Portfolio	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Net kWh	0	4,175,629	4,361,224	4,361,224	5,763,031
Net kW	0	720	813	813	1,084
Net Therms	0	121,315	147,884	147,884	196,707
CO2	0	1,736	2,039	1,937	2,781
NOx	0	640	668	668	883
Total Resource Cost (TRC)	0	0.17	0.19	0.19	0.25
Program Administrator Cost (PAC)	0	0.20	0.22	0.23	0.30
Ratepayer Impact Measure (RIM)	0	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.20

Table 1-10. I-REN Public Sector Resource Activity Cost-Effectiveness Targets

Public Sector Resource Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Resource Cost (TRC)	0	0.45	0.51	0.47	0.61
Program Administrator Cost (PAC)	0	0.74	0.81	0.79	1.03
Ratepayer Impact Measure (RIM)	0	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.37

¹⁵ CPUC, Decision 19-12-021, December 5, 2019, Conclusions of Law paragraph 11.

Accounting Practices

I-REN will follow accounting practices consistent with local government accounting programs, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, CPUC's Energy Efficiency Policy Manual and any additional accounting guidance provided in decisions and Energy Division reporting and filing templates.

WRCOG's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) will be responsible for overseeing the financial management and accounting for I-REN which will include oversight of the annual budgets and managing and maintaining program expenditures.

Solicitation Plan

As local government agencies, I-REN will follow current bidding and solicitation rules set by the I-REN Committee and WRCOG as the lead agency. These rules were designed to ensure fair and equitable bidding in accordance with state and local laws.

As a local government, WRCOG's procurement processes are open and transparent, and all contracts must be reviewed and executed by the Board, comprised of elected officials. Contract approvals are agendaized and discussed at public Board meetings that are subject to the Brown Act. Compliance with state requirements found in statute and local rules and procedures related to competitive solicitations are built into WRCOG's procurement guidelines. Also, as a local government, WRCOG is subject to the Public Records Act, so procurement documents and correspondence are available to the public.

WRCOG as the lead agency for I-REN will utilize WRCOG contracting and purchasing procedures. WRCOG's contracting process consists of a competitive solicitation process that allows interested parties to submit proposals to WRCOG for consideration of various project sizes / scopes. WRCOG and assigned team members screen project proposals and invite bidders for an interview if selected. Once the interviews conclude, WRCOG recommends the top bidder to its committee structure where a formal action is taken in order to move forward with bringing on the selected bidder for the project. As part of the competitive solicitation process, WRCOG also coordinates with the non-selected bidders if they would like a debrief on their proposal so that the non-selected bidder can better understand how to make themselves more competitive for future solicitation processes.

The approval committee structures that make a decision and recommendation for competitive solicitations are the Administration & Finance Committee along with WRCOG's executive board known as the Executive Committee. For contract purposes, the final and approved contract known as the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) is signed by WRCOG's Executive Director only if approved at the Executive Committee. Signatures will consist of WRCOG legal and WRCOG Executive Director.

WRCOG maintains an internal Financial Manual, which guides the Agency's actions as it relates to many fiscal matters. The Manual addresses accounting issues such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, budgeting, and contracts. The Manual does not provide any guidance regarding the issuance of an RFP. Staff updates the internal Manual regularly to address regulatory changes and to maintain internal consistency with other documents such as the WRCOG Employee Policies and Procedures Manual. The Financial Manual is to be updated when this RFP Policy is updated.

WRCOG's current Request for Proposals (RFP) protocol:

- No RFP is required if the value of the resulting contract is \$100,000 or less, which falls under the Executive Director's Single Signature Authority. WRCOG may still choose to issue an RFP for services less than this amount, depending on individual circumstances.
- An RFP is required when the value of the contract is between \$100,000 and \$200,000, unless the Executive Director makes a finding that one or more of the following conditions occurs:

Chapter 1: Portfolio Summary

- The issue and/or required services are time critical and release of an RFP would cause an undue delay;
 - The service requires unique expertise or knowledge of the region which is not generally available; therefore, an RFP is unlikely to generate a significant number of responses; and/or
 - WRCOG is responding to a request from a member agency.
- If a contract is then issued without an RFP based on these circumstances, then the Staff Report requesting approval of the contract in question must cite these circumstances and demonstrate why no RFP is required.
- An RFP is automatically required for any contract in excess of \$200,000.



Inland Regional Energy Network Business Plan

Chapter 2: Public Sector

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Introduction

The councils of government (COGs) that make up I-REN have direct relationships and a history of collaborating with the many government jurisdictions in their territory. This existing foundation of connections is reflected in the numerous letters of support I-REN has received from local and regional jurisdictions through the stakeholder coordination process to prepare this Business Plan (see Appendix C: Letters of Commitment & Support). I-REN will use these relationships and regional expertise to effectively build local government capacity and knowledge to complete energy efficiency upgrades to public facilities and buildings in a strategic and effective manner. Further, these public sector activities will strive to demonstrate and communicate best practices for the community, in alignment with the Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency Action Plan, Strategy 1.7 for Local Government Leadership. I-REN's Public Sector offerings will include a combination of technical assistance, targeted incentives, and financing resources to accomplish this goal.

Audience Served

I-REN's public sector offerings will serve the members of the three Councils of Government (COGs) represented in I-REN, including the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, the cities, school districts, water districts, special districts, and tribes. These regional programs will target, but not be limited to, upgrades to existing public buildings and facilities with high energy use and older equipment. While the offerings will consider all public building types, there will be a focus on community-serving buildings such as community centers, libraries, senior centers, schools, and fire and police buildings. Through energy efficiency projects in these facilities, I-REN can provide benefits that will flow to disadvantaged, low income, and other vulnerable communities where these facilities serve as cooling centers offering protection from the region's extreme heat. The I-REN programs will be multi-benefit in nature, layering energy efficiency strategies with greenhouse gas reductions, wildfire mitigation, community resilience and climate adaptation measures.

Challenges and Solutions

I-REN's local governments have limited incentives to complete energy upgrades and are challenged to maintain and upgrade these facilities due to lack of funding for capital improvements, a lack of awareness related to energy efficiency and other energy efficiency program opportunities, limited time and staff resources, along with conflicting priorities. Further, State mandates such as building energy benchmarking (AB 802) requirements, energy code compliance, and climate adaptation planning are additional unfunded regulations and requirements on

PUBLIC SECTOR GOAL & STRATEGIES

Goal 1. Build capacity and knowledge to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services and to demonstrate best practices.

S1.1 Develop a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements.

S1.2 Establish incentives and leverage existing financing mechanisms to assist local governments with implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings.

BUDGET

2021-2025 Budget (total): \$30.5M

local governments and are difficult to meet given competing priorities. These challenges are exacerbated now due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the associated economic downturn and increased pressure on local government agencies to respond to a variety of issues.

To address these challenges, I-REN will leverage its existing public sector partnerships and networks across the region to offer technical assistance, implement resource program options, and improve access to financing. Implementing these initiatives will further I-REN's goals of encouraging resilience and continuous capacity building for local governments, thereby strengthening their ability to serve their community through energy efficiency projects in their own facilities, while also saving on building operations costs and contributing to local and statewide goals for energy savings, climate resilience, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Strategies

Strategies to achieve I-REN's goals for the Public Sector will place added emphasis on “aggressive efficiency for jurisdiction-owned buildings,”¹ and energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings that serve low income, moderate income, and disadvantaged communities. I-REN has centered its Public Sector approach around two strategies:

S1.1 Develop a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements.

I-REN will provide person-to-person technical assistance to local governments to support energy efficiency projects including, but not limited to, strategic energy planning and benchmarking. I-REN will also develop tools and resources to increase public sector participation in other federal, state, and local programs.

S1.2 Establish incentives and leverage existing financing mechanisms to assist local governments with implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings.

I-REN will deliver a resource offering to provide incentives for meter-based savings (Normalized Metered Energy Consumption or NMEC) achieved over three to five years. I-REN will also leverage sustaining financing mechanisms to support HVAC upgrades in public buildings. If a third-party program becomes available that serves this need and makes this resource offering duplicative, I-REN will focus its full Public Sector budget on providing technical assistance and strategic energy planning through the BUC. I-REN has designed its Public Sector offerings to be flexible and its goals and targets can be adjusted accordingly to meet the needs of the region.

Through their extensive work with local governments and their committee structure, the I-REN governing agencies have become a trusted voice and advocate for the public sector in their two counties. By collaborating with their member jurisdictions and using their established communication networks, I-REN can provide regionally focused public sector solutions to help local governments succeed as energy efficiency leaders.

¹ Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency Action Plan, Strategy 1.7 Local Government Leadership.
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/getdocument.aspx?tn=206015> Accessed October 2020.

Market Characterization

Market Actors

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) defines the public sector as encompassing a broad range of organizations and facilities, including federal, state, and local governments such as cities, counties, and special districts. The public sector also includes educational institutions such as higher education campuses, community colleges, and K-12 schools. The market actors who impact and are impacted by energy efficiency work in the public sector include but are not limited to the following:

- **Local Governments:** The elected officials and other staff at local jurisdictions responsible for decision-making around budgets and spending for publicly-owned facilities. These individuals include elected officials, county boards of supervisors, tribal councils, special district supervisors, city managers, planners, community development staff, and sustainability staff. Building Department staff also play a role, which offers an important cross-cutting opportunity for work with the I-REN Codes & Standards sector initiatives.
- **Facility Staff:** Depending on the size of the facility and/or the resources of the jurisdiction, public sector facilities may or may not have dedicated facility managers, operations staff, or building engineers. Facility staff may be responsible for one building or a campus of various buildings and infrastructure. In smaller jurisdictions and smaller facilities, staff with other primary job functions may have secondary responsibilities for operations and building maintenance. Facility staff may have widely varying levels of responsibility and training on energy efficiency program participation, strategic energy planning, equipment replacement, and ongoing operations and maintenance. These staff are critical for improving energy efficiency in public sector buildings and they also can benefit from I-REN's Workforce Education & Training sector initiatives to enhance their skill set.
- **Building Professionals:** These individuals are responsible for specifying and installing replacement equipment in public sector facilities, whether through energy efficiency programs or directly funded by the jurisdiction. This includes contractors, energy managers, energy consultants, architects, designers, and other building professionals. This group is important to I-REN's Public Sector work as well as Codes & Standards and Workforce Education & Training.

Other Partners and Stakeholders

In addition to primary market actors, the public sector programs will engage and work with the following groups.

- **Energy Efficiency Programs:** Resource and non-resource programs offered by RENs, CCAs, and IOUs can be a driver of retrofit activity and energy efficiency improvements in the public sector, along with program implementation firms and energy service companies (ESCOs). I-REN will offer a resource program as part of its initiatives in the Public Sector, and it will also provide resources to direct jurisdictions toward the best-fit solution for implementing their strategic energy plans, in collaboration with other program administrators (PAs).
- **Financing Resources:** Funding for energy efficiency projects in the public sector can come from many different sources: from the utility (on-bill financing), from energy savings performance

contracts with service providers, from revolving lending products, and from traditional lenders such as financial institutions.

- **Community Members:** Residents pay for local government facilities through their tax dollars, and directly benefit from these facilities in a variety of ways. Local government jurisdictions can model best practices in energy efficiency to their constituents through projects at facilities where their communities interact.

Sector Landscape

“The Inland Empire is one of the hottest regions of the state, and per capita residential electricity use is higher than for the state as a whole. Therefore, the requirements in SB 350 and other statutes and regulations to promote energy efficiency have special significance for the Inland Empire, with its enormous efficiency potential.”²

In the I-REN service territory, these public sector jurisdictions include two counties, 52 cities, 115 special districts, unincorporated communities, and 15 tribal areas, ranging in size from less than a dozen tribal members in the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians to more than 300,000 residents in the City of Riverside.³ For additional information and analysis on I-REN’s public sector jurisdictions please see Appendix B: Public Sector Market Analysis.

The Inland Empire has economic strengths with a growing economy pre-COVID, but also has many socio-economic vulnerabilities. The I-REN territory represents approximately 11% of California’s population and has approximately 16% living in poverty (compared to 14.7% living in poverty in California), with 38% of those being Hispanic and 34% white.⁴

The I-REN service territory is among the hottest and driest regions of California and experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months. Vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and low-to-moderate income families benefit from public gathering spaces that offer protection from extreme heat. Further, these conditions require air conditioning in most buildings resulting in high utility bills and energy use.

Tracking and understanding the total energy savings potential is challenging for the Inland Empire. Typical datasets such as those available from the CEC or CPUC are inconsistent in how public buildings are counted or characterized, and are often lumped into commercial buildings, with some considered institutional. Further, I-REN does not have access to specific energy use data in its territory and the Potential and Goals study aggregates information using the IOU service territory, not by county.

“Between 2010 and 2016, IOU energy efficiency expenditures in the Inland Empire totaled approximately \$612 million (in 2017 dollars). These funds were divided between residential and non-residential energy efficiency construction and program administration. Construction activity received \$365 million in investments. Twenty-five percent of these

² Betony Jones, primary author, Green Economy Program Center for Labor Research and Education (CLRE) UC Berkeley, for Next 10, “The Net Economic Impacts of California’s Major Climate Programs in the Inland Empire”, August 2017, page 42.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2010.

⁴ <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/riverside-san-bernardino-ontario-ca#economy>

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funds were directed to residential efficiency projects with 75 percent going to non-residential projects. Program administration expenditures totaled \$247 million.”⁵

Based on available data from the region’s IOUs, the potential for savings and assistance for I-REN’s territory and local governments is clear. Using information from Southern California Edison (SCE) and SoCalGas’s (SCG) Public Sector Chapter Business Plans, it is estimated that the public sector represents approximately 15-16% of overall energy use respectively. HVAC represents 10% of energy use in SCE’s region, with lighting representing over 53%. Whole building energy represents 25% of energy use.

In 2018, SCE estimated approximately 85 GWh of potential energy savings and 12 MW of potential demand savings for the public sector in their territory. The SCE public sector consists of 75,000 service accounts spread across 50,000 square miles. The I-REN service territory, at 27,263 square miles in size, makes up more than half of SCE’s territory. State and federal government make up 19% of energy usage in the public sector, while **local government and education comprise 81% of public sector energy usage** (two segments I-REN proposes to serve through its Public Sector initiatives).⁶ Further, SCG reports for its territory that local government energy use (therms) is approximately 35% of the overall usage for 5,428 accounts and educational providers equal 45% with 7,212 accounts.

It is important to note that approximately 84% of natural gas use in SCG territory is for electric generation, and not directly impacted by energy efficiency measures.⁷ This large percentage of energy use may be able to be addressed more holistically through I-REN managed initiatives than is possible through SCG, as I-REN will have the ability to **leverage long-term engagement with these jurisdictions** and technical assistance planning.

As a result of facility disrepair, delayed maintenance on aging HVAC equipment, and extreme high temperatures during the cooling season (See Figure 2-1), public agencies in the I-REN counties are often burdened with high energy bills at their facilities. Public sector buildings may also have secondary end uses specific to the type of facility, for example, pool pumps and foodservice equipment at community centers with swimming facilities and commercial kitchens. However, the local government agencies and districts that make up the I-REN public sector are challenged in trying to improve the energy efficiency of their equipment and facilities, given various barriers including but not limited to insufficient funding for capital improvements, a lack of awareness around energy efficiency and IOU programs, complicated and long cycles times for approval processes for budgets and spending, and limited time and staff resources.

I-REN will build on its existing connections in the public sector to help these local government agencies and districts improve their facilities’ energy performance, to contribute to energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction goals and **position local government agencies as energy efficiency leaders in their communities**.

⁵ Betony Jones, primary author, Green Economy Program Center for Labor Research and Education (CLRE) UC Berkeley, for Next 10, “The Net Economic Impacts of California’s Major Climate Programs in the Inland Empire”, August 2017, page 43.

⁶ Southern California Edison Business Plan, p. 165.

⁷ SoCal Gas Business Plan, Submitted January 17, 2017, page 243-244.

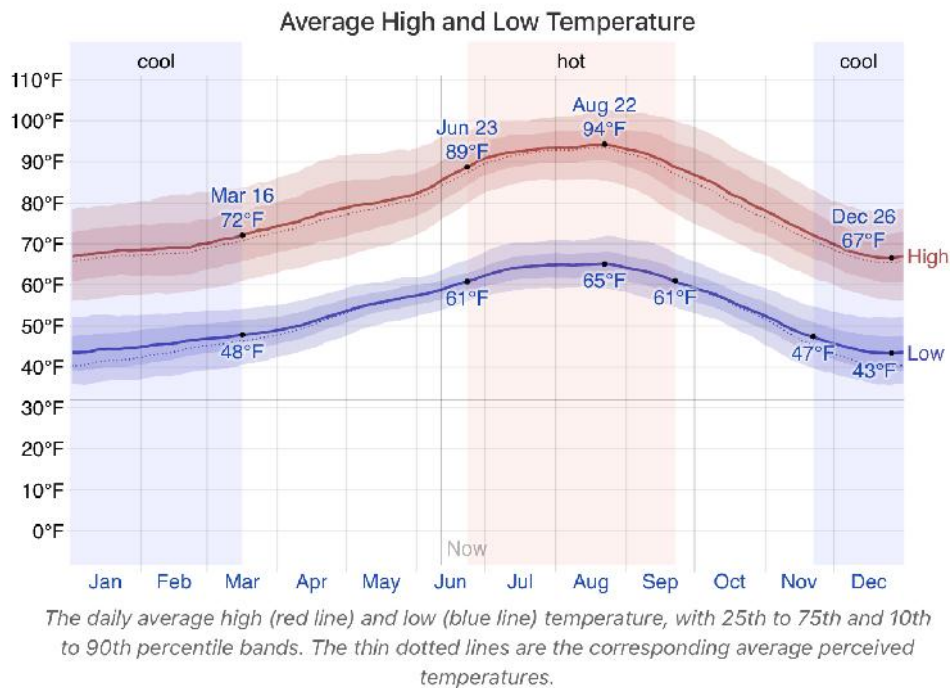
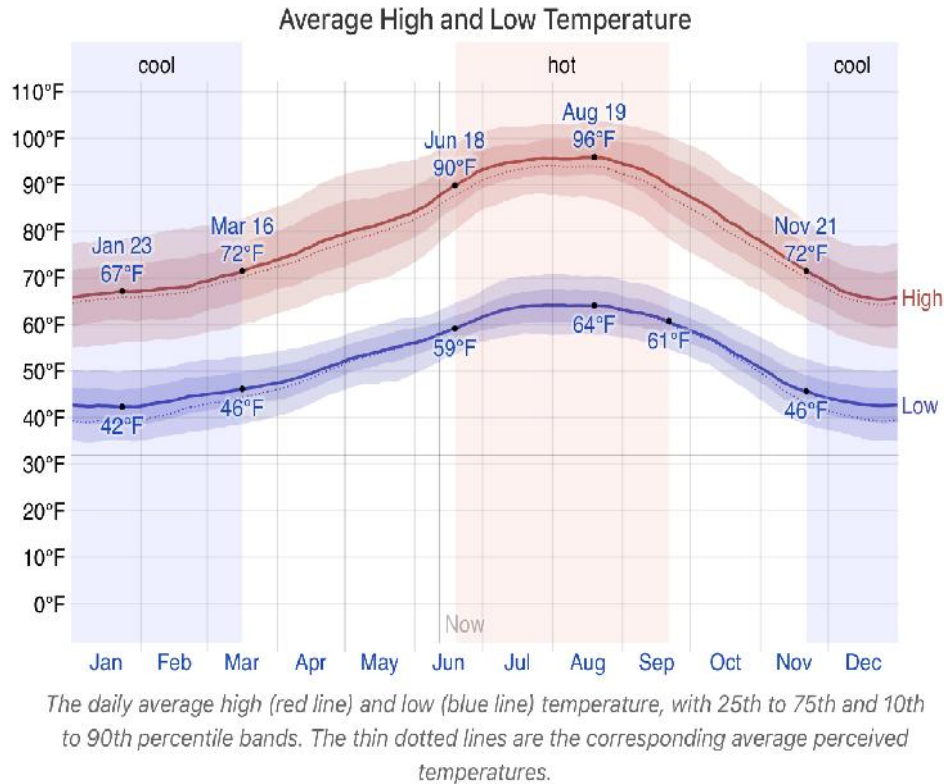


Figure 2-1. Average High and Low Annual Temperatures, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties

Top: County of San Bernardino Average Temperatures.

Bottom: County of Riverside Average Annual Temperatures.

(Weatherspark.com)

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Table 2-1. Estimated Public Sector Agencies & Facilities in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties^{8, 9}

	Riverside County	San Bernardino County
Airports (county/municipal-owned, public use)	13 airports	16 airports
Cemetery	8 special districts	2 special districts
Colleges	26 colleges	22 colleges
Community Services	6 special districts	12 special districts
County Sheriff	18 contracted cities	14 city patrol stations and 8 county stations
Fire Stations	101 stations	58 stations
Healthcare	3 special districts	4 special districts
K-12 Schools	608 schools	623 schools
Libraries	35 libraries and 3 library districts	32 libraries
Local Police	29 city departments	10 city departments
Mosquito & Vector Control	3 special districts	1 special district
Parks & Recreation	4 special districts	2 special districts
Public Utilities	1 municipal utility	1 special district
Resource Conservation	6 special districts	3 special districts
Sanitary	2 special districts	1 special districts
School Districts	24 districts	32 districts
Water	22 special districts	27 special districts

Major Trends

“Public sector customers are generally characterized as: not profit-motivated; have fixed utility budgets; require a public process on key decisions, including finding and project approval; implement on a fiscal year rather than a calendar year; and follow unique purchasing guidelines. These characteristics are unlike most commercial businesses.”¹⁰

There are three major trends that will influence the design and impact of I-REN’s Public Sector program offerings: COVID-19, racial inequity, and increasing climate change impacts. Each of these substantial issues have elements that can be supported by I-REN’s proposed offerings and help to better serve the region, ensuring that ratepayer dollars are being allocated to communities who need the funds and who have been historically underserved.

The public sector is dominated by city government and other agencies funded by various tax mechanisms from sales taxes to property taxes. Economic downturns such as what happened in the recession in 2007-2010 have large impacts on local governments and result in a reduction of services and staffing levels. The impacts from COVID-19 and the anticipated economic challenges will impact the region for the foreseeable future, particularly for those cities reliant on sales taxes. It is uncertain what the specific implications might be, but for the purpose of planning for I-REN, it is assumed that staffing will be reduced, that there will be less funding available for non-essential capital improvements, and planning funding will also be negatively impacted. Further, it is anticipated that it will be more difficult to engage and leverage local government staff as effectively while they respond to the ongoing pandemic.

In addition, the issue of racial inequity and the pervasive outpouring of support for a rehaul of community policing and systemic racial policies is a critical concern that I-REN can and will address with the Public Sector programs (as well as its other programs). Some of the implications that are within I-REN’s ability to address include the unequal access to energy efficiency dollars, the need for additional support and commitment for small and underserved communities, ineffective programs for tribal communities, as well as overall lack of diversity. Many of these communities have been historically underinvested in and have greater needs for facility improvements, particularly community serving facilities such as libraries, community centers and the like. By supporting energy efficiency projects in these types of facilities, I-REN can provide equitable and locally administered assistance to public sector agencies where benefits will flow directly to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

“The region’s climate is becoming more extreme, with daily average high temperatures projected to increase by up to 8-14°F by the end of century. Rainfall rates are currently low (approximately 5 inches per year) and highly variable from year to year. This variability is projected to increase over the coming decades, with extreme drought and extreme wet events both becoming more common. In turn, increasing frequencies of these

⁸ Special District Data Source: California Special Districts Association. Accessed October 2020.
<https://mydashgis.com/CSDA/map>

⁹ Aggregated numbers from broad research from City, County, and other websites. These numbers provide a broad, order-of-magnitude estimate of the type and number of public sector buildings in the region.

¹⁰ SCG Business Plan, January 17, 2017, Page 244.

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extreme events will increase the risk of flash flooding and wildfire, given the close relationship between precipitation variability and growth of invasive grasses that serve as the major fuel for wildfire in the region.” California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment, Inland Deserts Region Report ¹¹

Climate change is a slow moving but major challenge and trend with the broadest impacts to the I-REN service territory. Climate change is anticipated to impact Riverside and San Bernardino counties with increased extreme and variable weather resulting in increasingly hotter summers and more extreme winter storms. Drought and wildfire impacts will also increase, particularly as more homes and communities build into the wildlands urban interface. The Inland Empire already has some of the worst smog in the region contributing to health impacts and poor air quality.

I-REN’s Public Sector programs will work with local governments to upgrade public buildings’ energy systems, particularly HVAC. Upgrades will be designed to offer safe and healthy hubs for community members, as well as better buildings for public sector workers. Together these improvements will help to improve the ability of the region to withstand these climate change impacts while also reducing energy usage and greenhouse gas impacts related to energy use.

¹¹ Hopkins, Francesca. (University of California, Riverside). 2018. Inland Deserts Summary Report. California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment. Publication number: SUM-CCCA4-2018-008.

Intervention Strategies and Objectives

In its approach to serving the public sector, I-REN is guided by an overarching goal:

Goal 1. Build capacity and knowledge to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services and to demonstrate best practices.

I-REN's governing agencies have a foundation of strong relationships with local governments and jurisdictions in their service territory, and their approach to the public sector has been carefully designed to build on those successes. With their existing connections, I-REN is well-positioned to reach local agencies with the strategies and tactics outlined in this chapter.

Table 2-2. Intervention Strategies, Tactics, and Objectives

	Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Objective
Technical Assistance	S1.1 Develop a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements.	T1.1.1: Establish person-to-person support for local governments to get higher levels of assistance and support for their EE projects. T1.1.2: Develop or enhance strategic energy plans to connect local government goals related to climate, resilience, and economic development to energy efficiency programs and adoption. T1.1.3: Create resources for the public sector to tap into EE and distributed energy resources programs offered by other providers and IOUs.	<i>Local governments have support and resources to develop and implement their strategic energy plans and energy efficiency projects.</i>
Incentives & Financing	S1.2 Establish incentives and leverage existing financing mechanisms to assist local governments with implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings.	T1.2.1: Deliver a resource offering to provide incentives for savings based on Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) achieved over three to five years. T1.2.2: Leverage sustaining financing mechanisms for HVAC upgrades in public buildings.	<i>Help local governments afford and finance a range of energy efficiency upgrades.</i>

Approach to Overcoming Barriers

Some of the greatest challenges to participation in the public sector in the I-REN service area may also be indicators of unrealized energy savings potential. I-REN has designed its Public Sector strategies and tactics to help local government agencies, tribal leadership, and staff at school districts and special districts overcome these participation barriers to improve their facilities' energy performance and harvest "stranded" energy savings.

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Table 2-3. Barriers and Strategies for I-REN Public Sector

Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
Local government staff often lack the time and capacity to pursue complex energy efficiency projects.	Lack of understanding of best practices for energy efficiency solutions.	Technical assistance, locally focused resources, and person-to-person support are needed to develop and implement strategic energy plans for the public sector.	S1.1
There are a variety of EE programs and funding sources, but it is often unclear which apply to local government facilities or how to participate.	Confusion on types of incentives or financing programs and lack of staff resources to apply.	Tailored, locally focused program options are needed, as well as technical assistance and resources to prompt participation in I-REN and other PA programs.	S1.1 S1.2
Due to budgetary restrictions and complicated approval processes, public sector agencies may wait until burnout to replace equipment. At that time, they are forced to make quick decisions, without access to outside funding sources.	Disconnect between funding sources and timing of energy efficiency upgrades, which can increase building operating costs due to increased maintenance needs and higher energy use.	Strategic energy planning can help create a roadmap to plan for equipment upgrades. Technical assistance and locally focused programs can help agencies leverage resource programs and financing to reduce costs.	S1.1 S1.2
Older, inefficient equipment continues to function, so it is not replaced due to up-front cost and staff resource issues, yet it increases building operating costs through required maintenance and higher energy use.	Lack of drivers or need for local government agencies to replace existing working, but inefficient equipment.	Technical assistance combined with an incentive or financing option could make the difference in a public sector agency moving to a higher efficiency option for their facility.	S1.1 S1.2
Navigating EE program participation and funding sources is complex and requires a dedicated “Energy Champion” who can devote time and attention to the subject.	Frequent changes in the Energy Champions, with high turnover in staff and overall lack of government staff capacity.	Person-to-person technical assistance and support is critical for maintaining relationships through staffing turnover.	S1.1
Local governments each have their own bureaucratic structure, and it is often unclear how they can enroll in EE programs or apply for financing opportunities.	Varied governance, and funding rules that limit ability to take advantage of typical IOU funding or Local Government Partnerships (LGPs).	Technical assistance resources, and person-to-person support can help agency staff navigate the enrollment and approval process.	S1.1

Strategy 1.1 Develop a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements.

Objective: Local governments have support and resources to develop and implement their strategic energy plans and energy efficiency projects.

Tactic 1.1.1: Establish person-to-person support for local governments to get higher levels of assistance and support for their EE projects.

Insufficient staff time and resources is one of the major barriers to implementing energy efficiency retrofits in public sector buildings. This has been exacerbated over the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with local governments on the front lines addressing the public health crisis and enduring the associated economic downturn. Local jurisdictions have had to implement mandatory closures of facilities, as well as intensive planning and logistical efforts to prepare for safely reopening facilities to the public.

RENterns: Building Capacity to Support Public Sector EE Projects

As part of its continued efforts to collaborate and work with local governments, I-REN proposes to support public sector energy efficiency projects with “RENterns.” Interested local government agencies would be provided interns from the Inland Empire that will support agencies with energy efficiency programs such as climate action planning, energy benchmarking, energy efficiency projects and other sustainability initiatives. This effort will continue to foster building capacity as it will provide participating local governments additional support to meet ENERGY goals.

The idea of RENterns originates from the success of WRCOG’s Public Service Fellowship program, which has trained more than 75 Fellows over five years. The success of the Fellowship Program has led to alumni being hired in the region, while other alumni use their experiences in the program to trailblaze new professional development opportunities like graduate school.

I-REN will provide concierge-style support by phone, email, and in-person when feasible, to help fill gaps in staff capacity and resources at these local government jurisdictions. I-REN can also provide additional staffing support through its RENterns initiative described at left. As the pandemic and associated economic challenges continue to affect Southern California, local governments may be even more cost-conscious than before, and some may have sustained cuts to staffing or funding.

I-REN’s technical assistance support will build local government’s capacity to tackle these complex projects, from helping with benchmarking to navigating options and approaches for maximizing their investments and energy savings. I-REN will offer person-to-person support to help these local governments in making efficient equipment purchases and to implement energy efficiency projects. Resulting energy bill savings will benefit local governments and contribute to both local and statewide goals for energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction.

Local governments, special districts, and tribal jurisdictions vary widely in their current situation with regard to energy efficiency project implementation. Some may have already

implemented projects and need to ensure their facility staff are engaged in ongoing commissioning. Some may have put projects on hold over the past year due to the pandemic and now need to revisit them. Others, especially smaller and more rural jurisdictions, may need to start from the beginning.

I-REN will meet these departments and facilities staff where they are, assess their current situation and resources, and offer guidance to move them forward. In addition to staff resource constraints, other common barriers facing the public sector include complex program requirements to receive funding, risk aversion to new or unproven technology, a lack of data to support their decision-making process, or limited technical expertise and knowledge of energy projects. I-REN can offer personalized support to identify and address barriers by building and sustaining relationships with local jurisdiction staff.

I-REN activities to implement this tactic include but would not be limited to the following:

- Identify and establish rapport with department decision makers and facility staff.
- Assess jurisdictions' needs and collaborate on an approach to address them.
- Guide staff to technical resources and compelling data to assist in decision making.
- Offer problem-solving support for staff navigating lengthy approval and procurement processes.
- Maintain communication to monitor status and encourage progress.
- Follow up on completed projects to ensure efficient operations and ongoing maintenance, and address facility staff turnover and retraining needs.
- Provide RENtern staff as well as in-person, phone, and email support to individuals, and offer training and workshops for departments if desired.

Tactic 1.1.2: Develop or enhance strategic energy plans to connect local government goals related to climate, resilience, and economic development to energy efficiency programs and adoption.

"A strategic energy plan is a roadmap to achieving community energy goals in both the near and long term." - US DOE¹²

The I-REN service territory is a patchwork of jurisdictions, including some that have developed a strategic energy plan and some that have not. Some jurisdictions that do have strategic energy plans may have been unable to effectively implement them, lacking clear priorities and understanding of the best impact or challenged by time and staffing constraints. Jurisdictions without strategic energy plans may be unsure of the value proposition in undertaking that level of planning effort given the challenges they have faced over the past several months.

Through this tactic I-REN will assess the current state of strategic energy planning and provide technical assistance to begin the process or help move the process forward. Strategic energy planning is a critical exercise for organizing a community around goals for not just energy efficiency but also climate change mitigation, resilience, and economic development.

