

2025 California Climate & Energy Collaborative Annual Report

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Executive Summary

In 2025, the California Climate & Energy Collaborative (CCEC) strengthened its role as California's central hub for local and regional climate leadership. Across a year marked by rapid policy shifts, federal funding uncertainty, and growing urgency around affordability and resilience, CCEC supported hundreds of local governments and partners in navigating complex energy, climate, and land-use challenges.

Through the 16th Annual California Climate & Energy Forum, quarterly State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC) convenings, creation and expansion of four Regional Energy & Climate Hubs (REACH) (including participation in three regional Catalyst Convenings led by SGC and LCI that produced initial regional landscape analyses) and ongoing peer learning platforms, CCEC connected practitioners, elevated local priorities to state agencies, and translated shared knowledge into actionable insights. More than 550 participants from 234 organizations joined the 2025 Forum alone, while our network grew to nearly 4,000 practitioners statewide and over 1,200 participated in Local Energy Resources Network (LERN) calls throughout the year.

By combining convening power with state and local engagement, technical insight, and trusted communications, CCEC continues to support local and regional climate and energy ambition and implementation, ensuring California's climate goals are grounded in real-world capacity, equity, and community needs.

Purpose

The purpose of the California Climate and Energy Collaborative (CCEC) is to support local governments to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and accelerate climate action by building knowledge and networks amongst local government practitioners. This annual report summarizes and reviews the progress we've made in doing so over the last year.

Gratitude

CCEC's work is made possible through the leadership and collaboration of hundreds of local governments, regional partners, state agencies, nonprofits, and community organizations across California. Together, we are building the systems and relationships needed to meet this moment, and shape a climate-resilient future for all Californians.

Made Possible By



2025 by the Numbers



Convening & Engagement

LERN **11** Calls
750+ Registrants

SLECC **3** Meetings
400+ Registrants

Statewide Forum **1** Event
550+ Attendees



3 Regional Catalyst Convenings
*As a key partner

Communications & Reach

- wEEKly newsletter subscribers 1,770
- CURRENTS Quarterly Subscribers 830
- Total Contacts 3,900+
- Website views 21,000+
- Members in LinkedIn Group 600+
- State Agencies Engaged 10+

Resources Added to Website Databases

- General Resources 68
- Funding Opportunities 39
- Legislation Tracked 58

Resources Created

- 4** Regional Energy & Climate Hubs (REACH) created or expanded
- 4** Dynamic Regional Analyses Written
- 1** Draft SLECC Annual Report



“ This was my first time at CCEC and it was truly inspiring. Hundreds of like-minded individuals collaborating and working together to make progress solving some of our biggest challenges. I'm inspired and will be back next year!
- Charlie Benzyk, SPURR ”

Flagship Programs



16th Annual California Climate & Energy Forum

The 16th Annual CCEC Forum, held in July 2025 in San Jose, convened 554 participants from 129 cities and 234 organizations. Under the theme **"Hope in Action: Local Leads the Way,"** the Forum featured:

2 Plenaries
20 Breakouts
100 Speakers
15 Posters

“After participating for over 10 years, I continue to appreciate how responsive and reflective this Forum is to the latest, greatest, and most impactful energy initiatives and policies.

- Tyler Masters, I-REN/WRCOG”

Participants reported using Forum insights to inform electrification strategies, workforce models, grant applications, and equitable transportation programs, demonstrating the Forum's direct impact on policy and project development statewide.

“Attending the 2025 California Climate and Energy Collaborative was transformative for the Village Solutions Foundation team. The Forum's timing was truly perfect, allowing us to gain immense knowledge. The ability to scope our projects in real-time, coupled with direct input from facilitators, insightful workshops, dynamic breakouts, and invaluable networking opportunities, was an absolute blessing. The diversity of attendees fostered rich discussions and new connections. The palpable high energy level instilled a profound confidence that California's Clean Energy Future is indeed in good hands.

