

State & Local Energy and Climate Coordination (SLECC) Charter

Purpose

The SLECC will serve as a statewide communication and ideation hub to help State and local leaders improve coordinated efforts to more rapidly unlock the unique potential of California regions and communities to address energy and climate goals.

The SLECC will identify priority needs and co-create operational solutions to advance place-based energy and climate action. The SLECC will primarily focus on clean energy and climate mitigation issues (including in buildings, transportation, and land use), but will also address aligned issues including energy and climate resilience, workforce and economic development, housing, health, and equity.

Background

For over 20 years, CA local governments have led on energy and climate issues, implementing some of the nation's most innovative energy efficiency and clean energy programs and climate action plans. Offering unparalleled administrative advantages including unique authorities, trust, proximity, fiscal management capabilities, and democratic accountability, local and regional governments are essential and natural partners in meeting the State of CA's ambitious energy, carbon neutrality, and climate goals.

Eighty (80) local government representatives registered to attend an initial State and Local Coordination meeting co-hosted by Civicwell's [California Climate and Energy Collaborative \(CCEC\)](#) and the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) on June 13, 2023, the morning before the 14th Annual CCEC Forum. It was facilitated by CCEC in partnership with leadership from Forum sponsors California Energy Commission (CEC), the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and the Strategic Growth Council (SGC)¹. Participating State and local representatives indicated tremendous interest in further coordinated efforts to more effectively empower the unique strengths of CA communities to accelerate energy and climate action.

The SLECC intends to support several active policies or initiatives that encourage State agencies to engage in greater coordination with local and regional agencies such as:

- **Strategic Growth Council's [Council Priority 3 Resolution on Housing, Climate and Equity](#)**, which aims to leverage existing State efforts at the housing-climate nexus through improved interagency alignment and coordination with local and regional partners. Central to this work is understanding how local and regional implementers perceive and experience State policies and programs, which can then inform State actions to improve access to resources and reduce burdens on local and regional agencies.²
- **California Energy Commission's 2022 [Integrated Energy Policy Report \(IEPR\)](#)** includes a key recommendation to continue a regional approach and work more consistently with local governments in future IEPR proceedings and other major efforts. The IEPR asserts "that engagement should include partnering closely with local leaders to codesign outreach,

¹ The June 13 meeting slide deck can be found [here](#) and meeting notes can be found [here](#).

² Additional information on Council Priority 3 Resolution on Housing, Climate and Equity can be found in the follow two links: [Announcement: Strategic Growth Council Priority on Housing, Climate, and Equity Request for Information \(RFI\) - Strategic Growth Council \(ca.gov\)](#); and [CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL PRIORITY 3: HOUSING, CLIMATE, AND EQUITY, Draft Work Plan – April 2023](#)

engagement, and other efforts. The CEC should involve peer agencies to conduct more robust joint engagement that lessens burdens on tribes and communities. The CEC should connect with local government entities and associations to develop a deeper relationship that enables consistent communication and interaction to ensure state policies are developed to improve local impact.”

- **The California Air Resources Board** engages with local governments on developing and executing its [Scoping Plan](#), including [Appendix D](#) on Local Actions, to assist in developing local climate plans, measures, policies, and actions aligned with the State’s climate goals. The scoping plan prioritizes climate action in three priority areas: Vehicle electrification, vehicle miles traveled reduction, and building decarbonization.

Goals and Objectives

SLECC will:

- Build deeper understanding and stronger collaborative relationships between State and local agencies to identify barriers and streamline and improve delivery of energy and climate information, resources, and services.
- Co-create reasonable operational solutions for key statewide needs or gaps hindering greater progress on energy and climate action within communities, such as those in the [SLECC Need and Solution Tracker](#). This tracker will serve as an inventory of potential objectives and is intended to be maintained and evolve with greater input from participants.

Leadership and Participation

CCEC will convene SLECC meetings in partnership with the Strategic Growth Council, the California Energy Commission, and the California Air Resources Board. Together, these entities will be known as the Steering Partners, and will help drive the direction of the SLECC through steering meetings as necessary. Strategic Growth Council has volunteered to serve as co-facilitator of SLECC.

The Steering Partners will invite representatives of State, local, and regional government agencies whose work is aligned with energy and climate issues to join statewide quarterly web-based meetings. SLECC Members are considered any participant in quarterly meetings representing State agencies and commissions, cities, counties, municipal planning organizations, special districts, regional energy networks, community choice aggregators, and other regional consortiums of local agencies. Speakers from other organizations may be invited to discuss a particular topic. SLECC will seek to include and inform under resourced and underrepresented local governments that often have a lower capacity to engage.

The lead facilitator is Angie Hacker, Statewide Best Practices Coordinator, CCEC. Sean Kennedy at the Strategic Growth Council has offered to co-facilitate.

Operating Guidelines

Convening and Conduct of Meetings

- SLECC Meetings will be held at the time and place chosen by the Steering Partners in the course of their meetings.
- SLECC Meetings will be co-facilitated by the Strategic Growth Council
- It is anticipated that there will be quarterly meetings that last 90 minutes.
- Meetings will be open to all State, local and regional government representatives.

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- SLECC members will be informed of meetings through email or direct mail, led primarily by CCEC.
- CCEC will record meetings and will keep a record of meeting attendees, key issues raised, and actions required.

Roles and Responsibilities

SLECC Members agree to:

- Provide specific State or local expertise, including identifying emerging local issues;
- Attend all meetings possible and prepare appropriately;
- Relay information to their constituents after each meeting and gather information/feedback from their constituents as practicable before each meeting;
- Maintain a focus on solutions that benefit State and local agencies and their constituents;
- Contribute actively and respectfully to meeting discussion as an attendee or if invited as a speaker

CCEC agrees to:

- Coordinate with Strategic Growth Council to organize, facilitate, and manage logistics for SLECC meetings, including develop agenda and meeting materials, coordinate speakers, administer web platform, and record meetings
- Synthesize, analyze, and share priorities raised at meetings, including through the [SLECC Need and Solution Tracker](#)
- Convene SLECC Partners as necessary and communicate all necessary information on meeting planning, materials, and outcomes
- Manage SLECC member list, including regular review to increase participation from underrepresented or underresourced local governments
- Coordinate with LGSEC leadership and membership on topics, speakers, and outreach

SLECC Partners agree to:

- Provide representation at SLECC Meetings, ideally by staff with a role in local and/or interagency coordination
- Provide updates at SLECC Meetings and offer to be or find a State speaker on relevant topics
- Identify statewide issues of relevance to local or regional governments
- Consider opportunities to address needs and provide insight into how to operationalize solutions
- Take SLECC meeting input back to agency for further consideration

Communication

- SLECC members will be informed of meetings through email or direct mail, depending on his/her preference, at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
- Inquiries will be directed to info@eecoordinator.org.
- CCEC will communicate with SLECC Partners via email and meetings as necessary.

Decision Making

The SLECC is primarily a knowledge exchange and ideation group and is not anticipated to make binding decisions. Where priorities are developed, members will strive to reach agreement by consensus.