¹² U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy. "Community Greening: How to Develop A Strategic Energy Plan." Prepared by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), February 2010. Available [online](#).

The US DOE identifies a step-by-step approach for strategic energy planning based on community, city, state, and tribal experience. I-REN will adapt this overall approach to be targeted and effective for its constituents and will support the process with activities including but not limited to those identified below:

- **Identify/Convene Stakeholders:** I-REN will utilize existing committee structure connections from the three COGs that make up the I-REN governing agencies to bring various stakeholders to the table.
- **Develop Energy Vision, Energy Baseline, and Specific Goals:** I-REN can serve as a facilitator for parts of this process, giving input on energy efficiency best practices and possible objectives for consideration.
- **Identify and Evaluate Programs and Funding Sources:** I-REN can provide information on its own resources and financing options as well as other program administrators' offerings, to ensure the best outcome for each jurisdiction.
- **Compile and Implement the Plan:** I-REN can guide jurisdictions in organizing sites and projects into phases for implementation, leveraging available energy usage data and building benchmarking to prioritize community facilities with high energy use.
- **Evaluate Progress and Fine-Tune Plan:** DOE recommends periodic stakeholder meetings and reviews to ensure continued success. I-REN can provide consistency and follow-through as a facilitator of these meetings and can help provide recognition to celebrate successes and create local case studies to demonstrate achievements in the region.

Addressing Climate Resilience & Leveraging Other Funding Sources

I-REN governing agency WRCOG was awarded a grant by the Bay Area Council to focus on climate resiliency projects to help its member agencies tackle climate resiliency. The grant that has been awarded to WRCOG will be used to develop a climate resiliency framework that can be utilized by local governments as a guiding template to implement battery storage systems / microgrids.

With climate resiliency becoming a key focal point for the state and its sustainability efforts, the I-REN team will learn from WRCOG's climate resiliency framework to support the I-REN region with climate resiliency projects. Funding for implementation of these projects cannot come from energy efficiency funds from the CPUC, but the I-REN team can support its agencies with identification of funding through grants from the DOE, CEC, CPUC, and event by utilizing programs offered by the utilities as well as leveraging I-REN financing mechanisms if needed.

Tactic 1.1.3: Create resources for the public sector to tap into EE and distributed energy resources programs offered by other providers and IOUs.

In this tactic, I-REN will act as a clearinghouse for information about energy efficiency programs available in the region for the public sector, and will create and promote regionally-focused tools and resources to increase energy efficiency program participation among their constituents.

The I-REN service territory has long been characterized by low participation in energy efficiency programs. In the public sector, barriers such as staffing constraints and confusing program requirements put an undue burden on local governments trying to figure out where and how they can participate. I-REN's approach addresses these barriers head-on and leverages their existing connections to other program administrators and in-house capabilities for marketing and outreach.

The I-REN governing agencies have established communication channels and working relationships with all 52 cities in their service territory, county board of supervisors, water districts, school district superintendents and other public sector agencies. Through their committee structure they facilitate meetings and planning efforts around sustainability, and host educational forums to bring awareness to environmental issues, energy efficiency and water conservation, in collaboration with other agencies. Each of these opportunities is marketed through the I-REN governing agencies' established communication networks, making I-REN a trusted voice in the region--especially for local governments.

By creating a regionally-focused set of tools and resources, I-REN can offer targeted information for general consumption while also using the data set as an internal reference for I-REN staff efforts under Tactic 1.1.1 to provide one-on-one technical assistance and in Tactic 1.1.2 for identifying program opportunities to leverage when implementing strategic energy plans.

Activities to implement this tactic could include but are not limited to the following:

- Assess the current energy efficiency programs available in the region to the public sector.
- Collaborate with program administrators to get information on eligibility requirements and participation processes.
- Compile content with user-friendly, regionally focused packaging.
- Create a suite of tools including but not limited to online resources, information databases, and printed materials.
- Distribute and promote materials through e-communicators, social media, web, and at in-person events.
- Update materials periodically to reflect feedback on ease of use, and to reflect program changes.

Strategy 1.2 Establish incentives and leverage existing financing mechanisms to assist local governments with implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings.

Objective - Help local governments afford and finance a range of energy efficiency upgrades.

Tactic 1.2.1: Deliver a resource offering to provide incentives for savings based on Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) achieved over three to five years.

I-REN proposes to offer a resource program with incentives for measures including but not limited to HVAC tune ups and retrofits; exterior and interior lighting and smart controls; and operations and maintenance. The program would be open to all public sector facilities including those operated by county and city government, school districts, special districts, and tribes.

Program outreach will focus initially on public gathering spaces such as community and neighborhood centers, health and recreation centers, senior centers, teen centers, and libraries. Implementing energy efficiency projects at these locations will serve multiple goals, including but not limited to those described here:

- Upgrades and retrofits to HVAC and lighting equipment both interior and exterior will improve comfort and safety at facilities that benefit vulnerable populations such as children, elders, and low income, disadvantaged, and underserved communities.
- Higher efficiency equipment, appliances and controls such as cooling-dominated HVAC loads as well as improvements to operations and maintenance will lower energy bills for local governments, reducing overhead and freeing up funds for other projects.
- Completion of projects at these high-visibility locations will support achieving local and statewide energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction goals while also positioning local governments as energy efficiency leaders within their communities.

The program will use an NMEC approach to calculate savings and demonstrate persistence of savings. By using NMEC to calculate savings, the program will help protect against unrealized savings. Combined with technical assistance and reinforcement of operations and management best practices, public sector customers will experience maximized savings.

I-REN governing agency WRCOG brings public sector program administration experience from its successful and highly-regarded Regional Streetlight Program (Figure 2-2), which reduces costs to local jurisdictions through cost-effective and energy efficient lighting retrofits and regional operations and maintenance. The program was designed to save the subregion \$70 million over 20 years. The program involved a demonstration project to gain feedback from community stakeholders including interested jurisdictional elected officials and staff, engineers, community and environmental groups, and residents.

REGIONAL STREETLIGHT PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (WRCOG) REGIONAL STREETLIGHT PROGRAM provides jurisdictions (and Community Service Districts) within Western Riverside County the opportunity to purchase 48,000+ streetlights within their boundaries that are currently owned and operated by the Utility. Once owned by the member jurisdiction, the lamps will be retrofitted to Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology to provide more economical operations (i.e., lower maintenance costs and reduced energy use) while also aligning with health, environmental, and dark sky initiatives.

ENERGY SAVINGS/COST SAVINGS

UP TO **19 million kWh** SAVED

EQUATES TO:

- 518,530** incandescent lamps switched to LED annually
- 1,740,712,848** cell phones charged annually
- 1,635** homes' energy use for one year annually

STREETLIGHT DEMONSTRATION AREA

THE DEMONSTRATION AREA allowed community stakeholders to experience and comment on a variety of lumen packages, distribution patterns, glare management strategies and spectral content selections in a "real-life" context. Community stakeholders included interested jurisdictional elected officials and staff, engineers, community and environmental groups, and residents. This Demonstration Area is currently located in Hemet, CA and has been fully operational since September 2016.

PROGRAM GOALS

WRCOG'S REGIONAL STREETLIGHT PROGRAM will assist member jurisdictions with the acquisition and retrofit of their Utility-owned and operated streetlights.

The Program has three phases:

- 1 Streetlight inventory / acquisition feasibility analysis
- 2 Procurement and retrofitting of streetlights
- 3 Ongoing operations and maintenance

A major objective of the Program is to provide cost savings to participating member jurisdictions.

MEMBER PARTICIPATION

The agencies involved in the Regional Streetlight Program includes the Cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Perris, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, and Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD).

Figure 2-2. WRCOG Regional Streetlight Program Outreach Example

Note that if a third-party program becomes available that serves this need and makes this resource offering duplicative, I-REN will focus its full Public Sector budget on providing technical assistance and strategic energy planning through the BUC. I-REN has designed its Public Sector offerings to be flexible and its goals and targets can be adjusted accordingly to meet the needs of the region.

Tactic 1.2.2: Leverage sustaining financing mechanisms for HVAC upgrades in public buildings.

Energy efficiency financing is defined by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory as “debt or debt-like products that support the installation of energy efficiency measures by allowing costs to be spread over time.”¹³

Figure 2-3 shows a wide variety of financing mechanisms available for energy efficiency projects, from traditional loans and financing from banking institutions to specialized products designed specifically for energy efficiency. However, the public sector is challenged by many barriers in trying to take advantage of these options. Staff time and resources are constrained, the array of options is confusing, and it can be unclear how local governments, special districts, and tribes would participate, given their unique position as publicly funded agencies.

I-REN can bridge this gap by identifying financing mechanisms and creative funding sources, evaluating their appropriateness for various public sector jurisdictions and facility types in the I-REN service territory, and then assembling a tailored set of options to present to local governments, special districts, and tribes. I-REN can support local jurisdiction staff and decision-makers in navigating through the complexities of financing options (see Figure 2-3), choosing a pathway and applying for funds, and then serve as a technical assistance resource for project implementation and reporting.

For its initial focus, I-REN proposes to target HVAC upgrades in community buildings including but not limited to recreation centers, libraries, senior centers, and the like. HVAC replacement at a large facility is costly, and the intervention of financing through I-REN’s Public Sector initiative could mean the difference between replacing a system with baseline equipment and moving up to a more efficient system that will deliver better performance and bill savings, as well as supporting energy savings and climate action goals.

Financing Mechanisms

Potential funding mechanisms may include but would not be limited to the following:

- On-bill financing
- Savings-backed arrangements such as performance contracting
- Revolving loan funds
- California Climate Investments using Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds
- New financing mechanisms from the banking industry
- Community energy projects
- Green bonds and climate bonds

¹³ Greg Leventis et al. “Current Practices in Efficiency Financing: An Overview for State and Local Governments,” Ernest Orlando Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, November 2016. Available [online](#).

Other Sources of Funding

In addition to traditional and specialized financing options, I-REN can help its public sector jurisdictions identify and gain access to other funding sources including but not limited to the following:

- State, e.g. California Energy Commission grants
- Federal, e.g. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy funding

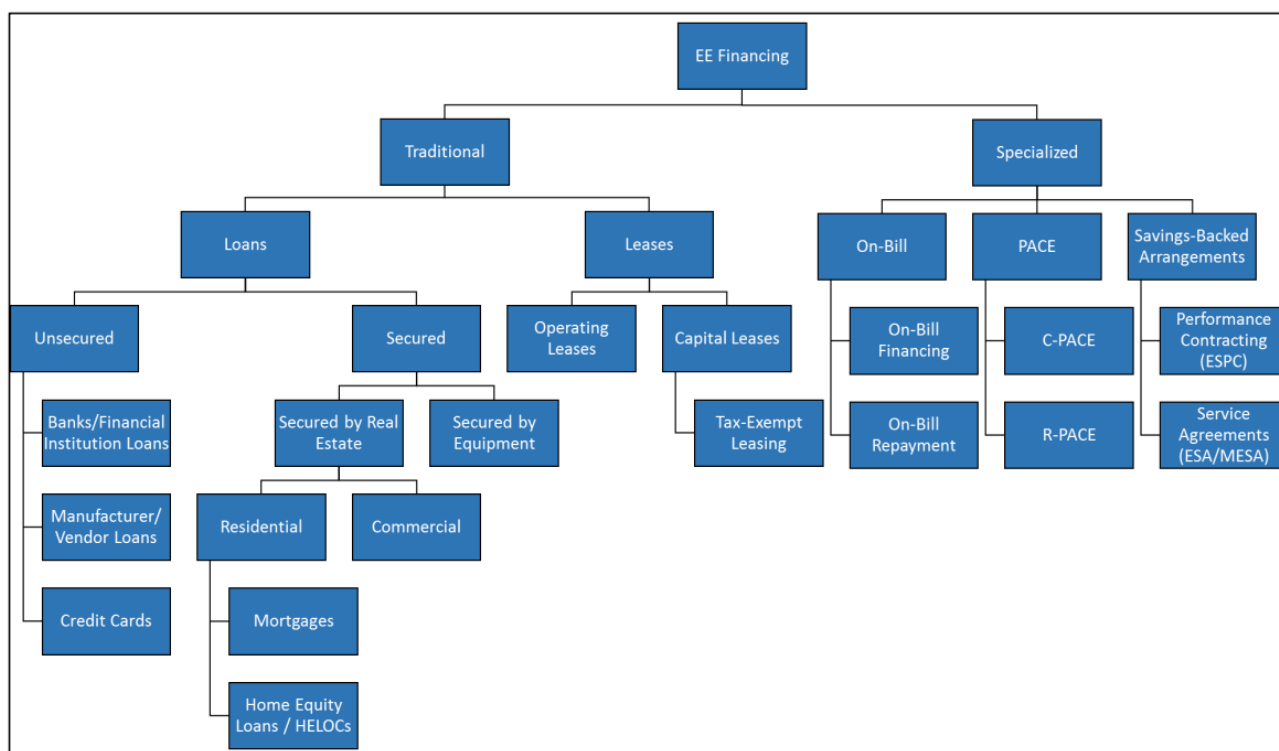


Figure 1-1: Typology of energy efficiency financing products

Figure 2-3. Typology of Energy Efficiency Financing Products¹⁴

Source: LBNL, February 2016

¹⁴ Greg Leventis et al. "Current Practices in Efficiency Financing: An Overview for State and Local Governments," Ernest Orlando Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, November 2016. Available [online](#).

Anticipated Programs

I-REN anticipates providing program offerings to the public sector including but not limited to the following:

- **Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning** – short-term and mid-term technical support for local governments, special districts, school districts, and tribes to increase energy efficiency in publicly-owned facilities. Additional support and technical services to design high performing, energy efficient buildings.
- **Public Buildings NMEC Program** – a resource program (in year two of I-REN program administration) to provide incentives and financing for savings based on Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) achieved over three to five years, with a special focus on HVAC improvements to community-serving buildings.

Note that I-REN has designed its Public Sector offerings to be flexible and its goals and targets can be adjusted to meet the needs of the region, including focusing its full Public Sector budget on providing technical assistance and strategic energy planning if needed due to the emergence of duplicative third-party programs that serve this need.

Public Sector | Essential Program Elements

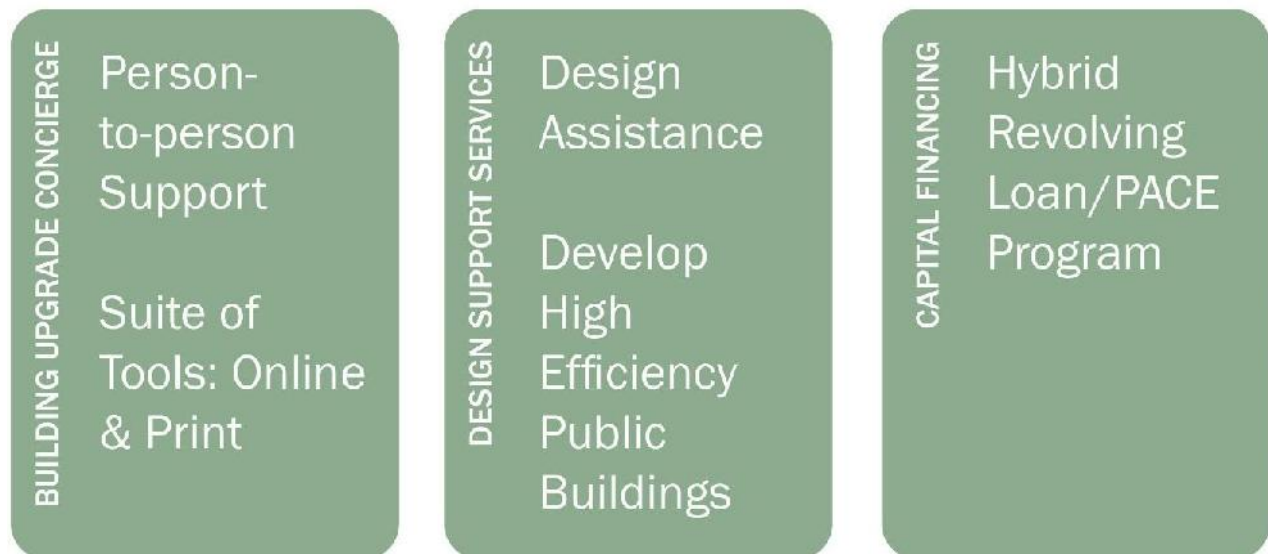


Figure 2-4. I-REN Public Sector Essential Program Elements

Evolving Approach

As a new REN, I-REN will build upon the work currently underway through its governing agencies and local government partnerships to implement the strategies outlined here, in collaboration with the key partners described in the section that follows. Based on measurement and verification, and on monitoring progress toward performance metrics through the near and midterm activities, I-REN will adjust strategies for future implementation beyond the 2021-2025 timeline.

Leveraging I-REN's Existing Key Partners

I-REN has worked for many years to build relationships (shown in Table 2-4) with local governments, building and planning departments, code officials and permit staff, private construction and architectural firms, and other market actors who will impact work in the public sector. These relationships are maintained through frequent engagement and through I-REN's numerous outreach activities and communication platforms, through which I-REN has become a trusted voice and advocate for local communities in the region. Local governments in the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino look to the I-REN governing agencies for information and collaboration on energy efficiency and sustainability-related opportunities.

One of the challenges of working with local government agencies for public sector energy efficiency is the turnover in both staff and elected positions, which can mean the loss of a department's "Energy Champion." In their many existing collaborations with local governments, the I-REN governing agencies take a proactive approach to maintaining the lines of communication across these transitions, working with the outgoing official or staff member before they depart and then reaching out to the successor to establish the new relationship.

I-REN will build on these existing relationships to foster additional connections with new partners as described earlier in the chapter (sections entitled "Market Actors" and "Other Partners and Stakeholders").

Table 2-4. I-REN's Key Partnerships with Market Actors in the Public Sector

Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Past/Present Collaboration
Local governments, including two counties, 52 cities, 115 special districts, and 15 tribal areas	The three I-REN governing agencies have all had or currently have LG partnerships – with various connections including City Manager, Planning, local utilities. They bring multiple local experts into the conversation on a monthly/quarterly basis. WRCOG's existing partners consist of Public Agencies (18 members), Water Districts (2 members), and Riverside County Superintendent of Schools. Collaboration has included various Energy, Environmental, and Transportation / Planning Programs such as LGP, PACE, Western Community Energy (WCE, the WRCOG's Community Choice Aggregation), Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) program, Solid Waste Cooperative, Clean Cities Coalition, and Planning / Grant Writing Assistance Programs.

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Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Past/Present Collaboration
	WRCOG has committee structures engaged with planning directors and public work directors. They work with building department decision-makers and coordinate with permit technicians and all other staff face to face. CVAG's 10 member cities look to CVAG to keep them updated on energy efficiency programs and measures. CVAG has participated in the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP) LGP with each of their member cities and the utility companies servicing the CVAG jurisdiction. CVAG also obtained a Strategic Plan grant in the amount of \$4.1 million to assist its cities with completing Greenhouse Gas inventories, Climate Action Plans, Energy Action Plans, and many more policies relevant to energy efficiency and reduction of their carbon footprints. The DCEP allowed the CVAG member cities to achieve great energy savings for a 10-year period, due to close collaboration and monthly meetings. CVAG also has existing relationships with each of its cities through its Solid Waste & Recycling Committee (TWG) that reports to the Energy & Environmental Resources Committee (E&E), which then reports to its Executive Committee. The TWG committee is made up of representatives of each city who are involved in sustainability and recycling. The E&E committee is made up of elected representatives from each city; they discuss all topics related to energy and sustainability and provide recommendations to the Executive Committee, which is made up of elected representatives from each city. SBCOG brings experience working with South Coast Air Quality Management District, and other councils of governments throughout Southern California. SBCOG cities recently participated in a county-wide Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Readiness and Implementation Plan funded through the CEC. Climate Resiliency Study "Resilient IE" is currently underway, which includes the participation of all 24 cities in San Bernardino County. SBCOG brings experience working closely with law enforcement, such as California Highway Patrol, as well as rail support facilities in the region.
Local Community Colleges	CVAG staff is part of a committee with College of the Desert to offer feedback and expertise in the creation and development of their workforce & training certification program, which allows students to take classes to become trained in installation and repair on systems such as HVAC, environmental management systems and more.
K-12 Schools	CVAG has hosted and presented at various sustainability expos which were held for hundreds of middle school and high school students to learn about various programs and measures related to energy efficiency and recycling.
IOUs/Other Program Administrators	SBCOG has experience conducting outreach through the San Bernardino Regional Energy Partnership in collaboration with SCE and SoCalGas and working closely with 12 cities in the region.

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Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Past/Present Collaboration
Building Professionals	WRCOG has collaborated with the Riverside Chapter Building Industry Association (BIA) through in WRCOG's Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Program. In addition, WRCOG previously served on the Board of the U.S. Green Building Council Inland Empire Chapter (USGBC-IE). CVAG has connections to the local building industry through its work with the PACE program described earlier, as well as through the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP). Through the DCEP, CVAG partnered with local universities to provide Title 24 training classes to local building contractors, architects, and building and safety officials.
PACE and other financing and funding sources	Through WRCOG, the Regional Streetlight Program solicited a Request for Bid (RFB) that was used to select a financial provider to support members with the financing/ purchase of the various streetlights within the WRCOG subregion. WRCOG has supported its member agencies in applying and receiving grants through its on-Call Grant support program to help agencies implement projects in the areas of Transportation, Environmental, Energy, and Water. CVAG administers a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program and has service agreements with seven private firms to service CVAG's jurisdiction. PACE started in the Coachella Valley in 2007, starting with the City of Palm Desert and later transitioning to a regional approach through CVAG. SBCOG received a grant to demonstrate more than 200 compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquid natural gas (LNG) Peterbilt and Freightliner trucks. This partnership included Ryder Systems, which demonstrated the CNG and LNG trucks with various companies. SBCOG also received a grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee to purchase, install and maintain multiple electric vehicle charging stations for three locations: SBCOG east parking lot area, San Bernardino Metrolink Station, and San Bernardino Transit Center.

Budget and Metrics

Budget

The budget shown in Table 2-5 will facilitate the forecasted short and mid-term metrics targets with the expectation that increased participation and project volume is achieved as initial efforts scale and gain traction.

Table 2-5. Public Sector Budget

Budget (\$)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Administration	431,423	628,819	619,172	662,939	707,457
Marketing and outreach	258,854	377,292	371,503	397,763	424,474
Direct implementation - non incentive	3,623,949	3,782,083	3,701,047	3,818,688	3,942,635
Direct implementation - incentives	-	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,750,000	2,000,000
Total	4,314,226	6,288,194	6,191,722	6,629,390	7,074,566

Energy Savings & Cost-Effectiveness Targets

Although RENs are not required to achieve a specific cost-effectiveness metric, I-REN endeavors to be as cost-efficient as possible in using ratepayer funds. Table 2-6 shows the estimated cost-effectiveness for I-REN's resource program activity in the Public Sector.

Table 2-6. I-REN Public Sector Resource Activity Anticipated Cost-Effectiveness

Public Sector Resource Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Net kWh	0	4,175,629	4,361,224	4,361,224	5,763,031
Net kW	0	720	813	813	1,084
Net Therm	0	121,315	147,884	147,884	196,707
CO2	0	1,736	2,039	1,937	2,781
NOx	0	640	668	668	883
Total Resource Cost (TRC)	0	0.45	0.51	0.47	0.61
Program Administrator Cost (PAC)	0	0.74	0.81	0.79	1.03
Ratepayer Impact Measure (RIM)	0	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.37

Metrics

Based on the intervention strategies I-REN developed for the Public Sector, the following metrics are proposed to track program performance.

Public Sector Metrics

Table 2-7. Public Sector Metrics

Public Sector Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
First year annual kW gross	2022	N/A	759	856	1,000
First year annual kW net	2022	N/A	720	813	949
First year annual kWh gross	2022	N/A	4,401,355	4,596,706	5,335,690
First year annual kWh net	2022	N/A	4,175,629	4,361,224	5,062,128
First year annual Therm gross	2022	N/A	127,668	155,636	181,325
First year annual Therm net	2022	N/A	121,315	147,884	172,295
Lifecycle ex-ante kW gross	2022	N/A	3,220	3,511	4,081
Lifecycle ex-ante kW net	2022	N/A	3,209	3,499	4,067
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh gross	2022	N/A	18,780,846	19,037,308	22,006,804
Lifecycle ex-ante kWh net	2022	N/A	17,825,745	18,069,440	20,887,250
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm gross	2022	N/A	512,633	624,822	727,940
Lifecycle ex-ante Therm net	2022	N/A	487,087	593,666	691,644
CO2-equivalent of net annual kWh savings	2022	N/A	1,026	1,173	1,351
Percent annual net kW per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent annual net kWh per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

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Public Sector	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
Percent annual net Therms per project building or facility	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net kw savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net kw savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual net Therm savings per project building floor plan area	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual Net kW savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual Net kWh savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Average annual Net Therms savings per annual flow through project water/wastewater facilities	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector accounts participating in programs	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of estimated floorplan area (i.e., ft2) of all Public Sector buildings participating in building projects	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector water/wastewater flow enrolled in non-building water/wastewater programs	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$4.41	\$3.79	\$3.18
PAC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$2,632.75	\$2,182.44	\$1,883.26

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Public Sector Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kW)	2022	N/A	\$0.48	\$0.42	\$0.37
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/kWh)	2022	N/A	\$5.37	\$4.42	\$3.81
TRC Levelized Cost (\$/therm)	2022	N/A	\$0.41	\$0.36	\$0.31
Total program-backed financing distributed to Public Sector customers requiring repayment	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Percent of Public Sector buildings with current benchmark	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Average energy use intensity of all Public Sector buildings	2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of floorplan area of all Public Sector buildings with current benchmark	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities

Marketing, Education & Outreach

The I-REN governing agencies bring experience in marketing, education, and outreach to the public sector from a long history of work with the local governments they serve. Through their committee structures and established communication platforms, the I-REN governing agencies have become a trusted voice and advocate in their two counties. They can use this position to coordinate marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities within the region through their network of member jurisdictions. In the public sector, the bulk of this ME&O will fall under the category of outreach and relationship building.

Coordination with other program administrators will be important for I-REN's proposed Public Sector Tactic 1.1.3, and I-REN has already opened the lines of communication and begun to discuss ways to collaborate, in order to reduce market confusion and ensure the best outcome for ratepayers.

I-REN anticipates its Public Sector-related marketing could include but would not be limited to the following activities shown in Table 2-8, in alignment with the proposed Public Sector intervention strategies and tactics.

Table 2-8. Marketing Activities for I-REN C&S Sector

Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Marketing Activities
S1.1 Develop a regional Building Upgrade Concierge (BUC) for local governments, special districts, and tribal communities with technical guidance and tools to inform and enable priority energy improvements.	T1.1.1: Establish person-to-person support for local governments to get higher levels of assistance and support for their EE projects. T1.1.2: Develop or enhance strategic energy plans to connect local government goals related to climate, resilience, and economic development to energy efficiency programs and adoption. T1.1.3: Create resources for the public sector to tap into EE and distributed energy resources programs offered by other providers and IOUs.	<i>Outreach to local jurisdictions and agencies to educate them about the program offerings, to provide presentations at meetings and with key decision makers.</i> <i>Develop content for an e-newsletter targeted to local government audiences, a comprehensive website with a listing of events, resources and tools for local governments, targeted use of social media, and other channels to promote public sector resources.</i> <i>Collaborate with local governments, tribes, and special districts to design and deliver messaging to the community to promote local leadership in energy efficiency by highlighting success stories from local strategic energy plans and projects.</i>
S1.2 Establish incentives and leverage existing financing mechanisms to assist local governments with	T1.2.1: Deliver a resource offering to provide incentives for savings based on Normalized Metered Energy	<i>Develop a marketing and outreach plan to support resource and financing initiatives. Promote the initiatives through the I-REN governing agencies' existing marketing</i>

Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Marketing Activities
implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings.	Consumption (NMEC) achieved over three to five years. T1.2.2: Leverage sustaining financing mechanisms for HVAC upgrades in public buildings.	<i>channels, local government connections, building industry communication networks, and other channels.</i>

Workforce Education & Training

Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) is an important area for cross-cutting coordination, with synergies between I-REN's Public Sector and WE&T initiatives that include and are not limited to the following:

- Identify and help to engage contractors and building firms who provide services to local governments/public sector to locate and work in the I-REN territory.
- Coordinate potential training programs in the WE&T to help enhance energy efficiency services to local governments, such as facility manager and operations trainings, advanced controls training, and the like.
 - I-REN's service territory includes several relatively new cities incorporated in recent years; these cities are building their local capacity and establishing their infrastructure. They will benefit from training and education for their public sector facility staff.
- Establish training programs and resources for local government agencies and tribes to better manage and maintain low energy use targets.
- Provide interns ("RENterns") to support agencies with energy efficiency projects and other sustainable initiatives. The idea of RENterns originates from WRCOG's Public Service Fellowship program, which has trained more than 75 Fellows over five years. The success of the Fellowship Program has led to alumni being hired in the region and pursuing additional education and training such as graduate school.

I-REN will coordinate its WE&T and Public Sector activities to maximize the benefits to their constituents in these sectors.

Codes & Standards

Codes and Standards (C&S) is another important area for cross-cutting coordination with the Public Sector. I-REN's C&S sector activities incorporate training for local building department staff, to help those individuals perform their jobs and build capacity in their departments to better enforce codes and standards. This supports better code compliance in publicly owned buildings, especially as some of the relatively new cities in I-REN's territory begin to explore building their own public infrastructure and facilities.

These synergies support I-REN's Public Sector approach, which focuses on empowering local governments as leaders in energy efficiency through their own publicly owned facilities. I-REN will

coordinate its C&S and Public Sector activities to maximize the benefits to their constituents in these sectors.

EM&V Considerations

The current lack of energy efficiency data about the public sector places added importance on the role of EM&V. I-REN will collaborate with the CPUC and stakeholders to ensure that data collection activities are embedded in Public Sector program design to capture the information necessary to meet evaluation requirements and to help expand the understanding of energy efficiency potential and best practices in this relatively new sector.

I-REN's EM&V considerations for its Public Sector programs include data collection to inform CPUC evaluation activities and support internal program performance tracking and continuous improvement. I-REN has also identified studies, either already in progress or proposed, that will help to characterize the market and support the development of baselines to enable more reliable EM&V of Public Sector program impacts.

Data Collection Needs

I-REN data collection will support both external EM&V by the CPUC and internal research study activities. I-REN's data collection needs directly correspond to identified metrics and indicators, and the intervention strategies developed for the Public Sector.

To support external EM&V activities, I-REN will collect data to keep the CPUC and stakeholders apprised of program progress. I-REN will work collaboratively with Energy Division staff to ensure data collection meets their needs, to enable evaluation that can:

- 1) inform the program selection process,
- 2) provide early feedback to program implementers,
- 3) produce impact evaluations at the end of the funding period, and
- 4) feed the planning process for future program cycles.¹⁵

Data collection will also support I-REN's internal EM&V activities and inform the measuring of progress toward established program goals and targets, CPUC metrics and indicators, and PA determined value metrics. Data collection and real-time program performance tracking will support the delivery of timely feedback to implementers and/or program administration staff. This in turn will support continuous improvement and inform future program planning efforts.

Table 2-9 shows the research questions and data collection needs I-REN has identified for the Public Sector, in alignment with CPUC metrics and indicators and I-REN's internal goals and value metrics.

¹⁵ Energy Efficiency Policy Manual, version 6, April 2020, p.44.

Chapter 2: Public Sector

Table 2-9. I-REN Public Sector Data Collection

Topic Focus	Research Questions/Data Collection Needs	EM&V Objective	Timeframe
Energy savings and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction	- Net and gross first year annual kW, kWh, and Therms - Net and gross lifecycle ex-ante kW, kWh, and Therms - CO2-equivalent of net annual kWh savings	Track program performance	Short-term/ Mid-term
Public sector benchmarking and strategic energy planning	- What percent of public sector buildings and total floorplan area have a current benchmark? - What percent of public sector jurisdictions and total floorplan area have a current strategic energy plan?	Understand and track the public sector market	Short-term
Energy intensity of public sector buildings	What is the average energy use intensity of all public sector buildings?	Identify highest needs and track program performance	Short-term
EE program penetration in the eligible market	- What percent of service accounts are participating in programs? - What percent of total public sector floorplan area is participating in building projects?	Understand and track the public sector market	Short-term/ Mid-term
Depth of I-REN interventions	- How many service accounts are participating? - What is the average square footage of properties? - What is the per-application energy usage of buildings that have been retrofitted? - What percent of public sector water/wastewater flow is enrolled in non-building water/wastewater programs?	Track program performance	Mid-term
Investment in EE	What is the total amount of program-backed financing loaned through I-REN programs?	Track program performance	Mid-term

Anticipated Study Needs

PA-led studies may inform program target setting, value metrics, and highlight opportunities for improved data and measurement collection. Because the Public Sector is a new market segment for energy efficiency programs, carved out from Commercial, very little data exists and few relevant evaluation studies have been completed.