- Reverend Frank Jackson Jr., Village Solutions Foundation”

Local Energy Resources Network (LERN)

LERN remained one of CCEC's most valued platforms for peer learning, with monthly calls featuring leaders from CARB, NRDC, SGC, utilities, regional networks, and local governments. Topics included:

- Federal funding protection
- Energy efficiency program reform
- Community benefit agreement
- Climate investment and GGRF reform



Participants consistently cited LERN as critical for staying informed and adapting to shifting policy landscapes.

State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC)



In 2025, CCEC significantly advanced the State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC) initiative. Building on its launch in 2023, SLECC convened hundreds of state and local leaders through quarterly meetings, including a large in-person session held alongside the CCEC Forum. These convenings created structured space for candid dialogue on persistent implementation barriers across clean energy, housing, transportation, resilience, and equity.

Throughout the year, CCEC worked closely with agency partners from SGC, CEC, CPUC, CARB, OEHHA, and LCI to translate local input into shared barriers and emerging solutions. Key 2025 milestones included the development and beta testing of the SLECC Priorities & Solutions Dashboard, and the drafting of the first SLECC Annual Report. Together, these tools represent a shift toward more sustained, place-based coordination that reduces engagement fatigue while improving alignment between state policy design and on-the-ground implementation.

Key outcomes included:

In person convening **161** Registrants

2 online meetings **273** Participants

Development of a dynamic Priorities & Solutions Dashboard

The dashboard identifies the following over the course of all SLECC statewide and regional meetings between 2023 and 2025:

- Topic Areas 7

- Barriers to place-based progress 32

- Key Challenges 320

- Local Solutions 350

- State Solutions 370

Dynamic SLECC Annual Report

Publishing of a dynamic SLECC Annual Report synthesizing local barriers and opportunities.

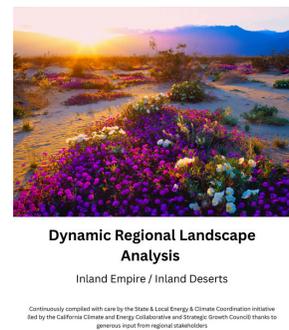
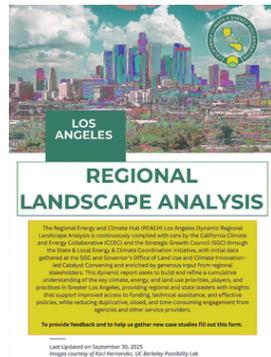
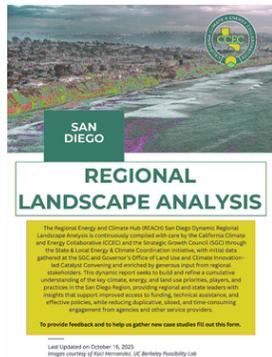


Regional Energy & Climate Hubs (REACH)



In 2025, CCEC advanced the Regional Energy & Climate Hubs (REACH) model by convening regional stakeholders and translating their input into practical planning tools. CCEC supported and participated in three regional Catalyst Convenings led by the Strategic Growth Council and the Governor’s Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation (LCI), bringing together local governments, community-based organizations, and technical assistance providers across multiple regions.

In parallel, CCEC used information gathered through these convenings and related regional engagements to develop regional landscape analyses for the **Inland Empire, San Diego, Los Angeles, and the San Francisco Bay Area**, and to populate the SLECC Priorities & Solutions Dashboard. These products document regional needs, assets, and implementation barriers, and are now being used to inform state policy discussions and strengthen alignment between state investments and local priorities.



Impact Stories

Survey respondents highlighted CCEC’s role in shaping grant applications, workforce strategies, equitable electrification models, and state advocacy efforts.

- “Participation in past CCEC Forums helped us strengthen partnerships with local government leaders and utilities that are now part of our Charge4All program.”
- “The resource library allows me to research solutions and apply them directly to local energy efficiency projects.”
- “Contacts made at CCEC Forums have led to Energy Efficiency innovations in our county.”

Looking Ahead: 2026 Priorities

In 2026, CCEC will host the 17th Annual CCEC Forum in Los Angeles, expand REACH to all nine California regions, and expand the SLECC Priorities & Solutions Dashboard.

Our focus remains on accelerating implementation, helping local governments move from planning to delivery in a way that is equitable, resilient, and grounded in community needs.