Chapter 2: Public Sector

One of the major areas for I-REN's study considerations is to better characterize and understand the size, scope, and breadth of public sector needs for energy efficiency in the Inland Empire. The I-REN proposes to develop and manage a study to first inventory the number and type of public sector buildings in the territory, including determining the type of energy systems, operating costs and procedures, and utility usage.

A Statewide Public Sector Market Study has been identified as an “urgent need” to help PAs understand the potentials and challenges of the Public Sector.¹⁶ The objective of this PG&E-led study has been identified as “Develop a quantitative and qualitative characterization of the four subsegments within the Public Sector that provides PAs with information about industry standard practices, baseline saturation of high impact measures, and the unique market barriers that differentiate Public Sector customers from those in the Commercial Sector.” When available, I-REN will use the study's data and findings to inform ongoing improvements to program processes.

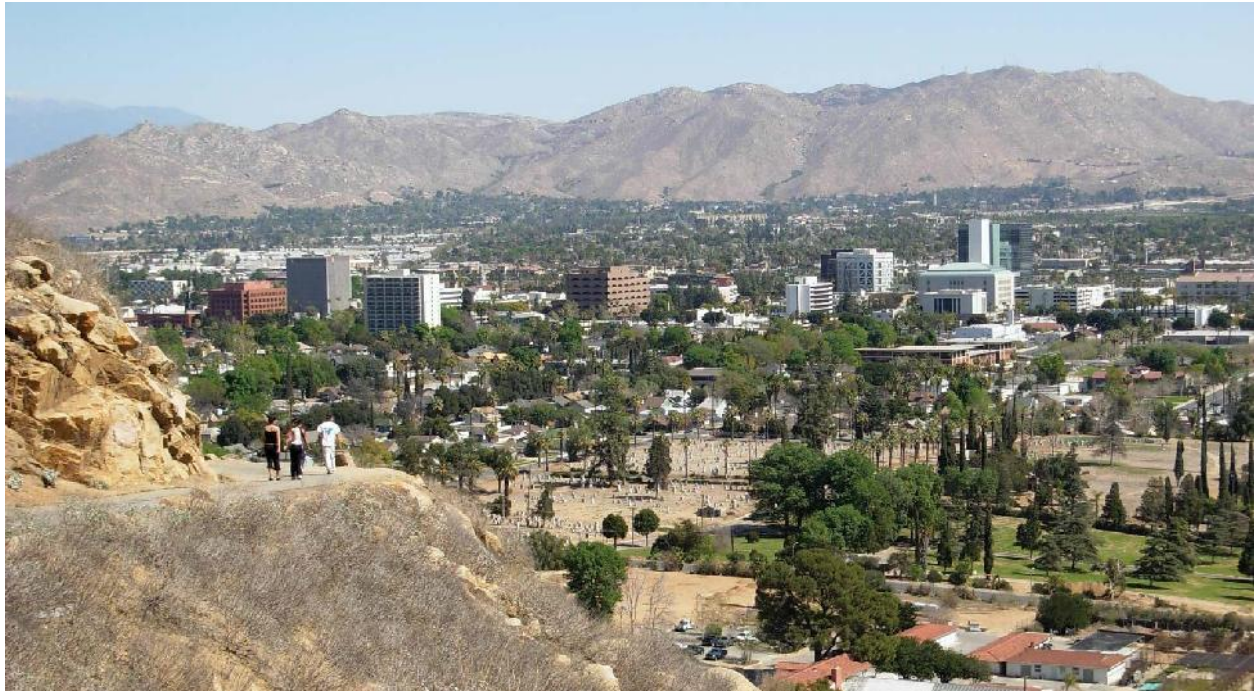
I-REN will also look to the CAEECC Underserved Working Group's sub-working group Public Sector Research Team from University of California, Santa Barbara as they develop and implement their workplan to identify underserved public sector customers within energy efficiency programs. As indicated in a December 2020 presentation to CAEECC, the research team proposes to focus on socioeconomic indicators including linguistic isolation, poverty, and unemployment in the CalEnviroScreen dataset to analyze gaps in program participation.¹⁷ As this research is conducted and data is made available, I-REN will use the resulting insights to inform targeted strategies to improve equity and access for underserved local governments in the Inland Empire through its Public Sector initiatives.

Coordination with other Program Administrators

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for Public Sector activities. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs.

¹⁶ 2209 – Statewide Public Sector Market Study. Study ID: 2019_Public_503. Energy Project Status Reporting System. Accessed November 2020. <https://psr.energydataweb.com/#!/project-status-view-edit/503>

¹⁷ “Identifying underserved public sector customers within energy efficiency programs.” Presentation by University of California, Santa Barbara Public Sector Research Team to CAEECC-Hosted Sub-Working Group on Underserved Customers Meeting. December 16, 2020. Slide deck available [online](#).



Inland Regional Energy Network Business Plan

Chapter 3: Codes & Standards (Cross-Cutting)

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Introduction

I-REN is proposing a dynamic and targeted set of programs for the Codes and Standards (C&S) Sector to assist its local government agencies in better understanding and enforcing energy building codes. In addition, I-REN will support the region's building industry to better conform and implement these codes. Compliance with California Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) and California Green Building Standards Code (Title 24, Part 11) is required for new construction of, and additions and alterations to, residential and nonresidential buildings.

The authorities having jurisdiction or "AHJs" that provide permits for these projects and enforce codes and standards are found at the city and county level and are expected to enforce the California Energy Code without additional budget resources. Increased contractor compliance with the Energy Code, particularly related to residential HVAC, is identified as an important strategy to increase energy efficiency and home safety. The CEC has established a goal to increase compliance by 80% by 2021.¹

Energy code enforcement has historically been difficult for local jurisdictions, particularly smaller communities with fewer resources. Conflicting priorities and a focus on life and safety codes relegates energy code to a secondary (or tertiary) position. I-REN's service territory includes many AHJs that face significant challenges in enforcing energy codes and standards with their current resources and capacity. These jurisdictions are small in population size, geographically dispersed, challenged by extreme climate conditions, and disadvantaged by pollution and other factors.

As an organization led by and dedicated to serving local governments, I-REN can provide flexible and adaptable solutions to help bridge the gap and assist these jurisdictions. I-REN's C&S initiatives will offer locally focused training, education, and tools to support codes and standards implementation, enforcement, and compliance activities.

CODES & STANDARDS GOAL & STRATEGIES

Goal 3. Work closely with local building departments and the building industry to support, train, and enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance

S3.1 Establish an ongoing training program to assist building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards.

S3.2 Implement an outreach program to engage, educate and involve regional construction firms and building departments, and support compliance and regional energy efficiency programs and customers.

S3.3 Develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting of energy codes.

BUDGET

**2021-2015 Budget (total):
\$7.6M**

¹ California Energy Commission, "2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan," December 2019, page 40.

Strategies

I-REN has centered its strategies on three key areas in C&S:

3.1. Support local jurisdictions' building departments to build capacity and understanding to better enforce and manage Energy Code Compliance and oversight

I-REN's locally-focused interventions will equip building department staff to identify potential issues, provide guidance to permit applicants, and streamline the permitting process. With increased knowledge and capacity, local building department staff will have the tools and additional resources to support their code enforcement and compliance, as well as cultivate the associated energy savings from efficient building practices.

3.2. Engage and support local builders and the building industry to comply with energy codes.

I-REN will help engage, educate, and inform contractors and building professionals in the Inland Empire about codes, compliance, and resources available to enable higher compliance and effectiveness. This will be through a link to the Workforce Education and Training Cross-Cutting Sector programs, as well as through direct engagement under the C&S Sector programs.

3.3. Provide regional tools, training, and resources to promote energy codes.

I-REN will provide a bridge between the Statewide Codes Team and the local industry by curating best practices into locally relevant resources, materials, regional forums, and trainings.

I-REN is well positioned to lead this work because of its extensive network of local connections with public and private sector stakeholders in the C&S community. Through their committee structure and strong relationships with cities and local jurisdictions, the three COGs that make up I-REN's governing agencies are actively engaged with building departments from jurisdictions throughout the region. In their role as COGs they already serve as a trusted resource for information as well as a facilitator for statewide coordination with other program administrators, CEC, CPUC, CCAs, International Code Council (ICC), and other stakeholders. The communication networks and local connections the I-REN governing agencies have fostered are crucial for engaging these local building departments and delivering the support they need to excel in their C&S enforcement roles and foster increased compliance.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant effect on the global economy and that of the United States and the State of California. While the pandemic continues to unfold, it is clear that the role of local governments is of critical importance in advocating for their communities in times of crisis. The contractor and building communities were particularly hurt in the last recession and will likely be impacted in this crisis. Creating C&S Sector programs that can enable streamlined work for both local government and contractors, while enabling safer and better buildings is an opportunity and need. To the extent that construction and renovation continues to be an economic driver in the I-REN region, local building departments will continue to be responsible for permitting and enforcement of energy codes and standards. Through the proposed C&S sector initiatives, I-REN can provide training, education, and resources to support building department staff in the performance of their jobs, thereby contributing to economic development and energy efficiency associated with building activity in this region.

Market Characterization

Market Actors

“Energy efficiency savings are maximized only if they are installed following manufacturer guidelines by a well-trained workforce. Long-lasting, impactful energy efficiency savings require local commitment, and local communities need to be the focal point for training and workforce development.” - California Energy Commission ²

Among the numerous market actors that comprise the broader C&S community (Table 3-1), local governments are responsible for permitting and enforcing code requirements in new construction and existing buildings. They are also tasked with coordinating across this wide field of stakeholders and market actors to improve awareness of codes and standards requirements and increase compliance.

In the I-REN region there are 52 local government AHJs, ranging from large cities to smaller, more rural municipalities, and several Indian Tribes. The local building department staff at these AHJs are key to realizing energy savings from implementation and enforcement of codes and standards. For that reason, I-REN proposes to focus much of its C&S Sector work on empowering and supporting these local building department staff to be energy efficiency leaders in their own communities—consistent with the Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency Action Plan Strategy 1.7 Local Government Leadership. In order to encourage rigorous code enforcement at the local level, a strong foundation of regional support is needed—and that is what I-REN proposes to provide through its C&S Sector programs.

On the compliance side of the C&S “enforcement and compliance” equation is a large community of building professionals, which includes architects, designers, contractors, energy consultants, and third party code plans examiners, inspectors, raters, verifiers. This community also includes contractors skilled in a wide variety of trades: electricians, HVAC technicians, insulation installers, plumbers, and many more. This diverse community is of critical importance for performing high-quality installation of efficient equipment in compliance with codes and standards.

² California Energy Commission, “2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan,” December 2019, page 108.

Chapter 3: Codes & Standards

Table 3-1. I-REN Codes & Standards Sector Market Actors

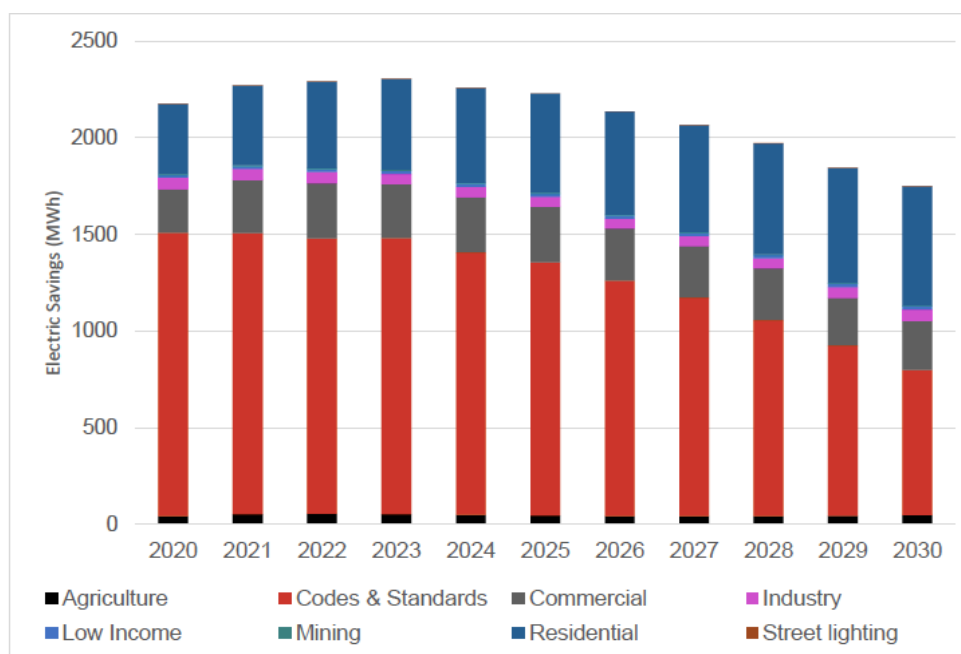
Market Actor Type	Examples
Building Department Staff	Chief building officials, permit technicians, plans examiners, building inspectors, etc.
Other Local Government Staff	Planners and community development staff, sustainability staff, city managers, public works directors, and elected officials.
Building Professionals	Architects, designers, contractors, energy consultants, and third-party code plans examiners, inspectors, raters, and verifiers.
Other Permit Applicants	Commercial building owners and managers; multifamily housing developers, owners, and managers; homeowners.
Partner Agencies and Utilities	California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, Building Standards Commission, Investor Owned Utilities, Municipal Utilities, etc.
Industry, Stakeholder and Professional Groups	International Code Council (ICC) Chapters, American Institute of Architects (AIA), Local Realtor® Associations, California Building Industry Association (CBIA) chapters (Riverside & San Bernardino County Chapters), the U.S. Green Building Council and Inland Empire US GBC local chapter, California Building Officials (CALBO), Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) chapters, California Energy Alliance (CEA), American Public Works Association (APWA) Southern California Chapter, etc.

Sector Landscape

The I-REN service territory of Riverside and San Bernardino counties covers more than 27,000 square miles and includes the state's third-largest Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The region has seen **steady growth over the last decade** following the Great Recession, as people moved away from coastal areas with a higher cost of living. The California Finance Department reported that between 2010 and 2019, the Inland Empire added 407,476 people to reach a population of 4,632,327.³

Previous efforts emphasizing increased compliance with energy codes and standards in new construction to produce energy savings and emission reductions has resulted in stranded savings in existing homes and buildings. The CPUC's 2019 Potential and Goals Study, cited in the 2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan, recently identified C&S activity in existing buildings as the major driver of potential savings statewide (Figure 3-1).

Existing buildings pose unique challenges for code compliance, in comparison to new construction, but they far outnumber new buildings in the Inland Empire even despite the growth and new construction in the I-REN counties. The housing stock in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, nearly 1.6 million residential units, was largely built in the era before the 1978 building standards took effect. This indicates a **significant opportunity for C&S-related energy savings and carbon reduction** in I-REN's existing residential building stock through code compliant equipment installation, additions, alterations, and renovations.



Source: Navigant, 2019 PG Study

Figure 3-1. Statewide Electric Savings Market Potential (MWh)⁴

³ Inland Empire Quarterly Economic Report. Economics & Politics, Inc. October 2019. Available Online. Accessed October 2020. <http://www.johnhusing.com/QR%20Reports/QR%20October%202019.pdf>

⁴ California Energy Commission, "2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan," December 2019, page 54.

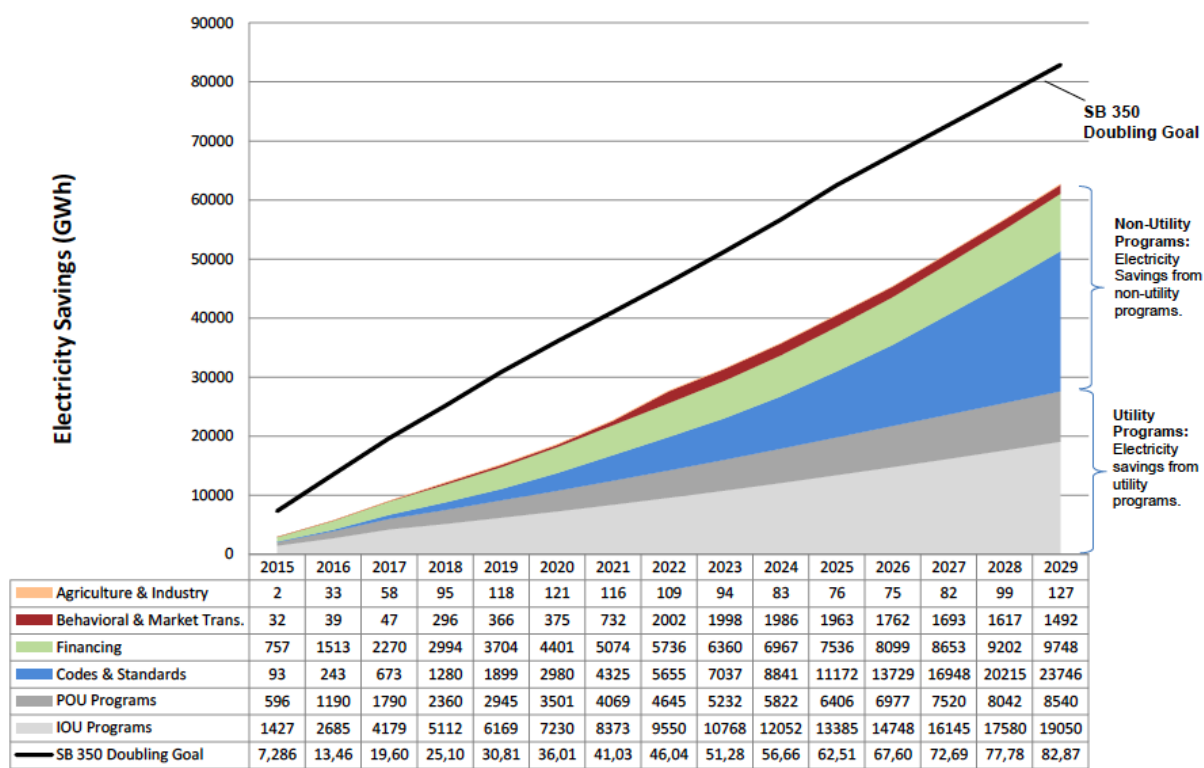


Figure 3-2. Senate Bill 350 Goal for Doubling Energy Efficiency Savings by 2030

Senate Bill 350 Doubling Energy Efficiency Savings by 2030, pg. 17 illustrates the high percentage of planned savings from codes and standards by non-utility programs.

Chapter 3: Codes & Standards

New construction is also a focus of C&S activities. When single family residential new construction slowed elsewhere in California after the 2008 housing crisis, the Inland Empire continued to see new single family housing starts due to the greater availability and lower cost of developable land.⁵ Data from the 2018 US Census indicates that the I-REN territory represents **13% of California's total new residential permits**, despite having 11.6% of the population. In 2018, more than 78% of new permits in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA MSA were for single family homes.

2018 Annual Permits Data for New Houses

Location (MSA)	Total	1 unit	2 units	3 and 4 units	5 or more	Structures with 5 or more
State of California						
Housing Units Authorized	113,502	58,831	2,590	2,050	50,031	1,763
Valuation	\$ 27,844,627	\$ 17,843,585	\$ 480,909	\$ 389,207	\$ 9,130,926	
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA						
Housing Units Authorized	14,809	11,591	166	279	2,773	233
Valuation	\$ 3,538,857	\$ 3,080,304	\$ 25,194	\$ 42,882	\$ 390,477	
Percentage of Calif. permits	13%	20%	6%	14%	6%	13%
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Housing Units Authorized	29,524	10,042	1,528	522	17,432	506
Valuation	\$ 7,348,035	\$ 3,507,156	\$ 307,236	\$ 108,602	\$ 3,425,041	
Percentage of Calif. permits	26%	17%	59%	25%	35%	29%

(Source <https://www.census.gov/construction/bps/msaannual.html>)

Figure 3-3. 2018 Permit Data: State of California, Inland Empire, and Los Angeles-area MSAs

The building industry in the Inland Empire may see benefits from recent and ongoing legislative efforts at the state level to encourage construction of more affordable housing.⁶ Overbuilding has not been a problem in the Inland Empire in recent years. The City of Riverside, for example, has seen **growth that outpaces the supply of housing** and is “in need of much more residential construction to keep up with demand from its rising population.”⁷

Additional information from the Construction Industry Research Board (CIRB) 2015 Annual Energy Permit Summary, indicates that the I-REN territory had about **10% of the state's HVAC changeout permits**. It is widely understood that the actual number of HVAC units installed are much higher than are permitted (approximately ⅓ of all units), indicating a large opportunity for I-REN to achieve higher energy savings with increased support of the local jurisdictions and builder community.⁸

⁵ Building the Future: Construction in Southern California. LAEDC Institute for Applied Economics. September 2016. Available online. Accessed October 2020. https://laedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Construction_FINAL_20161110.pdf

⁶ Legislative Steps Toward More Affordable Housing. Reyes, Carrie B. First Tuesday Journal. Available [online](#). Accessed October 2020.

⁷ Riverside Housing Indicators. September 8, 2020. First Tuesday Journal. Available [online](#). Accessed October 2020.

⁸ DNV-GL, Final Report: 2014-2016 HVAC Permit and Code Compliance Market Assessment Volume I, Prepared for the CPUC, September 2017, page 3.

Major Trends

The newest standards released in 2019 introduced one of the highest levels of efficiency and performance in residential buildings California has ever seen, adding solar, and an equivalent to zero net energy requirement. Substantial changes in multifamily codes are expected in the next cycle with the potential for zero or low carbon residential codes in the following cycle. These new requirements have increased complexity and multiple pathways for builders to consider. Local government and industry professionals will need consistent support to ensure that these codes can be effectively implemented and enforced.

Economic development was already of importance to the I-REN region, which has seen population growth greater than other parts of California while having lower median income.⁹ As the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic crisis continues to unfold, the cross-cutting workforce development activities proposed for I-REN's C&S sector program will have a role to play in helping local governments and building professionals navigate the changes ahead.

With education and outreach, I-REN proposes to provide leadership in the effort to shift the narrative around C&S. The proposed sector activities can help to ease the burden of compliance and enforcement while emphasizing the many benefits that accrue from the interconnectedness of C&S compliance with energy efficiency, energy bill savings, and comfort for building occupants. Due to the pandemic, issues of public health and links to indoor air quality may be of even greater interest than before.

Other trends and issues that may affect I-REN's C&S community include the following:

- Learning, complying, and implementing the 2019 code
- Building decarbonization
- Heat pump water heaters and electrification measures
- ZNE preparedness / "plug and play" grid
- Systems integration and demand flexibility
- Virtual inspections and online permitting required from COVID-19

⁹ Jones, B., Elkind, E., Duncan, K., & Hanson, M. (2017). The Net Economic Impacts of California's Major Climate Programs in the Inland Empire. *UC Berkeley: Berkeley Law*. Available online. Accessed October 2020.
<http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/pdf/2017/Inland-Empire-Net-Impacts.pdf>

Intervention Strategies and Objectives

In its approach to serving the C&S community, I-REN is guided by an overarching goal:

Goal 3: Work closely with local building departments and the building industry to support, train, and enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance.

To achieve this goal, I-REN will provide direct support and assistance to local building departments as well as regional construction firms responsible for complying with permitting requirements. I-REN's intervention strategies address the barriers faced by the C&S community in order to streamline code enforcement and permitting, and increase energy efficiency in the region through C&S.

Table 3-2. Intervention Strategies, Tactics, and Objectives

	Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Objective
Training	S3.1 Establish an ongoing training program to assist building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards.	T3.1.1 Develop training curriculum to address gaps in compliance with current requirements. Offer ongoing training on changes and trends in C&S. Tactic 3.1.2 Support local governments and the building industry during transitions to new codes to deliver effective messaging and resources and increase timely compliance with updated requirements.	<i>Improve understanding of energy efficiency codes and standards among local building departments and the building industry to increase implementation and compliance.</i>
Outreach	S3.2 Implement an outreach program to engage, educate and involve regional construction firms and building departments, and support compliance and regional EE programs and customers.	T3.2.1 Foster the development of an online Code Hub community for sharing best practices amongst building departments and the building industry. T3.2.2 Expand local jurisdiction relationships to host regional forums for the building industry and public sector.	<i>Make code compliance a valuable element of the region's energy efficiency goal attainment with engagement regionwide.</i>
Technical Assistance	S3.3 Develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting the energy codes.	T3.3.1 Identify and address the areas of greatest need for improved code compliance, in collaboration with local governments and the building industry. T3.3.2 Improve consistency in code enforcement and compliance resources across the region by facilitating cooperation between local governments. T3.3.3 Evaluate and develop model ordinances and policies for use regionally.	<i>Deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout.</i>

Approach to Overcoming Barriers

I-REN's intervention strategies are designed to overcome the problems and barriers described in Table 3-3, with tactics and activities to achieve the overarching goal of elevating energy codes and standards compliance through training, outreach, and assistance to local government jurisdictions and other stakeholders in the C&S community.

The C&S sector faces unique barriers to increased energy efficiency. This is especially true in the I-REN service territory, given its size and distance from the Los Angeles MSA. I-REN proposes to offer a C&S program tailored to the specific needs of this region, even though the sector has been targeted by other non-local programs. This approach is consistent with CPUC's policy in D.12.11-2015 that Regional Energy Networks (RENs) should implement energy efficiency initiatives in hard-to-reach markets "whether or not there is a current utility program that may overlap."¹⁰ In designing their approach to the C&S sector, I-REN has selected strategies and tactics based on insights from the I-REN governing agencies, with consideration also given to previous attempts by other PAs to address the C&S sector in this region. Those lessons learned informed I-REN's planning process, as well as best practices from successful C&S programs elsewhere in the state.

The proposed interventions rely on relationships and communication. I-REN is uniquely positioned to serve the C&S sector because the I-REN governing agencies already have extensive connections throughout the region with local building and planning departments, including code officials and permitting staff at all levels, and many of the private construction and architectural firms who frequently apply for permits.

¹⁰ California Public Utilities Commission, Decision 12-11-015, [Decision Approving 2013-2014 Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets](#), November 8, 2012, Page 17.

Chapter 3: Codes & Standards

Table 3-3. Barriers and Strategies for I-REN Codes & Standards Sector

Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies
Codes and standards are continually being updated and becoming more complex.	Lack of capacity and time to learn details of Title 24, Part 6 and implement effective means to review or enforce.	Technical assistance, tools, training, and resources can help local building department staff and permit applicants keep up with changes to codes and standards.	S3.1, S3.3
Some local building departments have limited staff resources for enforcing energy codes.	Energy efficiency is a low priority for building departments. Focus is on life and safety issues.	Ongoing training and outreach can help identify and fill gaps in building department capacity, while reinforcing the importance of energy codes and helping encourage local leadership in EE and C&S.	S3.1
Some local building departments have limited capacity to monitor and enforce changes, leading to uneven compliance across the region.	Lack of enforcement of permitting of HVAC systems for existing buildings as well as other energy code elements for new construction, especially related to the 2019 code cycle.	Outreach to construction firms and local building departments can help ensure consistent and timely information is being distributed across jurisdictions to support both compliance and enforcement.	S3.2
Both permit applicants (e.g. construction firms) and local building department staff have complicated requirements to follow for compliance and enforcement.	Technical questions and issues with permitting, codes, etc.	Technical assistance can help provide targeted support for permit applicants and local building departments, and other tools, and resources can offer accessible information to answer frequently-asked questions and help address known issues.	S3.3

Strategy 3.1 Establish an ongoing training program to assist building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards.

Objective: Improve the understanding of energy efficiency codes and standards among local building departments and the building industry to increase implementation and compliance.

Tactic 3.1.1: Develop training curriculum to address gaps in compliance with current requirements. Offer ongoing training on changes and trends in C&S.

Local building departments are critically important to increasing energy efficiency through improved code implementation and enforcement. Yet these individuals face numerous barriers in the performance of their jobs: a constantly changing and often confusing set of requirements to be enforced, limited time and staff resources, and the need to prioritize life and safety-related codes.

The community of professionals responsible for code implementation and permitting includes numerous job titles: Chief Building Officials, Permit Technicians, Plans Examiners, Building Inspectors, etc. I-REN proposes to develop a role-based training curriculum that is tailored to supporting these individuals in the performance of their job responsibilities. Training will augment available curriculum and fill gaps where needed and build on successful topics and strategies from other PAs.

“Journey mapping” is a technique that can be used to gain insight into the challenges faced by these professionals as they move through their daily tasks, and those insights will inform training modalities for each role. Training can be offered in person, via webinar, or on demand. Locations, delivery mechanisms, topics, and other aspects of training will be informed by data gathered as part of Tactic 3.3.1, so that I-REN’s offerings prioritize the areas of greatest need.

To complement and enhance public sector training, I-REN will also coordinate and offer private sector training to help architects, builders, and other trades better comply with energy codes and navigate the process to get permits.

To avoid duplication of effort, I-REN is communicating and exchanging ideas with other PAs operating in the region. Though other programs and initiatives have targeted the C&S sector, many local building departments and the building industry in general in the I-REN region have been underserved and will benefit greatly from locally focused training opportunities. I-REN will differentiate its C&S training offerings and coordinate with other training providers where necessary to make the best use of its constituents’ ratepayer dollars.

Additionally, training in C&S is an important area for crossover activities related to economic development and Workforce Education & Training (WE&T).

Activities to support this tactic may include and would not be limited to the following:

- Design training curriculum based on journey mapping and gaps identified in Tactic 3.3.1.
- Maximize accessibility through different training modalities including in-person (if possible given social distancing needs due to COVID-19), live webinars, and/or online on-demand training. Training sessions could be general admission and/or hosted by a specific local building department for their staff.
- Register as an ICC Preferred Provider to offer ICC-approved training and continuing education units (CEUs).
- Coordinate with other PAs to avoid duplication of effort.
- Integrate private and public sector training opportunities to enhance cross-learning and coordination.
- Incorporate periodic updates to reflect changes to codes and standards and trends in the C&S community.

Key partners for these activities will include those listed in Table 3-4 as well as other existing providers of training and educational resources on C&S.

Tactic 3.1.2: Support local governments and the building industry during transitions to new codes and standards to deliver effective messaging and resources and increase timely compliance with updated requirements.

Codes and standards requirements are updated frequently, and local governments as well as the building community as a whole are often challenged to stay current during times of transition. This is especially true for smaller AHJs in disadvantaged communities and rural areas as they may lack the time and capacity to track the updates and changes. As a trusted regional partner, I-REN can provide support to these local governments and the building community to help them understand updated C&S requirements and make timely changes to their implementation and enforcement processes.

This work requires effective and well-timed communication from a credible source. Each of the three agencies that comprise I-REN has had or currently has Local Government Partnerships (LGPs) with connections including city managers, planning department staff, local utilities, and others. I-REN is already engaging with these local experts on a monthly and/or quarterly basis. I-REN governing agency staff are also involved with hosting webinars and forums with local governments and building industry professionals on various topics, fostering collaboration and consistency across the region.

In addition to in-person and web meetings and workshops, I-REN governing agencies have established digital communication channels that can be leveraged for C&S outreach. For example, WRCOG distributes a quarterly e-communicator to more than 1,900 contacts with news and updates relevant to local government and the building industry, such as utility program opportunities. I-REN staff have the in-house capability to ramp up these communications to provide timely, important information to the C&S community. For example, during Spring 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated shelter-in-place mandates, they shifted to releasing a briefing more frequently—every week—with updates tailored to their members.

With this experience in providing in-person, online, and email messaging to local governments and the building industry, I-REN proposes to promote increased understanding and compliance with C&S updates by engaging in activities including but not limited to the following:

- Host targeted local workshops timed to coincide with Title 24 and state building code update years (2022 and 2025), in-person if possible.
- Offer online workshops and materials.
- Engage in e-communications and distributing presentation materials and messaging to local government and building industry contacts.
- Generate social media content, podcasts, and other creative forms of outreach and communication.
- Participate in state and local code update processes with agencies such as the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) or CEC.

Key partners for these activities will include local government officials, planning and building departments, and construction and building industry professionals such as those listed in Table 3-4.

Strategy 3.2 Implement an outreach program to engage, educate, and involve regional construction firms and building departments, and support compliance and regional EE programs and customers.

Objective: Make code compliance a valuable element of the region's energy efficiency goal attainment with engagement regionwide.

Tactic 3.2.1: Foster the development of an online Code Hub community for sharing best practices amongst building departments and the building industry.

I-REN proposes to develop and deploy a web-based Code Hub that will serve as an online community for C&S sector stakeholders. On the Code Hub, community members can submit questions to be answered by others in the community and/or by an expert Code Coach. Community members can also share best practices on topics related to their role and experience in the C&S sector, whether they are a permit technician or code enforcement official or a general contractor applying for a permit.

Especially in a large service territory like I-REN's, a technology-based solution like the proposed Code Hub is an effective way to overcome some of the challenges and barriers associated with time and distance. In today's world, many people are accustomed to using message boards and online forums to get answers to their questions and to interact socially and professionally. The Code Hub will promote a sense of community by connecting stakeholders in the C&S sector who have similar responsibilities, allowing them to "crowdsource" their questions to their peers, contribute their ideas and tips to help others, and also get input from experts.

The Code Hub will be designed to be searchable and organized by relevant topics, to allow community members to easily navigate to the information they need. Questions and discussions will be moderated and secure, and the interface will meet all accessibility standards. The Code Hub will be promoted through local government communication channels and I-REN's committees, e-communicators, and social media. The Code Hub will be integrated into the overall BUC system proposed for the I-REN Public Sector, to provide a single technical resource for local jurisdictions and the industry.

The I-REN governing agencies bring experience developing websites and online tools, for example SBCOG's recently developed vanpool website, and working with information technology vendors to collaborate and design user-friendly web-based resources.

Key partners for these activities may include code implementers on both the enforcement and compliance side. Partners should include local ICC Chapters, local AIA chapters, associations of contractors for new construction and retrofits (residential and nonresidential), local government building department and sustainability offices, environmental advocacy groups, associations of technology manufactures and vendors, and others in the C&S community.

Tactic 3.2.2: Expand local jurisdictions' relationships to host regional forums for the building industry and public sector.

Effective outreach to permit applicant market actors will help these individuals understand their roles and responsibilities in the C&S sector, leading to increased code compliance. This broad segment of market actors include private construction firms, architectural firms, general contractors, installers of HVAC and other equipment, and many other building professionals who have a responsibility to comply with C&S for construction and renovation activities in residential and nonresidential buildings.

I-REN is already engaged with many of these market actors and brings the existing connections to jumpstart a series of regional forums on code compliance for this segment of market actors. Building firms regularly attend committee meetings hosted by the I-REN governing agencies to learn about opportunities that may benefit them, such as utility programs or transportation projects. In addition, the I-REN governing agencies are experienced in working collaboratively with other PAs to host regional forums and workshops. For example, CVAG has hosted Energy Code Ace workshops in partnership with SCE and SoCalGas. CVAG has also hosted Energy & Water summits attended by more than 500 participants, to educate and update constituents about energy efficiency programs and strategies in collaboration with other agencies in the region. I-REN's proposed C&S regional forums would leverage this prior experience and existing partnerships to avoid duplication of effort.

Topics may include but would not be limited to Title 24 standards, Zero Net Energy (ZNE), low carbon buildings, beneficial electrification, building decarbonization, specific technologies like heat pump water heaters, and other requirements or trends affecting the building industry. These regional forums also allow an exchange of ideas where I-REN can gain insight to the implementation side of codes and standards, directly from the individuals responsible for compliance. These insights can inform the development of training and workshops, outreach materials, and other activities. Moreover, these regional forums offer an important opportunity for crossover activities related to economic development and WE&T.

Activities for this tactic could include and would not be limited to the following:

- Design a series of regional forums. These could be general admission events with participants from various firms, or targeted events at the workplace for large firms with numerous staff.
- Expand accessibility to forums through different modalities including in-person and/or online to accommodate social distancing needs due to COVID-19. Online forums could be accessed live or on demand via recordings.
- Plan the market actor types and locations to be targeted, using data from Tactic 3.3.1 to prioritize areas of greatest need.
- Promote regional forums to building professionals through existing communication channels.
- Launch regional forum series and track data regarding participation and feedback received.
- Gather contact information, distribute forum materials, and maintain lines of communication.
- Use feedback and discussions to inform development of future regional forums and other C&S activities.

Key partners for these activities will include local government officials, planning and building departments, and construction and building industry professionals such as those listed in Table 3-4. There may also be opportunities to collaborate with other PAs in the region to maximize reach.

Strategy 3.3 Develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting the energy codes.

Objective: Deliver locally informed resources and tools that streamline code compliance and enforcement and increase permit closeout.

Tactic 3.3.1: Identify and address the areas of greatest need for improved code compliance, in collaboration with local governments and the building industry.

This important tactic will assess the current state of code enforcement and compliance in the I-REN territory using primary and secondary data. The analysis resulting from this tactic will inform the detailed planning process to kick off other activities across I-REN's strategic framework for the C&S sector, such as developing training, planning outreach efforts, and designing technical resources and tools. This data will also help form baselines for some of the metrics to measure I-REN C&S sector program performance.

I-REN brings direct in-house experience developing and implementing surveys of their member local governments and constituents to assess gaps in program areas. Their staff compile and analyze the responses, prepare reports and outreach materials to share their findings, and ultimately use those insights to make improvements to programs.

Rigorous data collection will be a near-term effort to support implementation of other activities in the C&S sector. Key partners for this effort include the C&S enforcement and permitting community, such as local government agencies and building departments, as well as frequent permit applicants such as private construction and architectural firms. The proposed activities to implement this tactic may include but are not limited to the following:

- Collaborate with local governments to design and deploy an effective survey instrument, via an online survey platform already utilized by I-REN.
- Conduct additional in-depth phone interviews as needed to survey key decision makers and/or to fill identified gaps in response data.
- Review secondary data sources obtained in collaboration with local government agencies and code officials.
- Compile results and preparation of report materials for sharing with local governments.
- Analyze results, in cooperation with local governments, to inform program planning efforts and evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V).

Key partners for these activities will include local government officials, planning and building departments, and construction and building industry professionals such as those listed in Table 3-4.

Tactic 3.3.2: Improve consistency in code enforcement and compliance resources across the region by facilitating cooperation between local governments.

Much of the work currently performed by the I-REN governing agencies is directly related to this tactic: facilitating cooperation by local government officials and planning staff in order to reduce duplication of efforts and encourage consistency across the region on a variety of topics. This work occurs through the committee structure in place between CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG, composed of local government staff, City Managers, and elected officials. Members of the regional building industry are also involved with and benefit from the I-REN governing agencies' committees and communications. Because of its role as stakeholder consensus-builder for these parties, I-REN is well-positioned to lead the collaborative process of assessing and updating the various tools and resources around code enforcement and compliance in this region.

Resources and materials may be out of date and will need revisions to reflect current requirements, technologies, and trends. There may also be opportunities to look at adding new content or features to streamline the enforcement and compliance processes. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated shelter-in-place mandates have highlighted the need for adaptability in local government services. For example, "Online Building Departments" can allow permit applications and related documentation to be submitted with payment on a website, to reduce in-person interactions. Some building departments already utilize these features, while others do not have access. With I-REN's assistance, code enforcement and compliance resources and materials can be made more consistent across the region and can be updated to reflect current requirements.

The talented staff at the COGs that comprise I-REN are experienced in developing resources specifically targeted to local governments. Their in-house teams specialize in creative marketing and outreach to engage with their audience. They frequently develop flyers and materials and host events and workshops as well as podcasts and webinars. They are experienced in using email and social media to promote events and opportunities and have in-house graphic designer and videographer staff.

Improving consistency in code enforcement and compliance resources available across the I-REN territory will involve but not be limited to the following activities:

- Assess the existing resources and communication channels. These may be widely varied: websites, online tools, training modules, checklists, how-to guides, frequently-asked questions, e-newsletters, social media posts, podcasts, printed materials, scripts and talking points for phone and in-person assistance, etc.
- Collaborate with AHJs and local governments to develop updated content based on current requirements, best practices, and new solutions for streamlining the code enforcement and compliance process. Materials will be technically accurate and tailored to address the areas of greatest need identified in Tactic 3.3.1.
- Distribute materials through the AHJs, local government, and regional building professionals' communication channels.
- Ensure materials are reaching code enforcement officials and/or permit applicants as identified in the needs assessment.

Key partners for these activities will include local government officials, planning and building departments, and construction and building industry professionals such as those listed in Table 3-4.

Tactic 3.3.3: Evaluate and develop model ordinances and policies for use regionally.

One of the greatest benefits of a regional organization working with local jurisdictions is the ability to leverage the knowhow of a large body of professionals and then to distribute that knowledge and resources to less advantaged groups. The I-REN team will enable this regional collaboration by identifying important areas for policy improvements, such as future reach codes, efficiency and fire ordinances, et.al., and work with jurisdictions to create model ordinances and policies that can be adopted by interested local governments. This tactic will also enable I-REN to test and pilot various approaches to common concerns and establish an effective regional response that can be easily and affordably adopted region-wide. This effort will ensure dollars spent are well utilized and have the greatest impact possible.

Specifically, I-REN will survey and interview key jurisdictions as needed to understand the major areas for concern and potential policies. Then working through their committee structure, they will develop regionally appropriate model ordinances and vet and refine them with participating local governments. Once finalized, these model resources will be made available to any jurisdiction in the region. I-REN will provide ongoing technical assistance to adjust and implement the ordinances as well as provide ongoing monitoring and tracking to address any needed changes or updates.

Anticipated Programs

I-REN's anticipated program offerings are new non-resource programs proposed to provide short-term and mid-term support for the C&S community to streamline compliance across the region. Anticipated programs include but are not limited to the following:

- C&S Training and Education – a non-resource program to establish and implement training and education for building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards.
- C&S Technical Support Program – a non-resource program to develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting the energy codes.

C&S Sector | Essential Program Elements

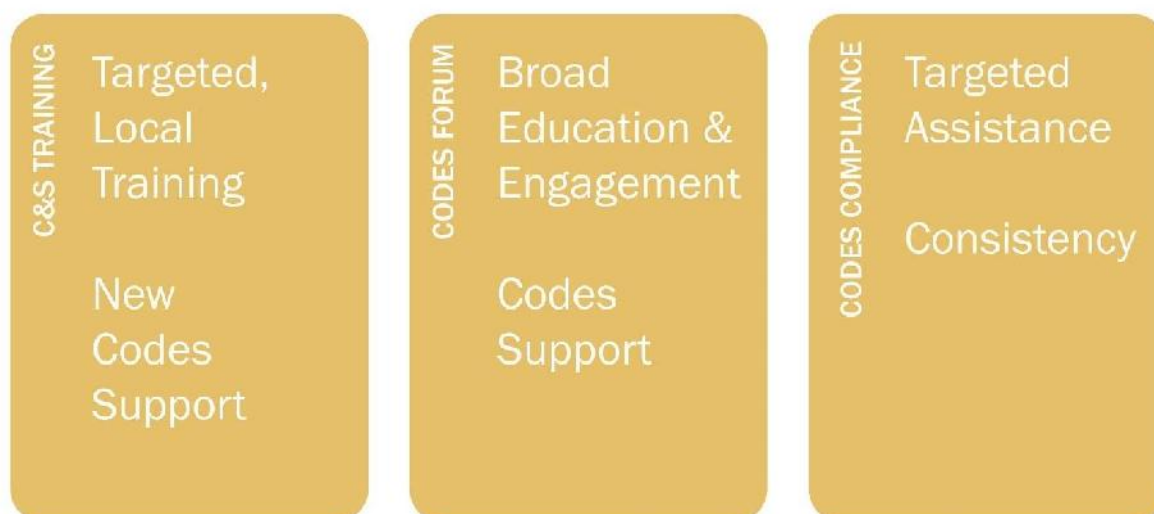


Figure 3-4. I-REN Codes & Standards Sector Essential Program Elements

Evolving Approach

As a new REN, I-REN will consult with other existing RENs providing similar activities and implement best practices as well as build upon the work currently underway through the COGs and LGPs. I-REN will implement the strategies outlined here in collaboration with the key partners described in the section that follows. Based on EM&V and on monitoring progress toward performance metrics through the near- and mid-term activities, I-REN will adjust strategies for future implementation beyond the 2021-2025 timeline.

Leveraging I-REN's Existing Key Partners

I-REN's greatest strength is their extensive network of relationships with local governments, building and planning departments, code officials and permit staff, private construction and architectural firms, and other market participants with responsibilities in the C&S sector.

These relationships have been built over decades and are maintained through frequent engagement and through the I-REN governing agencies' committee structures, numerous outreach channels, and ongoing programs and initiatives. Local governments of the Inland Empire and various industry stakeholders already look to the I-REN governing agencies for information on energy efficiency programs and sustainability.

Table 3-4 shows examples from the I-REN governing agencies' experience with these collaborative activities. These key partnerships will be of critical importance for I-REN's work in the C&S sector. I-REN will build on these existing relationships to foster additional connections with partners as described earlier in the chapter (section entitled "Market Actors").

Table 3-4. I-REN's Key Partnerships in the Codes & Standards Sector

Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Previous & Ongoing Collaboration
Local Governments: WRCOG: 18 Cities CVAG: 10 Cities SBCOG: 24 Cities & Five Board of Supervisors	The three I-REN COGs have all had or currently have LGPs and various connections including City Manager, Planning, and local utilities. They bring multiple local experts into the conversation on a monthly/quarterly basis. WRCOG's partners consist of Public Agencies (18 members), Water Districts (2 members), and Riverside County Superintendent of Schools. Collaboration has included various Energy, Environmental, and Transportation / Planning Programs such as LGP, PACE, Western Community Energy (WCE, the WRCOG's Community Choice Aggregation), Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) program, Solid Waste Cooperative, Clean Cities Coalition, and Planning / Grant Writing Assistance Programs. CVAG's membership includes 10 cities and CVAG has participated in the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP) LGP with each of their member cities and the utility companies servicing the CVAG jurisdiction, as described earlier in the Public Sector chapter. The DCEP allowed the CVAG member cities to achieve great energy savings for a 10-year period, due to close collaboration and monthly meetings. CVAG also has existing relationships with each of its cities through its Solid Waste & Recycling Committee (TWG) that reports to the Energy & Environmental Resources Committee (E&E), which then reports to its Executive Committee. Each city looks to CVAG to keep them updated on energy efficiency programs and measures. The SBCOG Board consists of the mayor of each of the 24 cities in the county, as well as the five members of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. SBCOG has close relationships and partnerships with each city, and has worked on numerous projects such as regional ridesharing, building transportation infrastructure, coordination of a Zero Emission Vehicle Readiness and Implementation Plan for the County, and a Climate Resiliency Study "Resilient IE." In addition, SBCOG has numerous committees to foster collaboration among stakeholders, including a City/County Manager Technical Advisory Committee.

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Local Universities and Community Colleges	Through DCEP, CVAG hosted annual Energy Summits that were well attended. CVAG partnered with the local universities (CalState San Bernardino and UC Riverside) to hold multiple Title 24 training classes. CVAG has also partnered with the Palm Springs campus of UC Riverside to host C&S trainings in partnership with the IOUs and Energy Code ACE.
Building Professionals, including private firms such as architects, construction, and others	CVAG administers a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program and has service agreements with seven private firms to service CVAG's jurisdiction. PACE started in the Coachella Valley in 2007, starting with the City of Palm Desert and later transitioning to a regional approach through CVAG. Through DCEP, CVAG partnered with local universities as mentioned above to hold multiple Title 24 training classes, which were offered to local building contractors, architects, and building and safety officials. As the Transportation Authority for the County of San Bernardino region, SBCOG brings relationships with numerous building and construction industry related firms. SBCOG also brings connections to engineering, building, and construction firms through WTS International, an industry organization dedicated to advancing equity and access for women in the transportation industry, where a member of SBCOG's I-REN leadership team previously served as president of the Inland Empire chapter.
Industry, Stakeholder and Professional Groups	Riverside Chapter Building Industry Association (BIA) has been involved with WRCOG's TUMF Program with feedback on Transportation Program Growth and is a potential partner for C&S outreach and educational workshops. In addition, WRCOG previously served on the Board of the USGBC-IE.
3C-REN, SoCalREN, BayREN	These existing RENs provide a ready-made advisory group of local government Program Administrators implementing similar programs. Coordinating with this group will help to inform and strengthen the initial and ongoing offerings from I-REN.
Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs)	I-REN has been in communication with SCE and SoCalGas to establish commitments to cooperate as Program Administrators in the region and will continue to work closely with the IOUs to ensure offerings are coordinated and non-duplicative. The I-REN governing agencies have relevant experience partnering with the IOUs to deliver regional outreach and codes and standards training. CVAG has partnered with the Palm Springs campus of UC Riverside to host C&S trainings in partnership with SCE, SoCalGas, and Energy Code ACE. SBCOG has experience conducting outreach through the San Bernardino Regional Energy Partnership in collaboration with SCE and SoCalGas and working closely with 13 cities in the region.
Regional, State, and other Government Partners	To leverage shared resources and promote consistency in its C&S work, I-REN will collaborate with government agencies at the state level, such as CPUC, CEC, Energy Division, Building Standards Commission, and others. I-REN will also collaborate at the regional level, and brings a wealth of experience and existing relationships from its work with various regional entities including South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) and the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reductions Review Committee (MSRC) Technical Advisory Committee and the MSRC Board. I-REN also bring experience working with Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) as well as other COGs and transportation authorities throughout Southern California (LA Metro, RCTC, OCTA and VCTC).

Budget and Metrics

Budget

The budget shown in Table 3-5 will facilitate the forecasted short- and mid-term metrics targets with the expectation that increased participation and project volume is achieved as initial efforts scale and gain traction.

Table 3-5. Codes & Standards Budget

Budget (\$)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Administration	141,607	144,611	150,395	156,411	162,667
Marketing and outreach	84,964	86,766	90,237	93,847	97,600
Direct implementation - non incentive	1,189,495	1,214,730	1,263,320	1,313,852	1,366,407
Direct implementation - incentives	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,416,066	1,446,107	1,503,952	1,564,110	1,626,674

Metrics

Based on the intervention strategies I-REN developed for C&S, the following metrics are proposed to track program performance.

Table 3-6. Program Performance Metrics

Codes & Standards	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Net GWh savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net MMTherms savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net MW savings	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures supported by CASE studies in rulemaking cycle (current work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures adopted by CEC in rulemaking cycle (indicator of past work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of T-20 measures supported by CASE studies in rulemaking cycle (current work)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of measures adopted by CEC in current year	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of federal standards adopted for which a utility advocated (IOUs to list advocated activities)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent of federal standards adopted for which a utility advocated (#IOU supported / # DOE adopted)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
The number of local government Reach Codes implemented (this is a joint IOU and REN effort)	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of training activities (classes, webinars) held, number of market actors participants by segment (e.g. building officials, builders,	2021	TBD	12	12	TBD

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Codes & Standards	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Metric					
architects, etc.) and the total size (number of the target audience) by sector. (M) Number of training activities					
Number of training activities (classes, webinars) held, number of market actors participants by segment (e.g. building officials, builders, architects, etc.) and the total size (number of the target audience) by sector. (M) Number of participants	2021	TBD	360	360	TBD
Increase in code compliance knowledge pre/post training	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD
The percentage increase in closed permits for building projects triggering energy code compliance within participating jurisdictions	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number and percent of jurisdictions with staff participating in an Energy Policy Forum	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions with staff participating in an Energy Policy Forum	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions receiving Energy Policy technical assistance.	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Number and percent of jurisdictions receiving Energy Policy technical assistance.	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator
Buildings receiving enhanced code compliance support and delivering compliance data to program evaluators	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator	N/A - Indicator

Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities

Marketing, Education & Outreach

Through their longstanding partnerships with the local governments they serve, the I-REN governing agencies have become a trusted voice and advocate in their two counties. They can use this position to coordinate Marketing, Education and Outreach (ME&O) activities within the region through their network of member jurisdictions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of timely and accurate communication from reliable sources, from all levels of government. I-REN can serve as a facilitator for coordination with other PAs and statewide programs and initiatives for emergency communication planning and other ME&O activities.

Effective marketing and outreach activities are fundamentally important to I-REN's strategies for C&S. The I-REN governing agencies bring in-house capacity to design, develop, and deploy creative marketing content for various channels, from printed materials and website content to email communicators, social media, videos, and podcasts. They are skilled at designing well-branded promotional campaigns to engage their local government audience.

I-REN anticipates its C&S-related marketing could include but would not be limited to the following activities shown in Table 3-7, in alignment with the proposed C&S intervention strategies and tactics.

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Table 3-7. Marketing Activities for I-REN C&S Sector

Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Marketing Activities
S3.1 Establish an ongoing training program to assist building department staff and the building industry to support, understand, and effectively implement energy efficiency codes and standards.	T3.1.1 Develop training curriculum to address gaps in compliance with current requirements. Offer ongoing training on changes and trends in C&S. Tactic 3.1.2 Support local governments and the building industry during transitions to new codes to deliver effective messaging and resources and increase timely compliance with updated requirements.	<i>Promote training through I-REN governing agencies' existing marketing channels, through local government partnerships, and through building industry communication networks.</i> <i>Build a social media presence with local industry and professional groups, leveraging the existing connections from the I-REN governing agencies.</i> <i>Collaborate with local governments to design and deliver effective messaging to building departments and private industry during code transitions.</i>
S3.2 Implement an outreach program to engage, educate and involve regional construction firms and building departments, and support compliance and regional EE programs and customers.	T3.2.1 Foster the development of an online Code Hub community for sharing best practices amongst building departments and the building industry. T3.2.2 Expand local jurisdiction relationships to host regional forums for the building industry and public sector.	<i>Develop marketing content for e-communicators, social media, and other channels to promote the online Code Hub and building professionals' regional forums.</i>
S3.3 Develop technical assistance tools and resources to assist building departments and the building industry with understanding, evaluating, and permitting the energy codes.	T3.3.1 Identify and address the areas of greatest need for improved code compliance, in collaboration with local governments and the building industry. T3.3.2 Improve consistency in code enforcement and compliance resources across the region by facilitating cooperation between local governments. T3.3.3 Evaluate and develop model ordinances and policies for use regionally.	<i>Develop and deploy effective survey instruments to gather data and use that data to inform the design of resources to assist building departments and industry professionals.</i>

Workforce Education & Training

The C&S sector offers many opportunities for cross-cutting WE&T activities. The I-REN governing agencies' experience collaborating with key educational partners such as universities and community colleges will be an advantage when launching their training activities in the C&S sector.

I-REN's approach to serving the C&S sector incorporates training for local building department staff, to help those individuals perform their jobs and build capacity in their departments to better enforce codes and standards. This is important for developing a skilled workforce in some of the rural jurisdictions with less resources in their local building departments, and for areas that include underserved and disadvantaged communities, in line with the directive in Senate Bill 350.

I-REN's service territory also includes several relatively new cities incorporated in recent years; these cities are building their local capacity and establishing their infrastructure. They will benefit from C&S and energy efficiency-related training and education for their local government employees.

Building professionals in the private sector are another target of I-REN's strategies for C&S, and they will benefit from I-REN's training and outreach opportunities contributing to their professional development and supporting the development of a capable regional workforce trained in advanced energy efficient building practices in order to comply with codes and standards. I-REN will align its C&S training activities with its WE&T program to maximize benefits to the region's local government workforce and building professionals.

EM&V Considerations

As a new REN, I-REN is interested in collaborating with the CPUC, CEC, Energy Division, other PAs, and the region's C&S community to support statewide and regional efforts around C&S EM&V Roadmaps and Plans. I-REN will collaborate with the CPUC and other stakeholders to ensure that data collection activities are embedded in C&S program design to capture the information necessary to meet evaluation requirements and also to help expand the understanding of REN program impacts in this cross-cutting sector.

For its C&S programs, I-REN's EM&V considerations include data collection to inform CPUC evaluation activities as well as to support internal program performance tracking and continuous improvement. I-REN has also identified an anticipated area of study, supported by assessment and data collection tactics described here and in its C&S intervention strategies.

Data Collection Needs

I-REN data collection will support both external EM&V by the CPUC and internal research study activities. I-REN's data collection needs correspond to identified C&S metrics and indicators, and the intervention strategies developed for the C&S sector.

To support external EM&V activities, I-REN will collect data to keep the CPUC and stakeholders apprised of program progress. I-REN will work collaboratively with Energy Division staff to ensure data collection meets their needs, to enable evaluation that can:

- 1) inform the program selection process,

- 2) provide early feedback to program implementers,
- 3) produce impact evaluations at the end of the funding period, and
- 4) feed the planning process for future program cycles.¹¹

Table 3-8 shows the research questions and data collection needs I-REN has identified for C&S. Data collection will support I-REN's internal EM&V activities and inform the measuring of progress toward established program goals and targets, CPUC metrics and indicators, and PA determined value metrics. Data collection and real-time program performance tracking will enable the delivery of timely feedback to implementers and/or program administration staff and support continuous improvement and future program planning efforts.

I-REN will also work with CEC and other stakeholders to ensure that I-REN C&S programs and data collection support statewide legislation and goals such as SB 1414 and the requirement for confirmation of appropriate permits for installation of new heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and heat pumps systems. I-REN will incorporate these requirements into its programs and work with building departments to establish successful approaches to implement this across the region.

Table 3-8. I-REN Codes & Standards Data Collection

Topic Focus	Research Questions/Data Collection Needs	EM&V Objective	Timeframe
C&S regional characterization	- What is the current state of code enforcement and compliance in the I-REN territory? - What C&S and permitting resources exist to support local building departments? - What compliance barriers exist for local building departments? - Which local jurisdictions show interest in reach codes/ordinances?	Understand the C&S sector market and identify highest needs	Short-term/ Mid-term
Depth of I-REN interventions	- How many trainings and regional forums are hosted with I-REN support? - How many individuals attend trainings and forums? - What number and percent of jurisdictions receive training, technical assistance, and other I-REN C&S resources? - How many local jurisdictions implement reach codes/ordinances?	Track program performance	Mid-term
C&S compliance improvement	- How has code compliance knowledge increased among training participants? - What is the percent increase in closed permits that are associated with or trigger C&S requirements?	Understand and track C&S compliance improvements	Mid-term

¹¹ Energy Efficiency Policy Manual, version 6, April 2020, p.44.

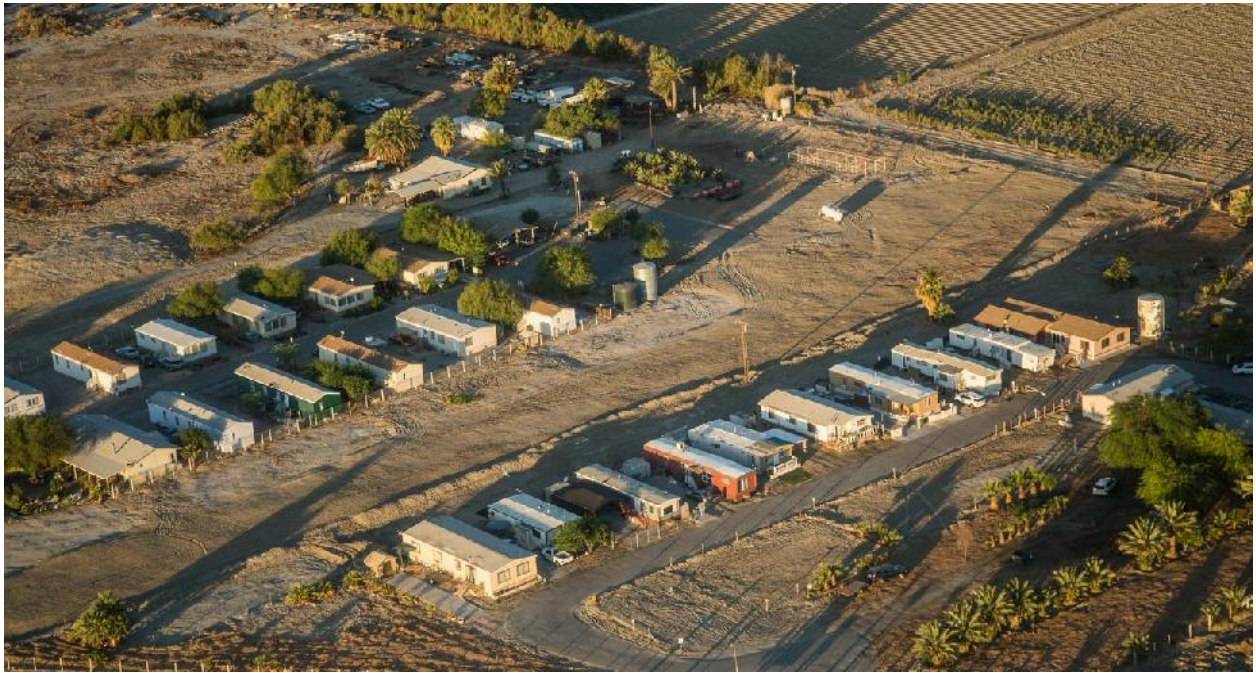
Anticipated Study Needs

PA-led studies may inform program target setting, value metrics, and highlight opportunities for improved data and measurement collection. One of the major areas for I-REN's study considerations is to better understand the current baseline of C&S compliance in the Inland Empire, in order to identify the areas of greatest need and provide targeted support through its C&S initiatives. I-REN proposes to develop and manage a study to characterize C&S compliance barriers, permitting practices and trends, and availability of training and educational resources. The assessment tactics described in I-REN's C&S intervention strategies will support this area of study. One of the key activities proposed by I-REN to support this study area is the data collection described in *Tactic 3.3.1 Identify and address the areas of greatest need for improved code compliance, in collaboration with local governments and the building industry*.

The information and analysis from this study will be used to develop training, plan outreach efforts, and design technical resources and tools. This data will also help form baselines against which to measure program performance during deployment. I-REN anticipates collecting this data initially to gain near-term feedback, then repeating the assessment after a few years to examine program progress and make improvements for program delivery in the mid-term timeframe and beyond.

Coordination with other PAs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for C&S activities, and the I-REN governing agencies bring experience coordinating with other PAs through their LGP work. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs.



Inland Regional Energy Network Business Plan

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training (Cross-Cutting)

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Introduction

“In the complex work of energy efficiency, higher skill often translates into more energy savings. According to the California Energy Commission, poorly installed HVAC systems increase energy use by 20 to 40 percent. What seems like a moderate increase becomes a significant concern when you consider that up to 85 percent of replacement HVAC systems in California are installed incorrectly.”¹

Workforce Education and Training (WE&T) initiatives may now be more important than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic the U.S. faced for the majority of 2020 and continues to face in 2021. As a locally-focused and locally-led advocate for economic development in the Inland Empire, I-REN is distinct in its ability to respond to this crisis and help support the region’s recovery. The COGs that make up I-REN’s governing agencies have direct connections to local governments and community stakeholders to make this effort as effective as possible.

Agility and collaboration will be required to mount a response to the economic devastation caused by the pandemic. In comparison to larger institutions with a wider focus, local governments have a better ability to pivot and be flexible in serving their constituents. Local governments and community stakeholders are already on the frontline in managing the public health crisis and they will continue to have a critical role in economic development and resiliency. At the same time, those local governments are going to be overwhelmed by the new demands upon them and the reduction in resources to do their jobs.

I-REN will serve as a facilitator and resource for stakeholder collaboration in addressing the WE&T needs in the Inland Empire. These activities will promote job market recovery and progress toward statewide goals regarding energy efficiency, air quality, and support for underserved, rural, tribal, and disadvantaged communities (DACs). Both Senate Bill (SB) 350 and SB 535 prioritize these communities for initiatives to improve air quality, increase energy efficiency, and address economic conditions. SB 350 emphasizes workforce development and increased project penetration in underserved communities.² I-REN has an opportunity to support these goals through its WE&T initiatives.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION & TRAINING GOAL & STRATEGIES

Goal 2. Ensure there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors.

S2.1 Establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to deliver targeted, equitable, and relevant energy efficiency training for contractors and other industry stakeholders.

S2.2 Facilitate industry engagement and development of job pathways to identify demand and jobs for a trained workforce.

BUDGET

**2021-2025 Budget (total):
\$12M**

¹<https://www.bluegreenalliance.org/resources/california-public-utility-commission-agrees-a-skilled-trained-and-diverse-workforce-is-the-key-to-achieving-efficiency-goals/>

² California Senate Bill 350, Sec. 8.25943.a.1.; c.7-8.

WE&T Strategies

I-REN has centered its WE&T approach around two strategies:

2.1. Establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to deliver targeted, equitable, and relevant energy efficiency training for contractors and other industry stakeholders.

I-REN will assess the current training marketplace in the Inland Empire and work with local providers, including higher education providers, high schools, adult schools, and professional training companies to tailor content to be relevant to the region's needs and ensure that disadvantaged communities are a focus. I-REN will collaborate with training providers to improve access to a broad spectrum of training opportunities in person, online, and in the field.

2.2. Facilitate industry engagement and development of job pathways to identify demand and jobs for a trained workforce.

I-REN will convene and collaborate with state, regional, and local stakeholders, including workforce investment boards (WIBs) and economic development departments to develop a unified mission around the region's energy efficiency workforce, highlighting pathways for job seekers to enter the green jobs market and to increase access for disadvantaged communities. I-REN will facilitate identifying opportunities for employers and local workforce partners to network and connect.

With its governing agencies' existing networks of contractors and training providers, I-REN is well positioned to help bridge the gap between the energy industry and the workforce. I-REN is building partnerships with local community colleges, local universities and local WIBs to establish a comprehensive network of WE&T offerings.

I-REN also brings close connections with local government planning and building departments across the region. I-REN's proposed WE&T initiatives offer important opportunities for collaboration across other sectors through its work in the Public Sector and Codes & Standards (C&S)-- both of which are important drivers of energy efficiency and advanced energy activity and employment in the region.

Market Characterization

“Over the next decade, the state will face a shortfall of more than one million... highly skilled workers. Overcoming this challenge will be critical to California’s future economic prosperity. It will also require aligning each region’s expansive training and education programs with the needs of employers to develop more workers with skills that translate into jobs.”³

Market Actors

The wide-reaching field of market actors who make up the WE&T community include existing building industry employers in the public sector and in private industry, trainers, job seekers and their advocates, and education providers, as well as other individuals and organizations in local communities who may be directly or indirectly affected by WE&T initiatives. I-REN will focus initially on existing building industry employers/employees, promoting energy efficiency training opportunities and increasing their knowledge base of how and why to build expertise in this area. I-REN has extensive connections in the region and regularly engages with leaders in these areas as part of their committee structure (see Table 4-6. I-REN’s Key Partnerships & Collaboration Experience in the WE&T Sector).

Existing Building Industry Support

Private sector employers for energy efficiency and advanced energy-related jobs include a wide variety of building professionals, such as architects, designers, contractors, energy consultants, and third-party code plans examiners, inspectors, raters, verifiers. This community also includes contractors skilled in a wide variety of trades: electricians, HVAC technicians, insulation installers, plumbers, and many more. This diverse community is of critical importance for performing high-quality installation of efficient equipment in compliance with codes and standards. These professionals are on the frontlines with customers, in charge of helping specify equipment, installation, scope of work, and advising on permits.

I-REN’s WE&T initiatives will support these firms and individuals in becoming more involved, better educated and engaged, so they can make a significant difference in making homes and businesses more energy efficient (as well as healthier and more comfortable) by getting the required permits, using the most energy efficient equipment, and employing advanced practices in building science.⁴ There is an opportunity to increase and expand this group’s participation in energy efficiency programs as well, by increasing their knowledge and awareness through WE&T activities. This may be particularly true of smaller HVAC companies, and electricians and plumbers who have not considered making energy efficiency a focus of their work.

³ California Economic Summit, “2016 Roadmap to Shared Prosperity”, Summit Summary, 2015, page 5, www.caeconomy.org.

⁴ “Workforce Issues and Energy Efficiency Programs: A Plan for California’s Utilities (WE&T Guidance Plan).” Prepared by the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education. Available [online](#). May 2014.

New Job Seekers/Second Careers

Job seekers could include students looking to enter the workforce during or after high school, and students in community colleges, universities, trade schools, and other educational institutions. Job seekers include individuals who are unemployed, or underemployed. This group also includes people who are looking to change jobs or careers to work in energy efficiency and advanced energy, or those currently working in the industry who seek to make lateral career moves or advance in their fields.

The public sector offers opportunities for energy efficiency and advanced energy-related employment. Generally, public projects are larger at scale, which results to higher wages for contractors.⁵ By integrating newer and more efficient technologies within the public sector, there will be a need for facility managers or building engineers who are responsible for monitoring, maintaining, and replacing equipment such as HVAC systems. Also within the public sector are local jurisdictions' building and planning departments who are responsible for issuing permits and enforcing codes and standards including building officials, permit technicians, plans examiners, and building inspectors.

Other Market Actors

Workforce development organizations and training providers are an important market actor and partner for proposed WE&T initiatives. Organizations like Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) advocate for and provide resources to support job seekers, and work to connect job seekers with employers. They work alongside economic development organizations and serve both displaced and incumbent workers.

Training providers offer education to help job seekers gain skills, upskill training to assist workers in advancing in their careers, and continuing education to ensure workers stay current with emerging technologies and trends.

Other market actors and members of the community who affect or are affected by energy efficiency WE&T initiatives include and are not limited to the following:

- Utility energy efficiency programs, which incentivize energy efficiency projects, thereby bringing jobs to the region and establishing a set of standards for local construction and installation of efficient equipment and technologies.
- Students in the K-12 education system who are not yet of working age but are learning about energy efficiency and advanced energy as a career path for their future.
- Families who rely on the income generated by energy efficiency jobs, and the communities and local economies where they reside and purchase goods and services.

⁵ "Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030" California Workforce Development Board (CWDB). Prepared by the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education. June 2020. Available online.

Sector Landscape

The story of the Inland Empire's WE&T sector is one of resilience and growth, despite persistent challenges and inequity. The COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating effects on the economy nationally and in the Inland Empire, and these effects are likely to persist through the program years covered by I-REN's business plan. In addition to assessing and anticipating the pandemic's impacts, it is important to understand the job market and workforce situation that existed in the I-REN service territory prior to the pandemic.

Market Demand and Supply

The Centers for Excellence for Labor Market Research conducted an analysis of the market supply and demand for jobs related to energy and utilities and assessed the number of people trained annually by Inland Empire Community College Programs. In three areas assessed—HVAC, Construction Crafts and Welding—the number of available jobs far exceeded the number of individuals graduating with a certificate in these particular areas. At the same time, the enrollments in each area are robust and indicate a potential pool of people who could join the workforce.

Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2 on the following pages detail this information for HVAC and Construction Crafts demand, community college enrollment, and people graduation with those jobs. Figure 4-3 is a recent outreach piece for the Inland Empire indicating the number of jobs in energy efficiency related industries. Collectively, this information indicates the robust job demand for a trained green workforce, the availability of active partners, and the need for continued engagement and development of the workforce in the area – moving people from enrollment to completion and work. What appears to be a persistent gap between supply and demand should be addressed regionally and comprehensively.

Further, there has been substantial analysis and effort in WE&T related to the energy efficiency market in recent years. The IOUs have been charged with updating and reforming their programs by stakeholders and by two reports developed for the CPUC and IOUs by the Don Vial Center on Employment in the Green Economy, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, University of California, Berkeley, the 2011 California WE&T Needs Assessment and the follow-up report (the 2014 WE&T Guidance Plan). The overall objective of these two plans is to **help identify how to create a permanent long-term green workforce that has effective standards, certifications, and licenses, along with good pay and clear career paths.**

While I-REN cannot address all these needs, they are poised to be an important resource in the workforce network to move this objective forward. The Guidance Plan distinguishes between **market-building activities** (creating the green workforce) and **skills building activities**. I-REN's Strategy 2.1 is skills-building focused, while Strategy 2.2 is market-building focused.

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training

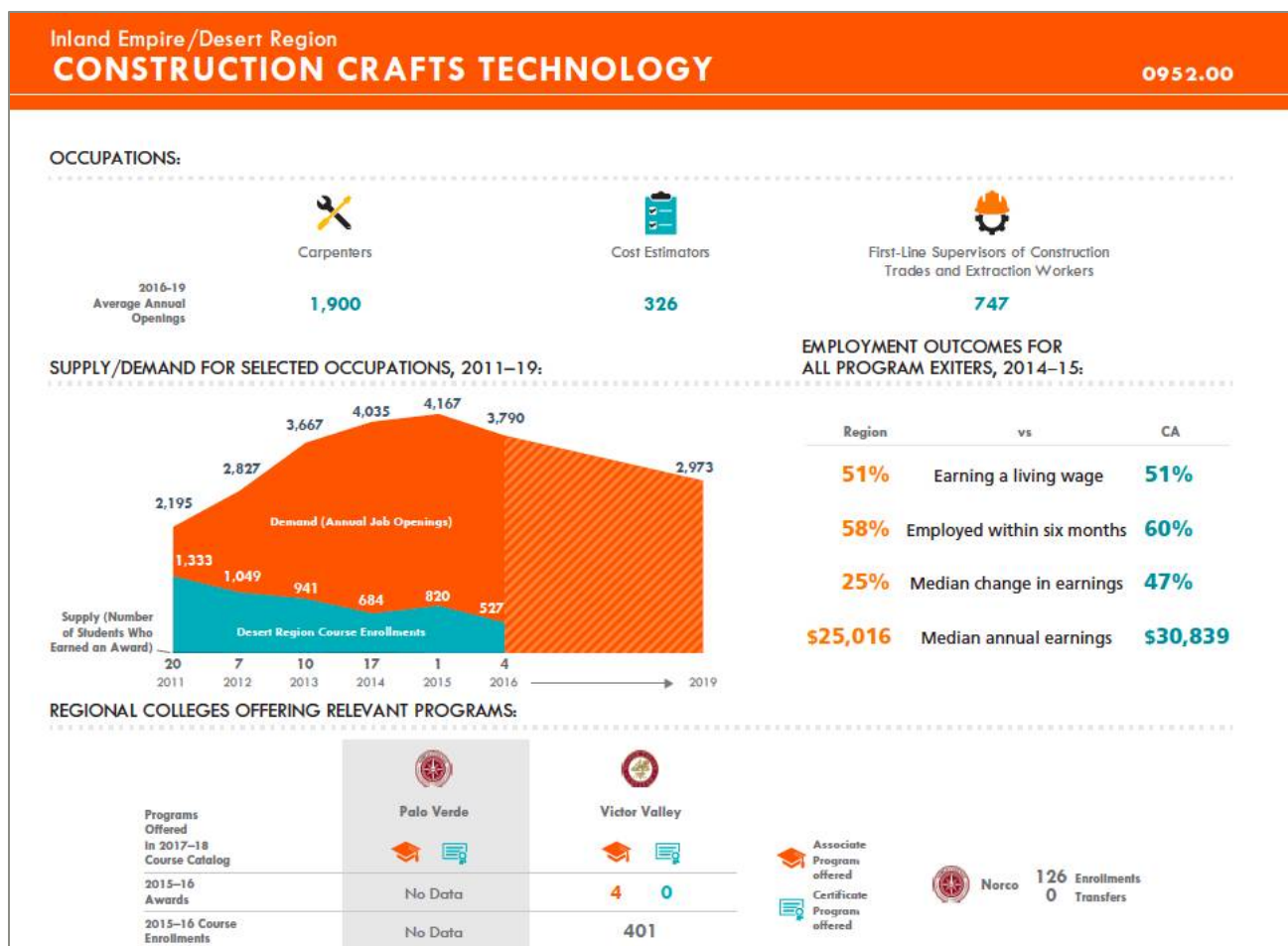


Figure 4-1. Inland Empire Construction Labor Market Research⁶

⁶ "Inland Empire/Desert Region Sector Profile Report," COE for Labor Market Research, 2017.

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training

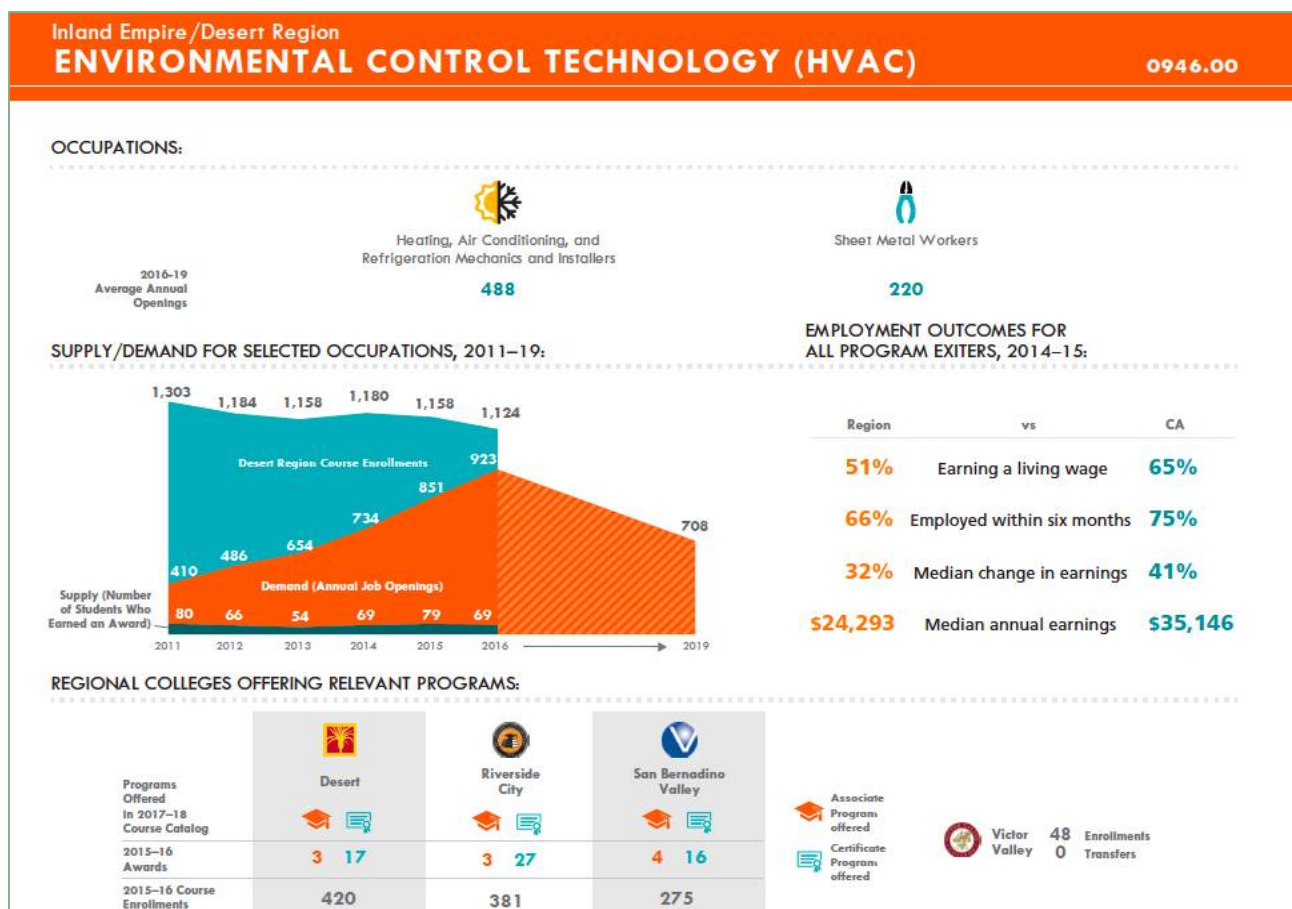


Figure 4-2. Inland Empire HVAC Labor Market Research⁷

⁷ "Inland Empire/Desert Region Sector Profile Report," COE for Labor Market Research, 2017.

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Figure 4-3. Inland Empire Projected Jobs 2017-2022, Energy, Construction and Utility, 2018.

Skills-Building: Leveraging Training and Education Opportunities

“The Guidance Plan also recommends a stronger emphasis on and redesign of programs dedicated to EE skills-building—i.e., to incorporate EE skills into the broader skills set of the professional and trades workers in occupations that most impact energy use. To achieve the goals ... the IOUs need to align with, leverage, and influence the rest of California’s rich workforce training and education infrastructure.” WE&T Guidance Plan, page 8.

As highlighted in the WE&T Guidance Plan, I-REN does not intend to develop new curriculum or replicate existing efforts; instead, their focus is on developing and leveraging the many partners already in the I-REN region and helping to create better programs and series of classes. By working with WE&T providers in San Bernardino and Riverside counties, particularly community colleges, I-REN can help bridge the divide between job supply and demand.

As illustrated in Figure 4-4, currently SoCalGas nor SCE has “Energy Centers” (the IOUs’ term for training centers) in the I-REN territory, requiring contractors at times to travel substantial distances to attend energy efficiency classes. In contrast, regional community colleges do have programs in this area that can and should be leveraged.

The I-REN governing agencies have existing partnerships with local colleges and community colleges, successfully providing instructional energy efficiency classes and events at local campuses where they have typically achieved high participation rates. Further, I-REN will employ 3C-REN’s approach to harness other successful training programs like Energy Code ACE and bring them to the region. I-REN governing agency CVAG’s staff is part of a committee with College of the Desert, a local community college, to offer feedback and expertise in the creation and development of their workforce and training certification program. This program allows students to take classes to become trained in installation and repair on systems such as HVAC, environmental management systems and more.

Offering training at familiar, nearby locations makes it easier for job seekers and workers to attend. I-REN can use its connections and experience to help ensure training opportunities are accessible throughout the region.

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training

Table 4-1. Existing Regional Programs with relevance to WE&T

College	District/City	Potential Programs to leverage
San Bernardino County		
Barstow Community College	BCCD/Barstow	Industrial Maintenance Electrical & Instrumentation - Programs
Chaffey College	Rancho Cucamonga	HVAC programs
San Bernardino Valley College	SBCCD/San Bernardino	Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration AA/Certificate
Victor Valley College	Victorville	Construction & Manufacturing Technology Program
CSU San Bernardino (CSUSB)	San Bernardino	Workplace Training and Online Career Training Programs
Riverside County		
College of The Desert	Palm Desert	Building & Energy Systems Professionals AS Degree, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Certificate, Building Energy Consultant
Riverside Community College	Riverside	Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Certification
UC Riverside	Riverside and Palm Springs	Cross-cutting trainings in C&S

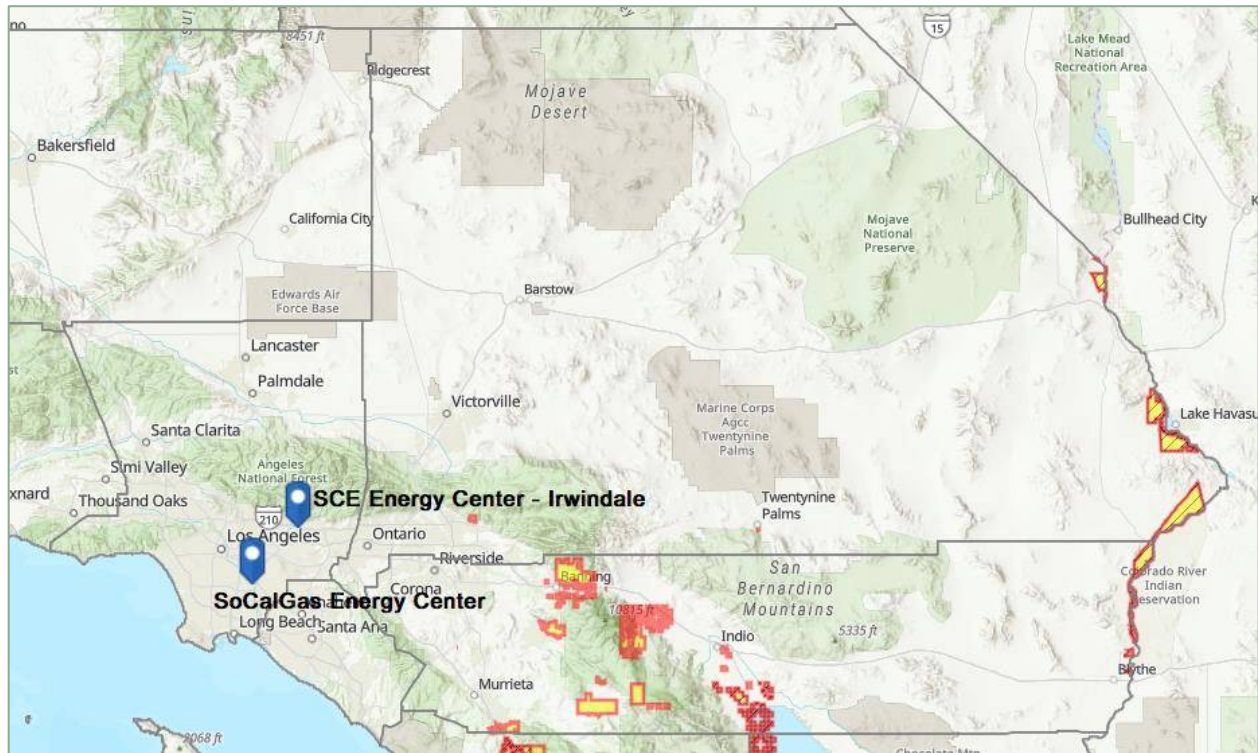


Figure 4-4. Energy Centers located outside Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

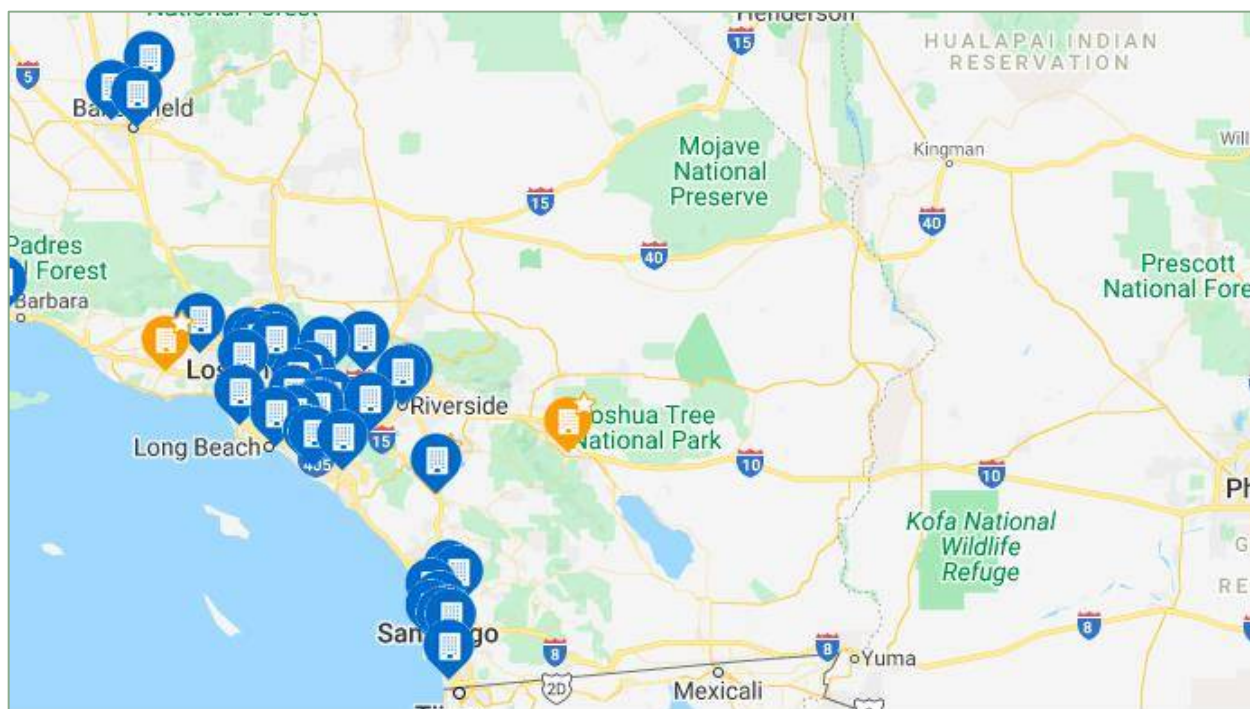


Figure 4-5. BPI Certified contractors

(Source: <http://www.bpi.org/locator-tool>)

In the further inland areas of Riverside and San Bernardino counties, there appears to be a lack of individuals and firms with advanced training and certifications such as the ones offered by the Building Performance Institute (BPI). As illustrated by Figure 4-5, there only a handful of BPI certified firms in the Inland Empire and with few exceptions they are mainly clustered around the cities of San Bernardino and Riverside. This is likely exacerbated by the lack of BPI testing centers, which are all located near San Francisco and Sacramento, and other high-quality energy efficiency training locations in the area. I-REN has an opportunity to build partnerships with BPI and other providers to increase the number of skilled and certified contractors in the region.

An important part of I-REN's WE&T initiative will involve working with state, regional, and local stakeholders to provide upskill and advanced training for incumbent workers or workers with an existing skill set in energy efficiency-related trades. I-REN's WE&T initiative will support training programs and certifications that are more accessible than a four-year degree, to assist workers in obtaining "good and promising" jobs in construction trades, such as electrical and HVAC trades, which demand a high level of technical training and experience.

The I-REN governing agencies bring experience in building effective partnerships in the Inland Empire to foster economic development. For example, WRCOG is launching Innovation 2030, an initiative featuring projects and programming that will be focused on all parts of the energy spectrum including generation, savings, transportation, grid, and more. See Figure 4-6 for more details. I-REN's work in the WE&T sector will complement the Innovation 2030 initiative and partnerships.

Potential Partners

I-REN will identify and build partnerships with organizations and agencies including but not limited to those shown below to collaborate on I-REN's WE&T initiatives. The I-REN governing agencies have a strong foundation of existing connections with these types of organizations, as described later in this chapter in Table 4-6.

Education (Building and Expanding Relationships)

- K-12 Schools and Districts
- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- Inland Empire/Desert Regional Consortium (Community Colleges (CCC))
- California Community Colleges
- Colleges/Universities

Trade Associations

- Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)
- Institute of Heating and Air Conditioning Industries (IHACI)
- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- American Public Works Association (APWA), Southern California Chapter, including Coachella Valley, High Desert, and Inland Empire Branches
- Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)
- Building Industry Association (BIA)
- Local Chapter Building Associations (Desert Valley Building Association (DVBA) for Coachella Valley)
- International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)
- International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE)
- International Brotherhood of Electric Workers (IBEW)
- Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA!)
- California Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC)
- Sheet Metal Workers Union

Industry & Non-Profit Organizations

- California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP)
- California Energy Alliance
- National Comfort Institute
- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
- Energy Service Companies (ESCOs)
- Economic and Community Development Corporations

Certification Organizations

- North American Technician Excellence (NATE)
- National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions (NCQLP)
- Building Performance Institute (BPI)
- Builder Operator Certification (BOC)
- Home Energy Rating System (HERS)
- Consumer Home Energy Efficiency Rating System (CHEERS)

Government Agencies

- California Energy Commission
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- California Department of Education
- California Community Services and Development (CSD)
- California Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs)
- California Division of Apprenticeship Standards, Apprenticeship Council and building/construction trade apprenticeship programs

Innovation 2030

WRCOG's Leadership for Economic Development in the Inland Empire

Innovation 2030, a project of the Western Riverside County Council of Governments (WRCOG), seeks to establish an innovation driven economy in the Inland Southern California region by 2030. Innovation 2030 will foster an environment conducive to entrepreneurship and innovation and facilitate a transition away from low-skill, low-wage jobs that dominate the region's economy. In doing so, Innovation 2030 will help to futureproof the region, making the community more resilient against automation due to the logistics industry as a recent study, conducted by the University of Redlands has shown that more than 60% of the I-REN region's jobs are in jeopardy over the next 2 decades. Additionally, this impending challenge has only been accelerated by the impacts of COVID-19. Innovation 2030 will better align employment opportunities with job-skills training and K-12 through university education, and improve economic outcomes for all residents, including the most disadvantaged community members.

Innovation 2030 projects and programming would be focused on all parts of the energy spectrum from: generation, saving, transportation, grid, etc. Its model would entail targeted outreach programs aimed at entrepreneurs in the energy sector, recruit them and provide them with entrepreneurial support such as:

- **Storytelling Masterclass for Innovators:** Storytelling that attracts investment and makes sales
- **Investment Masterclass Program:** Proven techniques to raise millions for entrepreneurs and investors
- **Innovation 2030 Impact Investment Fund:** Harnessing sources of capital for the region's entrepreneurs
- **Young Entrepreneurs:** Paid internships for the region's most promising students in the region's most exciting startups
- **Cities Innovate Program:** Teaching cities to serve entrepreneurs better, faster, and cheaper, from one-stop "create a business" to regional pilot programs
- **First Chance Program:** Enabling underserved groups by bringing entrepreneurship into the communities

Innovation 2030 would also provide effective partnerships with the region's utilities by providing possible testing, job-training, certifications, and innovations related to the energy field. A focus on alignment between education systems and the workforce is critical now more than ever, especially when it comes to an aging workforce and the need for retraining new and in-demand skillsets in a COVID-19 economy and climate.

Lastly, the Innovation 2030 effort is led by Fred Walti, the Co-Founder of the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) an incubator known for its world-class programming for entrepreneurs in the energy, sustainability and cleantech space. It is recognized for its innovative partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Southern California Edison and other major stakeholders. The intent of Innovation 2030 would be to take this 'proof of concept' programming to the Inland Southern California region, a very vulnerable and underserved community area and propel its local economy towards resiliency in the future.

Figure 4-6. Innovation 2030: I-REN COG Leadership for Economic Development in the Inland Empire

Market-Building: Supporting a Green Workforce

Over the last decade the Inland Empire has seen economic growth following the recovery from the Great Recession of 2008, and since 2012 the region added 385,000 new jobs as of January 2020.⁸ Yet annual per capita incomes in the Inland Empire have persistently lagged behind statewide averages. In 2018, Inland Empire workers earned on average less than 64% of the statewide average per capita income. This reflects a larger trend of growing income disparity in California, cited in the 2011 statewide WE&T needs assessment as one of the major problems plaguing the state's economy.⁹

Table 4-2. Average Per Capita Annual Income: Inland Empire vs. California as a whole¹⁰

Area	Average Per Capita Personal Income (2018)
California	\$63,557
Riverside County	\$40,637
San Bernardino County	\$40,316

The COVID-19 pandemic has put additional strain on the region's economy and workforce over the past year, with unemployment in the region spiking dramatically in late spring of 2020. In August 2020 the average unemployment rate for the I-REN counties was 11%-- nearly three times the region's average annual unemployment rate in 2019.¹¹ Research from the Economic Roundtable identified Riverside County workers as tied for having the highest risk in California for job loss due to COVID-19 economic impacts. "The burden of unemployment is unequally distributed. It rests most heavily on young adults, Latinos, and workers in restaurant, hotel, personal care, and janitorial jobs. Young adults graduating from school and attempting to enter the job market face extremely difficult challenges," the report concluded.¹²

⁸ Economist John Husing quoted by Jack Katzanek with The Press Enterprise, "Inland job growth to slow to 2012 levels in 2020, forecast says" Article from January 15, 2020. Accessed October 2020. <https://www.pe.com/2020/01/15/inland-job-growth-to-slow-to-2012-levels-in-2020-forecast-says/>

⁹ California Workforce Education and Training Needs Assessment, Donald Vial Center on Employment in the Green Economy, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, University of California, Berkeley, 2011. p.12.

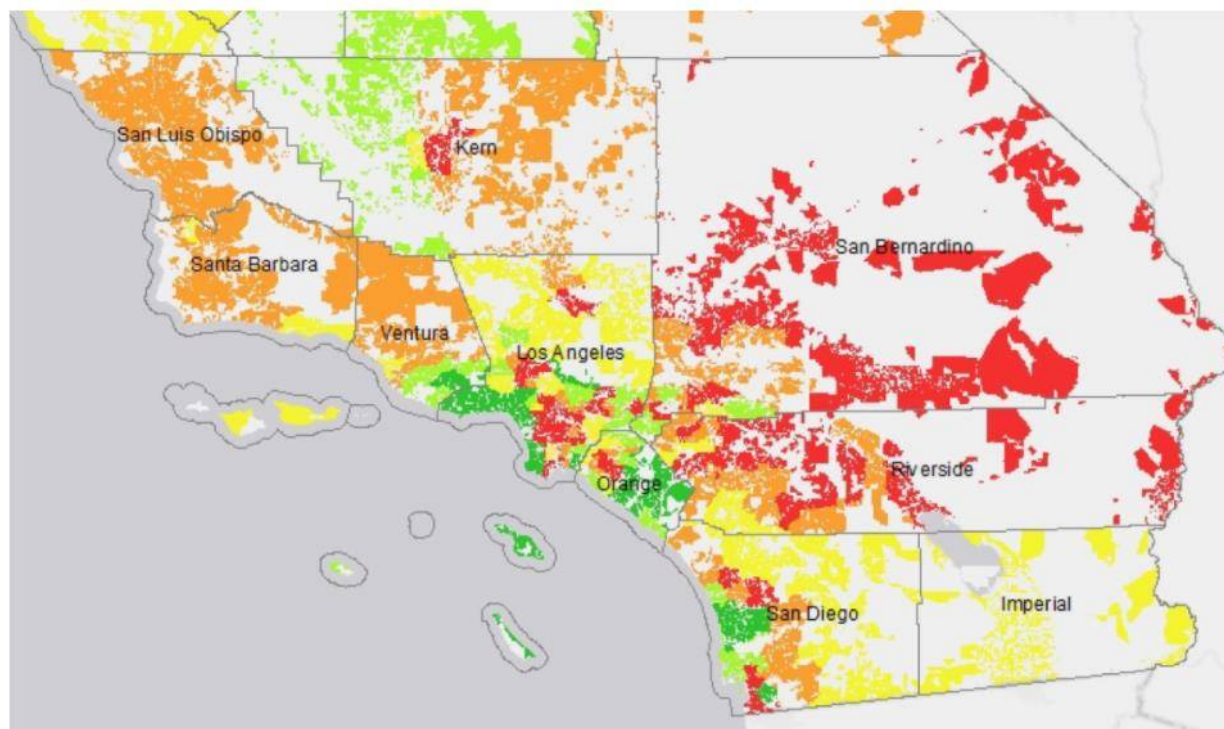
¹⁰ State of California Employment Development Department. Accessed October 2020.

<https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/LocalAreaProfileComQSResults.asp?menuChoice=localAreaCom&selectedindex=36&area1=0604000065&countyName=&area2=0604000071&countyName=&area3=0601000000&countyName=&submitIt=Compare+Areas>

¹¹ State of California Employment Development Department. Accessed October 2020.

<https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/LocalAreaProfileComQSResults.asp?menuChoice=localAreaCom&selectedindex=36&area1=0604000065&countyName=&area2=0604000071&countyName=&area3=0601000000&countyName=&submitIt=Compare+Areas>

¹² Lansner, Jonathan. Orange County Register. (April 17, 2020). Riverside County workers at highest risk for coronavirus-related layoff, by this math. Available [online](#). Accessed November 2020.



Map shows job-loss risk, from highest (red) to lowest (green). (Source: Economic Roundtable)

Figure 4-7. Job Loss Risk in the Inland Empire due to the COVID-19 pandemic¹³

Research shows that prior to 2020, the Inland Empire region had a deficit in well-paying jobs and job pathways to success, and that this deficit disproportionately affects minorities and marginalized communities. The Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program’s report from early 2019 found that the Inland Empire faced a deficit of roughly 347,500 “good or promising jobs,” meaning employment that can sustain a family or a position that will lead to another job that can sustain a family.¹⁴

According to the California Advanced Energy Employment Survey, in 2015 the Inland Empire lagged behind other regions in the share of advanced energy jobs as a percentage of total jobs.¹⁵ The Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research determined that the level of jobs available compared to the number of individuals trained locally in the community colleges is large (see Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2). This is indicative of the challenges the Inland Empire has faced in accessing education and training needed to grow their advanced energy economy and workforce. This could also be a result of the region being underserved in utility energy efficiency programs that would bring projects and incentive dollars to the region, resulting in jobs for energy efficiency-related construction trades. The construction and utilities sectors represent seven percent of the Inland Empire’s total jobs, but they include 17 percent of

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Advancing Opportunity in California’s Inland Empire, by Chad Shearer, Isha Shah, and Marek Gootman. Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings. February 2019. Available at: <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Full-Report-Opportunity-Industries-Inland-California-Final-Shearer-Shah-Gootman.pdf> Accessed October 2020. p.6.

¹⁵ Advanced Energy Jobs in California: Results of the 2016 California Advanced Energy Employment Survey. Advanced Energy Economy, 2016. p. 16

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its family-sustaining jobs and four percent of promising jobs for workers with less than a four-year college education.¹⁶

Table 4-3. Employment in Energy Efficiency, 2015 ¹⁷

Region	Population	Advanced Energy Jobs	Total Jobs	% of Total Jobs
Southern California	17,635,918	229,153	8,145,109	2.8%
Inland Empire	4,693,171	40,377	1,531,663	2.6%
Central Coast	1,504,111	20,138	655,819	3.1%
Greater San Francisco Bay	7,161,311	113,020	3,750,379	3.0%
Greater Sacramento	1,896,552	30,399	832,042	3.7%
Rest of California	6,609,205	74,616	2,396,978	3.1%
California Total	39,500,268	507,703	17,311,990	2.9%

In its market-building strategy, I-REN will work with industry stakeholders in the region to identify and support the development of green workforce pathways. There are many organizations already working toward individual goals related to job placement-- WIBs, economic development departments, and others. Rather than duplicating their efforts, I-REN can serve as a facilitator to bring those organizations together and ensure that advanced energy and energy efficiency jobs are part of the focus in the region.

I-REN will also leverage its existing relationships with the building industry to help connect workforce advocates and employers. By convening and collaborating with these stakeholders I-REN's market-building initiatives will help illuminate the pathways for job seekers in the region to find advantageous employment to sustain their families and build careers in energy efficiency and advanced energy.

Major Trends

Unprecedented unemployment and economic contraction are the most significant trends affecting the WE&T sector, and the extent and depth of these challenges are major unknowns. As the pandemic and ensuing economic crisis continue to unfold, I-REN's WE&T initiatives and the cross-cutting activities proposed for the Public Sector and C&S will have an important role to play in guiding the region's job seekers and employers through current and future obstacles and opportunities.

¹⁶ Advancing Opportunity in California's Inland Empire, by Chad Shearer, Isha Shah, and Marek Gootman. Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings. February 2019. Available at: <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Full-Report-Opportunity-Industries-Inland-California-Final-Shearer-Shah-Gootman.pdf> Accessed October 2020. p. 37

¹⁷ Ibid.

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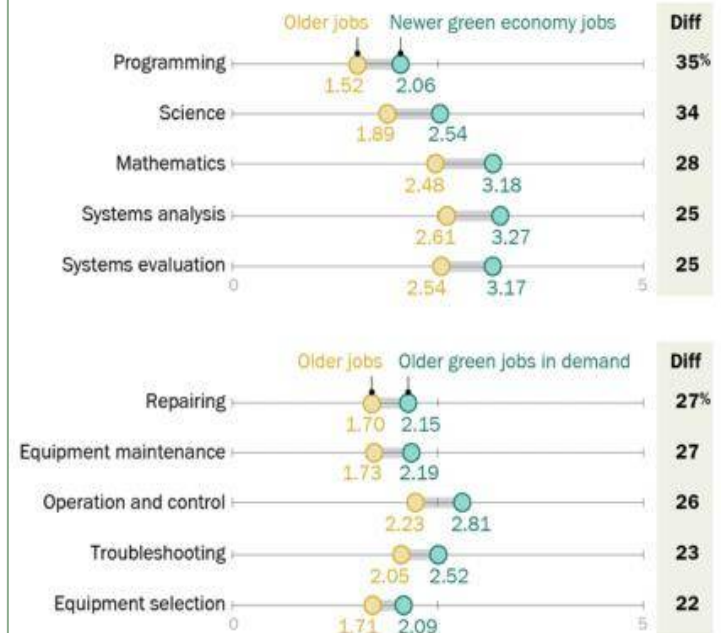
Other trends and issues that may affect I-REN's WE&T community include the following:

- Increasing the diversity of the energy efficiency workforce, including gender and race diversity, is essential to create greater equity and to meet the needs of the growing industry.
- Closing the skills gap and increasing the capabilities of the workforce to perform increasingly higher levels of advance building and technical building is fundamental to this industry and requires better coordination between elementary school and secondary school curriculum.
- Soft skills development has potential to increase the ability of the building industry to innovate business models, work and communicate effectively with customers, and be more resilient.
- The possibility of a "Green New Deal" and increased need and desire to address and adapt to climate change.
- Increased levels of certifications, particularly Building Performance Institute BPI, and similar.

Of these trends one of the most important is the need to increase the workforce's technical and analytical capabilities. Figure 4-8 illustrates how new green jobs require a higher level of analytical skills. As energy efficiency becomes more connected to advanced techniques, and complex modeling tools, the workforce needs to be better at using these skills.

In the green economy, newer jobs require more analytical skills, but older green jobs need more mechanical skills

Average importance ratings of selected skills in older jobs overall and in green economy jobs, both newer and older, on a scale from 1 (not important) to 5 (extremely important)



Note: "Older" jobs are 820 jobs that are not identified as "new and emerging" in the O*NET data. "Newer green economy" jobs are 71 jobs classified as both green and new and emerging in the O*NET. "Older green jobs" in demand are 64 occupations classified as "green increased demand" jobs. The skills shown are those with the five greatest percentage differences between the jobs that are compared. Differences shown are statistically significant at the 90% level of confidence.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of O*NET (Version 24.2).

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Figure 4-8. Green Economy Job Skills

Kochhar, Rakesh, "New, emerging jobs and the green economy are boosting demand for analytical skills," Pew Research Center

Intervention Strategies and Objectives

In its approach to serving the WE&T sector, I-REN is guided by an overarching goal:

Goal 2: Ensure there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors.

The primary role of I-REN is to ensure workforce training and education programs in the Inland Empire are aware of emerging technologies and changing production processes related to energy efficiency and advanced energy, and to work with trade associations and training partners to assess new skill sets that arise from these changes in the industry. I-REN's WE&T sector strategies are designed to expand the skills and capacity for the local workforce to do energy efficiency work, by partnering with local education providers to deliver targeted training and facilitate pathways to high-road jobs in energy efficiency-related occupations. This effort will identify and address gaps in the existing marketplace in the region, using best practices and existing studies as well as industry engagement. Through these initiatives I-REN will coordinate with other training providers to enable a better trained energy efficiency workforce in Riverside and San Bernardino counties to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals in the region.

Table 4-4. Intervention Strategies, Tactics, and Objectives

	Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Objective
Local training for the existing workforce	S2.1 Establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to deliver targeted, equitable, and relevant energy efficiency training for contractors and industry.	T2.1.1 Assess training opportunities available in the region. T2.1.2 Offer “train the trainer” support to providers on energy efficiency topics and trends. Encourage providers to focus on the needs of the local market. T2.1.3 Facilitate the development of multiple sites/delivery mechanisms for contractor and industry training programs.	<i>Create a robust local network of training programs that increase capacity and knowledge related to energy efficiency in the building industry.</i>
Developing the region's new green workforce	S2.2 Facilitate industry engagement and development of job pathways to identify demand and jobs for a trained workforce.	T2.2.1 Convene and engage partners and organizations to define and establish a green workforce. T2.2.2 Reinforce pathways from high school, trade schools, and colleges into jobs in the energy efficiency workforce, in collaboration with established community partners. T2.2.3 Facilitate identifying opportunities for building companies and local workforce partners to network and connect.	<i>Increase the number of skilled energy efficiency workers in the region.</i>

Approach to Overcoming Barriers

I-REN's intervention strategies are designed to overcome the problems and barriers described in Table 4-5, with tactics and activities to achieve the overarching goal of ensuring there is a trained workforce to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals in the region.

As indicated in the initial market analysis presented above, there is a gap between the demand and supply of existing trades people to provide energy efficiency services in the I-REN service territory. For contractors looking to expand their skills, career advancement and access to high-road jobs, the pathways for obtaining additional certifications can be complicated, costly, and limited by timing or distance.

Table 4-5. Barriers and Strategies for I-REN WE&T Sector

Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies & Tactics
When employers are hiring for skilled positions in advanced energy and energy efficiency, they can't find people to hire.	Inability to find and retain skilled and qualified workers for the demand.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1 S2.2
Codes and standards compliance and energy efficiency programs require certain certifications and qualifications for builders to participate.	A limited number of builders in the region have the required certifications and qualifications.	Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1
Energy efficiency and advanced energy projects and programs require qualifications that the local workforce does not have.	Lack of qualified workforce in Riverside/San Bernardino counties, especially in the more remote areas.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities in collaboration with WIBs to upskill the workforce.	S2.1 S2.2
Job seekers cannot find jobs in energy efficiency and advanced energy.	Lack of job opportunities in energy efficiency and advanced energy in the region.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Identify and illuminate the pathways to energy efficiency and advanced energy jobs.	S2.2

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Problem	Barriers	Solutions	Strategies & Tactics
Contractors aren't aware of energy efficiency projects, or they cannot or choose not to perform this work.	Lack of interest or knowledge of the opportunities and benefits of energy efficiency projects.	Foster connections between workforce and industry. Promote relevant training opportunities to upskill the workforce. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1 S2.2
Training is too far away and is offered infrequently or scheduled during work hours when it's inconvenient for contractors to attend. Also, existing training may be irrelevant to contractors or local projects' needs.	Training opportunities' availability and location pose challenges for contractors to be able to attend and are not designed for the particular needs of the local market.	Promote relevant training opportunities to upskill the workforce. Improve access to training by increasing the number of sites and delivery mechanisms. Collaborate with employers to provide continuing education for professional development and employee retention.	S2.1

Strategy 2.1 Establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to deliver targeted, equitable, and relevant energy efficiency training for contractors and other industry stakeholders.

Objective: Create a robust local network of training programs that increase capacity and knowledge related to energy efficiency in the building industry.

Tactic 2.1.1: Assess training opportunities available in the region

I-REN will employ rigorous data collection to assess the training offerings in the region. This effort is crucial for informing a plan of action that will address gaps, build on promising opportunities, and avoid duplication of effort. This exercise also helps establish connections or build on existing partnerships among regional stakeholders. I-REN will examine the training marketplace through multiple lenses:

- **Stakeholders:** Who are the organizations currently providing training in the region? Who are the other organizations or entities that guide workers or employers to training providers? What support will workers need after completing a training program?
- **Content:** What topics, technologies, and skills are covered in currently available training? Are they appropriate for the needs of local employers? Are they appropriate for meeting the requirements of energy efficiency projects in the region?
- **Modalities:** How is training delivered? Modalities could include in-person classroom training, workplace training sponsored by an employer, field training at a project location, online classes or on-demand self-paced offerings, etc.
- **Metrics:** What metrics need to be tracked to ensure that trainings are effective? What impact do trainings have on job placement and access to high-road jobs? What tools and instruments have been developed to track student progress?
- **Geography:** For in-person training, where in the region are these trainings offered? When these training opportunities are mapped to population centers and locations of energy efficiency project activity in the region, do they overlap and where are the gaps? How far do participants have to travel to attend?
- **Equity:** Are underserved communities, DACs, tribes, and other marginalized groups able to take advantage of training opportunities? If so, what are the strengths among current offerings? If not, what are the barriers to increasing participation?
- **Access:** What are the barriers to accessing and hosting training, especially for disadvantaged workers? What are the costs for participants, employers, and providers? What are the knowledge thresholds or prerequisites? What is the timing of classroom training sessions? For online training, are there barriers associated with access to technology, e.g. are online offerings mobile-friendly or PC-required? What policies need to be implemented to ensure the local workforce has access to training that lead to high-road jobs.
- **Program and market needs:** What are the programs that will be offered by IOUs or other PAs that require specific skills? Are there opportunities to connect directly to active or planned programs to enhance the feasibility of the training for individuals? What energy-efficiency career pathways have been established for workers in the region?

Implementing this assessment may involve but not be limited to the following activities:

- Collaboration with stakeholders to design and deploy an effective survey instrument, via an online survey platform already utilized by I-REN.
- Additional in-depth phone interviews as needed to survey key decision makers and/or to fill identified educational, program, and policy gaps in response data.
- Review of secondary data sources obtained in collaboration with stakeholders.
- Compilation of results and preparation of report materials for sharing with stakeholders.
- Analysis of results, in cooperation with stakeholders, to inform program planning and EM&V.

Tactic 2.1.2: Offer “train the trainer” support to providers on energy efficiency topics and trends. Encourage providers to focus on the needs of the local market.

Based on the information gathered in Tactic 2.1.1, I-REN will collaborate with training providers and the IOUs to address gaps in educational offerings and determine the most effective way to bridge those gaps in the region. I-REN can also be a facilitator to ensure training opportunities are aligned with State energy efficiency goals including those outlined in SB 350 regarding doubling energy efficiency savings by 2030, along with policies and labor standards that support local workforce development.

One area of particular interest to I-REN is HVAC installation, especially due to the Inland Empire’s high cooling load. I-REN can work with existing educational providers to focus curriculum on advanced training for existing HVAC contractors. This “upskill” training would help them acquire advanced technical knowledge to support them in earning higher wages. Content could include but would not be limited to beyond code, smart sizing, and advanced building science skills.

In order to position the training providers to provide this advanced content, I-REN can provide “train the trainer” educational support. Through their work with both the public and private sectors the I-REN governing agencies bring connections to professionals in various trades who can lend their expertise to this effort.

I-REN can work with providers to develop and/or tailor content around energy efficiency topics and trends including but not limited to the following:

- Mechanical HVAC basics
- Passive house and zero net carbon/energy
- Heat pump water heaters, and other electrification measures
- Certified Energy Manager (CEM)
- Operations and facilities management
- Building Performance Institute (BPI) trainings
- Codes training including solar and battery installation and smart energy systems
- Building Envelope sealing (duct blower tests, insulation/radiant barrier checks, etc.)
- HERS and CHEERS certifications

Tactic 2.1.3: Facilitate the development of multiple sites/delivery mechanisms for contractor and industry training programs.

In a service territory as expansive as the Inland Empire, expanding the number of training sites and promoting multiple delivery mechanisms are crucial for improving access to workforce education. The data collected in Tactic 2.1.1 will inform I-REN's plans for this effort. Based on identified areas of need, I-REN will work with providers to develop approaches to expand training opportunities in the region.

Significant barriers exist for training providers in hosting in-person training in far-flung rural areas. If they offer a training event and attendance is lacking, providers are discouraged from serving that area in the future. I-REN can help providers identify underserved areas with a significant population that could benefit from training, and I-REN can also facilitate cooperation among other utilities and stakeholders to co-sponsor events. For example, I-REN is already in conversation with SoCalGas about collaborating to bring training opportunities to the region. Through co-sponsorship and I-REN's extensive network of connections with local governments, I-REN can help promote training events with marketing and outreach to increase awareness and encourage participation.

I-REN can also provide outreach to employers to support decision-making around onsite training in the workplace or hands-on field training for employees. Workplace training shows the employer's support for professional development and can aid in employee retention, while also improving the company's ability to take on energy efficiency projects that require highly skilled work. On-the-job training can also provide workers the opportunity to receive pay while being trained.

Industry stakeholders have asserted that hands-on training, such as the California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP), is preferred.¹⁸ I-REN is in contact with CALCTP to explore possibilities for partnering to offer training in the region. CALCTP certifies electricians in advanced lighting controls and offers one of the two approved Acceptance Testing Technicians training programs. They are a key collaborator for both WE&T and cross-cutting activities in support of I-REN's C&S initiatives. For areas of the region where in-person training is challenging for cost reasons or limited participation numbers, I-REN will work with local stakeholders and employers to assess the applicability of online training options for supplementing local training. I-REN can recommend regionally appropriate training to pursue and assist with messaging and outreach to guide participants.

¹⁸ Opinion Dynamics. PY2013-2014 California Statewide Workforce Education and Training Program Contractor Training Market Characterization. June 2016. P.6

Strategy 2.2 Facilitate industry engagement and development of job pathways to identify demand and jobs for a trained workforce.

Objective: Increase the number of skilled energy efficiency workers in the region

Tactic 2.2.1: Convene and engage partners and organizations to define and establish a green workforce.

To define and foster the development of a green workforce in the Inland Empire, a collaborative relationship-based approach is crucial to success.

One of I-REN's greatest strengths is its engaged audience of stakeholders, described in Table 4-6. This network will form the foundation for convening partners and organizations who are members of the WE&T community. This could include but may not be limited to local government agencies; local and regional building industry professionals; WIBs and job placement organizations; labor unions; WE&T providers and educational institutions; and many others. I-REN can serve as a facilitator to lead the process of collaborating with key stakeholders on the topic of WE&T and the region's green workforce.

As part of its established committee structure, I-REN regularly engages with leaders in both the public sector and private industry. In establishing what the green workforce means to the Inland Empire, it will be important to consider the green job opportunities within cross-cutting areas such as the Public Sector and C&S community. For example, to maximize the benefits of energy efficiency in the region, local governments have a need for well-trained facility managers in publicly owned buildings, and knowledgeable permitting staff in building departments. Similarly, local and regional contractors and other members of the building community have a need for skilled workers to implement efficient construction and equipment installation practices.

Through this engagement tactic I-REN can gain valuable insight into each entity's role in this work, while creating connections between stakeholders and fostering a collective vision and mission for developing the Inland Empire's green workforce.

This important exercise will examine questions and themes including but not limited to the following:

- What are the advanced energy and energy efficiency jobs in the region?
- How do job seekers find these jobs?
- Do these jobs lead to career advancement?
- Who are the organizations supporting job seekers and where do they operate?
- What support services are in demand?
- What skills and trades do employers look for in hiring for these positions?
- Which skills are lacking in the current market?
- Codes and standards compliance and enforcement
- Public Sector facility management
- Energy efficiency resource program participation

Tactic 2.2.2: Reinforce pathways from high school, trade schools, and colleges into jobs in the energy efficiency workforce, in collaboration with established community partners.

I-REN will examine the information gathered from Tactic 2.1.1 and Tactic 2.2.1 and work with established community partners to identify the pathways that a student job seeker might follow in order to join the energy efficiency or advanced energy workforce.

“Journey mapping” is a technique that can be used to gain insight into the steps a student would take as they explore their options for employment. I-REN can work with community partners to establish specific and detailed example profiles of job seekers to use in this process. Examining these profiles and following the individual’s journey can help I-REN and its partners to discover the resources that are available and the barriers that are encountered by the types of individuals this WE&T tactic will support.

The collaborative journey mapping process can be especially helpful in learning about the lived experience of students from DACs and underserved communities as they seek to enter the workforce, and the unique challenges they face. I-REN’s key partners for this effort are experts in advocating for the communities they serve. In many cases they may have engaged in this type of journey mapping activity and can leverage that insight for this effort.

As the facilitator, I-REN’s role is to listen first, learn from the community experts, and collaborate to make measurable improvements. I-REN can identify synergies between partners and encourage cooperation in developing messaging that will illuminate the identified pathways for students in various situations. I-REN can then use its resources and extensive reach to deliver this messaging across the region, through its 52 local government partners and private industry connections. I-REN can also leverage its RENterns initiative (described at right) as a pathway for students to enter the workforce in a role supporting local governments’ energy efficiency and sustainability projects.

For this tactic I-REN will bring key partners to the table including but not limited to:

- Riverside County Workforce Development Board
- San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board
- California Youth Energy Services
- High schools in Riverside and San Bernardino counties
- Inland Empire/Desert Regional Consortium
- Youth development programs
- Community colleges
- Trade Schools
- Universities

RENterns: A Pathway to Advanced Energy Education & Employment

In a cross-cutting activity from the Public Sector chapter, I-REN plans to provide internship opportunities for “RENterns” to support local government agencies with energy efficiency projects, climate action planning, energy benchmarking, and other sustainability initiatives.

This initiative highlights the synergies between I-REN’s Public Sector and WE&T activities. RENterns will help build capacity within local governments to complete energy efficiency projects while gaining job skills for future careers in advanced energy.

The idea of RENterns originates from WRCOG’s successful Public Service Fellowship program, which has trained more than 75 Fellows over five years. The Fellowship Program has led to alumni being hired in the region, while other alumni use their experiences in the program to trailblaze new professional development opportunities like graduate school.

Tactic 2.2.3: Facilitate identifying opportunities for building companies and local workforce partners to network and connect.

Building on the groundwork of relationships and market insights from Tactic 2.2.1, I-REN can create opportunities for networking and connection among employers, workforce partners, the building industry, and the community, as appropriate. In the short-term this may be limited to online and virtual environments but will expand when possible to in-person and hybrid events.

More populous areas of the I-REN territory may have an established history of green job fairs and other events that could be leveraged to encourage these connections. I-REN can work with organizers to emphasize green jobs within the scope of larger events, or to plan new events focused on advanced energy and energy efficiency. I-REN can also provide outreach assistance to ensure participation by key stakeholders.

Rural areas and smaller job markets will especially benefit from I-REN's support for WE&T networking events. These areas may not have any existing infrastructure for job fairs or similar events. If they do, the events may not be tailored to advanced energy and energy efficiency. I-REN can work with local partners to develop event concepts, which could include targeted invitation-only mixers with a smaller crowd, or job fairs that are open to the public.

I-REN brings a wealth of experience in developing, promoting, and hosting events for local communities. In its committee work, the I-REN governing agencies are already engaged with many of the region's WE&T market actors. Regional construction firms regularly attend the I-REN governing agencies' committee meetings, as do public sector employers such as city planners and building departments. I-REN's support for WE&T networking events offers an excellent opportunity to create connections across I-REN's Public Sector and C&S initiatives.

In addition, the I-REN governing agencies are experienced in working collaboratively with other PAs to host regional events and would leverage those connections to co-sponsor and conduct outreach and marketing to promote WE&T networking events.

Anticipated Programs

I-REN anticipates offering two non-resource programs to provide short and mid-term support for training and educating the regional workforce to realize energy efficiency savings goals for the residential and commercial markets. Those programs include but are not limited to the following:

- Training and Education – establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to assess the training resources available in the region, offer “train the trainer” support to providers on energy efficiency topics and trends with a focus on the needs of the local market, and develop sites and delivery mechanisms to help ensure equitable access to training.
- Workforce Development – facilitate industry engagement and develop job pathways by convening local partners in the community, reinforcing pathways from schools into jobs in the energy efficiency workforce, and encouraging connections between industry and workforce development organizations.

WE&T Sector | Essential Program Elements



Evolving Approach

As a new REN, I-REN will coordinate with existing RENs doing this work to identify and build on best practices and build upon the work currently underway through the COGs and local government partnerships. I-REN will implement the strategies outlined here in collaboration with the key partners described in the section that follows. Based on EM&V and on monitoring progress toward performance metrics through the near and mid-term activities, I-REN will make adjustments to strategies for future implementation beyond the 2021-2025 timeline.

Leveraging I-REN's Existing Key Partners

I-REN's governing agencies have extensive networks of existing partners that will be important for collaborating on WE&T initiatives, and their work with local governments at the city and county level offer opportunities for cross-cutting activities with I-REN's proposed work in the Public Sector and C&S. I-REN is also building partnerships with local community colleges, local universities, and local workforce investment boards (WIBs) to establish a comprehensive network of WE&T offerings.

The following table shows relevant examples of the I-REN governing agencies' experience working with key partners in the region. I-REN will build on its existing relationships to include additional key partners representing all market actor segments as described earlier in the chapter (section entitled "Potential Partners").

Table 4-6. I-REN's Key Partnerships & Collaboration Experience in the WE&T Sector

Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Collaboration
Local Universities: Cal State San Bernardino UC Riverside	Through the 10-year Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP) local government partnership, CVAG partnered with the local universities to hold multiple Title 24 training classes, which were offered to local building contractors, architects, and building and safety officials. CVAG has also partnered with the Palm Springs campus of UC Riverside to host codes and standards trainings in partnership with the IOUs and Energy Code ACE.
Local Community Colleges: College of the Desert	CVAG staff is part of a committee with College of the Desert to offer feedback and expertise in the creation and development of their workforce & training certification program, which allows students to take classes to become trained in installation and repair on systems such as HVAC, environmental management systems and more.
Middle Schools and High Schools	CVAG has hosted and presented at various sustainability expos which were held for hundreds of middle school and high school kids to learn about various programs and measures related to energy efficiency and recycling.
Trade associations, advocacy and stakeholder groups, and other industry organizations	Through I-REN's stakeholder coordination work and presentations to CAEECC, I-REN gained support and offers of assistance from groups such as the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), California Labor Management Cooperation Committee, and the local Sheet Metal Workers union. These partners will be important for collaboration on I-REN's goal to improve the equity of WE&T opportunities for DAC, rural, underserved, and other vulnerable communities. The Riverside Chapter of the Building Industry Association (BIA) has been involved with WRCOG's TUMF Program with feedback on Transportation Program growth and is a potential partner for outreach and educational workshops. WRCOG leadership also brings connections to the USGBC Inland Empire Chapter (USGBC-IE), having previously served on the board.

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Key Partners	Relevant Examples of Collaboration
Employers, such as engineering, building, architecture, and construction-related firms	WRCOG hosts committee meetings where local and regional building firms are active participants. CVAG has hosted bus tours to various energy efficiency facilities to increase awareness of environmental and energy saving methods used by these facilities, including tours to an Anaerobic Digestion facility and a Zero Net Energy development. CVAG administers a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program and has service agreements with private firms to service CVAG's jurisdiction. As the Transportation Authority for the County of San Bernardino region, SBCOG brings relationships with numerous building and construction industry related firms. SBCOG brings connections to engineering, building, and construction firms through WTS International, an industry organization dedicated to advancing equity and access for women in the transportation industry, where a member of SBCOG's I-REN leadership team previously served as president of the Inland Empire chapter. This connection aligns with I-REN's goal to expand equity of WE&T opportunities in the region. SBCOG also works with its 24 cities and hundreds of employer sites throughout the region to promote ridesharing, reduce congestion and help improve air quality.
Other Program Administrators	SBCOG has experience conducting outreach as part of the San Bernardino Regional Energy Partnership with SCE and SoCalGas, working closely with 13 cities. CVAG partnered with SCE, SoCalGas, and Energy Code ACE to host codes and standards trainings at UC Riverside's Palm Springs campus. Through its stakeholder coordination work, I-REN has continued to build working relationships with SCE and SoCalGas, as well as other RENs such as SoCalREN and BayREN.
Local Governments	The three I-REN governing agencies have all had or currently have LG partnerships – with various connections including City Manager, Planning, local utilities. They bring multiple local experts into the conversation on a monthly/quarterly basis. WRCOG has committee structures engaged with planning directors and public work directors. They work with building department decision-makers and coordinate with permit technicians and all other staff face to face. CVAG has hosted many annual Energy & Water summits, which were attended by over 500 participants, in order to educate and update about relevant programs, energy efficient programs, and strategies from like-minded agencies. SBCOG Cities participated in a county-wide ZEV Readiness and Implementation Plan funded through the CEC. The Climate Resiliency Study "Resilient IE" is currently underway, which includes the participation of all 24 cities in San Bernardino County.

Budget and Metrics

Budget

The budget shown in Table 4-7 will facilitate the forecasted short and mid-term metrics targets with the expectation that increased participation and project volume is achieved as initial efforts scale and gain traction.

Table 4-7. Workforce Education & Training Budget

Budget (\$)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Administration	231,221	225,329	239,343	243,716	267,465
Marketing and outreach	138,732	135,198	143,606	146,230	160,479
Direct implementation - non incentive	1,942,255	1,892,768	2,010,477	2,047,218	2,246,706
Direct implementation - incentives	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,312,208	2,253,295	2,393,426	2,437,164	2,674,650

Metrics

Based on the intervention strategies I-REN developed for WE&T, the following metrics are proposed to track program performance.

Table 4-8. Program Performance Metrics

Workforce Education and Training					
Metric	Baseline Year	Short Term Target 2021	Short Term Target 2022	Short Term Target 2023	Mid Term Target (2024-2025)
Number of collaborations by Business Plan sector to jointly develop or share training materials or resources.	2021	TBD	4	8	12
Number of participants by sector	N/A	TBD	90	120	150
Percent of participation relative to eligible target population for curriculum	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of total WE&T training program participants that meet the definition of disadvantaged worker.	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Percent of incentive dollars spent on contracts* with a demonstrated commitment to provide career pathways to disadvantaged workers	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Number Career & Workforce Readiness (CWR) participants who have been employed for 12 months after receiving the training	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD

Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities

Marketing, Education & Outreach

The I-REN governing agencies serve as a trusted voice and advocate for local communities within their two counties. They can use this position to coordinate Marketing, Education and Outreach (ME&O) activities to promote workforce education and training in the region. I-REN can serve as a facilitator for coordination with other PAs and statewide programs and initiatives ME&O activities.

Effective marketing and outreach activities are fundamentally important to I-REN’s strategies for WE&T. The I-REN governing agencies bring in-house capacity to design, develop, and deploy creative marketing content for various channels, from printed materials and website content to email communicators, social media, videos, and podcasts. They are skilled at designing well-branded promotional campaigns to engage their local government audiences.

I-REN anticipates its WE&T-related marketing could include but would not be limited to the following activities, in alignment with the proposed intervention strategies and tactics.

Table 4-9. Marketing Activities for I-REN WE&T Sector

Intervention Strategy	Tactic	Marketing Activities
S2.1 Establish local partnerships with existing and potential training providers in the region to deliver targeted, equitable, and relevant energy efficiency training for contractors and industry.	T2.1.1 Assess training opportunities available in the region. T2.1.2 Offer “train the trainer” support to providers on energy efficiency topics and trends. Encourage providers to focus on the needs of the local market. T2.1.3 Facilitate the development of multiple sites/delivery mechanisms for contractor and industry training programs.	<i>Develop and deploy effective survey instruments to gather data on current training opportunities.</i> <i>Collaborate with training providers and employers to design and deliver effective messaging to increase awareness and encourage participation in training events.</i> <i>Conduct relationship building meetings and outreach events - online and in person.</i>
S2.2 Facilitate industry engagement and development of job pathways to identify demand and jobs for a trained workforce.	T2.2.1 Convene and engage partners and organizations to define and establish a green workforce. T2.2.2 Reinforce pathways from high school, trade schools, and colleges into jobs in the energy efficiency workforce, in collaboration with established community partners. T2.2.3 Facilitate identifying opportunities for building companies and local workforce partners to network and connect.	<i>Develop and deploy materials to promote stakeholder events through I-REN governing agencies’ existing marketing channels, through local government partnerships, and through building industry communication networks.</i> <i>Develop and deploy messaging in collaboration with educational and workforce partners to illuminate the green job pathways in the region.</i>

Codes & Standards

I-REN's WE&T initiatives offer an important cross-cutting opportunity to support C&S. I-REN's approach to serving the C&S sector focuses heavily on training for local building department staff, to help those individuals perform their jobs and build capacity in their departments to better enforce codes and standards. This is significant for WE&T as it helps build a skilled workforce in some of the rural jurisdictions with less resources in their local building departments.

I-REN's service territory also includes several relatively new cities incorporated in recent years; these cities are building their local capacity and establishing their infrastructure. They will benefit from training and education for their local government employees.

Another of I-REN's cross-cutting strategies for both WE&T and C&S involves outreach to building professionals in the private sector, contributing to their professional development and supporting the development of a capable regional workforce trained in advanced energy efficient building practices.

By aligning its C&S training activities and WE&T activities, I-REN can help to maximize benefits to the region's workforce, local governments, and building professionals.

EM&V Considerations

The recently-published report from the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) "Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030" (referred to herein as "June 2020 CWDB report") highlights the importance of data collection, tracking and evaluation studies to develop beneficial WE&T initiatives and improve them over time.¹⁹ Accordingly, for its WE&T cross-cutting sector programs, I-REN proposes data collection and identifies an anticipated study need to support both external EM&V by the CPUC and internal research and program development activities.

As a new REN, I-REN is interested in collaborating with the CPUC, CEC, Energy Division, other PAs, and the WE&T community to support statewide and regional efforts around WE&T EM&V Roadmaps and Plans. I-REN will collaborate with the CPUC and other stakeholders to ensure that data collection activities are embedded in C&S program design to capture the information necessary to meet evaluation requirements and also to help expand the understanding of REN program impacts in this cross-cutting sector.

Data Collection Needs

I-REN's data collection needs correspond to identified metrics and indicators, and the intervention strategies outlined for its WE&T sector programs. To support external EM&V activities, I-REN will collect data to keep the CPUC and stakeholders apprised of program progress. I-REN will work collaboratively with Energy Division staff to ensure data collection meets their needs, to enable evaluation that can:

- 1) inform the program selection process,

¹⁹ "Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030" California Workforce Development Board (CWDB). Prepared by the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education. June 2020. Available [online](#).

Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training

- 2) provide early feedback to program implementers,
- 3) produce impact evaluations at the end of the funding period, and
- 4) feed the planning process for future program cycles.²⁰

Data collection will also support I-REN's internal EM&V activities and inform the measuring of progress toward established program goals and targets, CPUC metrics and indicators, and PA determined value metrics. I-REN's value metrics emphasize equity and building workforce capacity.

Real-time program performance tracking enabled by data collection will support the delivery of timely feedback to implementers and/or program administration staff. This in turn will support continuous improvement and inform future program planning efforts. Table 4-10 shows the research questions and data collection needs I-REN has identified for its WE&T initiatives, in alignment with CPUC metrics and indicators and I-REN's internal goals and value metrics, and informed by the June 2020 CWDB report.

Table 4-10. I-REN Workforce Education & Training Sector Data Collection

Topic Focus	Research Questions/Data Collection Needs	EM&V Objective	Timeframe
WE&T regional characterization	- Who are the training providers, job placement partners, and other WE&T stakeholders? - What topics, technologies, and skills are covered in available training content? - How is training delivered? - Where are in-person trainings located, relative to Inland Empire population centers and demand? - Do DACs, tribes, and other underserved or vulnerable populations have equitable training opportunities? - What are the barriers to increased access and equity? - What job skills are needed to participate in EE programs offered by other Pas?	Understand the WE&T sector market and identify areas of highest need	Short-term
Depth of I-REN interventions	- How many 'train the trainer' or upskill trainings are conducted? - How many collaborations occur with other organizations to jointly develop or share training materials or resources? - How many partners and organizations are convened for green workforce leadership and engagement? - How many RENterns are placed in positions to support local governments? - How many RENterns go on to pursue further education or careers related to EE, advanced energy, climate resilience, and sustainability? - How are I-REN collaborations expanding WE&T access for workers from DACs, tribes, and other underserved or vulnerable populations?	Program performance tracking	Short-term/ Mid-term

²⁰ Energy Efficiency Policy Manual, version 6, April 2020, p.44.

I-REN's WE&T sector strategic interventions center on fostering partnerships and facilitating industry engagement rather than developing and delivering curriculum. However, additional EM&V efforts could include examining the feasibility of working with training providers to collect data on secondary effects of I-REN interventions. This could include collaborating with key partners to assess the feasibility of collecting and evaluating data to track key metrics identified in the June 2020 CWDB report:²¹

- Enrollees and number of graduates
- Attainment of industry-recognized credentials
- Job placement and job retention
- Initial wages and wage mobility over time

Anticipated Study Needs

The June 2020 CWDB report highlights the importance of identifying data collection and analysis methods and the resources to support them prior to making field investments. Accordingly, I-REN anticipates the need for an initial study to identify current resources as well as gaps and barriers in the I-REN region's WE&T sector. This effort aligns with the intervention strategy described in *Tactic 2.1.1: Assess training opportunities available in the region.*

The proposed study will assess the region's WE&T stakeholders as well as training content, modalities, geography, equity, access, and program and market needs. I-REN will use the information and analysis from this study to foster partnerships and develop targeted approaches to WE&T sector activities. This data will also inform ongoing data collection activities and help form baselines against which to measure program performance during deployment and ensure that ratepayer investments are used judiciously to benefit communities and workers with the greatest need.

I-REN anticipates collecting this data initially to gain near-term feedback, then repeating the assessment after a few years to examine program progress and make improvements for program delivery in the mid-term timeframe and beyond.

In addition to I-REN's proposed data collection and study activities, the recently-released Energy Division & Program Administrator Energy Efficiency EM&V Plan Version 10 for 2019 – 2021 includes multiple studies underway that could provide useful insights for I-REN to incorporate in its WE&T initiatives.²²

I-REN will review the results of these studies as they are made available and incorporate findings however is appropriate to enhance I-REN WE&T program design and delivery.

Coordination with other PAs

I-REN is in communication with other PAs operating in the region to identify areas of potential coordination for WE&T activities. I-REN will ensure its activities are differentiated and avoid duplication of effort, while maintaining cooperation with other PAs to improve access to relevant training opportunities across the I-REN counties.

²¹ "Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030" California Workforce Development Board (CWDB). Prepared by the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education. June 2020. Available [online](#).

²² Energy Division & Program Administrator Energy Efficiency Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Plan FINAL 2019 – 2021 Version 10. California Public Utilities Commission, Energy Division. December 30, 2020. Available [online](#).

Appendix A: CPUC Checklist

Table A-1. CPUC Checklist with I-REN Notes

Map to NRDC Compilation Document	Business Plan Element	I-REN Notes / Indicate Complete
New Requirements for BP Motion per D.19-12-021		Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary
	<i>Represent more than one LG</i>	About I-REN, page 1.4-1.6
	<i>Present BP proposal at CAEECC</i>	Regulatory Requirements, page 1.19
BP must contain per D.19-12-021		Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Appendices
	<i>New and Unique Value</i>	Providing Value, page 1.21
	<i>Governance Structure</i>	I-REN Organization, page 1.5
	<i>Letter of Commitment to Cooperate</i>	Appendix C: Letters of Commitment & Support
	<i>CAEECC & Other Stakeholder Feedback Resolution</i>	Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution
	<i>Energy Savings Targets</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
	<i>Goals & Metrics</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
	<i>Benefits & Costs (TRC, PACT)</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
REN Activities Criteria		Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary
	<i>Meet at least one of three</i>	Regulatory Requirements, page 1.19
Portfolio Summary		Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary
0	Executive Summary	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary
	<i>Company description</i>	About I-REN, page 1.4-1.6
	<i>Definition of market</i>	Definition of Market, page 1.7-1.14
	<i>Mission Statement</i>	I-REN Mission, page 1.3
	<i>Purpose of Business Plan</i>	Purpose of Business Plan, page 1.15
I.A.1, II.D.2	Overview	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary
	<i>About EE/DSM</i>	Addressed throughout Business Plan
	<i>CA Energy Needs</i>	Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs, page 1.17-1.18

Appendix A: CPUC Checklist

Map to NRDC Compilation Document	Business Plan Element	I-REN Notes / Indicate Complete
	<i>Regulatory Requirements</i>	Regulatory Requirements, page 1.19
	<i>Strategic Plan</i>	Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs, page 1.17-1.18
	<i>Legislation (e.g., AB 758, SB 350, AB 802, AB 793)</i>	Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs, page 1.17-1.18
	<i>IOUs/PAs/CPUC/etc. overall role</i>	Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26
I.A.2	<i>Broad socioeconomic and utility industry trends relevant to PA's EE programs (population, economics and markets, technology, environment/climate)</i>	Major Trends, page 1.23-1.25
I.B.1	<i>Vision (e.g., How PA thinks about and uses EE over next 10 years)</i>	I-REN Vision & Goals, page 1.6, and Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26
I.5	<i>Compare/contrast to past cycles</i>	Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26
I.B.2	Goals & Budget	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, 'Goals & Budget' Section
I.B.2 & I.C.2.a	<i>Energy Saving Goals</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
I.C.2.a	<i>Portfolio Budget (sector and portfolio level per xls checklist)</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
I.C.2.a, I.C.2.d	<i>Cost-effectiveness (sector and portfolio level per xls checklist)</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
I.C.2.b	<i>Explanation of Admin Budgets (e.g., Direct/Indirect Labor, Professional/Admin personnel)</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
I.C.2.c	<i>Explanation of accounting practices</i>	Goals & Budget, beginning page 1.27
I.C.3 and I.C.4	Intervention strategies (high level)	Ch. 1 Portfolio Summary, 'Intervention Strategies' Section
	<i>Overall issues/challenges/barriers</i>	Challenges & Barriers, page 1.34
	<i>High level summary of strategies and tools (e.g., AMI data, AB 802, procurement model, up/mid/downstream, etc.)</i>	Intervention Strategies, page 1.33
I.C.4; I.D	Solicitation plan	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, 'Solicitation Plan' Section
I.C.4	<i>Solicitation strategies/areas that could be SW</i>	Solicitation Plan, page 1.38
I.D; II.F	<i>Proposal for transitioning the majority of portfolios to be outsourced by the end of 2020.</i>	Solicitation Plan, page 1.38

Appendix A: CPUC Checklist

Map to NRDC Compilation Document	Business Plan Element	I-REN Notes / Indicate Complete
Sector Chapter (commercial, residential, public, agricultural, industrial, x-cutting)		Ch. 2: Public Sector, Ch. 3: Codes & Standards, and Ch. 4 Workforce Education & Training. See chapter subsections as indicated below.
II.A	Summary tables	
II.A	<i>Table with CE, TRC, PAC, emissions, savings, budget</i>	Sector Chapter: Budget and Metrics
I.C.7; II.E.1.b	<i>Metrics for sector</i>	Sector Chapter: Budget and Metrics
II.D	Market characterization (overview and market/gap and other analysis)	
II.D.1	<i>Electricity/NG</i>	Sector Chapter: Introduction/ Market Characterization
II.D.2	<i>State goals include acknowledgement of goals set by Strategic Plan, SB 350, AB758, guidance as appropriate)</i>	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs, page 1.17-1.18
II.D.3	<i>EE potential and goals</i>	Sector Chapter: Market Characterization
II.D.5	<i>Customer landscape (e.g., segments/subsegments, major end uses, participation rates, etc.)</i>	Sector Chapter: Market Characterization
II.D.6	<i>Major future trends that are key for the PA and its customers</i>	Sector Chapter: Major Trends
II.D.7	<i>Barriers to EE and other challenges to heightened EE (e.g., regulatory, market, data)</i>	Sector Chapter: Approach to Overcoming Barriers
II.2.a	Description of overarching approach to the sector	
	<i>Goals/strategies/approaches</i>	Sector Chapter: Introduction, Intervention Strategies and Objectives
I.C.6; I.D	<i>How portfolio meets Commission guidance</i>	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Regulatory Requirements, page 1.19; addressed throughout Business Plan
II.C	<i>Description of how this chapter addresses the performance challenges/barriers</i>	Sector Chapter: Approach to Overcoming Barriers
I.C.4 a-c	Intervention strategies (detailed)	
II.D.2.a; II.E.3	<i>What specific strategies are being pursued (e.g., near, mid, long AND existing, modified, new)</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives
I [cmt with excerpt]	<i>Why specific strategies were chosen (e.g., ID current weaknesses, best practices, or other rationale to support choice)</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives
II.E.1.a; II.E.4	<i>How approaches advance goals discussed above</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives
I.C.4; I.E; II.D.4	<i>How strategies use lessons learned from past cycles and EM&V</i>	Sector Chapter: EM&V Considerations; Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26

Appendix A: CPUC Checklist

Map to NRDC Compilation Document	Business Plan Element	I-REN Notes / Indicate Complete
I	<i>How will interventions support/augment current approaches or solve challenges</i>	Sector Chapter: Approach to Overcoming Barriers, Intervention Strategies and Objectives
II.D.2	<i>Explanation for how these strategies address legislative mandates from AB 802, SB350, and AB 793, as well as other Commission directives for this sector, including strategic plan.</i>	Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Supporting California's Energy Goals & Needs, page 1.17-1.18
I.C.4	<i>Future expectations for intervention strategies</i>	Sector Chapter: Evolving Approach; Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26
I.C.1; II.E.6	<i>Description of pilots</i>	Sector Chapter: Anticipated Programs
II.F	<i>Key Partners</i>	Sector Chapter: Key Partners
I.C.5; I.D; II.B; II.C	Compare/contrast to past cycles	Sector Chapter: Evolving Approach; Ch. 1: Portfolio Summary, Evolving from Past Cycles & I-REN's Role, page 1.26
	<i>Budget changes as appropriate</i>	N/A
	<i>Modification to sector strategies</i>	N/A
	Cross-cutting (sector chapters and ME&O)	
II.E.2; II.H, II.K	<i>Program Administrator marketing and integration with SW MEO as applicable</i>	Sector Chapter: Marketing, Education & Outreach
II.E.5; II.H	<i>Workforce, education, and training</i>	Sector Chapter: Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities
II.H	<i>Emerging Technologies</i>	N/A
II.H	<i>Codes & Standards</i>	Sector Chapter: Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities
II.G	Cross PA and Offering Coordination	
II.G	<i>How strategies are coordination among regional PAs</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives, Key Partners, Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities
II.G	<i>Proposal of statewide program administrator/approaches for this sector</i>	N/A
II.G	<i>How the sector strategies are coordinated with statewide program activities</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives, Key Partners, Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities
II.G	<i>How are strategies coordinated with other state agencies and initiatives (e.g., AB 758)</i>	Sector Chapter: Intervention Strategies and Objectives, Key Partners, Cross-Cutting & Coordinating Activities
II.I	EM&V Considerations (statement of needs)	
II.I	<i>Data collection needs</i>	Sector Chapter: EM&V Considerations
II.I	<i>Anticipated study needs</i>	Sector Chapter: EM&V Considerations

Appendix A: CPUC Checklist

Map to NRDC Compilation Document	Business Plan Element	I-REN Notes / Indicate Complete
II.J	Demand Response	N/A
ED Guidance (p.8)	<i>How EE measures use up-to-date DR enabling technologies to be "DR ready"</i>	N/A
ED Guidance (p.8)	<i>How duplication of costs for ME&O, site visits, etc. is avoided for dual-purpose technologies</i>	N/A
ED Guidance (p.9)	<i>How strategies facilitate customer understanding of peak load, cost, and opportunities to reduce</i>	N/A
II.K	Residential Rate Reform	N/A
ED Guidance (p.9)	<i>How BPs will help reduce load during TOU periods</i>	N/A
ED Guidance (p.9)	<i>How BP will diminish barriers to load reduction during TOU periods</i>	N/A
ED Guidance (p.9)	<i>How strategies will provide info to customers and/or provide a tool to show how program may impact customer energy usage during different TOU periods</i>	N/A
ED Guidance (p.9)	<i>How strategies will analyze whether a customer may experience greater savings by switching to a different, opt-in TOU rate</i>	N/A
ED guidance (p.9)	<i>ME&O re: rate reform</i>	N/A
II.L	Integrated Demand Side Resources	N/A
II.M	Zero-Emission Vehicles (EVs)	N/A
II.N	EnergySavings Assistance (Multi-family Focused)	N/A
Appendices		
	<i>Additional Customer Data</i>	N/A
	<i>Cited research</i>	Appendix B: Public Sector Market Analysis
	<i>CAEECC stakeholder input resolution</i>	Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

Appendix B: Public Sector Market Analysis

Measure Selection and Savings Methodology

To estimate the energy savings for the I-REN Public Sector resource program, measures were selected based on their statewide availability as well as their viability towards a broad range of implementation opportunities.

The following categories of measures were identified as having high potential for application to the Public Sector, based on the specific application criteria listed.

Table B-1. Public Sector Measure Categories

Measure Category	Energy End Use
Plug loads	Exercise machines, tools, computers, office equipment, refrigerators, food prep equipment
Standard lighting	Virtually all indoor spaces except for specialty lighting listed below
Whole-Building HVAC	Likely to have rooftop unit or similar approach to HVAC; med-large buildings; may be in addition to or in lieu of central plant
Mechanical shop	Equipment plug loads, pumps /compressors /hydraulics, possibly high ventilation demand
High bay lighting	Assembly spaces, gyms, warehouses
Specialty Outdoor Lighting	Large parking areas, athletic fields, stadiums
Significant plumbing installation	High number of plumbing fixtures and subsequent demand for hot and cold water. Gyms, assembly spaces, airports, jails and prisons, commercial kitchens, large offices, etc.
Central plant	Pumps, boilers, chillers/cooling water
Gas appliances	Cooking and/or water heating equipment
High water heating loads	boilers/steam generators, heated pools, showers, laundering, ware washing, cooking, spa/sauna
Cooling-dominated HVAC loads	Assembly spaces, gyms, offices (typically), classrooms (typically), commercial kitchens, etc.
Water pumps	Pool, water treatment station, agricultural irrigation operations, hot water recirculation
Laboratories	Wet or dry. Depending on use may have high loads for: ventilation/exhaust; space heating/cooling; refrigeration; plug loads; water heating/cooling. Other specialized loads may exist on case-by-case basis
Other specialty lighting	Theatrical lighting, greenhouses, others
Data Center	Dedicated server room for large data operations
High Exhaust or Ventilation Loads	Labs, industrial / commercial operations, some healthcare, etc.

Appendix B: Public Sector Market Analysis

Measure Category	Energy End Use
Process Loads from misc. equipment	Airport/jail security, airport baggage equipment, warehouse conveyances, etc.
Heating-dominated HVAC loads	Occupied spaces in CZs with seasonal heating
Water Heating Process Loads	For commercial / industrial use, distinct from water heating for restrooms /showers /pools
Process Cooling and Heating Loads	For commercial and industrial use.

Target implementation was then based on a market assessment of available target opportunities as well as implementation feasibility during the first few years of program implementation across a broad variety of facilities in the targeted area.

A broad measure mix was then assembled based on both implementation feasibility as well as energy savings yield for each of the previously mentioned categories, and year over year savings yield was computed based on implementation potential and target penetration.

Yearly projections reflect a gradual increase in program participation as well as a slight increase in implementation costs (2.2% based on average yearly inflation rate).

Appendix C: Letters of Commitment & Support

Over the last year I-REN has worked with Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas, and Southern California Regional Energy Network to identify ways to coordinate in the region and “minimize negative overlap that could lead to customer confusion or duplicative administrative costs.”¹

I-REN is proud to have received Letters of Commitment to Cooperate from Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas, and Southern California Regional Energy Network. In accordance with D.19-12-021, I-REN is filing these letters with its Business Plan application, to be followed by a Joint Cooperation Memo after business plan approval.

I-REN has also received numerous Letters of Support from cities, Riverside and San Bernardino county officials, Western Community Energy, and the Southern California Association of Governments. These letters are indicative of I-REN’s strong existing relationships in the region, built over many years through the work of WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG with the local jurisdictions they serve.

¹ D.19-12-021, p. 81, Findings of Fact paragraph 6.

Contents

Letters of Commitment to Cooperate from other Program Administrators:

- Southern California Edison (SCE)
- Southern California Gas (SoCalGas)
- Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN)

Letters of Support for I-REN:

- Regional, County, and other Organizations
 - Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
 - County of San Bernardino
 - County of Riverside Fourth District Supervisor
 - Western Community Energy
- WRCOG Member Cities
 - City of Banning
 - City of Canyon Lake
 - City of Eastvale
 - City of Jurupa Valley
 - City of Lake Elsinore
 - City of Menifee
 - City of Moreno Valley
 - City of Murrieta
 - City of Temecula
 - City of Wildomar
- CVAG Member Cities
 - City of Cathedral City
 - City of Indian Wells
 - City of Indio
 - City of La Quinta
 - City of Palm Springs
- SBCOG Member Jurisdictions
 - City of Chino
 - City of Chino Hills
 - City of Colton
 - City of Highland
 - City of Montclair
 - City of San Bernardino
 - City of Twentynine Palms
 - Town of Yucca Valley

Letters of Commitment to Cooperate

The following pages contain Letters of Commitment to Cooperate from Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas, and Southern California Regional Energy Network.

REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK
LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE
BETWEEN
INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (I-REN)
AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY (SCE)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate is to make the initial clarifying statement to highlight the cooperation between Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), as lead implementer of Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), and Southern California Edison Company (SCE).

BACKGROUND

I-REN, on behalf of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, San Bernardino Council of Governments, and WRCOG, hereby submits this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate pursuant I-REN's Business Plan proposal to the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

On December 5, 2019, the Commission adopted the Decision Regarding Frameworks for Energy Efficiency Regional Energy Networks and Market Transformation.¹ The decision authorizes the continued operation of existing RENs and invites new REN proposals as business plans to be filed with the Commission if they meet certain additional requirements as defined in this decision. These new requirements for new RENs include:

1. RENs will be required to demonstrate unique value in achieving state goals;
2. RENs will represent more than one local government entity;
3. RENs will coordinate with existing program administrators in their geographic area prior to filing their business plans;
4. RENs will vet their proposal with stakeholders through the California Energy Coordinating Committee (CAEECC);
5. RENs will explain their governance structure in their business plan filing.

Program Parameters

I-REN and SCE will coordinate on the following program sectors below:

Public

Workforce Education & Training

¹ D. 19-12-021

Codes & Standards

Terms

The term of the agreement shall be updated to initiate the development of the Joint Cooperation Memo if I-REN's Business Plan is approved by the Commission. Upon approval, I-REN and SCE will work together on finalizing the program parameters to minimize duplication and avoid customer confusion. The parties will also work to develop and submit a Joint Cooperation Memo outlining similar programs and methods for cooperation.

[Signatures on the following page]

SIGNATURE PAGE TO
LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE
BETWEEN
INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (I-REN)
AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON (SCE)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have made and executed this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate as of the date first written above.

WRCOG

Western Riverside Council of
Governments

By:  11/30/2020

Casey Dancy
Director of Energy & Environmental
Programs

SCE

Southern California Edison Company

By:  12/1/2020

Michael Dancy
Director, DSM Program Operations

REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK
LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE
BETWEEN
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY

PURPOSE

Pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC” or “Commission”) Decision D.19-12-021 (“Decision”), the purpose of this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate is to make the initial clarifying statement to highlight the cooperation between Western Riverside Council of Government (“WRCOG”) as the Program Administrator (“PA”) of the Inland Regional Energy Network (“I-REN”) and Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”), an Investor Owned Utility. The WRCOG on behalf of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“CVAG”), San Bernardino Council of Governments (“SBCOG”) and itself in the matter of forming and administering I-REN hereby submits this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate along with the I-RENs Business Plan proposal to the CPUC.

BACKGROUND

The Commission adopted the Decision on December 5, 2019. The Decision authorized the continued operation of all existing Regional Energy Networks (“RENs”) and invited proposals for new RENs to be filed with the Commission via a motion in the open energy efficiency rulemaking, if they meet certain additional requirements as defined in the Decision. The additional requirements for new RENs are as follows:

1. RENs will be required to demonstrate unique value in achieving state goals;
2. RENs will represent more than one local government entity;
3. RENs will coordinate with existing program administrators in their geographic area prior to filing their business plans;
4. RENs must vet their proposal with stakeholders through the California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (“CAEECC”);
5. RENs must explain their REN governance structure in their business plan filing;
6. RENs must provide an estimate of benefits and costs according to the Total Resource Cost and Program Administer Cost Tests;
7. RENs must provide a proposed set of energy savings targets;
8. RENs must provide a proposed set of goals and metrics.

Program Coordination

WRCOG and SoCalGas will coordinate on the following program sectors:

Public

Workforce Education & Training

Codes & Standards

Working with other Program Administrators, WRCOG and SoCalGas will initiate the development of the Joint Cooperation Memo if I-REN's Business Plan is approved by the Commission. Upon approval, WRCOG and SoCalGas will work together along with other Program Administrators on finalizing the program parameters and coordination details for the final submittal of the Joint Cooperation Memo.

[Signatures on the following page]

SIGNATURE PAGE TO
LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE
BETWEEN
Western Riverside Council of Governments
AND
Southern California Gas Company

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have made and executed this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate as of the date first written above.

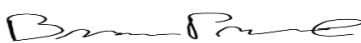
WRCOG

Investor Owned Utility

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS

Southern California Gas Company

By: 
Casey Dailey
Director of Energy & Environmental Programs


By: Brian Prusnek
Director – Customer Programs &
Assistance

Date: 12/2/2020

Date: 11/25/2020

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS, WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (SoCalREN)**

LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate is to make an initial clarifying statement to highlight the cooperation between the Western Riverside Council of Governments, San Bernardino Council of Governments, and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) in the implementation of a new proposed Regional Energy Network, Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), with overlapping territory in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.¹

The Joint Parties submit this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") to Decision (D.) 19-12-021, Ordering Paragraph (OP) 2.²

BACKGROUND

On June 5, 2018, the Commission issued D.19-12-021, *Decision Regarding Frameworks For Energy Efficiency Regional Energy Networks and Market Transformation*, which adopted the guidelines for the continued operation of existing RENs and allows for the proposals of new RENs as business plans to be filed with the Commission. In addition, D.19-12-021 requires that any new REN proposals must include a "Letter of Commitment" to cooperate between each energy efficiency program administrator within the proposed overlapping service areas. Specifically, the directive states:

"[...], to ensure appropriate coordination with all other program administrators operating within the region that the new REN proposes to serve, we will require that initial "letters of commitment" to cooperate be included with the business plan proposal to the Commission. These "letters of commitment" will be necessarily higher level than JCMs required of existing administrators, as pointed out by WRCOG and SCE in comments on the proposed decision. But the "letters of commitment" from each of the other existing administrators in the prospective REN's geographic area should indicate that the prospective REN has coordinated with them, and that they have agreed to coordinate and cooperate to ensure no program conflicts, should the new REN proposal be approved by the Commission."³

DISCUSSION

Should the new I-REN proposal be approved by the Commission, the Joint Parties have agreed to coordinate and cooperate to ensure no program conflicts. The Joint Parties will coordinate their respective program offerings and resources to minimize duplicative offerings and work in an

¹ Hereto referred to as the "Joint Parties."

² D.19-12-021 at 88

³ Ibid., p. 22.

approach where collaboration will support efforts for services to remain complementary and supplemental to the markets' needs. The Joint Parties will work toward minimizing duplication of programs and provide choice amongst all offerings of Program Administrators allowing the customer to be the decision maker.

The Joint Parties will coordinate and cooperate as the market and program administration expands and gains new market actors. This approach is in the best interest of the customer providing a range of options to help them meet their energy efficiency goals.

[Signatures on the following page]

SIGNATURE PAGE TO

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS, WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (SoCalREN)
LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have made and executed this Letter of Commitment to Cooperate as of the date first written above.

INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL
ENERGY NETWORK**

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By: *Casey Dailey*
Casey Dailey (Nov 23, 2020 10:22 PST)
Casey Dailey
Director of Energy & Environmental Programs
Western Riverside Council of Governments

Nov 23, 2020

By: *Minh Le*
Minh Le (Nov 23, 2020 09:21 PST)
Minh Le
General Manager
ISD- Environmental Energy Services
County of Los Angeles

Nov 23, 2020

Draft Letter of Commitment_SCR (SoCalREN Edits)_cd

Final Audit Report

2020-11-23

Created:	2020-11-23
By:	Minh Le (msle@isd.lacounty.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAPXJBpv245zstBFPgFr-H8Rn10_-Ngdlr

"Draft Letter of Commitment_SCR (SoCalREN Edits)_cd" History

-  Document created by Minh Le (msle@isd.lacounty.gov)
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-  Document e-signed by Minh Le (msle@isd.lacounty.gov)
Signature Date: 2020-11-23 - 5:21:09 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 108.64.186.77- Signature captured from device with phone number XXXXXXX7890
-  Document emailed to Casey Dailey (cdailey@wrcog.us) for signature
2020-11-23 - 5:21:10 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Casey Dailey (cdailey@wrcog.us)
2020-11-23 - 5:22:10 PM GMT- IP address: 69.71.206.26
-  Document e-signed by Casey Dailey (cdailey@wrcog.us)
Signature Date: 2020-11-23 - 6:22:32 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 69.71.206.26
-  Agreement completed.
2020-11-23 - 6:22:32 PM GMT

Letters of Support

The following pages contain Letters of Support from cities, Riverside and San Bernardino county officials, and other regional organizations.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017
T: (213) 236-1800
www.scag.ca.gov

REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

President
Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake

First Vice President
Rex Richardson, Long Beach

Second Vice President
Clint Lorimore, Eastvale

Immediate Past President
**Alan D. Wapner, San Bernardino
County Transportation Authority**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Executive/Administration
Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake

Community, Economic &
Human Development
**Peggy Huang, Transportation
Corridor Agencies**

Energy & Environment
Linda Parks, Ventura County

Transportation
Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro

April 13, 2020

Mr. Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave. #200
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: Letter of Support – CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments, I would like to submit this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network's (I-REN) application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG), and Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) have implemented energy efficiency programs and services locally in the combined regions of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties for nearly a decade. In this time, they have honed the skillsets, knowledge, and networks to identify and address the needs of their constituents. The member agencies have a deep familiarity with the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, their boards have elected officials and local government staff representation, and they are aware of the challenges and opportunities associated with the I-REN service territory's geographic arrangement and distance from major metropolitan areas.

Based on the member agencies' regional experience, I-REN proposes to provide services to market sectors including, but not limited to, the following three areas. I-REN's approach to serving these markets is detailed in the Sector Descriptions that accompany this letter.

1. **Public Sector:** Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. **Workforce Education & Training:** Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. **Codes and Standards:** Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their

current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We support I-REN's efforts and respectfully request that the CPUC give full and fair consideration to this important proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kome Ajise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kome" and last name "Ajise" clearly distinguishable.

Kome Ajise
Executive Director



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 14, 2020

RE: Inland Empire Regional Energy Network – SUPPORT

To whom it may concern:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The County supports the efforts of I-REN application and its initiatives designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. In addition this initiative that will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code and engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities.

The final piece is a Workforce, Education and Training aimed to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

For the reasons listed above, the County supports Inland Regional Energy Network application. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please contact Josh Candelaria, Governmental and Legislative Director, at 909 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Hagman".

Curt Hagman
Fourth District Supervisor
Chair, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

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Vice Chair, Fifth District

Gary McBride
Chief Executive Officer

351

County of Riverside

RIVERSIDE OFFICE:
4080 Lemon Street, 5th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-1647
(951) 955-1040
Fax (951) 955-2194



DISTRICT OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS
73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 222
Palm Desert, CA 92260-2574
(760) 863-8211
Fax (760) 863-8905

SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ **FOURTH DISTRICT**

October 5, 2020

RE: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in its application to the California Public Utilities Commission to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

I support the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies – the Western Riverside Council of Governments, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments and the San Bernardino Council of Governments – as they pursue ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including, but not limited to the following:

- **Public Sector:** This initiative is designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors and regional construction firms through mentorship, marketing, education and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.

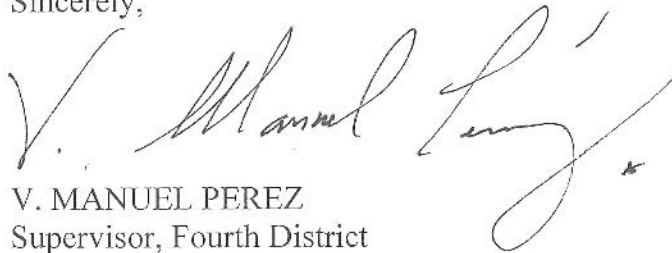
To Whom It May Concern
October 5, 2020
Page 2

- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local educational institutions to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand its current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

As supervisor for Riverside County's Fourth District, representing the eastern two-thirds of Riverside County, I respectfully offer my support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and I look forward to collaborating with them in this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Manuel Perez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

V. MANUEL PEREZ
Supervisor, Fourth District

VMP:das

cc: Nils Strindberg, California Public Utilities Commission Energy Division



City of Banning

Office of the City Manager

January 17, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Banning is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. **Public:** Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. **Workforce Education & Training:** Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. **Codes & Standards:** Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 922-3104 or dschulze@banningca.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Douglas Schulze
City Manager



CITY OF CANYON LAKE

February 27, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Canyon Lake is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 246-2025 or chrismann@cityofcanyonlake.com should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Chris Mann
City Manager



CITY OF EASTVALE

12363 Limonite Avenue | Suite 910 | Eastvale, CA 91752
951.361.0900

January 28, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Eastvale is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. **Public:** Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. **Workforce Education & Training:** Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school/community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. **Codes & Standards:** Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 703-4425 or ggibson-williams@eastvaleca.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gina Gibson-Williams
Community Development Director

City of Jurupa Valley

Anthony Kelly, Jr. Mayor, Lorena Barajas Mayor Pro Tem,
Micheal Goodland, Council Member, Chris Barajas, Council Member, Brian Berkson, Council Member

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Jurupa Valley is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy e opportunities within the region:

1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 332-6464 or rbutler@jurupavalley.org should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Rod Butler
City Manager

8930 Limonite Ave., Jurupa Valley, CA 92509-5183
Phone: (951) 332-6464, FAX (951) 332-6995
www.jurupavalley.org



January 22, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional
Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Lake Elsinore is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school/community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 674-3124, ext 204 or gyates@lake-elsinore.org should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Grant Yates, City Manager
CC: Lake Elsinore City Council

951.674.3124

130 S. MAIN STREET

LAKE ELSINORE, CA 92530

WWW.LAKE-ELSINORE.ORG

January 21, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Menifee is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

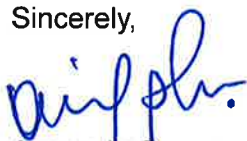
We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. **Public:** Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. **Workforce Education & Training:** Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. **Codes & Standards:** Technical support to local contractors, City Planning staff, and local Planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency Building Codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 723-3700 or avilla@cityofmenifee.us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Armando G. Villa
City Manager



City Manager's Office
14177 Frederick Street
P. O. Box 88005
Moreno Valley CA 92552-0805
Telephone: 951.413.3020

February 4, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Moreno Valley is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

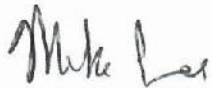
We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 951-413-3020 or citymanager@moval.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Lee
Interim City Manager



CITY OF MURRIETA

January 21, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Avenue, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Murrieta is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

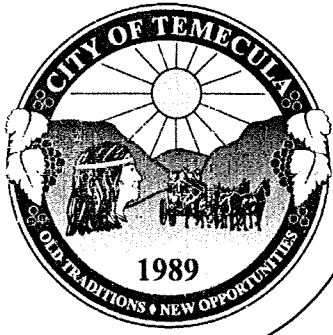
1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at (951) 461-6008 or KSummers@MurrietaCA.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kim Summers
City Manager



City of Temecula

City Council/City Manager
41000 Main Street • Temecula, CA 92590
Phone (951) 694-6444 • TemeculaCA.gov

January 28, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave., Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Temecula is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

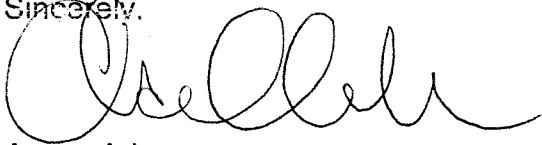
1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
January 28, 2020
Page 2

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me or our Public Works Director, Patrick Thomas at 951-506-5163 or Patrick.thomas@temeculaca.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Adams', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Aaron Adams
City Manager

cc: Greg Butler, Assistant City Manager
Patrick Thomas, Public Works Director
Luke Watson, Community Development Director

Dustin Nigg, Mayor, Dist. 2
Bridgette Moore, Mayor Pro Tem, Dist. 4
Ben J. Benoit, Council Member, Dist. 1
Joseph Morabito Council Member, Dist. 3
Marsha Swanson, Council Member, Dist. 5



23873 Clinton Keith Rd, Ste 201
Wildomar, CA 92595
951.677.7751 Phone
951.698.1463 Fax
www.CityofWildomar.org

October 12, 2020

Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave. #200
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of Wildomar is pleased to support the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

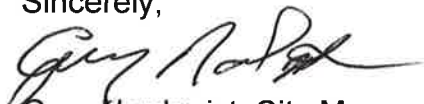
We are eager to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

1. Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.
2. Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.
3. Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we see this as a great opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Please feel free to contact me at 951-677-7751 x209 or gnordquist@cityofwildomar.org should you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Gary Nordquist, City Manager



September 28, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To whom it may concern:

The City of Cathedral City is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Cathedral City supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorship; marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.
- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance

with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Aguilar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Aguilar" clearly distinguishable.

John Aguilar
Mayor
City of Cathedral City

cc. Nils Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division



October 2, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To whom it may concern:

The City of Indian Wells is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Indian Wells supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorship; marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.
- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ty Peabody', with a large, stylized initial 'T' and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Ty Peabody
Mayor
City of Indian Wells

cc. Nils Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division

February 13, 2020



Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To whom it may concern:

The City of Indio is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

Indio supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorship; marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.
- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,



Glenn Miller
Mayor, City of Indio

cc. Nils Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division

September 30, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of La Quinta is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of La Quinta supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorship; marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.
- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public

sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Linda Evans, Mayor
City of La Quinta

cc: La Quinta City Council
Nils Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division



City of Palm Springs

Office of the City Council

Mayor Geoff Kors • Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege

Lisa Middleton • Grace Garner • Dennis Woods

3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way • Palm Springs, California 92262

Tel: 760.323.8200 • Fax: 760.323.8207 • TDD 760.864.9527 • www.palmspringsca.gov

October 1, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Regional Energy Network

To whom it may concern:

The City Council of the City of Palm Springs is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

We, the City Council of the City of Palm Springs, support the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of Western Riverside Council of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and San Bernardino Council of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN approach is to connect energy efficiency with community resilience. Its service territory experiences harsh climate conditions in summer months, and communities benefit from these public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards (C&S):** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building department staff, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorship; marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities such as Energy Code Ace.
- **Workforce, Education and Training (WE&T):** I-REN's WE&T initiatives aim to address the limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer workforce programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

Post Office Box 2743 • Palm Springs, California 92263-2743

October 1, 2020

Page 2

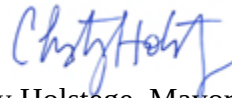
With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency in the public sector, increased compliance with codes and standards, and advancements in workforce development. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,



Geoff Kors, Mayor



Christy Holstege, Mayor Pro Tem



Lisa Middleton, Council Member



Dennis Woods, Council Member

cc. Nils Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division

EUNICE M. ULLOA
Mayor

TOM HAUGHEY
Mayor Pro Tem



MARK HARGROVE
MARC LUCIO
PAUL A. RODRIGUEZ Ed.D.
Council Members

MATTHEW C. BALLANTYNE
City Manager

CITY of CHINO

February 25, 2020

San Bernardino County
Transportation Authority
1170 West 3rd Street, 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92410

RE: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern:

The City of Chino (the "City") is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in applying to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

Additionally, the City supports I-REN and its member agencies with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities along with their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives that include but are not limited to the following:

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers and provide technical support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer; our communities will benefit from these public gathering places. Additionally, this will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, outreach activities, and the promotion of online resources and communities.



- Workforce, Education and Training: I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work in addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region. As such, we respectfully support I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator.

Sincerely,



Matthew C. Ballantyne

City Manager

City of Chino

cc. Niles Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division



February 10, 2020

14000 City Center Drive
Chino Hills, CA 91709
(909) 364-2600
www.chinohills.org

San Bernardino Council of Governments
1170 West Third Street, Second Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92410

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To whom it may concern:

The City of Chino Hills is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

Chino Hills supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following:

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer, and communities benefit from those public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities, and the promotion of online resources and communities.
- **Workforce, Education and Training:** I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college, and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Montgomery
City Manager

BM:DB:SO:JM:dk

cc: Niles Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division
Daniel Bobadilla, P.E., Director of Public Works/ City Engineer
Sean O'Connor, Maintenance and Operations Manager
Jarrod Manual, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor



1-5-2021

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern::

The City of Colton is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Colton supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer, and communities benefit from those public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities.
- **Workforce, Education and Training:** I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Sutorus".

Jessica Sutorus
Environmental Conservation Supervisor
City of Colton

cc. CPUC Energy Division

CIVIC CENTER
650 N. LA CADENA DRIVE
COLTON, CA 92324
PH: (909) 370-5060
FX: (909) 370-5192
WEB: www.coltonca.gov

2-11-20

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern::

The City of Highland is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Highland supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following:

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer, and communities benefit from those public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities.
- **Workforce, Education and Training:** I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work

Sincerely,



Joseph Hughes
City Manager
City of Highland

cc. Niles Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division



January 25, 2021

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern:

The City of Montclair is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Montclair supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,

Steve Stanton
Engineering Division Manager
City of Montclair

cc. CPUC Energy Division



City of
San Bernardino

Office of the City Manager | Robert D. Field, City Manager

January 7, 2021

Mr. Rick Bishop
Executive Director
Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Ave. #200
Riverside, California 92501

Subject: Letter of Support for CVAG, SBCOG, and WRCOG Regional Energy
Network Development

Dear Mr. Bishop:

The City of San Bernardino supports the development of a Regional Energy Network (REN) in partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG). We commit to supporting this initiative by actively assisting with identifying and engaging future energy projects, supporting outreach at existing community themed events, and providing ongoing feedback on how to continue to grow the programs for the REN.

We are prepared to be involved and continue to learn more about the program areas as they are being developed. The City will support the program areas listed below for ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region:

Public: Technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade their community centers, libraries, cooling centers, and senior centers.

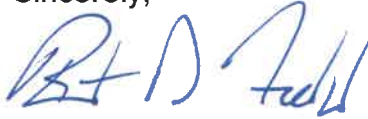
Workforce Education & Training: Partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school / community college students with jobs in the field of energy efficiency.

Codes & Standards: Technical support to local contractors, city planning staff, and local planning firms to better understand the new energy efficiency building codes.

With the recent California Public Utilities Commission approval on the future of RENs, we appreciate the opportunity to develop a REN within the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Should you have any questions, please contact Kris Jensen, Director of Public Works, at (909) 384-5140 or Jensen_Kr@sbcity.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. D. Field". The signature is stylized with a large "R" and "D" and a more fluid "Field".

Robert D. Field
City Manager

CITY OFFICES:
6136 ADOBE ROAD
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277
(760) 367-6799
Fax (760) 367-4890
www.29palms.org



COUNCILMEMBERS
Joel A. Klink, Mayor
Daniel L. Mintz, Sr., Mayor Pro Tem
Steven Bilderain
Karmollette O'Gilvie
McArthur Wright

CITY MANAGER
Frank J. Luckino, MPA

February 20, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern:

The City of Twentynine Palms is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The City of Twentynine Palms supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following:

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer, and communities benefit from those public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities.
- **Workforce, Education and Training:** I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank J. Luckino', with a stylized, looping flourish.

Frank J. Luckino
City Manager
The City of Twentynine Palms

cc. Niles Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division

January 21, 2021

Subject: Letter of Support for Inland Empire Regional Energy Network

To Whom it may concern:

The Town of Yucca Valley is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) in submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The Town of Yucca Valley supports the efforts of I-REN and its member agencies of San Bernardino Council of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments and Coachella Valley Association of Governments with their ongoing energy efficiency opportunities within the region, as well as their proposed I-REN program sector initiatives, including but not limited to the following;

- **Public Sector:** Initiatives are designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. The I-REN territory experiences extreme climate conditions in the summer, and communities benefit from those public gathering places that offer protection from extreme heat. This will fill a gap in current utility-delivered service offerings.
- **Codes and Standards:** Through this initiative, I-REN will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code (Title 24). I-REN will engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities, and the promotion of online resources and communities.
- **Workforce, Education and Training:** I-REN's Workforce, Education and Training initiatives aim to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

With the leadership of I-REN as a dedicated and regional community-focused Program Administrator, these sectors can benefit from improved energy efficiency. I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.



The Town of
Yucca Valley

57090 Twentynine Palms Highway • Yucca Valley, California 92284
760/369-7207 • Fax (760) 369-0626

Page 2
I-REN Letter of Support
January 21, 2021

We respectfully offer our enthusiastic support of I-REN in its application to become a REN Program Administrator, and we are excited to collaborate with them in this important work.

Sincerely,



Curtis Yakimow
Town Manager
Town of Yucca Valley

cc. Niles Strindberg, CPUC Energy Division

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

Table D-1. CAEECC Issue Tracker with Stakeholder Feedback and I-REN Resolution Discussion

ID #	Chapter	Issue	I-REN Resolution Type	I-REN Resolution Discussion
1	Public	SoCalREN Suggested a more targeted focus on low income and disadvantaged communities. In particular, while San Bernardino has three of the most impoverished based on the last Census, the letters of support are from more affluent communities. Suggest ramping up engagement and marketing efforts to disadvantaged local governments and communities. Also, for Public Sector strategy, appreciate seeing SoCal REN strategies replicated – since a main purpose of RENs is to focus on hard-to-reach (HTR) communities.	Addressed in general section of BP or Testimony in Application; Deferred to Implementation Plan or Program Design Stage	I-REN intends to ensure engagement and service across the territory, particularly assisting those local governments who have been historically underserved or unable to access previous or current programs. Letters of support received to date are included in Appendix C of I-REN’s Business Plan.
2	Public	BayREN Expressed an appreciation of the focus on governance, infrastructure, and coordination plan for statewide programs and other actors. Noted the plan looks well thought out. Plan speaks to one of the founding principles/needs of RENs: serving hard to reach communities. Acknowledged that certain activities such as Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) which were previously funded by IOUs, are especially important in current times of declining local government funding.	Deferred to Implementation Plan or Program Design Stage	I-REN intends to work with the other RENs to incorporate best practices and connect its local work with large state policy making efforts.

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

ID #	Chapter	Issue	I-REN Resolution Type	I-REN Resolution Discussion
3	Public	Small Business Utility Advocates Agreed with comments on SEEC, HTR, and low-income considering local government and economic conditions are very strained. This business plan is 2021-2025; small-medium business (SMB) plans is listed under the future business plan; asked if programs be offered to them sooner.		This plan focuses on three sectors (Public, Workforce, Codes & Standards). For the future I-REN is looking towards SMB and residential, but the current focus is building a foundation before expanding. I-REN has had discussions on third party solicitations and is working on as many parallel paths as possible.
4	WE&T, Public	SoCalREN Noted possible duplicative resource program between WET and public sector. The third party solicitation is set to sail at the same time that I-REN's business plan is reviewed. Asked how avoided duplication is being ensured.	Addressed in Sector Chapter of BP	I-REN added a Resource program for the Public sector based on the suggestion from Commission staff. If it's duplicative, WRCOG can adjust as appropriate. I-REN does not see any duplication currently nor has any been brought up in discussions with current PAs.
5	WE&T	BayREN Suggested working with Sheet Metal Workers Union or other CAEECC Members on workforce metrics. Sheet Metal Workers Union Stated that IOUs and RENs must focus on cost-effectiveness, and sometimes miss contractors who have greater expertise in engaging disadvantaged communities; noted that they are happy to discuss further offline.	Addressed in Sector Chapter of BP	I-REN is interested in working with stakeholders and organizations to help inform and shape a successful workforce program. I-REN will incorporate a clear goal for engaging and serving disadvantaged communities through its workforce training and education program. See WE&T Strategies in Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training.

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

ID #	Chapter	Issue	I-REN Resolution Type	I-REN Resolution Discussion
6	WE&T	California Labor Management Cooperation Committee Offered to provide assistance on workforce and reaching disadvantaged communities.	Deferred to Implementation Plan or Program Design Stage	I-REN is interested in working with stakeholders and organizations to help inform and shape a successful workforce program.
7	WE&T	NRDC Suggested looking at the UC Berkeley Labor Center's recently released report on workforce demand and supply. NRDC's Bethany Jones was a witness for low-income workforce; can share a document that provides key solutions. RENs have more opportunities to explore strategies that IOU and MCE PAs need to comply with. 3C-REN Also offered support.	Deferred to Implementation Plan or Program Design Stage	See above.
8	WE&T	Sheet Metal Workers Local 104 Noted that slide 22 (goals and strategies) looks more like goals. Echoed comments on disadvantaged communities; wanted to see it incorporated into workforce offering. Noted that applying to building departments can be an issue, asked what the associated plan is.	Addressed in Sector Chapter of BP	I-REN will incorporate a clear goal for engaging and serving disadvantaged communities through its workforce training and education program. See WE&T Strategies in Chapter 4: Workforce Education & Training.

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

ID #	Chapter	Issue	I-REN Resolution Type	I-REN Resolution Discussion
9	WE&T	Energy Division Asked what the synergy is between I-REN's workforce education training and the CPUC low income energy assistance programs, and if there's overlapping goals/duplication, how it is being addressed. BayREN BayREN's residential programs aren't income qualified. Have seen success with MCE's multifamily program, and we have case studies to show how we've layered the two programs. In sum, we work in partnership to provide a more holistic and higher incentive for low income SoCalREN SoCalREN's Workforce Education Program is nationally recognized. SoCalREN analyzed all programs, including IOU workforce education. Recommended to I-REN, and RENs at large, to continuously look for creative ways to offer value without duplication; programs must be customized so they don't duplicate. There are still significant gaps that RENs can fill.	Deferred to Implementation Plan or Program Design Stage	I-REN is interested in making sure that WET offerings serve and address the specific needs of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties' residents and businesses. I-REN will be laser focused on locally driven program elements that will help to ensure there is no duplication. One of the most important reasons for being a REN is to bring this localized approach to a community.

Appendix D: Stakeholder Input Resolution

ID #	Chapter	Issue	I-REN Resolution Type	I-REN Resolution Discussion
10	Multiple Sectors	Asked how I-REN is working to deal with overlap with existing programs in the relevant geographic area.	Addressed in general section of BP or Testimony in Application	I-REN has been in regular communication with SCE, SoCalGas and SoCalREN. The first strategy is to target any areas that haven't yet been touched, including disadvantaged communities, high desert, cities that haven't yet been engaged, and the Arizona and Nevada borders. If there is overlap, I-REN will ensure through coordinated efforts that there is no duplication of services.
12	NA	BayREN BayREN especially appreciated two aspects of the proposal: (1) Board oversight; and (2) Services to Tribes.	Addressed in general section of BP or Testimony in Application	I-REN appreciates these comments. I-REN's governance is described in the Portfolio Summary chapter and the approach to serving tribes is referenced throughout the Business Plan.

Appendix E: Acronyms & Abbreviations

AB	Assembly Bill
ACCA	Air Conditioning Contractors of America
AHJ	Authority Having Jurisdiction
AIA	American Institute of Architects
APWA	American Public Works Association
BOMA	Building Owners and Managers Association
BPI	Building Performance Institute
BSC	Building Standards Commission
BUC	Building Upgrade Concierge
C&S	Codes and Standards
CAISO (or ISO)	California Independent System Operator
CALBO	California Building Officials
CARB (or ARB)	California Air Resources Board
CBSC	California Building Standards Commission
CCA	Community Choice Aggregator
CCC	California Community Colleges
CDE	California Department of Education
CEA	California Energy Alliance
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEESP	California Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan
CEU	Continuing Education Unit
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CSAC	California State Association of Counties
CSD	Community Services and Development

Appendix E: Acronyms & Abbreviations

CSI	California Solar Initiative
CSU	California State University
CVAG	Coachella Valley Association of Governments
DAC	Disadvantaged Community
DAS	Division of Apprenticeship Standards
DEER	Database for Energy Efficient Resources
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOF	Department of Finance
DSM	Demand Side Management
EBEE	Existing Buildings Energy Efficiency
ED	California Public Utilities Energy Division
EE	Energy Efficiency
EIA	Energy Information Administration
EM&V	Evaluation, Measurement and Verification
ESCO	Energy Service Company
ET	Emerging Technology or Emerging Technologies
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GWh	Gigawatt Hour
HERS	Home Energy Rating System
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
ICC	International Code Council
IHACI	Institute of Heating and Air Conditioning Industries
IOU	Investor Owned Utility
kW	Kilowatt
kWh	Kilowatt Hour
LG	Local Government
LGP	Local Government Partnerships
ME&O	Marketing, Education and Outreach
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area

Appendix E: Acronyms & Abbreviations

MW	Megawatt
MWh	Megawatt Hour
NMEC	Normalized Metered Energy Consumption
NRDC	Natural Resources Defense Council
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
OPR	Governor's Office of Planning and Research
PA	Program Administrator
PACE	Property Assessed Clean Energy
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
REN	Regional Energy Network
RFP	Request for Proposals
SB	Senate Bill
SBCOG	San Bernardino Council of Governments
SCE	Southern California Edison
SEP	Strategic Energy Plan
TRC	Total Resource Cost
WE&T	Workforce Education and Training
WIB	Workforce Investment Boards
WRCOG	Western Riverside Council of Governments
ZNE	Zero Net Energy



Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: I-REN Strategic Plan Introduction

Contact: Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs,
cdailey@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6720

Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Authorize the initiation of the I-REN Organizational Strategic Plan.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an introduction to the development of the I-REN Strategic Plan

Background:

Initiated in 2019, the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) is a consortium of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (I-REN COG partners) that serve the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

I-REN is developing a 5-year Organizational Strategic Plan to ensure effective and efficient use of CPUC funding, to identify clear priorities and actions, and to ensure that activities and engagement are aligned across all members of I-REN. This process will include several avenues for stakeholder feedback, including a survey, small group conversations, and in-person and virtual community workshops.

The Strategic Plan process presents a key opportunity for the Executive Committee to shape the direction, focus, and priorities of I-REN. The Business Plan serves as "what" I-REN intends to accomplish and the Strategic Plan represents "how" I-REN will accomplish those goals. The development of a Strategic Plan will include the input and insight from I-REN Executive Committee members and the communities that I-REN serves and is critical to ensure the effective use of ratepayer dollars in achieving I-REN goals.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

All costs associated with the development of an I-REN Strategic Plan are included in WRCOG's adopted Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Agency Budget under the Energy & Environmental Department.

In March 2022, after public solicitation of an RFP and evaluation by all partner COGs, Frontier and its subconsultant (Blue Point Planning) was selected to support implementation activities of I-REN, one of which is to facilitate the development of a Strategic Plan. The total contract amount is not-to-exceed \$793,701 through end of calendar year 2025.

Attachment(s):

[Attachment 1 - I-REN Strategic Plan Info Sheet](#)

Attachment 1

I-REN Strategic Plan Info Sheet



INTRODUCING I-REN: INLAND REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

About I-REN

I-REN is a coalition of three councils of government, the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG), encompassing San Bernardino County, Riverside County, and all of the jurisdictions within the region. These organizations have joined together to establish locally administered, designed, and delivered energy efficiency (EE) programs.

I-REN sees a critical need to accelerate action in the region, catalyzing current local government activities related to climate change through targeted and tailored energy efficiency programs and layering other efforts to increase impact.

Historically, the Inland Empire has faced challenges in receiving equitable opportunities to participate in energy efficiency and advanced energy. I-REN will establish a locally administered regional energy network with robust programs to ensure ratepayers in this region can become active participants in meeting California energy efficiency goals.



Background: I-REN Business Plan

I-REN is funded by ratepayer funding and empowered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) through I-REN's Business Plan, which details their mission, vision, goals, activities, and outcomes.

Mission

Actively participate in California's clean energy initiatives and build a stronger clean energy economy and community.

Vision

Connect residents, businesses, and local governments to a wide range of energy efficiency resources to increase energy savings and equitable access throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

I-REN CPUC Business Plan Goals



Build capacity and knowledge to enable local governments to effectively leverage energy efficiency services and to demonstrate best practices.



Ensure there is a **trained workforce** to support and realize energy efficiency savings goals across sectors.



Work closely with local building departments and the building industry to support, train, and **enable long-term streamlining of energy code compliance**.



ORGANIZATIONAL 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

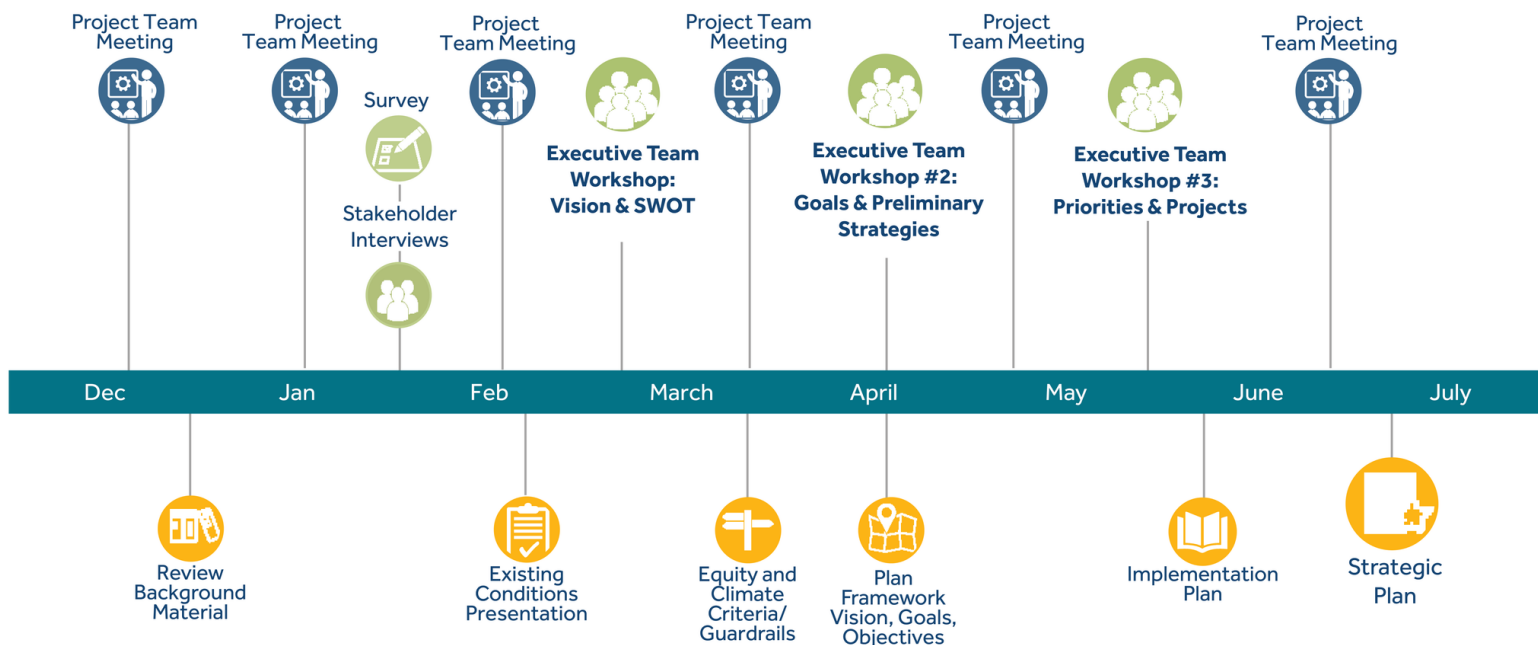
Strategic Planning Overview

I-REN is developing a 5-year Organizational Strategic Plan to ensure effective and efficient use of CPUC funding, to identify clear priorities and actions, and to ensure that activities and engagement are aligned across members of the REN. This process will include several avenues for stakeholder feedback, including a survey, small group conversations, and in-person and virtual community workshops.

Primary areas for discussion will include prioritizing which programs and areas to build out first, Identifying and securing regional partners, and connecting with local governments to provide related to building codes and training.

Strategic Plan Process & Engagement

The schedule below gives an overview of the Strategic Planning process. The colors indicate the various aspects of the process with the internal meetings in **blue**, the work products in **orange**, and the external activities in **green**.



Stay tuned for I-REN updates and participation opportunities!

For more info, visit <https://www.wrcog.us/330/Inland-Regional-Energy-Network>



Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of I-REN Executive Committee 2023 Meeting Schedule

Contact: Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs,
cdailey@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6720

Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Approve the schedule of I-REN Executive Committee meetings for 2023.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to discuss and obtain approval of a meeting schedule for 2023.

Background:

In December 2022, the I-REN Executive Committee approved a January 17, 2023, meeting, and discussed the need of having additional meetings throughout 2023 in order to receive additional comprehensive presentation(s) related, but not limited, to, I-REN Business Plan development and CPUC approval, and Strategic Plan and contracting activities. Below are two options to initiate the discussion.

The Committee retains discretion to meet at any time or frequency the members deem appropriate. To initiate the discussion, two options are listed below for consideration, but the decision is not limited to these options.

Schedule consideration #1: Monthly meetings for the first six months then bi-monthly for the last six months. Staff anticipate that items requiring Executive Committee action will reduce toward the mid-to-end of 2023.

Day and Time	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
3rd Tues. @ 2:00 p.m.	17	21	21	18	16	20	DARK	15	DARK	17	DARK	19

Schedule Consideration #2: Monthly meetings through the end of 2023. In the event a meeting is not needed, the Executive Committee has the right to cancel a meeting on an as-needed basis.

Day and Time	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
3rd Tues. @ 2:00 p.m.	17	21	21	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	21	19

Prior Action(s):

1. Approved the scheduling of a January 17, 2023, meeting; the remaining 2023 I-REN Executive Committee meeting schedule to be approved at that time.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only, therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Inland Regional Energy Network

I-REN Executive Committee

Staff Report

Subject: I-REN Assistance with Additional Funding Opportunities

Contact: Kenyon Potter, CVAG Director of Energy & Sustainability, kpotter@cvag.org, (760) 641-8830

Date: January 17, 2023

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the upcoming federal and state funding opportunities that I-REN could potentially assist local jurisdictions in leveraging.

Background:

I-REN staff have been tracking a number of upcoming funding opportunities that will be available to local government agencies and tribes as well as unincorporated communities within I-REN territory. Much of the upcoming funding are formula-based while others are competitive. Based on existing approved funding, I-REN will be in a strong position to provide technical assistance to the cities in securing and/or administering these grants, which include energy efficiency improvements to municipal buildings and facilities. I-REN can also leverage the substantial state and federal funding programs that are being released to provide expanded money for direct implementation of its programs including seeking dollars for energy efficiency and energy conservation projects.

Below are examples of upcoming federal and state grant funding opportunities in 2023 that will have funds available to the local government agencies and tribes within I-REN territory:

- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation Program
- DOE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program*
- National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program; California Energy Commission (CEC) will distribute funds*
- Governor's Office of Planning and Research Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)
- Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program*
- Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Grant Program*
- CEC Equitable Building Decarbonization programs *
- California Strategic Growth Council Community Resilience Centers program in development *
- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) TECH Clean California Program*
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funded DOE Contractor Training Program*

- DOE Energy Auditory Training Grant Program*
- DOE Career Skills Training Program - Clean Energy Infrastructure

*These grant opportunities provide funds for direct implementation and can supplement I-REN's CPUC-approved funds.

The list is not exhaustive and there may be additional federal and state funding opportunities available to local government agencies and tribes in the I-REN territory.

Sources:

<https://www.energycodes.gov/RECI>

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-45-million-bipartisan-infrastructure-law-support>

<https://www.energy.gov/clean-energy-infrastructure/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program>

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/sustainability/documents/nevi/2022-ca-nevi-deployment-plan-a11y.pdf>

<https://opr.ca.gov/climate/icarp/grants/>

<https://www.nrdc.org/experts/merrian-borgeson/ca-budget-climate-resilient-homes-schools-communities>

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/urban-and-community-forestry-grant-programs/>

<https://www.nlc.org/article/2022/09/13/federal-funding-to-help-municipalities-implement-modern-energy-codes/>

<https://www.energy.gov/scep/state-based-home-energy-efficiency-contractor-training-grants>

<https://www.energy.gov/bil/energy-auditor-training-grant-program>

<https://www.energy.gov/clean-energy-infrastructure/career-skills-training-program>

I-REN Activities:

I-REN, together with 3C-REN (serving Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties) and BayREN (serving the nine-county Bay Area), is supporting and investigating opportunities with the CEC and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to pursue a grant opportunity under the DOE's Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation (RECI) Program noted above to expand the already successful SolarAPP+ software developed by NREL to include permits for standard residential heat pump installations (both hot water and space heating) to enable contractors and building owners to expedite permits by online automated permitting. Like SolarAPP+, the app will be free to jurisdictions. The software app is a natural extension of the concept of SolarAPP+ because of anticipated growth in the number of heat pump installations under the State's energy efficiency initiatives and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals as well as federal incentives that are now available under the Inflation

Reduction Act. Staff will continue to provide updates regarding this funding opportunity at future meetings.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.